CONSENT INFORMATION SHEET

Project Title: Core Competency Training and Assessment for Bioscience PhD Students

We invite you to participate in a research study being conducted by investigators from Washington University in St. Louis.

You are being asked to participate in this research study because you are a current graduate student in the Division of Biology & Biomedical Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis. The purpose of this research study is to better understand what constitutes effective, evidence-based training for Ph.D. students in the sciences. DBBS is designing and implementing new curriculum in fundamental core competencies that are necessary for success in science.

If you agree to participate, we would like you to complete an online survey to assess your level of confidence in the following areas: Scientific Reasoning, Bioscience Knowledge & Skills, Responsible Conduct of Research, Writing & Communication, Career Readiness, and Managing Self & Others. You can complete the surveys at any location where you can access the internet. You are free to skip any questions that you would prefer not to answer. We estimate that the assessment will take you 5-10 minutes to complete each year.

1) If you do not want to participate, return a blank survey with your name and employee ID number.
2) If you do not return the survey, we will contact you each week by email during the month of May.

- We might remove identifiers from your private information and then use the information for future research studies or share them with other researchers for their future research. If this occurs we will not ask you for additional consent for these uses of your information.

Approximately 600 people will take part in this study at Washington University.

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.

You will not have any costs for being in this research study.

You will not be paid for being in this research study.

To help protect your confidentiality, we will store your identifiable survey data as secure, password-protected files. Your name and other identifiable information will be removed from the data set before any analysis is conducted.
Any report or article that we write will not include information that can directly identify you. The journals that publish these reports or articles require that we share your information that was collected for this study with others to make sure the results of this study are correct and help develop new ideas for research. Your information will be shared in a way that cannot directly identify you.

Federal regulatory agencies and Washington University, including the Washington University Institutional Review Board (a committee that reviews and approves research studies) and the Human Research Protection Office may inspect and copy records pertaining to this research. If we write a report about this study we will do so in such a way that you cannot be identified.

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you decide to participate in the study you may stop participating at any time. Any data that was collected as part of this study will remain as part of the study records and cannot be removed. If you decide not to take part in the 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 do not wish to participate in this study or want to end your participation in the study, return the survey without answering any of the questions. You will not be penalized or lose any benefits for which you otherwise qualify.

We encourage you to ask questions. If you have any questions about the research study itself, please contact Janie Henderson at 314-362-7817 (janiehenderson@wustl.edu). If you feel that you have been harmed in any way by your participation in this study, please contact Dr. Jessica Hutchins at 314-537-7125 (jhutchins@wustl.edu).

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints about your rights as a research participant, please contact the Human Research Protection Office at 1-(800)-438-0445 or email hrpo@wustl.edu. General information about being a research participant can be found on the Human Research Protection Office web site, http://hrpo.wustl.edu. To offer input about your experiences as a research participant or to speak to someone other than the research staff, call the Human Research Protection Office at the number above.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this research study.