TO: Co-Chairs, Faculty Promotions Committee FROM: Jane Smith, Subcommittee Chair

DATE: November 4, 2020

SUBJECT: Award of Tenure to Paul Walker*,* MD,Professorin the Department of Pediatrics

Paul Walker, MD is currently an Professor in the Department of Pediatrics. He/she is now applying for the Award of Tenure. Our subcommittee included Wesley Jackson, MD, and Jane Smith, MD, (Chair); we shared assessments by email.

# Subcommittee Recommendations

The subcommittee voted the following:

Teaching: Meritorious/Excellent 2 to 0 Service: Meritorious/Excellent 2 to 0

Clinical: Meritorious/Excellent 2 to 0 Research: Meritorious/Excellent 2 to 0

Scholarship: Meritorious/Excellent 2 to 0  
Evidence of a National and International Reputation

# Biographical and Professional History

We reviewed this faculty member’s biographical and professional history, which was included in the dossier.

# Teaching

The subcommittee rated the candidate’s teaching accomplishments as “Meritorious/Excellent” by a 2 to 0 vote, based on an extensive review of the dossier. We paid particular attention to the information included in the letters written by the Department Advisory Committee and the Department Chair, as well as the candidate’s teaching evaluations, which included multiple methods of evaluation. We reviewed the candidate’s Teacher’s Portfolio, including the teacher’s statement, record of teaching and mentorship and record of course development and leadership. We also reviewed the candidate’s letters of reference and the matrix table completed by the candidate. The Department Advisory Committee rated the candidate as “Excellent” in teaching, based on a record of:

EXAMPLES:

* Clinical and didactic education of pediatric and adult allergy and immunology fellows at NJH
  + Receives excellent evaluations from the clinical fellows
* Mentored 2 fellows who have continued in academic medicine and presented abstracts at national meetings
* Co-founder and Co-director of the Dept of Pediatrics Translational Research Seminar
* Initiated 2 lecture series (immunodeficiences and biotechniques)
* Two-time recipient of the NJH Pediatrics Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award (2014, 2018)
* Invited speaker at 4 regional and 4 national meetings, and has served as a moderator at a national meeting

# Clinical Activities and Service

The subcommittee rated the candidate’s clinical and service accomplishments as “Meritorious/Excellent” by a 2 to 0 vote, based on extensive review of the dossier, relying particularly on the information included in the detailed letters written by the Department Advisory Committee and the Department Chair, and letters of reference as well as the matrix table completed by the candidate. We also reviewed the candidate’s clinician’s portfolio, which include a summary of patient care activities, quality of care work, innovation and other activities. The Department Advisory Committee rated the candidate as “Meritorious” in clinical activities and “Meritorious” in service, based on:

EXAMPLES:

* Outpatient and inpatient activities with a primary clinical focus on the care of children with primary immunodeficiencies
  + Cares for patients at NJH and at Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children
* Specialized consultant for complement related disorders for patients at NJH, Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children, and CHCO
* Co-developed an immunodeficiency diagnostic genetic panel which has resulted in improved diagnosis and targeted treatment of patients
* Led follow up for the SCID portion of the Colorado Newborn Screening Program
  + Content expert for the Colorado Department of Health Newborn Screening Committee
* Outstanding Junior Faculty award at NJH
* Co-chair of IRB, member of the Infection Prevention Committee and the Medical Executive Committee at NJH

# Research and Scholarship Activities

The subcommittee rated the candidate’s scholarship and research as “Excellent” by a 2 to 0 vote, based on an extensive review of the dossier, relying particularly on the information included in the detailed letters written by the Department Advisory Committee and the Department Chair, the letters of reference as well as the matrix table completed by the candidate. We reviewed the candidate’s record of scholarship, including published and unpublished works. The Department Advisory Committee rated the candidate as “Excellent” in scholarship and research, based on:

EXAMPLES:

* 18 peer-reviewed manuscripts (16 at current rank- 4 as first author), 1 book chapter (sole author, revised once), and 13 abstracts (10 at current rank, 1 first author, 1 senior author)
* Identification and in vitro characterization of a new class of dominant-negative mutation in the SAND domain of the human Aire gene seen in autoimmune patients
* NIH NIAID K08 award ($923,940) for Aire-SAND project
* PI on 2 active industry grants ($240,000, $346,067)
* Identification of novel genetically-determined immunodeficiency / immune dysregulation syndromes
  + First patient identified worldwide with rhinovirus susceptibility as a result of bi-allelic MDA5 loss of function.
  + First series of patients with immunodeficiency as a result of IKAROS deficiency.
  + First series of patients with atopic disease as a result of CARD11 mutations.
  + Initial description and first series of patients with T-cell lymphopenia as a result of heterozygous FOXN1 deficiency.
  + Identification and characterization of a novel immunodeficiency syndrome caused by gain-of-function mutation in IKBKB
* Reviewer for Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology and Journal of Clinical Immunology.

# Department Recommendations

The Chair of the Department of Pediatrics enthusiastically supported the candidate’s Award of Tenure noting that “Dr. Walker has demonstrated outstanding progress throughout his junior faculty career. He has won research funding, has a strong publication record, actively teaches across both institutions, provides niche clinical care, and is an emerging leader locally and nationally.” The Departmental Advisory Committee voted 8-0 in favor of the Award of Tenure, based on excellent teaching, meritorious clinical activities, meritorious service, and excellent scholarly activities.

# Summary and Recommendation

The subcommittee voted 2 to 0 for the Award of Tenure of based on excellent teaching, meritorious clinical activities, meritorious service, and excellent scholarly and research activities as well as a national and international reputation.