Research Ireland

Three Park Place

Hatch Street Upper

Dublin 2

Date

**Re: Letter of Support for UCD Co-Investigator/(s) <Co-Investigator/s’ title and name> for** **EPSRC-****Research Ireland Joint Funding Programme proposal <*proposal title*>, led by <Principal Investigator/s’ name>, <University of XX>, UK.**

Dear Research Ireland,

UCD, which is the host Research Body of <Applicant>, confirms its association and support of the application entitled <*proposal title*> and endorses that the Applicant meets the eligibility criteria of the EPSRC- Research Ireland Joint Funding Programme and is a member of <the academic staff/a contract researcher/ a researcher awaiting appointment (delete as appropriate)> (*if temporary state end date and provide Head of School confirmation of your contract status to the Proposal Support Team)*. The proposed research is aligned to a central strategic pillar of the UCD Breaking Boundaries Strategy to 2030, *Advancing Research and Innovation* which is supported by a UCD cross-cutting strategic initiative to focus research activity on *Research with Ambition*.<*Provide 2-3 lines summarising the proposed research>*.

The UCD Co-Investigator, <*title and name*> holds a PhD awarded in <year>) and is a <*position>* in the UCD School of <*name*>.  *<Supply a short paragraph on your research focus, scientific contribution and achievements, or any points of note you wish to refer to.* ***Do not*** *include number of publications, citations or h-indices.* *If there is another UCD Co-Investigator, please provide the same information>.*

*<Please supply a short paragraph about the project, it’s significance and the nature of the collaboration with your UK partner(s)>.*

As Host Institution for <*proposal title>*, UCD will afford full access to the required research infrastructure, along with research management services and other supports as detailed below:

**Access to Advanced Research Infrastructure: <***Detail here the equipment, laboratory, computing, animal or other facilities available, including specifications where appropriate and access plans. Identify if there is technical support available to operate this equipment. Also detail the office and local administrative supports (research managers etc) available to you*. *Confirm that you will have and independent office and research space available to you for which you will be fully responsible for at least the duration of the funding*>

**Research Management Services and Other Supports:** UCD has a very extensive portfolio of large-scale national and international research programmes ([www.ucd.ie/research/](http://www.ucd.ie/research/)). The proposed research team will be fully supported by the wider administrative infrastructure at UCD. UCD Research provides research supports for funded research activity at UCD. UCD’s post-award Research Finance Office (RFO) provides support for financial administration at all stages of university research projects and will assist researchers in the preparation of cost statements/statements of expenditure. Research IT Services provide a range of services designed to support and facilitate researchers in their use of IT as an enabler for their research activities. The UCD Human Resources (HR) Office will fully assist with all HR management, including orientation and provision of other practical assistance for incoming researchers. In addition, Post-Doctoral Fellows will be supported by the UCD Research Careers Framework (RCF), which establishes a structured and supportive skills and early career development model for Post-Doctoral Fellows at UCD. PhD students will participate in UCD’s structured doctoral programmes*.*

The UCD Animal Research Ethics Committee (AREC) and Humanities and Science Human Research Ethics Committees (HRECs) conduct ethical reviews using an internationally recognised approvals system. The Research Ethics Committee (REC) oversees and advises on policy regarding the work carried out by these three main sub-committees. UCD is committed to the promotion of the highest standards of Research Integrity, provides education and training to prevent breaches of Research Integrity, and promotes a collaborative and collegiate research culture throughout the institution. UCD’s Gender Equality Action Plan, which is linked to the university’s Athena SWAN Silver Institutional Award, seeks to deliver changes in related policies and procedures along with everyday behaviours and attitudes. The university stresses the exploitation of research findings through academic-industry engagement and licensing, with management of intellectual property and commercialisation available through the technology transfer office, NovaUCD.

**Management of Conflict of Interest:** UCD researchers must comply with UCD’s published Policy on Conflict of Interest - *UCD is committed to the promotion of an environment which maintains the highest standards of integrity. It is the policy of UCD that all persons engaged in UCD activity have the obligation to manage or avoid ethical, legal, financial or other conflicts of interest and to ensure that their activities and interest do not conflict with their obligations to the University or its welfare.*

In summary, it is without hesitation that I support this application by <UCD Co-investigator/s’ title and name> to the EPSRC- Research Ireland Joint Funding of Research Programme.

Yours sincerely,

**Professor Kate Robson Brown**

**Vice-President for Research, Innovation and Impact**