



Researcher Identity Development

Strengthening Science in Society Strategies

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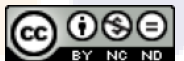
Incidents in the supervision of the doctoral thesis

CASE 6: Co-authorship

The supervisor's perspective



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Nora, a PhD student of mine, is finishing the first article of her thesis. It's a very interesting study. We designed it very carefully and the truth is that we have obtained some very interesting and new results. The analysis of the data was very complex, and I had to invest a lot of time on it. I normally assume a guiding role, accompany the students, but this study was ambitious, and I invested many hours. In addition, Nora struggled to write the article, I had to rewrite some sections, especially the discussion, because they were not good. Now, at last, it seems that it is almost finished, and I think that it has good chances to be published in a very good journal.

I've been thinking that maybe I should tell her to add me as a co-author. In our discipline it is unusual, and doctoral theses are exclusively the student's intellectual property, but I have spent many hours, not only to guide her but 'doing the work', writing the article, etc. And I am clear that without me this work would have not been possible; I very much feel like its author! But it seems to me that it is not very ethical to publish with her an article of her thesis...



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