Participant Information Sheet for the Strathclyde Research Software Engineering Community

[FOR USE WITH STANDARD PRIVACY NOTICE FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS]

Name of department: Physics
Title of the study: Research Software Survey at the University of Strathclyde

Introduction
This survey is organised by the Strathclyde Research Software Engineering (RSE) group, which supports and encourages good practice in the development and dissemination of software tools for research across Strathclyde University and advocates for professional software development in academia. The survey's purpose is to understand current research software development needs at the University of Strathclyde and how they can be best supported to ensure that research grants and KE are competitive with other Universities.

The survey may be completed anonymously; non-identifiable data will be kept indefinitely. Results will be published in internal reports and presentations and may be included in external publications. You may withdraw at any point by not completing the survey. We will not use partial responses to the survey.

Personal information in the form of an email address is only optionally collected for specific purposes (prize draw, free consultation, mailing list) at the end of the survey. Personal information will be deleted once the specified purposes are fulfilled.

This survey was organised and supported by the following staff: Oliver Henrich (Physics), Neil Ghani (Computer and Information Sciences, CIS), Ben Hourahine (Physics), Romain Michalec (Naval Architecture, Ocean and Marine Engineering), Fredrik Nordvall Forsberg (CIS), Leighton Pritchard (Strathclyde Institute for Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences) and Daniel Thomas (CIS). The Strathclyde Research Software Engineering (RSE) group is proud to be part of the UK's national RSE community and its professional body.

What is the purpose of this research?
The goal of this survey is to obtain information and opinions about:

- the profiles of users and developers of research software across Strathclyde
- the level of support that is both available, desired, and required for this community in Strathclyde
- options to support and grow this community in the future
- how to address requirements that several funding bodies are planning to enforce for research software.

Do you have to take part?
This is a voluntary survey and it is the participant's decision to take part or not. Refusing to participate or withdrawing participation will not affect any other aspects of the way a person is treated, and participants have a right to withdraw from the research without detriment.

The survey is anonymous, however participants are given the option to disclose their identity at the end of the survey if they wish to take part in a prize draw, receive a support consultation for their software or join the RSE group at Strathclyde.

What will you do in the project?
You are requested to complete a short online survey. This should take less than 10 minutes to complete. The survey will be available between 27/07/2020 and 26/08/2020.

Why have you been invited to take part?
The survey is open to all staff and postgraduate students at Strathclyde who engage with research software.

What information is being collected in the project?
The survey collects information about people's experiences of and opinions about research software engineering at Strathclyde. For example, we wish to know about requirements and available support for developing of research software, how this activity is funded (if at all) and whether there is interest in further help to develop or disseminate software. The survey does not require disclosure of personally identifiable data.

Who will have access to the information?
The RSE group will process the data for the set of overall responses. If supplied, personal data will only be used to complete the stated purpose(s). For example, contact details for the prize draw entry, software consultation and RSE mailing list subscription will be removed before data analysis and storage. Anonymised summary results from the survey may be published in internal reports and presentations within Strathclyde and may be included in external publications.

Where will the information be stored and how long will it be kept for?
The anonymous results of this survey will be stored externally on our GitHub repository and data will be kept indefinitely.

What happens next?
Personal data will be removed from the responses and used for the indicated purposes only (e.g. prize draw, follow-up contact where requested). The anonymous response data will be stored securely on Strathclyde, analysed by the RSE group, and the results used to inform internal reports and presentations at Strathclyde. Some processed data may be included in external documents.

Participants can contact the chief investigator or the owners of the RSE mailing list if they want to find out more about the outcome of the survey.

We would like to thank all participants for their time and attention. All participants are welcome to join the RSE group and attend the regular Hacky Hour events held by the RSE group.

Researcher contact details:

Questions about this survey can be sent to rse-announce-owner@lists.strath.ac.uk

Chief Investigator details:

Oliver Henrich, Department of Physics, University of Strathclyde

Phone: 0141 548 4012; Email: oliver.henrich@strath.ac.uk

This research was granted ethical approval by the University of Strathclyde Ethics Committee. If you have any questions/concerns, during or after the research, or wish to contact an independent person to whom any questions may be directed or further information may be sought from, please contact:

Secretary to the University Ethics Committee
Research & Knowledge Exchange Services
University of Strathclyde
Graham Hills Building
50 George Street
Glasgow
G1 1QE

Telephone: 0141 548 3707
Email: ethics@strath.ac.uk

Consent Form for the Participant in the

Research Software Survey at the University of Strathclyde

Name of department: Physics
Title of the study: Research Software Survey at the University of Strathclyde

- I confirm that I have read and understood the Participant Information Sheet for the above project and the researcher has answered any queries to my satisfaction.
- I confirm that I have read and understood the Privacy Notice for Participants in Research Projects and understand how my personal information will be used and what will happen to it (i.e. how it will be stored and for how long).
- I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw from the project at any time, up to the point of completion, without having to give a reason and without any consequences.
- I understand that I can request the withdrawal from the study of some personal information and that whenever possible researchers will comply with my request. This includes the following personal data:
    - my personal information from transcripts (email addresses).
- I understand that anonymised data (i.e. data that do not identify me personally) cannot be withdrawn once they have been included in the study.
- I understand that any information recorded in the research will remain confidential and no information that identifies me will be made publicly available.
- I consent to being a participant in the project.

(PRINT NAME)	
Signature of Participant:	Date:

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www.strath.ac.uk
University of Strathclyde Glasgow G1 1XQ