Thursday, May 26, 2021

Hello everyone,

Two years ago, after delivering an excellent presentation of her BSc thesis, several reviewers urged us to retain Miša as a master's student, even though she wanted to explore other opportunities outside of Budejovice, her hometown. So it was to our great fortune when Miša decided to stay in the lab after much contemplation.

As a MSc student in the lab, Miša has inherited a very complex project from a previous PhD student in the lab. Miša has done a commendable job sifting through years of old data and helping us fill in the missing pieces needed for a publication. Despite these key experiments proving to be incredibly challenging at a technical level, she has always kept a positive attitude and displayed dogged determination to keep the project progressing. While the original hypothesis for the project was simple in nature, over the years the data has unexpectedly revealed several additional layers that require a broad understanding of mitochondrial metabolism and bioenergetics. Miša has not shied away from this challenge and as evidenced by her MSc thesis, she has absorbed this information and presented her data into a coherent and compelling story.

Over the years, Miša has demonstrated many important qualities required of successful young scientists. Notably, it is always a pleasure to discuss new data with her because she is able to effectively interpret and communicate her results, while quickly grasping new strategies that need to be implemented. Miša is quite advanced for this stage of her career, so we are extremely excited that she will continue in the lab as a PhD student, albeit on a different topic that will surely present her with new challenges.

Alena Zíková