



STATEMENT OF THE MASTER THESIS SUPERVISOR

Name of the student: Dajana Tanasic
Study programme: Biological Chemistry
Department/Institute: Molecular Biology
Thesis title: The role of CG18446 in the immune response of *Drosophila*

Supervisor: RNDr. Alena Krejci, PhD.
Supervisor's affiliation: PrF JcU / BC AV CR

	Point scale ¹	Points
(1) FORMAL REQUIREMENTS		
Formal and graphical quality of the thesis	0-3	3
Ability to work with literature	0-3	3
Language and stylistics	0-3	3
Formal requirements – points in total		9
(2) PRACTICAL REQUIREMENTS		
Fulfillment of the aims	0-3	3
Ability to understand the results, their interpretation, and clarity of the results, discussion, and conclusions	0-3	3
Discussion quality – interpretation of results and their discussion with the literature	0-3	3
Logic in the plan of the experimental work	0-3	3
Experimental difficulty of the thesis, independence in experimental work	0-3	3
Contribution of the thesis to the knowledge in the field and the possibility to publish the results (after eventual supplementary experiments)	0-3	3
Practical requirements – points in total		18
POINTS IN TOTAL (MAX/AWARDED)	27	(0-27)²

¹ Mark as: 0-unsatisfactory, 1-satisfactory, 2-average, 3-excellent.

² Enter the number of points awarded.

Eventual mistakes, which the students should avoid in the future:

Eventual additional comments of the supervisor on the student and the thesis:

Dajana Tanasic did her bachelor project in our laboratory and to our surprise she decided to stay also for the master studies. We were really pleased with her decision because she did a great job during her bachelor project and building on her experience she could continue in the same project with much higher speed. In fact, she spent all her free time in the lab, including the summer holidays, and she generated so much data that having her in the lab a year longer she could submit a PhD thesis. Not only she worked hard and well but Dajana's strength is in her head; she matured into an independent scientist who is able to read literature, suggest her own experiments, perform them, and, importantly, understand their meaning and further implication. She is a curious person and she enjoys science. I am glad she decided to stay in the field of biology also for her future PhD and I am sure we will hear about her in the future.

The goal of her master project was to elucidate the role of a previously uncharacterized gene, CG18446, in the immune response and in stress resistance. As Dajana described in her bachelor thesis, this gene is expressed in various tissues, although nothing is known about its function so far. As she identified its expression in the immune cells we decided to characterize its role in this tissues. This was a challenging project because it involved tricky techniques like the dissection and immunostaining of lymph glands and of circulating cells or X-gal staining. However, Dajana did not stop here. She also performed several types of stress assays that require long term planning, preciseness and patience in order to achieve their reproducibility. On top of that, she mutated a reporter construct and tested it expression in the fly and she performed real time PCR to verify the genotypes of several fly stocks she prepared. As such she is well equipped with molecular biology and Drosophila techniques that I am sure will be her strength towards the PhD studies. Not that her master project went smoothly from the beginning to the end, in fact the opposite is true and there were many dead ends and frustrations involved. However, Dajana was always able to shake them off and try again another ways to achieve her goals. What I appreciate the most is the fact that she read the literature and she was trying to put her result into a wider context. This is clearly manifested in the discussion of her thesis that she fully wrote by herself and that was not only a pleasure for me to read but where I also found inspiration towards the next directions of this project. I hope the results of Dajana's work, together with the data generated by other people in the lab, will soon lead to a publication in a decent journal.

We miss Dajana's hands in the lab. However, we mostly miss her as a person, always in good mood and a smile. I wish her best luck for her PhD and I hope to see a bright future in front of her.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, I

r e c o m m e n d t o p a s s , w i t h g r a d e e x c e l l e n t

In Ceske Budejovice 6th January, 2016

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Alan Kujar