RUS REGELUNGSTECHNIK UND SYSTEMTHEORIE

RUHR UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM RUB

**RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT** BOCHUM | 44780 Bochum | Germany

Fakultät für Maschinenbau

**Regelungstechnik und Systemtheorie**
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Martin Mönnigmann
Gebäude IC1-115
Universitätsstraße 150, 44801 Bochum
Fon +49 (0)234 32-24060
Fax +49 (0)234 32-14155
martin.moennigmann@rub.de
www.rus.rub.de

**April 14, 2026**

Evaluation for the purpose of the inauguration procedure of doc. Ing. Radoslav Paulen, PhD

Candidate: doc. Ing. Radoslav Paulen, PhD
Position of application: professor of Automation at the Institute of Information Engineering, Automation, and Mathematics, Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology, STU Bratislava

It is a pleasure to provide an evaluation of the professional and pedagogical qualifications of Radoslav Paulen, who is a candidate for the title of professor in the field of automation.

I first met Dr. Paulen at a conference in 2016, where we collaborated for a few days as participants in a breakout group that considered feature developments of the field of automation for the chemical and process industries. Subsequently, Radoslav Paulen and I interacted on a regular basis in two prestigious collaborative research projects, one funded by Alexander von Humboldt Foundation from 2017 to 2020 and one funded by the European Union from 2022 to 2025. In the course of these projects, I had numerous (on the order of 20) opportunities to attend both scientific and pedagogical lectures by Dr. Paulen.

I prepared this evaluation based on my personal encounters with Dr. Paulen and on the documents provided by prof. Ing. Anton Gatial, DrSc., Dean of the Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology. Specifically, I received selected scientific papers, Dr. Paulen's CV, selected publications, a summary of educational and scientific activities, a list of publications with extensive information on citations, an overview of educational activities, a list of mentored Ph.D. students, and an overview of grants and projects.

**Curriculum Vitae**

Dr. Paulen received his Bc. degree in Food and Biotechnology and Ing. degree in Chemical Engineering and Process Control from STU Bratislava in 2006 and 2008, respectively. Subsequently, he pursued a Ph.D. degree in Automation at STU Bratislava, which he completed in 2012. From 2008 to 2015, he held a position at the Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology at STU Bratislava. From 2012 to 2017, Dr. Paulen spent 5 years as a postdoctoral researcher at the Technical University Dortmund, Germany. Upon returning to the Slovak Republic in 2017, he was appointed Associate Professor at STU Bratislava.

**Evaluation of Teaching Activities**

Radoslav Paulen started his teaching activities as a Ph.D. student. He was already involved in four different courses taught between 2009 and 2011 in this early career phase. After completion of his Ph.D., the candidate was a postdoctoral researcher at TU Dortmund, Germany, for 5 years, during which he taught 4 different courses with an average load of 2 courses per semester. Ever since he returned to Bratislava in 2017 and was appointed docent, he has been responsible for 10 different courses, seminars and laboratory exercises. In summary, Radoslav Paulen has taught a remarkable number of different courses and has repeatedly coped with a remarkably high teaching load. While all subjects covered by his teaching activities belong to the core of Process Control, the variety of topics, ranging from basics like computer simulation methods to highly specialized advanced material such as optimization-based multivariate control methods, is particularly impressive.

Dr. Paulen has supervised or is supervising 4 Ph.D. theses since 2017, one of which has been completed. In addition, he has supervised 14 final diploma and 7 bachelor theses since 2010. These figures clearly indicate Dr. Paulen shows great, sustained and consistent dedication to teaching and mentoring students.

**Evaluation of Research Activities**

Dr. Paulen's scientific activity is documented in 89 publications listed on the Web of Science as of today, 25 of which are journal articles and 64 of which are conference proceedings papers. Moreover, the Web of Science reports 547 citations, 443 of which are self-citations, and an h-index of 13. Notably, Google Scholar, reports 1337 citations and an h-index of 20. Dr. Paulen's self-reported data (which is according to the rules set by the Ministry of Education, Science and Research) list 55 publications of the category A+ and A, and an additional 102 publications in outlets ranking A- and B, and 370 citations according to the Scopus database at the time of the compilation of this data. On top of the contributions to journals and proceedings discussed so far, Dr. Paulen coauthored a monograph as one of two authors. Regardless of the source of citation data, Dr. Paulen's publication record is very impressive in light of his age. His publication record very clearly indicates he is a dedicated researcher whose results are appreciated by the international community.

The selected publications provided for more detailed review cover the topics of optimal experimental design, parameter estimation, model predictive control and production optimization. These topics belong to the most demanding tasks in the field, particularly because Dr. Paulen addresses nonlinear systems throughout. In many of his scientific contributions, Dr. Paulen employs set-based methods, which results in particularly challenging algorithms.

Finally, Dr. Paulen's scientific aptitude is testified by 9 grants he received as principal investigator, all of which are for projects with a duration of several years. In addition, he was a member of a grant project team in 21 cases. These numbers are very impressive.

**Overall Evaluation and Recommendation**

Dr. Paulen's records affirm that he is an excellent teacher and researcher. Based on the documents provided, it is evident that he meets the criteria set by STU Bratislava for becoming a professor. Based on my personal interactions with Dr. Paulen over the last 9 years, I am confident this evaluation will stand.

It is without any hesitation that I recommend approving the proposal for the appointment of Dr. Paulen as a professor of Automation at the Institute of Information Engineering, Automation, and Mathematics at the Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology of STU Bratislava.

Bochum, April 15, 2026

Prof. Dr.-Ing. M. Mönnigmann