



**FACULTY OF BIOLOGY
AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

University of Lodz

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*Letter of recommendation for doc. Ing.
Ladislav Hamerlík, PhD. to the Rector's
Office Matej Bel University*

I know Ladislav Hamerlík as a reputable Slovak researcher. He has also gained experience in synecology at University of Copenhagen, Lund University, Josip Juraj Strossmayer Univeristy, and Polish Academy of Sciences. SCOPUS lists Ladislav Hamerlík as a co-/author of fifty-two publications in journals on quaternary science, aquatic ecology and taxonomy, including some in the top 10% in their field – *BioScience, Ecological Indicators, Freshwater Biology, Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment, Journal of Biogeography, Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology, PLoS ONE, Quaternary Science Reviews, Science of the Total Environment, Urban Ecosystems*.

For nearly 20 years, Ladislav Hamerlík has been contributing to numerous aspects of aquatic ecology, focusing on non-biting midges (Chironomidae) communities and palaeoecology. His latest project is concerned with the paleolimnology of Central American lakes. It provided a detailed taxonomy of Chironomidae subfossils from lakes in the Yukatan Peninsula, Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. This is a very important contribution that fills the gap for identification of non-biting midges in this unrecognized region of the World (palaeoecology outside of the Holarctic suffers from insufficient knowledge on taxonomic diversity of palaeo-bioindicators and its identification guides). Ladislav Hamerlík has made an outstanding contribution to the palaeoecology and research on Chironomidae. He revised the ecology and taxonomy of chironomid larvae in Carpathians, giving keys as an important tool for using midges in paleolimnology in Europe. His publications enjoy the respect and high interest of Polish hydrobiologists. Besides Central America and Europe, he also contributed to research on Arctic ecosystems and macroinvertebrate synecology in Tibet. He escapes the prevailing trends in science by searching for original research problems, like the midge fauna in fountains or the paleolimnology of man-made reservoirs in former hydro-energy systems. This all proves that he is one of the leading specialists in Chironomidae ecology in Europe. Therefore, I highly recommend him to be awarded the title of full professor.

Dr Mateusz Płóciennik

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