

University of North Texas Institutional Review Board

Informed Consent Form

Before agreeing to participate in this research study, it is important that you read and understand the following explanation of the purpose, benefits and risks of the study and how it will be conducted.

Title of Study: An Exploration of Fedora's Online Open Source Development Community

Principal Investigator: Diana Harrelson, a graduate student in the University of North Texas (UNT) Department of Anthropology.

Purpose of the Study: You are being asked to participate in a research study, which involves learning more about their thoughts and opinions of participating in the Fedora Project development community

Study Procedures: You will be asked to participate in an audio recorded or Internet based interview that will take about one hour of your time.

Foreseeable Risks: No foreseeable risks are involved in this study

Benefits to the Subjects or Others: This study is not expected to be of any direct benefit to you, however its intention is to benefit the community as a whole by helping to reduce turnover and provide ways to better accommodate current community participants as well as identifying ways to attract new talent to the project.

Procedures for Maintaining Confidentiality of Research Records: Informed consent forms will be filed separately from the research data in password-protected files. All interviews whether they are through the Internet (email, instant messaging) or via a live means (in person, teleconference, video conference) will be recorded and labeled with an assigned code name. These recordings will be kept up to 3 years after the research study has completed. At that time, they will be archived under code names and the name of the study unless the participant requests otherwise at the time of the recording. All interviews will be transcribed and the participants will be assigned a code name for their part within the transcription. In the case of audio recordings, I as well as members of the UNT Anthropology Department, Fedora staff, and community members will be able to listen to them unless the participant requests otherwise. The confidentiality of your individual information will be maintained in any publications or presentations regarding this study.

Questions about the Study: If you have any questions about the study, you may contact **Error! Contact not defined.** Diana.harrelson@gmail.com and telephone number 214-405-5355, or the faculty advisor, Dr. Christina Wasson, UNT Department of Anthropology at telephone number 940-565-2752.

Review for the Protection of Participants: This research study has been reviewed and approved by the UNT Institutional Review Board (IRB). The UNT IRB can be contacted at (940) 565-3940 with any questions regarding the rights of research subjects.

Research Participants' Rights: Your signature below indicates that you have read or have had read to you all of the above and that you confirm all of the following:

- Diana Harrelson has explained the study to you and answered all of your questions. You have been told the possible benefits and the potential risks and/or discomforts of the study.
- You understand that you do not have to take part in this study, and your refusal to participate or your decision to withdraw will involve no penalty or loss of rights or benefits. The study personnel may choose to stop your participation at any time.
- You understand why the study is being conducted and how it will be performed.
- You understand your rights as a research participant and you voluntarily consent to participate in this study.
- You have been told you will receive a copy of this form.

Printed Name of Participant

Signature of Participant

Date

For the Principal Investigator: I certify that I have reviewed the contents of this form with the participant signing above. I have explained the possible benefits and the potential risks and/or discomforts of the study. It is my opinion that the participant understood the explanation.

Signature of Principal Investigator

Date

APPROVED BY THE UNT IRB
FROM 10/9/09 TO 10/8/10
JB