**Participant Information Sheet**

**Research Title: University of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit History Project**

**Researcher(s):**

* Principal Investigator - **Professor Bronwyn Fredericks** - Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement)
* Chief Investigator - **Dr Anna Temby**, Research Project Officer – Office of the Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement)
* Investigator – **Professor Tracey Bunda** - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit

Thank you for your interest in participating in this research project. Please read the following information about the project so that you can decide whether you would like to take part in this research. Please feel free to ask any questions you might have about your involvement in the project.

If you decide to participate in this research, please keep in mind that your participation is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to stop at any time, and you would not need to give any explanation for your decision to stop participating. If you choose to stop participating, your data will not be used in the research and will be destroyed.

The research team aims to make your data available for future research, meaning it will be stored in a repository. Access conditions to this data will be dictated by you and arranged by the project team, prior to the completion of the project.

You will be given the Participant Information and Consent Form to sign, and you will be given a copy to keep. Your decision whether you take part, or not to take part, or to take part and then withdraw, will not affect your relationship with the University of Queensland.

**What is this research about?**

The project aims to gather, preserve, and share the memories and recollections of past and current staff and students of UQ’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit (ATSISU), in preparation for the Unit’s 40th anniversary in 2024. It will demonstrate the significant role that the Unit has performed since its inception, and the work of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander scholars, students, and community members in overcoming structural and social barriers to education. The project is being organised and funded by the Office of the Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement).

**What will I need to do?**

If you agree to participate you will be able to select from two options:

1. to be interviewed by a member of the research team regarding your experiences, recollections, and memories of your time involved with the activities of the ATSISU. Interviews can be conducted in person, by telephone, or via an internet platform (such as Zoom). These interviews will be recorded and are expected to run for roughly 60-90 minutes, with the possibility of a follow-up interview if deemed necessary. In person interviews will take place in an agreed upon location, such as UQ’s St Lucia Campus, a public venue, or your home if this is the preferred option.
2. Provide a written response to some prompt questions provided by a member of the research team. The length of responses is entirely up to you and responses can be submitted via email or an online form provided by a member of the research team.

Your contributions to the project will be noted in online and public forums, such as the ATSISU website and alumni newsletter, as well as any celebratory events to take place during the Unit’s 40th Anniversary in 2024.

**What are the possible benefits of taking part?**

There will be no benefit to you from your participation in this research, other than the preservation of your knowledge and memories for future research, and a chance to be celebrated as a key figure in the history of the ATSISU.

**What are the possible risks and disadvantages of taking part?**

It is not expected that there is any risk associated with your participation in this project, however, we understand that any reflection on the past carries some risk of psychological distress. The research team has experience with conducting oral history interviews and will ensure responsiveness to any potential or perceived distress, or risk of distress. Interviews can be paused at any time or ended completely if requested by you.

If further support is required we recommend contacting independent support organisations such as 13 YARN (13 92 76), Lifeline (13 11 14), Brother to Brother (1800 435 799), and 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732).

**What will happen to the information about me?**

Your interviews and written responses will be used by the current research team in the preparation of materials for the celebration of the ATSISU’s 40th anniversary, as well as any associated scholarly publications. It is the intention of the research team to preserve your contributions in perpetuity with the aims of making them available for future researchers. Your interviews and other contributions will be collated with contributions of other participants into a collection to be deposited into a library or repository. Access conditions are negotiable, and can be set by you, to limit who can access your data and when. You will also have the opportunity to review and redact your interviews and written contributions prior to them being made available to anyone outside of the research team. Until the data is ready to be submitted to a repository it will be securely held by the Office of the Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement) at UQ’s St Lucia Campus. No research team member will personally retain any of your data upon the completion of the project.

It is anticipated that the results of this research project will be published and/or presented in a variety of forms. In any publication and/or presentation, information will likely to attributable to you, and will not be deidentified.

**What will happen if I decide to withdraw?**

Your participation in this research is voluntary and you are free to withdraw from the research anytime without needing to provide any explanation, and you would not receive any penalty or bias as a result of your withdrawal. Should you decide to withdraw, all the information collected from/about you will be destroyed and will not be used in the research.

**Can I hear about the results of this research?**

You will be provided with complete copies of your interviews, as well as any associated paperwork. Public research outputs will be shared with you, as well as through community networks such as alumni and student newsletters and emails. You will be invited to anniversary celebration events in 2024. Any outputs not publicly available, such as publications in closed-access journals, may be sent to participants at the discretion of the research team.

**Who can I contact if I have any concerns about the project?**

This study adheres to the Guidelines of the ethical review process of The University of Queensland and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research. Whilst you are free to discuss your participation in this study with the researcher contactable on a.temby@uq.edu.au if you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Coordinator on +617 3365 3924 / +617 3443 1656 or email humanethics@research.uq.edu.au

Ethics ID number: 2023/HE00394