

Arts Studies – College of Arts
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September 20, 2021

Leveraging Faculty Members as Influencers to Advance
the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
Letter of Informed Consent

Purpose/Objectives of the Study

The principal investigator, Dr. Candy Ho, is investigating the question, “How can faculty members in post-secondary institutions incorporate the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) to enhance teaching and curriculum?”

In this study aims to generate insights to faculty members’ awareness and understanding of the SDGs, and through doing so, provide recommendations to post-secondary institutions, professional associations, and government agencies on how to mobilize the SDGs in post-secondary institutions, so that Canada can make accelerated progress on the SDGs by the target year of 2030.

Procedures involved in the Research

There are three stages to the research project. In the first stage, you will take part in a one-on-one interview (virtually via Zoom) that is between 30 to 45 minutes long. Interview questions will explore your current awareness and understanding of the SDGs, consider how you might incorporate the SDGs in your courses, and identify resources you can use to incorporate the SDGs in curricular components.

In the second stage, you will design and implement an SDG component in your course(s). This is anticipated to take between 1.5-3 hours.

After you have implemented your SDG component, in the third and final stage, you will take part in a small virtual focus group (virtually via Zoom) that is between 75 to 90 minutes long. You will share your experience by collectively considering how you might further incorporate the SDGs in future courses.

With your permission, both your one-on-one interview and focus group will be video recorded.

Potential Benefits

By participating in this study, you can become familiar with the global challenges identified by the United Nations and its member states and incorporate your learning into your courses and curricula

which in turn will help students become aware of the SDG(s). In a sense, the study also provides you with a chance to reflect on your pedagogy and enhance your practice.

For your participation, you will receive gift cards totalling \$100: \$25 for your participation in the one-on-one interview, and \$75 for designing and implementing an SDG component in your course and your participation in the focus group.

Potential Harms, Risks or Discomforts to Participants

There may be risks involved for participating in this study, yet the risks are assessed as minimal and are not greater than those you may encounter in your everyday life. Due to the nature of the qualitative study, you may share personal experiences and information (e.g., courses you teach and your pedagogical approach), but there are no anticipated risk or discomfort associated with the questions.

Confidentiality

All information gathered from the interviews and focus groups will be coded and all personal identifiers will be removed. Data will be kept in a locked office and password protected on a computer hard drive. Only the principal investigator will have access to the data. Data will be destroyed by December 31, 2022.

Due to the third stage being facilitated in a focus group setting, your participation will be known by other participants. A potential risk is that your perspective may become public.

Your confidentiality will be respected during this study and in the dissemination of its results; at no point will your name and/or identity be disclosed. If the principal investigator would like to feature a direct participant quote in her final research report and/or submissions to journal articles and conference presentations, she will follow up with you to seek your permission and will use your participant code or a pseudonym instead of your real identity.

Participation

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You have the right to withdraw from the research study from the study by 2022/03/31 once the data analysis is complete and dissemination is underway. Your refusal to participate will have no adverse effects on your role at your institution in any way. You have not waived your right to legal recourse in the event of research related harm. You should ask the principal investigator listed below any questions you may have about this research study. You may ask questions in the future if you do not understand something that is being done.

Study Results

Study results will be shared through conferences and publications such as journal articles. If you wish to obtain the results of the study, please contact the principal investigator.

Questions

CONTACT FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE STUDY

If you have any questions about the study, you can contact the principal investigator, Dr. Candy Ho, at candy.ho@ufv.ca.

CONTACT FOR CONCERNS

If you have any concerns regarding your rights or welfare as a participant in this research study, please contact the Ethics Officer at 604-557-4011 or Research.Ethics@ufv.ca.

The ethics of this research project have been reviewed and approved by the UFV Human Research Ethics Board (HREB Protocol Number 100829, September 3, 2021).

Consent Form

By signing below I agree to participate in this study, titled “Leveraging Faculty Members as Influencers to Advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals”.

I have read the information presented in the letter of informed consent for the study being conducted by Dr. Candy Ho, College of Arts at the University of the Fraser Valley. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about my involvement in this study and to receive any additional details.

I understand that I have the right to withdraw from the study at any time and that confidentiality and/or anonymity of all results will be preserved. If I have any questions about the study, I should contact Dr. Candy Ho, at candy.ho@ufv.ca.

If I have any concerns regarding my rights or welfare as a participant in this research study, I can contact the UFV Ethics Officer at 604-557-4011 or Research.Ethics@ufv.ca.

I consent to the interview being audio recorded. Yes No

I consent to being quoted in the products of the research. Yes No

Name (please print) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Once signed, you will receive a copy of this consent form.