Research behaviors of Fine Arts undergraduate students

You are invited to participate in a study entitled “Research behaviors of Fine Arts undergraduate students” that is being conducted by Shailoo Bedi, Christine Walde, Tad Suzuki, and Bill Blair.

Shailoo Bedi is Director, Academic Commons and Strategic Assessment, Christine Walde is Grants and Awards Librarian, Tad Suzuki is Fine Arts Librarian and Bill Blair is Music Librarian. All are professional librarians at the University of Victoria Libraries and you may contact them if you have further questions using the information below:

- Shailoo Bedi  shailoo@uvic.ca  250-721-8226
- Christine Walde  cwalde@uvic.ca  250-853-3613
- Bill Blair  lairw@uvic.ca  250-472-5025
- Tad Suzuki  suzukit@uvic.ca  250-721-8213

**Purpose and Objectives**

We are interested in studying the research behaviors of Fine Arts students at the University of Victoria and what role the library plays in their process of research-creation. Through examining their information seeking practices, we hope to learn more about how and what Fine Arts students are doing to fill their information needs, and how the library’s resources and services impact the outcomes and success of their creative process.

**Importance of this Research**

Research of this type is important because it will allow a better understanding of the needs of Fine Arts undergraduate students in terms of research-creation support from the university libraries. This research will lead to a better understanding of these needs and thus better services to meet these needs.

**Participants Selection**

You are being asked to participate in this study because you are registered as an undergraduate Fine Arts student in Music, Theatre, Visual Art and/or Writing.

**What is involved**

If you consent to voluntarily participate in this research, your participation will include completing a short (less than 20 minute) survey about your research process.

**Inconvenience**

Participation in this study may cause some inconvenience to you, including the time you spend on the survey.

**Risks**

There are no known or anticipated risks to you by participating in this research.

**Benefits**

The potential benefits of your participation in this research include improvements to the state of knowledge by increasing our overall understanding about undergraduate research processes in the Fine Arts, as well as potentially improving library services for Fine Arts students.
Voluntary Participation
Your participation in this research must be completely voluntary. If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequences or any explanation. Due to the anonymous nature of the survey, we cannot remove any specific participant’s responses once they are entered in the survey.

Compensation
As a way to compensate you for any inconvenience related to your participation, you will be given the opportunity to enter a draw for a $50 gift card to the UVic Bookstore. If you consent to participate in this study, this form of compensation to you must not be coercive. It is unethical to provide undue compensation or inducements to research participants. If you would not participate if the compensation was not offered, then you should decline to participate.

Anonymity
Your responses to this survey will remain completely anonymous. No IP addresses or other identifying information will be recorded by the survey software. If you provide your email for either the focus group or the prize draw, your email will not be connected in any way with your survey responses. Emails for focus group volunteers will be stripped from the survey data and stored in a separate file.

Confidentiality
Your confidentiality and the confidentiality of the data will be protected by securely storing the data gathered in this study, and by not sharing details about the raw data collected beyond the project team.

Dissemination of Results
It is anticipated that the results of this study will be shared with others in the following ways: presentations at scholarly meetings, over the internet, directly to participants via email/the internet, and in a published article, chapter or book.

Disposal of Data
Data from this study will be retained in a secure environment in the UVic Enterprise Data Centre, in password protected files, or locked in a filing cabinet for paper data. Electronic data will be retained in order to be used in the future for comparison reasons in the case that this study is replicated in the future (or potentially for comparison with other library user groups, e.g. graduate students, faculty).

Contacts
For individuals that may be contacted regarding this study, please refer to the beginning of this form.

In addition, you may verify the ethical approval of this study, or raise any concerns you might have, by contacting the Human Research Ethics Office at the University of Victoria (250-472-4545 or ethics@uvic.ca).

By completing and submitting the questionnaire, YOUR FREE AND INFORMED CONSENT IS IMPLIED and indicates that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study and that you have had the opportunity to have your questions answered by the researchers.

Please retain a copy of this letter for your reference.