

June 28, 2019

Laura Reed, Ph.D.
Biological Sciences
Box 870344

Re: IRB # EX-19-CM-118: "Sustaining and Growing a Dispersed Community of Practice that Engages Undergraduates in Course-Based Genomics Research"

Dear Dr. Reed,

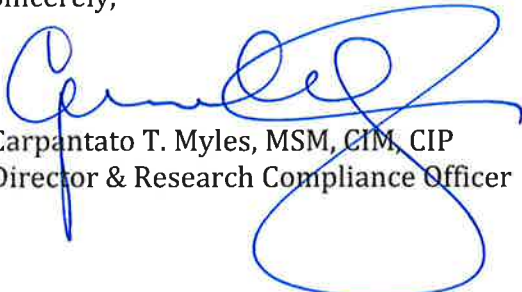
The University of Alabama Institutional Review Board has granted approval for your proposed research. Your application has been given exempt approval according to 45 CFR part 46. Approval has been given under exempt review category 2 as outlined below:

(2) Research that only includes interactions involving educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures, or observation of public behavior (including visual or auditory recording) if: (iii) The information obtained is recorded by the investigator in such a manner that the identity of the human subjects can readily be ascertained, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects, and an IRB conducts a limited IRB review to make the determination required by §46.111(a)(7).

The approval for your application will lapse on June 27, 2020. If your research will continue beyond this date, please submit the annual report to the IRB as required by University policy before the lapse. Please note, any modifications made in research design, methodology, or procedures must be submitted to and approved by the IRB before implementation. Please submit a final report form when the study is complete.

Please use reproductions of the IRB-approved informed consent form to obtain consent from your participants.

Sincerely,



Carpantato T. Myles, MSM, CIM, CIP
Director & Research Compliance Officer

Genomics Education Partnership Classroom Undergraduate Research Experiences: Pre-course Survey

Welcome to the GEP-CURE survey site. You are being invited to participate in a research study. This project is a collaborative effort involving the faculty and students from many undergraduate institutions participating in the GEP. The purpose of this research is to learn more about the success of our science courses in empowering student learning. To accomplish this task we have developed a pre-course post-course research design to measure the learning gains and other outcomes of courses that include our shared genomics project. This research is funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. In some cases, the class may be working with a new genome browser set up using G-OnRamp, a workflow developed to make it easier to create a genome browser for a newly sequenced genome.

If you agree to participate please fill out the pre-course survey questions by clicking the link below. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. You may elect not to answer individual questions. A "not applicable" or "N.A." option is available for the questions as an alternative; use this if the question is irrelevant or if you choose not to answer. You will be asked at the end of our course to complete a post course survey as well. You will be asked to read and agree to participate in that activity prior to completing that survey.

Because of the complexity of tracking the data from many courses in many institutions, we ask you to identify your college and course. The computer will also generate for you a personal identification code. To create this code we will ask you to enter your name as it appears on your driver's license. Your name will then be converted into an encrypted number and sent with your responses. The encryption is being done in such a way that it is not possible to convert from the number back to your name to ensure anonymity. The reason for the code is to enable us to match your pre-course information with a post-course evaluation that we will ask you to complete at the end of the term. This alignment of your pre-course responses with your post-course responses permits a sensitive measure of change. Your individual data will not be revealed to your course instructor. The lead analyst for the project, Prof. David Lopatto of Grinnell College, will keep all individual data confidential. Only aggregate pre-course-post-course data will be reported back to your institution and to the GEP as a whole. Your data cannot be used by instructors to determine your grade in the course.

We will keep the information you provide confidential. However, federal regulatory agencies and the University of Alabama, including the University of Alabama Institutional Review Board (a committee that reviews and approves research studies) may inspect and copy records pertaining to this research.

To further protect your privacy, this research is covered by a Certificate of Confidentiality from the federal government. This means that the researchers can refuse to disclose information that may identify you in any legal or court proceeding or to anyone who is not connected with the research except if:

- there is a law that requires disclosure, such as to report child abuse and neglect, or harm to self or others;
- you give permission to disclose your information, including as described in this consent form; or
- it is used for other scientific research allowed by federal law.

You have the right to share your information or involvement in this study with anyone at any

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time. You may also give the research team permission to disclose your information to a third party or any other person not connected with the research.

There are no known risks from being in this study, and you will not benefit personally. However we hope that others may benefit in the future from what we learn as a result of this study.

Taking part in this research study is completely voluntary. If you decide not to be in this study, or if you stop participating at any time, you won't be penalized or lose any benefits for which you otherwise qualify. If you change your mind about completing the survey, just leave the site.

If you have any questions about the research study, please contact Dr. Laura Reed lreed1@ua.edu. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints about your rights as a participant in this research study, you may contact Ms. Tanta Myles, the Research Compliance Officer at UA, at 205-348-8461 or toll-free at 1-877-820-3066. You may also ask questions, make suggestions, or file complaints and concerns through the IRB Outreach Website at <http://ovpred.ua.edu/research-compliance/prco/>. You may e-mail the Research Compliance Office at rscompliance@research.ua.edu.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

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You probably filled out a pre-course survey at the beginning of the term. If you agree to participate, we will ask that you complete a post course survey at this time. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. You may elect not to answer individual questions. A "not applicable" or "N.A." option is available for the questions as an alternative; use this if the question is irrelevant or if you choose not to answer.

Because of the complexity of tracking the data from many courses in many institutions, we asked you to identify yourself by giving your name (as it appears on your driver's license), to identify your college, and to identify your course. The computer used your name to generate an encrypted number sent with your responses. The encryption is done in such a way that it is not possible to convert from the number back to your name, to ensure anonymity. Now the reason for this identification becomes clear: we will match your pre-course information with your post-course evaluation using your personal identification number. This alignment of your pre-course responses with your post-course responses permits a sensitive measure of change. Your individual responses will not be revealed to your course instructor. The lead analyst for the project, Prof. David Lopatto of Grinnell College, will keep your data confidential. Only aggregate pre-course - post-course data will be reported back to your institution and to the GEP administration. Your answers cannot affect your grade in the course.

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