

# Transitioning to Postgraduate Education – Do they really need support?

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## ASSUMPTION: POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS ARE EXPERIENCED...MATURE...SO THEY WILL COPE!

- Transitioning to postgraduate studies can be as daunting as it is when students begin their undergraduate degree
- In spite of some having real-life work experience, the majority of them have had gaps in studying
- Sometimes they are out of their comfort zone when they enter postgraduate study, possibly in a different discipline and/or education system
- Motivating students' engagement calls for academic and social adjustments, and integration, all of which depend on formal and informal support

## DO POSTGRADUATES GET ADEQUATE SUPPORT?

## OBJECTIVES

- To understand the role of formal support structures in meeting postgraduate student needs
- To understand the factors that support student success and satisfaction

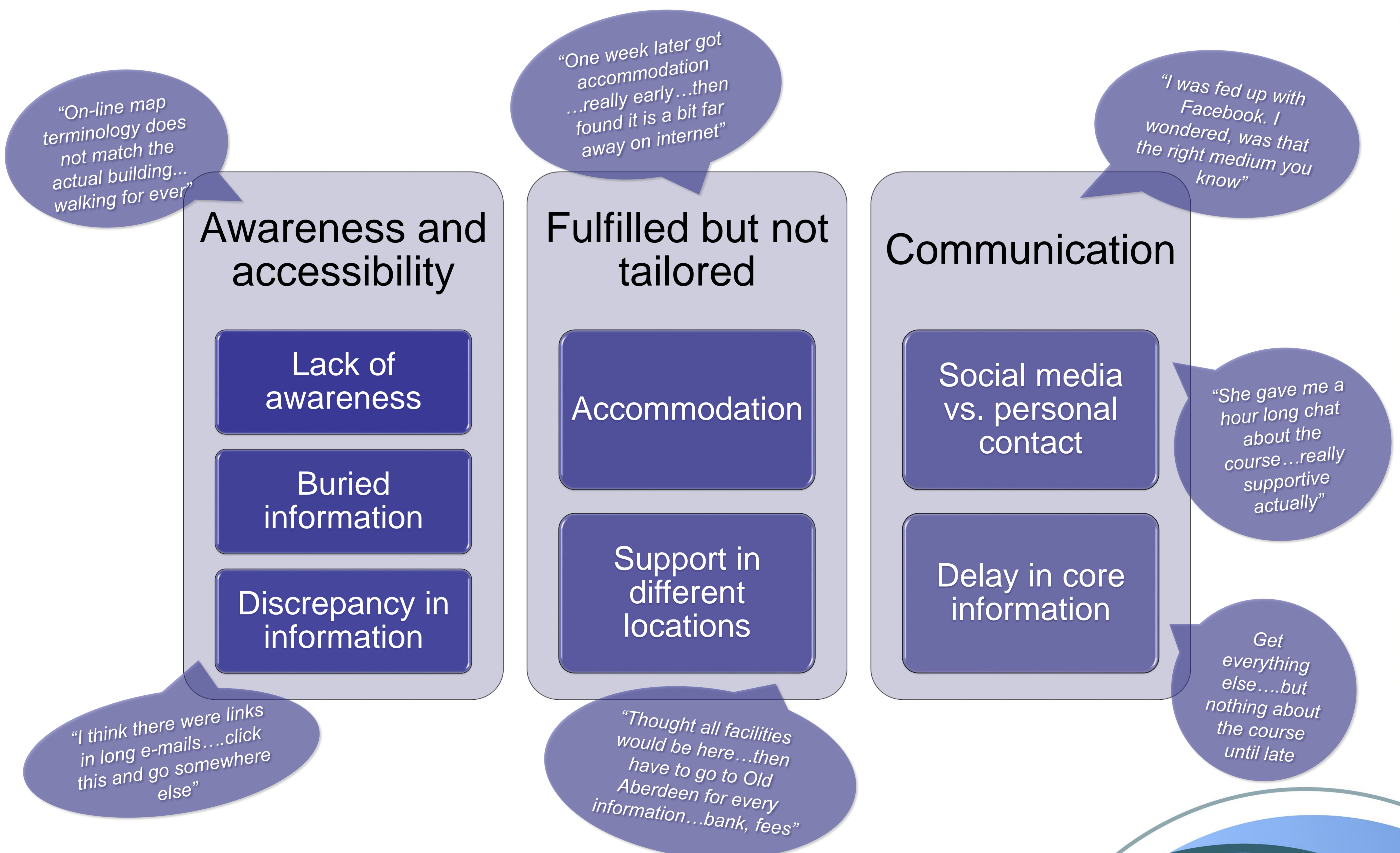
## METHODS

Using a purposive sampling in diverse group of participants, 2 Focus Group Discussions were conducted among Postgraduate students

## RESULTS

Three main themes emerged:

- Awareness and Accessibility
- Fulfilled but not tailored
- Communication



## CONCLUSION

Postgraduate students while appreciative of support, feel they are overwhelmed with generic information whereby crucial information is missed. Tailored, accurate and accessible information will strengthen the support system

**Acknowledgements:** We would like to thank the students, who gave up their time to talk to us to improve our support services

