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Dear Pat,

I was excited to hear that you are submitting your proposal, "Code Clubs: Repeated practice opportunities to develop reproducible data analysis skills", to further develop your concept of Code Clubs. As co-instructors of MICRBIOL 612: Microbial Informatics, we have often discussed the challenges of teaching data science concepts in a compressed workshop-style framework. I know that you have thinking deeply about how to help students to continue to develop their skills when our class is over.

I share your concerns and like you, I struggle to recruit and train scientists to engage in computational research. I first became aware of your lab's Code Clubs when one of my students told me about her participation in yours. She thought they were worthwhile and has encouraged me to incorporate them into our group's regular lab meetings. I am confident that continuing to develop materials for running Code Clubs will have a significant impact on the development of people's data science skills.

As you know, my research group is interested in bacterial genomics and using genome sequences to track outbreaks of antibiotic resistant bacteria. I would be happy to share research questions and existing data that you could use to motivate topics for your Code Club sessions. In addition, I will provide iterative feedback as I employ these Code Clubs in my research group.

Sincerely,

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