



McKNIGHT BRAIN RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Preserving memory, enhancing life

February 12, 2020

Carol A Barnes, Ph.D.
Director, Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute
Evelyn F. McKnight Chair for Learning and Memory in Aging
University of Arizona Regents Professor
PO Box 245115
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 85724

Dear Dr. Barnes,

The trustees of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation (MBRF) reviewed the annual report of the Evelyn F. McKnight Brain Institute (EMBI) at the University of Arizona (UA) at their meeting on February 5, 2020. The report is comprehensive, attractive, and provides useful information.

The trustees were impressed with the research productivity in the laboratories of each of the research investigators mentioned in the report and applaud the faculty receiving prestigious awards in recognition of their contributions to research. Eric Reiman's appointment to the National Advisory Council on Aging is a tremendous tribute to Dr. Reiman and also adds recognition to the EMBI at UA, since he also serves on the strategic advisory committee.

The trustees are impressed with and commend your individual role in the success of the educational programs focusing on age-related memory loss at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The number of postdoctoral and predoctoral students is impressive. The trustees questioned if this number is only for the 2019 year or if the number includes multiple years.

The trustees appreciate the update on the status of the preliminary review of the cooperative research grant (U19) to establish a Precision Aging Network. It is hoped the additional requirements for resubmission in September 2020 will be successfully completed. The trustees are also pleased to note expansion in the clinical translational programs at the EMBI at UA, and also through inter-institutional collaboration.

The trustees agree that the fund development program to match the gift from the MBRF has been unsuccessful. After review of the 2019 annual report, the trustees spoke directly with Mr. Roczniak, President and Chief Executive Officer of the University of Arizona Foundation. Mr. Roczniak was very receptive and has developed a plan satisfactory to the trustees to complete the match, the details of which will be provided under separate communication.

The trustees also express their strong appreciation for your collaborative leadership, not only within the EMBI at UA, but also across the collective McKnight Brain Institutes.

Sincerely,

Amy Porter
Executive Director

cc: Robert Robbins, MD, President
J.P. Roczniak, President and CEO, UA Foundation
Lee Ryan, PhD
LuAnn Snyder

MBRF Trustees
Henry H. Raattama, Jr., Esquire

*Established by
Evelyn F. McKnight
to Alleviate Memory Loss
in the Aging*

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