MY ROLE:

**Regulatory Coordinator:** Responsible for the development of the research protocol. This includes informing the institutional review board of any new protocols, protocol amendments, or safety reports throughout the research process. These individuals also track progress and keep delegation logs, maintain data integrity, review records, and ensure that all research complies with proper rules and regulations. They are also knowledgeable of any local or federal guidelines to follow.

**Research Coordinator:** Responsible for the day-to-day activities associated with the project. This could include participant recruitment, informed consent, educating participants about the research initiative, assessing participant eligibility, and facilitating participant care and follow-up. Clinically, this individual is at the heart of clinical trials, facilitating all activities under the umbrella of ethical clinical practice.

SCENARIO:

You are all members of a research team charged with determining objectives for curtailing overweight and obesity in Pacific Island countries. One potential issue that has been identified as causing dramatically high rates of obesity in this region is the recent introduction of an energy-dense and nutrient-poor Western diet. The goals of this research team will be to examine the impact of determinants of health, collect and analyze relevant data, and provide evidence for developing interventions, for the provision of services, and for sustaining or ceasing public health programs. Before any research can begin, the research team must work together to formulate ideas for a Collaborative Agreement. A Collaborative Agreement serves many purposes:

* States the goals of the project and describes how each of the collaborators will contribute to the project.
* Delineates how to handle communications, data sharing, differences of opinion, and other project management process issues.
* Address the administrative aspects of the collaboration—finances, accountability, staffing, etc.
* Provides an opportunity to reflect on potential conflicts of interest.

ASSIGNMENT:

**Collaborative Agreement Guidelines**

**Overall Goals**

* **What is the overall commitment to multiculturalism and diverse perspectives?**

**Authorship, Credit**

* **What will be the criteria and the process for assigning authorship and credit?**

**Contingencies and Communicating**

* **What will be your mechanism for routine communications among members of the research team (to ensure that all appropriate members of the team are kept fully informed of relevant issues)? Provide a brief statement why will this be the most effective method of communication.**
* **Who will be responsible for external communications (how and by whom will public presentations be made; how and by whom will media inquiries be handled)?**

**Conflict of Interest**

* **Should one of the members of the research team move to another institution or leave the project, how will you handle data, specimens, laboratory books, and authorship and credit?**

**AND ANSWER THESE BELOW:**

* Explain the value of diversity in research teams. - you can easily do this from your perspective
* Explain your research team’s approach to deciding on the content of the Collaborative Agreement. Consider:
  + What specific negotiation and conflict resolution methods did you and other research team members use? Explain methods that you "would have used" and why you think they would have been effective here
  + What were the most/least effective?  Here - discuss what methods you think are most effective and least effective - and explain why.
  + Was there anything unexpected you learned about working within research teams? Discuss this experience (without going into a 'negative' rabbit hole) and mention any experience you have had with teams here and any unexpected things you have learned over time