Software survey for researchers at the University of Southampton

We've been asked to investigate the use of research software at the University of Southampton. This knowledge will help the University to provide a service to support software use and development. The survey asks about your views on software, your experience of developing software, and your preferences for recruiting help with software development.

Researcher: Simon Hettrick (ECS/FEPS).

ERGO number: ERGO/FEPS/47891. You can view the participant information about this study here: http://bit.ly/SotonSurvey19PIS.

Thank you for your help!

*Required

1. **Please tick this box to begin the survey** *
   Tick all that apply.

   ☐ I confirm that I am 18 or over, I conduct research at the University of Southampton, and I agree to take part in this survey

About you

2. **In which faculty are you based?** *
   Mark only one oval.

   ⬭ Faculty of Arts and Humanities

   ⬭ Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

   ⬭ Faculty of Environmental and Life Sciences

   ⬭ Faculty of Medicine

   ⬭ Faculty of Social Sciences

   ⬭ Other: _____

3. **Which of the following organisations usually fund your research?**
   Select as many as apply
   Tick all that apply.

   ☐ AHRC

   ☐ BBSRC

   ☐ EPSRC

   ☐ ESRC

   ☐ MRC

   ☐ NERC

   ☐ STFC

   ☐ NIHR

   ☐ British Heart Foundation

   ☐ Cancer Research UK

   ☐ Wellcome Trust

   ☐ Other: _____

4. **What is your job title?**

   _____

Research software and you

5. **Do you use research software?** *
   "Research software" is any software you have used in the generation of a result that you expect to appear in a publication. This might be anything from a few-line script to clean some data, to a fully fledged software suite. It includes code you have written yourself and code written by someone else.
   Mark only one oval.

   ◯ Yes

   ◯ No

6. **How important is research software to your work?** *
   Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Not at all	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	Vital

7. **Have you developed your own research software?** *
   Mark only one oval.

   ◯ Yes

   ◯ No   *Skip to question 15.*

Your software development

8. **How do you rate your software development expertise?**
Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Beginner	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	Professional

9. **Do you feel that you have received sufficient training to develop reliable software?** *
Mark only one oval.

◯ Yes

◯ No

10. **Would you be interested in the university helping you commercialise some of your research software?**
Mark only one oval.

◯ Yes

◯ No

11. **Do you feel that your research software is ready to be shared with a commercial partner?** *
Mark only one oval.

◯ I'm not interested in commercialising my research software

◯ Yes

◯ No

12. **Have you used IRIDIS, the University's high-performance computing (HPC) system?** *
Mark only one oval.

◯ Yes

◯ No, I do not require HPC in my research

◯ No, but I would like to use IRIDIS in the future

◯ No, I use other HPC facilities

◯ Other: _____

13. **How confident are you with the following technologies?**
Mark only one oval per row.

	Not heard of it	Not confident	Confident	Very confident
Version control	◯	◯	◯	◯
Continuous integration	◯	◯	◯	◯
Unit testing	◯	◯	◯	◯

14. **How would you rate the university's current level of support for your software-development needs?**
Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Poor	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	Excellent

Recruitment of software developers

15. Have you or someone in your group ever hired someone specifically to develop software?
*

Mark only one oval.

○ Yes

○ No

16. Have you ever included costs for software development in a funding proposal? *
Check all that apply
Tick all that apply.

☐ Yes

☐ No (I'm not involved in writing funding proposals)

☐ No (but we DID expect to write software as part of the project)

☐ No (we did NOT expect to write software as part of the project)

17. How suitable would the following models be for your software development needs?
Mark only one oval per row.

	Unsuitable	Suitable	Perfect
Hire a full-time software developer	○	○	○
Recruit a developer from a central Southampton pool as needed	○	○	○

Prize draw

18. If you wish to enter the prize draw for one of four £50 Amazon vouchers, please enter your email address below

_____

Free software consultation

Dependent on demand, we will make available a number of free half-day consultations for you to meet with a Research Software Engineer and discuss any software issues that you are experiencing.

If you are interested in the consultation, provide your email address below and we will follow up to gain a better understanding of the help we could provide.

19. If you are interested in a free consultation, please enter your email address below.

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