

To
Prof. Dr. Iveta Antonova Koeva, MD
Chairman of the Scientific Jury,
determined by Order No. R-1627/03.12.2024

Dear Prof. Dr. Koeva, MD, PhD

In accordance with your Protocol No. 1/ dated 06.12.2024, I hereby submit:

Opinion

on the competition for the academic position "PROFESSOR" in Anatomy, Histology and Cytology in the scientific specialty "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine announced for the needs of MU-Plovdiv, department "Anatomy, Histology and Embryology" for the teaching of Bulgarian and English in the discipline "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" in the State Gazette, issue 82/ 27.09.2024

Reviewer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nadya Ivanova, Penkova, MD, PhD

Scientific specialty: "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology"

Institution: Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, Medical University - Plovdiv

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Заличено на основание
Чл.5 §1, б. "В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

Department of Anatomy, Histology
ova, MD

Рецензията е съставена в съответствие с изискванията на ЗРАСРБ и Раздел III /Раздел IV от ППЗРАСРБ – Условия и ред за заемане на академична длъжност „доцент“ / „професор“

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Reviewer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nadya Ivanova, Penkova, MD, PhD

Scientific specialty: "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology"

Institution: Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, Medical University - Plovdiv

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**Заличено на основание
Чл.5 §1, б. "В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679**

I. Analysis of the candidate's career profile.

By Order No. R-1627/03.12.2024 of the Medical University - Plovdiv, I am appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury regarding the competition for the academic position "PROFESSOR" in Anatomy, Histology and Cytology, field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine at the Department of "Anatomy, Histology and Embryology" for the teaching of Bulgarian and English in the discipline "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology", announced in the State Gazette, issue 82 of 27.09.2024. and upon an approved proposal by the Faculty of Medicine - Medical University - Plovdiv (pr. No. 8 of 09.10.2024)

I present an opinion, which was prepared according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB) and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff in MU-Plovdiv. To prepare the opinion, I received from the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Georgiev Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD all materials required by the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff in MU-Plovdiv for the application of ZRASRB.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Georgiev Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD was born in the city of Plovdiv on 12.10.1967. He graduated from the German Language High School "Bertolt Brecht", the city of Pazardzhik. In 1994, he graduated with honors from the Medical University - Plovdiv with a Master's degree in Medicine. In the interval 1995 - 1998. worked as a clinical resident in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at MU-Plovdiv and on 01.06.1999 acquired the specialty "Obstetrics and Gynecology".

From 1999 to the present, Assoc. Prof. Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD has worked in the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology at MU-Plovdiv, holding the positions: assistant, senior assistant, chief assistant, associate professor. In 2003, he acquired the specialty "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology". In 2010, he acquired the ONS "Doctor of Medicine" after successfully defending a dissertation on the topic "Morpho-anthropological characteristics of patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus". In 2015, he won a competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, MU-Plovdiv. Assoc. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD is a member of the Faculty Council at the Faculty of Medicine, as well as of the Research Committee at MU-Plovdiv. In April 2024, he was elected Head of the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology at the Medical University - Plovdiv.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD is fluent in written and spoken German, English and Russian, with certified B2 levels and specialized language training in Vienna in German.

For his 25 years of work at the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD has conducted exercises and lectures in Bulgarian and English on the various programs of the Anatomy discipline for the training of students from the Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Faculty of Public Health and Medical College, nephrology specialists and other units of MU-Plovdiv. In the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, he is responsible for the training of first-year medical students in the Anatomy program in Bulgarian and English; and the Medical College; responsible for project activities and international cooperation. With an annual standard of 250 teaching hours, in the last three years his workload has been an average of 1342 teaching hours (a total of 4025 teaching hours), presented in the academic record.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD is a co-author of 10 anatomy textbooks, 8 aids /guides and tests/, some of which he participates in the current competition. He is the supervisor of one specialist from the Department of "Anatomy, Histology and Embryology". As a scientific supervisor, he has two doctoral students in anatomy, who successfully defended their dissertations and acquired the ONS "Doctor".

In addition to intensive teaching work, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD is engaged in active scientific research in the areas of: clinical anthropology, normal morphology and variations in the structure of the human body.

During his career, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD has published over 66 original articles (14 of them in IF journals), three monographs, 68 scientific reports at international and national conferences, 24 reviews in international journals. The total number of positive citations is over 140. Part of this activity is the subject of this competition. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD has an N-index = 4, according to Scopus. He has been a member of 16 scientific juries, has participated in 4 scientific projects: 2 international and 2 intra-university. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD is a member of the academic board (Academic Editor) of 4 journals: Journal of Advances in Medicine and Medical Research, International Journal of Medical Research & Health Sciences (Web of Science, Q4), Clinical Journal of Diabetes Care and Control (CJDCC) and Journal of Advanced Technologies in Endocrinology Research.

He is a member of: Bulgarian Medical Union, Bulgarian Anatomical Society, and since May 2024 he has been elected Chairman of the Bulgarian Anthropological Society.

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

In this competition, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD presents all necessary materials, lists and documents, in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LAADRB) and the Regulations on the Development of the Academic Staff at MU-Plovdiv.

- Application to the Rector of MU-Plovdiv for admission to participate in the competition with a list of documents certified by the Registry of MU-Plovdiv.

- CV in European format.

- Notarized copies of: diploma for completed higher education with appendix; diplomas for acquiring the specialty "Obstetrics and Gynecology", "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology", diploma for acquired ONS "Doctor" in the scientific specialty "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology"; diploma for employment as an Associate Professor.

- Certificate of internship in the relevant specialty and a reference for academic positions held to date.

- Academic reference for the study load, certified by the Head of the Department "Study Activities" for the last 3 academic years.

- Copy of the latest attestation sheet for 2020 - 2025.

- Abstract and habilitation dissertation for the ONS "doctor".

- Published monograph that is not presented as the main habilitation

- work.

- Lists of: publications, participation in scientific forums and scientific projects, citations, textbooks, teaching aids.

- Copies of certificates, summaries, documents certifying the training of interns, postgraduates and doctoral students.

- Reference for original scientific contributions with supporting material.

- Self-assessment report according to the template for fulfilling the specific scientometric

- requirements in the main units of MU-Plovdiv.

- Declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents

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

The active scientific research activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD is presented in a large number of publications, monographic works, participation in international and national scientific forums. He has over 66 original publications, 14 of which

are published in journals with IF (8 of them in this competition). 30 of these publications were made after taking up the position of Associate Professor: 21 articles are published in journals referenced by Web of Science and Scopus; and 9 articles are published in other journals. Assoc. Prof. Baltadzhiev has published 3 monographs, 68 participations with scientific reports and posters in scientific forums.

The scientific research work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD in the areas of clinical anthropology, normal morphology and variations in the structure of the human body enriches theoretical science and clinical practice with a number of original scientific contributions. Original contributions are:

- For the first time in Bulgaria, a detailed anthropometric characterization of patients - men and women, suffering from type 2 diabetes mellitus, was made, and their anthropometric profile was determined.

- For the first time in Bulgaria, a detailed anthropometric characterization of children of both sexes, suffering from type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM), was made, and their anthropometric profile was determined.

- For the first time in Bulgaria, a detailed anthropometric characterization of patients with type 1 diabetes mellitus (T1DM) aged 19-40 was made, and their anthropometric profile was determined.

- For the first time in Bulgaria, a detailed anthropometric and morphometric characterization of the faces of the Bulgarian population was made using a 3D laser scanner.

- An anthropological characterization of clinical dental crowns in the Bulgarian population was performed

- A characterization of the humerus as a predictor for determining sex in skeletal remains for the needs of forensic medicine was performed.

Important for clinical practice are a large number of scientifically applied contributions in the field of: The disease Diabetes mellitus type 1 and 2 - introduction of anthropometric parameters and indicators for determining physical status, prevention and prophylaxis; reconstructive and aesthetic surgery - cephalometric studies and determination of facial morphology with a 3D laser scanner; contributions in dentistry, forensic practice and other areas of medicine.

V. Reflection (citation) of the candidate's publications in the national and foreign literature (publication image).

The scientific achievements of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD are reflected in 140 citations in the scientific literature and according to Scopus give the researcher an H-index = 4. 99 of these publications are presented in this competition. 37 are citations in refereed journals, 2 in monographs, 60 in non-refereed journals and other sources. The author also presents 24 reviews in international journals (12 reviews in refereed journals and 12 in non-refereed journals).

VI. Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of teaching, methodological and teaching activities, incl. scientific supervision of students, doctoral students, postgraduates.

In his teaching, methodological and teaching activities, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD has built the authority of an experienced and beloved lecturer in anatomy of exercises and lectures in various programs and courses at MU-Plovdiv, FOH and Medical College. He is a reliable scientific supervisor, who has two doctoral students who successfully defended the ONS "Doctor", he is the supervisor of one postgraduate from the department. Assoc. Prof. Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD gives ideas, guides and supports students and postgraduates from other units of MU-Plovdiv in their performance in a number of scientific forums and activities.

VII. Critical remarks and recommendations.

In my opinion, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD has proven himself to be an authoritative scientist with a high value for scientific achievements, a dedicated teacher, a loyal, positive and constructive member of the departmental team. His personal and professional qualities, organizational and administrative experience are the basis of his successful professional development and holding responsible leadership positions.

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, in sections.

Group of indicators	Contents	Minimum requirements/points	General points presented by the author
A	Indicator 1.	50	50
C	Indicator 3.	100	100
D	Indicator 6. 7. 8.	300	583,21
E	Indicator 10. 11. 12.	400	1165
F	Indicator 14. 15. 18. 20. 21.	150	344,77
G	Academic workload	300	2609,7
	Academic activity	200	1000
	TOTAL	1500	5825,68

The data regarding the mandatory conditions, criteria and scientometric indicators for the activities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadzhiev, DM, PhD show that the candidate for the academic position "Professor" shows results that many times exceed the minimum criteria and indicators. The total number of points of the candidate (5825.68) fully satisfies and significantly exceeds the requirements for occupying the academic position "Professor" in Anatomy, Histology and Cytology at the Medical University - Plovdiv.

IX. Conclusion – meets the mandatory and specific conditions and scientometric criteria – for the academic position of “PROFESSOR”.

The official documents submitted in this competition for the scientific research and teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Georgiev Baltadzhiev, MD, PhD fully meet and significantly exceed the requirements for holding the academic position of "professor" under the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria (ADRB), the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the Medical University - Plovdiv.

All this gives me reason to give my positive opinion and to confidently recommend to the esteemed Scientific Jury to elect Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Georgiev Baltadzhiev, MD, PhD as "Professor" of Anatomy, Histology and Cytology at the Medical University - Plovdiv.

09.01.2025.

Plovdiv

Respectfully

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nadya Ivanova Penkova, MD, PhD

