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**SWISS PARAPLEGIC RESEARCH**  
Mirjam Brach, Managing Director

Hong Kong Laureate Forum 2025

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SPF/STJ

**Recommendation for Mr. Xin Zhou's Application to the Hong Kong Laureate Forum 2025**

Dear Members of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum ,

I write to provide my unequivocal recommendation of Mr. Xin Zhou for participation in the Hong Kong Laureate Forum 2025. As his doctoral advisor at the University of Bern and Swiss Paraplegic Research, I have closely supervised Mr. Zhou's research activities and observed first-hand his exceptional academic rigor, technical proficiency, and intellectual contributions to the fields of clinical microbiology and metagenomics.

Mr. Zhou's research is focused specifically on the mechanisms underlying *Staphylococcus aureus* decolonization and the epidemiology of bacteriuria in patients with spinal cord injury. His investigations have significantly advanced our understanding of microbial dynamics within this patient population, employing advanced sequencing methodologies and bioinformatics to develop innovative diagnostic and therapeutic strategies. His approach is characterized by methodological precision and originality, substantially contributing to infectious disease management and microbiome research.

Attendance at the Hong Kong Laureate Forum will enable Mr. Zhou to engage meaningfully with eminent scientists and emerging researchers across disciplines. His depth of expertise in clinical microbiology, metagenomics, and infectious disease research will enrich scholarly discussions at the forum. Additionally, Mr. Zhou's demonstrated capacity for scholarly collaboration and his commitment to scientific inquiry strongly resonate with the objectives of the Hong Kong Laureate Forum to foster scientific excellence among emerging researchers.

I endorse Mr. Zhou's candidacy without reservation and strongly recommend his inclusion in the Hong Kong Laureate Forum 2025. Should further information be required, please contact me at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Swiss Paraplegic Research

Prof. Dr. Jivko Stoyanov  
Head of SCI Population Biobanking  
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