May 15th, 2018

Dear Dr. [Redacted],

I am very pleased to write a letter in support of the continuation of the [Redacted] at UCSF. As the Executive Director of the Research Resource Program (RRP), I am eager to support cores, particularly those that advance basic, clinical and translational science such as those in the [Redacted]. The goal of the RRP is to advance discoveries through technology support by providing tools, technologies, and expertise to core laboratories. As you know, UCSF strongly supports centralized research cores that can deliver sophisticated technologic know-how and instruments to researchers at a fraction of the cost it would take to develop redundantly in individual laboratories.

RRP provides “Institutional Matching Instrumentation Awards” to support investigators in obtaining instrumentation funding and we have provided $4 million dollars over the past five years to support the acquisition of new instrumentation, both with other sources of intramural funding, and from NIH awards. In this years S10 cycle [Redacted], Director of the [Redacted] Core was awarded $130,000 from RRP toward her S10 application (PAR-18-600) to upgrade the [Redacted] scanner. In 2016, [Redacted] was awarded $150,000 toward the purchase of a [Redacted].

RRP also provides administrative support and the central resources utilized by [Redacted] are supported by our core administrative software (CORES) that provides a uniform mechanism for researchers to access cores throughout UCSF. The system also dramatically eliminates administrative bottlenecks associated with recharge administration by the cores by integrating with the UCSF financial system for automated billing and account verification. The system also allows the utilization tracking of core use by the investigators, by the cores, and by the administrators of Center grants such as [Redacted].

The approach of [Redacted] to providing core resources through leveraging and supporting existing cores, including for example cores in the [Redacted], is in line with RRP’s goal of consolidating and improving the coordination of core facilities throughout UCSF.

RRP supports a number of other initiatives to support centralized resources and core laboratories including travel grants for core directors, holding Core Fairs and other marketing events and core business services. In addition, RRP has also made it easier for researchers to find cores with capabilities that match researchers’ needs, including a centralized list of core facilities on our Core Family page, and core search, a searchable database of core instruments and services which can be found on our core web site.
The creation of the Research Resource Program at UCSF has brought together a very strong community of researchers that have taken full advantage of the core services that the center provides to advance their research. RRP is committed to providing support to the center and I look forward to working with your cores in the future.

Sincerely

Elizabeth Sinclair, PhD
Executive Director
Research Resource Program

find ucsf cores