Consent Form

February 2, 2011

Dear Participant:

You are being asked to participate in a research study conducted by Principal Investigator Seth Frei (sethfrei@txstate.edu, 608-513-8093) a graduate student in the Department of Communication Studies at Texas State University-San Marcos. The purpose of this research study is to explore the relationship between groups in organizations and willingness to communicate outside of the workplace. Since you work in an organization and spend time outside of the workplace, your have been invited to participate in this study. Please note that you must be *at least* 18 years old to participate.

This is a fully electronic survey that should take you about 15 minutes to complete if you agree to participate. Please read all directions and answers carefully and select answers that best apply to you. Participation in this study is voluntary and there is no penalty for stopping the survey early if you feel uncomfortable at any time. By refusing to participate, you will in no way affect your relationship with the researcher, Texas State University, or your employer. There are no known risks involved with this study and the benefits are your contribution to the research in this field.

If you would like more information about this research project or to see the results of the study once complete, feel free to contact Seth Frei at 608-513-8093 or via email. Confidential data from the survey will be retained by Seth Frei for two years and at that point it will be destroyed. This study has been acknowledged by Texas State University’s Institutional Review Board. Pertinent questions about the research, research participants’ rights, and/or research-related injuries to participants should be directed to the IRB chair, Dr. Jon Lasser (512-245-3413, [lasser@txstate.edu](mailto:lasser@txstate.edu)), or to Ms. Becky Northcut, Compliance Specialist (512-245-2102).

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Seth S. Frei

M.A. Student/Researcher

[sethfrei@txstate.edu](mailto:sethfrei@txstate.edu)

**Please complete the following information:**

Participant name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Participant signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_