

### STUDENT COMPACT

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Commitments of Student (Compact between Student and Their Mentor)**

- I acknowledge that I have the primary responsibility for the development of my own career. As such, it is my responsibility to arrange meeting times and meet with my mentor regularly and with other faculty as appropriate to insure my ongoing career development.
- I recognize that I must take a realistic look at career opportunities and follow a path that matches my individual skills, values, and interests.
- I recognize the value of the time and energy my mentor devotes to my career development.
- I will develop a mutually defined research project with my mentor that includes well-defined goals and timelines. Ideally, these goals should be clearly outlined and agreed upon at the time of project inception.
- I will perform my research activities conscientiously, pledge to maintain good research records, and will catalog and maintain all tangible research materials that result from the research project.
- I will conduct research responsibly and ethically, including respecting all ethical standards when conducting my research, complying with all institutional and federal regulations as they relate to responsible conduct in research, privacy and human subjects research, animal care and use, laboratory safety, and use of radioisotopes, as applicable. Educational opportunities for ethical conduct will be offered to me, and I recognize that it is my responsibility to take advantage of these training opportunities, and I will do so.
- I recognize that this commitment includes asking for guidance as needed when presented with ethical or research compliance uncertainties and reporting on breeches of ethical or compliance standards by me and/or others following University of Florida and Federal policies and requirements.
- I will show respect for and will work collegially with my supervisors, coworkers, support staff, and all other individuals with whom I interact.
- I will endeavor to assume progressive responsibility and management of my M.S. thesis and Ph.D. dissertation and other research projects in which I am involved. I recognize that assuming responsibility for the conduct of research projects is a critical step on the path to independence.
- I will seek regular feedback on my performance and am entitled to formal semesterly and yearly progress evaluations.
- I will have open and timely discussions with my mentor concerning the dissemination of research findings and the distribution of research materials to third parties, as appropriate.

- I recognize that I have embarked on a career requiring “lifelong learning.” To meet this obligation, I pledge to stay abreast of the latest developments in my specialized field through reading the literature, regular attendance at relevant seminar series, and attendance at scientific meetings.
- I will actively seek opportunities outside the laboratory (e.g. professional development seminars and workshops in oral communication, scientific writing, and teaching) that may be appropriate to develop the full set of professional skills necessary to be successful in my chosen career.
- At the end of my residence in the program, in accordance with institutional policy, I will leave behind all original notebooks, computerized files, and tangible research materials so that other individuals can carry on related research. I will also work with my mentor to submit the research results for publication in a timely manner. By arrangement with my mentor, I can make copies of my notebooks and/or computerized files, as applicable, and have access to tangible research materials which I helped to generate during my enrollment, according to institutional policy.

**Training Program--Specific Guidelines: (Please initial)**

\_\_\_\_ I agree to attend meetings that come up throughout the year that will benefit my career, that my program requires, and that my mentee recommends.

\_\_\_\_ I agree to actively participate in my mentor’s lab and work to develop plans for publication of the work I produce, and to be aware of relevant benchmarks and expectations for students in comparable programs and areas of study.

\_\_\_\_ I agree to provide prompt reporting of activities and achievements as may be requested by the mentor, doctoral program, department, or college in support of regular progress reporting requirements.

\_\_\_\_ I agree, as appropriate, to actively engage with my fellow students to form writing or study groups, to engage in networking activities, and to support and encourage each other.

\_\_\_\_ I agree to attend department sponsored activities and extra educational opportunities as often as I can.

\_\_\_\_ I pledge to remain knowledgeable of all requirements, policies, and procedures as outlined in the Student Handbook I received during initial program orientation.

\_\_\_\_ If problems or concerns develop regarding any aspect of the mentor-student relationship, I recognize that I have the right to discuss my concerns directly with the mentor for purposes of improving the ability of the relationship to foster my professional development. I recognize that I can also discuss my concerns with the Program Director or other parties as appropriate.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_