Gaofeng Wang, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

The Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation Department of Human Genetics

Miami Institute for Human Genomics

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

1120 NW 14th Street, CRB 808

Miami, FL 33136

7th October, 2008

Dear Gaofeng,

This letter is to confirm my support and that of the Center for Computational Science Bioinformatics Program for your project on the role of microRNAs in Parkinson Disease (PD). There is an urgent need for a deeper understanding of the role of miRNAs in multi-gene diseases such as PD. Your past work has already provided vital clues, and you have recognized that it is imperative to follow those through for improved diagnosis and treatment of PD.

The Center for Computational Science (CCS) at the University of Miami expands the University and region’s resources for computational science research and education. Our high-performance computing (HPC) and scientific software engineering (SSE) cores support our five research programs that together span the life sciences, physical sciences, and the high-tech world. Of relevance to this proposal are our Bioinformatics and our Data Mining Programs, where our faculty have over 10 years experience in the genetic and genomic data analysis including gene expression, gene regulation, and SNP functionality analysis. It will be our pleasure to assist you in any way possible for the success of your proposed project.

I look forward to working with you and your team on your bioinformatics needs for this project.

Yours sincerely,

Sawsan Khuri, PhD

Lead Bioinformatics Scientist, Center for Computational Science

and Assistant Research Professor,

The Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation Department of Human Genetics,

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine,

1120 NW 14th Street, CRB 1188

Miami, FL 33136