

To: Prof. Ron Heeren

President of the International Mass

Spectrometry Foundation

University of Maastricht, M4I

Professor Ian Prior
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Re: Letter of Support - Bid to host the 28th International Mass Spectrometry Conference

Dear Professor Heeren,

I am writing to lend my full support to the bid to bring the 28th IMSC 2030 to Liverpool. In my capacity as Co-Director for Liverpool Shared Research Facilities (LIV-SRF) at the University of Liverpool, I believe Liverpool offers a compelling combination of internationally recognised scientific capability, cutting-edge research infrastructure, and civic ambition, that would make it an outstanding host city.

LIV-SRF coordinates 17 Shared Research Facilities across the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, spanning Bioimaging, Bioresources, and - most relevant to this bid - Multiomics and mass spectrometry through our Centre for Metabolomics Research (CMR), Centre for Experimental Therapeutics (TherEx) and Centre for Proteome Research (CPR). The CPR in particular has a long track record of high-impact innovation, collaborative research and development, and service delivery in quantitative and structural proteomics. The facility has been repeatedly successful in securing significant internal and external investment in instrumentation that continues to further strengthen the University's mass spectrometry capability and its relevance to the wider UK and international MS community ahead of 2030.

Liverpool is also home to strong complementary research communities in structural biology, chemistry, and health sciences, all of which draw regularly on mass spectrometry as core infrastructure, meaning delegates would find genuine scientific engagement here, not just a venue.

I also want to emphasise what hosting IMSC 2030 would mean for the wider Liverpool research community. The University of Liverpool has been an early and vocal advocate for the Technician Commitment and for professionalising the Research Technical Professional (RTP) career pathway - work that our Vice-Chancellor has publicly championed as a UK-first initiative, aligned with the TALENT Commission's recommendations on technical career visibility and progression. Hosting IMSC on our doorstep would be an opportunity for our technical staff to engage directly with a conference of this calibre, and in recognition of this, LIV-SRF is committing to sponsor our technicians and RTPs to attend

the conference. This also gives us an opportunity to share our learning in this space, and to showcase how supporting all research-related roles, including technicians and RTPs, drives innovation and strengthens our research capabilities.

Institutional backing

The below summarises the support LIV-SRF, via the University of Liverpool, are able to offer, should the bid be successful:

- Access to our research, technical, and RTP staff as local scientific committee members, session chairs, and workshop demonstrators
- Availability of Shared Research Facilities to host satellite events, pre-conference courses, or vendor demonstrations
- Sponsorship of four LIV-SRF RTPs or technicians to attend the conference in full, covering registration and attendance costs

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Prior', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Prof Ian Prior

Co-Director, LIV-SRF

Deputy PVC for the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences

APVC, Technology, Infrastructure & Environment