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Theodore DeWeese, M.D.  
Interim Dean/CEO, Johns Hopkins Medicine  
Dean of the Medical Faculty,  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Administration, Suite 100

Dear Dr. DeWeese:

It gives me great pleasure to nominate Panagis Galiatsatos, MD MHS for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor of Medicine, full-time, in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University Department of Medicine. Dr. Galiatsatos has been on faculty since 2018 and has quickly achieved a national and international reputation as a program builder in the field of health equity and community engagement, intersecting them both to improve the clinical management and health system services for tobacco dependence and lung diseases. On the basis of his significant academic contributions, clinical distinction and dissemination of scholarship, I believe he meets the high standards of excellence that warrant promotion to Associate Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

***Training***

Dr. Galiatsatos, a graduate of the University of Maryland School of Medicine, came to Johns Hopkins as a resident in the internal medicine program of the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. During that time, he excelled clinically and was the recipient of the Patrick Murphy Award for Best Resident Teacher in 2012. He stayed after residency after being invited to serve as the Assistant Chief of Service for the residency program. During this year, he had opportunities to do community engagement that laid the foundation for his academic program building achievements. Following his residency program, he completed pulmonary and critical care fellowship at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine's Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and at the Clinical Center of the National Institutes of Health between 2014-2018. During his clinical training, Dr. Galiatsatos also completed two graduate level degrees. He completed a Master's in Health Sciences (MHS) from the Duke University School of Medicine where his focus revolved around health disparity outcomes through geospatial analyses, with an attention directed at sepsis-related outcomes (OR# 22), as well as projects that translated well during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also received a Master's as a Tobacco Treatment Specialist from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. After completion of his fellowships, he joined faculty in 2018 as Instructor of Medicine and was rapidly promoted to Assistant Professor of Medicine in 2019.

## **Scholarship**

Dr. Galiatsatos has outstanding scholarship productivity that highlights his program building successes around community engagement and tobacco dependence. He has published 58 original research articles, of which 34 are of original research where Dr. Galiatsatos is either first or last author.

### *Community Engagement with Faith-based Organizations*

Dr. Galiatsatos published 13 manuscripts regarding his work with faith-based organizations. The aforementioned publications discuss the role faith-based communities can have in health promotion through the community when congregants are trained as peer-to-peer educators (called Lay Health Educators). For example, Dr. Galiatsatos identified that Lay Health Educators trained at a local mosque in turn implemented health lectures for the proceeding two years aimed at helping Syrian refugees assimilate to the US health care system (OR#23). In another study, Galiatsatos that 55 lay health educators, between 2011 to 2016, implemented monthly health talks in their respective congregation as part of a health ministry campaign (OR #11). In an investigational narrative capturing the process the educators take to implement culturally appropriate health interventions, educators at a Hispanic/Latino and at an African American Baptist Church discuss how they were able to implement heart healthy talks and interventions (OR#7). Such efforts in the community have also impacted physician-in-training's approach to patient care when such physicians participate in community engagement opportunities. Specifically, resident physicians found that participating in a brief, formal community activity improved their confidence with community health interests and improving patient-doctor relationships due to the new insight gained about the local communities (OR #6). The aforementioned publications are found in the *Journal of Religion and Health*, the leading academic journal for the purpose of religion, spirituality, and health. Finally, his most cited publication on community engagement highlights the impact community collaborations had during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic (OR# 27). Specifically, Dr. Galiatsatos discussed how he effectively gathered faith-based leaders every week for 6-weeks (averaging 125 leaders) in a forum to disseminate public health messaging that emphasized in real-time updated COVID-19 information and resources.

Dr. Galiatsatos' reputation was fortified in community engagement with faith-based organizations when he was invited to co-author the book, *Building Healthy Communities through Medical Religious Partnerships* (BK #1). The Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center leadership, specifically Dr. Richard G. Bennett and Dr. W. Daniel Hale, co-authored the first two editions of the book, providing guidance for faith-based organizations on health issues and how to initiate collaborations with healthcare systems. For the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Dr. Galiatsatos was brought on to assist in updating the book, as well as assuring the future of the work will continue. The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition was published by the Johns Hopkins University (JHU) Press and has sold 2,148 copies as of 8 November 2022.

### *Tobacco Dependence: From Clinical Care to Community Engagement*

With the initiation of the Johns Hopkins Health System's first dedicated tobacco treatment clinic, Dr. Galiatsatos assured that the clinical care for tobacco dependence would merge with research and community engagement. Dr. Galiatsatos has shown how a tobacco treatment clinic can be an effective touchpoint for improving lung cancer screenings (OR #48). In a 13-month pilot, all 92 patients who qualified for lung cancer screenings completed them within three months, with the majority completing them same-day. Further, Dr. Galiatsatos demonstrated the high prevalence of undiagnosed mental health morbidities in patients who are refractory in regards to smoking cessation (OR# 58). Undiagnosed anxiety, depression, and social isolation were found to be associated with low smoking cessation attempts, warranting mental health management simultaneous to smoking cessation therapies. From a community engagement standpoint, Dr. Galiatsatos has shown that neighborhood composition, specifically, access to

tobacco retail products is associated with higher smoking rates in vulnerable populations (e.g. persons who are pregnant) (OR #25) and adversely impacts respiratory health outcomes (OR #16). He led a systematic review, highlighting that persons who smoke in housing units were concerned with their ability to stop smoking; study participants favored having on-site clinical access for resource allocation to aid in the tenants' achievement of smoking cessation (OR# 28). He led a community engagement initiative, in partnership with MGG, implementing 29 on-site tobacco treatment clinic sessions across two housing units. The on-site clinics resulted in 27.7% of the tenants who attended the sessions to stop smoking (OR #45). The significance of this work provided insight into how contextual-level factors, such as proximity to tobacco retailers, impacts smoking behavior in neighborhoods. The scholarship has laid the foundation for external grant funding and commercial interest to grow the aforementioned findings, specifically on lung cancer screenings.

Dr. Galiatsatos is co-author of the current international guidelines on tobacco dependence management with pharmacotherapy (GL#1). The guidelines are published in the leading journal for pulmonary medicine, *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*. Further, the guidelines are designated as an official statement by the American Thoracic Society (ATS). The ATS is the leading national and international organization for pulmonary and critical care medicine, where a third of its membership are of clinicians and scientists outside of the United States. He was invited to lead the summary of these guidelines for the ATS, resulting in a first-author publication that summarizes the guidelines for clinicians, published in another ATS-sponsored medical journal, *Annals of the American Thoracic Society* (GL#2). Dr. Galiatsatos' work with the ATS continues as part of the tobacco taskforce, resulting in additional publications on tobacco-related concerns, such as the future of nicotine addiction treatment (PP#5) and the harms of electronic cigarettes (RA#3). In addition, through Dr. Galiatsatos' tobacco treatment clinic, he identified and published the first case report of secondhand smoke from electronic cigarettes resulting in hypersensitivity pneumonitis (CR#5), first case report of electronic cigarettes resulting in sarcoidosis (CR# 8), and the first case series on how to manage electronic cigarette addiction (CR#6).

#### *Health Equity Research*

Dr. Galiatsatos' has leveraged his expertise in neighborhood composition to further address key health equity issues for the Johns Hopkins Health System. In one study, Dr. Galiatsatos et al found that a readily available composite measurement of neighborhood socioeconomic disadvantage was associated with 30-day readmissions for patients previously hospitalized with sepsis (OR# 24), published in *Critical Care Medicine*, the leading medical journal for critical care medicine. In the study, patients from more disadvantaged neighborhoods of Baltimore City had a greater likelihood of being readmitted within 30-days of hospital discharge, regardless of how ill they were on admission to the hospital and what life support measures they received while in the intensive care unit. In addition, Dr. Galiatsatos' research on patient demographic composition for COVID-19-related critical care admissions at a community hospital found a significant shift in minority patients by race and ethnicity (OR# 40). Specifically, in the first three months of the pandemic, Black/African American patients experienced greater rates of admission to the intensive care unit as compared to White patients; a similar trend was seen in Hispanic/Latino patients as compared to non-Hispanic/Latino patients. Of note, both these published reports led to health system equitable interventions, with post-sepsis transition of care teams and COVID-19 community engagement efforts continuing.

Clearly, Dr. Galiatsatos' work has highlighted community factors that contribute to health inequities and he is focused on ensuring that his study results lead to comprehensive strategies for health systems and effective community engagement. It is clear why he has been selected for significant leadership positions, including serving as the Health Equity Faculty Leader in the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, & Health Equity

at the Johns Hopkins Health System. Moreover, Dr. Galiatsatos' programmatic developments resulted in his recipient of a \$2.3 million dollar grant by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to continue his community engagement efforts by focusing his MGG-style training of training for Lay Health Educators to now continue with community health workers (CHW).

### ***Program Building***

Community engagement has been at the forefront of Dr. Galiatsatos' academic drive. This has resulted in novel institutional initiatives at the Johns Hopkins Medicine being created, community smoking cessation programs and scholarly work that reflects the efforts and outcomes of his impactful community engagement efforts.

### ***Role of Community Engagement***

Dr. Galiatsatos was born and raised in Baltimore City, growing up in the immigrant portion of the City. This firsthand experience in a unified community resulted in his belief that community engagement can be leveraged for the promotion of health and wellness. With such a belief, he co-founded and continues to co-direct Medicine for the Greater Good (MGG). MGG is an initiative to train physicians in the science and health benefits of community engagement. Through MGG, a list of workshops are created and implemented at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center campus, focused on "working with faith-based groups" to "health in the LGBTQ+ community" to "talking to the media". Simultaneously, MGG partners with the community to establish relationships and foster community health projects and outcomes at the grassroots level. With the creation of MGG, community engagement projects and scholarships have been possible throughout the years (OR # 6,7,11,19,23,27,35,45)

The excellent contribution of MGG to the Baltimore City community caught the attention of Congressman Elijah Cummings in 2015 and landed Dr. Galiatsatos as the front-page story of the Baltimore Sun on Christmas Eve of 2015, highlighting the partnership with faith-based organizations (e.g. Southern Baptist church, where the fire of their senior housing center struck during the Freddie Gray uprisings).

These connections also played a significant role in medical messaging during the COVID-19 pandemic, where Dr. Galiatsatos organized community members for conversations focused on the pandemic. The medical-religious partnership of Baltimore City during the COVID-19 pandemic, requested by Mayor Brandon Scott, saw MGG become a vital partner. This story was captured in the Baltimore Sun on April 26, 2021. Meaning, from pre-pandemic to the pandemic, MGG's grassroots efforts, bringing forth physicians in training to promote health and collaborations among diverse communities, continues to cement itself as a vital partner in the Johns Hopkins Health System's ~~in regards to its~~ commitment to Baltimore City.

Dr. Galiatsatos' community engagement work also extends to the scholastic system. He launched the Lung Health Ambassador Program (LHAP), which has won two community service awards from the American College of Chest Physicians. The LHAP is a 4-hour curriculum designed to train school-aged youth on pulmonary physiology and diseases, specifically highlighting diseases that impact vulnerable populations. The lessons then conclude with advocacy (a "call to action"), emphasizing current initiatives that students can participate in (e.g. the passing of Maryland Tobacco 21, where students wrote letters to the Governor to advocate for tobacco purchase age to be raised to 21 years old) (OR #35). The LHAP aims to improve science literacy and create an understanding of how science can help promote advocacy for populations disproportionately impacted by certain risk factors and/or diseases, such as asthma and cystic fibrosis. Through this collaborative work with Baltimore schools, Dr. Galiatsatos transformed the LHAP curriculum into COVID-19 specific teachings which caught the attention of the Johns Hopkins University leadership,

resulting in the Health Education and Teaching (HEAT) Corp. To date, the COVID-19 curriculum has been taught in 28 states, 8 countries, 4 languages, and estimate over 40,000 students. In the state of Maryland, Dr. Galiatsatos et al showed the impact of teaching this curriculum to 32 private Catholic schools that resulted in greater facemask adherence in the schools to holding virtual townhalls to disseminate COVID-19 information (OR #43). Finally, the HEAT Corp has funding from the University to assure it has a permanent place in the ability to engage with youth, improve their scientific literacy, and promote health.

Dr. Galiatsatos' community engagement initiatives have resulted in receipt of several awards, both at the Johns Hopkins Health System (e.g. the Martin L. King, Jr. Community Service Award) and locally (e.g. the Daily Records "40 under 40" award). By founding and establishing MGG, LHAP, and HEAT, Dr. Galiatsatos has shown that academic work can be culturally transformative for both the institution as well as the Baltimore community. Notably, Dr. Galiatsatos has been approved by JHU Press to begin working on an upcoming book, "Medicine for the Greater Good", which will be an instructional guide for health systems on how to engage with the community.

#### *Tobacco Free Community*

The Tobacco Free Community is a program initiated by Dr. Galiatsatos focused on a three-prong effort for the health system: clinical program building (starting and directing a tobacco treatment program), educational (developed and teaching a CME course for tobacco dependence management), and the aforementioned community-based efforts (running tobacco dependence projects in local housing units).

In 2018, Dr. Galiatsatos launched the Johns Hopkins Health System's first dedicated Tobacco Treatment Clinic within the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine. Tobacco dependence impacts diverse and vulnerable populations to diminish usage and dire health-related outcomes. The clinic has a multi-modal approach of implementing behavior changes, mindfulness, and pharmacotherapy to help patients become non-smokers. Under, Dr. Galiatsatos' leadership the clinic has grown to include a registered nurse providing counseling to all patients and a general internal medicine (GIM) faculty member, Dr. Alejandra Ellison-Barnes. Given the overlap of lung cancer risk and smoking, in collaboration with thoracic radiology and interventional pulmonary, the Tobacco Treatment Clinic has initiated same-day lung cancer screenings. Through securing grant funding from the Cigarette Restitution Funds, Dr. Galiatsatos has been able to assure the clinic has necessary resources to achieve effective smoking cessation: on-site pharmacotherapy (varenicline and nicotine replacement therapies) and mental health screenings for anxiety, depression, and social isolation. The clinic to date has seen 362 patients and has an astounding success rate of 63% smoking abstinence at 6-months. The clinic has also accomplished a >95% lung cancer screening completion rate within 3-months for patients seen in clinic (OR #48). Given the cancer screening evolution of the clinic, the clinic now is known as the Tobacco Treatment and Cancer Screening Clinic. It has been a significant addition to the Pulmonary Division, where many of our specialty clinics refer their patients for smoking cessation management. Dr. Galiatsatos has created an effective and equitable clinic, with the majority of patients being of a minority race and/or from significant socioeconomically disadvantaged neighborhoods. Given the impactful success of the program to date, Dr. Galiatsatos is the recipient of the Daily Record's "Health Care Heroes" Award in 2020 and the Tobacco Treatment Clinic has received the Clinical Collaboration and Teamwork award at the Johns Hopkins Health System in 2021.

#### ***National and International Recognition***

Dr. Galiatsatos' national recognition is apparent in his speaking invitations, leadership in national and international meetings, and media presence. Nationally, he has been asked to speak about tobacco dependence, community engagement and COVID-19. He has given invited talks at the Medical University of South Carolina (on his tobacco treatment clinic), University of California Riverside School of Medicine

(for Medicine for the Greater Good), the Aspen Institute (for equity concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic), University of Maryland (health disparities in critical care) and at the Duke University School of Medicine (health disparities in post-COVID-19 care). He has also established significant international recognition. Dr. Galiatsatos has lectured in Germany, Nigeria, Colombia and Greece. He was a visiting professor at the University of Patras in Greece to discuss community engagement and medical-religious partnerships in August 2021. Dr. Galiatsatos has been invited by Emeritus Professor of Surgery at the University of Athens School of Medicine and Chief of Surgery at HYGIA Hospital in Greece, Dr. Dimitris Linos, as a visiting professor to lead a series of lectures to medical students on community engagement via medical-religious partnerships in August 2023. In addition, his TEDx talk on “Medicine for the Greater Good” (2018) has now been viewed over 9,462 times on YouTube as of 8 November 2022.

### *Leadership*

Dr. Galiatsatos is highly sought after for several leadership positions within Johns Hopkins Medicine. In addition to his leadership of the clinical programs, he is the Health Equity Faculty Leader in the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Health Equity under the leadership of Dr. Sherita Golden. Dr. Galiatsatos serves as the Community Engagement Leader for the Community Research Advisory Committee (C-RAC), under the guidance of the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research. He is also the Community Engagement Leader for the Office of Community Outreach and Engagement at the Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, under the leadership of Dr. Otis Brawley. He is also a member of the Maryland Department of Health’s Maryland’s Cancer Coalition Taskforce, where he oversees community engagement projects for tobacco dependence management and lung cancer screening.

He was invited and has joined the Editorial Board of *the Journal of Religion and Health*, the premier academic medical journal regarding medicine and faith. His work in tobacco dependence has led to his membership on the Tobacco Treatment Taskforce with the American Thoracic Society (ATS). Dr. Galiatsatos serves as a committee member for the Health Equity branch of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT), an organization that focuses on public policy on tobacco control and nicotine-related products.

### *Media*

Dr. Galiatsatos’ national recognition is evident through the various media invitations. His community engagement work was highlighted/profiled in July 2021 on the CBS Sunday Morning television series, covering his work during the pandemic with faith-based organizations. He has also been interviewed by the Washington Post, New York Times, CNN, and MSNBC for his work on COVID-19, post-COVID-19, and smoking cessation. He was interviewed on live television on MSNBC for his work with COVID-19 and on CNBC for his work on tobacco dependence. Locally, he has been the cover story for the Baltimore Sun three times (twice for community engagement, once for post-COVID-19 management), and he has been interviewed 16 times on WMAR, WBFF, and WJZ for his insight on health topics. Internationally, he has appeared in the Nigerian Tribune and has had a standing media presence in Greece during the time frame of December 2021 to May 2022, discussing the pandemic. Further, he was featured in a leading Greek newspaper, Βήμα (Vima), where his work on community engagement was highlighted. Overall, his national and international reputation, from invited talks to media presence, is a testimony to his academic productivity, scholarship and expertise.

### *Mentorship*

During the last 4 years, Dr. Galiatsatos has mentored two faculty members. Dr. Alejandra Ellison-Barnes, from general internal medicine, was recruited by Dr. Galiatsatos to join the Tobacco Treatment Clinic, where she sees patients exclusively for tobacco dependence. In addition, Dr. Galiatsatos has provided her

with research opportunities that have manifested in scholarship (OR #58, CR #8). In addition, Dr. Galiatsatos invited her to co-author a guideline on initiating pharmacotherapy for tobacco dependence, published in the *Medical Clinics of North America* (GL #3). Dr. Thomas Cudjoe, from geriatrics, was recruited by Dr. Galiatsatos to assist in being one of the co-directors of Medicine for the Greater Good, where Dr. Cudjoe can lend guidance on community engagement projects for the aging population. In addition, Dr. Cudjoe has collaborated with Dr. Galiatsatos' Tobacco Treatment Clinic, resulting in an overlap of scholarship on Dr. Cudjoe's expertise on social isolation (OR #58). He has mentored undergraduates (seven), post-bac students (four), medical students (two), and resident physicians (two). Mentoring focused on health equity, community engagement, and clinical insight, culminating in many of his mentees accepted into medical school, fellowships, as well as co-authors on academic manuscripts (OR#11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 24, 27, 42, 43, 44, 45; CR# 6, 8; OE# 5; PP#1, 4). He takes time to provide clinical insight and teachings to all trainees whenever they join him in clinic or in the in-patient setting. Dr. Galiatsatos is also an adjunct faculty member at the School of Nursing, where he assists in running simulations on thoracentesis and chest tube placement for the Acute Care Nursing Practitioners fellowship, having trained 54 nursing practitioner students to date. Through his dedication to education and mentorship, he is the recipient of the Advising, Mentoring, & Teaching Recognition Award from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health (May 2021) and the Johns Hopkins University Career Impact Award (November 2022).

### **Education**

Dr. Galiatsatos is the creator and primary instructor for the 6-hour continuing medical education (CME) course on tobacco treatment, "Tobacco Treatment Specialist at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center". The course has organizational infrastructure support with the Johns Hopkins Continuing Medical Education (CME) Office. The course focuses on the biology of nicotine addiction, pharmacotherapy, and motivational interviewing. Several of the early course graduates are now part of the Tobacco Treatment Clinic, such as Dr. Ellison-Barnes, and 4 nurses assist in smoking cessation in clinics at the Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center. An abbreviated version (3-hours) was requested by the county health departments of St. Mary's and Calvert in the state of Maryland, to which Dr. Galiatsatos accepted the invitation in 2021. To date, 172 participants have taken the course, with attendees ranging from physicians to nurses to administrative personnel. The course continues to be taught and draw healthcare professionals from all over the world (e.g. Iran, India, Canada) and it is offered six times each academic year.

In 2020, Northside Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, invited Dr. Galiatsatos to present the 6-hour CME course over two days virtually to staff of physicians, nurses, and social workers. A total 82 staff completed the course. Given the success on the virtual sessions, Northside Hospital has invited Dr. Galiatsatos again to present the 6-hour course in 2023, in person, over two days to the hospital's staff, with the intention of reaching a larger audience.

Dr. Galiatsatos' teaching achievements continue to reaffirm his program building successes. In 2016, Dr. Galiatsatos was inducted into the Distinguished Teaching Society at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

### **Summary**

In summary, Dr. Galiatsatos is an accomplished faculty candidate who meets the rigorous criteria for promotion to Associate Professor of Medicine. He has established himself as a nationally- and internationally-recognized distinguished clinical scholarship track, with a program builder focus. Most

importantly, he has spearheaded a unique path focused on community engagement. His dedication to health equity is apparent in dedication to the community as well as in his scholarship and program building commitments at the Johns Hopkins University and beyond. For all these reasons, I nominate Panagis Galiatsatos, MD, MHS for promotion to Associate Professor of Medicine with my great enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Hansel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and a stylized "Hansel".

Nadia N. Hansel, MD, MPH  
Professor of Medicine  
Interim Director, Department of Medicine  
Interim Physician-in-Chief, Johns Hopkins Hospital