

# INCLUSIVE RESEARCHERS COLUMN

## The Inclusive Research Network in a Nutshell

At our last Inclusive Research Network meeting we decided to brush up on our research skills by imagining that we were coming up with a research project from scratch. To do this we needed a research title for our project, a question, and a method for answering our question.

### **Title: What is the Inclusive Research Network?**

We began by discussing things that it might be easy for us to research as a group over a two-hour meeting. We thought “what better to research than ourselves?!” After all our motto is “nothing about us, without us!” So we chose the title ‘What is the Inclusive Research Network?’ for our mini project. Research Question: How do we as a group understand the purpose of the Inclusive Research Network? After deciding on a title, we then needed to come up with a question or topic that we would set out to answer. This was tricky because it couldn’t be something so specific that it could be answered by just saying ‘yes’ or ‘no.’ It also couldn’t be so broad that we wouldn’t know how to answer it. We decided on ‘How do we as a group understand the purpose of the Inclusive Research Network?’



## Method: Interview

After having a title and a question we then needed a way to answer the question. This is called a 'method.' We decided the best way to answer this question would be to interview our members. This meant that we had to come up with a series of questions to ask. After coming up with the questions we realized that we didn't have time left to interview everyone so we decided to interview just one of us (Jack). This is called a 'sample.'

## Analysis:

After completing the interview we then had to do an 'analysis' of the information we got from Jack. This means boiling down everything that he said to a few key points. We learnt that:

- The Inclusive Research Network was started by Professor Patricia O'Brien
- They met at the Centre for Disability Studies
- It's a group made up of both people with intellectual disability and people who don't have intellectual disabilities who do research on things to do with disability
- It comes from the belief that if people are doing research about disability then people with disability should be involved at every step
- The Inclusive Research Network doesn't just want to know things about disability, it also wants to help make the world a more inclusive place for people with disability

## And there you have it!

A whole research project in one meeting! We hope this has given you an idea about who we are and what we do. If you would be interested in being a part of the Inclusive Research Network you can find information out about us at [cds.org.au](http://cds.org.au).

