

Participant Information Sheet

Researchers:

Ms Leone Nurbasari, ANU Evaluations Manager, Planning and Performance Measurement, ANU
Ms Sara Rowley, Senior Social Researcher, Planning and Performance Measurement, ANU
Professor Jennifer Corbett, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Research Training), ANU

Project Title: ANU Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES)

General Outline of the Project:

This project is conducted by the Australian National University, in association with the Higher Education Academy (HEA), United Kingdom. The ANU PRES questionnaire has been developed from the UK HEA version of the PRES, which is deployed biennially to higher degree research candidates in the UK.

This project seeks to collect feedback about your research experience which will be used to monitor and improve the research training and support at ANU. Summary results from the ANU PRES will also contribute to international benchmarking of higher degree student satisfaction. The project may extend into a longitudinal study to track changes in individual respondents' experiences and aspirations as their candidature progresses.

Aggregate results from the ANU PRES and/or its potential longitudinal study will be reported to ANU Executives, Deans, Directors, relevant University Committee members and other key University stakeholders. ANU PRES results may also contribute to scholarly research and publication.

Participant Involvement:

All current ANU higher degree by research candidates are invited to participate in this survey. Participant involvement is voluntary. You can withdraw your data at any time before you submit the survey, simply by not submitting it. Your data will only be used if you submit the survey.

You will be asked to complete an anonymous online survey, consisting of a series of questions about your experience as a higher degree by research candidate, including aspects of supervision, research culture, professional development and career aspirations. Demographic questions are included to allow analyses of the experiences of different groups of candidates.

The survey should take between 20 to 30 minutes to complete. Participants may partially save their responses should they wish to take a break from the survey and complete it at another time. Partially saved surveys can be resumed by clicking on the link in the survey invitation or reminder email.

You may elect to voluntarily participate in a potential longitudinal study of the PRES by providing your University ID. Your University ID will be held securely for the sole purpose of the longitudinal study, and will not be disclosed to any other party. You may withdraw from participation in the longitudinal analysis at any time by notifying the researchers.

Confidentiality:

ANU values your privacy and is bound by the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). Confidentiality will be protected as far as the law allows. Responses will be reported in aggregate and no individuals will be identified. If you volunteer to participate in the longitudinal study of the ANU PRES, your University ID will be held securely for the sole purpose of that study, and will not be disclosed to any other party.

Data Storage:

Your responses will be recorded by the ANU-hosted online evaluation software, EvaSys, and later downloaded onto a secured network folder accessible only by the Evaluations Team, Planning and Performance Measurement, ANU. Data will be stored for a period of at least five years from publication.

Queries and Concerns:

If you have any queries or concerns about any aspect of this research, feel free to contact Ms Leone Nurbasari (Leone.Nurbasari@anu.edu.au) +61 2 6125 4579 or Ms Sara Rowley (Sara.Rowley@anu.edu.au) +61 2 6125 3541.

Ethics Committee Clearance:

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee
The Australian National University
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427
Email: Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au