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To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Marketa Marvanova's application for a teaching position at your university. Dr. Marvanova is a very bright, dedicated, and talented post-doctoral fellow in my laboratory here at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and I recommend her highly and without reservation for this position. She received two doctoral degrees: one in pharmacology (F.A.T.) from Kuopio University in Finland, and a Ph.D. from Charles University in the Czech Republic. During her graduate career, Marketa won several highly competitive international awards. During her brief period in my lab she has demonstrated strong independent problem-solving and leadership skills. I believe she has a great potential to not only become a top-notch instructor, but also a leader at your university.

I started my laboratory in July of 2003 and from the time Marketa joined my lab this past January she has played an integral role in assisting me to set up the lab and to train undergraduate and graduate students. She has also taken the initiative on a number of research projects, and her studies will likely result in a publication within the next several months. Her primary project has been to utilize *C. elegans* to identify genes and endogenous and exogenous compounds that are involved in DA neuron cell death and protection. Her work has furthered our development of a *C. elegans* model for Parkinson's disease, and has provided insight into the basis of dopamine neuron degeneration.

Thank you for considering Marketa's application. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



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