



Centre de Recherches sur la Cognition Animale

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**To whom it may concern**

***Letter of support for TMBI Project – ANR Program Instituts Convergences***

Dear Sir, Madam

It is a pleasure to write a letter in support of the proposal TMBI (*Toulouse Mind and Brain Institute*) (name) being submitted to the ANR Program “*Instituts Convergences*” by Simon Thorpe.

As the director of the *Research Center on Animal Cognition*, (CRCA, UMR CNRS 5169), I am very enthusiastic about this initiative. The goal of creating a highly interdisciplinary research center that pools together the very rich talent base present in Toulouse in the field of cognitive science is a priority for our research center, which is, since many years, committed to the interdisciplinary study of animal cognition.

Importantly, TMBI is not a fully new construct prepared for a call for applications. TMBI exists since many years as fluid and rich interactions exist between many of its partners. These interactions include our institute which has maintained privileged exchanges with many of the research centers listed in the TBI project. The fact that on top of these, new ones will emerge favored by the TMBI project adds to the value of this initiative.

TMBI arises, therefore, as a unique opportunity in the scientific landscape of Toulouse, allying the forces of hundreds of scientists and economic partners willing to promote studies on cognitive science. We endorse enthusiastically this initiative and hope, therefore, that it will attract your positive attention. Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information or perspective.

Yours sincerely

Prof. Martin Giurfa  
Directeur CRCA UMR 5169  
Membre de l'Institut Universitaire de France

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