



**University of British Columbia
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

January 06, 2014

Dr. Akbar Mirsalehian
Professor and Chairman
Dept. of Microbiology
Faculty of Medicine
Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Re: Dr. Farhad Bonakdar Hashemi Research Progress

Dear Dr. Mirsalehian,

I would like to hereby approve Dr. Farhad Bonakdar Hashemi's progress report regarding his research in my laboratory. Dr. Hashemi is investigating mechanisms for latency in HIV/ AIDS virus as a visiting associate professor from Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS). He has been in my laboratory for 10 months, and has made excellent progress. (see attached report).

Dr. Hashemi has initiated several research approaches, which will require several months, including studying on mechanisms of HIV latency in transformed and primary T cells. His considerable experience with techniques to culture primary T cells, and HIV isolates provides valuable expertise that is necessary for our ongoing research. In addition, Dr. Hashemi's experience, as a mentor, is important to maintain continuity of our projects.

I am delighted that Dr. Hashemi has decided to spend his sabbatical in my laboratory. I would like to request your department as well as the "TUMS Committee for Research" to extend his sabbatical training for an additional 3 months.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Sadowski'.

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