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Sabbatical: Spring 2016

I. Overview

The purpose of my sabbatical was to collect data to support my active undergraduate research lab and to obtain additional training in best practices in teaching and learning. My intention was to spend a semester at Pennsylvania State University, where I completed my doctoral degree in social psychology. Working with my former advisor, Theresa Vescio, we planned to collect data on transgender prejudice toward an eventual publication.

I also planned to attend professional development opportunities in teaching and learning at The Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence (Penn State), which is where I completed my post-doc. The institute is one the largest teaching centers in the country and offers a wide series of training opportunities on the best practices for teaching and learning. As a former employee, I was able to attend any number of workshops and trainings at no charge.

II. Description of sabbatical accomplishments

Unfortunately, approximately one month after my arrival at Penn State, I developed a rare and aggressive strain of community acquired necrotizing pneumonia and had to return to California where I was hospitalized for the month of February. However, after my recovery in March, I was able to complete all of the tasks that I set out to accomplish. 1) I conducted several pilot tests on stimulus materials, 2) I designed and ran an experiment on reactions to transgender people in public restrooms, 2) analyzed the data and submitted a manuscript to *Sex Roles* for publication (May, 2016). In June, the paper was given a revise and resubmit, and I revised the manuscript and re-submitted it on July 29, and it is currently under review. Also, in my short time at Penn State, I was able to attend several workshops on rubric generation, student ratings and diversity inclusiveness.

In sum, despite the setback from my illness, I met my goal of collecting data and exceeded it by submitting a manuscript to a high quality journal.