

Sep 22, 2022

NIMLAS New Technologies Working Group Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The first meeting for the New Technologies Working Group was held on Thursday, September 22, 2022 from 12-1pm.

Attendees

Members in attendance: Bella Struminskaya, Aleda Leis, Sung Park, Florian Keusch (NIMLAS: Brady West, Sunghee Lee, Esther Friedman, April Miller, Nia Holland)

Reports

Introduction of NIMLAS and New Technologies Working Group

- Leadership of NIMLAS: Brady West, Sunghee Lee, Esther Friedman
- Group will meet 3-4 times each year
- This working group will disseminate current work in new technologies for surveying aging populations, and will provide members with an opportunity to discuss future directions for this area of research
- Other working groups include: Creation of data for minority populations, addressing increasing attrition rates, and obtaining consent for additional data collection
 - Refer to the NIMLAS website (nimlas.isr.umich.edu) under “Research Areas” for more information & descriptions of working groups
- Each thematic area will have an updated bibliography on the website summarizing relevant existing and new research, coming from either publications, conference presentations, or technical reports
- Network wide activities and workshops will also be offered
- Pilot projects will be reviewed and supported throughout the year, and are representative of each working group area
- Consulting services are also being provided; network members are able to provide consulting services or obtain them from other members with knowledge in specific areas
- There will be an annual plenary meeting where members will be able to present work and contribute to the research agendas in each thematic area

Current Projects and New Developments

- Work on a proposal for an NIA grant “Caregivers of Dementia Patients” is underway, working with the Understanding America Study (UAS) in utilizing fitbit technology to measure stress across different types of caregivers (Florian Keusch)
 - Linking heart rate variability data with self-reported stress measures (esp. EMA)
 - UAS is planning on providing fitbit devices to the entire sample, but will allow people to maintain existing devices as well
- [NIA-NIH “All of Us” study](#)
 - [Link to workbench](#)
- Relationship Dynamics and Social Life Study - see the article by Axinn et al. on the NIMLAS website

Brainstorming ideas for group research and discussion

- Using smartphone data to measure potential selection bias due to smartphone usage habits (Aleda Leis)
 - Investigating behavior habits and the impact of smartphone usage/proximity on measurement of behavior
 - See Keusch, F., Wenz, A., & Conrad, F. (2022). Do you have your smartphone with you? Behavioral barriers for measuring everyday activities with smartphone sensors. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 127, 107054. 10.1016/j.chb.2021.107054
- Providing feedback to participants in a household budget study and whether or not this feedback changes actual behaviors (Bella Struminskaya)
 - How long will behavioral changes last when people participate in a study like this?
- Tailoring the mode of participation of a survey depending on the population (i.e. older adults) (Bella Struminskaya)

Action Items

- Submit (via email) additional items (abstracts, articles, presentations, etc.) related to the working group for the organic bibliography on the NIMLAS website
- Consider presenting a workshop in a particular working group area
- If interested in offering or obtaining consulting services, refer to consulting signup form on website
 - Emerging researchers are to send an email to NIMLAS if interested in shadowing a consultant to learn more about the consulting process

Next Steps/Goals for Next Meeting

- Consider methodological implications of current projects
- Maintain a similar structure for future meetings
 - Allow members to share their work and receive feedback and input from other members
- Next meeting will be scheduled in the upcoming months via email

Adjournment

1:00 p.m.