Dear Editor Dr. Olgica Nedić

We are sending to you our manuscript entitled “**Expression, purification and characterization of cellobiose dehydrogenase mutants from *Phanerochaete chrysosporium* in *Pichia pastoris* KM71H strain**” that contains our original unpublished results for reviewing and publishing in your journal **“Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society”.** All authors warranty that the manuscript submitted to the Journal for review is original, has been written by the stated author(s) and has not been published elsewhere; is currently not being considered for publication by any other journal and will not be submitted for such a review while under review by the Journal; the manuscript contains no libellous or other unlawful statements and does not contain any materials that violate any personal or proprietary rights of any other person or entity.

Research in this article is focused on cloning and expression of new mutants of cellobiose dehydrogenase (CDH) from *Phanerochaete chrysosporium* in *Pichia pastoris* in order to produce them in a soluble form and to characterize for possible use in biotechnology. Three mutants discovered during directed evolution of CDH in an immobilized form on the surface of *S.cerevisiae* EBY100 cells were for the first time expressed extracellulary in *Pichia*, purified in a soluble form and kinetically characterized. Results showed that produced CDH mutants have higher activity and specificity for lactose and cellobiose compared to the previously published soluble wild type and mutant CDHs from *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*.

Thus we believe that CDH mutants obtained in this work would be very interesting for scientists working in the field of applied biocatalysis, production of lactobionic acid, biosensors and biofuel cells. Therefore, we hope that you will find our manuscript interesting for publishing in your journal “**Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society”** under subsection Biochemistry & Biotechnology.

As possible reviewers for this article we can suggest following experts in the field within the scope of the article:

1. Prof Marija Gavrović Jankulović, University of Belgrade-Faculty of Chemistry, Serbia, E-mail: mgavrov@chem.bg.ac.rs
2. Prof Zorica Knežević Jugović, University of Belgrade-Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, Serbia, E-mail: zknez@tmf.bg.ac.rs
3. Dr. Selin Ece, Application Scientist at PerkinElmer, Inc., Aachen, NRW, Germany, E-mail: selinece@hotmail.com or selin.ece@molbiotech.rwth-aachen.de

Yours sincerely, Belgrade, 20.03.2019.

Dr Radivoje Prodanović