FOR IRB USE ONLY:

Protocol Number: IRB-_____ Chair Approval: _____ Date: _____

Received: _____

Rowan University
INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD
HUMAN RESEARCH REVIEW APPLICATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Check all appropriate boxes, answer all questions completely, include attachments, and obtain appropriate signatures. After completing the application, please submit an **original and two (2) copies of the original to the Research Office, Bole Hall and send an electronic version of the completed original IRB application to hartman@rowan.edu. NOTE: Applications must be typed. Incomplete and handwritten applications will be returned.** Be sure to make a copy for your files.

Approved For Use by Rowan IRB: 5/2013
Revised: 05/23/2013

Step 1: Determine if the proposed research is subject to IRB review.
All research involving human participants conducted by Rowan University faculty and staff is subject to IRB review. Some, but not all, student-conducted studies that involve human participants are considered research and are subject to IRB review. Consult the "Frequently Asked Questions" on the IRB website and your faculty advisor regarding student research. Some research may be eligible for exemption from IRB review. However, it should be submitted to the IRB Committee to determine whether an exemption applies. If you think your research is eligible for exemption, please fill out the application and attach a cover letter explaining why you think your research should be exempted. More details on what is considered research and types of exemptions can be found in Appendix A. You may also consult the "Frequently Asked Questions" on the IRB website, and the Human Subjects Research Classroom Exercise statement and guide available on the Rowan University IRB webpage.

Step 2: If the proposed research is subject to IRB review, complete the identifying information below. Include and document the Principal Investigator(s), Faculty Advisor and Co-Investigator(s).

*(**Note:** Investigators and Co-Investigators are personnel who have a role and participate in the planning, implementation and/or reporting functions of a research study. Investigators are responsible for the overall management of the research study, but co-investigators can be other researchers at other worksites/performance sites, such as but not limited to a researcher at a multi-site location or an investigator that is instrumental to and/or providing input on either the planning, implementation or reporting function of the research. **Please note** that a co-investigator is different than assistants or volunteers. Assistants and volunteers are best categorized as someone who does not contribute in any way to the planning, implementation and reporting of the research protocol. For example, volunteers and assistants may hand out consent forms, but those assistants/volunteers have not contributed to the planning of the research, the analysis and determinations of the participants interaction/information collected and will not provide input to and get involved with the reporting function of the research. Please consult your faculty advisor, contact the IRB Chair, or contact the Research Office at (856) 256-5150.)*

Project Title: Baby We Were Born to Tweet: Bruce Springsteen Fans and Twitter	
Date: 6/20/2013 Investigator / PI: William I Wolff Investigator / PI Home Department: Writing Arts Mailing Address (for PI): Street: 43 Waterton Dr City & State: Bear, DE Zip Code: 19701 Email: wolffw@rowan.edu Telephone #: 856-873-4671	Faculty Sponsor (if student)*: Department: Location: E-mail: Telephone #: Co-Investigators (If applicable): 1) 2)

* - If a doctoral student, please provide faculty sponsor above and obtain doctoral signature in Certifications section of IRB Application

Is research externally funded? ☐ Yes | ☒ No

If YES, please provide sponsor's name:

If research is associated with a subaward, please include prime sponsor's name:

Step 3: Determine if your research study requires a full IRB review

The Rowan University IRB handles reviews on an expedited basis (meaning that the protocol is examined by one IRB reviewer and the chair) with the exception of those that put the participant at greater than "minimal risk" (see below).

*(**Note:** "Minimal risk" means that the risks of harm anticipated in the proposed research are not greater, considering probability and magnitude, than those ordinarily encountered in daily life or during performance of routine physical or psychological examinations or tests. The concept of risk goes beyond physical risk and includes risks to the participant's dignity and self-respect as well as psychological, emotional, or behavioral risk.)*

Please indicate the level of risk participants will face in your research study:

☐ Greater than minimal risk **OR** ☒ Not greater than minimal risk

Please check one of the following:
*(**Note:** The information below is voluntary. Researchers may identify a category below, but the IRB will provide the final determination related to whether or not the research protocol is full, expedited or exempted.)*

☐ Full Review Needed

☐ Exemption Review Needed

☐ Expedited Review Needed

☒ Expedited Review with Exemption Number _2___ (See Appendix B)

Step 4: Complete the following information:

PROTOCOL DESCRIPTION:

1. THE HUMAN SUBJECTS INVOLVED IN THIS RESEARCH:

a) Who are the subjects?

Please provide brief description of subjects or category of subjects, such as but not limited to School Administrators, Public School Teachers, High School Students, etc. Please provide as much information to identify the different types/categories of subjects that may be included and participating in the study – target subject population(s)/sample(s).

The subjects are fans of Bruce Springsteen and his music.

b) Do your subjects include any of the following:

☐ Yes | ☐ No Pregnant Women or Human Fetuses or Neonates?

☐ Yes | ☐ No Children and Minors ages seven through seventeen?

Note: I have left these unchecked for a few reasons. First, as part of the netnograhic portion of the study, which will require engagement with Springsteen fans through the use of communicating via Twitter, it will be unknown if the other person is a pregnant woman or a minors (though all possible precautions will be taking to ensure that minors are not included). Second, for the survey and interview portion of the study, children and minors will be excluded. Third, "pregnant women" are not targeted and their pregnancy is not the focus of the research. However, it may be that a Bruce Springsteen fan that is a woman and just happens to be pregnant responds to the survey and I interview her without evening knowing that she is pregnant. Human fetuses and neonates are not involved in the study.

☐ Yes | ☒ No Infants or Children younger than seven years of age?

☐ Yes | ☒ No Cognitively Impaired Persons?

☐ Yes | ☒ No Inmates/Prisoners?

☐ Yes | ☒ No Elderly/Aged Persons?

☐ Yes | ☒ No Non-English Speaking Persons?

NOTE: *These subjects, by virtue of their age or status, may not be competent or free to give their own consent and may be particularly vulnerable to coercion and undue influence. Investigators must incorporate additional safeguards into the research plan and document fully the informed consent of these individuals and/or that of their legal representatives. If excluding minors, please explain how.*

How many subjects will be involved in the project? There are an unknown number of Springsteen fans tweeting about Springsteen and his music. My goal is to conduct between 10 and 15 interviews.

b) Specify your plans for including women and minorities, if appropriate.

No plans to target these groups specifically.

c) List all inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Minors 17 and under will be excluded from the interviews.

d) Are your subjects students?

☐ Yes | ☐ No If YES, name the institution(s) in which they are enrolled:

Students are not a targeted group. However, it may be that I interview a Bruce Springsteen fan that just happens to be a student.

e) Are there prospective subjects who, if selected for this project, would be especially vulnerable to risk because of the procedures you will be using?
☐ Yes | ☒ No If YES, describe the process you will use to screen such subjects:

2. RECRUITMENT:

a) Specify how you will gain access to, recruit, and select your subjects.
Describe how you will incorporate the use of volunteers or individuals/titles of a group of volunteers that will perform steps – handing out consent forms – in the research methodology.
Note: *These volunteers do not / may not qualify as key personnel or co-investigators, but will perform a minor aspect of the research.*

Please specify and describe: There is an open community of people tweeting publically about Springsteen. Any engagement with them will be done via Twitter. I will use Twitter to recruit participants for the online survey. In the survey there is a question asking if they would be willing to participate in a follow-up interview. I will also ask Springsteen fans directly on Twitter if they would be willing to participate in the survey.

b) Are you advertising or posting a notice for subjects and/or volunteers?
☒ Yes | ☐ No If YES, submit a copy of the advertisement or notice.
I will be posting about the survey on Twitter. I have also created a web page associated with the study at: http://springsteen.williamwolff.org. I will be linking to this from my Twitter bio.

The following tweets will be used to recruit participants:
Are you a fan of Bruce #Springsteen? Take "The 7-Question Springsteen Fan Survey"! URL

Did you see #springsteen live on the Wrecking Ball Tour? How often? Let me know in "The 7-Question Springsteen Fan Survey"! URL

Do you tweet about Bruce #springsteen? Why? Tell me about it in "The 7-Question Springsteen Fan Survey"! URL

@username I've seen you tweet about #springsteen. I do, too. Would mind completing a 7-question survey about why you do? URL [note if the username is long, I will remove the "I do, too" to help it fit the 140 character limit]

#springsteen fans! Want your thoughts about Bruce archived in the Springsteen Collection? Take this 7-question survey! URL

I'm a life-long #springsteen fan & a prof who teaches new media writing. Please share your thoughts on tweeting about Bruce! URL

#Springsteen fans from around the world! Please share your thoughts on Bruce, his music, and why you might tweet about him! URL

A #springsteen fan? Have 5 mins? Complete "The 7-Question Springsteen Fan Survey" & share your thoughts on Bruce! URL Please RT!

Did you attend #showhashtag? Share why you're a #springsteen fan in this 7-question fan survey! URL

Calling all #springsteen fans! Take "The 7-Question Springsteen Fan Survey"! URL cc @username

I'm pleased to announce "The 7-Question #Springsteen Fan Survey" is live & ready for the greatest fans in the world! URL

c) Will the subjects be recruited from your place of employment/assignment?
☐ Yes | ☒ No

d) Will the subjects be under your direct supervision? ex: Manager, Supervisor or Instructor?
☐ Yes | ☒ No If YES, explain how this research relates to your job role and provide any other information pertinent to your relationship with the subjects (e.g., how will you ensure against the possibility of coercion?):

3. COST/PAYMENT:

a) Are you paying your subjects?
☐ Yes | ☒ No If YES, indicate the amount of payment and describe if (and how) you will pro-rate the payments to subjects who withdraw before they complete their participation:

b) Will participation in the study involve any cost to the subject?
☐ Yes | ☒ No If YES, indicate the anticipated costs to the subject.

4. INFORMED CONSENT:

a) Does your protocol involve the use of an informed or alternate consent form?

☒ Informed Consent Form

☐ Alternate Consent Form

☐ Informed Consent *and* Alternate Consent Form

☐ Consent Form or Alternate Form *is not* being used

If using an Informed or Alternate Consent form, then please enclose a copy of the form. Informed consent must be obtained from the subjects and/or, in the case of minors under the age of 18, the parent or legal guardian. See Appendix B & C for instructions on informed consent. All requirements **must** be met.

If your project will not include an informed or alternate consent form, explain how consent will be obtained.

Please explain, if applicable: A note about informed consent and netnography. Due to the infeasibility of gaining consent from every single individual in an online public community of unknown size, such as the Springsteen community I will be studying on Twitter, scholars have developed alternatives for obtaining consent based on US federal regulations while ensuring research ethics and transparency. Kozinets (2012) has argued: "as a netnographer interacts *normally* in the online community or culture, that is, as she interacts as other members do on the site but also takes fieldnotes of her experiences, there is no need to gain informed consent for those interactions" (p. 151). Kozinets is discussing publically available spaces, like Twitter, where members of the community have an expectation of the public nature of their conversations. Later, he argues that in spaces like chat rooms and virtual worlds, where there is a direct, synchronous conversation taking place with the researcher, and with it some expectation of privacy, informed consent would be required. As would all online surveys.

In place of informed consent for netnography in public spaces like Twitter, Kozinets suggests using a separate web page linked from the primary researchers profile that "disclose[s] the research purposes of [the] netnography" (p. 147). He has "found dedicated research web pages to be a very helpful way to identify [himself] to online community members, inform community members about [his] research, contribute to the community by sharing information that might be of interest to them, and ask for interview participants" (p. 148). To inform Springsteen community members of the goals of the netnography, I will be creating such a web page (http://springsteen.williamwolff.org). It will include the goals of the study, my history as a Springsteen fan, links to my prior scholarship on Springsteen, a link to the online survey, and a space to ask questions about the study itself.

***NOTE**: If the only record linking the subject and the research would be the consent document and the research presents no more than minimal risk of harm to subjects, you may use an alternative procedure for consent. (See **Appendix B and C** for more information)*

b) Will the research be conducted at a site other than Rowan institution?

☒ Yes | ☐ No If YES, list the institutions and provide letters from appropriate institutional official(s) with the authority to approve research at their institution (e.g. school principal, school superintendent, director of institution, IRB):

The netnography will be conducted online via the Twitter API. As stated in the Twitter "Developer Rules of the Road": "Twitter maintains an open platform. . . ." "You may use the Twitter API and Twitter Content in connection with the products or services you provide (your "**Service**") to search, display, analyze, retrieve, view, and submit information to or on Twitter" (https://dev.twitter.com/terms/api-terms). The survey will be conducted using Qualtrics. The interviews will be conducted via email, Skype, or GoogleHangout.

5. THE RESEARCH PROCEDURES:

a) Describe in non-scientific language exactly what you will be doing to, or with, your subjects. Include in your description:

- The goal/s of the research
- The procedures to be followed
- The role of the Co-Investigator(s) / Co-Principal Investigator(s)

Please describe:

Goals of the Research

The goals of this study are three-fold: First, to learn more about the Springsteen fan community on Twitter. Second, to learn specifically about why Springsteen fans tweet the way they do. Third, to come to a better understanding of why people are Springsteen fans. They will be met using a combination of research methods: netnography (Kozinets, 2010), case study, active interviewing (Gubrium & Holstein, 2003; Holstein & Gubrium, 2003), and an online survey.

Background

The study of fan cultures has a rich interdisciplinary scholarly history (Jenkins, 1992, 2006, 2007; Hills, 2002; Gray et. al., 2007). The fan communities studied have ranged from *Star Trek* to *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* to *World of Warcraft* players. Much scholarship has been written about Springsteen fans (Cavicchi, 1998; Hills, 2002; Randall, 2011) and, recently, interdisciplinary work has appeared considering his cultural legacy (Carman, 2000; Harde & Streight, 2010; Sawyers, 2004; Smith, 2002). In his ethnography of Springsteen concertgoers during the 1992 – 1993 World Tour, Cavicchi (1998) has described the complex and intimate relationship that fans have with Springsteen the human being, with Springsteen's music, and with one-another. Fandom, according to Cavicchi, is a community-driven activity with an expansive "social category, referring to a mode of participation with a long history in various cultural categories . . ." (p. 4). These categories include "writing and reading fanzines, participating in computer lists, attending concerts, [and] sharing Bruce stories . .

." (p. 194). The latest cultural space for fans of all media is Twitter. In *Fans, Bloggers, and Gamers: Exploring Participatory Culture*, Jenkins (2006) wrote about the convergence of fan activities new media writing spaces. Recently, he argued that scholars of new media communities seem "to be traversing the same terrain fan studies traveled decades ago in response to the perceived passivity of mass media consumers" (p. 358).

Using Twitter's open application programming interface (API) search capabilities, scholars from diverse fields have been using mixed methods approaches to studying individuals and communities on Twitter. For example, Gerbaudo (2012) has studied how activists engage Twitter (and other social media) to organize and create a new kind of protest culture. Zappavigna (2011) has studied a "corpus of 45,000 tweets collected in the 24 hours after the announcement of Barak Obama's victory" to learn how language is being used to help build community. With the rise of studies in online spaces so, too, have research methodologies evolved to consider the complexities of issues relating to engagement with online communities, public / private information, and permissions to cite work (Kozinets, 2012; Markham & Baym, 2009; McKee & Porter, 2009). The name of this new methodology, netnography, can be defined as Kozinets (2010) places in the subheading of his book of that title: "doing ethnographic research online." The Association of Internet Researchers has created a document, "Ethical Decision-Making and Internet Research" and associated wiki, helps guide a researcher through the complexity of context-specific choices that researchers must make when conducting research in online spaces (see http://ethics.aoir.org/). This research will be conducted using the AoIR documents as a guide.

Procedures
Using an online survey, online ethnographic (netnographic), case study, and active interviewing methods, as well as grounded theory analysis, the study will involve 4 overlapping phases:

1) A netnographic study of Springsteen fans on Twitter.
2) Conduct an online 7-question survey of Springsteen fans.
3) Conduct follow-up interviews with fans using active interviewing methodologies.
4) Use grounded theory to analyze interview transcripts.

Parts 1 and 2 will continue until one month after the end of the Wrecking Ball tour (most likely by November, 2013). Parts 3 and 4 will continue until the end of 2014.

b) Will you be carrying out procedures or asking questions that might disturb your subjects emotionally or produce stress or anxiety?
☐ Yes | ☒ No If YES, describe your plans and criteria for counseling such subjects:

c) Are you using a questionnaire, survey, and/or an interview as part of your procedure?
☒ Yes | ☐ No If YES, submit a copy of the questionnaire(s) and/or interview questions.
I have included the online survey. Active interviewing discourages the use of specific interview questions. Rather, researchers should have an idea of the general theme(s) they wish to cover and are open to ideas from the participants (Gubrium & Holstein, 2003; Holstein & Gubrium, 2003). Netnography, like ethnography, does not involve specific interviews. Rather, it involves participation and engagement with a specific online community—in this case, publically on Twitter.

d) Are you using focus group discussions as a part of your procedure?
☐ Yes | ☒ No If YES, submit a copy of the focus group guide.

e) Does your study involve deception of your subjects?
☐ Yes | ☒ No If YES, describe the deception, justify its need, and describe the procedure you will use to debrief your subjects. Submit a copy of the debriefing statement, which should include a statement of your willingness to allow

subjects to withdraw from your study after debriefing and to remove from your files all records of their involvement:

f) Will this study involve the use of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens?

☒ Yes | ☐ No If YES, include authorization to access the data if not publicly available from an official with authority to provide such permission.

All data used is publically available via the Twitter API. As stated in the Twitter "Developer Rules of the Road": "Twitter maintains an open platform. . . ." "You may use the Twitter API and Twitter Content in connection with the products or services you provide (your "**Service**") to search, display, analyze, retrieve, view, and submit information to or on Twitter" (https://dev.twitter.com/terms/api-terms).

6. DATA STORAGE/DISPOSITION:

a) Will participants' names be kept:

☒ Confidential ☐ Anonymous ☐ Neither

(See Appendix B (Informed Consent) for definitions of these terms)

b) If participants' names are to remain confidential how will confidentiality be maintained?

Please describe: Survey respondents' real names and/or Twitter usernames will be converted to pseudonyms. Real names, Twitter usernames, and/or other identifiers (such as email addresses) will be stored in a separate secure location on the cloud storage space, Spideroak. Participants will be given the option of having their real name, Twitter username, both, or a pseudonym used for scholarly publication. They will have the right to change their mind at any time prior to scholarly publication.

c) What kinds of data will you use?

Check all that apply:

☐ Paper (Hard copy)

☒ Digital (Computerized) data

☒ Audio/video recordings

☐ Lab specimens

☐ Other (please specify):

Describe how you will keep your data secure while conducting the research:

All data will be stored on a password protected area my home computer and backed up using the cloud storage space, Spideroak (http://spideroak.com).

d) Describe how you will ultimately secure, store, and dispose of your data (notes, drafts, lists of subjects, photographic records, tapes, computer disks, flash drives, etc.) **after you have completed your research** (e.g. shredding, burning) Please note that all research records must be maintained for **at least five (5) years after the completion of the research**, including consent forms, flyers, etc. **If you do not plan to destroy research data, please provide a justification for maintaining the data for an indefinite period of time and how you will ensure confidentiality**:

Please describe:

All data will be stored on a password protected area my home computer and backed up using the cloud storage space, Spideroak (http://spideroak.com). Survey data will be deleted from my home computer and Spideroak cloud storage. Those who wish to have their interviews preserved offline, will have them preserved offline. Those who wish to have them preserved in an online space, will have them preserved

online. Those who wish to have their interviews discarded will have the interviews deleted from my home computer and Spideroak backup. Prior to their interviews, participants will have the option to choose if they want their material preserved, if they want it preserved anonymously, or if they want it deleted. Participants will also have the option of donating their interview to the Bruce Springsteen Collection archive at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ. They will have the ability to change their decision at any time.

7. **RISK/BENEFIT**:

In three or four sentences, summarize the risk/benefit ratio of the proposed research, with regard to the human subjects, the risks to them, and the potential benefits to knowledge or society:

There is very little risk for participants. The information being discussed is discussed is not sensitive in nature, though it is possible that some people may become emotional in their discussion of Springsteen. The benefits of taking part in the survey include contributing to a greater understanding of what it means to be a fan (of Springsteen and in general); how and why people decide to compose as they do in public microblogging spaces; the increasing role of social media in our lives; and, if you so choose, contributing your thoughts on Springsteen to the Bruce Springsteen Special Collection.

8. **COLLABORATION**:

Does this research project involve the IRB approval of one or more participating institutions or organizations other than that of Rowan?

☐ Yes | ☒ No If YES, list the institutions and submit copies of the related IRB approval notices.

Please list institutions:

9. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (OPTIONAL) (Attach a separate sheet if needed)**

CERTIFICATIONS:
Rowan University maintains a Federal-wide Assurance (FWA) with the Office of Human Research Protection (OHRP), U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. This Assurance includes a requirement for all research staff working with human participants to receive training in ethical guidelines and regulations. "Research staff" is defined as persons who have direct and substantive involvement in proposing, performing, reviewing, or reporting research and includes students fulfilling these roles as well as their faculty advisors. Once training is complete with an overall score of 80 percent or higher, Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) certificates will generated automatically on-line to the Research Office.

To begin CITI training, go to https://www.citiprogram.org/. Click on "New User" to create an account and choose Rowan as your affiliation. On the second page, enter your Banner ID and place it in the space that says "Employee ID" to ensure accurate tracking. Once you are logged into the system, register for Human Subjects Research Training module in your area of expertise.

Note that if you have a current NIH certificate in Human Subjects training you may use it instead of the CITI training until it expires (after 3 years). At this time, the Research Office is not accepting an NIH training certificate that has a completion date after January 1, 2013, *unless* the researcher is not a Rowan University faculty, staff, student or other affiliate. All Rowan University faculty, staff, students or affiliates of Rowan University are expected to obtain a Human Subjects training certificate from the CITI training program.

Note also that if your research is externally funded, there may be additional training requirements of which the Research Office will inform you.

Researcher:
I certify that I am familiar with the ethical guidelines and regulations regarding the protection of human participants from research risks and will adhere to the policies and procedures of the Rowan University Institutional Review Board. I will ensure that all research staff working on the proposed project, who will have direct and substantive involvement in proposing, performing, reviewing, or reporting this research (including students fulfilling these roles), will complete IRB approved training. I will not initiate this research project until I receive written approval from the IRB. I agree to obtain informed consent of participants in this project if required by the IRB; to report to the IRB any unanticipated effects on participants which become apparent during the course or as a result of experimentation and the actions taken as a result; to cooperate with the IRB in the continuing review of this project; to obtain prior approval from the IRB before amending or altering the scope of the project or implementing changes in the approved consent form; and to maintain documentation of consent forms and progress reports for a minimum of three years after completion of the final report or longer if required by the sponsor or the institution. I further certify that I have completed training regarding human participant research ethics within the last three years as indicated below my signature.

Signature of Researcher: _____ Date: _____

Faculty Advisor (if Researcher is a student): I certify that I am familiar with the ethical guidelines and regulations regarding the protection of human participants from research risks. I further certify that I have completed training regarding human participant research ethics within the last three years as indicated below my signature (attach copy of your "Completion Certificate for Human Participant Protections Education for Research Teams" from the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative).

Signature of Faculty Advisor: _____ Date: _____

Doctoral Advisor (if Researcher is a doctoral student): Is this research to fulfill your doctoral requirement in the College of Education? ☐ Yes | ☐ No

If YES, please have the College of Education doctoral advisor sign the application:

Signature of Doctoral Advisor: _____ Date: _____

Step 5: Complete the checklist below.

INVESTIGATOR CHECKLIST

DIRECTIONS: *(Use NA if "not applicable")*

☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Application typed or computer-generated, not hand written
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Identifying information complete
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Principal Investigator's signature on application
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Names of all investigators specified
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Summary in non-technical terms
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Risks and benefits specified
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Informed Consent form appended
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	All instruments appended (e.g. questionnaires, standardized tests, interview schedules)
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Advertisement for recruitment of participants appended, if relevant See http://springsteen.williamwolff.org
☐ Yes | ☐ NA	Approval letter(s) from ALL relevant off-campus site(s) (e.g. school principal, other IRB's) appended
☐ Yes | ☒ NA	If applicant is a STUDENT, advisor signature included
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	Indicated that application needs "full review," "expedited review," or "expedited review with exemption."
☒ Yes | ☐ NA	"Certifications" form for PI and Co-investigator/s completed and signed

Step 6: Submit an original and two copies to the Research Office, Bole Hall. Please send one (1) electronic copy of the completed original copy to Harriet Hartman at hartman@rowan.edu. If you have technical questions about your IRB application, you may send an e-mail to hartman@rowan.edu. If you have administrative questions, you may send an e-mail to heiser@rowan.edu or call 856-256-5150.
*(**Note:** Appendices below are for informational purposes only. Appendices do not need to be part of the completed and signed application that is forwarded to the IRB and subsequently reviewed by the IRB. However, all attachments such as surveys, advertisements, etc. described above need to be included with the completed application forwarded for IRB review.)*

Appendix A

How is “Research” Defined?

The Rowan University IRB defines "research" as a *systematic* investigation designed to develop or contribute to *generalizable knowledge*. All **research** involving human participants conducted by Rowan University faculty and staff is subject to IRB review.

Some, but not all, student-conducted studies that involve human participants are considered research and are subject to IRB review. Student research that is subject to IRB review includes research:

1. Intended to satisfy the academic requirements for the Master’s Thesis/Project or Doctoral Dissertation;

2. Intended or expected to result in publication, presentation outside the classroom, or public dissemination in some other form;

3. Conducted outside the classroom and/or departmental research participant pool if they involve
   a. minors (*i.e.,* persons under the age of 18),
   b. a targeted population of adults whose ability to freely give informed consent may be compromised (*i.e*., persons who are socioeconomically, educationally, or linguistically disadvantaged, cognitively impaired, elderly, terminally ill, or Incarcerated),
   c. pregnant women and/or fetuses who may be put at risk of physical harm,
   d. a topic of a sensitive or personal nature, the examination or reporting of which place the research participant at more than minimal risk, or
   e. any type of activity that places research participants at more than minimal risk.

Student-conducted research that is conducted solely within the confines of the classroom or within a departmental research participant pool and:

1. a general requirement of a course,

2. has the sole purpose of developing the student's research skills, and

3. will be overseen by a faculty member;

may not be subject to IRB review. Check with your class instructor for guidance as to whether you must submit your research protocol for IRB review. If you or your instructor has any doubts, apply for an IRB review.

Oral history projects are not generally subject to IRB review. It is up to the individual faculty member, in consultation with their department chair and/or dean, to determine whether a project must be submitted to the IRB. If the project meets the guideline for research established by the U.S. Office for Human Research Protection, it must be submitted to the IRB for approval. That definition states that research is a, “systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge**.”**
Projects that involve participation by protected groups under US Code 45 CFR part 46 (e.g. prisoners) must be reviewed by the IRB

For more information, go to:
http://www.rowan.edu/open/provost/research/Integrity_and_compliance/Irb/Irb.htm

Appendix B

Research Exemptions

Federal law allows the IRB to exempt some research from a full review. This saves time and effort. Research activities in which the only involvement of human subjects is in one or more of the categories listed below, and present no more than minimal risk to subjects, may qualify for a claim of Exemption from full IRB review.

In order to fulfill the federal requirement for the proper review of research, investigators cannot "self exempt" from IRB review, nor does a claim of exemption necessarily exempt investigators from the requirement of gaining written informed consent from subjects. Note that the following exempt categories do not apply to research involving:

1. deception of subjects where the investigator does not describe the true purpose of the research and /or the results of the subjects participation in the study;

2. sensitive behavioral research, or research involving vulnerable populations.

The categories of potential exemption are:

1. Research may be exempt if it is conducted in an established or commonly accepted educational setting and involves normal educational practices such as research on regular and special education instructional strategies or research on the effectiveness of, or the comparison among, instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management methods.

2. Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures, or observation of public behavior may be exempt, unless the information obtained is recorded in such a manner that subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects, and any disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability, or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, or reputation.

3. Research involving the use of education tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures, or observation of public behavior that would not exempt under paragraph (2) may be exempt if the human subjects are elected or appointed public officials or candidates for public office, or federal statute(s) require(s) without exception that the confidentiality of the personally identifiable information will be maintained throughout the research and thereafter.

4. Research involving the collection or study of previously existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens may be exempt if they are being obtained from publicly available sources or if the information is recorded by the investigator in such a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects. NOTE: If the records involved are those of Rowan students, the project is not exempt and must be reviewed by the IRB. Such research must conform to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, a copy of which may be obtained from the Assistant Director, Research Subjects administration.

5. Research and demonstration projects may be exempt if they are conducted by or subject to the approval of Federal department or agency heads, and are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine public changes in or alternatives to those programs or procedures or possible changes in methods or levels of payment for benefits or services under those programs.

6. Taste and food quality evaluation and consumer acceptance studies may be exempt if wholesome foods without additives are consumed or a food is consumed that contains a food ingredient at or below the level and for a use found to be safe, by the Food and Drug Administration or approved by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. For more guidelines on exemption see the FAQ on the Rowan IRB website, or the more detailed explanations in the Rowan IRB policy or the Website of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP).

Appendix C

Consent Procedures

The following information is to be provided to each human subject as a separate line item at the top of the informed and alternate consent forms. The language and statement to include is preceded by the type of consent form it should be documented on.

1. **Informed Consent:** A statement that the study involves research, an explanation (in non-technical language) of the purposes of the research, a description of the procedures to be followed, and identification of any procedures that is experimental.
   Alternate Consent: A statement that you are conducting research and the reason for it (e.g., master's thesis, publication, etc.)

2. **Informed Consent:** A description of any reasonably foreseeable *risks* or discomforts to the subject.

3. **Informed Consent:** A description of any *benefits* to the subjects or other persons that may reasonably be expected to result from the research.
   Alternate Consent: Purpose of the research – What you are investigating?

4. **Informed Consent:** A disclosure of appropriate alternative procedures or treatments that might be beneficial to the subject.

5. **Informed Consent:** A statement describing the extent, if any, to which confidentiality of records identifying the subject will be maintained. Your proposal must specify *precisely* whether the identity of your subjects will be: a) Anonymous; b) Confidential; or c) Neither.
   Alternate Consent: A statement that all responses will be kept anonymous and confidential

Note: Your subjects' responses may be recorded and maintained as confidential or anonymous, but *not both.*

> **Definition of Anonymous***: Data are recorded such that no identifier whatsoever exists to link a subject's identity to that subject's response.* Examples: (1) subject fills out and mails back to the investigator a questionnaire that does not provide subject's name, social security number, phone number, or any other identifier; (2) investigator interviews subject by phone and notes responses, but does not have any record connecting any response to any phone number.
>
> **Definition of Confidential***: There exists a documented linkage between a subject's identity and his/her response in the research, and the investigator provides assurance in the protocol and in the informed consent form that the identity of any individual subject will not be revealed in any report of the study.* Example: a subject's data record is assigned a code, and a "master list" that links the code to the subject's identity is maintained in a secure location.

6. **Informed Consent:** A statement specifying the amount of time required for participation in the study (e.g. a *realistic* estimate of the number of minutes required to complete a questionnaire, the number of separate sessions, the overall duration [days, weeks, months] that the subject will be involved in the study).
   Alternate Consent: A statement that participants need not respond to all questions

7. **Informed Consent:** A statement that participation is voluntary, that refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject is otherwise entitled, and that the subject may discontinue participation *at any time* without penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject is otherwise entitled. Specify the consequences, if any, to the subject of his/her decision to withdraw from the research before completing the protocol (e.g. loss of pro-rated compensation for participation in the study) and procedures for orderly termination of participation by the subject (e.g. exit interview).
   Alternate Consent: A statement that all participation is voluntary

8. **Informed Consent:** Statement regarding financial or other compensation, if any, to the subjects, giving precise amounts and providing for prorating of payment if a subject withdraws before completing the study. Also, specify any uncompensated costs to the subject that may result from participation in the research (e.g. travel costs, absence from the workplace).
   Alternate Consent: If participants are students, a statement that class standing will not be affected in any way based on participation.

9. **Informed Consent:** A statement regarding accessibility of the investigator and advisor to the subjects for questions related to the research (e.g. phone number, email address, institutional address).
   Alternate Consent: Include the name, telephone number, and/or e-mail of the Principal Investigator (PI); and if you have a faculty sponsor, also include the faculty sponsor's name, telephone number, and/or e-mail.

10. **Informed Consent:** The following statement regarding subjects' rights:

    If you have any questions about your rights as a research subject, you may contact the Associate Provost for Research at:

    Rowan University Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects
    Office of Research
    201 Mullica Hill Road
    Glassboro, NJ 08028-1701
    Tel: 856-256-5150

Format of the Informed Consent Form:
Text should be written in non-technical terms, at a sixth-grade reading level, with non-technical explanation of any specialized terms. If the consent form is more than one page, include a notation, "Subject's Initials _____," at the bottom of each page except the signature page.

If non-English speaking subjects will be involved, a consent form that has been translated into the relevant language is required.

Signature lines for the Principal Investigator and the subject, with corresponding lines for the date of each signature, are required. Signature lines for a legally authorized representative or minor subject may also be necessary, depending upon the categories of subjects that are involved. A witness signature is not required in most cases; exceptions are oral consent verification (below) and situations in which a legally authorized representative signs for the subject.

If the protocol involves videotaping, audiotaping, or photographing of subjects, the consent form must include either a separate statement of agreement for these procedures within the consent document, with signature line, or an addendum to the consent form describing the recording procedure with a statement of agreement and signature line. The purpose of the distinct signature for these procedures is to ensure that the subject is aware of their inclusion, and if the study design permits, to allow the subject to participate in the study without being recorded.

Here are some questions to consider when developing consent forms:

- Why is this study being done?
- What makes this different from the normal, usual procedures/tests/treatments/etc.?
- Will the participant understand why they are being photographed, videotaped or audiotaped?
- How many will take part in the study?
- How long will the participant be in the study?
- What is involved in the study?
- What are the risks of the study?
- What are the risks to an unborn baby?
- What are the benefits as a participant in the study?
- What other options are there?
- What stipulations, situations or reasons will result in participant removal from the study without their consent?
- How is my participation going to remain anonymous and/or confidential?
- What are the costs of participation?
- What if the participant is physically injured or mentally suffers? Do you have information on the consent form that will assist the subject in finding treatment and care?
- Will the participants be compensated? If so, what is the compensation?
- Who would a participant call if they have questions about the study or problems with the study and/or its investigators?
- What are the rights of the participant as a research subject?

A participant / subject in a research study has the right to:

1. Be informed of the nature and purpose of the research.
2. Be given an explanation of all procedures to be followed and of any drug or device to be used.
3. Be given a description of any risks or discomforts, which can be reasonably expected to result from this research study.
4. Be given an explanation of any benefits, which can be reasonably expected to the subject as a result of this research study.
5. Be informed of any appropriate alternative procedures, drugs, or devices that may be advantageous and of their relative risks and discomforts.
6. Be informed of any medical treatment, which will be made available to the subject if complications should arise from this research.
7. Be given an opportunity and encouraged to ask any questions concerning the study or the procedures involved in this research.
8. Be made aware that consent to participate in the research may be withdrawn and that participation may be discontinued at any time without affecting continuity or quality of medical care.
9. Be given a copy of this signed and dated written consent form.
10. Not be subjected to any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, coercion, or any influence in reaching the decision to consent or to not consent to participate in the research.

Sample of Informed Consent Forms

(These should be used as a guide only--each PI should tailor the form to fit the research)

Sample 1: Participants over the age of 18 (faculty researcher)

I agree to participate in a study entitled "Problem Solving in Groups Versus Individuals," which is being conducted by Dr. Jane Doe of the Psychology Department, Rowan University.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the methods used by individuals and groups to solve difficult problems. The data collected in this study will be combined with data from previous studies and will be submitted for publication in a research journal.

I understand that I will be required to attempt to solve a logic problem, and I will be assigned to work either individually or as part of a group. My participation in the study should not exceed one hour.

I understand that my responses will be anonymous and that all the data gathered will be confidential. I agree that any information obtained from this study may be used in any way thought best for publication or education provided that I am in no way identified and my name is not used.

I understand that there are no physical or psychological risks involved in this study, and that I am free to withdraw my participation at any time without penalty.

I understand that my participation does not imply employment with the state of New Jersey, Rowan University, the principal investigator, or any other project facilitator.

I understand that my participation will involve the photographing, videotaping and audio recording of my participation.

If I have any questions or problems concerning my participation in this study, I may contact Dr. Jane Doe at (856) 256- _____ ext. ____.

_____
Participant Name (Please print)

I agree to be photographed: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

I agree to be videotaped: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

I agree to be audio recorded: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

_____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)
By signing this form, the participant understands and acknowledges all of the terms listed above, and the participant had chances to ask questions about the study.

_____ _____
(Signature of Investigator/or person explaining the form) (Date)

Sample 2: Participants over the age of 18 (student with faculty advisor)

I agree to participate in a study entitled "Problem Solving in Groups Versus Individuals," which is being conducted by Jane Doe, a Psychology student at Rowan University.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the methods used by individuals and groups to solve difficult problems. The data collected in this study will be combined with data from previous studies and will be submitted for publication in a research journal.

I understand that I will be required to attempt to solve a logic problem, and I will be assigned to work either individually or as part of a group. My participation in the study should not exceed one hour.

I understand that my responses will be anonymous and that all the data gathered will be confidential. I agree that any information obtained from this study may be used in any way thought best for publication or education provided that I am in no way identified and my name is not used.

I understand that there are no physical or psychological risks involved in this study, and that I am free to withdraw my participation at any time without penalty.

I understand that my participation does not imply employment with the state of New Jersey, Rowan University, the principal investigator, or any other project facilitator.

If I have any questions or problems concerning my participation in this study, I may contact Jane Doe at (856) 256- _____ or her faculty advisor, Dr. Peter Rabbit, rabbit@timbuktu.edu.

_____
Participant Name (Please print)

I agree to be photographed: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

I agree to be videotaped: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

I agree to be audio recorded: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

_____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)
By signing this form, the participant understands and acknowledges all of the terms listed above, and the participant had chances to ask questions about the study.

_____ _____
(Signature of Investigator/or person explaining the form) (Date)

Sample 3: Participants over the age of 18 (faculty researcher)

I agree to participate in a study entitled "Problem Solving in Groups Versus Individuals," which is being conducted by Dr. Jane Doe of the Psychology Department, Rowan University.

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the methods used by individuals and groups to solve difficult problems. The data collected in this study will be combined with data from previous studies and will be submitted for publication in a research journal.

I understand that I will be required to attempt to solve a logic problem, and I will be assigned to work either

individually or as part of a group. My participation in the study should not exceed one hour.

I understand that my responses will be anonymous and that all the data gathered will be confidential. I agree that any information obtained from this study may be used in any way thought best for publication or education provided that I am in no way identified and my name is not used.

I understand that there are no physical or psychological risks involved in this study, and that I am free to withdraw my participation at any time without penalty.

I understand that my participation does not imply employment with the state of New Jersey, Rowan University, the principal investigator, or any other project facilitator.

If I have any questions or problems concerning my participation in this study, I may contact Dr. Jane Doe at (856) 256- _____ ext. ____.

_____
Participant Name (Please print)

I agree to be photographed: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

I agree to be videotaped: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

I agree to be audio recorded: _____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)

_____
(Signature of Participant) (Date)
By signing this form, the participant understands and acknowledges all of the terms listed above, and the participant had chances to ask questions about the study.

_____ _____
(Signature of Investigator/or person explaining the form) (Date)

Sample 4: Participants are minors

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am a graduate student in the Education Leadership Department at Rowan University. I will be conducting a research project under the supervision of Dr. John Doe as part of my master's/ thesis/doctoral dissertation concerning how children make decisions and how they develop strategies when playing games. I am requesting permission for your child to participate in this research. The goal of the study is to determine how strategy development changes as the children mature.

Each child will be invited to play a game during the recess period and will be led to a quiet corner of the recess yard. Any child who expresses a desire not to play will be escorted back to the main area of yard immediately. While playing the game, each child will be asked a series of questions and will be videotaped. I will retain the videotapes at the conclusion of the study. To preserve each child's confidentiality only first names will be used to identify individuals. The videotapes may be viewed by other researchers when the data are presented at a professional conference. All data will be reported in terms of group results; individual results will not be reported.

Your decision whether or not to allow your child to participate in this study will have absolutely no effect on your child's standing in his/her class. At the conclusion of the study a summary of the group results will be made available to all interested parents. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 555-1845 or you may contact my advisor, Dr. John Doe, at (856) 256-___ext.___.* Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Fawn

Please indicate whether or not you wish to have your child participate in this study by checking the appropriate statement below and returning this letter to your child's teacher by Feb. 1.

___ I grant permission for my child _____to participate in this study.

___ I do not grant permission for my child _____to participate in this study.

I agree for my child to be photographed during this study: _____
(Signature of Parent/Guardian) (Date)

I agree for my child to be videotaped during this study: _____
(Signature of Parent/Guardian) (Date)

I agree for my child to be audio recorded during this study: _____
(Signature of Parent/Guardian) (Date)

_____
Parent/Guardian Name (Please print)

_____
Parent/Guardian signature (Date)

By signing this form, the participant understands and acknowledges all of the terms listed above, and the participant had chances to ask questions about the study.

* If you do not have a faculty advisor, there is no need to include faculty information in the consent letter.

Alternate Consent Procedure

If the only identifying link between the subject and your research procedure would be the consent form, you may obtain consent simply by informing the participant about your research project.

Example: You are conducting a survey and are not asking for any identifying information from participants. In this case, using a consent form would require that the participants reveal their identity by signing the form. As long as the survey did not put the participants at more than minimal risk, a consent form may not be required.

<u>Sample of Alternate Consent Procedure</u> (when signatures are not required)

(This should be used as a guide only--each PI should tailor the form to fit the research)

The purpose of this survey is to evaluate the methods used by individuals to solve difficult problems. The research, entitled "How Individuals Solve Problems," is being conducted by Jane Doe of the Psychology Department, Timbuktu University, in partial fulfillment of her M.A. degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences. For this study you will be required to attempt to solve a logic problem, and to answer some questions about how you did it. Your participation in the study should not exceed 15 minutes. There are no physical or psychological risks involved in this study, and you are free to withdraw your participation at any time without penalty.
The data collected in this study will be combined with data from previous studies and will be submitted for publication in a research journal. Your responses will be anonymous and all the data gathered will be kept confidential.

By taking this survey you agree that any information obtained from this study may be used in any way thought best for publication or education provided that you are in no way identified and your name is not used. Participation does not imply employment with the state of New Jersey, Rowan University, the principal investigator, or any other project facilitator.

If you have any questions or problems concerning your participation in this study, please contact Jane Doe at (856) 256- _____ ext. ___, or her faculty advisor, Dr. Peter Rabbit, rabbit@timbuktu.edu.

Appendix A. The 7-Question Springsteen Fan Survey with Informed Consent Statement at the Beginning

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that agree to complete "The 7-Question Springsteen Fan Survey," which is part of a larger study on the Springsteen fan community, being conducted by Dr. William I. Wolff, Associate Professor of Writing Arts, at Rowan University. The survey should take between 5 and 10 minutes to complete.

The purpose of this study is to learn more about the worldwide Springsteen fan community, and in particular about why fan community members decide to tweet about Springsteen. This study builds on David Cavicchi's book-length study of Springsteen fans, *Tramps Like Us: Music and Meaning Among Springsteen Fans* (1999, Oxford University Press). By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you understand you will be asked to complete a short survey. As part of the survey asked if you wish one of your answers to be archived in the Springsteen Collection at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ, and if you'd like to remain anonymous or attributed by name. The Springsteen Collection "serves the research and informational needs of music fans, scholars, authors and others with a serious interest in Bruce Springsteen's life and career."

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you understand that your participation does not imply employment with the state of New Jersey, Rowan University, the principal investigator, or any other project facilitator.

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you understand that your answers will be confidential unless you choose to provide contact information for follow-up interviews. You also agree that any information obtained from this survey may be used in any way thought best for publication or education provided that you are in no way identified and your name is not used. If, however, you provide contact information for follow-up interviews, you will have the option of your name being kept anonymous, using your Twitter username, or using your real name.

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you understand that there are no physical or psychological risks involved in this study, and that you are free to withdraw your participation at any time without penalty. The benefits of taking part in the survey include contributing to a greater understanding of what it means to be a fan (of Springsteen and in general); how and why people decide to compose as they do in public microblogging spaces; the increasing role of social media in our lives; and, if you so choose, contributing your thoughts on Springsteen to the Bruce Springsteen Special Collection. All responses will be stored in a secure password location, though as an online participant in this research, there is always the risk of intrusion by outside agents, i.e., hacking, and therefore the possibility of being identified.

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you fully understand the contents written above and that you are over 18 years of age. If you are below 18, you may not complete the survey.

If you have any questions or problems concerning your completion of this survey, you may contact Dr. William I. Wolff at wolffw@rowan.edu or @billwolff.

By clicking Yes below you are giving your Informed Consent to participate in the following 7-question survey. If you do not wish to participate, click No. You must be 18 years of age or older to complete the survey.

- ❍ No (1)
- ❍ Yes (2)

If No Is Selected, Then Skip To End of Survey

1. How many Bruce Springsteen concerts (with and without the E Street Band) have you seen live in your life?

- ❍ 0 (1)
- ❍ 1 (2)
- ❍ 2 (3)
- ❍ 3 (4)
- ❍ 4 (5)
- ❍ 5 (6)
- ❍ 6 - 10 (7)
- ❍ 11 - 20 (8)
- ❍ 21 - 50 (9)
- ❍ 51 - 100 (10)
- ❍ more than 100 (11)

2. How many Bruce Springsteen concerts have you seen live on the 2012 – 2013 Wrecking Ball tour?

- ❍ 0 (1)
- ❍ 1 (2)
- ❍ 2 (3)
- ❍ 3 (4)
- ❍ 4 (5)
- ❍ 5 (6)
- ❍ 6 - 10 (7)
- ❍ more than 10 (8)

3. Did you tweet about any 2012 – 2013 Wrecking Ball concert? This includes tweeting about pre-concert activities (buying tickets, tailgating, waiting in live to get into the pit, and so on), during concert activities, post-concert activities, as well as retweeting another's tweet.

- ❍ No (1)
- ❍ Yes (2)
- ❍ Don't Recall (3)

If Yes Is selected, question 3a will appear

3a. May I contact you for a follow-up conversation about why you tweeted about a Springsteen concert? If yes, please include Twitter username, email address, and your name. You have the right to change your mind at any point.

Twitter username (1)
Email address (2)
Your Name (3)

4. Why Bruce Springsteen? That is, what is it about Bruce Springsteen (the man and/or his music) that makes you a Springsteen fan. Please limit your response to 1500 characters. If you prefer, you may answer in a language other than English.

5. May I contact you for a follow-up conversation about your experiences as a fan of Bruce Springsteen and his music?

- ❍ No (1)
- ❍ Yes (2)

If Yes Is selected, question 5a will appear

5a. If Yes, please include your email address and your name. You have the right to change your mind at any point.

Email address (1)
Your Name (2)

6. Would you like your 1500-character written response to be archived in the Bruce Springsteen Special Collection? The Special Collection "serves the research and informational needs of music fans, scholars, authors and others with a serious interest in Bruce Springsteen's life and career." You have the right to change your mind at any time.

- ❍ No (1)
- ❍ Yes (2)

If Yes Is selected, question 6a will appear

6a. If Yes, please indicate if you would like your response to be anonymous or have your name associated with it. Please also provide your email address so you can be notified when your response has been sent to the Special Collection.

- ❍ Please keep my response Anonymous (1)
- ❍ Please add my name as written and include email address (2) _____

7. Where do you live?

- Africa (1)
- Antarctica (2)
- Asia (3)
- Europe (4)
- North America -- outside United States (5)
- North America -- United States (6)
- South America (7)
- I prefer not to answer

Submit

After Submission, the following will appear:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey!

If you chose to be contacted for a follow-up conversation, I will be contacting select people in the next few months. If you have any questions or wish to change your decision to be or not to be contacted, please let me know via wolffw@rowan.edu or @billwolff.

From somewhere in the swamps of southern Jersey. . . .

Bill Wolff, PhD
Associate Professor of Writing Arts
Rowan University
wolffw@rowan.edu
@billwolff

Appendix B. Follow-up Conversations Preferences Survey with Informed Consent

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that agree to engage in a follow-up conversation in response to questions you answered in "The 7-Question Springsteen Fan Survey." The survey and our conversation will be part of a larger study on the Springsteen fan community, being conducted by Dr. William I. Wolff, Associate Professor of Writing Arts, at Rowan University in southern New Jersey.

The purpose of this study is to learn more about the worldwide Springsteen fan community, and in particular about why fan community members decide to tweet about Springsteen. This study builds on David Cavicchi's book-length study of Springsteen fans, *Tramps Like Us: Music and Meaning Among Springsteen Fans* (1999, Oxford University Press).

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you understand you will be asked to provide preferences for which method of follow-up conversation you prefer: email, audio, or video. Audio and video conversations will be recorded and will last between 15 and 30 minutes. You will also be asked if you wish our conversation to be archived in the Springsteen Collection at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ, and if you'd like to remain anonymous or attributed by name. The Springsteen Collection "serves the research and informational needs of music fans, scholars, authors and others with a serious interest in Bruce Springsteen's life and career."

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you understand that your participation does not imply employment with the state of New Jersey, Rowan University, the principal investigator, or any other project facilitator.

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you understand that your answers will be confidential unless you choose to provide your name. You also agree that any information obtained from the conversations may be used in any way thought best for publication or education provided that you are in no way identified and your name is not used. If you choose to provide your name, you will have the option of how you wish to be attributed in publications: name, Twitter username, or anonymous.

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you understand that there are no physical or psychological risks involved in this study, and that you are free to withdraw your participation at any time without penalty. The benefits of taking part in the interviews include contributing to a greater understanding of what it means to be a fan (of Springsteen and in general); how and why people decide to compose as they do in public microblogging spaces; the increasing role of social media in our lives; and, if you so choose, contributing your thoughts on Springsteen to the Bruce Springsteen Special Collection. All responses will be stored in a secure password location, though as an

online participant in this research, there is always the risk of intrusion by outside agents, i.e., hacking, and therefore the possibility of being identified.

By selecting Yes below, you indicate that you fully understand the contents written above and that you are over 18 years of age. If you are below 18, you may not complete the survey.

If you have any questions or problems concerning your completion of this survey, you may contact Dr. William I. Wolff at wolffw@rowan.edu or @billwolff.

By clicking Yes below you are giving your Informed Consent to participate in a follow-up conversation. If you do not wish to participate, click No. You must be 18 years of age or older participate in a follow-up conversation.

- ❍ No (1)
- ❍ Yes (2)

If No Is Selected, Then Skip To End of Survey

1. Please enter your name and email address. This information will be used to match your below responses to your survey responses and will be kept confidential.

Name (1)
Email Address (2)

2. Which method of follow-up conversation do you prefer?

- ❍ Email (1)
- ❍ Audio via Skype or GoogleHangout (2)
- ❍ Video via Skype or GoogleHangout (3)
- ❍ Any of the above is fine (4)

3. Would you like our conversation archived in the Bruce Springsteen Special Collection? The Special Collection "serves the research and informational needs of music fans, scholars, authors and others with a serious interest in Bruce Springsteen's life and career." You have the right to change your mind at any time.

- ❍ No (1)
- ❍ Yes (2)

If Yes Is Selected, question 3a will appear.

3a. If Yes, please indicate if you would like to be anonymous or have your name associated with it. Please also indicate if you would like a written transcript of the conversation, the actual audio or video, or both a transcript and the audio or video

archived in the Springsteen Special Collection. Select all that apply. You have the ability to change your mind at any point.

- ❑ Please keep me Anonymous (1)
- ❑ Please add my name as written (2) _____
- ❑ Archive a transcript only (3)
- ❑ Archive the audio or video (4)
- ❑ Archive both a transcript and the audio or video. (5)

Submit

After Submission, the following will appear:

Thank you for taking the time to fill in your preferences.

I will contact you by email to schedule a date and time for our conversation.

If you have any questions or wish to change one or more of your preferences, please contact me at wolffw@rowan.edu.

Bill Wolff, PhD
Associate Professor of Writing Arts
Rowan University
wolffw@rowan.edu
@billwolff