

Recommendation Letter Brief

One brief per recommender · Petitioner: Dr. Sarah Chen

Brief for Recommender 1

For: Prof. James Wilson
Institution: Stanford University School of Medicine
Department: Department of Neurology
Relationship: Independent expert

What this letter should establish

- Prof. Wilson's own standing in the field, including his position and citation record
- His independent assessment of Dr. Chen's neural interface methodology
- The national importance of the proposed endeavor, stated in his own terms
- Why Dr. Chen's continued work in the United States serves the national interest

Key points to address

Prof. Wilson has read Dr. Chen's published work on adaptive neural filtering, particularly her 2022 paper in *Nature Neuroscience* (cited 187 times). He is well placed to speak to the originality of the closed-loop approach and to how it differs from the open-loop devices currently in clinical use.

The letter should name specific episodes rather than characterize the work in general terms: the result that changed how his own group approaches seizure detection, the method or dataset his laboratory adopted, and the point at which the field began treating responsive stimulation as a viable option **[TO CONFIRM: ask Prof. Wilson which of these he can speak to from direct knowledge]**.

Independence

Because this letter carries weight as an independent assessment, it should state the independence plainly, in substantively these words: "I have no collaborative publications or shared funding with Dr. Chen." **[TO CONFIRM: Prof. Wilson to confirm no shared publications or grants before the letter is finalized]**

Practicalities

- Two pages on Stanford letterhead, signed and dated

- Addressed "To Whom It May Concern" unless a specific officer is named
- Return by **[TO CONFIRM: date needed]**

Brief for Recommender 2

For: Prof. Maria Santos
Institution: Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department: Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences
Relationship: Independent expert

What this letter should establish

- Her assessment of the adaptive filtering algorithms as an engineering contribution
- How the work is used or cited beyond Dr. Chen's own laboratory
- The independence statement, in her own words

Brief for Recommender 3

For: Dr. Robert Park
Institution: Johns Hopkins University
Department: Department of Biomedical Engineering
Relationship: Direct supervisor

What this letter should establish

- The period and capacity of the supervision, and that the assessment rests on direct observation
- What Dr. Chen delivered on the R01 award, in concrete terms
- Her role in directing the Neural Interface Laboratory **[TO CONFIRM: appointment date]**

Dr. Sarah Chen is an invented applicant and every figure above is illustrative. Your own package is drafted from the record you provide, with each unsupported point marked for your attention before filing.