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## **Learning And Using Statistics For Research In Creative and Qualitative Disciplines**

### **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT**

#### **(1) What is the study about?**

Our study aims to find out how researchers in creative fields, such as music, or a discipline in the arts, or in 'qualitative' areas of teacher education, think of using statistics or quantitative methods in their research. We will investigate ideas about what preparation and strategies are needed to undertake research using statistics and what support is available to develop statistical skills for the research. If you are an academic and/or post-graduate student working in an area that is not usually associated with quantitative methods, then we are interested in hearing your views.

#### **(2) Who is carrying out the study?**

The study is being conducted by Dr Sue Gordon, Senior Lecturer, Mathematics Learning Centre, The University of Sydney (ph: +61 2 93514061, email: [sue.gordon@sydney.edu.au](mailto:sue.gordon@sydney.edu.au)); Professor Anna Reid, Associate Dean Learning and Teaching, Sydney Conservatorium of Music (ph: +61 2 9351 1312, email: [anna.reid@sydney.edu.au](mailto:anna.reid@sydney.edu.au)) and Associate Professor Peter Petocz, Department of Statistics, Macquarie University (ph: +61 2 98509174, email: [Peter.Petocz@mq.edu.au](mailto:Peter.Petocz@mq.edu.au)).

#### **(3) What does the study involve?**

We plan to carry out interviews via email. We will send you about six questions by email and ask you to respond to them. Then we may send you a few more questions designed to explore your responses in a little more depth, and ask you to respond once again. We may then have one or two more questions at the final stage. You will be asked to respond to at most three emails.

If you are willing to participate in this project, we ask you to read the accompanying **Participant Consent Form** and send an **email** message to Sue Gordon on [sue.gordon@sydney.edu.au](mailto:sue.gordon@sydney.edu.au) indicating your consent to participate in the research.

#### **(4) How much time will the study take?**

Each email will take about 15 minutes to answer. In our previous studies using email interviews some participants have chosen to spend more time (up to 30 minutes) answering each email.

**(5) Can I withdraw from the study?**

Being in this study is completely voluntary - you are not under any obligation to consent and - if you do consent - you can withdraw at any time without affecting your relationship with the researchers or the University of Sydney.

If you do withdraw, you have the right to request that all your emails be deleted and that information you provided will not be included in the study.

**(6) Will anyone else know the results?**

All aspects of the study, including results, will be strictly confidential and only the researchers will have access to information on participants. A report of the study may be submitted for publication, but individual participants will not be identifiable in such a report.

**(7) Will the study benefit me?**

The study will not benefit you directly but the questions may promote reflection about your research. We will also undertake to send you a copy of our analysis when it is complete and alert you to resulting publications. This may give you useful ideas about the use of statistics in research in your own and other disciplines.

**(8) Can I tell other people about the study?**

Yes

**(9) What if I require further information?**

If you would like more information at any stage, or have any questions, please feel free to contact Dr Sue Gordon, Senior Lecturer, Mathematics Learning Centre, The University of Sydney (ph: +61 2 93514061, email: [sue.gordon@sydney.edu.au](mailto:sue.gordon@sydney.edu.au)).

**(10) What if I have a complaint or concerns?**

**Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of a research study can contact The Manager, Human Ethics Administration, University of Sydney on +61 2 8627 8176 (Telephone); +61 2 8627 8177 (Facsimile) or [ro.humanethics@sydney.edu.au](mailto:ro.humanethics@sydney.edu.au) (Email).**

*This information sheet is for you to keep*