

PLAIN LANGUAGE STATEMENT



TO: Student Workshop Participants

Plain Language Statement

Date: March 14th, 2022

Full Project Title: Exploring the Idea of a Community-Embedded University

Principal Researchers: Darci Taylor, Mollie Dollinger, Lea Piskiewicz

Reference Number: HAE-22-014

Dear Student,

We are currently conducting a study to elicit stakeholders' perceptions and ideas about a 'community embedded' university and what this type of university may look like, and the activities it may focus on.

A community embedded university may take the shape of one that draws on global perspectives while having a commitment to local industry and community. However, we want to hear your thoughts on what makes a community embedded university.

As part of this study, we invite you to attend an online co-design workshop (a 'CoLab') to discuss what a community embedded university might mean to you. In the CoLab workshop stakeholders (e.g., students, staff, industry supervisors) will come together to generate ideas about a community embedded university through a range of participatory activities. The type of questions we may discuss in the workshop include:

- What is a 'community embedded' university?
- How can a university be more connected to diverse and geographically separated communities?
- How can universities better support local communities?

Purpose of the Study and Invitation to Participate:

The purpose of this research study is to understand various stakeholder's perceptions of the community embedded university, including Deakin students, Deakin staff, and industry/community supervisors who work closely with Deakin.

Procedures of the Study:

If you choose to express your interest you may be invited to attend an online workshop with other participants. The co-design workshops will be approximately 90 minutes. Note: you will not be anonymous in these workshops to the other participants, however, you can choose to turn your camera off if you wish. All workshops will be audio recorded.

Taking part in this study is voluntary and you can leave the workshop at any time, without stating a reason. Your data, however, cannot be removed from the workshop once you have spoken or submitted ideas via an online software (like a Google Jamboard or Miroboard) as this data is co-constructed by all participants.

Use of Data and Results:

We will use the data to create a report on what a community embedded university may look like to inform Advance Higher Education on a model for a community embedded university that may be of interest to universities who are looking to build stronger connections with local communities. The data may also be used in open access institutional reports that are available to the public as well as academic journals, conferences, and professional development material.

Potential Risks and Benefits of the Study:

We anticipate minimal risks for you in participating in this research and your decision to participate will not impact your relationship with Deakin.

You may feel some benefit however in sharing your ideas about how to create a community embedded university, and there is likely to be benefit to yourself and students at Deakin University and elsewhere.

We have received a small amount of funding for this project through Advance Higher Education and all students who participate in the workshops will receive a \$45 gift card.

While it is not expected that participating in the research will cause you to feel distress, we recognise the challenging circumstances the COVID-19 pandemic has caused for many community members. As such, we would like to highlight that if you, or those close to you are experiencing distress, or are in need of additional support, you are encouraged to access support via Deakin's confidential counselling services (<https://www.deakin.edu.au/students/health-and-wellbeing/counselling>), Lifeline (13 11 14, <https://www.lifeline.org.au/>) or beyondblue (1300 22 4636, <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>) for telephone or online chat regarding your experiences.

Confidentiality and Data Protection:

The online platforms we will use in the workshops are anonymous and it is unlikely any submissions you make will be re-identifiable.

We will also audio record the workshops. During the transcription process all participants will receive a pseudonym to protect your identity.

We will store the de-identified data electronically at Deakin University for 7 years after the last publication is made. Future use of data beyond this project, e.g., contributing to multi-institutional research on student assessment resources, will require further ethical review and the permission of the researchers. We intend to publish findings through conference presentations, journal articles, and guidelines for university staff and students. All workshop participants will receive a copy of any findings.

If you wish to withdraw from the workshop at any point during the workshop, you can indicate this and leave immediately. As all data is created collectively (in small groups) it is

not possible to remove your input after you have withdrawn. After the workshop is completed and data analysis has commenced, it will also not be possible to withdraw your data entirely from the research. Regardless of timing, withdrawal from participation will not affect your relationship with Deakin.

To provide consent please complete the online expression of interest.

For any further information about the study, please contact: Lea Piskiewicz,
l.piskiewicz@deakin.edu.au or 03 9918 9020

Complaints

If you have any complaints about any aspect of the project, the way it is being conducted or any questions about your rights as a research participant, then you may contact:

The Human Research Ethics Office, Deakin University, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood
Victoria 3125, Telephone: 9251 7129, research-ethics@deakin.edu.au

This study has received Deakin University ethics approval (reference number: HAE-22-014).