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**Statement from the director of the institute on the final report of the Commission
No. 2**

We were really encouraged by the way the commission assessed **the Institute of Physiology as a whole**, because the outcome was highly positive in most of the aspects considered.

In particular, we would like to highlight the commission's emphasis that ***"The Institute can demonstrate excellence in several scientific domains and thus can perform effective research on multidisciplinary topics."*** The commission also noted the high quality of the scientific output as it stated that ***"The institute has published more than 700 papers and received 12 patents..... Though the average impact factor decreased a bit recently, it is still very high."*** Additionally, our efforts to contribute to education were acknowledged by the statement ***"The Institute coordinates a PhD program jointly with Charles University and can present itself as a Graduate School in Biomedicine. The PhD study program is well structured and includes a rich training program and various review and feedback activities."*** Besides this, the commission highlighted the significant involvement of the Institute in outreach and popularization activities. Most importantly for us, the commission considered the strategic plan for future activities to be well elaborated.

The commission provided us with some recommendations that we highly appreciate and will adapt the future strategy of the Institute management accordingly. In some cases, such a strategy has already been adopted, e.g. in terms of the age structure of the PIs of our Institute, and the appropriate measures will be put into place in the near future.

The commission evaluated just one team out of 22 research teams of the Institute, the department of **Computational Neuroscience**. We appreciate the positive and encouraging review of this team and we would like to add just one more piece of information: work is being done to broaden the limited local collaborations of the team (which was commented on by the commission), as evidenced by a recent joint publication.

We gratefully acknowledge the evaluation report and would like to thank the commission for the excellent work it did to accomplish this highly demanding and helpful task.

Prague, 19 January 2016

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