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Tayler Sheahan
Postdoctoral Scholar

July 29, 2019

Re: NRSA Support Letter

Dear Ruby,

I am delighted to assist with rodent injury models and behavioral testing, as well as chemogenetic approaches proposed in your fellowship. Moreover, I can also provide mentorship to you as you develop your skills in this fellowship. I think working together will be a positive and productive experience.

Based on your progress thus far, it is clear that you are a skilled scientist and possess the patience and dedication required to succeed at behavioral experiments. As you know, from my graduate work in Rob Gereau's lab at Washington University in St. Louis, I have extensive experience in and routinely use several of the techniques you propose in your grant including mouse pain models and pain behavioral assays. I've also been using chemogenetic approaches regularly since joining the Ross Lab. This will provide us with many opportunities for you to continue to learn these skills from me. Should you encounter challenges with behavioral assay data analysis and interpretation, I am happy to assist you in trouble-shooting.

After reading your NRSA proposal, I am excited to discuss the discoveries you make regarding the descending modulation of pain mediated by mu opioid-expressing RVM spinal projections, as these will certainly move the field forward. Importantly, I believe that learning rodent behavioral testing and chemogenetic strategies will allow you to continue to ask meaningful questions about spinal circuitry as your progress in your career.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tayler Sheahan".

Tayler Sheahan, PhD
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