



**INSTITUTE OF BIOPHYSICS  
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Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

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## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

To whom it may concern:

Ildikó Matušíková, PhD.

University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava

I would like to take this opportunity to highly recommend Associate Professor Ildikó Matušíková, PhD., for the title of Professor of Molecular Biology at the University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava. As a long-time collaborator in joint research activities, I believe that Assoc. Matušíková is fully qualified and meets all the criteria for the title of professor.

Associate Professor Matušíková has conducted impressive research in molecular biology and plant stress physiology, particularly focusing on specific defence proteins. Her numerous publications on the topic have been well-received and have made a significant impact on knowledge of the diverse functions of these defence components in plants. I highly appreciate the fruitful discussions and enjoyable professional meetings in our collaboration.

Assoc. Matušíková has been instrumental in the awarding of several grants that have put UCM Trnava at the forefront of research in the molecular biology of plant stress. Associate Professor Matušíková's research activities are also well-linked to her teaching activities, and reflect a rich scientific school. She is an exceptionally gifted lecturer who keeps her students enthralled with her compelling arguments and well-documented research.

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Assoc. Ildikó Matušíková, PhD. For promotion from Associate Professor of Molecular Biology to Full Professor. I am easily accessible should you wish to further discuss Assoc. prof. Matušíková's qualifications.

Prof. Emilia Apostolova, PhD

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