

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

*Masonic Institute for Developing Brain
Institute on Community Integration
University of Minnesota
2025 E River Pkwy,
Minneapolis, MN 55414*

May 31, 2022

Masonic Institute for the Developing Brain (MIDB)

Delivered via email

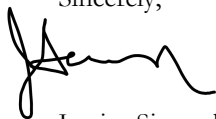
Dear Masonic Institute for the Developing Brain (MIDB) committee,

I am pleased to support the current grant proposal, titled “A Feasibility Study: Application Of Brain-Computer Interface In Augmentative And Alternative Communication For Non-Speaking Autistic Population” with the collaboration of Barkley Memorial Center, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and the University of Minnesota, Institute on Community Integration (ICI), TeleOutreach Core, and Biostatistics department, Analytic Cores, Masonic Institute for Developing Brain.

As the Director of the TeleOutreach Core, I have great experience in using technology for reaching and including children, youth, and adults with disabilities, particularly whom may have low incidence and high complexity needs. In my lab, we have developed telehealth-based interventions for early childhood and a variety of technology-based studies. I have studied specifically AAC for adults with Rett syndrome and related complex communication needs. I believe that findings from the current project could inform future research to improve communication opportunities for people with significant or multiple disabilities. Further, the proposed project plan could be a great opportunity to have a new interdisciplinary and interstate collaboration between AAC researchers at two institutions: the University of Minnesota and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

I confirm that the MIDB TeleOutreach Core can offer support for the protocol development and on-going consultation on AAC methodology. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Jessica Simacek, PhD

Director, TeleOutreach Center and MIDB Research Core, Research Manager 2, Institute on Community Integration

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