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RE: Dr. Milena Kralickova's Charles University Rector Candidacy

To Whom It May Concern,

I am quite pleased to submit a strong letter in support of the candidacy of Milena Kralickova, M.D., Ph.D. for the position of Rector of your university. I first became acquainted with Dr. Kralickova when she successfully competed for a Fulbright Scholarship to work in my The Harvard Reproductive Endocrine Sciences Center here at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School that I directed for over 3 decades for a year (1998-99). During her time here, Milena distinguished herself by several traits that have really foreshadowed all her subsequent career accomplishments that I have followed quite closely since she left. I should add that I have now trained over 80 post-doctoral physician-scientists in here at Harvard, 2/3 of whom have been women and over 60% are now Full Professors at various illustrious universities around the world (including Dr. Kralickova at Charles University). So, I have some basis for making comparative evaluations of Milena and her work.

Firstly, she is an excellent scientist with a special aptitude for sensing important future directions in her field, applying herself to their acquisition, and quickly incorporating them into her ever-expanding scientific repertoire. Thus, she started as a histologist, acquired much of her genetic interests when she was here, and has now published several important papers utilizing genetic profiling in reproductive disorders. Her specialty has an area that has been a hotbed of genetic testing with important and immediate implications for patient care. All these features have been major drivers of her expanding quest for new avenues of research and understanding the impact of technologies on science and education. To my mind this is a very important attribute to have in a Rector, a luxury that Charles University has had in its past Rector from what I can discern. Milena has such vision.

Secondly, in addition to her keen 'nose' for new science and where it is going, she is an incredibly hard worker, perhaps the most diligent and hardworking of all my previous fellows. Part of her remarkable work ethic is her ability to juggle both administrative and scientific endeavors at the same time. Such ability to 'parallel process' in administrative posts where the

magnitude and frequency of directional changes is certainly a challenge in modern education and science is really one of Milena's most important attributes for this job. Underlying this trait is an excellent sense of priorities and an intrinsic understanding of the fundamentals of organization of complex structures such as academic centers.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Dr. Kralickova has a good heart. She is above all kind, never fails to stoop to help other colleagues however routine are their tasks and skills, and hence she was one of the most beloved of all my fellows by her peers. Such peer recognition of generosity and true interest in the outcome of others work is just the sort of selflessness that I saw in her that I knew would foreshadow the remarkable career successes she has in so many areas. Her caring about the results of her various posts in terms of the people affected whether it be patients, colleagues, or educational participants is a quite unique and strong component of Milena's personality, work, and life. Thus, since Rectors essentially become role models for all members of the academic community in university settings, choosing Milena Kralickova would send important signals to both basic and clinical scientists within your community as well as to the students and post-doctoral fellows.

In summary, I believe that Milena was born to do this job. She has all the complex essential characteristics that such a dominant leadership position requires, and my prediction is that if you should select her for this position, you will not be disappointed. Charles University is very lucky to have such a strong candidate whose appointment will be both well received and unifying during what can otherwise be tumultuous times in academic. Collegial, insightful, and caring scientific leaders have always been important appointments but now are more important than ever. And you are fortunate enough to have one in Milena Kralickova.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Crowley". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

William F. Crowley, Jr., M.D.