



May 31, 2019

UT Health SA  
7703 Floyd Curl Drive  
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900

Dear Ms. Porter,

**RE: Translational Science Training (TST) TL1 Award**

We are delighted to inform you that you have been selected as a TST TL1 Scholar for 2019-2020! Thank you for submitting your proposal to the Institute for Integration of Medicine and Science (IIMS) in application for the Translational Science Training (TST) TL1 Program; this research training program is supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), through our Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA). The IIMS received many excellent applications this year, so your accomplishment is particularly noteworthy.

The selection process was as follows. The first phase involved an initial review of your application materials by reviewers who were asked to score the application's merit based on the strength of the candidate, the career development plan, the research plan, and the mentor(s). Reviewers' comments as well as scores for the individual review criteria and an overall score were submitted prior to a meeting of the review panel that occurred on May 10, 2019. At the meeting, the most meritorious applications were discussed and awarded a final overall score by vote of the committee. The top applications were chosen for further consideration, and the final decision was made by the Program Directors.

A Summary Statement, which includes Reviewer's comments and information regarding the members of the review panel, is attached to the email together with this letter; we welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have regarding the review. *In addition, as soon as feasible, we would like to meet with you to review the expectations of the training program and to answer your questions regarding programmatic components and plans.* These are summarized below.

Stipend, Tuition & Fees, and Health Insurance. You will receive a stipend of \$24,816 for the 2019-2020 academic year (July 1 to June 30). It will be the responsibility of your home department to make up the difference to achieve the \$30,000 stipend level of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS). Because the Award is provided by an NIH training grant, this difference must be provided by non-federal sources. Additional funds are available from the TST TL1 Program for tuition and fees (up to 60% of actual). Within the limits of the grant budget, funds are also available to cover health insurance (if not included in tuition and fees); you are strongly encouraged to discuss your health insurance arrangements with a Program Director or the TL1 Project Coordinator at the time of appointment in order to avoid interruption of coverage.



Appointment/Evaluation. TST TL1 Scholar appointments are made on an annual basis and include a mid-year evaluation; forms will be provided to you in advance of these formal evaluations. We hope to begin your appointment on July 1, 2019; however, we will work closely with you and your mentor(s) to finalize an initiation start date.

Travel and Local Meetings. TST Scholars are expected to attend the annual meeting of the Association of Clinical and Translational Science (ACTS) that is to be held in Washington, DC, April 14-17, 2020; a scientific abstract and poster presentation at this meeting is expected. Additional funds will be available to support attendance to travel to another professional meeting relevant to your area of research. Submission of abstracts and/or planned presentations are encouraged and expected. Please note that travel must be approved in advance by a TST TL1 Program Director.

TST Scholars are also expected to submit an abstract, present a poster, and attend the annual meeting of the IIMS (*Frontiers in Translational Science Research Day*). This full day meeting is held on main campus and usually scheduled in May.

Individual Development Plan (IDP). You will need to establish an IDP and provide a copy to the program within 2 months of your appointment start date. To aid in the development of your IDP, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) hosts a free, online tool to assist trainees as they set goals towards their career path. Details are available at <http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/>. Ideally, the IDP is developed and shared with the primary research mentor(s).

TST Program Meeting. A group meeting (one hour) of TST TL1 Scholars and Program Directors is held monthly on the third Thursday of the month in the ALTC building. TST TL1 Scholars are expected to attend.

Coursework. TST TL1 Scholars must complete 4 semester credit hours of graduate level coursework in translational science. This includes the following courses in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS):

- *Introduction to Translational Science* (TSCI 6001)
- *Topics in Translational Science* (TSCI 6101) for two semesters
- *Practicum in Translational Science* (TSCI 5077)

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). TST TL1 Scholars must engage in *on-going*, training in RCR by attendance at *Spotlight on Research Integrity*, a monthly institutional workshop on selected RCR topics led by UTHSCSA faculty and invited guests. Other formal coursework is available at UTHSCSA and may be recommended depending upon your prior didactic training in RCR. If you have completed a RCR course that meets current NIH guidelines in the last 48 months (here at UTHSCSA or elsewhere), please let us know so we can keep the record on file.

Rigor and Reproducibility. TST TL1 Scholars are required to complete didactic training in rigor and reproducibility. This can be accomplished by enrollment in a GSBS course (CSAT 6005), a one semester credit hour course that is offered in the Fall semester. Alternatively, a one day, institutional workshop (*Rigor and Reproducibility in Biomedical Research*) is available twice a year on Saturdays.



**Grant Acknowledgement.** TST TL1 Scholars must acknowledge the TL1 grant by its identifying number (TL1 TR002647) on all applicable scientific presentations and publications (original peer-reviewed manuscripts, reviews, book chapters, abstracts, posters, etc.) to which you as trainee make a contribution, however minor, while supported by this training grant, *regardless of when the publication appears*. A PubMed Central ID (PMCID) must be obtained for each manuscript at the time of publication; this PMCID must be provided to the program in annual reports of progress.

If you and your mentor accept the conditions outlined above, please indicate by return email so we may begin processing the necessary paperwork for your appointment. In addition, please sign, and have your mentor sign, a copy of this letter and return to Mr. Alex Machuca at [machuca@uthscsa.edu](mailto:machuca@uthscsa.edu). He will help you administratively and be your UTHSCSA contact person while in the program (210-567-4304). Your fellowship appointment will be officially activated as soon as we meet with you and your mentor(s), receive your email confirming acceptance of the above, and receive a copy of the signed document with your original signatures. Please complete and return the attached acceptance form by **June 14, 2019**.

Congratulations again! We look forward to working closely with you during your time as a TST TL1 Scholar. We hope you enjoy the TL1 training experiences. We appreciate your dedication in developing a competitive research proposal, and we will be following your research training progress with interest. We encourage you to work hard to achieve your training goals enabled by the TST TL1 program.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Alex Machuca at 210-567-4304 or [machuca@uthscsa.edu](mailto:machuca@uthscsa.edu) or one of the Program Directors.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Linda McManus".

Linda McManus, PhD  
Distinguished Teaching Professor  
of Pathology, UT Health San Antonio  
Co-Director, TST TL1 Program  
210-567-0509  
[mcmanus@uthscsa.edu](mailto:mcmanus@uthscsa.edu)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Christopher Frei".

Christopher Frei, PharmD  
Professor of Pharmacy, UT Austin  
Co-Director, TST TL1 Program  
210-288-2518  
[freic@uthscsa.edu](mailto:freic@uthscsa.edu)

cc: Dr. Jason O'Connor

Attachment: Award Acceptance Form



**TST TL1 Scholar Award  
2019-2020 Award Acceptance Form**

Please sign and return this acceptance form by **June 14, 2019**. Email the signed copy, as a PDF, to Mr. Alex Machuca, [machuca@uthscsa.edu](mailto:machuca@uthscsa.edu). Deliver the signed original document to his office (MED 7.772E-6). The TST TL1 Program reserves the right to withdraw the Award if this acceptance form is not returned by the deadline. Signatures indicate that the Scholar and Mentor agree to the terms outlined in the Award letter.

The Award is accepted by:

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Scholar Signature

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Date

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Scholar Printed Name

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Mentor Signature

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Date

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Mentor Printed Name

NOTICE OF AWARD

MERIT REVIEW AWARD

Issue Date: 10/26/2016

Department of Veterans Affairs

BIOMEDICAL LABORATORY RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Application Number: 1I01BX003195-01A1

Principal Investigator(s):

Jason C O'Connor, PHD

Project Title: Role of Brain-derived Neurotrophic Factor in Regulating Neuroinflammation and Mental Health

Moutria, Lisa

South Texas Veterans Health Care System

7400 Merton Minter Blvd

San Antonio, TX 782294404

Budget Period: 10/01/2016 09/30/2017

Project Period: 10/01/2016 09/30/2020