Davis, CA March 6l 2016

UC-Mexus Program

To whom it may concern:

I hereby express my support to the proposal submitted to the UC-Mexus Program by Dr. Rubén Rellán-Álvarez (Langebio, México) and Oliver Fiehn (UC Davis) with tittle: The role of phospholipids in maize adaptation to Mexican highlands.

I am interested in studying similar aspects of maize adaptation to Mexican highlands using RNA-Seq Allele Specific Expression (ASE) in F1 crosses between the highland and lowland maize landraces and B73 inbred. This techniques allows us to not only quantify transcript abundance but also identify in F1 material if a certain allele (landrace or B73) is preferentially expressed when plants are subjected to different stresses. To this end I have already selected a collection of paired lowland and highland landraces that Rubén Rellán-Álvarez and Oliver Fiehn will be analysing in this project. This will set the basis in the future to perform experiments together looking at both lipid abundances and ASE in the F1s that we will be developing this year.

Dr. Daniel Runcie

UC Davis