Steven J. Berberich, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Biochemistry & Mol. Biology
College of Science and Mathematics
Boonshoft School of Medicine
Wright State University
Dayton, OH 45435-0001

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Dr. Kristin Sobolik
Search Committee Chair
Dean, College of Liberal Arts
Wright State University
Dayton, OH 45435

Dear Dr. Sobolik:

I am writing to you to express my desire to be considered for the position of Associate Provost for Faculty and Staff Affairs. I believe my diverse experiences at Wright State University make me uniquely qualified for this position. Prior to joining the faculty at Wright State University, I completed my B.S. in Biology (1985) and Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences (1990) at Wright State University. After completing my postdoctoral training at Princeton University I returned to Wright State as a faculty member in 1993, rising through the ranks to Professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, one of two "matrix" departments on campus. For the past five years I have served as chair of the department.

I have engaged in several leadership activities during my twenty-plus years as a faculty member in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. As an Assistant Professor I initiated the first "freezer-program" on campus by successfully negotiating with Gibco/BRL (now Life Technologies) to stock molecular and cellular reagents on campus for biomedical researchers. The freezer program was very successful and led to additional biomedical companies showing an interest in bringing reagents on-site (e.g. Promega, Qiagen). As an Associate Professor, I established the Gene Expression Laboratory (GEL). GEL was formed to make available cutting edge molecular biology resources such as DNA microarrays to researchers across campus. In 2003, the State of Ohio's Third Frontier awarded the University of Cincinnati and Wright State University over 9 million dollars with nearly 1 million dollars coming directly to GEL. These funds enabled us to expand our genomic capabilities and in 2004 the WSU Board of Trustees renamed GEL the Center for Genomics Research (CGR). During my time as CGR Director we supported WSU biomedical researchers with CGR-seed grants, established collaborations with AFRL researchers in toxicogenomics and trained graduate students in partnership with UC genomics facilities through funding from DAGSI grants. I stepped down as CGR Director in 2008 when I took over as interim-chair of the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department. While I am no longer part of the CGR leadership team I am pleased to see that CGR's support of biomedical research has continued to expand and now includes several clinical

departments within and outside BSOM. Coinciding with its first 10 years in existence (2014) researchers in CGR recently received word from the DOD and NSF that proposals to fund next-generation DNA sequencers have been approved. With these new genomic sequencers CGR will continue to support both biomedical and translational researchers into the next decade.

In addition to creating and leading a genomics facility I am quite proud of my research accomplishments. Until 2011, my laboratory was continuously funded for 16 years by the National Cancer Institute (DHHS) to explore the regulation of the p53 tumor suppressor. During that time I trained 21 graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and residents in my laboratory. Several of the students who trained in my laboratory have gone on to successful academic careers. Not counting a pending NIH proposal (scored at the 10th percentile) I have garnered over $6.7 million in extramural support (federal and state) for my laboratory research and genomic facilities. My extensive experience in research and history of working with faculty in the CGR makes me well aware of the issues facing basic, applied and clinical researchers on campus.

I have also maintained an active teaching schedule. You will see from my CV that for 7 years I taught first year medical students. Currently I serve on a committee tasked with revising the medical school curriculum to enhance student learning experiences and better integrate clinical and basic science teaching. My current teaching involves junior and senior Biology and Chemistry undergraduates who take our department Biochemistry and Molecular Biology courses and several graduate level advanced courses in molecular biology. I am an active user of Pilot, clickers and peer-to-peer instruction in my undergraduate class and bring an active learning approach to my advanced graduate courses. My varied teaching experiences make me well suited to address faculty issues pertaining to teaching and to provide oversight for the Center for Teaching and Learning.

Finally, this past year I launched a start-up company, Molecular Oncology Diagnostics, LLC (MOD). MOD was created to provide molecular testing of specific human tumors where the presence or absence of a genetic alteration can assist pathologists and oncologists in assessing treatment options, monitoring tumor burden or improving diagnosis. The company is currently undergoing assay validation for BRAF mutation and BCR/ABL1 translocation detection in metastatic melanomas and chronic myeloid leukemia, respectively.

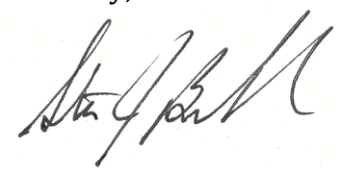
In contrast to establishing a start-up company, the interim-chair of BMB was not a path I had planned to pursue. The opportunity arose after an unsuccessful external department chair search to replace our chair who stepped down after 17 years. A little over one year after accepting the interim-position the Deans (BSOM and CoSM) and department faculty unanimously supported that I become the official chair. I have enjoyed the opportunity to help faculty succeed and to be an advocate for the department at all levels of administration. There are many faculty positives I can point to during my first five years: moving into the Diggs Research building, having two Brage Golding Professors of Research (Drs. Leffak and Gomez-Cambronero) a Fred Wright Professor of Service (Dr. Prochaska), two BSOM faculty mentor awards (Dr. Leffak and myself) and nominating Dr. Kadakia to join the inaugural BSOM leadership training program. I have seen the successful promotion of two faculty members, Dr. Paily to Associate Professor and Dr. Kadakia, to Professor. I am

also pleased that I was able to elevate the administrative positions for my staff to more align with the increased roles that each played in supporting the department activities.

Under my leadership the department has also complimented our in-house grant-reviewing program with a novel grant reviewing process the involves identifying competent outside scientific experts to review proposals. I have supported faculty development requests for sabbaticals and worked closely with senior faculty as they transition towards retirement. We have created bylaws for an education track for promotion with tenure to recognize our growing educational mission and to acknowledge that research is not the only path to success in the department. As any department chair will acknowledge, the position also has its difficulties and while I am not at liberty to describe them in detail some of my most satisfying experiences as a chair have been helping faculty and staff work through difficult situations. While the resolutions are not always win-win scenarios I feel one of my strengths is ability to mediate difficult situations and assist both parties in finding the common ground/best solution.

I arrived at Wright State University thirty-one years ago in the Fall of 1981. I have found the university a stimulating environment both as a student and faculty member and believe my successes as a faculty member occurred in large part from the training I received as a student. I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve the faculty, staff and administration of WSU as the Associate Provost.

Sincerely,



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