

April 2, 2021

ERC Program
Division of Engineering Education and Centers
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22230

Re: Columbia University proposal in response to NSF 20-553: Gen-4 Engineering Research Centers (ERC) – Convergent Research and Innovation through Inclusive Partnerships and Workforce Development

Dear ERC Program Directors,

If the proposal submitted by Dr. X. Edward Guo entitled *NSF Engineering Research Center for Integrated Mechanobiology for Women's Health (IMWEL)* is selected for funding by NSF, it is my intent to collaborate and/or commit resources as detailed in the Project Description or the Facilities, Equipment and Other Resources section of the proposal.

Deerfield Catalyst is a medical device incubator started to advance medtech innovation and accelerate the formation of commercial companies. The initiative combines the resources of two established health pioneers: Coridea, a proven medtech incubator with a history of innovation, and Deerfield, a healthcare investment firm with over \$10 billion in assets. The Deerfield Catalyst management team have started a number of companies that have returned over \$1.4B to their investors as well as are authors on over 200 issued US patents. One of the areas that the incubator is focusing on is Women's Health including the diagnosis and treatment of preterm labor, endometriosis and in-home diagnosis of yeast and other infections.

Sincerely,



Howard R. Levin, M.D.
CEO and Chief Medical Officer