

**Supervisor's statement** from Dr. Zdeněk Paris, Institute of Parasitology, Biology Centre ASC, České Budějovice

Bc Thesis: "Evaluating the role of TBTGT2 in the formation of queuosine tRNA modification in the bloodstream stage of *Trypanosoma brucei*" by **Helmut Stanzl**, University of South Bohemia, Faculty of Science, České Budějovice, 2016

I must admit that Helmut showed a great courage, since he was the first student, who began working in the newly established Laboratory of RNA Biology of Parasitic Protists, which was rather virtual at that time.

Goal of the Helmut's project was to evaluate the role of the "mysterious" tRNA modification called queuosine in the bloodstream stage of *T. brucei*. This was achieved by generation of gene knock-out of one of the subunits of the tRNA guanine transglycosylase, the protein responsible for formation of Q-tRNA in eukaryotes.

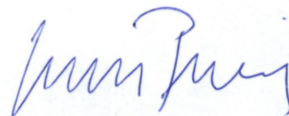
The aim of his thesis was challenging, especially when you consider very little time, which is given to students of this programme to finish their projects. With no previous experience, Helmut oriented himself very quickly in the laboratory and soon he mastered various techniques of molecular biology and biochemistry.

Helmut successfully finished all experiments, which were planned for his project and the generated knock-out cell line has been currently used further to study role of Q-tRNA modification in the mammalian host of *T. brucei* with very promising preliminary data.

Based on the plethora of experimental methods used, which led to obtain interesting results, together with critical thinking, Helmut has most certainly acquired all the essential skills needed to continue his future career in Natural Sciences and I am really glad that Helmut decided to continue working in my lab as a Master student.

In conclusion, I was really happy to have Helmut in my laboratory and in my opinion his thesis is of very high standard. My recommendation is therefore to grant Helmut Stanzl the Bc degree.

In České Budějovice, 19.9.2016



RNDr. Zdeněk Paris, PhD.