**Case Study on Synthetic Genomics**

Read the article: “How Canadian researchers reconstituted an extinct poxvirus for $100,000 using mail-order DNA” in *Science* magazine.

Imagine that you are the editor of an academic journal called *Science Discoveries*. David Evans submits his research article describing the creation of the synthetic horsepox virus to you, hoping that your journal will publish his research. You assemble your editorial team together to discuss whether to publish this research, the potential consequences of publishing the work, and your responsibilities.

Write a 1-2 page (single spaced) letter in which you (as the editor of the journal) respond to David Evans. In the letter please use several sentences to discuss each of the following points:

1. What is the greatest way in which this research contributes to our understanding of infectious diseases?
2. What is the greatest concern that arises from this research?
3. Have you decided to publish this work in your journal or not, and how did you come to this decision?
4. Will your journal publish all of the experimental details describing how Dr. Evans and his team synthesized the horsepox virus, or will your journal choose to publish only the experimental results but not the full details of how the virus was synthesized?

Remember, you should be able to pull all the information that you need to support your opinion from the assigned article, no need to do any other research.