**DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY**

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June 179, 2020

Dear Dr. Casadevall,

My colleagues and I are happy to submit our manuscript, “**Women are underrepresented and receive differential outcomes at ASM journals: A six-year retrospective analysis”**, to *mBio*. I appreciated your recent feedback on this manuscript and encouragement to submit this work to your journal. We are confident that this manuscript will have a significant impact on the field of microbiology. It represents an important benchmark that we can look back to as we attempt to implement strategies of improving the representation and evaluation of women microbiologists.

We look forward to any feedback that you, your editors, and reviewers provide that will push this manuscript towards publication.

Sincerely,



Patrick D. Schloss, PhD

Frederick G. Novy Collegiate Professor