

January 15, [REDACTED]

Vivian Fonseca, MD
Daniel Kapusta, PhD
Leanne Redman, PhD, FTOS
Directors, LA CaTS Professional Development Core

RE: [REDACTED] MD
Roadmap Scholar Applicant

Dear Drs. Fonseca, Kapusta and Redman:

It is a pleasure for me to provide a letter of support for Dr. [REDACTED] in his application to become a LA CaTS Roadmap Scholar for [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] having joined the faculty in [REDACTED] as Assistant Professor of Medicine in [REDACTED]. As you can see from his CV, [REDACTED] is exceedingly well trained. He received his MD at [REDACTED] followed by residency and chief residency in [REDACTED] at the same institution. He has completed fellowship training in [REDACTED], where he was described as one of the best fellows ever to train there. While at [REDACTED] developed an interest in clinical research and clinical education. Taking advantage of a large population of [REDACTED] patients undergoing [REDACTED] surgery and mentorship from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] initiated and carried through to publication a number of clinical research studies dealing with [REDACTED]. In addition, [REDACTED] made regular abstract and oral research presentations at the international conference of the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] as well as numerous educational presentations to the faculty and fellows at [REDACTED].

Since joining [REDACTED] has rapidly integrated himself into Section activities and has proven to be an integral member of the [REDACTED] Medicine. Thoughtful and well-read, [REDACTED] is well-liked by the fellows and is a skilled educator. Consistent with his fellowship interest in [REDACTED] complications, we have assigned him to a [REDACTED] clinic along with Dr. ABC, who will serve as mentor for the proposed scholarship. [REDACTED] has also worked in concert with one of our [REDACTED], to found a clinic in [REDACTED] for patients with [REDACTED] disease. In addition, [REDACTED] has also spearheaded a collaborative partnership with [REDACTED] which we are particularly excited about. This partnership will allow [REDACTED] to function as a satellite site for a multi-center [REDACTED] research network.

I feel that we were fortunate to recruit [REDACTED] to join the [REDACTED] Medicine, and I want to do everything I can to assure that he continues his training and success in clinical research. To that end, I feel that [REDACTED] is an ideal candidate for training as a LA CaTS Roadmap Scholar He is obviously committed to a career in clinical research.

In the attached Research Plan, we plan to extend ██████████ to a translational study of ██████████ patients. This study will be done in concert with XYZ, PhD, from the Department of ██████████, and will address ██████████ patients. The human subject component of this project proposes to test ██████████ patients as a means of modulating this balance in human subjects. This is a novel and relatively untested form of therapy for ██████████, and may well open up a completely new avenue of treatment for these patients. Mechanistic studies will take place in mice with the assistance of Dr. XYZ. The ██████████ currently conducts a number of clinical trials in ██████████ and has 4 full-time research nurses on payroll. We have the subjects and the infrastructure to support ██████████'s research. We have identified ██████████ funds to cover expenses of the proposed clinical research (recruitment fees, etc.). The ██████████ drug will be provided by the manufacturer. ██████████ has already applied for IRB approval for the clinical research component of the project.

Mentorship for ██████████'s research will be provided by a mentorship team of Drs. ABC, XYZ, and QRS. Dr. ABC is Professor of Medicine in the ██████████ and PI for the ██████████ site. ABC is also PI for a number of clinical trials for investigational therapies in ██████████ and directs a weekly referral clinic for patients with ██████████. He has expertise in the use of ██████████, such as those proposed for use by Dr. ██████████ patients. A copy of Dr. ABC's biosketch is attached. XYZ is Professor of ██████████ with a research focus on ██████████. Dr. XYZ will provide the basic science component of ██████████'s training and will help ██████████ translate findings related to ██████████. A copy of Dr. XYZ's biosketch is attached. I am the Professor of Medicine at ██████████. I am PI of a ██████████. I have experience fostering the academic development of junior faculty such as Dr. ██████████. A copy of my biosketch is attached as well. ██████████ have worked with ██████████ to develop his Research Plan with the goal of generating preliminary data for a K application within 18 months. The mentorship team plans to meet with ██████████ on a weekly basis to go over his research and to be sure he is given sufficient resources to meet his goals. In addition, ██████████ will receive mentorship support through LA CaTS and will do coursework for a Masters of Science in Clinical Research. I will work to assure that ██████████ is provided with sufficient resources to complete his clinical research at the ██████████, and if feasible, at other sites within the LA CaTS network.

I am well aware of the importance of protected time for young investigators and the requirement of 75% protected time as a LA CaTS Roadmap Scholar. It will be my responsibility to assure that ██████████'s time is so protected during the initial 5 years of his time on faculty and as a Roadmap Scholar. ██████████ will have clinical responsibilities but these will not consume greater than 25% of his time. When on clinical service, ██████████ will provide attending duties at ██████████ Hospital (full-time effort) and on the ██████████ consultation service at the ██████████ Hospital in New Orleans (half-time effort). He will not be assigned as attending for the ██████████ during his first year. ██████████ will do one half-day of clinic per week. During that half-day, he will assist Dr. ABC in the ██████████ Clinic which is relevant to his research plan. I will limit his exposure to hospital or university committee work

while [REDACTED] is a Roadmap Scholar. I am committed to providing sufficient protected time for [REDACTED] to complete his research plan as a Roadmap Scholar to complete his coursework for a Masters in Clinical Research, and to compete for a K award from the NIH.

In summary, [REDACTED] has my whole-hearted support for training as a LA CaTS Roadmap Scholar. I feel that he is an ideal candidate for this award, and that this training will pay off with the blossoming career of a talented and productive clinical investigator.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely

Chief, Section of