

## **Information System Study: A Group Decision-Making and Communication Task**

**Purpose:** You are being invited to voluntarily participate in the above-titled research study. The purpose of this study is to assess the effectiveness of group decision making in the face-to-face setting or via a group decision support system.

**Procedure:** If you agree to participate, you will complete a group decision making task with a few team members as instructed, after which you will answer the post-study questionnaires. Please note that it is very important to strictly follow the instructions in the study. Otherwise, you will be excluded from the study. The study will likely last 90 minutes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Zhang at [zhangd@umbc.edu](mailto:zhangd@umbc.edu).

**Risks:** There are no known risks and harms associated with participation in this study, except potential discomfort for some subjects during the group discussion.

**Benefits:** Your participation and information will contribute to the research on group communication and decision making.

**Content:** By completing and returning the questionnaire, you are granting permission for use of your answers for research and instructional purposes.

**Confidentiality:** Your responses to the questionnaires will be completely confidential. The results of the study may be presented at academic conferences or published in academic journals, but only the combined data from all participants will be made public.

Please keep it in mind that this is a very **SERIOUS** research study and your contribution will be critical to its success. If you are willing to participate in this study, please:

- 1) **Email Dr. Zhang (zhangd@umbc.edu) the top three time preferences** based on the temporary schedule available **before Oct. 31**.
- 2) Fill out the questionnaire and give it back to Dr. Zhang, or you can answer it in the WORD file and email it to Dr. Zhang directly **before Oct. 31**.
- 3) Read “Imperative information for surviving in the desert”, which is available at the following website: <http://www.research.umbc.edu/~zhangd/cmc/info.html>. It provides important preliminary information about the task you will accomplish in the study. You will be asked 6 true/false questions regarding the content of this article before the experiment starts. Please understand that you may not be allowed to participate in the study if you fail those questions (e.g. you miss half or more of the questions).

Thank you very much for your participation.