***The Efficacy of Experiential Learning through Peer Feedback in Graduate Education Programs***

**To**: Werklund MEd students

**From**: Subrata Bhowmik, Anita Chaudhuri, Christie Hurrell, and Marcia Kim

**Subject**: ***Call for Participants: Study on Peer Feedback in Graduate Education Programs***

Good afternoon students,

We invite you to participate in a research study about experiential learning through peer feedback in graduate education programs. **The goal of the project** is to gain an understanding of how peer feedback and experiential learning influence academic writing among graduate students.

**WHY PARTICIPATE?**

This study offers a robust experiential learning opportunity for professional graduate students. Participation in peer-review has been shown to help students in the following ways:

* Improving understanding about the peer review process in scholarly and professional publications; improving ability to write for a broader audience (Dawson & Marken, 2019)
* Developing greater knowledge and confidence to participate in the scholarly conversation as authors, reviewers, and editors in their future careers (Jones et al, 2006)
* Developing stronger academic writing skills in general (e.g. greater awareness of voice, tone, structure, citations and mechanics).

As a small token of appreciation, we will give all participants a $50 gift card.

**WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**

* We are looking for current MEd students enrolled in a research course in the Werklund School of Education.

**WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO?**

If you would like to participate in this research study, you will be asked to complete the following four tasks:

(a) Submit an Education graduate course assignment (single-authored or co-authored) that you would like to be reviewed and commit to providing feedback on a peer’s assignment anonymously.

(b) Complete an online survey.

(c) Participate in an interview via Zoom.

(d) Share any relevant writing artifacts (single-authored or co-authored) as appropriate (e.g., revised paper, writing strategies learned, application of writing strategies)

You will complete the survey and share your writing electronically. You will complete the semi-structured interview over Zoom at an agreed upon day and time between January 2022 and December 2022. Your participation in the study is strictly confidential: your instructors will not know who is participating and will not have access to any of the study’s data until after final grade submission and grade appeal deadlines have passed.

**HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?**

Completing the survey and participating in the interview may take about 1.5 hours. Submitting an Education graduate course assignment (single authored) that you would like to be reviewed and providing feedback to a peer’s assignment may take another hour depending on the length of the paper you review. As a token of appreciation for participating in the study, you will receive a gift card with a value of C$50 after completion of the four tasks.

**IS THIS STUDY CONFIDENTIAL?**

Yes, as noted above, your participation in the study is strictly confidential.  Your name will not be written on your survey. Your survey answers will only ever be identified by a pseudonym.

**IF I WANT TO PARTICIPATE, WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP?**

If you would like to volunteer for this study, please contact the following research assistants by email. You will be contacted by email to arrange a date and time for your participation.

**PEOPLE TO CONTACT IF YOU DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE**

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| Helen Connolly,  Research assistant  Marigona Morina  Research assistant | Email: helen.connolly@ucalgary.ca  Email:  marigona.morina@ucalgary.ca |
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The research team appreciates your consideration to participate in this study.

Sincerely,

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| Subrata Bhowmik |  |
| Principal Investigator |  |
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This study has been approved by the University of Calgary Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board (REB21-0513).

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