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To whom it may concern

Nijmegen, 8 April 2024

I am more than happy to provide a report about CUIP member activities during 2018-23, and the CUIP potential for 2025-29.

I am very impressed with the performance of CUIP during the period of 2018-23. CUIP has established a degree program in Psychology at each of the affiliated four universities. CUIP members supervised a very impressive total of 385 master's theses and 18 doctoral theses.

UAlg achieved the highest score among Portuguese universities in the indicator assessing international projection in the Times Higher Education assessment. I can confirm that CUIP members actively engage with international societies such as the "Society for the Cognitive Science of Culture" (of which I am the president).

CUIP members took part in an astonishing 64 funded research projects, 11 importantly received international funding. Of those 64 projects, CUIP members took the lead in 27 projects. The total funding allocated was an impressive 4,786,369.68 euros.

CUIP members have also been very productive during the period of 2018-23, each CUIP member for example contributed more than two papers to Scopus-indexed journals per year. It is an exciting development that the number of articles published in Scopus-indexed journals (including Q1 and Q2 journals) increased during the period of 2018-23. CUIP members received more than 26.702 citations in Scopus, which is a strong indicator of the impact of CUIP research contributions. CUIP members also authored 29 books and more than 180 chapters in edited books. CUIP members received many awards or distinctions in the evaluation period, which is a further indication of the high standing of CUIP members within the respective scientific communities.

CUIP members also engaged in wide-ranging knowledge transfer activities including the annual two-day seminar "Algarve Psychology Meeting" and many Action research projects such as "JOVITAEMPREGO - Unemployment trajectories, experiences and life paths of young people on the island of S. Miguel" and "Tourist well-being in the Autonomous Region of Madeira".

It is noteworthy that CUIP members are very experienced and have coordinated research centers rated highly by FCT. They have also served in External Assessment Committees (CAEs) for Psychology courses organized by the Higher Education Assessment and Accreditation Agency (A3ES).

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In short, I judge the performance of CUIP in the evaluation period to be at a very high level.

I also support the CUIP activity plan for the period 2025-2029 around the four interrelating strands of consolidating scientific excellence, establishing an international network, offering quality advanced training, and expand scientific dissemination to specialist and non-specialist audiences. I consider the organizational plans of CUIP to be a very efficient use of available resources, in particular the fact that it combines activities of two research lines and involves four Portuguese universities. I believe that the establishment of rigorous criteria for membership integration that emphasize the scientific productivity assessed through an APT, is an excellent idea.

A particularly commendable aspect is the strategic alignment of CUIP with the principles of strengthening, reorganizing, and continuously enhancing of collaborative actions, including hospitals, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, associations, corporate entities, and technology hubs and so on.

I fully support the proposals for CUIP for the period 2025-2029 and give a strongly positive recommendation. Should you require any further information do not hesitate to contact me.

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