

**Project Title:**

Ambush: Inferring Calendar Event Attendance

**Principal Investigator:**

Dr. Elizabeth Mynatt

**Purpose of Research:**

You are being asked to volunteer for a research project that investigates the use of probabilistic models (Bayesian networks in particular) to predict your attendance at future events on your electronic calendar. You are being asked to volunteer because you are a current user of electronic calendaring software that allows your calendar to be stored on a device compatible with our prototype. In addition, you are a member of a workgroup that is being studied to test the effect of our probabilistic models on informal collaboration practices. Approximately 30-40 subjects will be involved with the project for up to 3 years.

**Procedures:**

Software will be used to collect your calendar data each time you synchronize your calendar with a particular PC. We ask that you maintain your calendar as you have done in the past, and synchronize your calendar at least once every 2 weeks. In addition, we ask that you make yourself available for at least one 1-hour interview regarding your thoughts on our experimental system and your own calendaring practices. Lastly, we ask that you complete a simple web-based form indicating your past attendance at scheduled events at least once every 2 weeks. Our research will be conducted on the Georgia Tech premises for the next 2-3 years. The person that will contact you regarding interviews and software support is Joe Tullio.

Your total time commitment will be no longer than the end of the Spring 2004 semester, which concludes May 1, 2004.

**Foreseeable Risks or Discomforts:**

Since you are providing personal calendar data as well as attendance data to the project, there is a risk that others could view private information in the event of a break-in by hackers. This risk is no greater than...

**Benefits:**

While there is no direct benefit to you by participating we hope to learn how such predictive assistance is used in the workplace and how such predictions can be interpreted and modified by those using them. It is hoped that predictions about coworker schedules will increase their ability to find one another and communicate informally.

**Compensation/Costs:**

Compensation will be provided at a rate of \$5.00 per week of participation up to a total of \$50. . If you withdraw early you will be paid for the amount of time you participated in the study. No cost to you should be incurred, other than the time required to complete the attendance form.

Approved by Georgia Tech IRB

Effective: 1/21/04 *asg*

Expires: 1/20/05

**Confidentiality:**

The following procedures will be followed to keep your personal information confidential in this study: The data that is collected about you will be kept private to the extent allowed by law. To protect your privacy, your records will be kept under a code number rather than by name. Your records will be kept in locked files and only study staff will be allowed to look at them. Your name and any other fact that might point to you will not appear when results of this study are presented or published. To make sure that this research is being carried out in the proper way, the Georgia Institute of Technology IRB will review study records.

**Injury/Adverse Reactions:**

Reports of injury or reaction should be made to Dr. Elizabeth Mynatt at (404) 894-4488. Neither the Georgia Institute of Technology nor the principal investigator has made provision for payment of costs associated with any injury resulting from participation in this study.

**Contact Persons:**

If you have questions about the research, call Dr. Elizabeth Mynatt at (404) 894-4488 or write her at the College of Computing, Georgia Tech, 801 Atlantic Dr., Atlanta, GA 30332.

**Voluntary Participation/Withdrawal:**

You have rights as a research volunteer. Taking part in this study is completely voluntary. If you do not take part, you will have no penalty. You may stop taking part in this study at any time with no penalty. If you stop taking part in the study before its conclusion, you will be compensated for the time in which you did participate. If you have any questions about your rights as a research volunteer, call or write:

Alice Basler  
Office of Research Compliance  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0420  
Voice (404) 894-6942 Fax (404) 385-2081

**Signatures**

A copy of this form will be given to you. Your signature below indicates that the researchers have answered all of your questions to your satisfaction and that you consent to volunteer for this study.

Subject's  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Person Obtaining Consent -  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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