RE: UCSD Department of Psychology Hiring Plan

Dear Michael [Chair of Department],

We are writing to affirm our support for your efforts to reorient our hiring process towards the climate crisis. We appreciate your efforts and we look forward to working collectively as a department to realize the potential of these new lines.

Recently the department submitted a 3-year plan to Dean Padden which included a range of proposed FTEs that we believe could be deployed to address the climate crisis. We are excited about this opportunity and would like the entire faculty to play a role in discussing how this goal might be accomplished, once our FTE allocations are announced to us.

The concept “climate crisis” denotes urgency, as affirmed by many high-profile recent publications¹, and also by the 10 chancellors of the UC system who signed a declaration this year calling for “... a drastic societal shift to combat the growing threat of climate change.”² We feel that it is critical for our hiring plan to reflect this urgency by including climate-related searches early in our 3 year hiring cycle.

In keeping with this, we would like to request that the faculty be alerted to our allocation soon upon its announcement, and that we then meet as a faculty to discuss how searches related to the climate crisis might be promptly done.

Sincerely,

Adam Aron
Tina Gremel
John Serences
Tim Gentner
Karen Dobkins
David Barner
Cory Miller
Leslie Carver
Caren Walker - added 01/20/2020
Emma Geller – added 02/04/2020
Gail Heyman – added 02/04/2020

¹ e.g. Lenton et al. (2019). Nature. https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-03595-0