Professional development for academics:
Evaluating a personalised mobile website for learning from student feedback

INFORMATION STATEMENT FOR PHASE THREE
Interviews

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

This study develops and evaluates a mobile website for supporting early career academics’ professional learning from their student evaluation of teaching results. The website will: 1) Anticipate early career academics’ immediate professional learning needs by drawing on database information on class size, year level and discipline for Units of Study; 2) Provide just-in-time support by delivering personalised, pedagogy-driven resources at the same time as an academic’s student feedback.

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

The study is being conducted by Dr Martin Tomitsch (Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning), Dr Jen Scott Curwood (Faculty of Education and Social Work), Dr Kate Thomson (Institute of Teaching and Learning), and Dr Graham Hendry (Institute of Teaching and Learning) at the University of Sydney.

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

The third phase of the study involves individual interviews with 15-20 early career and experienced academics at the University of Sydney. The interviews will involve soliciting feedback on the trial version of the mobile website. These will be videotaped to ensure accuracy in transcription and to analyse academics’ interactions with the trial version. In addition, log file data will be collected to understand academics’ use of the mobile website.

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

The third phase of the study will involve one 30-60 minute interview.

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

Participation and involvement in this study is completely voluntary. You are not under any obligation to consent to participation, if you do consent you can withdraw at any time you wish.
6) **Will anyone 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 will be submitted for publication, but individual participants will not be identifiable in such a report. Video recordings of participants’ engagement with the mobile website may be shown within university meetings or conference presentations, but individual participants will not be identifiable by name.

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

Participation in the study may help you interpret your Unit of Study Evaluations and may offer you ideas to improve your teaching.

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

Yes.

9) **What if I require further information about the study or my participation?**

When you have read this information, Dr Martin Tomitsch will discuss it with you further and answer any questions you may have. He can be reached at martin.tomitsch@sydney.edu.au and at 9351 4610.

10) **What if I have any complaints or concerns?**

Any person with concerns or complains about the conduct of the research study can contact the manager of the Human Ethics Administration of the University of Sydney through telephone at 8627 8176 or at ro.humanethics@sydney.edu.au

*This information sheet is for you to keep.*