



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Mammal Research Institute
Department of Zoology & Entomology
18th September 2014

Mr Willie Jacobs

Ukutula Lion Lodge

Re: assistance with MRI research

Dear Willie

I have been meaning to write to you for sometime to thank you for the extraordinary assistance you have given at no cost to Mr I Viljoen and Ms A Donaldson, PhD and MSc students, in pursuing their research projects.

Mr Viljoen's project on TB in lions and its effects on the neuroendocrinology of reproduction in lions is potentially very valuable to conservation of lions which have a very high incidence of bovine TB in areas such as Kruger National Park. TB appears to compromise lion competence for survival in the wild and possibly their reproductive capacity. Our research may contribute to understanding the pathogenesis of the disease in lions and its control.

Ms Donaldson is doing related research of examining the ability of carnivores and scavengers to resist infection from the high load of pathogens they are exposed to through the innate immune system.



MRI

The Mammal Research Institute

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We appreciate the lengths you have gone to to ensure success of our projects which will deliver post graduate degrees and hopefully contribute to conservation of lions and other predators and scavengers. The highly professional and exemplary manner in which you manage your animals is commendable and facilitatory to the quality of our research.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Millar', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Professor Robert P Millar

FRSE, FRSSA

Director, Mammal Research Institute, University of Pretoria

Director, MRC Receptor Biology Unit, University of Cape Town

Research Fellow, University of Edinburgh