**Instructions for Digitally Signing**

**the IT Capstone Release Forms**

1. Read through this document. Consider what you would like to declare, and decide whether you wish to contribute to WGU’s Capstone Archive.
2. Use the checkboxes to state your choices.
3. Click on the rectangular boxes above the “Name and Date”. Type in your name and the date.
4. Save the document as a Word document or a PDF.
5. Open the saved file to ensure your responses are properly registered.
6. Upload the document it in the same manner you have uploaded other documents in Taskstream.

**IT Capstone Project Waiver or Release Statement**

It is the policy of Western Governors University (WGU) that student capstone projects should not be based on or include any proprietary or classified information or material belonging to your employer or any other organization. Such material belongs to the third party and is referred to as “restricted information,” which requires you to obtain the party’s permission to include the work.

Accordingly, in conducting your capstone project you are required to make one of the following declarations:

My capstone project is not based upon and does not include restricted information.

My capstone project is based upon and/or includes restricted information. *Before* submitting any capstone work, I will obtain authorization to use the restricted information in the manner prescribed by WGU.

**Authorization to Use Restricted Information**

It is the policy of Western Governors University (WGU) that student capstone projects should not be based on or include any proprietary or classified information or material belonging to your employer or any other organization. Such material belongs to the third party and is referred to as “restricted information,” which requires you to obtain the party’s permission to include the work.

Instructions: Use the template below to produce a letter which will authorize your use of restricted information when this document is signed by an individual with the necessary authority within your employer company or another organization.

<Name, Title & Address>

<Date>

Re: Authorization to use proprietary and/or classified information in a student research project

Dear [Sir or Madam],

The purpose of this letter is to authorize [insert student name], a student at Western Governors University, to conduct a university capstone research project utilizing the following information and/or material owned or protected by [insert name of organization]:

*[Provide description of project and specific information/material to be used in your capstone project.]*

By signing below, I represent that I am legally authorized to act on behalf of [insert name of organization] with respect to this authorization, and that [insert name of organization] authorizes [insert student name] to use the information and/or material referenced above for the purposes of a student research project at Western Governors University, and that I recognize that the information and/or material may be shared with university faculty and students.

<Original Ink Signature> < Date>

<Title>

<Address>

<Email**>**

<Phone >