

Lab Expectations

Adapted from The Chory Lab and Avasthi Lab handbooks

Scientific Integrity

Everyone is expected to maintain accurate, up-to-date, well-organized lab notebooks and data. This is of the utmost importance to ensure rigor, accountability, reproducibility, and knowledge-transfer from one lab member to another. No one should manipulate or selectively exclude/include data to achieve an expected result. This is considered falsification and ignorance is not an excuse. Always cite your sources when you use someone else's content or text, including your own previously published work/figures. Always credit your source appropriately when using anyone else's illustrations, both within and outside the lab.

Safety & Cleanliness

Safety is a top priority in the lab and is taken very seriously. Everyone is expected to review and complete their safety training on time. When in doubt, stop and ask! To maintain a safe environment, every lab member should make their own reagents and should not take anyone else's reagent, or items without their permission.

Keep your benches clean. Use all equipment safely and clean them after each use. Everyone, regardless of their stage of training, will be assigned a lab-chore that should be taken seriously. If you are unable to perform your lab chore, please see the lab manager to accommodate your needs and make alternate assignments.


Work Hours

Work smart! Biology will often not fall in line with "banking-hours" or "school-schedules" and may require odd/extended work hours; however, life happens. Don't worry about anybody else's lab schedules. We value productivity over hours.

With that said, we do work as a group, share space and equipment, therefore it is important to be mindful of how your own schedules may affect lab members. All lab members are expected to be available during core work hours, 10am – 4pm, except for classes and other unavoidable meetings. To be mindful of each other, any time-off should be communicated to Supraja as soon as possible.

Lab Meetings

Lab meetings are the essence of the scientific spirit. Meeting with peers to exchange ideas, raise concerns, think together critically is what drives science



forward and is also the purpose of lab meetings. Lab meetings will be held every week unless Supraja is traveling. All lab members are expected to attend to the best of their ability.

We will have data presentations every alternate week where everyone discusses their raw data to get feedback/ideas on how to analyze, troubleshoot, interpret, and view their findings.

The remainder of the weeks will cover either a journal club discussion, or a presentation meeting. The purpose of the journal club is for everyone to review critical new findings in the field, learn to critique, and review papers. The purpose of the presentation meeting is for one person to work on their science-communication skills by presenting a complete picture including an introduction, background, data, interpretations, and future findings. This is an opportunity to obtain feedback on their slides, oratory skills, and scientific directions in a safe and constructive manner.

Collaborations

We encourage collaborations both within and outside the lab! Please discuss any potential collaborations with Supraja and discuss roles, responsibilities, ownership – this is important for building and maintaining a successful collaboration. Within the lab everyone has their own goal and/or project. While you are expected to help each other and engage in free intellectual exchange on a regular basis, contributing to any one individual's project significantly should be discussed as a collaboration.