



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TEXAS**  
ARLINGTON

**DEPARTMENT OF  
CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY**

November 5, 2024

Assoc. Prof. RNDr. Martin Kubala, Ph.D.  
Dean of Faculty of Science  
Palacký University  
17. listopadu 12  
779 00 Olomouc  
Czech Republic

Dear Dean Kubala,

I was asked to provide this letter of assessment by Assoc. Prof. Petr Bednar to support his bid for promotion to full professor in the Department of Analytical Chemistry, Palacký University. I am more than happy to provide this assessment and my support for his promotion. As you likely know, I have had a close association with the Department over the past many years, and I have had many opportunities to interact with Petr during that time.

I am a full professor and the Shimadzu Distinguished Professor of Analytical Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Texas at Arlington. I received my distinguished professorship in 2012 and have been full professor since 2015. I am an analytical chemist specializing in the use of various sample preparation, chromatography, mass spectrometry, and spectroscopy tools for the characterization of complex mixtures. I have received a number of awards for my research, teaching, and service. Most recently, in spring 2024, I was a Fulbright – Palacký University Distinguished Scholar in the Department of Analytical Chemistry in Olomouc.

I have assessed many cases for promotion over the past 10 years. I am currently Chair of the Tenure Promotion Committee for Chemistry and Biochemistry at UTA; this year, I will also serve on the University Committee for Tenure and Promotion. Thus, I believe I am well qualified to provide this assessment.

Petr has been assistant professor in the Department of Analytical Chemistry from 2003 – 2006. He has been associate professor since 2006. In 2020, he assumed the role of Department Head, and he currently still serves in that capacity. Overall, it is my assessment, based on the review of Petr's research, teaching, and service, that he can be promoted to full professor. He has been a long-time, consistent, and strong contributor to the mission of the Department in all aspects expected.

Petr's research is centered squarely in analytical chemistry, and the use of various separation methods, mass spectrometry, and ion mobility for studying natural substances, as well as cultural heritage and art objects. He is author on 96 peer-reviewed works and over 100 conference presentations. He has been an invited and keynote speaker on several occasions. His work is well cited, as evidenced by 1543 citations and an H-index of 22. These numbers are consistent with other faculty in chemistry I have evaluated for promotion to full professor, in the past. He has received two awards from the Faculty of Science for prestigious publications. Petr's research has been continually funded by sources ranging from Palacký University to the



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European Union. He appears to have been very successful in recruiting funding throughout the years.

He has been teaching at Palacky University since 1998. He has taught courses in applied analytical chemistry, liquid chromatography, environmental analysis, and analytical instrumentation. He has supervised a significant number of bachelor's, diploma, dissertation, and rigorous thesis students. He has been active in administering state exams to students. In my assessment, he has maintained a high level of research and service while also contributing significantly to the course offerings for students in the department. In fact, Petr has taught many more courses than other candidates for promotion I have evaluated; of course, most of these have been in the U.S. system and I appreciate the differences in educational demands, but teaching well is demanding and takes time. Anecdotally, through conversations with many of his students throughout the years, I know Petr to be a respected lecturer and mentor.

Petr has contributed a great deal of service to the Department and the scientific community. He has helped organize activities for high school students and a science fair. He has been a regular reviewer for professional journals. He has been guest editor for special issues and has edited a book on the history of liquid chromatography in Czechoslovakia. Most notable has been his efforts associated with conference organization. As someone who has attended Chiranal for many years, I can attest to the quality of the scientific program and the organizational aspects to which Petr contributed significantly throughout the years. In 2026, he will help organize the International Symposium on Chromatography in Prague. He has been active in a variety of national and international professional organizations. His level of service is absolutely commensurate and even exceeding that which might be expected for someone seeking promotion to full professor.

In summary, Petr has been a long-time and solid contributor to the Department of Analytical Chemistry, the Faculty of Science, Palacky University, and the scientific community. In my assessment, he has met and exceeded the level of research, teaching, and service expected of someone seeking promotion to full professor.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Schug, Ph.D.  
Professor & Shimadzu Distinguished Professor of Analytical Chemistry