Academy and University Center Nové Hrady

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POSUDEK ŠKOLITELE

SUPERVISOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Nové Hrady, February 15, 2013

To Whom it may concern

Žofie Sovova was working on her PhD thesis under my supervison on computational studies of Protein-lipid interactions, and as model systems she uses heterogenous membranes made of glyco- and phospolipids to mimic the photosynthetic tylakoid membrane and the simple PsbI systems (small helical protein with one transmembrane segment) or NKRP1, a natural killer cell receptor envolved in early activation of the immune response. I know Žofie Sovova for more than 9 years now and thus was able to follow her studies from the very beginning. She was working in my lab from her first year of study on and later doing her bachelor thesis with me. Her bachelor thesis already was exceptional and I never saw a bachelor thesis of such high standard again. Her master thesis she did in the same department with Dr. Michal Kuty with great success and was admitted to the international PhD programme in Biophysics at the University of South Bohemia and joined me again for her PhD thesis. During her PhD studies she was closely collaborating with Prof. Marrinks group in Groningen, where she increased her knowledge and practical capabilities in the field of coarse-graining of protein-lipid interactions, and built up a model coarse-grained tylakoid membrane that is currently to be published. Her coarse-grained glycolipid parameters itself were published in JCTC just a month ago. Her first 3 month stay in Groningen was supported by a HPC-Europe2 grant, and she altogether spent nearly a year in Groningen. Žofie is not only an excellent scientist with brilliant ideas and hard working, she additionaly has the gift to fascinate people to share her enthusiasm for science. In numbers, she belongs to the top 5% of the students in the our PhD programme, and was one of the best PhD students in computational biophysics. Žofie has a remarkable publication list for her age and stage of carreer. To summ it up, her studies and career until now and all the above mentioned clearly points to her ability to follow an academic career after finishing PhD. Žofie Sovova has excellent knowledge of computational chemistry, and additionally she always expressed her interest in practical aspects of chemistry and physics, too.

I can confirm that Žofie fullfilled all pre-requirements for finishing her PhD studies, published her work in impacted papers, passed the state exam with success etc. I believe, that her research presented in the submitted thesis will convince the reviewers and the doctoral comission that Zofie Sovova fullfills all demands needed for a succesfull defense of her doctoral thesis, and for my side, **I can recommend her for being award the PhD-degree.**

Best regards,

assoc. Professor Dr. Rüdiger Ettrich, Ph.D.
Director
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