

Participant identification number where applicable

CONSENT FORM

Project Title: BLASTER

Name of Researcher:

I confirm that I have read and understood the information sheet dated **DATE:**

For the above project which I may keep for my records and have had the opportunity to ask any questions I may have.

I agree to take part in the above study and am willing to:

- Be interviewed as part of a focus group*
- Have my interview tape-recorded*

I understand that the data collected will be held and processed for the following purposes:

- Generating guidelines to support undergraduate students who are engaged in research projects*
- Generating guidelines to support supervisors who are engaged in undergraduate research supervision*
- Informing good practice in training academics to undertake the role of undergraduate research supervisor*
- Generating guidelines to maintain the quality of undergraduate research on Liberal Arts and Sciences programmes*

I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason without being penalised or disadvantaged in any way.

Name of Participant

Date

Signature

Name of person taking consent if different from Researcher

Date

Signature

Researcher

Date

Signature

Participant Information Sheet

The University of Warwick (UK) is leading on a strand in a major research project funded by ERASMUS+, titled: *The **Best in Liberal Arts and Sciences Teaching Expanded and Reinforced***. The project is referred to using the acronym **BLASTER**. Three partner universities are collaborating in this research strand: University College Roosevelt (Netherlands), Leuphana University Lüneburg (Germany) and Vytautas Magnus University (Lithuania).

The overall purpose of BLASTER is to strengthen the relevance and the quality of Liberal Arts and Sciences education in Europe. The specific purpose of this strand is to examine the current state of Undergraduate Research and to generate guidelines to support undergraduate students and their academic supervisors. The strand also aims to make recommendations about support structures that enable students to undertake undergraduate research successfully.

We are setting up focus groups with students and with academics at various Liberal Arts and Sciences programmes. The focus groups consist of questions and some activities, to allow us to gather information on your experiences of being part of an undergraduate research project. You will not be asked to share any private information, nor will you be expected to reveal personal or confidential information. The focus group will last for approximately 1 hour and the activities will not be physically demanding. We do not foresee any risk, inconvenience or discomfort to the participants during this period.

The information we collect will be anonymised and stored in a safe environment. It will only be used for the purposes of this project and will not be shared with anyone else. We will use quotes and statements from the focus group discussions, but these will not be attributed to a named subject.

When you agree to participate in this focus group, you are doing so on a voluntary basis. You may choose to withdraw from the focus group at any point and request that your contribution is deleted. If you choose to withdraw from the focus group you can be assured that this decision will not have any consequences.

The lead researcher for the Undergraduate Research strand is Dr Nick Monk at the University of Warwick. He can be contacted at Nicholas.Monk@warwick.ac.uk.

You can also contact the partner researcher responsible for your focus group:
Dr Michael Burke at University College Roosevelt, M.burke@ucr.nl
Dr Volker Balli at Leuphana University Lüneburg, volker.balli@leuphana.de
Dr Ignas Kalpokas at Vytautas Magnus University, i.kalpokas@pmdf.vdu.lt