

Exhibit A. Consent form in email format to send to recruit participants

Consent Email

Dear colleague,

You are cordially invited to participate in a research study conducted by the University of Maryland, College Park in collaboration with the American Statistical Association (ASA) and the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB). You are receiving this email because you are currently an ASA or ASCB member specializing in data management, data processing, and data analysis and at least 18 years of age. You can expect to spend 30-45 minutes on the survey.

Project title: Information about Data Management Standard Operating Procedures

- **Purpose of the study**

The purpose of this research study is to investigate the knowledge and practice of a broad array of standard data management operations.

- **Eligibility**

Age \geq 18 years

You are specializing in data management, data processing, and data analysis

- **What do you need to do?**

Participate in a web-based online survey. The survey is anonymous. This means no identifying information will be collected. Email mqw@umd.edu if you are interested in knowing more about this study.

- **Study duration**

February 1, 2023 – December 31, 2024

- **Compensation: What you can get from participating in the research study?**

You will receive a \$50 Amazon gift certificate at the end of the survey for your participation.

- **Risk:** This research involves no more than minimal risk to the subjects. Potential risk includes loss of confidentiality.

- **Protection of confidentiality:** Loss of confidentiality will be minimized.

Several measures will be in place to protect participants' confidentiality: (1) the ASA and the ASCB will not have access to the data; (2) survey responses and your decision to participate or not participate in the study will not affect your position at the ASA or the ASCB; (3) the survey data will not include the participant's personal information (i.e., email); (4) once the data are saved in the database, they cannot be linked to any particular individual.

- **Potential benefits to participating in the study:** There are no direct benefits to you, but we hope that in the future people might benefit through improved understanding of data management standards.

- **Right to withdraw and questions**

Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you decide to participate in this research, you may stop participating at any time. If you decide not to participate in this study or if you stop participating at any time, you will not be penalized or lose any

benefits for which you otherwise qualify.

If you decide to stop taking part in the study, or if you have questions, concerns, or complaints, please contact the investigator:

Principal Investigator: Min Qi (Mitch) Wang
IRBNet ID 1814935-1
Email: mqw@umd.edu
Telephone: 301-405-6652

If you have questions about your rights as a research participant or wish to report a research-related injury, please contact:

University of Maryland, College Park
Institutional Review Board Office
1204 Marie Mount Hall
College Park, Maryland 20742
Email: irb@umd.edu
Telephone: 301-405-0678

For more information regarding participant rights, please visit:
<https://research.umd.edu/irb-research-participants>

This research has been reviewed according to the University of Maryland, College Park IRB procedures for research involving human subjects.

Statement of Consent:

Please select your choice below. You may print a copy of this consent form for your records. By clicking on the box to “Agree to participate in the survey,” you are providing your informed consent and expressing your willingness to participate and

- You are at least 18 years of age.
- You have read this consent form or have had it read to you.
- Your questions have been answered to your satisfaction and you voluntarily agree to participate in this research study.

☐ **Agree to participate in the survey**

☐ **Decline to participate in the survey**