



It has been quite some time—nearly two years!—since we sent out an Xflash. But we’ve not been idle, and we will try to be more communicative in the future.

Summer Hours: Yes, Xlab will be open throughout the summer! The lab will be available full-service during regular hours, with the exception of June 4-18 when we will be closed to install our new equipment.

Portable Xlab (Xp): after replacing the Xlab’s current computers in June, the lab will be left with a supply of aging, but still serviceable, laptops. We are planning to lend these laptops in small batches to investigators who want to conduct experiments outside the Xlab. Contact our SysAdmin, [Rowilma Balza del Castillo](#) (Rowie) for details on the **Xp** option.

On-line surveys and experiments: Xlab now offers the possibility of conducting on-line surveys/experiments and making variable fee payments to subjects, done electronically through new program joint with Citibank codes. The PayCard program creates a virtual Visa debit card account, into which Xlab/Citi put whatever money a subject has earned. That money can be spent anywhere on-line that accepts Visa. We pilot-tested this program on behalf of the entire UC system during the past year, and we think it’s ready to go.

There is, of course, a charge for using PayCard. Citibank charges a \$2 fee per transaction. For a limited time, Xlab will subsidize half of that cost, up to \$200. There is also an option whereby subjects can be issued a plastic Visa card (for a nominal extra fee). Contact [Miho Tanaka](#) for more information about the PayCard option for paying subjects.

Human Subjects: The Office for the Protection of Human Subjects now uses “eProtocol” for managing all aspects of New, Continuation/Renewal, and Amendment applications for research that fits within the scope of the Xlab Master Protocol. For NEW applications, be sure to contact Miho Tanaka BEFORE submitting your protocol to OPHS; she will make sure that your experiment is one that Xlab can support. Please see the Xlab website [step-by-step instructions on how to submit an application through eProtocol](#)

Grants: Xlab continues its policy of making small grants available to faculty and graduate student researchers. See the Xlab website at <http://xlab.berkeley.edu/researchers/grantsforresearchers.shtml>

Miho has moved! The Xlab office is now in F410 Haas; the lab itself remains in S460.

Comments? Send suggestions or comments to faculty director Shachar Kariv <kariv@econ.berkeley.edu> or manager Bob Barde <barde@haas.berkeley.edu>