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To the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine,

I want to submit this letter in strong support of Dr. Mostajo-Radji and Dr. Haussler's application INFR6.1 Live Cell Biotechnology Discovery Lab.

My group is a leader in the study of genetics and neurological disease of historically underrepresented groups, such as African Americans. We have worked with iPSC lines from Autism patients and relatives of these populations and have used them to generate neurons and organoids. As part of my daily work, I collaborate closely with patient advocates and educators that reach these populations and make them partners in the studies that we perform. Education is a critical part of this endeavor, and it is essential to build STEM literacy and trust in the scientific community.

The proposed Discovery Lab is a key infrastructure for California that will enable investigators to reach and train these underserved groups. I am thrilled to support the cloud technologies developed by UCSC that enable students to perform highly complex stem cell experiments remotely over their cell phones as part of their science education. I believe that through this approach, we can increase the diversity of the stem cell workforce and the collaborations between academic labs and the public. I therefore commit to working closely with Dr. Mostajo-Radji and Dr. Haussler and using the proposed SRL for my work. For example, I will enable this SRL to support African American students in performing experiments in the iPSC lines that my group has generated. Furthermore, I commit to promoting this SRL with the patient advocacy groups that I work with, to enable the expansion of its reach.

In summary, I want to reiterate my enthusiasm for this application, and I want to urge the ARS to consider funding this initiative that will be a game changer for California.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel H. Geschwind".

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