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October 3, 2018

Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs
Dean, Medical School
4107 Medical Science Building I, SPC5624

Re: Recommendation of Peter Parker, Ph.D. for appointment to Research Associate
Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School (1.0FTE)

Dear Dean Runge:

With this letter, I am pleased to recommend the appointment of Dr. Peter Parker to Research Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, effective September 1, 2019.

Dr. Parker earned his B.S. degree in Biology from Hillsdale College in 2001 and his Ph.D. in molecular and cellular pathology from the University of Michigan in 2006. He completed a three-year training program in pulmonary immunology in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care at the University of Michigan in 2015.

A national search was performed and three candidates were interviewed. Dr. Parker is nationally recognized for his work in specific areas of immunopathology of COPD. He was selected for his high level of educational, research and development, and service efforts in several areas that have established his reputation as one of the leading individuals in his field.

In addition to his extensive training, Dr. Parker has flourished under the mentorship of Dr. Matt Patricia. Together, they run the Immunophenotyping Core for SPIROMICS, a large multi-center observational study. He has secured independent grant funding and is carving out an impactful niche for himself in the field of immunopathology of COPD. He is Co-I on two grants; SPIROMICS I: Bridge funding was obtained for the SPIROMICS I study to allow for final analysis of the immunophenotyping data that was collected on the blood, BAL, and sputum samples from subjects enrolled in the SPIROMICS bronchoscopy sub-study. His role on the project is vital, specifically to oversee the analysis and interpretation of this multi-color flow cytometry data and to assist with generation and publication of manuscripts. In SPIROMICS II, Dr. Parker's team will obtain BAL cells from human subjects, which will be assessed by intracellular flow analysis. This will greatly extend the results of SPIROMICS I by providing insight into the functional capabilities of various cell populations. In this project, he is responsible for designing the intracellular panels and will oversee all aspects of data acquisition and analysis for this sub-study. Dr. Parker's greatest impact to the field is his findings on the initiation and progression of COPD and identification of novel potential therapeutic targets for the treatment of COPD. Dr. Parker has over 40 peer-reviewed publications, over half of which have been published while in rank. He holds a leadership position within the American Thoracic Society, serves as a journal and grant reviewer and mentors students, laboratory personnel and peers.

Dr. Parker has demonstrated an impressive upward trajectory and has gained national recognition. He has established independence as a researcher and is a highly valued contributor to the research mission at the Ann Arbor VA Medical Center. We have no doubt he will build on this foundation for continued success. Therefore, we enthusiastically recommend the appointment of Peter Parker, Ph.D. as Research Associate Professor.

Sincerely yours,

Bruce Springsteen, M.D.
Professor and Chair, Internal Medicine