



**Graduate School of Education, University of Exeter**  
College of Social Sciences and International Studies



## **REQUEST FOR RESEARCH STUDY PARTICIPANTS FOR ONLINE SURVEY**

Hello and welcome to my research project! Are you an educator, teacher, or lecturer (at tertiary/higher educational level) who is open to reflecting on your professional development training experiences related to E-learning and educational technology? If yes, this research project may be of interest to you.

The following survey is a part of my Doctor of Education in TESOL (Ed.D. TESOL) postgraduate research project at the University of Exeter, UK. The title of my research study is:

### **Professional Development for E-Learning and Instructional Technology: Perspectives of Higher Education ELT Faculty in Pakistan**

**Problem:** Higher education lecturers across the world have increasingly used technology to support learning, often without specific training. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the trend to online teaching (E-Learning) and the use of educational technology (Ed-Tech). While many teachers cope with this transition easily, others face several problems using educational technology, software, and digital applications for E-learning and teaching. This project aims to find out from English language teaching colleagues working in higher education about what E-learning and Ed-Tech related professional development opportunities they had available to help them move to online teaching and use technology for teaching.

**Addressing the problem:** This study invites higher education English language teaching faculty to reflect on what motivates them to engage in professional development training programmes (especially concerning the educational technology and E-Learning) provided by the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC). What are their

experiences concerning such PD training, and how it affects their professional growth? I also want to find out if these programmes are effective and how these can be improved if required. As a researcher, I am interested in knowing your feelings, thoughts and experiences about these PD programmes and how have these affected you in your personal and professional lives. What are the strengths and flaws in the professional development programmes provided by the HEC, and how can we improve them for future effectiveness if required?

**This project aims to:**

1. find out the important features of the faculty professional development programmes related to educational technology (Ed-Tech) and E-learning in universities in Pakistan
2. explore the thoughts, feelings, and experiences of English language teachers in higher education about their professional development training related to E-Learning and teaching with technology
3. explore the motivation of faculty to engage in such PD and the relationship between this PD training and faculty promotions
4. investigate if there is a need for reform in the current PD system and the Ed-Tech and E-learning related PD programmes need to be redesigned

**Confidentiality, Anonymity, and Data Protection:**

Your data held in the survey will be treated in the strictest confidence, anonymised, confidential, and held in accordance with the UK Data Protection Act.

**Contact:** If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Saima Nomaan (sn354@exeter.ac.uk), Dr Gabriela Meier (g.s.meier@exeter.ac.uk), Dr Judith Kleine-Staarman (J.Kleine-Staarman@exeter.ac.uk), or the University of Exeter Ethics Committee (ssis-gseethics@exeter.ac.uk).

**SURVEY LINK:**

[https://exeterssis.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9NQExTusJvq2tb8](https://exeterssis.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9NQExTusJvq2tb8)

Being the experts in the field, your input will be invaluable for my study. I'll be incredibly grateful for your contributing your valuable time, your truthful information, and your thoughtful suggestions.

**As a token of thanks** for spending your time on the survey, you will receive a gift voucher worth PK Rs.1000. Please send the screenshot of the completion page along with your home/office address to (snomaanali@gmail.com) to receive the voucher.

You will receive an additional Rs.1000 voucher if you agree to take part in the online interview in the next phase of the study. Please leave your contact details (email and phone/WhatsApp number) in the last part of the survey if you are interested in participating.