

March 12, 2025

To the Hong Kong Laureate Review Committee,

I highly recommend Anastasia Lubarsky for inclusion in your 2025 Forum. Anastasia is a promising early-career scientist with a demonstrated commitment to doing high-impact research on a global scale. Participation in this event will allow her to expand her network, exchange knowledge, and grow into a leader in the Life Sciences and Medical field.

I met Anastasia in September 2023 when she reached out to me about a postdoctoral opportunity that I had posted for my lab at the United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense (USAMRICD). Though she was just beginning her PhD studies at the University of Cambridge at the time, she was curious to learn about my work investigating treatments for seizures caused by chemical weapons. Anastasia was quick to draw connections between my lab's research and her thesis work on inflammatory mechanisms following traumatic brain injury. As a testament to her creativity and collaborative spirit, Anastasia devised a plan to visit USAMRICD to perform a joint study on inflammatory markers following seizures in the rodent brain. She successfully wrote a small grant proposal to fund the research materials and her travel. Though I have recently left my position at USAMRICD, my colleagues there are looking forward to hosting Anastasia this summer.

Anastasia is excellent at building connections across disciplines and continents. Her inquisitive nature, warm personality, and scientific talent make her a truly excellent candidate for your forum. Please feel free to reach out if you'd like to discuss Anastasia's qualifications further.

Sincerely,



Hilary McCarren
Senior Mammalian Toxicologist
(610) 906-4218
hilary.mccarren@fmc.com