IPRO 318 – Food Safety, Genetically-Modified Crops and Protein Engineering

Code of Ethics

**Overarching Principal:** “To conduct extensive research on genetically modified crops while complying with all guidelines and laws pertaining to scientific research.”

1) Law

- **Canon:** To be knowledgeable of and comply with all state and federal laws regarding Intellectual Property.
- **Pressure:** The desire to be recognized with in the field.
- **Pressure:** To complete research within eminent deadline.
- **Risk:** Taking credit for someone else’s work resulting in an infringement on copyright laws could lead to fines or imprisonment.
- **Measure:** A lack of lawsuits or complaints within the field will serve as a measure for this canon.

2) Contracts and Agreements

- **Canon:** To abide by a signed contractual agreement with web hosting provider stating that the site will only be used to display current research.
- **Pressure:** To utilize the web page for personal financial gain.
- **Risk:** To allow for banner aids not approved by the web host.
- **Risk:** To set up a Pay-pal account which would transfer money directly to personal bank account.
- **Measure:** If the web page remains and there is no complaint from the host, it can be assumed there was not a breech of contract.

3) Professional Codes

- **Canon:** To abide by the code of conduct set forth by the ASM (American Society of Microbiologist) for conducting and publishing research. This code of conduct can be found at: [http://www.asm.org/general.asp?bid=14777](http://www.asm.org/general.asp?bid=14777)
- **Pressure:** To complete the research by a set deadline.
- **Risk:** Plagiarism resulting in possible legal repercussions such as fines or imprisonment.
- **Risk:** Falsification of documents which could potentially jeopardize consumer’s health.
4) Industry Standards

- **Measures**: Lack of lawsuits or complaints filed for unprofessional conduct will serve as a measure for this canon.

5) Community

- **Canon**: To ensure that any marketed products resulting from the research conducted follow food safety guidelines provided by the Food and Drug Administration.
- **Pressure 1**: To release the product hastily to generate profit.
- **Risk 1**: Releasing the product before it has been FDA approved
- **Pressure 2**: Providing the FDA with false testing result in order to obtain approval.
- **Risk 2**: The FDA approving the product without detecting potential risks which may affect consumers.
- **Measure**: A measure of this canon would be if the product is not retracted from the market as a result of consumer grievances.

6) Personal Relationships

- **Canon**: Members will treat each other respectively at all times.
- **Pressure**: To reduce time spent in discussion, team members will force their opinions on others.
- **Risk**: Team members may feel their opinion is not valued.
- **Risk**: Team members may not contribute as often in the future causing the quality of work to decrease.
- **Measure**: A measure of this is if all members are satisfied and feel they are respected, they will contribute to the team’s discussion.

7) Personal/Moral Values

- **Cannon**: Members will not be required to work unreasonable hours.
Pressure: Impending deadlines to push team members to work through major holidays, weekends, and more than 40 hour work weeks.

Risk: Members will not spend as much time with their loved ones because they are working excessively.

Risk: Working excessively may lead to physical and mental stress on team members.

Measure: Keeping a time sheet for each member will indicate when and how often they are working.