CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER
Department of Neurosurgery

April 16, 2021

Babak Kateb MD
Chairman of the Board of Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics
Director of Brain Technology and Innovation Park
President of Brain Mapping Foundation
860 Via De La Paz, Suite E1,
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

RE: Brain Innovation and Technology Park (BITP) Initiative

Dear Dr. Kateb

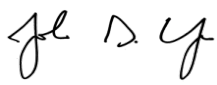
California has been home to multiple Centers of Excellence in nanotechnology and stem cell research, but there is no coordinated effort designed to focus these nascent technologies on the neurologic disorders that plague the wounded warrior and veteran population. I am writing to you as a Professor of Neurosurgery and a research scientist in the field of immunotherapy and nanotechnology for neurological disorders in strong support for the development of Brain Innovation and Technology Park (BITP). The BITP would establish a network of academic centers, government laboratories, and industry throughout the state of California and beyond to collaborate on developing effective treatments for neurologic disease from traumatic injury. The goals of this center are to: **1)** rapidly find solutions for healthcare problems of veterans/wounded soldiers through advancement of scientific research and discovery; **2**) create jobs through investment in research and creation of spinoffs from interdisciplinary research; **3)** improve healthcare efficiency and cost-effectiveness through the identification of stem cell therapy, nanotechnology, novel rehabilitative devices to address the most urgent needs of wounded soldiers. These technologies have been shown individually to accelerate recovery. It is anticipated that combinations of these therapies implemented in well-designed clinical trials will be synergistic and lead to breakthroughs in the recovery of neurological insults faced by wounded warriors.

Strong collaborative efforts are required to incorporate and translate recent findings in brain mapping, nanotechnology and stem cell research. These interdisciplinary collaborations will enable the development and implementation of novel therapies to treat unmet medical needs of wounded warriors. The current fiscal environment has been limiting the development of new therapies for unmet medical needs. It is the goal of BITP to coordinate research efforts in nano-bio-electronics to treat intractable neurologic disorders. This will in turn enable the state to be at the forefront of innovative translation of effective therapies for our veterans.

My research group is enthusiastic about contributing to and collaborating with other centers at the BITP as we develop new imaging and therapeutic tools for the treatment of intractable neurologic disorders plaguing the veteran population. There is a strong need for a clearinghouse to translate nascent technologies into new therapies and the Brain Innovation and Technology Park is by far the most effective and streamlined effort to support this goal. We support the efforts of the Brain Mapping Foundation (BMF), and Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics (SBMT) to establish this park

The most important aspect of the BTIP is to create a means by which novel technologies can have the support to be developed into clinical trials to test new therapies that will improve the quality of life for our veterans. We ask for your support to springboard this initiative into a reality.

Sincerely,



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