**­­[Before beginning an initial interview, each participant will accept the following consent form in writing. If the interview is conducted by telephone, form must be received before interview can be recorded. Follow-up interviews with individuals who have already signed this release form may give verbal consent after consulting this document.]**

Dear [Participant’s Name]

Thank you for your interest in participating in this research being conducted by Dr. Stephen Downie, Nic Weber, and Andrea Thomer at the University of Illinois.

Participation will involve an approximately 30-60 minute interview. Participation is voluntary and you may stop at any time. There are no risks involved in participating in this research other than those involved in ordinary everyday life.

You may retain a copy of this consent form for your records. If you have any questions / comments about this study or are interested in the results, please direct your inquiry to Dr. Nic Weber (217.244.0653 or nmweber@illinois.edu). The results of this study may be reported in scholarly journals and/or research conferences. If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in this study, please contact the University of Illinois’ Institutional Review Board at 217-333-2670 (collect calls accepted if you identify yourself as a research participant) or via email at irb@illinois.edu.

By signing this document, you verify that you have read and understood the above consent form, are at least 18 years of age, and voluntarily agree to participate in this study. You are also agreeing to have your interview audio recorded. You retain the option to have the recorder turned off to make off-the-record comments; however, full participation requires agreeing to this recording. This recording will be deleted following transcription, with transcriptions deleted in 5 years. At any time during this study you retain the option to end your participation with no consequences, at which time any data you have submitted will be erased at your request.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Downie, Andrea Thomer & Nicholas M. Weber  
Graduate School of Library and Information Science  
501 E. Daniel St.  
Champaign, IL 61820

**I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ consent to this interview.**

**I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ consent to having this interview recorded.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date**