**The Unbundled University: Researching emerging models in an unequal landscape (ES/P002102/1)**

26-month University of Leeds and University of Cape Town joint project funded by the ESRC and NRF.

**Project details**

This project examines the profound confluence which constitutes the unbundled university – the intersection of increasingly disaggregated curricula and services, the affordances of digital technologies, the growing marketisation of the higher education sector itself and the deep inequalities which characterise both the sector and the contexts in which they are located.

Visit our project website for further details: <https://unbundleduni.com/>

**Abbreviations and descriptors**

Interviews, focus groups and surveys were conducted at a sample of universities in South Africa and the United Kingdom. Interviews were conducted at private companies in the business of partnering with public universities to provide products and services around unbundled, online provision. Interviews were also conducted at a number of governing bodies and umbrella organisation affiliated with the HE sector in South Africa.

The following tables provides the institutions and organisations referred to in the interviews as well as their descriptors used to keep the participants unidentifiable.

***South African Public Universities***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Code | Descriptor |
| 1 | SA University A | Traditional |
| 2 | SA University B | Traditional |
| 3 | SA University C | Comprehensive |
| 4 | SA University D | Traditional |
| 5 | SA University E | Traditional |
| 6 | SA University F | Comprehensive |
| 7 | SA University G | Comprehensive |
| 8 | SA University H | Comprehensive |
| 9 | SA University I | Traditional |
| 10 | SA University J | Traditional |
| 11 | SA University K | Comprehensive |
| 12 | SA University L | Traditional |
| 13 | SA University M | Traditional |
| 14 | SA University N | Traditional |
| 15 | SA University O | Traditional |
| 16 | SA University P | Comprehensive |
| 17 | SA University Q | Comprehensive |
| 18 | SA University R | Traditional |
| 19 | SA University S | Comprehensive |

***UK Public Universities***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Code | Descriptor |
| 1 | UK University A | Post-1992 |
| 2 | UK University B | Russell Group |
| 3 | UK University C | Post-1992 |
| 4 | UK University D | Russell Group |
| 5 | UK University E | Post-1992 |
| 6 | UK University F | Post-1992 |
| 7 | UK University G | Russell Group |
| 8 | UK University H | Russell Group |

***Private companies***

Private companies (PC) ranging from PC1 to PC29.

***Other organisations in South Africa***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Code** | Descriptor |
| SA GB A | Governing Body |
| SA GB B | Governing Body |
| SA UO A | Umbrella Organisation |
| SA UO B | Umbrella Organisation |
| SA UO C | Umbrella Organisation |

**Data overview**

1. **Interviews and focus groups**
   1. ***Data collection***

Data collection through interviews and focus groups took place in phases. Phase 1 included senior managers and education developers within universities and senior managers from private companies and other organisations. Phase 2 included universities’ academic staff.

Interviews SA senior managers: March-May 2017

Interviews UK senior managers: October-November 2017

Focus groups SA academics - February-March 2018

Focus groups UK academics - May 2018

* 1. ***Information sheet and consent form***

The information sheet and consent form have been uploaded and are available in the document: *Interview and Focus Groups Information and Consent*.

* 1. ***Interview and focus group schedule***

The Interview and Focus Group schedules have been uploaded and are available in the document: *Interview and Focus Group schedules*.

* 1. ***List of transcripts***

The list of transcripts and descriptors are available in the document: *List of transcripts*

1. **Surveys**
   1. ***Data collection***

During February and March 2018, members of our team conducted face-to-face surveys with 200 students at four South African universities. The four universities selected are diverse in terms of academic programmes offered, research focus, historical status from the Apartheid era, geographical context and THE ranking. Two are elite, historically advantaged, research-intensive institutions based in urban areas. One is a comprehensive university based in urban and township areas. The final is a historically disadvantaged institution based in a rural area (a former Apartheid homeland).

During May and June 2018, members of our team conducted face-to-face surveys with 200 students at four UK universities. Similar to the data collection in South Africa, the universities selected were diverse, including two post-1992 universities and two Russell Group universities.

Fifty students from each university were approached to participate in the study. We spent at least two days on each campus. Using the onlinesurveys.ac.uk platform to input the data as we conducted the surveys allowed us to track the demographics of our sample as it increased to ensured that the sample was relatively representative of the population at each university, in terms of subject area, level of study, race (in South Africa), international versus local students (in the UK) and gender.

* 1. ***Information sheet and consent***

Copies of the survey (including the information sheet) have been uploaded as PDFs with the survey datasets. The SA survey and UK survey differ slightly in three instances for contextual reasons (Q14.10 Immigration issues replaced student protests, Q24 place of study and Q30 funding of studies).

* 1. ***List of datasets***

Four datasets containing the survey results are provided:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| File name | Description |
| SA\_Student\_Survey\_Numeric | Downloaded from Online Surveys for use in statistical software - automatic recode of responses to numeric. |
| SA\_Student\_Survey\_Text | Downloaded from Online Surveys for use in excel - responses are shown as text. |
| UK\_Student\_Survey\_Numeric | Downloaded from Online Surveys for use in statistical software - automatic recode of responses to numeric. |
| UK\_Student\_Survey\_Text | Downloaded from Online Surveys for use in excel - responses are shown as text. |

1. **Mapping the terrain**
   1. ***Data collection***

The data collection for the partnerships between public universities and private companies in the UK and SA took place from December 2017 to March 2018, and was updated in August 2018. It involved iterative searches of publicly-available databases using search terms identified through the conception of the project. The data contained in the spreadsheets were used in interactive visualisations to explore patterns in each terrain.

* 1. ***List of datasets***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| File name | Sheet 1: Elements (variables) | Sheet 2: Connections |
| SA\_Mapping\_data |  |  |
| UK\_Mapping\_data |  |  |