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Dean of Faculty of Science
Palacký University in Olomouc
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**Letter of recommendation for Doc. RNDr. Pavel Pospíšil, Ph.D.
for academic title 'Full Professor'**

Dear Dean of Faculty of Science at Palacký University, dear colleague,

It is my pleasure to write a letter recommending associate professor Pavel Pospíšil, Ph.D., for the academic title 'Full Professor' at Palacký University.

Outstanding postdoctoral career

In 1999, Dr. Pavel Pospíšil came to my laboratory at the Philipps-Universität Marburg, after completion of his PhD and a postdoctoral stay in a well-known research group in Finland. He came because he got awarded one of the highly prestigious postdoctoral fellowships of the Alexander-von-Humboldt Foundation (AvH), based on his previous achievements and an excellent project proposal. In February 2001, my biophysical research group moved from Marburg to Freie Universität Berlin, where Dr. Pospíšil pursued research as a postdoctoral associate for several months, before he decided to leave for postdoctoral positions at Harvard University and at the CEA laboratory of Prof. Rutherford in France. In Marburg and Berlin, Pavel was shaping his research agenda independently and skilfully, resulting in several highly cited publications. Moreover, in training of Diploma and PhD students he excelled not only by his scientific competence, but also his ability in patient as well as thorough teaching.

Scientific expertise and achievements

In extension of the postdoctoral research successfully pursued in Finland, Marburg/Berlin, the United States and France, Dr. Pospíšil build up his own research group at Palacký University. He developed his research profile in an area that is of high interest in biophysics and biomedical sciences in general: the role of free radicals in biology, with focus on formation and scavenging of free radicals by the photosystem II (PSII) of plants. His focus area of expertise is the mechanism of free radical formation in photosystem II and related protein oxidation as well as lipid peroxidation. By a long series of excellent publications, Pavel Pospíšil became a worldwide leading investigator in biophysical research on formation and scavenging of free radicals by the photosystem II of plants. His unique expertise and scientific achievements are verified by an impressive number of well-cited publications (more than 75, h-factor of 34 as calculated by Google Scholar), including several review articles that are valuable for newcomers as well as experts in plant photosynthesis. Today Pavel Pospíšil is a highly appreciated member of the scientific community of plant scientists, well known for his biophysical studies on free radicals.

Qualifications as an academic teacher

Dr. Pospíšil has informed me about further developments in his career as an academic teacher. His teaching portfolio is characterized by a broad range of pedagogical activities, as summarized and evaluated in the following. Pavel Pospíšil is experienced in teaching courses on spectroscopy, free radical biology and photosynthesis. He has provided practical training in spectroscopic techniques for Bachelor, Master and Ph.D. students. Under his guidance, 4 Bachelor, 4 Master and 8 Ph.D. student completed their thesis successfully. The broad range of teaching activities in biophysics and the supervision of eight successfully completed PhD thesis projects is remarkable. It verifies an expertise that at German universities (and also in other countries where I know the academic systems) would be more than sufficient for a position as a full professor.

Dr. Pospíšil's commitment and expertise in academic teaching is impressively verified also by his organizational activities as a chairman of the state commission of the Master study programs for the field of biophysics and as a member of the scientific-pedagogical board of the physics branch.

Concluding summary

Today Pavel Pospisil is a worldwide leading scientist in biophysical research on free radicals, with focus on radical formation and scavenging in photosystem II, a pivotal protein complex in

all plants. He is broadly experienced in teaching biophysics and has verified his abilities as a research group leader and tutor inter alia by supervision of eight doctoral theses.

I am convinced that Pavel Pospíšil fulfils all criteria which are required to be a Full Professor at Palacký University in Olomouc. I strongly recommend him as an excellent candidate for the academic title 'Full Professor'.

If you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Freie Universität Berlin

Fachbereich Physik

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