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| **Prof. Dr. Tsai**  **Editor-in-Chief**  ***Computers & Education*** |  |  |
|  |  | December 20th, 2024 |

Dear Professor Tsai,

my co-authors and I wish to submit an original research article, entitled “From Heartbeat to Data – Using Wearable Fitness Trackers as an Affordable Approach to Assess Teacher Stress”, for consideration as a full-length article in *Computers & Education*.

The study explores the use of wrist-worn fitness trackers to measure heart rate as an indicator of stress in teachers. Additionally, it examines whether teachers’ subjective stress appraisals and teaching experience explained variance in heart rate data. We present an innovative, cost-effective method for monitoring teacher stress using wearable technology, aligning with the journal’s focus on integrating technology into educational research and practice.

Preliminary findings from the research reported in this manuscript have been presented at a conference with published 600-words abstracts (GEBF conference 2023). However, we confirm that this manuscript is original and has not been published elsewhere, nor is it currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

We confirm that in conducting the research described and in preparing the manuscript, we have complied with APA guidelines concerning ethical publication and research practices. The study was approved by the internal review board of the Leipzig University. All co-authors have made substantial contributions, and all have approved the final manuscript and agree with its submission to *Computers & Education*. We have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Please address all correspondence concerning this manuscript to me at [mandy.klatt@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:mandy.klatt@uni-leipzig.de).

Thank you for your consideration of this manuscript.

Sincerely,



Mandy Klatt