APPENDIX 3

General tips for Interview

Prior to Interview

- 1. Identify interviewee and essential background information about them. In this case, accounting students should be chosen.
- 2. Seeking consent from the participants by signing consent forms that cover the following issues:
 - i) The nature of the research study. Its aims and objectives.
 - ii) Gaining permission from participants during the interview using tape or video recordings.
 - iii) The right to withdrawal at any point of time.
 - iv) Confidentiality and anonymity practices will be adhered throughout the process.
 - v) Data ownership. Inform interviewee that a transcript will be provided for clarification and amendment (only if appropriate)
 - vi) Contact details of the interviewer for any queries pre and post event.
- 3. Design a set of interview questions and justification for these questions.
- 4. Send contact details of the interviewer.
- 5. Check recorder, spare batteries and tapes (if used).

During Interview

- 1. Review room arrangements. Good seating positions for comfortable talk. Place clock within line of vision.
- 2. Relax and mentally slow down.
- 3. At start, provide background information to the project
- 4. Say that you might want to look at your list of questions from time to time.
- 5. Re-confirm permission to record and anonymity/ confidentiality (and transcript to be provided).
- 6. Check recorder and conduct voice test.
- 7. Start with 'This is an interview conducted with participant (use coding/pseudonym) at.... on ...'
- **8.** Tolerate pauses after interviewee has finished speaking... allow for further comments
- 9. Nodding head
- 10. Repeating last phrase reflecting back
- 11. Pause (follow up on what they said...?)

- What do you mean by?
- How did you feel about that?
- Tell me more
- Or link back to what was said earlier in the interview (compare/contrast)
- 12. Keep questions short, ask them and stop (don't explain them... or elaborate)
- 13. What hasn't been said?
- 14. Listen to emotional message
- 15. Be prepared to interrupt digressions (but be careful here, is it a digression....?)
- 16. Summary, so what you are saying is...
- 17. At end of the interview ask for consent form to be signed (or it may be better to do this at the beginning).
- 18. Request permissions to follow up issues by telephone/face to face/e-mail

After Interview

- 1. Write up contextual interview notes/reflections on process. Note learning points for next interview.
- 2. Send tapes/disc to be transcribed (providing full transcription instructions to transcriber).
- 3. Write a letter of thanks to interviewee and ask for any extra information needed.
- 4. Proof-read and edit transcript.
- 5. (If applicable) Send transcript to interviewee and ask to confirm/amend accordingly. Request any additional information at this point.
- Arrange to follow up with telephone/face to face meeting where necessary
- 7. Save transcript and notes on-line in WORD file.
- 8. Ensure secure access to all research documents and use of codes rather than personal/identifier information.