

May 11, 2023

ASSESSMENT REPORT

of the **Education and Research Initiative in Bioorganic Chemistry** to prepare candidates for the third level of higher education in the specialty of **Biology and Biochemistry** (specialization code 091) at the V.P. Kukhar Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry and Petrochemistry of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is to provide assessment of the Education and Research Initiative (ERI) in Bioorganic Chemistry by the V.P. Kukhar Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry and Petrochemistry of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine.

I am currently serving as the Scientific Advisor and Group Leader for Computational Chemistry and Chemoinformatics within the Drug Discovery Program, at the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research in Toronto, Canada. Additionally, I hold a cross-appointment as an Assistant Professor within the Graduate Department of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto. With over 20 years of experience in Drug Discovery, including roles at Searle/Monsanto/Pharmacia Corporation and Pfizer R&D Research Laboratories legacy companies, as well as OICR Drug Discovery, I bring a wealth of knowledge to the field. My impressive academic track record includes 76 publications in top-tier peer-reviewed journals such as *Nature Communications*, *Nature Chemical Biology*, *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery*, *Angewandte Chemie* and *JACS*, 4 book chapters, 18 patents, and 33 invited lectures and seminars. Currently, I am supervising and co-supervising 4 Research Scientists, 2 graduate and 2 undergraduate students. Given my extensive background and experience, I am confident in my ability to provide a professional assessment of the aforementioned program.

The V.P. Kukhar Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry and Petrochemistry of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine is an esteemed scientific center in Ukraine, providing a powerful research infrastructure for the education and training of professionals in the field of biology, medicinal chemistry, and structural biology. Graduates are equipped with the skills and knowledge to conduct original and independent research.

The Education and Research Initiative in Bioorganic Chemistry under the specialty code 091 in Biology and Biochemistry equips postgraduate students with a range of competencies to generate novel ideas, solve complex problems in professional and/or research-innovation activities, acquire contemporary methodologies in scientific and pedagogical pursuits, and conduct original

research, that contributes to the scientific community with theoretical and practical significance.

The peer-reviewed Educational and Research Initiative for preparing doctoral students (Ph.D.) under the specialty code 091 in Biology and Biochemistry comprises an educational component (including general, professional, practical training and a cycle of elective courses for the doctoral candidates) and a research component (encompassing work on the dissertation, participation in scientific events at various levels, writing scientific articles, and other related activities).

The program clearly outlines the goals, general and professional competencies, and learning outcomes. In addition, for each discipline within the program, there are descriptions of the types of institutional activities, assessment methods, language of instructions, and scope and form of evaluation.

The provisions outlined in the program are accompanied by a number of documents adopted by the Institute and posted on its official website. The directions of the educational and research initiative are aligned with the research themes of the V.P. Kukhar Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry and Petrochemistry of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine. An important factor in the implementation of the program is the Institute's cooperation with leading universities and research institutions abroad. For example, with scientists of the Helmholtz Center Munich (Institute of Structural Biology) within the framework of joint Ukrainian-German scientific research projects.

Therefore, the reviewed Educational and Research Initiative in Bioorganic Chemistry is prepared and presented at the appropriate scientific and methodical level, providing comprehensive high-quality training of highly qualified scientists in the field of Biology and Biochemistry (specialty 091).

If you have any questions or require any further information concerning my assessment, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached by email at gennady.poda@oicr.on.ca.

Sincerely,



Gennady Poda, Ph.D.
Scientific Advisor and Group Leader
Computational Chemistry and Chemoinformatics
Drug Discovery Program
Ontario Institute for Cancer Research

Assistant Professor
Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy
University of Toronto