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School of Biosciences

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Dear Assoc. Prof. Dr Martin Kubala,

I am writing to express my full and unreserved support of the application of Dr Vladimír Remeš for promotion to the rank of full Professor.

Dr Remeš is internationally known for his work on the evolution and ecology of birds, with significant contributions on parental care, nesting behaviour and foraging ecology. He is highly productive, and his work has appeared in the most prestigious international journals in his field.

In terms of his contributions to his field, Dr Remeš has made several important and influential contributions. He has made significant contributions to our understanding of the evolution parental care strategies in birds, for example. I collaborated with him on one analysis, and this work was published in PNAS. Using an extensive database, together with state-of-the-art statistical methods, Dr Remeš showed that parental care in birds is shaped by a combination of sexual selection and the prevailing sex ratio. This was a novel and important finding that provided important empirical context for previous theoretical work.

In addition to this work on evolutionary biology, Dr Remeš has made important contributions to understanding the ecology of birds. He has made numerous important contributions including understanding nesting behaviour, developmental rates and the impacts of predation. His work on predation was particularly influential for me: his paper on nest predation in 2012 inspired a collaborative project of mine. His findings in that paper were important and have global implications.

As an academic, it appears to me that Dr Remeš plays a full role in his department. It is evident from his CV that he makes a significant teaching contribution, and his academic citizenship is also very evident.

Dr Remeš has numerous measures of the esteem in which he is held in the academic community. His association with Cornell, the world's most prestigious ornithological research centre, is particularly impressive. Over the last few years, Dr Remeš has been invited to give numerous seminars, as well as

participated in international workshops. He is a fully engaged member of the academic community, contributing as member of international societies as well as reviewing for international journals.

In summary, I express my enthusiastic support for this promotion. I can definitely say that if Dr Remeš were a member of staff in my department, he would easily reach the standard required for this level of promotion.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Robert Freckleton
Head of School