

Information About A University of Washington Research Study

Printed Gateways to the Internet: A History of Printed Internet Directory Books (1987-2002)

What is this study about?

You are being asked to participate in a research study about the history of printed directory books of Internet resources in the 1990s and early 2000s. These books offer a blend of introductory information about the Internet and categorized listings of Internet resources. The project aims to understand how printed Internet directory books shaped the way people navigated the Internet during the 1990s and early 2000s.

You are invited to participate in this research study because you are identified as someone who:

- served as an author, editor, publisher, marketer, or other role contributing to the publication, production, and circulation of Internet directory books,
- published reviews of printed Internet directory books in academic journals, trade journals, newspapers, and other media, and/or
- purchased, owned, and/or used printed Internet directory books in the 1990s and early 2000s.

You will receive no monetary compensation for your participation. Your participation is entirely voluntary, and you may choose to withdraw from the study at any time.

What will you be asked to do?

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to participate in an unstructured interview to discuss your experiences in authoring, editing, publishing, reviewing, and/or using printed Internet directory books in the 1990s and early 2000s. The interview will take place in person, over phone, or over an online videoconferencing system like Zoom. The interview should last less than two hours.

The interview will be recorded and transcribed. **At the beginning of the interview, you will be asked to give verbal consent to confirm your willingness to participate in the study and your acknowledgment of how the information you share will be used in the study.**

You are free to decline to answer any question, or to withdraw from the interview at any time. You may also choose whether or not to be identified by your real name, either for specific responses or for the interview as a whole.

After the interview concludes, you may be contacted for follow-up questions via email, instant messaging, or other means of communication.

What will happen to the information you provide?

The interview footage and the transcription will be securely retained by the researcher for reference purposes. The interview footage and the transcription will not be published or shared with a third party. If circumstances arise that may require releasing any portion of the recording or the transcript, the researcher will contact you to request your explicit consent.

The researcher may cite information including direct quotes from the interview in research outputs, including but not limited to dissertations, journal articles, and conference proceedings, as well as public-facing articles, websites, and other types of media content aimed at a non-academic audience.

What can you do if you want more information?

Talk to the researcher. The researcher of this study is Richard Lewei Huang, PhD candidate at the Information School of the University of Washington. He can be reached by email at lwhuang@uw.edu.

Talk to someone else. If you want to talk with someone other than the researcher about the study, your rights as a research subject, or to report problems or complaints about the study, contact the UW Human Subjects Division at hsdinfo@uw.edu or 206-543-0098.