

OPINION

UNDER COMPETITION FOR ACQUIRING ACADEMIC POSITION "PROFESSOR" AT MU-PLOVDIV

I. Review of candidate's career profile.

Assoc. Professor Rositsa Karalilova, MD, PhD, DMSc, graduated from Medical University - Plovdiv in 2005. The same year she was appointed as a resident physician at the Rheumatology Clinic at UMHAT Kaspela, Plovdiv, where she has been working since and her Certificate of service shows that she has been working as a physician in the index specialty for 18 years and 6 months (as at the date of competition announcement).

The candidate has consistently passed through all stages of her career development and in 2013, after a competition, acquired the academic position "assistant" at the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Diseases "Prof. Anton Mitov, PhD", in 2018 – „chief assistant”, and in the same year she was appointed Chief Administrative Assistant and Academic Activities Supervisor, in 2002 she became "associate professor" at the said department. In 2014 she acquired specialty in Rheumatology.

Assoc. Professor Karalilova defended two theses – "Diagnostic capabilities of new ultrasonographic techniques for the assessment of skin, articular, periarticular and pulmonary involvement in systemic sclerosis" in 2018 for which she was conferred the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", and in 2021 - "Imaging and serum biomarkers for pulmonary and joint involvement in patients with systemic sclerosis" for which she was conferred the scientific degree of "Doctor of Science".

Since the beginning of 2024 Assoc. Prof. Karalilova she has been a part of the Dean's Management Panel at the Faculty of Medicine at MU - Plovdiv, she is a member of the Faculty Council and has been elected Deputy Dean for Academic Activities at the FM.

Assoc. Professor Karalilova is skillful in number of instrumental techniques. She is an expert in musculoskeletal ultrasound and holds the highest level of EULAR qualification, and in 2017 she became certified European MSUS trainer. In 2023 she became president of the Bulgarian Association of Musculo-Skeletal Ultrasound. She also hold qualification in capillaroscopy. She is an active participant in qualification courses in musculo-skeletal ultrasound and capillaroscopy for

experts in various specialties. She is a member of international and national organizations - OMERACT, TUI, EUSTAR.

II. General description of materials submitted for the competition.

The candidate has submitted the full set of documents for the competition on time and in compliance with Article 120 of Section V of the Rules for Academic Development at Medical University - Plovdiv. The documentation conforms to the requirements of ASDARB and its Implementing Rules at MU - Plovdiv.

III. Evaluation of candidate's academic papers for the overall academic development.

The scientific works of Assoc. Professor Karalilova encompass diverse aspects of rheumatology as well as other fields of medicine. She has studied systemic sclerosis in depth which was also the subject of her two dissertations but as part of various teams she has also conducted research in other systemic connective tissue diseases, including vasculitides, as well as inflammatory joint diseases, osteoarthritis, biomarkers, ultrasound. She has done interesting and innovative research related to biomarkers, cellular metabolism, microbiome. Based on the scientific research activities and their results, she has produced original scientific contributions with evidence which I fully accept. Her scientific papers have been highly praised which is evidenced by the high publication activity in international editions, including the highest ranking rheumatology journal ARD and the high number of citations of her academic papers. Her systematic collaboration as part of international academic teams resulted in participation in international projects and for this competition the candidate has provided information about participation in 8 international projects. She is a leader of an international project.

For the purposes of this competition, Assoc. Prof. Karalilova has provided 24 full-text publications in scientific editions, referenced and indexed in Scopus and/or Web of Science, 20 of which have an impact factor, and 4 are referenced and indexed in Scopus and/or Web of Science, without IF; 7 full-text publications in unreferenced peer-reviewed journals; participation in the writing of a university textbook and one self-authored monograph.

Assoc. Professor Karalilova is a supervisor of two successful PhD candidates and 5 PhD candidates who are currently developing their scientific theses, with one of them being at the stage of "signed off with a right to dissertation defense". She has reviewed 8 publications.

IV. Evaluation of the monograph submitted for participation in the competition for “PROFESSOR”.

The monograph of Assoc. Prof. Karalilova “Ultrasound phenotypes in osteoarthritis“ published in 2024 is valuable. It presents in a detailed, yet easy to read way, the clinical and ultrasound experience of the author with OA patients and proposes an innovative modern approach toward the process of stratification and phenotyping of patients with this condition. This in itself is essential for the success of the subsequent treatment choice.

V. Presence (citation) of candidate's publications in national and international literature (publication image).

The intensive publication activity of Assoc. Prof. R. Karalilova has yielded 51 documents in Web of Science and 45 documents in Scopus, and 195 independent citations with self-citations excluded. Hirsch-index is 9. She has 7 citations in unreferenced peer-reviewed journals.

VI. Comprehensive, quality evaluation of educational and methodology and teaching activity, including as an academic supervisor to students, PhD candidates, residents.

The educational and methodology activity of Assoc. Prof. Karalilova over the last three academic years totals 5458.1 hours. She participates in the training of Bulgarian and English-speaking students of medicine, dental medicine, midwives, medical nurses, physician assistants by delivering lectures and practical courses. She trains intern and resident physicians. She is a member of examination committees for midterm exams, state examinations, competition committees for doctoral students, committees for colloquia of resident physicians and examinations of doctoral students, member of a scientific panel for educational and scientific degree “Doctor” and scientific degree “Doctor of Science”, member of state examination committees in the specialty “Rheumatology”. She is a practical supervisor of 3 resident rheumatology physicians, 7 doctoral students, she works intensively with students and their joint scientific work has produced 65 publications, participations in national and over 15 international forums.

VII. Critical remarks and recommendations.

I have no critical remarks and recommendations

VIII. Overall assessment of candidate's compliance with the minimum national requirements under Art. 2(b), paras 2 and 3 and respectively with the requirements under Art. 2(b), paragraph 5 of ASDARB and the specific requirements of MU - Plovdiv applicable to professional fields and units with/without clinical operations as defined in the Rules for Academic Development at Medical University - Plovdiv.

MANDATORY MINIMUM ACADEMIC SCORING INDICATORS OF MU-PLOVDIV FOR FIELD 7.1.MEDICINE (medical and clinic)

Indicator group	Content	AP "PROFESSOR" (points)	Assoc. Professor R. Karalilova, DMSc (points)
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 2		100
C	Indicators 3 and 4	100	100
D	Sum of indicators 5 to 9	250	295.49
E	Sum of indicators 10 to 12	300	2925
F	Sum of indicators 13 to 22	140	917.96
G	Teaching activity and Academic position	400	1235
TOTAL :		1240	5623.45

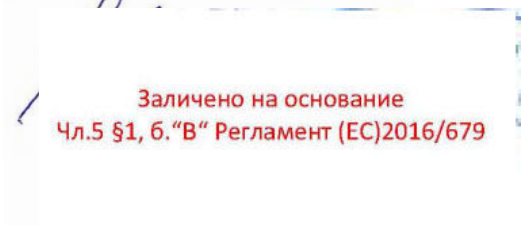
IX. Conclusion:

Based on the above and in accordance with the Academic Staff Development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria (ASDARB), the ASDARB Implementing Rules and the Rules of Medical University - Plovdiv, Assoc. Prof. Karalilova **fulfills** the mandatory and specific conditions and covers the academic scoring indicators for the acquisition of the academic position "PROFESSOR". She not only fulfills but exceeds the quantitative indicators in the academic scoring aspect and her scientific works make original contributions of practical value. Therefore, I confidently vote in

favor and recommend to the Scientific panel to confer to Assoc. Prof. Rositsa Valerieva Karalilova, MD, PhD, DMSc, the academic position “Professor” in Professional field 7.1. Medicine, at the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Diseases at MU - Plovdiv.

30.07.2024
city of Sofia

Assoc. Prof. Ivan Yordanov Sheytanov, MD, PhD



Заличено на основание
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