

## UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

### CONSENT LETTER

#### **Study Title: Turning Anecdotes Into Heuristics - Figuring Out The UGA Bus System**

Dear Participant,

My name is Sumedha Tunga, and I am a Computer Science Major working with the Geography Department at the University of Georgia under the supervision of Dr. Lan Mu. I am inviting you to take part in a research study on student satisfaction with UGA's current bus system. This study is sponsored by [UGA's Office of Sustainability](#) through the [Campus Sustainability Grant](#).

**Study Purpose** - The purpose of this study is to understand how students, staff, and faculty experience the University of Georgia's bus system and to identify potential areas for improvement.

#### **Procedure**

I'm looking for current UGA students, staff, and faculty. If you fall into one of these categories and agree to participate, you will be asked to fill out a survey that will take anywhere from 5-20 minutes.

You would participate in a survey on your experience with the UGA bus system. Questions include:

- Why do you use it?
- Why do you not?
- What do you find satisfactory (bus timing, bus frequency, bus routes, areas that don't have good coverage, etc.)?
- What do you find unsatisfactory (bus timing, bus frequency, bus routes, areas that don't have good coverage, etc.)?

Participation is voluntary. You can refuse to take part or stop at any time without penalty. Your decision to participate will have no impact on your participation in the UGA Bus System or anything under/related to UGA's Transportation and Parking Services programs, as well as any UGA facility/activity.

**Benefits** - There is no direct benefit to you for participating. However, your responses may help inform improvements to the university bus system. You will not receive compensation for participating.

## **Risks and Discomforts**

Some questions ask about your experiences with campus transportation and satisfaction levels. You may skip any question you do not wish to answer. We do not anticipate significant risks beyond those encountered in daily life.

## **Data Sharing**

De-identified data from this study may be used in future presentations or publications without additional consent. Results from this survey will only be posted without any major identifiers and will be aggregated.

## **Internet Data Collection**

This research involves the transmission of data over the Internet. Every reasonable effort has been taken to ensure the effective use of available technology; however, confidentiality during online communication cannot be guaranteed.

## **Confidentiality**

No names, student IDs, IP addresses, or other direct identifiers will be collected. Data will be stored on password-protected devices accessible only to the research team. Results will be reported only in aggregate form.

If you are interested in participating or have questions about this research, please feel free to contact me at 470-841-3399, [sumedha.tunga@uga.edu](mailto:sumedha.tunga@uga.edu) or [srt49881@ug.edu](mailto:srt49881@ug.edu). If you have any complaints or questions about your rights as a research volunteer, contact the IRB at 706-542-3199 or by email at [IRB@uga.edu](mailto:IRB@uga.edu).

By clicking the survey link and submitting your responses, you are indicating that you are at least 18 years old and consent to participate in this study.

Please keep this letter for your records.

Sincerely,  
Sumedha Tunga