HARVARD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

name/ID/location

September 22, 2014

Dear Dr. Kalin,

This letter affirms my commitment to serve as Consultant for your R01 project entitled *Extreme anxiety in females: the roles of the bed nucleus of the stria terminalis (BST) during the transition to adolescence in human and nonhuman primates*.

The proposed research incorporates an experimental fMRI task that isolates transient and sustained neural responses that track with brief and sustained affective provocation. I am the primary developer of this task (Somerville et al., 2013 *Cerebral Cortex*), and I have adapted the task for developmental populations as part of NIMH R00MH087813 (Somerville, PI). In my lab, we recently completed a fMRI large experiment focused on healthy neurodevelopment, in which we adapted the transient-sustained task for participants as young as 9 years of age. I have already shared the task with your research team and I plan to continue to consult with you and your team to ensure the task is optimized for your research objectives. I have also shared some preliminary findings with your research team to demonstrate the feasibility of applying the transient-sustained framework to developmental populations, and the initial results are promising in identifying robust reactivity of the BST (which is critical for the proposed work).

I am eager to invest my time to advise this team as they apply the task and framework to study youth varying in risk for anxiety disorders and quite frankly, I cannot wait to see the results. The proposed work (in the hands of your highly skilled and forward-thinking team) exemplifies the explanatory power of innovative translational research and I am confident that this work will make great strides toward advancing theory and mechanistic understanding of the development of anxiety dysregulation.

As Consultant, I plan to be an active contributor to the work by interacting with the research

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team by email, phone, or Skype quarterly, and more often as needed. I will share the optimized developmental transient-sustained fMRI task in its entirety and help to further optimize it when the project begins. I will also plan to help solve any issues with task implementation throughout the project period. In the later stages of the project, I will consult on analytic strategies, interpretation of the results, and the broader theoretical significance of the work.

Best of luck on this extremely exciting and innovative proposal,

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