



## ***Lifelong Learning Supported by ePortfolio Processes***

### **INFORMATION SHEET**

My name is Yuliya Bozhko. I am a PhD student in information technology at Massey University. This research is being conducted under the supervision of Dr Eva Heinrich, A/Prof Mark Brown and Dr David Parsons, also of Massey University.

The aim of this information sheet is to inform you of a study undertaken at Massey University in which you are invited to participate.

The overall aim of my research is to develop a concept and prototype of a learner-centered e-learning environment which will provide comprehensive support for lifelong learning of students in universities. This environment will be built on an institutionally focused Learning Management System (LMS) and a learner focused ePortfolio system. However, to know what the requirements for such an environment are, it is important to find out the needs from both, lecturer (teaching) and student (learning) sides. This is where I need your help.

Your name has been given to me by my supervisor as a name of an academic who has experience in using ePortfolio systems in teaching and learning contexts.

I will initially approach to seven academics at Massey University to invite to participate in this research. Seven participants from the lecturer side should be enough to generate the data I need for the current study.

I will as well involve students and university graduates in interviews to cover the requirements from the learner side.

If you agree to participate in my study, I will interview you to investigate the requirements for an environment that can support lifelong learning in universities.

This will involve face to face semi-structured interviews guided by a set of scenarios and open-ended questions. I expect the entire process to take up to one hour to complete. To facilitate the interviews analysis I would like to record the interview in audio format. The interview recordings will be transcribed and you will be presented with a copy of this transcript.

To protect the privacy of participants, all the data collected will be reported in anonymous form. Yet, due to the nature of my sample it might be possible to infer your identity. Results will appear in a thesis and academic publications. Quotations from your answers may also be used.

The consent forms and audio records will be stored for a period of five (5) years. At the end of this period, both consent forms and the audio records will be destroyed.

The results of this study will be used to help develop a concept and prototype of a system that can support and facilitate students' lifelong learning at universities.

You are under no obligation to accept this invitation. If you decide to participate, you have the right to:

- decline to answer any particular question;
- withdraw from the study at any time before your interview or before data analysis was conducted;
- ask any questions about the study at any time during participation;