

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
CONSENT TO ACT AS A HUMAN RESEARCH SUBJECT
Collaborative Culture Web Page

Jóhann Ari Lárusson (johann@brandeis.edu), Svetlana Taneva (svet@cs.brandeis.edu)
Viðar Tulinius, (vidarot@brandeis.edu), Aaron Zschau (azschau@brandeis.edu)

NAME OF SUBJECT: _____

PURPOSE OF STUDY: To analyze communication patterns exhibited during the use of an on-line collaboration tool.

I have been asked to participate in a research project designed to: Gather information about how software can mediate communication in a shared task environment.

PROCEDURES

Two subjects will be placed at two separate computers and trained in the usage of the collaborative web browsing and web page editor. The subjects will be required to work with each other to decide upon a world culture to research on the web, and work together through a shared text editor window to create a small web page about that culture. The assignment will last approximately 2 hours after the training has been completed. All communications and actions via computer will be logged for future study.

If I agree to participate, the following will occur: I will be trained in the use of a computer program, and then use that program for approximately an additional 2 hours over the course of the session. I will be asked only to communicate with the other subject through the computer.

Risks:

None foreseen.

Benefits:

Familiarity with groupware systems and experience in collaboration, experience in authoring a basic web page, additional knowledge of a world culture.

I consent to participate in this study.

If, during the course of this study, significant new information which has been developed during the study becomes available, which may relate to my willingness to continue to participate, this information will be provided to me by the investigator.

I understand that any information derived from this research project which personally identifies me will not be voluntarily released or disclosed without my separate consent, except as specifically required by law.

I have read this consent form and have been given a copy of it and Part II to keep. I consent to participate.

PART I OF II - SEE NEXT PAGE

SIGNATURE OF SUBJECT (age 7 and older):

_____ Date: _____

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:

_____ Date: _____

CONSENT FORM - PART II

1. Participation in research is entirely voluntary. You may refuse to participate or withdraw from participation at any time without jeopardy to future medical care, employment, student status or other entitlements. The investigator may withdraw you at his/her professional discretion.
2. If, during the course of the study, significant new information which has been developed becomes available, which may relate to your willingness to continue to participate, this information will be provided to you by the investigator.
3. Any information derived from this research project that personally identifies you will not be voluntarily released or disclosed without your separate consent, except as specifically required by law.
4. If at any time you have questions regarding the research or your participation, you should contact the investigator who must answer all questions to the best of his/her knowledge. A telephone number is provided at the top of Part I of the consent form.
5. If at any time you have comments regarding the conduct of this research or questions about your rights as a research subject, you should contact the Office of Grant, Contract and Patent Administration, Brandeis University, 415 South Street, Waltham, MA 02454; 781-736-2121.

Subject's/Parent's/Guardian's Initials: _____ Date: _____