**Writing a Microbiology Resource Announcements Process Details**

**Course Process**

* The assignment is discussed at the start of the semester as a major course outcome
* The assignment is optional and motivation is authorship (could also be part of the course grade or can be extra credit)
* After the genome/s are annotated, student receive a GA template that explains the content and word limits
* Students are given a deadline to complete their GA draft (timeline determined by faculty)
* Students then complete peer review of all submissions and determine consistencies and novel findings (students highlight best/favorite components in each other’s work)
  + Alternatively, if the GA is for a class grade both the faculty and students can evaluate the drafts and provide feedback
  + Give points for peer reviews
* The class then comes together to finalize the GA (can do it in a commonly shared Google docs document)
* Faculty communicate with the University of Pittsburgh about the intent to complete the MRA (see below)

**University of Pittsburgh Notices and Resources Needed**

* The MRA requires several pieces of information and links that are associated with the Genbank entry before the publication can be submitted:
  + Genbank Accession number
  + SRA (Sequence Read Archive) of the sequencing data
* These data are ONLY available **AFTER the annotation has passed QC** and Debbie Jacobs-Sera and Dan Russell **have been notified** that an MRA will be associated with the annotation
* If the institution has **expedited submitter status**, it is possible to have the annotation submitted to Genbank immediately after the phagesDB submission since it does not require QC. If not an expedited submitter, the completed annotation should be submitted prior to any semester deadlines to assure it can be processed in an timely manner
* If an MRA will be written, Jacobs-Sera and Dan Russell should be notified before the annotation is submitted to phagesDB to assure that it will be processed

**Genomes**

* An Announcement for a lab section may include all the genomes that were annotated even though they are not in the same cluster
* Highlight differences among the different phages in different clusters
* There isn't a lot of room to include a lot of information

**Credit**

* Assignment may be optional. "Reward/credit" is authorship. Motivation comes from peer pressure

**Writing Training**

* Depends on students and whether they took the Discovery course and the level of writing that had been previously required
* The GA is very short and is not a complex writing assignment
* Training workshops may be warranted if students have not had to complete other writing assignments
* Can make use of writing centers or other resources available on campus

**Assessment**

* Reference grading rubric
* Completion of the GA, submission and acceptance

**Publication Cost**

* If not a member, cost can be $1000, members are $780
* Leverage Dean of Department funds
* Work with other PHAGES institutions
* Student UG Research Funds
* Student Government support