APPENDIX B. RATIONALE SHARED WITH STUDENTS FOR USING PEERWISE

This document was distributed to students which provided guidelines for completing their PeerWise assignment, including the rationale for using PeerWise for this portion of the module LSM1102 “Molecular Genetics”

To register on PeerWise

- Go to the web link: http://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/at/?nus_sg
- Create an account with a user name and a password

A detailed guide can be found here: https://peerwise.cs.auckland.ac.nz/docs/students/
Youtube video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4ed6WiAj8Y

A general guideline to creating high-quality MCQs

You can use figures, diagrams, and tables, you can also integrate the knowledge from other disciplines, but the questions must have a focus on the current topics.
https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/guides-sub-pages/writing-good-multiple-choice-test-questions/

PeerWise provides a number of learning opportunities to students:

- Designing questions: Generating a question requires students to think carefully about the topics of the course and how they relate to the learning outcomes. Writing questions focuses attention on the learning outcomes and makes teaching and learning goals more apparent to students.

- Choosing distractors: The act of creating plausible distractors (multiple-choice alternatives) requires students to consider misconceptions, ambiguity and possible interpretations of concepts.

- Writing explanations: Explanations require students to express their understanding of a topic with as much clarity as possible. This acts to develop their written communication skills and deepen their understanding.

- Answering questions: Answering questions in a drill and practice fashion reinforces learning, and incorporates elements of self-assessment. Students are shown how others have answered the same questions, allowing them to gauge how well they are coping in the course.

- Evaluating quality: Evaluating existing questions incorporates higher-order cognitive skills, requiring a student to consider not only the content, but what makes a particular question more effective than other questions.