Academy and University Center Nové Hrady



Department of Structure and Function of Proteins

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POSUDEK ŠKOLITELE

SUPERVISOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Nové Hrady, September 30th, 2010

To Whom it may concern

ABDUL SAMAD is my PhD student since January 2006. From the beginning the intention was that he would be something like a "shared" student between Dr. Viktorie Vlachova's group at the Institute of Physiology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, in Prague and our group in Nove Hrady, to make maximum use of the complementary of our two labs and at the same time, make our collaboration more efficient. So in his first year Abdul worked on molecular biology of the C-terminus of Vanilloid TRPV1 in Nove Hrady, and additionally got basic training in bioinformatics and computational biology to gained knowledge in interpreting structural data, homology models and molecular dynamics results. For his second year then he went for a full year to Prague to work mainly on electrophysiological experiments of Vanilloid TRPV1 at the beginning and later on the Ankyrin TRPA1 receptor. After returning to Nove Hrady he continued with the analysis of the gathered data, especially with focus on interpretation guided by computational modeling, while additionally continuing experimental work. Abdul always was a very engaged student, highly motivated and from the beginning with excellent knowledge in molecular and cell biology, and during his PhD he gained additionaly knowledge and training in electrophysiology and structural biology. He was always very eager to increase his knowledge and practical capabilities, und additionaly to his thesis took part in several smaller projects in the group and gained basic expertise in protein crystallization by optimizing conditions for wild type PsbO protein and mutants of the restriction-modifications enzymes EcoR124I.

According to my assessment, Abdul Samad was a very good student. I found him a skilled researcher with strong theoretical background in molecular and cell biology, and a very clear mind about the aims and objective of his research. He has a highly cooperative and helping attitude towards his colleagues and other fellows. I believe, and I am sure that Dr. Vlachova as co-supervisor agrees with me, that his research presented in the submitted thesis, will convince the reviewers and the doctoral comission that Abdul Samad fullfills all demands needed for a succesfull defence of his doctoral thesis, and for my side, I can clearly recommend him for being award the PhD-degree.

Best regards,

doc. RNDr. Rüdiger H. Ettrich, Ph.D., vedoucí oddělení struktury a funkce proteinů

Ústav systémové biologie a ekologie AVČR v.v.i.