**Progress report**

**Introduction (TODO: Rebecca)**

**-**High level overview of study

-Goals of study

**User study plan (TODO: Manya)**

We will be completing a week-long diary study. During our initial pilot we hope to ask 2-3 participants to test the study over a ~2 day period to determine whether our protocol is feasible.

In this section we will outline the study design and protocol and describe how we plan to perform an initial pilot of our design.

**Overview of user study design/protocol**

Our study consists of three major stages: a online screener, a week-long diary study with nightly online surveys, and a final in-lab interview.

***Screener***

We will recruit participants through some combination of CBDR, Craigslist, and flyers put up around CMU. Participants will be asked to go to a website and take an online screener (in Appendix A). The goal of the screening survey will be to find English-speaking participants who are over 18, regularly post on Facebook, have things that they think about posting on Facebook and decide not to post (and are willing to share), and who have cell phones that they text on fairly regularly.

***Diary study***

After the screener, we will send qualified participants a set of online instructions. The instructions will describe how to participate in a week-long study in which participants will send us text messages describing anything they think about posting on Facebook but decide not to post.

Every night we will send participants a survey that contains each of the posts participants sent us throughout the day along with several questions about each post to try to determine what/who prevented the person from sending the post (survey is in Appendix B). To try to ameliorate the effect of participants forgetting to send text messages or not sending in posts because they don’t want to fill in the survey we include questions about Facebook usage in the survey if participants have not sent in any posts throughout the day.

On the technical side, we will create the nightly survey by capturing users’ texts using Twilio, a service that stores texts send to a specified number. We will create custom-survey that pulls from Twilio so that we can customize each survey to be based on the posts that the user reported for the day.

Participants will be paid $2 per nightly survey that they fill out.

***Final interview***

Any participant who fills out at least 4 nightly surveys will qualify to participate in a final interview at the end of the week-long period. The interview will be approximately one hour long and take place in-person in the lab. We will schedule times with each qualifying participant over email. The draft script for the final interview can be found in Appendix C.

The goal of the final interview will be to probe about characteristics about the people that the participants would and would not like to have shared the material they reported having thought about posting as well ask why the participants decided not to post the material. We would also like to probe in more detail about participants sharing preferences and social media usage.

On the technical side, we need to determine a way to show participants each post with relevant details from the nightly surveys. This will likely be based on the backend of the custom survey website.

At the end of the interview, participants will be paid $20 (plus payment for the nightly surveys).

**Progress to date**

To date our progress has primarily been in three areas: submitting our IRB forms, designing our basic protocol, and starting to create the technical framework we intend to use.

**IRB submission**

We submitted our IRB forms on 10/31/11. We hope to get approval within 2-3 weeks to have time to complete our study. If we do not get approval in time to complete the study, we will complete a pilot version of the study with volunteer participants we recruit from among our friends.

**Protocol development**

To submit our IRB forms we developed our basic protocol as well as basic versions of all the surveys we planned to use in our study and a basic interview guide for the final interview we planned to perform. In preparation for an initial pilot version of the study we developed the basic versions of the surveys and interview guides into functional (SurveyGizmo) versions of the surveys and a full interview script. These materials are ready for an initial pilot.

**Technical framework**

As described previously, our study requires a technical framework to allow participants to text us posts they think about posting but decide not to and allow us to incorporate these texts into a nightly survey that will then be sent out to participants. We have begun to develop this framework. At this point we have figured out how to capture texts using a service (twilio) and developed a basic prototype to pull these text messages onto a webpage. We hope to use this functionality to get the full survey running in time for the initial pilot; however, if we cannot get it to work properly, we will hand-enter the nightly surveys for our first round of piloting.

**Problems so far**

The issues we have faced so far tend to break into technical issues and protocol issues.

***Protocol issues***

On the protocol side, the biggest issue we have faced so far is trying to determine how to motivate participants to send us posts without falsely influencing them to make up posts. Our original idea was to pay participants per post; however, this strategy might unduly influence pariticipants to invent posts for payment. Our current solution is to force participants to fill out approximately the same length nightly survey to receive payment whether or not they send us posts. We will also screen participants to ensure that participants have posts to send us based on past record and are willing to share such posts. This way participants have no reason not to send us posts.

***Technical issues***

Our biggest technical issue at this point is determining how to capture and display texts. We were having some trouble getting Twilio to work reliably; however, it seems to be working better. Additionally, creating a custom survey may take a lot of time and effort. However, it appears to be the only option for the functionality we require.

**Appendices (TODO: Rebecca)**

Appendix A: Screening survey

Appendix B: Nightly survey

Appendix C: Final interview script