

Appendix E. Sample Conceptual Framework

Preparedness for Dissertation Process

- Very prepared
- Unprepared
- Somewhat prepared

Knowledge, Skills, Attitudes/KSA (what they think they needed)

- Knowledge of content; knowing what they needed to do
- Understanding of the process; knowing how to do what they needed to do
- Assertiveness (being resourceful and self-directed)

How They Learned

Formal Learning

- Course work
- Postcourse work seminars
- Advisors and other faculty

Informal Learning

- Dialogue with colleagues
- Researching
- Reading

Perceptions of Facilitators

- Advisor
- Other faculty
- Colleagues/classmates
- Personal attributes

Perceptions of Impediments

- Advisor
- Faculty/administration
- Rigidity of the process
- Personal and family issues
- Professional work demands
- Financial constraints
- Lack of confidence in ability