

**DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY**

1120A MEDICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH BUILDING I

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May 3, 2018

Dear Dr. Casadevall,

I am happy to resubmit to *mBio* the attached manuscript, ***Identifying and overcoming threats to reproducibility, replicability, robustness, and generalizability in microbiome research.*** This is a new title for the manuscript that was previously submitted as mBio00525-18, which was “accepted, in principle.” I appreciate the feedback that I received from the Editor and reviewers and am confident that addressing their comments has made the manuscript more focused and impactful.

Unfortunately, I must still request that **Rob Knight (UCSD)** not be included as an editor or reviewer of this manuscript as previous interactions indicate that he is unable to provide an unbiased review of our work.

Thank you very much for your consideration and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Patrick D. Schloss, Ph.D.

Frederick G. Novy Collegiate Professor of Microbiome Research