Certificate of Appreciation

To whom it may concern,

We would like to recognize the outstanding contribution, effort, and dedication of Kevin Noll to our team as a volunteer Expert research assistant for the CoronaNet Research Project. Kevin was active with our project from 2020-07-09 to 2021-05-16 and, in that time, coded and updated policy information for United States. Without the support of our dedicated RAs, such as Kevin Noll, we would not be able to sustain our pace of policy documentation which, to date, counts more than 100 thousand policies from virtually every country in the world.

The CoronaNet Research Project is working to gather comprehensive and global data on government responses to the COVID-19 crisis. This work includes gathering information about which governments are responding to the coronavirus, toward whom policies are targeted (e.g. other countries), the types of policies enacted (e.g. travel restrictions, banning exports of masks) and their timing and duration. For more information, see www.coronanet-project.org.

Kevin has been a country expert for United States. This role involves researching and creating a comprehensive overview of government policies enacted in United States as well as collecting and entering new and updated policy information related to COVID-19. Becoming a country expert requires passing a series of trainings on how to code data in the CoronaNet database, which uses a custom Qualtrics survey instrument, keeping up with policy coding on a weekly basis, and attending weekly country- or regional coordination meetings as well as project-wide meetings.

Based on their performance, RAs are promoted to Advanced and then to Expert RAs, which is the position held by Kevin. This role involves coding an outstanding number of 250 policies or more and being engaged as a research assistant for at least 6 months. Expert research assistants have gained extensive knowledge of PHSM data and the CoronaNet dataset. They are actively involved in the development of the taxonomy and the project structure, and guide other research assistants. With their profound expertise, they play a fundamental role in the success of the project.

In addition to being a country expert, Kevin took on the following additional roles within CoronaNet:

- Internship: Kevin has joined and successfully finished an internship program as part of their work for CoronaNet. Through an internship, Research Assistants get an insight into, and contribute to, special projects and managerial aspects of CoronaNet. Interns are expected to participate consistently in CoronaNet activites and show initiative in taking on new tasks and projects.

- Data Cleaning: This role requires Kevin to identify errors in the policy entries and clean them through updates in the Qualtrics survey. This role involves high attention to detail and an ability to perform repetitive tasks over a long period with high accuracy.

- Kevin participated in a credit-bearing internship through Nazarbayev University (Kazakhstan), earning 6 ECTS credits. Through an internship, Research Assistants get an insight into, and contribute to, special projects and managerial aspects of CoronaNet, working closely with members of the international team. Interns are expected to contribute 120-140 hours of independent work towards CoronaNet activities and to show initiative in taking on new tasks and projects.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate our thanks to Kevin Noll for supporting these important and time-sensitive collection efforts and for being part of the CoronaNet community.

Luca Messerschmidt, Principal Investigator

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