Appendix F. Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Researcher Professional Development Workshop Evaluation Summary

On November 12, 2019, in conjunction with the C-DEBI Annual Meeting in Marina, CA, 19 graduate students and postdocs participated in an all-day professional development workshop. The workshop was led by Randall K. Ribaudo and Larry Petcovic of SciPhD Training Programs (https://sciphd.com/).

The title of the workshop was “Project Management: The Process, The Team, and The Work” which focused on how to design and manage a project as well as how to understand and communicate with a diverse team of people in order to complete a project. Participants were asked to bring with them a current project of their own with a clear understanding of the main goals and objectives as the basis for learning project management.

After the workshop, participants were asked to rate the overall workshop experience. Participants responded (n=8 of 19) in very different ways: 2 responded “satisfied”, 2 “neither dissatisfied nor satisfied”, 4 “somewhat dissatisfied” or “dissatisfied”. However, when asked to respond to the following statements, the participants responded more positively overall.

1. *The workshop prompted me to think about steps I need to take to manage my projects (and the people who are part of them) effectively.* 5 responded “agree” or “somewhat agree”
2. *After the workshop, I have a better understanding of project and people management.* 5 responded “agree” or “somewhat agree”

Most participants (6) agreed that the amount of time spent on lecture as well as on group discussion/activities was “about right”, but many (5) thought there was “too little” networking time.

Comments:
“I can apply new knowledge to all my current projects, but perhaps be even more useful in the future.”

“I am sure I will use the project management skills when forming a research group”

“I think the beginning portion [was the most useful part], where they were talking about project/time management. As a grad student, they don’t teach you time management. Basically, you just need to figure it out, especially what is going to work for you.”

“I felt that the 2 men were not listening to our questions during the workshop. Several people had valid questions for how the topics related to being graduate student, post doc, or PI - but there was no effort to related to us. I tried to apply the discussions to my own experiences and my future plans, but it was not useful. Regardless, the schedule was well planned and I always appreciate it and feel supported by the CDEBI community when they hold workshops and session catered specifically to early career scientists.”