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Recommendation letter in support of Assoc. Prof. Petr Bednář's promotion to Professor

Dear Magnificence, dear Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kubala,

My name is Michael Lämmerhofer, and I am currently a Professor of Pharmaceutical (Bio-)Analysis at the Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Tübingen in Germany. I am writing this letter in support of Assoc. Prof. Petr Bednář's promotion to the rank of Professor.

I know Assoc. Prof. Petr Bednář for about two decades and I could follow his research and academic career over this time. He is a talented and dedicated researcher working at the Department of Analytical Chemistry, Olomouc. I met him as an enthusiastic researcher with a broad expertise covering fields like liquid and gas chromatography, capillary electrophoresis, mass spectrometry and since recently also ion-mobility spectrometry, as well as hyphenations of those techniques. He uses those techniques in a skillful manner for analytical applications in pharmaceutical sciences, food chemistry, and natural compounds.

Since many of those topics are relevant for my work as well, I continuously follow his publications and other scientific output. Without any doubt, I can say that Petr Bednář is a well-respected researcher in our scientific community. He is author or co-author of more than 96 articles in peer-reviewed journals with impact factor. Furthermore, he is also author of a scientific book and several book chapters (2 in scientific books and 1 in a text book). His scientific articles have been cited over 1500 times (self-citations not included) and he holds currently an H-index of 22. Besides, Dr. Bednář actively contributed to national and international conferences and gave over 12 lectures at international symposia with about 50% invited keynote lectures. It documents his excellent international visibility and the great interest in his work.

For his broad expertise in many analytical fields and for his outstanding reputation in our community, Dr. Bednář has been invited to become a member of the international advisory boards of scientific journals such as Separation Science Plus. Since I am an editor-in-chief of this journal since January 2024, I can confirm the great support and immensely valuable service of Dr. Bednář for this journal. It should also be mentioned that we are currently editing a special issue in Journal of Separation Science whereby Dr. Bednář serves as a guest editor.

Dr. Bednář also deserves credit for bringing the scientific community together for discussing advances in sciences and stimulating cooperations through the organization of many symposia, in particular Advances in in Chromatography and Electrophoresis & Chiral. I participated many times and could greatly benefit in my scientific understanding from the fundamental and applied science that was presented on this conference. Furthermore, Dr. Bednář spent in total 9 months abroad, with international research stays amongst others in Rome and USA. Not least due to his chairmen activities of conferences and his international research stays, Dr. Bednář could build his national and international contacts and a dense science network.

Knowing many people from Olomouc and from communications with former students, I could understand that Dr. Bednář has excellent teaching skills. The topics of his teaching are widespread covering general and applied analytical chemistry, environmental analysis and liquid chromatography, amongst others. He further supervised already a large number of theses including 5 bachelor, 31 diploma/master, 11 PhD (6 defended, 5 in progress). His CV also shows that he has successfully acquired third party funding. It documents his ability to successfully manage a research group in all aspects.

Dr. Bednář is a person who takes over responsibility which is evident from his membership in several university bodies and scientific societies where he is actively contributing to steer future developments. In this context, he is currently head of the Department of Analytical Chemistry serving for the department in many administrative matters.

Based on the assessment above, I am of the opinion that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bednář can be one of the leading researchers, teachers and university administrators who will serve with dedication his university and the scientific community. He is always reliable, productive, creative and active. He is capable of providing impactful research, high quality teaching to his students, and of managing his own research group offering his coworkers interesting ideas for their research. Given the opportunity, I am certain he will continue this trend of advancing his scientific field and teaching at the university. I am sure that he is ready for his further step in career which is the promotion to Professor.

For this reason, I can highly recommend the promotion of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bednář to the rank of Professor.

Please let me know if you have further questions.

Sincerely Yours,

Prof. Michael Lämmerhofer, Ph.D.
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