



BIOLOGY CENTRE ASCR

Institute of Parasitology

address: Branišovská 1160/31, 370 05 České Budějovice, Czech Republic

IBAN – CZ22 0710 0000 0000 0552 7231 | SWIFT CODE – CNBACZPP | VAT No.: CZ60077344

phone: +420 387 775 403 | fax: +420 385 310 388 | www.paru.cas.cz | e-mail: paru@paru.cas.cz

Supervisor's report on Alena Kodádková

Alena Kodádková started her PhD studies five years ago under supervision of Miloslav Jirků. Her topic was to reveal taxonomy, diversity and phylogeny of myxozoans from amphibians. After one year her supervisor was not satisfied with her progress on the thesis and suggested her to quit the PhD studies. Alena disagreed and ask me if I could supervise her and give her a topic for her PhD thesis. I agreed because I felt that Alena is a good candidate for PhD degree.

And after four years I am happy to declare that it was a good decision. When Alena came under my supervision, she already knew all the lab methods of molecular taxonomy and she got quickly into the secrets of computational biology. I appreciate a lot that she always with enthusiasm worked in the field and was happy to collect myxozoan samples. Mainly her work on Svalbard was very important since it brought many valuable myxozoan material, which represented the basis for fundamental paper of her PhD thesis (published in *International Journal for Parasitology: Parasites and Wildlife*). Alena is very skilful and knows not only methods of molecular taxonomy but she is familiar with all the basic fundamental taxonomic methods of fish dissection, light microscopy, histology, electron microscopy etc. She does all her work always very carefully which is very important because I can trust all the results she came with.

The only criticism I have to stress here is the slow writing of manuscripts and weak English. In purpose to teach Alena to write manuscripts I let her to prepare her both first author manuscripts from the very beginning which resulted in a high number of revisited versions so the time spent on the manuscripts preparation was very long. However, Alena improved in both her weaknesses and she was able to finish her PhD chapters (1-5) in quite reasonable time and honestly she pleasantly surprised me that she submitted her PhD thesis exactly on our established deadline (mid October, 2014).

At the end I would like to emphasize that Alena is not just an important member of our Myxo team but she is also very nice person with whom it is a pleasure to work. She is always keen to help other people and I never had any issue or problem during her work in our lab. Alena also did not blame me nowadays although she could because it was me (if I remember it well) whose came with the idea to include molecular clock analysis into the "*Bipteria*" paper (paper VI) and due to which she will have to tackle many reviewer's comments/questions during her defence. Anyway, I found all these questions very interesting and I am looking forward to the discussion.

I strongly recommend Alena's thesis for defense and I wish her success in her future career



BIOLOGY CENTRE ASCR
Institute of Parasitology

and I cross fingers to her interview for the PostDoc position in the excellent laboratory of Dr. Tamar Lotan in Israel (which is going to be next week).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivan Fiala', written in a cursive style.

Ivan Fiala

27th November 2014