August 25, 2015

The UC Davis Institute for Food & Agricultural Literacy

The UC Davis Food & Agricultural Literacy (IFAL) serves as a global resource for science-based information on food and agriculture, with two overarching goals:

1. Provide science-based information about food and agriculture to consumers, policy makers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), journalists and other stakeholders.

2. Prepare faculty and students to communicate the social, economic, biological, environmental and ethical aspects of food and agricultural technologies and policies.

The Faculty Director of IFAL will work in collaboration with Jon Entine and the GENeS staff to achieve the goals of the Institute. This Memorandum of Understanding outlines the terms of the partnership from 9/1/15-9/30/16.

3. The UC Davis Institute for Food and Agricultural Literacy will appoint Jon Entine and Robin Bisson as “temporary affiliates” with IFAL. The title for Jon would be Senior Fellow, the Institute for Food and Agricultural Literacy. Suggested title for Robin: Research Fellow. Both Jon and Robin will have access to campus email, library etc.

4. Jon will participate as an instructor and mentor in the Designated emphasis in science communication Graduate program once it is established (Denneal Jamison-McClung, IFAL associate director, is directing this program). His teaching commitment will be worked out via a separate agreement depending on IFAL needs, Jon’s availability and funds available for Jon’s compensation. Jon will launch journalist-scientist-policymaker initiatives and conferences in collaboration with IFAL as opportunities arise. Any teaching done by Jon, outside of the ‘Biotech Bootcamp’ project, would be agreed upon later as there is not yet approval for developing and providing a Designated Emphasis in Science Communications. Once the Designated Emphasis is approved, the IFAL will have a better sense of the responsibilities resulting, and how they will be paid for, and reimbursed.

5. IFAL will sponsor Robin’s J1 visa and pay all visa related costs for July 2015. Guyla Yoak processed the application for a J-1 Visa renewal for Robin in collaboration with the International office and Plant Pathology. Future visa renewals costs will not be paid by IFAL unless sufficient funds are raised.

6. Jon Entine will retain his journalistic independence. He will consult on his own time and will present his journalistic actives as independent from UC Davis IFAL.

7. The joint UC--Davis--GENeS activities will be approved by Entine as director of GLP and Ronald as the director of IFAL. We will engage the IFAL board as needed.

[signature]
Pamela Ronald, Faculty Director IFAL,

Robin Bisson, Director Genes

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