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KAUST, 23 September 2017

Recommendation Letter Miroslav Ovecka

To Whom It May Concern:

It is a pleasure to write a recommendation letter for Miroslav Ovecka, who I know for many years from collaborative work and as a colleague.

I first met Miroslav first when setting up various European collaborative research projects during my time as Professor of Genetics at the University of Vienna. As part of these efforts, Miroslav spent several weeks in my lab in Vienna in 2001 and then was Marie Curie Fellow in the lab of Professor Lichtscheidl in Vienna from 2003-2005. During this time, I could appreciate the high expertise and knowledge of Miroslav in various cell biological techniques and applications which can be appreciated by publishing these results in some of the highest recognized international journals. In later years, I could follow the success of Miroslav work at the Palacky University in Olomouc through my reviewer function as member of the International Scientific Board of the CR Hana.

As easily judged from his total of 56 publications, it is clear that Miroslav belongs to the leading experts of plant cell biology both covering timely themes and applying latest methodologies and techniques. It must also be said that part of his success is due to the



excellent research facilities and the high technology equipment at the CR Hana which make it today one of the outstanding research centers in plant biology. The high expertise of Miroslav Ovecka forms an essential part of the center for the ability to train local and international students and attract scientists from all over the world to come and perform research at the Palacky University. Clearly, the investments in the latest apparatus and technologies must be met with the recruitment of the best possible people who know how to use the equipment and train the future generations on their use and in this respect Miroslav Ovecka is clearly an expert of first choice.

All in all, the Palacky University and CR Hana center have undergone an exceptional development to become a flagship in Czech and European science. To maintain and follow the path of success, I therefore highly recommend to recruit Miroslav Ovecka as Professor at the Palacky University.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heribert Hirt".

Heribert Hirt