



OFFICE OF RESEARCH SUPPORT
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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FWA: 2030
Date: 07/29/09

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Department & Mail Code: ARISE

C5000

ELECT & COMPUTER ENGR

C0803

IRB Approval-IRB Protocol #: 2009-07-0046

EXEMPT DETERMINATION OF RESEARCH PROPOSAL

Title: Survey on the Programming of Intelligent Environments

Approval Period: 07/29/2009 07/28/2012 (expires 12am [midnight] of this date.)

This research project has been approved for a period of up to three years.

Approval determination was based on the following Code of Federal Regulations:

45 CFR 46.101(b):

(2) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior, unless:
(i) information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects; and (ii) any disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, or reputation.

Responsibilities of the Principal Investigator(s):

Research that is determined to be Exempt from IRB review is not Exempt from protection of the human subjects. The following criteria to protect human subjects must be met:

1. The investigator assures that **all investigators and co-investigators** are **trained** in the **ethical principles**, relevant Federal Regulations and institutional policies governing human **subject research**;
2. The investigator assures **that human subjects will voluntarily consent to participate** in the research when appropriate (e.g. surveys, interviews) and will **provide subjects with pertinent information**, e.g. risks and benefits, contact information for investigators and IRB chair, etc.;
3. The investigator assures that **human subjects will be selected equitably**, so that the risks and benefits of the research are justly distributed.
4. The investigator assures that the **IRB will be immediately informed of any information, unanticipated problems** that would increase the risk to the human subjects and cause the category of review to be upgraded to Expedited or Full Review;
5. The investigator assures that the **IRB will be immediately informed of any complaints** from participants regarding their risks and benefits; and
6. The investigator assures that **confidentiality and privacy of the subjects** and the research data will be maintained appropriately to ensure minimal risk to subjects.

The above criteria are specified in the PI Assurance Statement and as the Responsible Investigator, you acknowledged you understood and accepted these conditions with the submission of your protocol. Investigators can refer to the University website www.utexas.edu/irb for specific information on training, voluntary informed consent, privacy, and how to notify the IRB of unanticipated problems.

1. **Closure:** Upon completion of the research project, a closure request must be submitted to the Office of Research Support (ORS).
2. **Unanticipated Problems:** Any unanticipated problems or complaints must be reported to the IRB/ORS immediately. For a description of unanticipated problems, please refer to the ORS webpage: <http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/humansubjects/policies/section7.html#7.3>
3. **Informed Consent:** The informed consent procedures laid out within your research proposal must be followed.
4. **Continuing Review:** If the study will continue beyond the approval period, a continuing review application must be filed.
5. **Amendments:** Amendments do not need to be filed with the ORS if the amendments do not change the risk level of the study (for example: increasing sample size, adding or removing co-PIs, adding or removing research sites, or minor modifications to the research protocol that do not affect the risk level). Changes that alter the level of risk to participants must be requested by submitting an amendment application and revised proposal to the ORS prior to those changes being implemented. For a description of the types of modifications that require an amendment application, please refer to the ORS webpage: <http://www.utexas.edu/research/rsc/humansubjects/policies/section6.html#635b> , or call 471-8871.

If you have questions, please call your IRB Program Coordinator for consultation.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,



Jody Jensen, Ph.D., IRB Chair