RESEARCH SUBJECT INFORMATION LETTER

**STUDENT PERCEPTION OF THE CURE CURRICULUM IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

This form provides essential information about the research study resulting from the survey you are being asked to complete. You are being invited to participate in this study because you are a student in the Gene Expression and Recombinant DNA course at Auburn University. As such, you are one of the first students to experience the CURE curriculum, and your input is vital. A survey administrator is on site and will be available during the survey administration to answer any questions you may have. Before you sign this form, the administrator will explain the study in detail. At that time, you may ask any questions about your participation or the information provided in this letter. You may take home this form for future reference and discuss your participation with friends or family before choosing to participate.

**PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

The purpose of this research study is to improve the teaching of STEM materials to undergraduate students, increasing retention, happiness and confidence. Data will be used to enhance our ability to analyze the teaching methods and improve the methods used each day in university classrooms.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AND YOUR INVOLVEMENT**

For this study, you will be one of many participants over a period of 3 years evaluating the CURE teaching method in a Recombinant DNA course at Auburn University. You will be asked to fill out an electronic or paper survey. It will take an estimated 20 minutes of time to complete the survey. You will be asked to participate once the first week of class, and again the last week of the semester.

**RISKS, BENEFITS AND COSTS**

There are no expected risks associated with your participation in this survey. You can stop answering survey questions at any time and are not required to answer any questions that make you upset or uncomfortable. If you find that you leave the survey feeling upset about any of the content, an administrator can provide you with the names of counselors that are available. Additionally, there are no direct costs or benefits to completing this survey.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

No identifiable information will be collected through the survey. Your answers will be anonymous, with pre- and post-surveys being linked by random identifiers. In this case, that will be the first three letters of your mother’s first name, and the first three number of your current address. This information is not known to administrators and is unlikely to be associated with a participant. Any raw survey data will be kept in a locked cabinet or safe.

Findings from this survey may be used in peer reviewed publications or presentations and submitted to the NSF CUREnet Foundation. Anonymity will continue through publication.

**VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL**

Participation in this study is not mandatory; however, if you choose to participate, you may leave the study at any time without any consequences within or outside of the classroom.

**QUESTIONS**

If you have any future questions about participation in the study, available counseling, or questions you prefer to address privately, you can contact:

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AND/OR

Human Research Protection Program (IRB)   
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The Auburn University Institutional Review Board has approved this document for use from 8/24/2019 to 8/24/2020.  Protocol #18-314.18-314