



University of Pittsburgh

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August 2, 2019

National Institutes of Health
Center for Scientific Review
6701 Rockledge Drive MSC 7768
Bethesda MD 20892-7768

Re: Submission of F31 Application: **“Descending facilitation of pain by mu-opioid receptor-expressing neurons in the rostral ventromedial medulla”**

Dear Sir or Madam:

Based on the scientific content of this F31 application (FOA: **PA-19-195**), I respectfully request that this F31 application be assigned the following awarding institute:

Institutes/Centers: National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke – **NINDS**

As requested, I have provided below the list of referees that I have asked to submit reference letters on my behalf:

1. Bart De Jonghe, PhD

Associate Professor and Assistant Director of Nutrition Science Programs, Department of Biobehavioral Health Sciences, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing

2. Matthew Hayes, PhD

Associate Professor of Nutritional Neuroscience, Department of Psychiatry, Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

3. Richard Steinman, MD, PhD

Director, Medical Scientist Training Program
University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University MSTP

Sponsor/Dissertation Advisor: Sarah E. Ross, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Neurobiology, University of Pittsburgh

Co-Sponsor: H. Richard Koerber, PhD

Professor, Department of Neurobiology, University of Pittsburgh

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ruby A. Holland
MD/PhD Candidate
Department of Neurobiology
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
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