TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Davis College
Plant & Soil Science™

June 5, 2024

Dear Davis College Selection Committee,

This letter is offered as formal nomination for Dr. Brendan Kelly for the Texas Tech University President's Excellence in Commercialization Award. Brendan is an Associate Professor in the Department of Plant and Soil Science and also a founding partner of Dynamic Fiber Systems LLC, a startup company that came out of patents and intellectual property developments made by Dr. Kelly and partners at the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute. I think you will find him a strong candidate for this award, and I strongly support his nomination.

Brendan and colleagues developed innovative methods for fiber quality analysis and applied for three patents related to this work. One of these patents has been awarded, and Dr. Kelly established a LLC to advance this work and commercialize it. His work is expanding the reach of cotton quality testing worldwide. His patents are listed below:

Awarded
1. **Kelly B.,** Hequet E.F., Sayeed* A., Hinds* Z. 2018. System and Method for Fibrogram Fiber Quality Evaluation. Patent Cooperation Treaty. US patent, serial number 62/585,206, filed Nov. 13, 2017. Serial number US18/60779. Awarded Sept 2022.

Pending
1. Ray, A. **Kelly, B.** Sari-Sarraf, H. 2022. Methods and systems for evaluating fiber qualities. PCT application number 63/293,448. Filed 12/23/21. TTU Ref. 2022-026. Pending.
2. **Kelly. B.** PCT application number 17/970,565. Filed 10/21/2022. Pending. Licensed.

Dr. Kelly has been at the forefront of our faculty members in working with the TTU Innovation Hub and has encouraged dozens of graduate students to participate in product development and startup companies. We are proud of Dr. Kelly and the impact he is having on our students and the crop industry. His accomplishments in commercialization will likely reach far beyond the scope of his role at Texas Tech University, and I therefore highly recommend him for this award.

Respectfully,

Glen Ritchie

Glen L. Ritchie, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Plant and Soil Science