

Propose a vacation student project for Summer 2019

Deadline for making your proposal(s): 17:00 Friday 22 March 2019. This is a hard deadline.

This form is for one project proposal, so to propose multiple projects please submit a separate form for each project. Any queries, do ask - Toby.

Project supervisor email *

sarah.clinch@manchester.ac.uk

Title of the project *

Exploring Delegation in Consent Decision-Making

Source of funding *

- School funding requested
- You have your own funding (e.g. research grant)

Objective of the project *

To evaluate prototype software produced as part of the EPSRC-funded PACTMAN research project.

Number of students requested (justify if > 1) *

1

Start date, end date, total duration (weeks) *

10 June, 30 Aug, 12 (weeks)

The benefit to the School *

Contributes to existing research activities. Engages students in research.

The benefit to the student *

Experience working in the context of an existing codebase and multisite research project.
Develop skills around project evaluation.

Skills needed by the student. *

Python programming, web development (HTML/CSS/Javascript); good verbal and written communication skills.

Details of the work that the student would do *

In the PACTMAN project we have begun to explore the idea of reframing consent as a process of delegation - turning the question from "do I agree with these Terms and Conditions" to "who do I trust to make this decision on my behalf". Early research showed that the public might be receptive to this reframing and considered potential delegates to be experts, friends, family members or even AI 'bots'. To explore this further we have created the "consentifier" - a web plug-in that allows users visiting a web site that requires users to click "I Agree" to opt to delegate the decision making process.

The student would conduct evaluation of this system through real-world deployment. This would involve:

- * extending the existing system to work with a broader range of browsers and web sites,
- * extending the existing system to supporting new forms of delegation,
- * designing and implementing analytics to enable a systematic analysis of user behaviour.

During the internship the aim would be to release and promote the "consentifier" with the overall aim of establishing a large user base. Designing promotional activities and supporting the roll out would also be part of this internship.

Infrastructure requirements and any required staff support other than the project supervisor *

Access to PACTMAN software (will be provided)

Supervision arrangements throughout the duration of the project (named staff and dates covering the entire duration) *

Sarah Clinch: 10 June - 30 Aug

Location of the project work (building/room) NB projects must be on-campus *

Kilburn, probably LF1/7

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