

## **Laboratory Mentoring Expectations Agreement:**

### **My minimum expectations for you.**

Fulfill your commitments regarding average time in the lab. Be on time for appointments and communicate in advance in writing if you must reschedule. Plan to be in lab when other people are in the lab on a regular basis.

Participate intellectually in the scientific endeavor. Read the literature I send you, and find papers on your own when appropriate.

Ask questions. The lab is a safe space to ask questions, learn, and grow. If you have forgotten something about a protocol, ask. When you do not understand why a step is performed, ask. To help you gain independence, write down the answers to questions so you can complete tasks when the lab is empty. When you attend a research presentation, ask questions there too. Your perspective can generate new ideas and help the presenter know where to clarify their future presentations.

Maintain your lab notebook up-to-date and properly label all your samples with date, initials, and contents. It prevents waste and loss in the future.

Write a report after every semester in the lab that includes a research summary and future directions.

Clean up after yourself. It is essential for the lab to run smoothly and for equipment to last. Leave equipment and benchtops in the same, or better, state as you found them.

Be respectful towards all other lab members in word and action.

### **Your minimum expectations for me.**

Meet at least every other week throughout your time in the lab to discuss the project or other relevant topics.

Train you in lab protocols and provide a context for your research through literature and data.

Provide you with a safe and well-regulated work environment to the best of my ability, and train you in general lab safety, specific safety features of our lab, and in ethical issues pertaining to our work.

Listen to your concerns and ideas with respect, even if I have a different perspective.

Help you find resources for career development to the best of my abilities.

Facilitate interactions with other scientists in the lab and our field, including opportunities to present your data.

(Add in a missing need.) \_\_\_\_\_

*This agreement will be reviewed regularly. Failure to meet these expectations will result in terminating the research experience.*

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Jolene Ramsey, date

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Mentee, date