

# DIARA-19

## Midterm Reflection

### RAY LC

#### IDEATION

One idea I'll start with is to find a way to get people to show emotion or use gestures that do not simply state what they need to do, but get them instead to react to something which makes them feel a certain way. By feeling that way, I hope to make the interactions meaningful, so that they are invested in the emotion, and let that emotion tell the story of how to move and manipulate the printer. Thus gestures by themselves lead to affective states.

The other idea I'll work with is the biomaterial and what it really means to humans in a critical sense. I want to explore what it means that people make things for consumption, and hence what would happen if that product is not what they expect. I hope to show the morality of consumer culture and its aggressive tendencies to react to any new technology by asking what it can do for us. Instead, I'll use the form of the item produced to suggest that it is not a mass production, but rather a material related to human disease, that humans make their own disease upon their own interaction. To do this I'll make the material of the printout ominously like a bacterial culture, showing how each individual can produce matter that we make for ourselves and others as viral form that infects and destroys (Figure 1).

One idea I'll not go with is changing the Z level of the printer to deal with multiple person interactions. I may go with the Monoprice printer for this, but not for the bioprinter project idea, because it's not designed for moving in Z plane. I don't think the creator going in and changing the Z plane really gives the interaction an organic feel if we let audiences take over.

#### DELIVERY

Online version of this project would remote control of the bioprinter or Monoprice printer via webcam, using javascript code running in a server. Since we cannot make everyone have a Kinect, this would use only the expression and emotions part of our interactions, but the feedback will be immediately on Twitter. For the online component, I would need to write code that connects to serial via the javascript interface, along with code that gives control to users around the world. I would also highlight the Twitter component because people can see quickly what is going on with their creation. Another way to curtail the problem is to have a web-enabled interface that simply moves the head of the printer as it is printing, but they would not be able to get access to the product except to see a grotesque picture of it on Twitter as a viral like mess.

If Making Center facilities are not available, I would still be able to build most of the printer on my own with a 3D printer, since the 3D parts are the biggest components of the printer. Putting things together only requires the screws and rails which have been ordered. If we go with the pre-built Monoprice 3D printer, then no additional tools are needed other than putting the syringes onto the printer form for proper extrusion. In this scenario, we would be exploring the biological materials aspect of the project more than the fabrication.



**Figure 1: Materials under investigation for the form of the disease-like output from audience interaction. Note the blots of pointed materials on the lower left resembling bacterial culture that is produced by the interaction.**