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January 25, 2017

Yajing Wang, Ph.D. Department of Physiology, College of Basic Medicine and Clinical Pharmacy, China Pharmaceutical University, Nanjing, P. R. China

Dear Dr. Wang,

As a member of the faculty of the Institute of Human Virology and Department of Medicine of the University of Maryland School of Medicine, I am writing this letter to invite you to work in my laboratory for one year as a Research Fellow, starting on or after October 1, 2017. One acute research interest of my laboratory is in peptide drug discovery for anticancer therapy. Our laboratory has recently reported the design of several different classes of peptide antagonists of MDM2 and MDMX that potently activate the tumor suppressor protein p53, including L-peptide, peptide toxin-based miniature protein, and proteolysis-resistant D-peptide antagonists. Structural studies by X-ray crystallography validate their mode of action as MDM2/MDMX-specific activators of p53. Upon intracellular delivery, these peptide antagonists of MDM2 and MDMX exert potent p53- dependent growth inhibitory activity against human tumors in cell cultures and nude mouse xenograft models. Your research experience and training background nicely complements our projects. I will provide you with necessary space, experimental supplies, and convenient access to all equipment in my laboratory. You will not be expected to pay any fees, nor will you pay to present your work at scientific conferences in the US during your stay in my laboratory. I understand that you will apply for financial support from China Scholarship Council to cover your travel costs and living expenses in Baltimore.

I wish you the best of luck with your application. Please let me know if there are other ways I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Wuyuan Lu, Ph.D.



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