Will the name of our organization be on the academic paper?
It is your choice whether the name of your organization will or will not appear in an academic paper.

Can I be a coauthor on the academic paper?
We are happy to include you as a coauthor, if you wish to.

Will you acquire personal identifiable information?
Like medical experiments, economic experiments need to be approved by an Institutional Review Board (or Ethical Review Board). The IRB process is aimed at guaranteeing the safety of participants. In the case of economic experiments, safety typically means privacy. To receive IRB approval, two general conditions need to hold: 1) the experiment does not involve deception of any kind; 2) no personally identifiable information is retained. We abide by what academics call data de-identification: while we retain individual level data that is useful for research purposes (e.g. age, gender, income, level of education etc.), we try to design our experiments so that no personal identifiable information is collected (e.g. names, addresses, phone numbers, social security numbers). If the nature of the experiment requires acquiring some sensitive information, we will ensure that the data is de-identified before any dataset is built.

What is the timeline of an experiment?
Economic experiments are set up to take place organically within your business activity.
**Schedule**

**Sunday, July 12th**
3:00pm
Check-in at the Hyatt Place Chicago South……………………..5225 S Harper Avenue
5:00pm
Welcome Reception at A10 Restaurant…………………1462 E. 53rd Street

**Monday, July 13th**
8:00-9:00
Coffee and Building Tours .................................................room 201
9:00-9:15
Welcome Remarks, John List .....................................room 203
9:15-10:15
“The Nuts and Bolts of Design: Part I”, Ana Samek…………room 203
10:15-10:45
Coffee break...............................................................room 201
10:45-12:00
“The Nuts and Bolts of Design: Part II”, Sally Sadoff……room 203
12:00-1:30
Lunch.................................................................room 201
1:30-3:00
“Featuring Presentation: Steven Levitt”..........................room 021
3:00-3:30
Coffee Break.............................................................room 112
3:30-4:30
“Practitioner Perspectives”, moderated by Luigi Butera…room 203
4:30-5:30
Partnership Meetings
5:30-6:30
University of Chicago campus tour..............................Meet in room 201

**Tuesday, July 14th**
8:30-9:00
Coffee ...........................................................................room 201
9:00-10:15
“Types of Economic Data”, Omar Al-ubaydli…………room 203
10:15-10:45
Coffee break...............................................................room 201
10:45-12:00
“Power of Replication”, Michael Price………………….room 203
12:00-1:30
Lunch.................................................................room 201
1:30-3:00
“Featuring Presentation: Bruce Sacerdote”..................room 201
3:00-4:00
Partnership Meetings
4:00-8:30
Architectural River Cruise & Dinner at Giordano’s...........room 201 by 4pm

**Wednesday, July 15th**
8:30-9:00
Coffee ...........................................................................room 201
9:00-10:15
“Statistical Tests Using Experimental Data” Alec Brandon...room 203
10:15-10:45
Coffee break...............................................................room 201
10:45-12:00
Panel: “Working with Outside Parties” moderated by John List featuring Stuart Buck, Michael Price, Luigi Butera and Robert Metcalfe...room 203
12:00-1:30
Lunch.................................................................room 201
1:30-3:00
“Featuring Presentation: John List”..............................room 021
3:00-3:30
Coffee Break.............................................................room 112
3:30-5:00
Partnership Meetings

**Thursday, July 16th**
9:00-9:30
Coffee ...........................................................................room 201
9:30-10:00
“USDA Research Partnerships”, Matt Harding..............room 203
10:00-12:00
Firm/Academic Partnership Presentations......................room 203
12:00-1:00
Lunch........................................................................room 201
1:00-3:00
Firm/Academic Partnership Presentations......................room 203
5:00-7:30
Cocktail and Dinner Reception at Quadrangle Club .........1155 E. 57th Street
7:00-7:30
Closing remarks by John List

**FAQ**

**What is a field experiment?**
A field experiment, like a medical trial, applies the scientific method to experimentally examine the effect of an intervention in the real world. Economic experiments randomize subjects into treatment and control groups and compare outcomes between these groups. Randomization is what guarantees that if we observe a difference between a treatment and a control group, that difference must be caused by the treatment. Randomization also allows you to control for several potential explanatory factors such as age, gender, and income level. This enables you not only to understand what works, but also why. Field experiments allow you to discover the most efficient way to allocate your resources.

**We already use surveys and focus groups to inform our decisions, why would we want to run an experiment?**
Surveys and focus groups are an excellent way to learn about people’s intentions. However, what people say they would do is sometimes very different from what they actually do. This is because people are affected by the context in which they make a decision, by the amount of attention they put in that decision, and by their emotions. Surveys may not capture these factors because people often do not know ex-ante what they will pay attention to, or they do not consciously realize that context cues or emotions affect their decisions. Experiments allow us to observe how different interventions affect behavior in natural environments.

**Can’t we use econometric and statistical analysis to analyze our existing data to understand what works and what doesn’t?**
Analyzing existing data is an important component to research, but falls short on establishing a causal relationship. Consider the following example from a development office: an organization chooses to add a small gift to their solicitation, and after one year observes that average donations have increased. This is good news, but why is this happening? The improvement may surely be due to the gift itself, but without proper randomized tests one cannot establish causation. It is possible that a third unobserved factor is driving this effect (e.g. better general economic conditions). If this were the case, the increase would have happened also without the gift, thus spending resources on gifts was inefficient. It is also possible that the gift is affecting different donors differently, but the lack of proper randomization hides this effect. For instance new donors may be attracted by the gift, but existing donors may consider it a waste, and reduce their giving. The average effect is positive, but the organization is losing donors, and this may backfire in the long run.

**ALL MEETINGS & PRESENTATIONS WILL BE HELD IN SAIEH HALL FOR ECONOMICS**