



LETTER OF INFORMATION

Services to Link Opencourseware Repositories and the NSDL

Introduction/ Purpose Dr. Brett Shelton in the Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences and Dr. Joel Duffin of the Center for Open Sustainable Learning at Utah State University are conducting a research study to learn more about the folksemantic.com website and about recommendation systems in education. You have been asked to take part because you have visited or registered on the website or you are the manager of a website containing open educational resources that is included in the folksemantic index. There will be approximately 400 total participants in this research. This research is supported by the National Science Foundation.

Procedures If you agree to be in this research study, you will be asked to use the folksemantic.com website and complete an online questionnaire. If you are a website manager, you will also be asked to watch a demonstration video and complete a questionnaire following that. Your participation should take 5-15 minutes.

Risks Participation in this research study involves no greater risks than those you might ordinarily encounter in daily life or by completing online surveys.

Benefits Possible benefits of this study will be to improve the folksemantic.com website and to increase the research base on recommendation systems for education.

Explanation & offer to answer questions This document has explained this research study to you. If you have other questions or research-related problems, you may email joel.duffin@usu.edu.

Voluntary nature of participation and right to withdraw without consequence Participation in research is entirely voluntary. You may refuse to participate or withdraw at any time without consequence or loss of benefits. Please email joel.duffin@usu.edu if you wish to withdraw from this study.

Confidentiality Research records will be kept confidential, consistent with federal and state regulations. Only Dr. Brett Shelton and Dr. Joel Duffin will have access to the data which will be kept in a password protected Google forms account. To protect your privacy, no personal, identifiable information will be gathered.

IRB Approval Statement The Institutional Review Board for the protection of human participants at USU has approved this research study. If you have any pertinent questions or concerns about your rights or a research-related injury, you may contact the IRB Administrator at (435) 797-0567 or email irb@usu.edu. If you have a concern or complaint about the research and you would like to contact someone other than the research team, you may contact the IRB Administrator to obtain information or to offer input.



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Copy of Letter of Information If you would like a copy of this Letter of Information, please print one for your files.

Investigator Statement “Through this Letter of Information, the research study has been explained to the individual, including the nature and purpose, the possible risks and benefits associated with taking part in this research study. Any questions that have been raised have been answered.”

Signature of PI & Co-PI

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