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January 6, 2020

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To Whom It May Concern:

As the Interim President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), I have appointed Dr. Susan Buskirk to serve as the Institutional Official (IO) effective January 6, 2020, serving as the institutional point of responsibility for the oversight of research, including the Human Research Protection Program. Institutional Biosafety Program and all other areas of research where state and/or federal oversight is required.

Dr. Buskirk is of sufficient rank and authority to effectuate the IO's responsibility of ensuring UMB's Human Research Protection Program functions effectively and has the necessary resources and support to comply with all regulations and requirements applicable to research involving human subjects. Dr. Buskirk will further provide a single point of contact for UMB's federal partners, including OHRP.

As IO, Dr. Buskirk will exercise administrative and operational authority to commit resources and support, enforce policies and procedures, authorize necessary administrative or legal action to preserve and promote UMB's effective compliance regarding health, safety, and the responsible conduct of research. Dr. Buskirk may not approve research that has been disapproved or has yet to be approved by the IRB or any federally required and institutionally authorized research oversight body.

Dr. Buskirk may delegate the performance of certain operational and oversight duties to one or more designees. Any such delegation must be in writing. Concurrent with this appointment, Dr. Buskirk, as IO will review and, if desirous, renew any such delegations as may be currently in place. Consistent with regulation and requirements, the following responsibilities may not be delegated:

- Signatory Authority for any federal or agency assurances involving research;
- Reporting
- Completing any requisite Assurance training for Institutional Officials;
- Ensuring that compliance committee/boards function independently
- Ensuring that chairs and/or members of the compliance committees have direct access to the IO if they experience any undue influence or have any concerns about the function of compliance committees; and
- Ensuring that adequate resources are provided to support the operations of federally required compliance committees.

Dr. Buskirk, in the capacity of IO, is authorized to commit UMB to the legally binding FWA terms and conditions and require compliance with same.

Sincerely,

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD Interim President

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