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## Using form variables in subject, and email body

Posted by MasterC - 2008/03/25 18:51

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Hi,

I've got a form that requests information from our student and emails it to our advisors. For now this function is all I'm working on, later I'd like to instead be able to save it to a database and email a link of the saved form instead of the contents of the form. I'm interested in how I should use form data for email variables. I have seen this thread: [http://www.chronoengine.com/index.php?option=com\\_fireboard&Itemid=37&func=view&id=5672&catid=2](http://www.chronoengine.com/index.php?option=com_fireboard&Itemid=37&func=view&id=5672&catid=2)

And I've seen the tutorial, but I must be missing something "obvious" somewhere. I have these fields in my Form HTML:

```
<td>Name:</td>
  <td colspan="3"><input name='name' type='text' size="30" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
  <td>Student ID: </td>
  <td colspan="3"><input name='studentID' type='text' size="20" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
  <td>Email address: </td>
  <td colspan="3"><input name='email' type='text' size="40" /></td>
```

I'll be transforming it to a CSS-based layout later, so please just ignore the table formatting for now :)

And then in the second tab called "Special Fields" I have subject name and email in the corresponding fields. Then in the next tab in the OnSubmit before email is sent I have the following PHP code:

```
<?php $_POST = "Major Status application for" $_POST ?>
```

Yet when I fill out the form with a name, ID and email address, I only get the name and email variables working (they show up in the From line); the subject is always blank. If I remove the OnSubmit code, the special fields "subject" and put something in the General subject box, it gets passed through appropriately.

Is it something wrong with my PHP code? Any help would be appreciated!

-Chad

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## Re:Using form variables in subject, and email body

Posted by GreyHead - 2008/03/25 20:54

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Hi Chad,

The problem is that ChronoForms doesn't know that you are creating a field called 'subject'. Add a hidden field to your form:<input type="hidden" name="subject" value="" />Then ChronoForms will create a placeholder that will be filled in by your OnSubmit code.

Bob

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## Re:Using form variables in subject, and email body

Posted by MasterC - 2008/03/26 19:46

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Thank you! You did mention that in the above referenced thread, I guess I just didn't see it or understand what it did enough to pay attention to that. Thanks again!

-Chad

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## Re:Using form variables in subject, and email body

Posted by MasterC - 2008/03/28 01:30

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I must have some typo that I'm not seeing, but I still cannot seem to get a subject when I use variables from my form. Just to recap what I've done:

In the General section:

Subject: subject  
From Email: email  
From name: name

In the Special Fields section:

subject field: subject  
From email field: email  
From name field: name

In the HTML of my form:

```
<input type="hidden" name="subject" value="" />
<label for="name">Name:</label><input name='name' id='name' type='text'/>
<label for="studentID">Student ID:</label><input name='studentID' id='studentID' type='text' />
<label for="email">Email address:</label><input name='email' id='email' type='text' />
```

And when I feel out my form and hit submit, the subject field of my email is still blank.

Any ideas?

Thanks!

-Chad

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## Re:Using form variables in subject, and email body

Posted by GreyHead - 2008/03/28 01:41

Hi chad,

Do you have the other code in the 'OnSubmit before' box?

Bob

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## Re:Using form variables in subject, and email body

Posted by MasterC - 2008/03/28 02:00

:) Yes I do, thanks for asking.

Onsubmit before email is sent:

```
<?php $_POST = Intermediate Status application for $_POST ?>
```

And I've tried with and without quotes around my text:

```
<?php $_POST = "Intermediate Status application for" $_POST ?>
```

Thanks!

-Chad

Post edited by: MasterC, at: 2008/03/28 02:01

Post edited by: MasterC, at: 2008/03/28 02:02

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## Re:Using form variables in subject, and email body

Posted by admin - 2008/03/28 15:02

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Hi Chad,

It should be :

```
<?php $_POST = "Intermediate Status application for".$_POST ?>
```

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## Re:Using form variables in subject, and email body

Posted by MasterC - 2008/03/28 22:47

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Indeed! I forgot to concatenate, much appreciated.

-Chad

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