

## INFORMATION SHEET FOR INTERVIEW PARTICIPANTS

REC Reference Number: MR/15/16-204

YOU WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION SHEET



### UNDERSTANDING ACCESS TO CREATIVE CAREERS: A perspective from CMCI ALUMNI (2002-2015)

#### **About the project**

The Project builds on previous research undertaken by CMCI staff on issues of equality and diversity amongst CMCI MA students. However, rather than exploring these issues through the eyes and experience of current students, this new project explores instead issues of access (in broad term and in relation to diversity) to careers in creative and cultural industries through the experiences CMCI alumni. We are interested in talking with recent as well as historical (from the foundation of the MA CCI) alumni. The project aims to:

- a) Investigate the career patterns of CMCI alumni through cohorts who studied MA CCI and recently MA ACM and consider barriers and challenges experiences after graduation;
- b) Build a long-term network that will facilitate interaction of CMCI alumni overtime and re-connect them to the department (for careers activities and mentoring of new students); in particular, offering current advice on specific careers;
- c) Provide CMCI with better knowledge about the real career trajectories of its students through time that is potentially country specific.

#### **The project is structured in two phases:**

In the first phase, all CMCI alumni are invited to take part to an online survey.

Participation is entirely voluntary and data are collected anonymously. The results will be reported in aggregate form only, and individuals will not be identified in any form.

The second phase, asks CMCI alumni who would like to engage further in the research to take part in an interview (face-to-face, via skype or email). Participation is entirely voluntary and participants are able to select the level of anonymity they prefer.

#### **Your participation**

We have invited all CMCI Alumni that we could reach and get in touch with to take part to this research project. However, participation remains entirely voluntary. You do not have to take part. You should read this information sheet and if you have any questions you should ask the research team.

#### **What will happen to me if I take part?**

If you decide to take part in the second phase (interview) you will be given this information sheet to keep and will be asked to sign a consent form. We will then discuss the interview procedure with you and arrange to interview you at a suitable time and place (or remotely via skype and email if you are not available in person).

The interview will take approximately 45 minutes and you will be asked to reflect on your career development after graduating from CMCI, the challenges and satisfaction that followed your graduation until your current job and the overall value you place on the education you received at King's College. The interview will be recorded, subject to your permission. All

recordings of data on audio-equipment will be deleted after transcription. Even if you have decided to take part, you are still free to stop your participation at any time during the interview and to have research data/information relating to you withdrawn without giving any reason up to 30th of June 2016.

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

The information we collected from the study will help to further understand the challenges and opportunities of careers for CMCI students. It will inform our knowledge at King's College and also benefit current and future students. Furthermore, I will provide you with a summary of a final report describing the main findings. The only disadvantage to taking part in the study is that you will be donating your time to take part. There are no foreseeable risks in participating in the study.

**Will my taking part be kept confidential?**

What is said in the interview is regarded as strictly confidential and will be held securely until the research is finished. All data for analysis will be anonymised if you requested so in your consent form. In reporting on the research findings, I will not reveal the names of any participants or the organisation where you work, if you expressed this preference. The UK Data Protection Act 1998 will apply to all information gathered within the interviews and held on password-locked computer files and locked cabinets within King's College London. No data will be accessed by anyone other than the research team.

**How is the project being funded?**

The project is being funded by the Equality & Diversity funds of the Department of Culture, Media and Creative Industries at King's College London. The study has been approved by the King's College London Research Ethics Committee.

**What will happen to the results of the study?**

We will produce a final report summarising the main findings, which will be sent to you. We also plan to disseminate the research findings through publication and conferences within the UK.

If you have any questions or require more information about this study, please contact one of us using the following contact details:

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**What if I have further questions, or if something goes wrong?**

If this study has harmed you in any way or if you wish to make a complaint about the conduct of the study you can contact King's College London using the details below for further advice and information:

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**Thank you for reading this information sheet and for considering taking part in this research.**