Participant Information Sheet and privacy notice for ‘Succeeding in Research Through Failure’ Project – General Survey

Who are we?
We at Lancaster University are working in collaboration with the Wellcome Trust (“Wellcome”) towards creating a fairer peer review system and inform the provision of more useful feedback to grant applicants to inform and support their future academic development.

About the project
Lancaster University is conducting an assessment for Wellcome (www.wellcome.ac.uk) of the feedback provided to grant applicants to understand how Wellcome can improve their support of researchers through the feedback they give. This study aims to examine how feedback provided by the peer review process influences the development of research ideas and the success of future applications.

It aims to create a fairer, better peer review system for Wellcome, by understanding how feedback on funding proposals was useful for the career development of applicants. In order to achieve this we have developed a survey specific for Early Career Researchers applying to Wellcome (which has been distributed via email).

In order to a wider context for this work we have also created a survey aimed at any Early Career Researchers applying to other funding bodies. Links to the survey are being distributed via the www.pearlaboratory.org website and associated social media for the project. Participation in the survey is entirely voluntary.

What happens if I agree to participate in the survey?
We would like to ask you to complete a survey to help us understand the current decision-making processes at Wellcome, with a specific focus on applicant feedback.

Participation in this survey is entirely voluntary.
If you agree to participate in this survey, we will ask for your explicit consent to collect additional information related to your publishing name(s), professional background, gender and ethnicity prior to the survey starting.

Please note that the information for which your consent is requested is entirely optional and is not required for you to complete the survey. Responses to the survey will be confidential.

For further information about how Lancaster University processes personal data for research purposes and your data rights please visit our webpage: www.lancaster.ac.uk/research/data-protection

Who is handling this information?

The data we are collecting in this survey on behalf of Wellcome will be processed in line with Wellcome’s Grants Privacy Statement and in accordance with the Lancaster University FASS Human Research Ethics Committee policies.

If you have any concerns, enquiries in relation to the study can be directed to Dr Gemma Derrick (g.derrick@lancaster.ac.uk) in the first instance, with further enquires to be directed to Prof. Paul Ashwin, HoD Educational Research, Lancaster University (paul.ashwin@lancaster.ac.uk).

Please see the relevant section below for questions on how your personal data is used or exercising your rights in relation to your personal data.

How we will use your data

The survey will ask you to upload documents that may contain personal data, such as your publishing name(s) and contact details. We are using these details for analysis during the research process, but the data on ethnicity will be treated as special category data in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR).

Any responses to the survey will be deidentified and direct personal identifiers (such as your name) will be separated from your responses prior to analysis. All information will be kept securely in accordance with GDPR. This is to help minimise the risk that you can be individually identified in any of these project outputs; however, please note that the data will not be anonymous. However any publication and analysis produced will use aggregated data from which individuals cannot be identified.

How long will we keep this data?

Lancaster University will retain your personal information for up to seven years after the end of the research project, after which time your data will be deleted from the project files.
What are your rights?

You have the right to request access to and rectification or erasure of personal data. You can also request us to place restrictions on our processing of your data and have the right to object to our processing as well as the right to data portability. To exercise any of these rights or if you have any questions, please contact Lancaster University (as the data processor) and the Wellcome Trust (as the data controller).

In addition, as noted above, where you have provided your personal data on the basis of consent then you can withdraw your consent at any time by contacting Wellcome’s data protection officer at: dataprotection@wellcome.ac.uk

How do I find out the results?

Researchers at Lancaster University will produce an academic article on the findings from this study as well develop a short film including graphical representations of the findings on the project’s website www.pearlaboratory.org; Wellcome’s website; and on social media.

How do you contact us to exercise these rights?

You may contact Dr Gemma Derrick (g.derrick@lancaster.ac.uk) in the first instance, with further enquires to be directed to Prof. Paul Ashwin, HoD Educational Research, Lancaster University (paul.ashwin@lancaster.ac.uk). citing “Enquiry related to Succeeding in Research through Failure project” in the subject line.

You may also contact Wellcome’s data protection officer at: dataprotection@wellcome.ac.uk

If you have concerns that you feel we are unable to address about our use of personal data you are able to refer this to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) at https://ico.org.uk/

We hope you will be happy to inform this important study for the Wellcome Trust

If you would like any further information regarding the project, please contact g.derrick@lancaster.ac.uk and/or ror@wellcome.ac.uk.