

EVALUATION BOARD DECISION ON THE NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO PROFESSOR

Masaryk University	
Faculty	Faculty of Science
Procedure field	Analytical Chemistry
Applicant	name and surname, including academic degrees
Applicant's home unit, institution	Department of Chemistry

Board members

Chair

Prof. Mgr. Jan Preisler, Ph.D., Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic

Members

Prof. Dr. Deirdre Cabooter, Department of Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Sciences, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, KU Leuven, Belgium

Ing. František Foret, DSc., Institute of Analytical Chemistry CAS, Brno, Czech Republic

Assoc. Prof. Mgr. Jan Havliš, Dr., National Centre for Biomolecular Research, Faculty of Science, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic

Prof. Ing. Michal Holčapek, Ph.D., Department of Analytical Chemistry, Faculty of Chemical Technology, University of Pardubice

Evaluation of the applicant's scholarly/artistic qualifications

Associate Professor Jiří Urban completed his Master's degree at the University of Pardubice, Department of Biological and Biochemical Sciences, Czech Republic, with a thesis entitled "Preparation and characterization of monolithic capillary columns for HPLC", where he then began his PhD studies at the Department of Analytical Chemistry in the same university under the supervision of Prof. Pavel Jandera. After defending his dissertation thesis, "Effect of porosity of monolithic and particulate columns on chromatographic behavior of low and high molecular compounds", he completed several research stays ranging from three months to two years at renowned institutions: University of London, Technical University Eindhoven, University of Amsterdam, Ecole Supérieure de Physique et de Chimie Industrielles in Paris, and University of California at Berkeley, California. Since his Ph.D. studies, his primary focus has been chromatography, with special attention to the development of monolithic columns and their integration into multifunctional analytical systems for metabolomics and proteomics.

In 2016, Assoc. Prof. Ctibor Mazal, as a director of the Department of Chemistry, offered him a position in the field of separation science. After a competitive selection process, he was hired as an assistant professor in our department in 2017. He became Assoc. Prof. about one year later. Upon joining the Department of Chemistry, he established his own research group, which focuses on liquid chromatography and the development of new monolith columns.

His most intense international cooperation includes the group of Prof. Peter Schoenmakers at the University of Amsterdam and Prof. Zuzana Zajickova at Barry University, Miami, FL, USA.

His scientific performance is well documented by 52 (47 impacted) publications (17 of them with MU affiliation) registered in the Web of Science database in journals mostly classified in the Q1 or Q2 quartile, of which he is the first author in 20 cases and corresponding author in 20 of cases. These papers have been cited 1236 times without self-citations; his h-index is 23 (as of March 2025).

Jiří Urban is Associate Editor for leading journals, Journal of Separation Science and Separation Science Plus, and he contributes to organizing major international symposia, such as the International Symposium on High-Performance Liquid Phase Separations and Related Techniques (HPLC) 2017 and 35th International Symposium on Chromatography (ISC 2026). In the former conference, Jiří Urban also chaired the poster jury in both the European and US editions in recent years. This conference series typically has between 1000 and 1500 participants.

Conclusion: The applicant's scholarly/artistic capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a professor appointment procedure in the field of Analytical chemistry.

Evaluation of the applicant's pedagogical experience

Jiří Urban has already been involved in supervising Master's students and teaching laboratory courses at the University of Pardubice. At the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Masaryk University, he teaches courses Advanced Liquid Chromatography. This advanced course filled the gap in the education at our Faculty. He also participates in courses such as Analytical Chemistry – laboratory course and seminar, Methods of Chemical Research, Special Methods, Modern Imaging and Analytical Methods, Analytical Chemistry, laboratory courses, and others. He can bring scientific concepts to students in a very understandable manner, and his lectures are very popular among students. In the future, his involvement in teaching can be expected to increase.

He has supervised numerous students, specifically 14 Bachelor's students (12 of them completed their work), 19 Master's students (16 of them completed their work), and 4 Ph.D. students (1 of them completed their work). He and his students received numerous awards, e.g., Brno Ph.D. Talent Award, Karel Štulík Award, Dean and Vice-rector Award.

One should also mention his pedagogical contributions in the form of a book (Modern HPLC Separations in Theory and Practice), a book chapter (in Monolithic Chromatography and its Modern Applications), and a new laboratory task introduced as a part of the Special methods-laboratory course. In addition, Jiří Urban demonstrated his pedagogical skills also in his public lectures at the annual Schools of Liquid Chromatography; these lectures received a highly positive evaluation from the audience.

Conclusion: The applicant's pedagogical capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a professor appointment procedure in the field of Analytical chemistry.

Evaluation of the applicant as a respected and recognized scholarly or artistic figure in a given field

It is evident that Jiří Urban has established himself as a top international expert in the field of analytical chemistry. He is a respected and highly visible member of the chromatographic community. He is capable of proposing novel concepts in the area of separation science and constructing integrated analytical systems based on monolithic columns and other microdevices.

Furthermore, the letters from three leading, world-known scientists in the field of separation science, namely Prof. Dr. ir. Gert Desmet, Prof. Robert Kennedy, and Prof. Dr. Ir. Peter Schoenmakers, expressed strong support for Jiří Urban's professorship.

Conclusion: The applicant **is** a respected and recognized scholarly figure in his field. The applicant **has** made a significant contribution to the development of his field. The applicant **constitutes** a leading figure in his field of scholarship or research.

Secret vote results

Number of board members	5
Number of votes cast	5
Number of votes in favor	5

Board decision

Based on the outcome of the secret vote and following an evaluation of the applicant's scholarly or artistic qualifications, pedagogical experience, and role as a respected and recognized scholarly or artistic figure, the board hereby submits a proposal to the scientific board of the Faculty of [faculty name] of Masaryk University to

- appoint the applicant professor of Analytical chemistry.
- terminate the procedure.

Date: 20.3.2025

Deirdre Cabooter
signature

František Foret
signature

Jan Havliš
signature

Michal Holčapek
signature

Jan Preisler
on behalf of the board members signature