

## **Participant Assent to Participate in a Research Study**

**Title of Study:** How are they Making IT: A Qualitative Study of Why Women Persist in IT Careers.

**Researcher:** Mr. Marlon A. La Rose, Wilmington University, (302) 465-5211, [marlon.a.larose@wilmu.edu](mailto:marlon.a.larose@wilmu.edu).

### **Introduction**

You are being asked to be in a research study to find out what factors attracted women to information technology (IT) positions, what kinds of experiences, including barriers and supports did they have upon entry, and what influenced their persistence in IT careers. You were selected as a participant because you are an adult female working in a Soft or Hard IT role. I ask that you read this form and ask any questions that you may have before agreeing to be in the study.

### **Purpose of Study**

The purpose of this study is to explore factors that attracted women to IT positions, what kinds of experiences, including barriers and supports did they have upon entry, and what influenced their persistence in IT careers.

### **Description of the Study Procedures**

- If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to do the following things:
  - Consent to this study by using a consent web app by browsing and following the instructions at: <https://participantinterviewconsent.azurewebsites.net/>.
    - After submitting consent on the web app, an email invite with your selected date and time will be sent automatically to the email address you designated on the web app.
  - Participate in a Skype interview as the interviewee.

### **Risks/Discomforts of Being in this Study**

There are no reasonable, foreseeable, or expected risks to you as the participant.

### **Benefits of Being in the Study**

Although there is no direct benefit to you for participating in this study, I hope to add to the body of knowledge regarding why some women persevere despite the challenges they face in a male-dominated technology industry. As a participant, you will receive the results of the findings of this study upon request.

### **Confidentiality**

This study is anonymous. Except for your email address, we will not be collecting or retaining any information about your identity.

### **Right to Refuse or Withdraw**

The decision to participate in this study is entirely up to you. You may refuse to take part in the study *at any time* without affecting your relationship with the investigator of this study or Wilmington University. Your decision will not result in any loss or benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You have the right not to answer any single question, as well as to withdraw completely from the interview at any point during the process. Prior to the interview, you will have the option to not have the interview recorded. In addition, you have the right to request that the interviewer not use any of your interview material.

### **Right to Ask Questions and Report Concerns**

You have the right to ask questions about this research study and to have those questions answered by me before, during or after the research. If you have any further questions about the study, please feel free to contact me, Mr. Marlon La Rose at [marlon.a.larose@wilmu.edu](mailto:marlon.a.larose@wilmu.edu) or by telephone at (302) 465-5211. If you have any other concerns about your rights as a research participant that have not been answered by the researcher, you may contact the faculty sponsor, Dr. Jason L. James Jr. by email at [jason.l.james@wilmu.edu](mailto:jason.l.james@wilmu.edu).

### **Consent**

Consent to this study is done via a consent web app at: <https://participantinterviewconsent.azurewebsites.net/>