Appendix 4: Designer Consent Forms

The University of Sydney

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PATTERNS AND PEDAGOGIES

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT

DESIGNERS (Design Professionals and Educators)

(1) What is the study about?
The title of this study is Patterns and Pedagogies, approaches to developing e-learning environments. The study researches how the use of design patterns in the design of e-learning environments improves learning outcomes for students. Design patterns are a problem/solution set that propose generic solutions to common design problems and will embed within them solutions based on pedagogical theories.

(2) Who is carrying out the study?
The study is being conducted by Fiona Chatteur and will form the basis for her degree of PhD in Architecture at The University of Sydney under the supervision of Dr. Andy Dong, Key Centre of Design Computing and Cognition, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning.

(3) What does the study involve?
The study involves the use of design patterns by both designers and educators in the creation of e-learning solutions using identical course content. There will be control groups for both designers and educators. The designers will be asked to design an e-learning application, with content provided by the researcher. The designs will be reviewed by a panel of educational experts and the best designs will be tested by a group of students to determine if the use of patterns in the design process improves learning outcomes.

(4) How much time will the study take?
We will be asking you to design an e-learning environment which is anticipated to take approximately two hours. Those designers/educators who are using patterns will be given the patterns 24 hours in advance in order to read the patterns and familiarize themselves with them. After the design exercise, there will be interviews with the designers which will last approximately one hour. The designs deemed most appropriate by the panel of experts will be included in a working application, and those designs will be asked to review the working design. This should take no longer than 1 hour some weeks after the initial design session.

(5) Can I withdraw my participation from the study?
Participation in this study is entirely voluntary; you are not obliged to participate and - if you do participate - you can withdraw at any time. Whatever your decision, it will not affect your relationship with the University of Sydney.

(6) Will anyone else know the results?
The results of the study and your interview may be published in reports and professional conferences. Data generated in this study will be strictly anonymized in order to protect your privacy and confidentiality and no use of the material obtained during the study will make your identification possible. All interview data will be destroyed seven years after the conclusion of the study.

(7) What if I require further information?
When you have read this information, Fiona Chatteur will discuss it with you further and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to know more at any stage, please feel free to contact Dr Andy Dong at the University of Sydney.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact either of the researchers:
Fiona Chatteur - PhD Student
Tel: (02) 9420 1200 / 0434825688 (mobile); Fax: (02) 9351 3031; E-mail: fker9420@ Usyd.edu.au
Dr Andy Dong - Research Supervisor
Tel: (02) 9351 4768; Fax: (02) 9351 3031; E-mail: a.dong@arch.usyd.edu.au

Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of a research study can contact the Senior Ethics Officer, Ethics Administration, University of Sydney on (02) 9351 4811 (Telehone); (02) 9351 6796 (Facsimile) or gbriody@usyd.edu.au (Email).
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This information sheet is for you to keep

The University of Sydney

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Patterns and Pedagogies

PARTICIPANT CONSENT FORM
DESIGNERS (Design Professionals and Educators)

I,......................................................................, give consent to my participation in the research project

NAME (please print)

TITLE: Patterns and Pedagogies, approaches to developing e-learning environments

In giving my consent I acknowledge that:

1. The procedures required for the project and the time involved have been explained to me, and any questions I have about the project have been answered to my satisfaction.

2. I have read the Participant Information Statement and have been given the opportunity to discuss the information and my involvement in the project with the researcher(s).

3. I understand that I can withdraw from the study at any time, without affecting my relationship with the researcher(s) now or in the future.

4. I understand that my involvement is strictly confidential and no information about me will be used in any way that reveals my identity.

Signed: .................................................................................................

Name: ...................................................................................................

Date: ......................................................................................................

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Design for Pedagogy Patterns for E-Learning