

Curriculum vitae - Prof. Dr. Tomáš Bleha

Address

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born in 1943 in Nitra, Slovakia, married, one son

Education

1961-1966 Faculty of Chemical Technology, Slovak University of Technology (STU), Bratislava,
“Ing” degree (equivalent to MSc) in chemical engineering, 1966
1967-1970 STU Bratislava, PhD in physical chemistry, 1972

Employment and professional experience

1970 assistant lecturer, Slovak University of Technology, Bratislava
1970 - till now: Polymer Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS), presently as the
principal research scientist
1992 - 1998: vice-president of the of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (a full-time position) in charge
of the Division of the Life Sciences and Chemistry
1993 – 2004: Associate Professor of Physical Chemistry (Docent) at the Faculty of Chemical and Food
Technology of the Slovak University of Technology (SUT), Bratislava
2005 - till now: Full Professor of Physical Chemistry at SUT Bratislava,
2011: Professor in the study field Materials, Faculty of Materials Science and Technology of SUT in
Trnava

Long-term stays abroad:

1978: postdoctoral fellow at Departement de chimie, Université de Montreal, Montreal, Canada, with
Prof. R.H. Marchessault
1988: visiting scientist at the Department of Polymer Science and Engineering, University of
Massachusetts, Amherst, Ma., U.S.A., with Prof. F.E. Karasz
1990: visiting scientist at the Department of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Chemistry of
Macromolecules, University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy, with Prof. A. Cesaro

Research interests and activities

Physical, polymer and computational chemistry; soft-matter (polymer, colloid) advanced materials;
computer-aided molecular modelling; structure-property relationships of (bio)polymers; molecular
and statistical thermodynamics of chain molecules; macromolecular biophysics; elasticity and
confinement of macromolecules;

Author and co-author of a book (in Slovak and English editions) on chemical reactions of
polymers, of four extensive chapters in special monographs, of 85 papers in renowned
international journals mainly in macromolecular science and of over 170 additional publications
and abstracts (mainly in the conference proceedings); about 1300 citations in the Science Citation
Index.

Several invited lectures at international conferences in Europe; co-organiser of six international
conferences, Editor of the special symposium volume *Macromol. Symp.* 58, (1992) and of five
Conference proceedings.

Research in the last decade supported by grants from the Grant Agencies APVV and VEGA
(Slovakia), by the Center of Excellence in Advanced Computational Chemistry of SAS and by a
collaborative grant from NSF (USA).

Courses taught

From 1972 active in teaching students at universities in Bratislava; some recent courses: "Physical chemistry of biopolymers" at the Comenius University (1991-95), "Physical chemistry of macromolecular systems" (1995-2003), "Surface and colloid chemistry" (2004-08) and "Theory and technology of polymer materials" (2010-11) at the Slovak University of Technology. Supervised five graduate students for the PhD degree and nine students for the MSc degree.

Research administration and evaluation

Long-standing interest in research administration and management as well as science policy issues: head of Department of Molecular Thermodynamics of PI SAS (1986-2009), scientific secretary of PI SAS (1986-88), member of Committee of the Council of Scientists of SAS (1991-92); in 1992 - 1998 elected and appointed by the Government (in two terms) as the vice-president of the Slovak Academy of Sciences - the national research centre devoted to the basic and strategic research. As a full-time vice-president in charge of 23 institutes of SAS in the Life Sciences and Chemistry of about 1200 personnel he co-directed a major transformation and modernisation of the Academy and its research institutes, including the introduction of the research evaluation procedures, implementation of the competitive funding, international networking, etc.

Member of several governmental bodies engaged in reviewing the research performance: the Chairman of Slovak Committee for Scientific Degrees (SKVH) at Ministry of Education of SR (2006-2011); the Chairman of the Commission of SAS for evaluation of research qualification of employees (2005-2009); the member of the Executive Board of the Science and Technology Assistance Agency (APVT, the national grant agency) in 2003-2005. Additionally, a member of various evaluation committees and panels assessing the research performance of the institutes of the SAS and abroad.

Extensive experience in reviewing the project proposals for national and international grant agencies including the association INTAS (Brussels) and NSF (Washington). In 2000-2001 the member of a pool of experts set up by DG Research EC Brussels to prepare recommendations on the mobility of researchers in the framework of ERA; served as an expert-evaluator for DG Research in the 5th, 6th and 7th Framework Programmes in about 18 different panels on programmes NMP, SME, NEST, IHP and Marie Curie.

Memberships and Awards

1983 - 94: member of the Editorial Board of the international journal Chemical Papers (Veda, Bratislava)

1985 - 88: member of the Editorial Board of the international journal Materials Chemistry and Physics (Elsevier Sequoia, Lausanne, Switzerland)

1990: DrSc degree in physical chemistry from the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS)

1993: Dionyz Stur Silver Plaque for Merits in Natural Sciences, SAS

1996 - till now: member of the Scientific Board of the Faculty of Chemical Technology, Slovak University of Technology, Bratislava

1997: Ordinary member of the Academia Scientiarum et Artium Europea, Salzburg, Austria

2003: Dionyz Ilkovic Plaque for Merits in Physics and Chemistry, SAS

2004: Ordinary member of the Learned Society of Slovak Academy of Sciences

2007: Included among the top scientists in chemistry in Slovakia (ranking by the Agency ARRA)