April 10, 2019

Derek Eberhart, Ph.D.

Associate Vice President for Research

Executive Director, Innovation Gateway

University of Georgia

343 Tucker Hall

310 East Campus Road

Athens, GA 30602

Re: Letter of Support for University of Georgia Innovation Fellows Program

Dear Dr. Eberhart:

As chair of the department of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at the University of Georgia (UGA), I fully endorse \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s candidacy for the new UGA Innovation Fellows Program, which is designed to support faculty who are interested in learning about commercialization and product development.

I understand that the Innovation Fellowship is a semester-long opportunity and commitment requiring an initial weeklong immersion in UGA’s innovation-oriented curriculum and then a weekly commitment of approximately eight hours to move the Fellow’s commercially relevant research ideas forward.

I also understand that each Fellow will be eligible to receive up to $10,000 in funding to facilitate the customer discovery process and to continue building relationships with industry partners. At the end of the program, Fellows will have a deeper understanding of industry needs, as well as the tools used to better assess how those needs align with their particular research interests. The program should not only enhance a Fellow’s research capacity, but also enrich their teaching and mentoring capabilities.

I am fully committed to supporting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s application for the UGA Innovation Fellows Program, as well as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s participation in the Fall 2019 Innovation Fellow cohort.

Sincerely,