INDIANA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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John I. Nurnberger, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Joyce and Iver Small Professor of Psychiatry
Department of Psychiatry
Indiana University School of Medicine
Institute of Psychiatric Research
791 Union Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Dear Dr. Nurnberger:

I am delighted to write a letter in support of your nomination of Christopher McDougle, M.D., for the Glenn W. Irwin Jr. MD., Research Scholarship Award.

As the department Chairman, I had the pleasure of knowing Dr. McDougle for periods of time at different stages throughout his academic career. He was an outstanding medical student at Indiana University graduating with highest distinction in 1986. During these years, he had already demonstrated his aptitude for research working with Dr. Joyce Small as his mentor.

I followed with great interest his career first as a resident and then as a faculty member at Yale University where he quickly established a national reputation as a leading researcher in Child Psychiatry particularly in the area of autism spectrum disorders. During these years, I continued to be in contact with him and was delighted in 1997 when I persuaded him to return to head the Section of Child Psychiatry in 1997. In 3 short years, he dramatically transformed the section making it one of the leading child psychiatry research groups in the country not only through his own research endeavors which have remained strong but also by stimulating, encouraging and mentoring others in the section.

When I retired as Chairman in 2000, I was again delighted to be informed that the Dean was considering Dr. McDougle as my successor. At that time I told the Dean that I believed that Dr. McDougle could bring our department to a new level in research. This he has certainly done in a manner exceeding even my own expectations. The Department of Psychiatry is now recognized as one of the leading research departments in the country both for funding and for research productivity and creativity.

What is even more remarkable is that over this period as Chairman, Dr. McDougle has continued to excel in his own research endeavors. He is currently PI on 2 major NIH grants on

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the pharmacological strategies for autism totaling close to 3.5 million dollars. He is PI and co Pi of numerous other Federal and Industry supported grants totaling close to another 3 million dollars. He is author or coauthor in more than 150 papers, 8 published in 2010 alone and a further 11, either in press or being submitted, in many of the leading journals in the field.

He is recognized now as one of the leading if not the leading researcher in the country in pharmacological approaches for autism spectrum disorders. He has been the recipient of numerous awards for his work, listed in his CV, both for his research and for his services to the field including the prestigious Frank L. Menolascino Award from the American Psychiatric Association.

The Irwin Award states that the candidate should have a sustained record of research, successful grant writing and an impact in the field of study. Dr. McDougle certainly fulfils these criteria. In addition, by his leadership and example, he has created a superb successful research oriented department of psychiatry a remarkable achievement in this difficult age of funding.

He has brought great credit to our medical school and is a superb candidate for the Irwin Award.

Sincerely,

Hugh C. Hendrie, MB, ChB, DSc
Professor of Psychiatry
Department of Psychiatry, Indiana University School of Medicine
Center Scientist, Indiana University Center for Aging Research
Research Scientist, Regenstrief Institute, Inc.