To Whom It May Concern

To the Appointments Committee,

I am delighted to recommend Associate Professor Viktor Prokop, Ph.D., for appointment to a full Professorship at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Pardubice, Czech Republic. In my capacity as Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research and Innovation at the University of Portsmouth, I have had the opportunity to work with Viktor through the preparation of European research projects and collaboration on high-impact journal publications. These interactions have given me a positive impression of his scholarly expertise, collaborative approach and commitment to addressing important challenges in innovation and sustainability.

Viktor has developed a clear and internationally relevant research profile at the intersection of innovation ecosystems, circular economy, eco-innovation and multi-helix collaboration. His work addresses how firms, institutions and wider stakeholder networks can enable innovation and sustainability transitions, with particular attention to regional and institutional contexts. This is a significant and timely agenda, and his research demonstrates the ability to connect conceptual questions with practical challenges facing businesses, policymakers and communities.

His publication record provides strong evidence of research quality and momentum. His selected publications include work in leading international journals such as Business Strategy and the Environment, Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Management, Technological Forecasting and Social Change, Energy Policy, and R&D Management. These contributions span sustainability-oriented innovation, environmental performance, business model innovation, innovation constraints, and the configuration of national innovation ecosystems. His CV reports 28 Q1/Q2 publications according to the AIS, alongside an H-index of 22 in Scopus and 1,248 Scopus citations. Taken together, these indicators and the quality and coherence of his selected outputs point to a scholar whose work has achieved meaningful international visibility.

Viktor has also demonstrated the ability to contribute to and lead collaborative research. He is Principal Investigator of the Czech Science Foundation project ‘Twin-transition for greener Innovation Ecosystems: Modelling paths for multi-helix stakeholders’ (2026–2028), and of an AcrossEU seed-funded project on eco-innovation dynamics and sustainability transitions in Central and Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans. His role as Working Group 4 Co-Leader within the EU COST Action on industrial symbiosis further reflects his engagement in international research networks. This experience, together with his contributions to other competitively funded projects, provides a strong basis for continued research leadership and the development of productive partnerships.

Beyond his research outputs, Viktor contributes to the scholarly community through editorial service. He is a series editor for Springer’s Sustainability and Innovation book series and an associate editor for three journals: Journal of Innovation Economics & Management, Managing Global Transitions and SciPap. His research achievements have also been recognised through several awards, including the 2025 best paper award at the International Conference on Future Business Perspectives and a 2024 best paper award at Tallinn University of Technology, in addition to recurring Dean’s Awards for scientific research and a Rector’s Award for a high-impact publication.

His academic and leadership experience is also relevant to a Professorship. Having served as Deputy Head of the Science and Research Centre from 2020 to 2024, Viktor has been Vice-Dean for External Affairs at the Faculty of Economics and Administration since 2024. These roles demonstrate engagement with institutional development alongside his research career. In my experience of working with him, he brings valuable subject expertise and a collaborative orientation to research development, qualities that are important for building teams, strengthening international links and supporting the next generation of research.

Based on his coherent research profile, strong record of publications in respected international journals, developing track record in securing and leading research projects, editorial contributions and academic leadership, I believe Viktor Prokop has the scholarly standing and potential expected of a full Professor. I recommend him strongly and without reservation for appointment to a Professorship at the University of Pardubice.

Yours sincerely,



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