

**Prof. Ivo Frebort, CSc. , PhD**  
**Dean, Faculty of Science**  
**Palacky University Olomouc**  
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**Czech Republic**

18 September 2017

Dear Dr. Frebort,

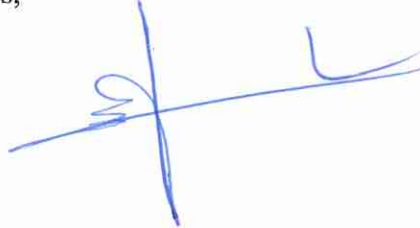
I write this letter with my outmost earnestness and enthusiasm in the strongest support of Dr. Miroslav Ovecka's application for the promotion to the Rank of Professor. I have met many individuals in my scientific career and few are so deserving of this opportunity as Dr. Ovecka. The reasons are many, and I hope this effort assures you what is already clear in my mind.

First of all I would like to emphasize Dr. Ovecka's intellectual capacity, which combined with his relentless dedication, is guaranteed to fuel successful research endeavors. A quick look at his most recent publications record evidences on the good quality of his work. Numerous scientific papers published in several internationally recognized first-class journals bear testimony to his distinguished capability. I must emphasize that during his 4-years post-doctoral stage in our lab between 2007 and 2010, Dr. Ovecka immensely contributed to change our view on plant metabolism and plant-microbe interactions. We jointly published 13 scientific articles which would not exist without the deep contribution and distinctive touch of Dr. Ovecka.

Without exaggeration, few people I have met during my career have the capacity and perceptivity of look at a scientific situation and, as if it were in his/her own academic expertise, comprehend its enterity to the smallest details. This exceptional ability enables Dr. Ovecka to fully participate in several concurrent projects. His work is a source of pride and he always goes the "extra mile". In present times of too much complacency, it is refreshing to observe people like Dr. Ovecka putting all his enthusiasm and dedication to his own and other's work. On a personal basis, Dr. Ovecka is very congenial and friendly. Above all, he is a person that listens to all points of view and maintains a balance attitude.

In summary, I strongly recommend Dr. Ovecká for the promotion to the Rank of Professor without the slightest hesitation. If you should have any further questions, I shall be very happy to answer to all of them.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a vertical line on the left, a horizontal line crossing it, and a loop on the right.

**Javier Pozueta Romero**  
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