



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

July 22, 2008

r.e., Riccardo Pellegrino, M.D..

To Whom It May Concern:

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I am writing in reference to the proposed promotion of Dr. Riccardo Pellegrino. By way of introduction, I am a senior scientist in the same field of research as Dr. Pellegrino. I have had the opportunity to serve as chair of the NIH Respiratory and Applied Physiology study section, member of the Board of Directors of the American Thoracic Society (ATS), chair of the ATS Respiratory Structure and Function Assembly, associate editor of *Physiological Reviews*, consulting editor for *Journal of Applied Physiology*, and editorial board member for journals that include *Journal of Applied Physiology*, *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, and *Antioxidants and Redox Signaling*. In these professional roles, I have become well acquainted with the research of Dr. Pellegrino and am pleased to comment on his many contributions to biomedical science.

The promotion committee is undoubtedly aware of Dr. Pellegrino's accomplishments in the fields of lung disease and pulmonary pathophysiology. He has developed an outstanding body of interdisciplinary research into the factors that regulate lung function and the mechanisms of ventilatory insufficiency. He is an acknowledged authority on lung mechanics in health and disease. His experimental approach encompasses a broad range of human-based methodologies that include sophisticated plethysmographic techniques, the forced oscillation technique, tracer gas applications, and pharmacologic probes. Dr. Pellegrino is one of the few modern physician scientists who has a comprehensive understanding of pulmonary mechanics at the quantitative level. His abilities are widely regarded by colleagues in North America and Europe who recognize Dr. Pellegrino as an international expert in this field.

The respect accorded Dr. Pellegrino is evident in his curriculum vita. During the last two decades, he has published 68 original reports – a sustained average that exceeds three articles per year. These were in the premier journals of his field including *Thorax*, *Chest*, *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, *Journal of Applied Physiology*, *Respiration*, and *European Respiratory Journal*. In addition, he has published four book chapters and is currently preparing nine new manuscripts for publication. Dr. Pellegrino regularly delivers invited lectures at academic institutions and international conferences across Italy, the European Union, North America, and the Middle East. His lecture schedule illustrates the heavy demand for his scientific expertise. On average, he has presented 25 lectures per year since 2003, an impressive pace that he will exceed in the current year. Commensurate with these achievements, Dr. Pellegrino has been appointed to leadership positions in the two most prestigious societies for pulmonary physicians, the European Respiratory Society and the American Thoracic Society.

Dr. Pellegrino is clearly qualified for promotion. His career reflects a unique blend of basic science and applied research, of academic excellence and medical education. Dr. Pellegrino has achieved the international recognition expected of a distinguished senior academician. I enthusiastically endorse his proposed promotion.

Sincerely,

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