

[REDACTED]

February 25, [REDACTED]

Gilead Research Scholars Program
333 Lakeside Drive
Foster City, CA 94404

Re: Gilead Solid Tumors Research Scholars Program

Dear Scientific Committee,

I write this letter in strong support of Dr. [REDACTED] application for the Gilead Solid Tumors Research Scholars Program. Dr. [REDACTED]'s background, training, and performance as a young surgeon-scientist is substantial and can be reviewed in this application. I think he is an excellent candidate and should be considered highly for the award.

I was fortunate to recruit [REDACTED] here from [REDACTED] when he finished his surgical oncology fellowship training in [REDACTED]. Since, he has been here as an Assistant Professor of Surgery with broad clinical responsibilities yet has maintained an active investigational tract. We have committed to him 50% protected research time along with independent laboratory and office space that he has done very well with. I have reviewed his attached application and confirm that [REDACTED] and the Department of Surgery have provided [REDACTED] with appropriate resources to fulfill the goals of this research.

During his time here, he has allied himself with some of the busiest and most productive scientists in our institution and Cancer Center. Dr. [REDACTED] cites [REDACTED] as "the most likely to succeed" in his entire cohort of junior physician-scientists. Additionally, [REDACTED] has networked outside the institution and begun collaborating with [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED]. These intra and extra-mural collaborations are excellent opportunities for [REDACTED]'s research program and professional development. I fully support these collaborations.

As noted in this application, [REDACTED] is an excellent junior investigator with a promising career. His research proposal herein is innovative with great potential to positively impact the medical field and especially those with pancreatic cancer. His translational and basic science proposal will set the stage for early clinical research for which our institution is well suited to carry through to completion. The resources of this institution and his collaborators will make this proposal a successful endeavor. The likelihood that this all leads to [REDACTED] becoming a fully funded, independent investigator is high.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

As Chairman of the Department of Surgery, I am committed to Dr. [REDACTED]'s success both as an independently funded researcher along with fulfilling the goals of this application.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]