



Faculty
of Science

Genius loci ...

Dear Endowment Fund of Palacký University,

Aleksandar Stanojković proposes project which aims at a better understanding of speciation in free-living microorganisms. With a recent availability of high throughput sequence methods, it has been shown that species diversity of microbes is significantly higher than expected. There are likely billions of microbial species. The project is focused on cyanobacteria. Although they are microorganisms, they have irreplaceable role in the global environment. They produce oxygen we breathe and since they are capable of photosynthesis, they are a basis of aquatic and many terrestrial environments. However, how and why did such diversity evolve? Aleksandar's project will bring us further to answering these questions. He chose soil cyanobacteria of genera *Microcoleus* and *Oscillatoria*, which play significant role in arid and semi-arid environments, which are expanding with global changes.

Aleksandar's project will provide significant step further to our understanding of evolution of microbes and his project should be, therefore, funded.

Sincerely,

Mgr. Petr Dvořák, Ph.D.

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