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Department of Pediatrics**

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October 11, 2016

Response to the Investigation Report.

Overall, the accusation from Dr. Srivastava and Dr. Herzog has no grounds and motives of this accusation are rather personal then professional. I have proving record of high reproducibility of my results by both inside and outside university researchers. Moreover, some of AAV vectors which were described in "Article 2" and "Article 3" were recently published by Dr. Srivastava and Dr. Herzog and their collaborators (Vercauteren K, Mol Ther. 2016 Jun; 24(6):1042-9 and Li S, Mol Ther. 2015 Dec;23(12):1867-76). These vectors were independently packaged and tested by their collaborator from The Rockefeller University and UMass University respectively.

Below are several points from the Report that needed clarification:

For Article 1:

I like to point out again, that Dr. Srivastava has high turnover on international visiting students. For the last six years we were working together with Dr. Srivastava I was asked to present somebodies data (same as with Dr. Rao) on Peds. Science Day and ASGCT meetings. The presentations mentioned in Report were provided by Dr. Srivastava for me to present.

Also, I like to point out that I can't be blamed for not keeping appropriated record of experiments I didn't performed.

Also, I like to point out that investigation committee agreed that no specific knowledge was needed to do these manipulations with flow data and only required basic knowledge of imaging software. This leaves a possibility that Dr. Srivastava himself

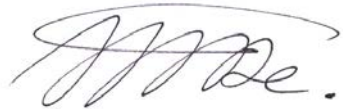
or his associates (lab personnel who directly report to him and not showing data to anybody else) can be responsible for these manipulations.

For Figure 4 in Article 2 and Figure 6 in Article 3:

I respectfully disagree with committee that images presented in these papers are sloppy by preparation and description of them not accurate. Bioluminescence imaging is very common procedure and not required very detailed description when described in research article. In both Article 2 and Article 3 reviewer were satisfied with explanation provided for Fig. 4 and Fig. 6. Moreover, Dr. Srivastava (as my faculty mentor) was seeing these data on several talks, posters and more importantly during manuscript preparation, and later during revision. He never asked for additional information or questioning data presented on these figures.

In summary, beside note books and electronic files I have collection of plasmids and vectors described in these manuscripts. They are available for testing upon request by researchers in UF and outside.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Aslanidi', with a horizontal line above the letters.

George V. Aslanidi, Ph.D.

From: [Aslanidi, Georgiy V](#)
To: [Cooke, Irene](#)
Cc: [Scian, Michael P](#); [Moore, Christina S](#)
Subject: RE: Draft report - Confidential and Time Sensitive
Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 4:05:16 PM
Attachments: [Response to investigation report - Aslanidi.pdf](#)

Dear Dr. Cooke,

Please find in attachment my response/comments on investigation report. Thank you for your consideration.

George.

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From: Moore, Christina S **On Behalf Of** Cooke, Irene
Sent: Tuesday, October 04, 2016 4:56 PM
To: Aslanidi, Georgiy V
Cc: Cooke, Irene; Scian, Michael P; Moore, Christina S
Subject: Draft report - Confidential and Time Sensitive
Importance: High

Dr. Aslanidi,

As you have been notified previously, the Office of Research is conducting an investigation into the allegation of research misconduct that has been made against you. The investigation process is almost completed and I would like to provide you the draft investigation report and supporting documentation for review. This is being done to provide you an opportunity to comment on the report, if you wish. If you have comments, please provide them to me by **Wednesday, October 12th, 2016**. If you have no comments please let us know via email for the official file as well by the same date. Your comments will be reviewed and considered by the investigation committee as they finalize the report.

The report and its attachments can be accessed from the File Express link below and will need to be downloaded within five days (Sunday, October 9th, 2016) or the link will expire. Note that the File-Express Electronic Service will only allow a maximum of five days before expiring.

File Express Folder URL: https://file-express.ufl.edu/folders/Final_report_and_attachments489gEV65638/

I would like to remind you to maintain confidentiality of this report and this research misconduct review process. Also, for your information, the investigation was conducted under the University of Florida Rule 6C1-1.0101; Policy for Dealing with Conduct in Research (<http://www.admin.ufl.edu/DDD/attach06-07/R10101-0704.pdf>), which has previously been provided to you. The University of Florida rule follows the Department of Health and Human Services Public Health Service Policies on Research Misconduct (42 CFR Part 93, http://ori.hhs.gov/documents/FR_Doc_05-9643.shtml).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you,



Irene Cooke, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Assistant Vice President for Research and Director of Research Compliance

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PLEASE NOTE: Our phone number has changed from (352) 294-1632 to (352) 392-9174.