**Welcome to the**

**Business Research Experience Pool (BREP)!**

The purpose of the Business Research Experience Pool (BREP) is to allow students in Business to obtain a hands-on experience with research in Business by participating in real studies being conducted by researchers in the Faculty of Business Administration (FBA) at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

This document is intended to inform you about your rights and responsibilities as a student participating in BREP, so please read all of this information carefully before you continue. You may review this information at any time from the (<https://mun-fba.sona-systems.com>) in the Sona system.

**Informed Consent: Know what the study is about before you participate**

You have the right to a safe and educational Research Participation experience. Please know that all of the studies you will see listed with available research experiences have been reviewed and approved by the Interdisciplinary Committee on Ethics in Human Research (ICEHR) and found to be in compliance with Memorial University’s ethics policy. If you have any ethical concerns about any of the studies you see listed, either before you choose to participate or after you have participated (such as the way you have been treated or your rights as a participant), you may contact the Chairperson of the ICEHR at [icehr@mun.ca](mailto:icehr@mun.ca) or by telephone at 709-864-2861.

Before you choose to participate in a study, you should make sure to read the full study description. This will give you a general idea of the sorts of tasks you may be asked to do during the study, what the research is about, and what the potential risks and benefits to participation may be. You will always see contact information for the researcher responsible for each study, and you should not hesitate to contact him or her to ask any questions before you sign up to participate.

When you find a study that you’d like to participate in and have read the full study description, you’ll be able to select a timeslot for your research experience. When you arrive at the study location for your timeslot, the researcher should provide you with an Informed Consent Form that provides more details on the study, including the tasks you’ll be asked to do, what information is being recorded, and how the information will be stored. Make sure to read this form carefully to understand all of your consent options, and to ask the researcher any questions you might have before you sign the form.

**Study Withdrawal: What if I’m asked to do something I’m uncomfortable doing?**

If at any time during your research experience you do not wish to continue with the study, then you are free to withdraw from the study, without penalty. If you choose to withdraw from a study, then you will not lose any credit points that you would have earned from completing the study. Please read the details about study participation withdrawal on the Informed Consent Form you receive at the start of each study session.

**Feedback: What was the purpose of the study?**

As part of your educational experience in research participation, you will always be informed about the purpose of the study in which you have participated. When you have completed all the tasks in a study, the researcher will give you a brief written summary of the purpose of the study, the hypotheses, and the predictions. This feedback sheet will also contain a few references to related published research, so you can read more about any topics that interest you. You’ll also be given the opportunity to ask the researcher any questions you might have about the study before you leave, and your feedback sheet will have their contact information so you can ask any follow-up questions you might have after leaving the study.

**Research Participation Alternative: What if I don’t want to be in any study?**

It is your choice whether or not to participate in any study. If you do not wish to participate in any studies, then you have the option of completing an alternative written assignment to earn the bonus credit points. Each assignment is worth one credit point, and you may choose to do as many assignments as you wish, up to the maximum credit point value for your course. You may also choose to earn your bonus credit points with a combination of study participation and alternative written assignment(s)- the choice is yours. Please contact the BREP administrator (Grant Facilitation Officer, Dr. Mekaela Gulliver, [mgulliver@mun.ca](mailto:mgulliver@mun.ca)) for more information on the alternative assignment.

**Participation Records: Will my instructor know which studies I’ve participated in?**

Your course instructor has very limited access to BREP records. The only information your course instructor will be able to access is the total number of credit points earned by students in his or her course. Instructors do not have access to which studies students have participated in, and will not be able to tell whether you have earned credit points from Research Participation or from completing the alternative assignment.

**Be Courteous and Respectful**

As a student in BREP, please treat your research experiences as seriously as you do the rest of your schoolwork. When you have signed up for a timeslot, please show up on time and be ready to take the study tasks seriously. Turn off your cell phone for the duration of the study session, and give the study tasks your full attention and effort.

If you find that you are unable to attend a timeslot you have signed up for, then you may cancel your timeslot up to 24 hours prior. If you find that you are unable to attend on short notice (e.g., due to illness), please email or phone the researcher to let them know you won’t be able to attend. If you do not show up for your timeslot, you will not earn the credit point(s).

Remember, if you have any ethical concerns about any of the studies you see listed, either before you choose to participate or after you have participated (such as the way you have been treated or your rights as a participant), you may contact the Chairperson of the ICEHR at [icehr@mun.ca](mailto:icehr@mun.ca) or by telephone at 709-864-2861.

**Business Research Experience Pool (BREP) Information for Students**

As a student in the Business Research Experience Pool (BREP), you may choose to participate in business experiments for bonus credit points. You may earn up to a maximum of 2 credit points via BREP. Please note that you can only complete each study once. You may view a list of available research experiences at http://mun-fba.sona-systems.com. You will see a link to create a new account. You must use your @mun.ca email address for your BREP account. When you login to the system the first time, you will be provided with some background information on your rights and responsibilities as a student in BREP. Please make sure you read this information.

It is your choice whether or not to participate in any study. If you do not wish to participate in any studies, then you have the option of completing an alternative written assignment to earn the bonus credit points. Each assignment is worth one credit point, and you may choose to do as many assignments as you wish, up to the maximum credit point value for your course. Please contact the BREP administrator (mgulliver@mun.ca) for more information on the alternative assignment—do not ask your course instructor.

Finally, you should know that your course instructor has very limited access to BREP records. The only information your course instructor will be able to access is the total number of credit points earned by students in his or her course. Instructors do not have access to which studies students have participated in, and will not be able to tell whether you have earned credit points from research participation or from completing the alternative assignment.