

Internet research 2018/19

Internet Research mid-year report

Application IR000102018/19 From A/Prof Kerry Gibson

Form Submitted 30 Apr 2020, 6:02pm NZST

Instructions for Grantees

This form is designed to help us understand the challenges, triumphs and insights you experienced and gained while running your funded project/program. Please be frank - while we absolutely want to know about and celebrate your successes, it's just important to us that we understand what did not work so well. This will help us to learn what we and others could do differently next time.

You must complete and submit this form no later than the date stipulated in your funding agreement. However, should you not be able to meet the deadline please contact Gertrud to arrange an alternative date. If you fail to do so you may not be eligible to apply for further grants from **InternetNZ**.

The completion of this form should be overseen by someone with an intimate knowledge of the funded project/program.

Mid-project Report

Research Title

Improving Young New Zealanders' Mental Health: How the Internet Puts Young People in Touch with Psychological Support

This question is read only.

Amount of funding granted from InternetNZ?

\$28,000.00

Must be a dollar amount.

Please provide a short summary of the work that has been completed as part of this project/research

Since the activation of the project in February, 2019, we have developed the ethics application and had this approved through the University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee. We have established cultural and youth advisory board We have collected literature and read extensively in the area and are over half way through data collection for Phase One of the project (with 23 individual interviews out of a total of 30-40 completed).

We have also been successful in obtaining a Marsden Grant for work in a complementary area. The Marsden funded research will investigate young people's engagement with mental health issues on the internet more broadly but has obvious synergies with the current project and will contribute to its development.

While we have made considerable progress on the project, we are approximately three months behind on our deadlines for data collection and analysis. This was as a result of the researcher experiencing unanticipated health problems in the first half of 2019. We requested and were granted a three month extension on the deadline for this project to 30 April, 2021.

The restrictions surrounding Covid19 have impacted on our progress in recent months and are likely to continue to do so for some time. We have chosen to conduct interviews via an innovative digital messenger interview process which allows us to continue to do some interviews while adhering to social distancing requirements. However, we have not been able to recruit as effectively through organisations such as schools and clubs during this

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period. Nonetheless we anticipate, at this point, that we will be able to meet the extended deadline.

Describe the 'who, what, where, when and why' of your initiative

When do you anticipate that your project will be completed?

30/04/2021

Must be a date.

Milestones

What have been the major achievements/steps (i.e. milestones) involved in delivering your project to date?

Milestone	Description
Ethics approval	Obtained ethics approval from the University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee.
Established cultural/youth advisory committee	Have established an advisory committee including professionals, researchers and youth with appropriate cultural knowledge to inform the research.
Literature review	We have conducted an extensive literature review to inform the current research. This is ongoing.
Employed research assistant	We have employed a research assistant to assist with data collection for Phase One and have provided training to facilitate this.
Recruitment/data collection	We have made good progress on recruitment and data collection for Phase 1 (23 individual interviews completed thus far). Recruitment has been done primarily through social media advertising. We had just begun more targeted recruitment through schools before the Covid19 restrictions closed schools.
Successful Marsden Grant	We applied for and obtained a Marsden grant for research in a related area of youth engagement with the internet around issues related to their mental health. This was one of the goals of the current research and will complement and facilitate aspects of the current project.
e.g. planning; major activities; evaluation	

What findings have you made so far?

There are no findings to report as yet.

What (if anything) did you change in your approach and practices as your project/ program/initiative proceeded, and why?

We have chosen to the individual interviews using WhatsApp instant messenger as this has, in our recent research, prove to be a better fit for young people and particularly useful in capturing their online practices which can be communicated through screenshots as well as digital descriptions. In addition to its research benefits it also allows us access to interviewing through this period of Covid19 restrictions.

The advantages of this data gathering method in youth research are highlighted in our recent publication: Gibson, K. (2020). Bridging the digital divide: Reflections on using WhatsApp instant messenger interviews in youth research. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14780887.2020.1751902>.

We may use this information to help inform others undertaking similar work

Financial Report

*** indicates a required field**

Project Income & Expenditure

Please provide details of any project income (funds received) and project expenditure (funds spent) to date.

Use the 'Notes' column to provide any additional information you think we should be aware of.

Income Description	Income Type	Confirmed Funding?	Income Amount (\$)	Notes
InternetNZ	Other Income *	Confirmed *	\$28,000.00	No additional information

Expenditure Description	Expenditure Type	Expenditure Amount (\$)	Notes
Research Assistant	Salaries and Wages *	\$3,750.00	
Participant vouchers	Project and Production	\$1,452.00	

Income and Expenditure Totals

Total Income Amount	Total Expenditure Amount	Income - Expenditure
\$28,000.00 This number/amount is calculated.	\$5,202.00 This number/amount is calculated.	\$22,798.00 This number/amount is calculated.

Have you experienced any issues with your intended project budget to date? If so, please explain reasons for any major variances or for providing incomplete information:

In order to facilitate our online interviews we have requested a variation of contract to use budget previously allocated to research travel to purchase a smart phone which will be used to conduct digital interviews.

Certification and Feedback

Feedback

You are almost at the end of our application process. Before **Submitting** your application, please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

Please indicate how you found the acquittal process:

Very easy Easy Neutral Difficult Very Difficult

How many minutes in total did it take you to complete this form?

60

Estimate in minutes (i.e. 1 hour = 60 minutes)

Please provide us with your suggestions about any improvements and/or additions to this form that you think we need to consider: