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March 28, 2024

To Kenneth Suarez Summer Research Fellowship Committee:

It is my pleasure to provide a letter of support for Student Dr. Jacob Canfield to for the Summer 2024 Kenneth Suarez Summer Research Fellowship. I first met Student Doctor Canfield six months ago when he approached me to learn about surgical research and obtain advice on a career in surgery. I was most impressed with his desire to design and create projects based from my previous research. To the extent he even sent me a proposal of a project that he wanted to do using my previous data. At that time we discussed how the KAS Research may be of benefit for him.

Student Dr. Canfield has already begun the process of research training at both Midwestern University and Cook County Health and Hospital Systems. He has completed the CITI training for both institutions. This will allow him to be part of projects with myself and Dr. Andrew Dennis DO, Chair of the Department of Surgery. He will be supervised primarily by myself, but also in conjunction with Dr. Dennis and our fellow Dr. Julian Henderson DO.

Our hope is that Student Dr. Canfield will learn the research process from developing a question, applying for sponsorship, collecting, and analyzing data, and ultimately presenting his results. The proposed study that Student Dr. Canfield has submitted for consideration was designed from questions he asked our trauma fellow Dr. Julian Henderson. He has completed the primarily literature search and created the proposal. We will intend on having bimonthly meetings with Student Dr. Canfield to discuss his project with data collection and analysis. Once completed our goal would be an abstract submission for a national meeting and ultimate publication along with presentation at the 2025 KAS Research Symposium. A secondary gain for his participation with this study is the opportunity to work with us on other projects or case reports during his summer. As a young medical student, Student Dr. Canfield will have the opportunity to work with our group for the remainder of his time in medical school. This will only help to enhance his already stellar academic career.

Student Dr. Canfield is a motivated and inquisitive young doctor. He has expressed interests in projects that benefit patients directly. His motivation has already allowed him opportunities that other students of his class have yet to discover and capitalize from. Dr. Dennis and myself would be nothing but fortunate to help Student Dr. Canfield persue his research interests.

Respectfully,

A close-up of a signature

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Victoria Schlanser DO FACOS FACS

Course Director Department of Surgery Midwestern University

Assistant Professor Rush University

Trauma/Burn Attending Cook County Hospital