



Informed Consent

REU Site: Socially Relevant Computing Research: Visualization, Virtual Environments, Gaming, and Networking

You are being asked to participate in a study to evaluate the effectiveness of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Research Experience for Undergraduates in the Department of Computer Science program in which you are a participant. This research will provide us with insight into how to make this experience more useful and rewarding for future participants.

Investigators: Dr. Teresa Dahlberg and Dr. Tiffany Barnes

Eligibility: REU Site participants must be: at least 18 years old, able to comfortably communicate in spoken and written English, a university student majoring in a computing-related field, and must have completed an application to participate in the program. Participants must have been accepted to participate in the 2009 REU Site program at UNC Charlotte.

Overall Description of Participation: If you choose to participate, you will be asked to complete a survey concerning your (1) past exposure to research, (2) your attitudes, motivation, and self-efficacy towards research and, (3) your perceptions of the research environment you encountered as a participant in this program.

Length of Participation: Your total participation time to complete the survey is expected to take between 35-45 [30-60 minutes for post-survey] minutes.

Risks and Benefits of Participation: No risk or discomfort from the survey is anticipated.

Volunteer Statement: You are a volunteer. The decision to participate in this study is completely up to you. If you decide to be in the study, you may stop at any time. You will not be treated any differently if you decide not to participate in the study or if you stop once you have started.

Confidentiality Statement: Any information about your participation, including your identity, is completely confidential. The following steps will be taken to ensure this confidentiality:

- A computer program will be used to associate randomly-generated unique identifiers for each participant email address, but this association between email addresses and identifiers will not be recorded.
- When reporting the results of surveys, care will be taken to ensure that no individual's response can be identified.
- All data will be transmitted through secure websites and stored offline in a secure database, with no names or email addresses associated with the data.

Statement of Fair Treatment and Respect: UNC Charlotte wants to make sure that you are treated in a fair and respectful manner. Contact the university's Research Compliance Office (704-687-3309) if you have questions about how you are treated as a study participant. If you have any questions about the actual project or study, please contact Dr. Tiffany Barnes (704-687-8577, tbarnes2@uncc.edu).

Approval Date: This form was approved for use in 2008 for use for one year.

Participant Consent: I have read the information in this consent form. I have had the chance to ask questions about this study, and those questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I am at least 18 years of age, and I agree to participate in this research project. I understand that I will receive a copy of this form after it has been signed by me and the principal investigator of this research study.

Participant Signature/date

PI Signature/date