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Where cures begin.

Salk Adjunct Service/Contributions Form

Name: Jerome Mertens **Appointment Start Date:** July 1, 2023
Sponsors: Rusty Gage, Tanya Sharpe

To be eligible for appointment and reappointment in the Adjunct series, appointees are expected to be engaged in **at least two** Institute-related activities outlined below. If you are being considered for your first Adjunct Professor appointment, provide information about your plans to engage in the Salk community and select any of the activities you would be interested in below. If you are being considered for reappointment, select your ongoing activities and give a brief summary of your engagement in each activity during the past appointment period. Also provide a summary of your plans to engage in the Salk activities during the next appointment period.

Salk Activities (list the course/seminar titles, committees, and student names if known)
** Please note research collaborations with a Salk Faculty sponsor(s) do not qualify as Institute-related activities expected for an Adjunct position*

- ☒ Giving Seminars, such as those hosted by Sponsors or by the Institute
- ☐ Teaching in Salk-organized courses
- ☒ Serving on UCSD Student Review committees and/or Thesis Committees in Salk Labs
- ☒ Reviewing Postdoctoral and other Internal Grants
- ☒ Participating in Salk's outreach and educational efforts to recruit underrepresented minority student applicants
- ☒ Consulting on Salk scientific initiatives or multi-PI grants
- ☒ Serving on Faculty Review Committees
- ☐ Promoting award and nomination opportunities for Salk Faculty
- ☒ Organizing or participating on Salk Meetings or Conferences
- ☐ Other

Salk Service Summary & Plans: Describe your plans to engage in the activities marked above during the next appointment period (i.e.: Salk Course or Seminar Titles, names of Student or Faculty review committee, description of contributions to grants, etc. if unable to fit above). If you are being considered for reappointment, also describe your engagement in the Salk activities during the last appointment period. You may attach a supplemental letter with these activities as needed.

During my first appointment period, my primary position was Asst.-Prof. at the University of Innsbruck, Austria. I co-supervised Joseph Herdy (UCSD NGP student, primarily in the Gage lab). As part of the mentorship, Joe has visited my lab in Innsbruck despite COVID in both 2019 and 2022, and was part of regular virtual lab meetings of my group. He has published two first-author papers with me as a co-corresponding author. Further, I spoke the NGP retreat, which also offered opportunity to informally interact with NGP trainees working in several Salk labs. My lab recently moved from Europe to UCSD, and since 2023 I am Associate Professor at the Department of Neurosciences at UCSD. My lab is located at the SCRM across the street from Salk, allowing me to take part in more Salk activities and engage with the Salk community more closely. Already six of my postdoc and graduate student trainees are also affiliated with Salk as Visiting Scientists, and are collaborating and are starting to engage in Salk activities. Over the years affiliated with the Salk in different ways, I have been collaborating with several labs at Salk, including Gage, Hunter, Hetzer, Ecker, and