

HABILITATION BOARD DECISION ON THE NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Masaryk University	
Faculty	Faculty of Informatics
Procedure field	Informatics
Applicant	Mgr. Tomáš Foltýnek, Ph.D.
Applicant's home unit, institution	Faculty of Informatics, Masaryk University
Habilitation thesis	Information Technologies for Countering Academic Fraud

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Evaluation of the applicant's scholarly qualifications

The candidate graduated from the Faculty of Informatics, Masaryk University, in 2003 and completed his doctoral studies at the Faculty of Business and Economics, Mendel University, in 2006.

The candidate's research activities lie at the intersection of computer science, education, and research ethics. According to the submitted materials, the candidate has co-authored 12 journal articles indexed in the WoS database (out of which 7 in D1 or Q1), 4 in the Scopus database, and 4 peer-reviewed journal articles. The list of publications also includes 7 papers in proceedings of refereed international conferences. On top of that, there are 4 book chapters and 2 software products. The number of citations without self-citations (as of September 1, 2026) was 701 in WoS and 1171 in Scopus. The candidate has successfully led or co-led 4

national and international research projects and participated as a team member in 5 projects. Since 2013, he has been involved in organising an annual conference on plagiarism and academic integrity, serving as a PC chair and, at times, as an OC member. He serves as an editorial board member in three international journals.

The candidate's activities are well visible at both the national and international levels. He collaborates intensively with several European academic institutions, as evidenced by 4 research stays and 12 teaching stays at foreign universities, as well as by a very high number of international co-authors on his publications. He also contributes to international and national policy, including leadership roles in the European Network for Academic Integrity and in initiatives of the Council of Europe and the Czech Council of Higher Education Institutions. His research findings have impacted policy-making at the European level as he is one of the initiators of the Council of *Europe's Recommendation CM/Rec (2022) 18 on countering education fraud*.

Conclusion: The candidate's scholarly/artistic capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation procedure in the field of Informatics.

Evaluation of the applicant's pedagogical experience

The candidate has extensive experience teaching informatics courses, as well as specialised courses on academic integrity and IT ethics.

From 2004 to 2022, Tomáš Foltýnek worked as an assistant professor at the Faculty of Business and Economics, Mendel University, working part-time between 2018 and 2019 and from September 2021. During his tenure, he delivered lectures and coordinated courses: Theoretical informatics, Computability and complexity, Computer technology and algorithms, Graph theory, Data compression and cryptology, Blockchain and cryptocurrency technologies (across a cumulative total of 98 semesters), together with course seminars (across a cumulative total of 40 semesters).

From 2018 to 2019, Tomáš Foltýnek worked as a senior researcher for plagiarism detection and semantic analysis at the School of Electrical, Information and Media Engineering, University of Wuppertal, Germany, where he delivered lectures on Introduction to computer science and Blockchain technology.

Since 2021, Tomáš Foltýnek has been a lecturer (2021 – 2023) and assistant professor at the Faculty of Informatics, Masaryk University. He led seminars for the courses Introduction to machine learning, Mathematical foundations of informatics, Introduction to programming, Algorithms and data structures, Formal languages and automata, and Teaching Lab (cumulative total of 31 semesters). He established and delivered new lectures on Academic integrity, Ethics and IT, AI in education (cumulative total 10 semesters).

Tomáš Foltýnek co-authored 5 textbooks and 12 E-learning study materials. The candidate has supervised 61 Bachelor's and 60 Master's theses.

An extremely significant and vital part of his educational activities is invited and keynote lectures, seminars and workshops on academic integrity, plagiarism, and the ethical aspects of generative AI. Between 2014 and 2025, he conducted 36 such events, spanning both local forums and prestigious international events.

The Board has also evaluated the candidate's public lecture entitled *Information Technologies for Countering Academic Fraud*, which took place on October 6, 2026, partly online at FI MU

(cf. a separate report). The lecture demonstrated the candidate's outstanding presentation skills

Conclusion: The applicant's pedagogical capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation procedure in the field of Informatics.

Habilitation thesis evaluation

The applicant has submitted a habilitation thesis entitled *Information Technologies for Countering Academic Fraud*. The thesis takes the form of a collection of 10 articles that is accompanied by an extended introduction.

The Board has selected and invited the following three reviewers on the Habilitation thesis:

- Leanne Wu, PhD
Faculty of Science, Department of Computer Science, University of Calgary
- Dr. Antoni Jaume Capó
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of the Balearic Islands
- Assoc. Prof. Daniel Acuña
Department of Computer Science, University of Colorado at Boulder.

All three reviews are generally positive on the quality of the thesis. The Board would like to especially highlight the following part of the reviews:

(Leanne Wu, PhD) The work described by the thesis is connected but broad, with some work being recognizably positioned as computer science and other work being more focused on educational research. Such multidisciplinary breadth is rare and deserves recognition for its unusual scholarly context. ... The habilitation thesis fulfills the goals stated by Mgr. Foltýnek in the introduction. It explores academic integrity and cheating, shows a wide range of tools and techniques which might be used to better detect cases of possible misconduct, and thoughtfully demonstrates a myriad of considerations which should be applied to best use these tools and techniques to probe whether some kind of dishonesty has occurred.

(Dr. Antoni Jaume Capó) The habilitation thesis demonstrates scientific maturity, methodological rigor, international visibility, and substantial interdisciplinary impact. The candidate has established a recognized research program that advances the state of the art in Information Technologies for academic integrity while simultaneously producing significant benefits for Educational Sciences and higher education practice. Particularly impressive is the successful transfer of advanced Computer Science methodologies into educational contexts, thereby creating a research portfolio with both scientific excellence and societal relevance. In my assessment, the scientific quality of the publications, the coherence of the research program, the international visibility of the results, and the candidate's sustained contributions to emerging challenges related to Artificial Intelligence clearly demonstrate scholarly excellence at the level expected for habilitation. The thesis provides compelling evidence of the candidate's capacity to lead an independent, internationally recognized, and highly impactful research agenda.

(Assoc. Prof. Daniel Acuña) The thesis is a commentary document with with ten published articles. The record it presents is strong. The systematic review in ACM Computing Surveys (Article C) is a standard reference for computational plagiarism detection, the definition of plagiarism proposed there reached Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec (2022)18, the multilingual test of 15 text-matching systems (Article D) filled a gap that the review itself had identified, and the test of AI-text detectors (Article I) helped move institutional policy away

from detector-based enforcement. This is a coherent research program with real effects on practice.

Conclusion: The applicant's habilitation thesis **meets** the requirements expected of habilitation theses in the field of Informatics.

Secret ballot results

Number of board members	5
Number of votes cast	5
Number of votes in favour	5

Board decision

Based on the outcome of the secret vote and following an evaluation of the applicant's scholarly or artistic qualifications, pedagogical experience and habilitation thesis, the board hereby submits a proposal to the scientific board of the Faculty of Informatics of Masaryk University to

☒ appoint the applicant associate professor of Informatics

☐ terminate the procedure.

Date: 6 October 2026

prof. RNDr. Ivana Černá, CSc.

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