

REVIEW

Regarding the competition for the academic position "Professor" in the field of Higher Education 7. "Health and Sports", Professional field 7.1. "Medicine" and Scientific specialty "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" for the needs of the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology at Medical University - Plovdiv, published in the State Gazette No. 82 / 27.09.2024 and upon an approved proposal by the Faculty Council of the Medical Faculty, MU - Plovdiv - Protocol №8 / 09.10.2024

Reviewer: Prof. Dr. Lazar Jeleu Slavov, MD, PhD, Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, MU - Sofia.

Participant submitted documents for the competition: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Georgiev Baltadjiev, MD, PhD, Associate Professor in the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology at MU - Plovdiv.

This review was prepared in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the LASRB and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff in MU - Plovdiv.

I. Analysis of the candidate's career profile.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Georgiev Baltadjiev graduated from the Higher Medical Institute (now MU) - Plovdiv with excellent grades in 1994. In 1999 he acquired specialty in Obstetrics and Gynecology. With a competitive examination in the same year, the candidate took the academic position of "Assistant Professor" at the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology of MU-Plovdiv. Specialization in "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev acquired in 2003, after which he held the position of Senior Assistant (2003 - 2006) and Chief Assistant (2006 - 2015). In 2010, he successfully defended his dissertation on "Morpho-anthropological characteristics of patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus" and obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor". In 2015, the candidate was elected Associate Professor at the department. He was responsible person for project activities and international cooperation in the department. Since 2024, Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev was elected Head of the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology.

Assoc. Prof. Atanas Baltadjiev is a member of the Bulgarian Anatomical Society. Since 2024 he has been elected President of the Bulgarian Anthropological Society.

The candidate has a high level of German and English and a good level of Russian.

The academic career of Assoc. Prof. Atanas Baltadjiev has passed in the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology of the Medical University - Plovdiv and covers 25 years of work experience in the specialty, of which 9 years as a habilitated lecturer.

II. General description of the materials submitted in the competition.

To participate in the competition, Assoc. Prof. Atanas Baltadjiev presented all required documents under the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations on the Organization and Activity of the Medical University - Plovdiv and the Regulations for the Academic Position "Professor".

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

Assoc. Prof. Atanas Baltadjiev submitted 1 Dissertation (PhD Thesis), 1 habilitation thesis - monograph, 1 published book based on a defended dissertation, 30 publications, 100 citations of the scientific works, 7 textbooks and 5 practical manuals and tests.

According to the attached documentation, the candidate is author and co-author of a total of 30 full-text publications in specialized scientific journals - 21 in scientific journals refereed and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science (Indicator D.7), of which 8 are in IF journals. Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev is the first author in 7 of the publications under this indicator. Nine of the publications are in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals (Indicator D.8). The main areas of scientific interest of Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev include anthropological studies among patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes mellitus, anthropometric and morphometric characterization of faces of people from the Bulgarian population using 3D laser scanner for the purpose of reconstructive and aesthetic surgery, anthropological characterization of clinical dental crowns in Bulgarian population, determination of bone sex predictors in skeletal remains for forensic purposes, description of various anatomical varieties, study of histomorphological characterization of intestinal mucosa in deceased neonates with E. coli infection, a clinical study on the role of macrolides in the treatment of Marseilles fever, the establishment of the influence of UDCA (ursodeoxycholic acid) on M cells in the intestinal mucosa.

For the last ten years, Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev has co-authored 7 textbooks on human anatomy and 5 practical manuals and tests.

The candidate is a participant in 2 projects - Project № NO-03 / 2019 on "Morpho-anthropological characterization of patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus" and Project № NO-11 / 2023 on "Morphological study of correlations between odontometric dimensions of the

dental crown and certain craniometric dimensions in humans from the Bulgarian population. Their application in anthropology, forensic and dental medicine".

Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev is an Editorial board member of Journal of Advances in Medicine and Medical Research (Google Scholar, Medline), Clinical Journal of Diabetes Care and Control (CJDCC), International Journal of Medical Research and Health Sciences (Web of Science, Q4), Journal of Advanced Technologies in Endocrinology Research.

Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev has reviewed 24 scientific publications - 12 in scientific journals refereed and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science and 12 in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals.

IV. Evaluation of the monograph or equivalent publications submitted for participation in the competition for "PROFESSOR" by the candidate.

The candidate authored 1 habilitation thesis – monograph – Baltadjiev A.G. Anthropological study of children with type 1 diabetes mellitus. 2019, 162 p., MU - Plovdiv, Publishing House "Lax Beech" Ltd., ISBN 978-619-189-116-0.

In several chapters, the presented habilitation thesis provides a detailed anthropometric characterization of children of both sexes with type 1 diabetes mellitus: 1/ The detailed anthropological status of children with type 1 diabetes mellitus is determined; 2/ The topographic distribution of adipose connective tissue, both subcutaneously and visceraally, is studied; 3/ The characteristic somatotype of the sick children is determined; 4/ The characteristic body composition of the patients is determined by BIA; 5/ Derived parameters and indices are calculated to characterize the anthropological status of the patients.

V. Citations of the candidate's publications in the national and foreign literature.

For evaluation in the present competition, Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev has submitted a detailed list of 100 citations of his publications, including 36 citations in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, 3 citations in monographs/dissertations and 61 citations in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals.

Scopus reference (12.01.2024) shows 23 papers by this author with a personal h-index = 4.

VI. Comprehensive, quality assessment of teaching and teaching activities, incl. scientific guidance of students, doctoral students, postgraduates.

In his long teaching practice Assoc. Prof. Atanas Baltadjiev has led the entire practical course in macroscopic and microscopic anatomy with Bulgarian and foreign students of medicine, dentistry and pharmacy. After his habilitation, he has continued to give practical classes and lectures in Bulgarian and English to students of various specialties. Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev is responsible for the teaching of anatomy to the 1st year Bulgarian and English medical students and the students from Medical College. It is evident from the attached academic transcript that during the last three academic years, the candidate has repeatedly exceeded the norm for teaching hours for university habilitated lecturer. Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev was a supervisor of 1 post-graduate student in the specialty of "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology". He has also lectured in the basic course of the specialty "Nephrology".

Assoc. Prof. Baltadjiev has submitted a certificate for supervision of two PhD students who defended their dissertations in 2022 and 2023.

VII. Critical remarks and recommendations.

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VIII. General assessment of the candidate's compliance with the mandatory conditions and mandatory quantitative criteria and scientometric indicators according to the Regulation for holding academic positions at MU-Plovdiv.

From the analysis of the submitted documents it is clear that Assoc. Prof. Atanas Baltadjiev meets the mandatory requirements for holding the academic position "Professor" in accordance with the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Regulations on the structure and activities of MU - Plovdiv and the Regulations for holding the academic position "Professor". The data in the comparative table attached by the applicant clearly show that he covers and exceeds the minimum national scientometric indicators and mandatory requirements set out in Table 1.1 of Annex 1 of the Regulations of Academic Development of MU-Plovdiv.

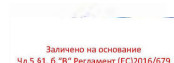
IX. Conclusion

The documents submitted for the competition show the extensive research and teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Atanas Baltadzhiev. The candidate shows consistency in his career development, fulfills the required years of experience in the specialty and meets the mandatory and specific conditions and scientometric criteria for holding the academic position "Professor".

Based on the above, I confidently give my **positive assessment** of the candidate and invite the members of the scientific jury to vote **positively** for the election of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Georgiev Baltadjiev, MD, PhD, for the academic position "Professor" in the field of Higher Education 7. "Health and Sports", Professional field 7.1. "Medicine" in the Scientific specialty "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" for the needs of the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology at the Medical University - Plovdiv.

12.01.2025
Sofia

Reviewer:
/ Prof. Dr. Lazar Jeleu Slavov, MD, PhD /



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "L. Slavov", written over a light blue rectangular background.