

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

December [REDACTED]

Committee of the Gilead's Research Scholars, Program in Oncology (Solid Tumors)
Re: Nomination of [REDACTED]

Dear Committee members:

It is my great pleasure to support Dr. [REDACTED] for the Gilead's Research Scholars Program in Oncology (Solid Tumors) project entitled "[REDACTED]". Dr. [REDACTED] impressive achievements in research and education identify her as a superbly qualified candidate for this prestigious award.

Dr. [REDACTED] is a recent recruit to the faculty of our Department of Microbiology and Immunology at [REDACTED] where I have been department chair since 2015. Dr. [REDACTED] has recently completed her transition to [REDACTED] from the [REDACTED], and she has already set up a functioning research group here with three full time personnel. Since her eventual permanent laboratory space is undergoing renovation, Dr. [REDACTED] has been provided temporary lab space in my own laboratory, in which she has dedicated use of 4 benches/desks, tissue culture space (equipped with all the small items of equipment needed for the proposed experiments including biosafety cabinets, centrifuges, incubators, microscopes and other standard equipment). She also has been given temporary office space for her own use. Dr. [REDACTED]s final lab space is under renovation and it will be ready to occupy around March of 20[REDACTED]. This will include 800 ft² of main lab space containing 6 benches with desks, and an office in the [REDACTED]. She will also have access to another ~300 ft² of dedicated tissue culture space and a microscopy suite a few steps away from her main lab and office. The location in the [REDACTED] is contiguous via a bridge with the main location of the department and its common equipment and administrative resources, to which she has full access. Dr. [REDACTED] is also a member of the [REDACTED] and the recently established [REDACTED], which gives here priority access at discounted cost to many superb scientific core facilities. Her research will benefit greatly from many of these core facilities, including most notably the Analytical Imaging Facility (AIF), the Institute for Animal Studies, the Translational Pathology Core Facility, the Immune Monitoring and Epigenomics core facilities. For instance, the AIF will provide state of the art instruments necessary for Dr. [REDACTED]s program such as an automated digital whole slide scanner and laser capture microdissection microscope.

I can assure you that Dr. [REDACTED] will have 100% of her effort dedicated to her research projects and related academic career development activities. Dr. [REDACTED] is well funded by her recently awarded [REDACTED] grant, a Susan G, Komen Career Catalyst Research Grant and a Pershing Square Sohn Prize grant, in addition to generous funds from her recruitment package. Thus, her laboratory is fully equipped and financially supported for the proposed research. Dr. [REDACTED] has already secured 13 highly competitive grants as an Assistant Professor, has published 30 high impact peer reviewed papers, and has been invited to speak more than 30 times at national and international conferences and institutions as documented in her biosketch. This exceptional level of research productivity highlights Dr. [REDACTED]s outstanding accomplishments and extraordinary potential as a junior investigator at such an early stage of her independent academic career. As Member of the [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] Dr. [REDACTED] has access to a rich and nurturing environment in cancer research. Dr. [REDACTED] will interact and collaborate with cancer researchers and clinicians in an integrated manner through focus areas in [REDACTED]. Some of these investigators are Dr. [REDACTED] on the treatment of melanoma patients, and Dr. [REDACTED] in the area of overcoming melanoma drug resistance by designing novel drugs, among others. Dr. [REDACTED] has established a Mentoring Committee for this Gilead grant which includes Dr. [REDACTED] and Dr. [REDACTED] to provide the research, management, patient treatment and leadership guidance necessary to foster Dr. [REDACTED]s career advancement.

[REDACTED]

Based on her impressive record of achievements as a junior faculty member so far, I believe it is clear that Dr. [REDACTED] is a true innovator and has the track record and ability to conduct collaborative and productive research on fundamental questions in solid tumor biology. She is now perfectly positioned to accelerate the progress of her established research, and to begin expanding into new areas of great importance to the development of effective prevention and treatment of solid tissue malignancies. This prestigious award from your program will provide further support to advance Dr. [REDACTED]'s research and career development to the next level on the path to becoming a major national and international leader in her area of science. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information on this outstanding candidate.

With best regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]