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## **The Unbundled University: Researching emerging models in an unequal landscape**

## **Information sheet for higher education academic staff members**

**What is this project about?** The University of Leeds and the University of Cape Town needs your help for a research project. The project is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and National Research Foundation (NRF) and it aims to understand the technological, educational and economic factors that are changing the nature of higher education.

**What will I have to do?** You will take part in an individual interview or a focus group with other academics (3-6 per group). The researcher will ask you questions which are relevant to the project objectives – no personal questions will be asked at any time. The focus group will last approximately 60 minutes and it will be recorded using a digital voice recorder. It is based on an ‘open’ format, which means that there are no right or wrong answers and you are free to elaborate on issues that you think are particularly relevant. Think of it as a guided conversation.

**What kind of data will be collected?** We will ask questions about a range of topics:

* Your role in high-level strategies and decisions at your institutions.
* Your views on the relationship between higher education institutions and private providers.
* The relationship between your institution and other external providers or technology partners.
* The way technology is used at your institutions to support provision.
* Processes of digitisation and unbundling of provision as a result of digital delivery.

We will **not** collect sensitive personal data (i.e. religious beliefs, political opinions, health, sexual orientation, race, membership of past organisations).

**How will my data be stored, analysed and processed?** The focus group conversation will be recorded using a digital voice recorder and stored securely in an electronic format. The data will be kept in an anonymous form and analysed exclusively for the purpose of this study or other similar studies carried out by others. This means the data will be reusable, but only for research purposes. Data will be processed in compliance with the ERSC Framework for Research Ethics[[1]](#footnote-1). This means that your right to privacy will always be respected and that we will not share your data with commercial organisations. If we need to quote extracts from the conversation, we will use pseudonyms (fake names). We will also let you how long the analysis period will be and we will communicate the results. You will be able to withdraw the data you give us today up until the point when it will be anonymised and amalgamated for analytic and storage purposes. This point is one month after the date indicated in the consent form.

**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR HELP**

For more information about the project or if you are unsure about any aspect please contact [n.p.morris@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:n.p.morris@leeds.ac.uk)



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## **The Unbundled University: Researching emerging models in an unequal landscape**

## **Information sheet for HE senior managers and education developers (universities and other organisations)**

**What is this project about?** The University of Leeds and the University of Cape Town need your help for a research project. The project is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the South Africa National Research Foundation (NRF) and it aims to understand the technological, educational and economic factors that are changing the nature of higher education. The project focuses on the South African context, but it will also consider the implications for UK institutions.

**What will I have to do?** You will take part in an individual interview. The researcher will ask you questions which are relevant to the project objectives – no personal questions will be asked at any time. The interview will last approximately 60 minutes and it will be recorded using a digital voice recorder. The interview is based on an ‘open’ format, which means that there are no right or wrong answers and you are free to elaborate on issues that you think are particularly relevant. Think of it as a guided conversation.

**What kind of data will be collected?** We will ask questions about a range of topics:

* Your role in high-level strategies and decisions at your institutions.
* Your views on the relationship between higher education institutions and private providers.
* The relationship between your institution and other external providers or technology partners.
* The way technology is used at your institutions to support provision.
* Processes of digitisation and unbundling of provision as a result of digital delivery.

We will **not** collect sensitive personal data (i.e. religious beliefs, political opinions, health, sexual orientation, race, membership of past organisations).

**How will my data be stored, analysed and processed?** The interview will be recorded using a digital voice recorder and stored securely in an electronic format. The data will be kept in an anonymous form and analysed exclusively for the purpose of this study or other similar studies carried out by others. This means the data will be reusable, but only for research purposes. Data will be processed in compliance with the ERSC Framework for Research Ethics[[2]](#footnote-2). This means that your right to privacy will always be respected and that we will not share your data with commercial organisations. If we need to quote extracts from an interview, we will use pseudonyms (fake names). We will also let you how long the analysis period will be and we will communicate the results. You will be able to withdraw the data you give us today up until the point when it will be anonymised and amalgamated for analytic and storage purposes. This point is one month after the date indicated in the consent form.

**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR HELP**

For more information about the project or if you are unsure about any aspect please contact …



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## **The Unbundled University: Researching emerging models in an unequal landscape**

## **Information sheet for private companies**

**The project:** The University of Leeds and the University of Cape Town need your help for a research project. The project is funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the South African National Research Foundation (NRF) and it aims to understand the technological, educational and economic factors that are changing the nature of higher education. The project compares the South African and the UK contexts, focusing on the changes affecting public HE institutions. More information about the project is available on our website [www.unbundleduni.com](http://www.unbundleduni.com).

**The interview:** You will take part in an individual interview. The interview will last approximately 60 minutes and it will be recorded using a digital voice recorder. The interview is based on an ‘open’ format, which means that there are no right or wrong answers and you are free to elaborate on issues that you think are particularly relevant. Think of it as a guided conversation. The researcher/s will ask you questions which are relevant to the project objectives.

**The focus:** We will ask questions about a range of topics:

* Your role in high-level strategies, policy, and decision-making at your company.
* Your views on the relationship between higher education institutions and private providers.
* The way technology is used by your company to support provision.
* Processes of digitisation and unbundling of provision as a result of digital delivery.

**The data:**  The interview will be recorded using a digital voice recorder and stored securely in an electronic format. The data will be kept in a password protected offline drive, transcribed, and analysed exclusively for the purpose of this study or other similar studies carried out by others. This means the transcript will be reusable, but only for research purposes.  Data will be processed in compliance with the ESRC Framework for Research Ethics. This means that your right to privacy will always be respected and that we will not share your data with commercial organisations. We will also let you know how long the analysis period will be and we will communicate the results. You will be able to withdraw the data you give us during the interview up until one month after the date indicated in the consent form.

**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR HELP**

For more information about the project please contact Prof. Neil Morris: [N.P.Morris@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:N.P.Morris@leeds.ac.uk)



**CONSENT FORM**

# **The Unbundled University: Researching emerging models in an unequal landscape**

[**www.unbundleduni.com**](http://www.unbundleduni.com)

I agree to take part in the study “The Unbundled University – Researching emerging models in an unequal landscape”. I understand that I will take part in an interview/ focus group, and that the interviewer will ask questions about my perceptions and experiences around the relationship between higher education institutions and private companies, the way technology is used at my institution to support provision and the processes of unbundling and digitisation of provision. I understand that the interview/ focus group will be digitally recorded, that my data will be kept in a protected offline drive, anonymised when transcribed, and analysed exclusively for the purpose of this study or other similar studies carried out by others. I know that I do not have to answer all of the questions and that I can decide to withdraw my data up to  one month after the date in this consent form.

Please initial

I agree to take part in the above study.

**Participant**

Name:

Signature:

Date, Place:

**Researcher 1**

Name:

Signature:

Date, Place:

**Researcher 2**

Name:

Signature:

Date, Place:

1. <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding/guidance-for-applicants/research-ethics/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding/guidance-for-applicants/research-ethics/>

   [↑](#footnote-ref-2)