May 26, 2015

TO: Andrew L. Ries, M.D., M.P.H.

Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Health Sciences

FROM: Aaron Chang, Ph.D.

Director Center for Computational Biology & Bioinformatics

RE: Roman Sasik, Ph.D. – 2015 Academic Review

On behalf of the Center for Computational Biology & Bioinformatics, I am pleased to propose the promotion and reappointment of Dr. Roman Sasik, Ph.D., from Associate Project Scientist, Step III, with an annual salary of $85,200 (07/14 scale) at 97% effort, to Project Scientist, Step I, with an annual salary of $90,500 (07/14 scale) at 100% effort, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

Dr. Sasik received his Ph.D. in Biology from Ohio State University in 1996. He served as a Postdoctoral Scholar from 1996 through 1999 at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. In 2001, he was hired as an Assistant project Scientist with the Department of Medicine at the University of California, San Diego. Currently, Dr. Sasik serves as a Computational Biologist for the Center for Computational Biology & Bioinformatics (CCBB). The CCBB provides investigators with core bioinformatics expertise to manage and analyze large molecular datasets, especially from next-generation sequencing.

As stated in his self-assessment, Dr. Sasik’s research activities have focused on (1) developing an algorithm that will be used to identify significantly over-represented or oversized clusters in complex genomics data, (2) implementing cloud-based solutions for bioinformatics pipelines, and (3) developing a new algorithm for detection for transcription factor chIP-seq experiments. Over the course of his career, Dr. Sasik has published 53 peer-reviewed articles in which he was first or senior author on 18, all within high quality journal such as PLoS One, Journal of Molecular and Cell Cardiology, and the American Journal of Physiology – Lung Cellular and Molecular Physiology. Five of the total 53 peer-reviewed articles were published during the current review period.

Although not required in this series, throughout his career, Dr. Sasik has been involved in lecturing as part of the Microarray (Genomics) Technology and Informatics course (FPM237). Additionally, he continues to serve as a reviewer for *Bioinformatics.*

Referees were solicited to comment on Dr. Sasik’s suitability for promotion and his scientific work. It is acknowledged that independent letters are preferred but for the project scientist series, letters can be solicited from individuals who are not professionally independent of the candidate. We find that those who were solicited are best suited to discuss the candidate’s ability to make significant contributions to a research or creative program and they can provide specific detail to his direct involvement in his active projects. These reviewers highlight him as a true contributor to her field and an outstanding researcher, and they support his advancement.

In summary, Dr. Sasik is an invaluable member of the Center for Computational Biology & Bioinformatics and his field of research warrants the proposed recognition. I hope you will join us in support of the promotion and reappointment of Dr. Sasik to Project Scientist, Step I, effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018.

Sincerely,



Aaron Chang, Ph.D.