EA2

Ethical Approval Form: Human Research Projects

Please word-process this form, handwritten applications will not be accepted

UNIVERSITY OF
LINCOLN

This form must be completed for each piece of research activity whether conducted by academic staff, research staff, graduate students or undergraduates. The completed form must be approved by the designated authority within the College.

Please complete all sections. If a section is not applicable, write N/A.

1 Name of Applicant	Mitchell Bellamy	
	Department: School of Computer Science	College: College of Science
2 Position in the University	3rd Year Student	
3 Role in relation to this research	Researcher	
4 Brief statement of main Research Question	Can displaying live key presses within videos improve interaction?	
5 Brief Description of Project	Title: OBS Plugin to overlay key presses. OBS (Open Broadcaster Software) is a program that allows the user to record a video stream of their computer. This video stream can also be hosted on some websites for viewers to watch live. The aim of this project is to develop a piece of software (a plugin) which will interact with OBS and enable it to display key presses as the user (live streamer) records on their computer.	
	Approximate Start Date: 7th October	Approximate End Date:
6 Name of Principal Investigator or Supervisor	Dr John Shearer	
	Email address: jshearer@lincoln.ac.uk	Telephone:
7 Names of other researchers or student investigators involved	**1. Helen Webster, Supervisor** **2.** **3.** **4.**	
8 Location(s) at which project is to be carried out	University of Lincoln, Computer Labs, MHT Personal Accommodation Internet	

9 **Statement of the ethical issues involved and how they are to be addressed –including a risk assessment of the project based on the vulnerability of participants, the extent to which it is likely to be harmful and whether there will be significant discomfort.**
 	
(This will normally cover such issues as whether the risks/adverse effects associated with the project have been dealt with and whether the benefits of research outweigh the risks)
	Potential Ethical issues:
	    - 'Keylogging' behaviour
	
	Due to the nature of the plugin to be developed, key presses will need to be recognised on the fly in order to display them. This could also include mouse movements or other human interface devices such as controllers and touchpads.
	
	This access to input devices could inadvertently collect sensitive information such as passwords or names. To avoid this, a sensible implementation of the programming and usability of the plugin will be paramount. This implementation may involve the targeting of only the input areas or active windows that the user selects, thus preventing the recording of data from more sensitive programs like Web Browsers and Password Managers. The user will also be informed what the plugin is capable of and how to use it.
	
	    - Data retention of the Plugin (Software)
	
	The plugin could be developed for testing (or feature) purposes with the ability to log the information and keypresses it displays, this would provide a data retention issue but as this data will be stored locally on the user's machine, it will not be collected and is owned wholly by the user (operator).
	
	    - Peripheral access
	
	Due to the wide variety of peripherals connected to computers, it is important to acknowledge that this plugin should only target the peripherals it needs and/or those that the user wishes to display. Therefore, it will not log or display information on those peripherals that do not add to the feature or experience of the plugin.
	
	    - Data Collection and Retention of Research Methods
	
	For any research methods used, data will be anonymised and treated confidentially. The participation in this research will be voluntary in nature. This information will be subject to removal requests at any time for participants (as their right). They may also wish to have any involvement or participation to be removed from the study and deleted at any time, therefore ensuring they and data generated/collected is protected. This should also avoid any privacy concerns. To ensure all participants understand these statements and their rights, they will be required to read this information and state they are willing to participate.
	
	In addition, during codification and data entry, all the data will be anonymised, so that no individual respondent can be identified, either directly or indirectly. The data will be held on the researcher's secure, password protected computer and will only be accessible by the researcher undertaking the project.

Ethical Approval From Other Bodies

10 Does this research require the approval of an external body ?	**Yes** ☐ **No** ☒
	If "Yes", please state which body:-
11 Has ethical approval already been obtained from that body ?	**Yes** ☐ **Please append documentary evidence to this form.** **No** ☐ **If "No", please state why not:-** **Please note that any such approvals must be obtained and documented before the project begins.**

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

I hereby request ethical approval for the research as described above.
I certify that I have read the University's ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR CONDUCTING RESEARCH WITH HUMANS AND OTHER ANIMALS.

Mitchell Bellamy   14/10/15
_____   _____
Applicant Signature   **Date**

MITCHELL BELLAMY
_____
PRINT NAME

FOR STUDENT APPLICATIONS ONLY -
Academic Support for Ethics

Academic support should be sought prior to submitting this form to the designated Ethics Committee within the College

Undergraduate/Postgraduate   *Academic member of staff nominated by the*
Taught application   *School (Consult your project tutor)*

Postgraduate Research Application   *Director of Studies*

I support the application for ethical approval

_____   _____
Academic/Director of Studies Signature   Date

_____
PRINT NAME

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FOR COMPLETION BY THE CHAIR OF THE COLLEGE RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Please select ONE of A, B, C or D below:

☐ **A. The College Research Committee gives ethical approval to this research.**

☐ **B. The College Research Committee gives <u>conditional</u> ethical approval to this research.**

12 Please state the condition (inc. date by which condition must be satisfied if applicable)	

☐ **C. The College Research Committee cannot give ethical approval to this research but refers the application to the University Research Ethics Committee for higher level consideration.**

13 Please state the reason	

☐ **D. The College Research Committee cannot give ethical approval to this research and recommends that the research should <u>not</u> proceed.**

14 Please state the reason	

Signature of Chair of College Research Committee (or nominee)

_____   _____
Signed   **Date**