



U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

## RE: Dr. Isabelle Bauer's Application for Permanent Residency

Dear Sir/Madam:

It is my great pleasure to write this letter in strong support of Dr. Isabelle Bauer's application for permanent residency in the United States. Dr. Bauer is an exemplary scientist who has already made highly significant contributions to the field of mental health research. I believe she is rising to the top in her field of expertise.

I am a Professor of Youth Mental Health at the University of Melbourne and Director of Orygen Youth Health and Orygen Youth Health Research Centre in Victoria, Australia. My primary research areas pertain to early psychosis, early intervention and youth mental health. The result has been the creation, evaluation and upscaling of stigma-free, holistic and recovery oriented models of care for young people and their families. I have also supervised many young scientists including postdoctoral fellows and graduate students, and some of these individuals have gone on to academic and research careers at various US institutions.

Speaking as an established professional in psychiatry and in particular in the field of psychotic and mood disorders, I would like to point out that Dr. Bauer's work addresses the roles of detecting the neuroanatomical and cognitive correlates of bipolar disorder. Thus, Dr. Bauer's work has the potential to benefit millions of Americans suffering from this condition. I have not worked directly with Dr. Bauer but have been very impressed by her outstanding research and commitment to her work. Dr. Bauer's current research is opening entirely new avenues of investigation in the field of bipolar disorder and non-pharmacological treatments for this disorders, and as such has a major impact not only on the work in her laboratory, but on that of the scientific community as a whole.

Dr. Bauer's outstanding research work has been well recognized internationally as evidenced by her 16 papers published in prestigious international scientific journals in psychiatry including *Journal of Affective Disorders, Journal of Psychiatric Research*, and *PLoS One*. Her papers have been frequently read and cited by other research groups. She has also been

invited to serve as a journal reviewer for 13 international journals. These credentials have set her apart from her peers.

Therefore, I fully and strongly support Dr. Bauer's request for permanent residence in the United States based upon her proven outstanding ability and remarkable contributions as well as her desire to further pursue research in the U.S. I believe that it is in the best interest of the U.S. to attract and retain a high quality researcher like Dr. Bauer. If you have any questions or need additional clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Professor Patrick McGorry AO MD, BS, PhD, FRCP, FRANZCP

**Executive Director** 

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Orygen, The National Centre of Excellence in Youth Mental Health