

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET**

**Research Project Title:** **‘Developing the future’: A model of professional development underpinned by social justice for academic staff in a South Australian university (online modules evaluation)**

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| **Researchers:** |  |

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**Invitation to participate in the study:**

You are invited to participate in our project ‘**Developing the future’: A model of professional development underpinned by social justice for academic staff in a South Australian university’** to provide an insight into your experience of online Professional Development activities provided for teaching using enabling pedagogies. Participants who agree to participate will have completed the online modules available on the ‘Education Futures Teaching and Learning site’.

The learnings from this project will be developed in ways that are accessible by other educators locally, nationally and internationally. Participation in this study is strictly voluntary, but you need to provide informed consent. You can do this by indicating your consent at the beginning of the survey. You can decide to withdraw from this research project at any time, without any consequence to you. There will be no penalty to you now or in the future. Please note that, should you choose to withdraw from the study, any non-identifiable / anonymous data you have provided up until that point may still be used in the study as the researchers will be unable to distinguish and remove your individual response

**Purpose of the study:**

The project aims to examine the impact of online Professional Development activities on educators specifically using enabling pedagogies at UniSA. The project seeks to establish how the challenges commonly faced by academics in progressively diverse student cohorts can be effectively addressed through the professional development activities. We aim to determine the depth of impact this training has on educators in their teaching, and if this learning is applied across all cohorts they teach. Additionally, we aim to demonstrate the positive effect this training has on student satisfaction of teaching. Specifically, the research aims to:

(A) Establish the impact tailored professional development has on academic staff.

(B) Review how this translates into teaching approaches in the classroom.

(C) Further develop existing and new professional development activities to best serve academic staff teaching in diverse cohorts.

(D) Build a community of practice amongst educators that leads to increased student satisfaction of teaching.

**Eligibility to participate:**

Each participant will be required to:

a) Complete any of the 4 available online modules in Enabling Pedagogy through the Education Futures Teaching and Learning site on LearnOnline, and then complete a short online survey of multiple choice and open-text responses. This survey should take approximately 10 minutes.

**Is there any reimbursement for participation in this study?**  
No.

**What you will be asked to do:**

* Indicate your consent to participate in this research project at the commencement of the survey.
* Complete any or all of the 4 available Enabling pedagogy modules. Upon completion of the modules, complete an online survey of multiple choice and open-text responses (this should take approximately 10 minutes).

**Risks and benefits:**

This survey is anonymous unless identifying details are provided in open-ended responses. If at any time you feel uncomfortable about providing information, please let the researchers know. Again, you are free to withdraw from this study at any time**.** There may not be any direct benefits for you for participating in this study. You will however be providing valuable information that will help to generate a deeper understanding of the student experience that may enable future students to negotiate university pathways experiences more successfully. The data of the participants who choose to withdraw at any time will be excluded from the project. Please note that, should you choose to withdraw from the study, any non-identifiable / anonymous data you have provided up until that point may still be used in the study as the researchers will be unable to distinguish and remove your individual response. The benefits of the research include informing educators of successful practices in relation to engaging students from equity groups in higher education and developing enabling pedagogies. It is not anticipated that there are any risks to participation in this study beyond those encountered during everyday life.

**Reporting and maintenance of data and participant information:**

While information gained during the study may be published, you will not be identified, and no information which could lead to your identification will be released, unless required by law.

The information collected as part of the study will be retained for five years and stored in the office of the Chief investigator (DP2-30A) and in secured electronic storage housed within the University of South Australia. A back up of the data will be stored on password-protected cloud storage for which only the researchers will have the access password.

The researcher will take every care to remove identifying material after data entry. However the researchers cannot guarantee the confidentiality or anonymity of material transferred by email or the internet.

Subject to receiving ethics approval, this data may potentially be used for future research projects and/or databases.

**Summary report of this study’s findings:**

Participants will be informed when the study is completed, and a summary report of the findings will be made available to all participants on application to Research Project team.

**How do you become involved with the study?**

You can contact the researcher for further information about the project. If you are interested in participating, please contact:

Tanya Weiler – [tanya.weiler@unisa.edu.au](mailto:tanya.weiler@unisa.edu.au) or 8302 0345 or

Sarah Hattam – [sarah.hattam@unisa.edu.au](mailto:sarah.hattam@unisa.edu.au) or 8302 9243

This project has been approved by the University of South Australia's Human Research Ethics Committee (Ethics protocol: 202677). If you or third parties have any ethical concerns about the project or the way it is conducted please contact the Executive Officer of UniSA HREC in the first instance, email: [humanethics@unisa.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@unisa.edu.au) or tel: 8302 3118.

Participants or third parties who wish to lodge a complaint about either the study or the way it is being conducted should contact the Executive Officer of UniSA HREC in the first instance, email: [humanethics@unisa.edu.au](mailto:humanethics@unisa.edu.au) or tel: 8302 3118.

Thank you,

Tanya Weiler and Sarah Hattam

Chief Investigators