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Dear Dr. Weldon,

In response to your kind invitation (Manuscript Number JoVE58850), we here submit for possible publication in *JoVE* a manuscript entitled “*A scalable approach for the enzymatic production and purification of diterpenoid natural products.*”, authored by Katherine M. Murphy, Siwon Chung, Shruti Fogla, Hana B. Minsky, Karen Yong Zhu and Philipp Zerbe.

The article describes protocols for the enzymatic production of diterpenoid natural products via multi-gene co-expression in *Escherichia coli* or *Nicotiana benthamiana* as host systems, and the purification of target compounds using silica chromatography and optional HPLC. The described protocols provide inexpensive, customizable approaches that can be readily implemented in most laboratories and enable the production of diterpenoid natural products for a range of downstream analysis and applications, such as NMR structural analyses, bioactivity studies, and enzyme functional studies, thus offering a community resource to facilitate a broader investigation of the chemical and functional diversity of plant diterpenoid metabolism.

We are respectfully suggesting reviewers with considerable expertise and a track record of publications relevant to the research area of this submission, including **Dr. Dana Morrone** (St. Louis College of Pharmacy), **Dr. Reuben Peters** (Iowa State University), **Dr. Trent Northen** (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory), and **Dr. Hiroshi Maeda** (University of Wisconsin - Madison).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. Zerbe".

Philipp Zerbe  
Assistant Professor of Plant Biology, UC Davis