May 10, 2018

Re: [BLANK]

Dear Dr. [BLANK],

I am happy to provide this letter of support from the School of Dentistry for your [BLANK]. This is an exciting opportunity to build on our functional link between faculty interested in [BLANK] research that crosses several campuses, departments, and schools. In particular, I appreciate the value of this proposed center to both facilitate collaboration and productivity amongst established investigators, and also promote mentoring and opportunities for junior faculty and trainees.

This is illustrated by the growth of the scientific community built on the strong foundation of the UCSF [BLANK] funding over the past 4 years. During this time the group has grown from less than 40 members to 120 members representing 20 departments across 3 schools. This has enabled leveraging and team science that would not be possible without the [BLANK] program.

The center has provided a major findings related bone fragility in chronic kidney disease, diabetes, and muscle weakness that accompanies cancer or aging. The center has contributed clinical and experimental evidence to support the idea that the musculoskeletal system serves as an integration center that translates the demands of the physical and nutritional environment to the rest of the body. The findings that bone acts as an endocrine organ that regulates whole body energy metabolism is exciting and adds to the compelling argument to further develop the center. I see many opportunities for collaboration amongst faculty interested in craniofacial diseases and those working on bone and cartilage as well as translational aspects to the molecular and epigenetic regulation of osteoporosis, arthritis, periodontitis and temporomandibular joint disorders.

As you know we have a program in Craniofacial and Mesenchymal Biology that spans the Schools of Medicine and of Dentistry. This program, and the faculty therein, will add additional strength to your proposal and will benefit from it. We have several faculty within the School of Dentistry who will actively participate with you. The ongoing success of the UCSF [BLANK] is based on a scientific community of like-minded people and draws upon their resolute spirit of mentorship and collaboration in a spirit of discovery. UCSF [BLANK] members are internationally recognized leaders whose
scientific discoveries and abilities have expanded the fields of research with particular emphasis on biology, biomechanics, imaging, and epidemiology. This creates an exciting environment where others want to join and be involved in the rich milieu that can only be created by a center of interaction such as this. I am excited about joining the center both as an investigator and a supporter.

I welcome meeting annually with your internal and external advisory boards as you work to refine and enhance the center, and look forward to seeing your center grow as the hub for musculoskeletal research on campus.

Sincerely yours,

Michael S. Reddy, DMD, DMedSc
Dean