

## INFORMATION SHEET

### INTRODUCTION

#### **About the Research**

The title of this research project is career paths and development of experienced project managers. This research is being conducted through Southern Cross Business School, at Southern Cross University (SCU). SCU has an extensive program of doctoral research relating to real world business issues.

As part of the research, experienced project managers are being invited to participate in one-to-one semi-structured interviews. This forms the core of the research. The sample is being drawn from practising managers of projects, programs and/or portfolios who are based in Queensland Australia. Each participant will require experience at least equivalent to PMI's globally recognised PMP® credential. An alternative verification if by certificate would be AIPM's CPPM post-nominal (or higher). Invitations to participate are being circulated through various local professional networks in Queensland.

#### **About the Researcher**

The Researcher's name is Jason Bingham. Jason is a business leader and manager of projects who is additionally and currently undertaking doctoral studies at Southern Cross Business School. He has 20 years industry experience. Further information about Jason is publicly available at <http://au.linkedin.com/in/jdbingham>.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH

For the past 60 years or so, organisations have increasingly been using projects to achieve their strategic objectives. This has been in the context of a rapidly changing macro-environment which has exhibited increasing socio-economic complexity, uncertainty and ambiguity. Through projects, resources are mobilised in temporary activity to bring about value-adding change taking into account the relevant environmental factors. With projects representing such a significant proportion of the work mode supporting global economic activity the importance of project management, including the human capital inputs, is apparent. Yet project management is a relatively young area of academic inquiry, being both broader and less mature as a discipline than more traditional examples such as engineering, medicine or law.

This research will more thoroughly explore the career path and development experiences, attitudes and perceptions of experienced project managers. The research is designed to bridge existing gaps in literature and knowledge and in doing so will pay close (but not exclusive) attention to the subjective criteria that project managers bring to their own career situations.

### RESEARCH OUTCOMES

#### **Benefits of the Research**

This research is intended to bring several benefits. First, the research will bridge identified gaps in knowledge by adding to literature. This is predominantly an academic benefit. Secondly (and leading from the first), the flow-on professional benefits expected, include:

- Better information to inform early careerists entering or contemplating entering project management;
- Improved responsiveness to project manager skills shortages in the relevant industry sectors;
- Better understanding by the profession of the experiences and future development needs of experienced project managers; and
- Better awareness by organisations of individual perspectives.

### **Dissemination of Findings**

It is important that the findings of this research be disseminated to others. The findings will therefore be disseminated to others, in whole or in part, by various means including but not limited to peer-reviewed journals, conferences and industry publications. The privacy and confidentiality of participants will be respected at all times.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Researcher Responsibilities**

The Researcher will:

- Ask each Participant to complete and return a Consent Form prior to the interview;
- Provide a suitable venue in Brisbane CBD for the interviews;
- Provide access for any Participant residing outside of south east Queensland to participate by phone;
- Provide each Participant access to the research findings; and
- At all times protect the privacy and confidentiality of each Participant.

### **Participant Responsibilities**

The Participant will:

- Complete and return a Consent Form, before their interview;
- Allow 60 minutes for the interview, excluding travel and 15 minutes for introductions on arrival;
- Participate openly and honestly during the interview;
- Attend the interview in attire suitable for the interview environment, which is business casual; and
- Indicate their interest in receiving a copy of the research findings by ticking the appropriate box on the Consent Form, when provided.

## **ETHICS**

### **Privacy and Consent**

Participants' privacy is taken very seriously. No information allowing individual Participants to be identified will be disclosed or published as part of this research. In addition, Each Participant will be provided and required to complete and return a Consent Form containing further relevant information, prior to the their participation. All information gathered in this research will be kept securely for 7 years at the University.

### **Ethics Approval**

This research has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee at Southern Cross University. The approval reference is ECN-10-156.

### **Complaints**

If you have concerns about the ethical conduct of this research or the researcher, you should write to:

The Ethics Complaints Officer, Southern Cross University, PO Box 157, Lismore NSW 2480

Email: [ethics.lismore@scu.edu.au](mailto:ethics.lismore@scu.edu.au)

All information is confidential and will be handled as soon as possible.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information about this research you can contact either the Researcher or Supervisor, as follow:

Researcher	Jason Bingham	0437 517 397	<a href="mailto:j.bingham.10@scu.edu.au">j.bingham.10@scu.edu.au</a>
Supervisor	Dr James Cowley	0411 601 789	<a href="mailto:crick@ozemail.com.au">crick@ozemail.com.au</a>