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Université d'Ottawa
Département de chimie et
sciences biomoléculaires

University of Ottawa
Department of Chemistry and
Biomolecular Sciences

Information Letter

Title of the project: Growth & Goals Module

Principal Investigator: Dr. Alison B. Flynn

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Department of Chemistry and
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Ottawa, ON
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Invitation to Participate: You are invited to participate in the evaluation of the abovementioned initiative lead by Dr. Alison B. Flynn.

Participation: If you wish to participate in this evaluation, please complete the online questionnaire by clicking on the link in this email. This link will become active at the beginning of class (BCH 2333) on **January 31, 2019** and will remain open for one week. The questionnaire should take you 3–5 minutes to complete. Participation in this evaluation is purely voluntary and will not affect your grade in this course (BCH 2333). Once you have completed the questionnaire, please submit it by clicking the submit button at the end. If you submit the questionnaire, your final grade in BCH 2333 (or notification that you've withdrawn from course) will be forwarded to us at the end of the semester to use in our evaluation. Your decision to complete and submit this questionnaire will be interpreted as an indication of your consent to participate.

Purpose of the Project Evaluation: As part of a University of Ottawa learning initiative, we recently developed a self-regulated learning, growth mindset, and metacognition

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module called Growth & Goals (formerly called Hack Your Learning). Self-regulated learning involves the ability to know and monitor one's own learning and develop autonomy and professional capacity skills. Growth mindset is the understanding that your skills and abilities are not fixed and can be developed with practice. Metacognition is knowing what you already know and knowing what you need to do for your own learning. To pilot the module, it was adapted, integrated, and implemented into 8 courses. You may or may not have been in one of these courses. To evaluate this initiative, we want to determine if there is a significant long-term effect on grades and course completion of students who previously completed the module versus those who did not. We also want to know, of those who completed the module, who is still practicing the skills they learned.

Benefits: There will be a draw immediately after the survey for two (2) Amazon.ca gift cards valued at **\$50** each. When you submit your questionnaire form, your response will be automatically entered into a spreadsheet in the order in which the forms were submitted. When the questionnaire closes we will determine the total number of students who submitted forms and we will use a random number generator (<http://numbergenerator.org/>) to select two (2) numbers within that range. The students whose responses are in those two (2) rows of the spreadsheet will be awarded the prizes. Gift certificates will be sent by email to the addresses provided in the questionnaire. Additionally, the results from this evaluation will provide direction to stakeholders on how Growth & Goals impacts student learning.

Confidentiality and Anonymity: The information that you will share (the questionnaire) and that is shared by your professor (your final grade in BCH 2333) will remain strictly confidential and will be used solely for the purposes of this evaluation. The only people who will have access to the evaluation data are Dr. Alison B. Flynn and the Research Assistants. In order to minimize the risk of security breaches and to help ensure your confidentiality we recommend that you use standard safety measures such as signing out of your computer account, closing your browser, and locking your screen or device when you are no longer using them and/or when you have completed the questionnaire. Your name will never be used outside the research group (eg. presentations and/or publications).

Results will be presented in pooled (aggregate) format.

The questionnaire asks you to include your student number and email address for the following purposes:

Student number: (a) Matching your questionnaire to your course grade.

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Email address: (a) Receiving a participation prize, if you are selected.
(b) Receiving a summary of the results of the questionnaire, if you are interested; and/or
(c) Contacting to participate in further evaluations of this project, if you are interested.

Questions to determine your interest in (b) and (c) appear in the questionnaire. This information will be kept confidential. It will be destroyed after the 10-year conservation period.

Conservation of Data: The evaluation data will be stored in a password protected file, on a password protected computer in the office of Dr. Alison B. Flynn at the University of Ottawa for a period of 10 years at which time the data will be securely deleted.

Voluntary Participation: You are under no obligation to participate. If you choose to participate, we ask that you answer all questions in the questionnaire. Completion and submission of the questionnaire by you implies your consent has been given to use your answers and collect your final grades from BCH 2333.

Information about the Evaluation Results: If you are interested in receiving a summary of the evaluation results, you will be given the option to indicate this interest at the end of the questionnaire.

Research Ethics: On January 31, 2018, this project was deemed exempt from Research Ethics Board review as it qualifies as a program evaluation/quality assessment project as defined by Article 2.5 of the TCPS2. This exemption was given by the uOttawa Office of Research Ethics and Integrity.

If you have any questions or require more information about the project or the evaluation, you may contact the Principal Investigator at the number mentioned at the beginning of this letter.

Please keep this letter for your records.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dr. Alison B. Flynn: January 24, 2019
Date



Signature

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