



### **Supervisor's evaluation on PhD student Vendula Krynická**

Vendula Krynická joined our research team in Trebon in 2009 after interrupting her PhD study in Prague Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry and after relative long maternity leave. At the beginning she was supposed to acquire methodology of quantitative RT-PCR and introduce it into the laboratory practice as one of the standard tools. We agreed that she will verify the methodology in our project devoted to study membrane embedded FtsH proteases in *Synechocystis*. She probably found the topic interesting enough to take it as her new PhD project which she started in 2010.

Soon after she started to work in the laboratory, it became clear to me that our decision to give her chance to re-start her scientific career with us was a good decision. She was quickly very well versed in the topic and immediately started work in the laboratory. It appeared that she has very good practical skills and she is also working very effectively due to her good experimental planning which usually prevented running useless experiments. In my view she has a passion for science, on the other hand she also has a large family and hobbies, which she loves, and is therefore trying to fairly divide her time among all these parties. With this knowledge I did not impose too much pressure on her to get more results and more papers, which would be possible, but it could spoil her enthusiasm for scientific work.

Not only performing experiments, but also writing scientific articles belongs to ability which student should acquire during their PhD study. Having experience with previous students who always preferred work in the laboratory and struggled with writing scientific texts, I was from beginning rather surprised that it was not so big problem in the Vendula's case. Despite the long interruption in her scientific and English practice she was able to write reasonable abstracts and drafts of the manuscripts despite she feels that her English is far from perfect. But she is improving all the time, she is gradually finding out that formal matters like proper formatting and strict keeping the journal publishing rules are also important. So, I have no doubts that she is already able to produce scientific texts of a good quality.

Vendula's scientific achievements represent quite important contribution to understanding the role of FtsH proteases not only in cyanobacteria but also in other bacterial phyla and in plants. They certainly meet the criteria for the PhD degree as she is the first author of two papers and the co-author of other two, all published in high quality journals with the total impact factor of above 20 (and note that *Nature Plants* is a new journal still without IF). I would also

emphasize that all laboratory experiments in the Nature Plants publication were done exclusively by Vendula as were those of the Molecular Microbiology publication, in this case just with the exception of cellular localization.

Finally, I would also highlight Vendula's cheerful character, which very much helps to maintain a good atmosphere in the lab, her willingness to help other people in the laboratory and her quite positive attitude to new students including those from secondary school working on their small projects .

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