

Scoping Project: What do women need to progress in academia?



Information for participants

(Project duration March to July 2022)

As a participant you are invited to share your experiences about factors that shape women's experiences and progress in academia. Your participation is voluntary, and you have the right to withdraw at any point without consequences. This information sheet is to answer any questions you might have about the project. If there is anything you want to ask, please get in touch with the project lead contact Natalie.James@researchcoach.co.uk.

What happens if you choose to take part?

If you choose to contribute a career narrative, you can submit information in any format that works for you. [Guidance on different possible formats is available here](#). Your submission will be shared amongst the three team members of Research Coach Ltd for analysis. Through your contribution to the project you will be eligible to enter a voucher prize draw to win prizes of up to £100 vouchers. A link to enter the prize draw is provided once you have submitted your narrative via Qualtrics. Furthermore, £2 will be donated to our nominated project charities (<https://www.refuge.org.uk/> and <https://www.unhcr.org/>) for every career narrative received.

What are the aims of this project?

This project, commissioned by the PFDC, aims to:

- Examine factors that support women's progress in academia
- Identify any barriers to progression
- Explore women's experiences of academia at different stages and choice points of their careers.

Your participation in this project will be used to generate evidence-based recommendations to inform future provision and practices across the College that support inclusive opportunities for career progression.

Can I be identified from the research?

Any responses collected will be anonymised so that you cannot be identified. Data will be collected via Qualtrics which will be set to collect information through an anonymous link, and to anonymise responses. As such stored data will also be anonymised.

What will happen to the data?

When you agree to be part of this research project, we will use your data to investigate and make recommendations about provision and practices to support women's career progression. In our reporting on this data, anything you have shared will remain anonymous. It will be possible to withdraw your data (and we will destroy it) from this project up until the end of July 2022 when we will be writing our report and presenting our findings. Please contact Natalie James (details below) if you want to do this. The data collected will be stored in a secure location at [Qualtrics](#) via the PFDC's account, in accordance and compliance with GDPR. The data will be shared amongst the Research Coach Ltd project team, it will also be visible to PFDC staff who administer the Qualtrics account.

The data you provide will be combined with other interview data to identify key themes. With a designer, the project team will develop a series of composite visual case studies representing experiences of women at different career stages/choice points. These will support the action group work and will be available for PFDC to use as communications and training resources after the project. Individual contributors will not be identifiable and we will **not** reproduce your images/media/written contributions in any of our reporting. The copyright of your career narrative contributions remains with you. Some of the data may also be used in presentations and reports presented to Imperial, but participants will not be identifiable. The PFDC also plan to report on the project at the forthcoming [REDS conference](#) 'How do we stop losing talent in research careers' (12 October 2022): participants will not be identifiable or quoted in this presentation. All data will be destroyed at the end of the project and not retained.

What if I have any queries or complaints?

Please use the following contacts if you have any questions or concerns: Dr Natalie James, Lead Project Contact for Research Coach Ltd (Natalie.James@researchcoach.co.uk) or Dr Karen Hinxman, PFDC Consultant (k.hinxman@imperial.ac.uk)