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PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET - INDUSTRY

Attitudes towards Software Engineering in Industry

Name(s) of researcher(s): Dr. Catherine Watson and Dr. Kelly Blincoe

Researcher Introduction

Hello, and thank you for your interest in this survey. My name is Dr. Catherine Watson. I am the Program Director of Software Engineering, one of the three programs offered by the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. My co-investigator, Dr. Kelly Blincoe, is a Lecturer in the department.

This Project

Rationale: Software Engineering is a very new engineering discipline, although it has been a research topic in computer science for decades. The BE in Software Engineering degree at the University of Auckland is less than 15 years old, and it has only been managed by the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering since 2008, prior to that it was managed by Computer Science in the Faculty of Science.

Aims: Our research goal is to learn about the attitudes of the Software industry towards the Software Engineering Degree. This will be the first systematic study of the efficacy of Software Engineering degree in the opinion the New Zealand software industry.

Duration: This research project will continue for six months.

Benefits: By participating in this research, you will help us improve the Software Engineering degree.

Risks: Participation in this study is optional. No personally identifiable information is being collected intentionally, nor will it be published or distributed to any third parties.

Other people: Other people who will have access to or use the data and results are Dr. Kevin Sowerby, the Head of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department.

Invitation to Participate

Why: You are invited to participate in this research because you work in the New Zealand software industry.

How: To find potential participants, like you, we obtained a list of the Software Industry contacts maintained by the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Voluntary participation: Your participation is voluntary and you may decline this invitation to participate.

Project Procedures

If you choose to participate, you will be asked to complete an online survey. The expected time commitment from you for this is approximately 10 minutes. You can choose to stop the survey at any time and do not have to give a reason for this.

Data Storage, Retention, Destruction and Future Use

How: We will collect your responses through the Qualtrics survey tool. Responses will be exported to a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.

Where: The data will be stored on the University of Auckland server.

How Long: The data will be stored indefinitely.

Destruction: After the minimum storage time (six years) has elapsed, if it is determined that the data is no longer needed, the data will be destroyed per policy.

Right to Withdraw from Participation

Participation in this research is entirely voluntary. If you do not wish to participate, you do not have to give a reason for this. Once your survey responses have been submitted, you will not be able to withdraw your responses since responses are anonymous.

Anonymity and Confidentiality

The preservation of confidentiality is paramount. The information you share through this survey will remain confidential to only the involved researchers and other parties listed in this information sheet. The information you provide will be reported anonymously to the ECE department members and may be published in an academic conference and/or journal. This report and publication(s) will not identify you as its source. A copy of the research findings will be made available to you, if you wish. You will be asked to provide contact details at the conclusion of the survey if you would like a copy of the findings. Your contact details will not be given to any third-parties, nor will it be used to identify you personally. You can also contact any of the researchers listed below if you would like to obtain a copy of the findings.

CONTACT DETAILS AND APPROVAL

Principle Investigator name and contact details	Co-Investigator name and contact details	Head of Department name and contact details
Dr. Catherine Watson Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering c.watson@auckland.ac.nz 09 923 5979	Dr. Kelly Blincoe Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering k.blincoe@auckland.ac.nz 09 923 4715	Kevin Sowerby Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering kw.sowerby@auckland.ac.nz 09 923 8191

Thank you very much for your time and help in making this study possible. Dr. Watson and/or Dr. Blincoe will be pleased to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about participation in this study.

For any queries regarding ethical concerns you may contact the Chair, The University of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee, The University of Auckland, Research Office, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142. Telephone 09 373-7599 ext. 83711. Email: ro-ethics@auckland.ac.nz.

Approved by the University Of Auckland Human Participants Ethics Committee on 28 June 2016 for three year. Reference Number 017756.