UAMS

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES

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Professor and Chair

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Pope L. Moseley, M.D.,
Dean, College of Medicine
Executive Vice Chancellor
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Little Rock, AR 72202-3591

RE: , PhD.
     Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure; Basic Scientist Pathway

Dear Dean Moseley:

I am pleased to support the recommendation of Dr.   for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the department of Pediatrics and to recommend her for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure in the Department of Biomedical Informatics. Dr.   was appointed as an Assistant Professor of pediatrics on the tenure eligible track in 2012 and granted a secondary appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor in the division, now department, of Biomedical Informatics in 2013.

Background: Dr.   received her B.Sc. in chemistry in 1990 and M.Sc. in biochemistry in 1992 from the University of Calcutta, India. She received an M.S. in bioinformatics from the University of Alberta, Canada in 2001, and completed her Ph.D. in bioinformatics at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock in 2007.

Prior to joining the faculty of the College of Medicine at UAMS, Dr.   held positions in industry, government and academia. She was a research assistant and then a postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Orthopedic Research at UAMS from 2002-2008, a lead bioinformatics scientist at Stemina Biomarker Discovery Inc., in Madison, Wisconsin from 2008-2009, and a Commissioner's Fellow and Staff Fellow at the FDA's National Center for Toxicological Research from 2009-2011.

Research: Dr.   officially directs 100% of her efforts toward funded research activities. These efforts are largely devoted to understanding disease and toxicity related pathophysiology by using pattern recognition and advanced statistical and machine learning approaches to analyze large-scale biological data. She has a very strong network of collaborations that provide full salary support. She continues to develop new collaborations including exploratory work with several members of the faculty of the Department of Biomedical Informatics.

Dr.   has a solid publication record including 8 first authored papers and has published in high impact journals including PNAS. She has seven papers in review including one under consideration by the New England Journal of Medicine.

Education: While Dr.   officially has 0% of her effort committed to education, she currently serves on a PhD dissertation committee and has served on two prior committees as well as mentoring both summer interns, undergraduate summer students and masters level biostatisticians. She also served as a postdoctoral mentor for the UAMS Women's Faculty Development Caucus Research Committee.

Dr.   has designed and will teach 2 courses in the new biomedical informatics graduate program at UAMS starting in the spring of 2018. These elective courses: Introduction to Biological Network Analysis and Bioconductor for Genomic Scale Data Analysis are very significant contributions to the Department of Biomedical Informatics' graduate curriculum. Further, it is assumed that Dr.   will mentor student projects in the department's core curriculum and offer laboratory rotations to biomedical informatics graduate students.

Dr.   has delivered 11 didactic lectures on bioinformatics at UAMS, including a lecture in the Department of Biomedical Informatics Seminar Series on leading edge research.

Leadership/Administration: While Dr.   officially has 0% of her effort committed toward leadership and administrative activities, she is active in the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, serving as Vice Chair of the Pharmacometabolomics Community and as a member of a steering committee for early career members of the society. She served as a facilitator for an NCI Think Tank session and as co-chair of several conference workshops.

Dr.   was a founding member of the UAMS Department of Biomedical Informatics Curriculum Committee on which she still serves. She helped to guide the development of the bioinformatics curriculum at UAMS and worked with Dr. Pierce, another member of this committee, on the proper relationship between the UAMS translational bioinformatics curriculum and the ongoing joint UAMS-UALR joint program in bioinformatics. Her insights on these issues have been invaluable.

Dr.   has served the UAMS College of Medicine by interviewing prospective medical students and the Department of Pediatrics by serving on several faculty search committees.

Summary: Dr.   is a fine example of a young faculty member in the basic scientist pathway. She is succeeding in every relevant category of our College of Medicine promotion and tenure guidelines. Dr.   has my full support and confidence in her ongoing success.

Sincerely,

Fred Prior, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Biomedical Informatics