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Institute for Clinical and Translational Research
4240 Health Sciences Learning Center,
750 Highland Avenue Madison, WI 53705

To the Directors of the ICTR TL1 Postdoctoral Training Program:

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Helen Long for the TL1 postdoctoral training program. As a T32 postdoctoral trainee in our department since 2021, Dr. Long has demonstrated a strong commitment to her clinical research examining vocal biomarkers of speech impairment in cerebral palsy.

I can ensure that Dr. Long will have 100% protected time during the TL1 training period to conduct her research as described in her proposal and to participate in all TL1 programmatic activities. I can confirm that Dr. Long has the necessary support and resources from her mentor, Dr. Hustad, and a dedicated, shared office space in the Waisman Center to conduct her research. Dr. Long will not participate in any clinical activities at the Waisman Center during the proposed period of TL1 postdoctoral training.

I can also attest to Dr. Long's potential for a faculty position at UW-Madison or an equivalent institution upon completion of her TL1 postdoctoral appointment. Her contributions to Dr. Hustad's research projects have been outstanding and demonstrate the capacity for conducting independent research. In the two years since beginning her T32 appointment at the Waisman Center, she has published three first-authored manuscripts and two co-authored manuscripts. She has also regularly presented her research at five conferences. She was awarded an NIH Loan Repayment Program award and a New Investigators Research Grant from the American-Speech-Language Hearing-Foundation. These accomplishments are a testament to her productivity, skills, and expertise.

The Waisman Center is committed to supporting Dr. Long's career development. She may continue to participate in the Waisman Center Ethics and Professional Development Seminar (twice-monthly, Waisman faculty-led) throughout the course of the proposed training plan. Finally, I can assure you that Dr. Hustad supports Dr. Long's Career Development and Training Plan. As her primary mentor, Dr. Hustad has worked closely with Dr. Long to develop a comprehensive plan that aligns with the goals of the TL1 training program. Dr. Hustad has committed to providing the necessary mentorship and conference funding support during the TL1 postdoctoral appointment period.

In summary, I wholeheartedly support Dr. Long 's application for the TL1 postdoctoral appointment in the ICTR TL1 postdoctoral training program. I am confident that Dr. Long has the potential to make significant contributions to her area of clinical research and to become a highly productive, outstanding independent investigator. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Qiang Chang, PhD
Professor of Medical Genetics and Neurology
Director, Waisman Center