

МЕДИЦИНСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ - ВАРНА
„Проф. д-р Параскев Стоянов“

Ул. „Марин Дринов“ 55, Варна 9002, България
Тел. : 052/ 65 00 57, Факс: 052/ 65 00 19
e-mail: uni@mu-varna.bg, www.mu-varna.bg



MEDICAL UNIVERSITY - VARNA
"Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov"

55, Marin Drinov Str., 9002 Varna, Bulgaria
Tel.: +359 52/ 65 00 57, Fax: + 359 52/ 65 00 19
e-mail: uni@mu-varna.bg, www.mu-varna.bg

REVIEW

By Associate Professor Diana Stancheva Dimitrova, PhD in Psychology
Veliko Tarnovo Subsidiary of Varna Medical University

Scientific Jury Member, under Order P-109-374/August 22, 2023, by the Rector of Varna Medical University

for conducting a competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in Medical Psychology, professional field 3.2. Psychology. Area of Higher Education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, 0.5 staff position at Second Psychiatric Clinic with St Marina University Multi-profile Hospital for Active Treatment – Varna Sole Proprietor Joint-stock Company

(Additional condition of the competition: not to implement the requirement in the Regulations on Academic Staff Development of Varna Medical University under art. 125, par. 1, item 6, which reads: "Candidates for the academic position of Associate Professor must have a recognised speciality in the health care system (if such is regulated in Regulation No. 1, January 22, 2015), on the acquisition of a speciality in the health care system) in the same speciality".

1. General presentation of the procedure

The only candidate who has submitted papers for participation in the competition, announced in State Gazette Issue 54/June 23, 2023, is Tatiana Georgieva Radeva. The submitted papers and materials are within the statutory deadline and are under the procedure for holding the academic position of Associate Professor, following the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria (ASDA), the Regulations on its implementation and the Regulations on Academic Staff Development (RASD) of Prof Dr Paraskev Stoyanov Varna Medical University and its annexes.

2. Brief biographical data and career development of the candidate

Dr Tatyana Georgieva Radeva graduated in medicine from Varna Medical University in 2000. She graduated with a degree in Psychiatry in 2013, acquired a Master's degree in Psychology (major in Applied Psychology) in 2008 from Varna Free University), and was a PhD student at the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology at Varna Medical University in 2013-2016. She started her career as a post-graduate student at St. Marina University Hospital, Varna in 2010. Over the 2016-2019 period, she was an assistant professor at the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology at Varna Medical University, and from March 2023 to the present, she has been a physician and principal lecturer.

3. Science Output

The submitted scientific publications apart from those for the Education and Scientific Degree of PhD are 13.

Habilitation thesis - monograph (120 pp.), 10 publications in Bulgarian; 10 publications in a foreign language - 1. In ten of the publications, the candidate is an independent author and a first author in one publication. Two publications are in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in the world database (indicator G6). Nine of the publications are in non-refereed journals, with a higher proportion (6 out of 9) in low-ranking periodicals with an educational focus and unclear peer-review rules (Medinfo, ProMedic, GPMedic).

However, according to the Annex with the Regulations on Academic Staff Development of Varna Medical University, the candidate collects a total of 204 points for indicator G4-10), with an obligatory minimum of 200 points.

The citations reflecting the candidate's scientific activity total 13, but the majority (ten publications) are in low-ranking periodicals, with only a refereed look. There are no citations and publications in journals with Impact Factor (IF). According to the Annex with the Regulations on the Academic Staff Development of Varna Medical University, the required minimum is 50 points, and the candidate fulfilled (from Indicator E13 alone) a total of 75 points. The candidate has also included three full-text publications in scientific journals and collections, apart from the minimum scientific metric requirements for the position of Associate Professor.

Summarised data are shown in Table 1.

Groups of Indicators	Content	Requirements by the Regulations on Academic Staff Development, Varna Medical University	Actual for the Candidate
A1	PhD thesis and awarding the educational and scientific Degree of a PhD	50	50
B3	Habilitation Thesis - monograph	100	100
G5 – G10	Articles and Reports published in non-refereed journals	200 (100 for professional field 3.6) (≥40 p. out of indicator 6)	264 (of which 60 p. out of T 6)
G11-G13	Citations or reviews in non-refereed journals	50	75
Total		440	489

Table 1. Correlation of the candidate's actual performance indicators with the minimum requirements of the Regulations on Academic Staff Development at Varna Medical University for the position of Associate Professor in the professional field 3.2. Psychology, an area of higher education 3. Social, Economic and Legal Sciences

4. Evaluation of Scientific Contributions

Contributions from the overview of publications are mainly applied and affirmative, and the original ones are in the fields of psychotherapy, depressive disorders, phenomenology and psychopathology. The main fields are in four areas:

Field 1. Methodology and therapy approach in affective disorders. This features the habilitation thesis (B3), a published book based on the dissertation defended for awarding the educational and scientific degree of PhD (G5) and publications: G 7.1; G 7.3; G 7.5 and G 7.8.) The general idea is to consider the therapeutic process in depression as a unity of ideas and behavioural patterns, as well as personal coping strategies. Original research contributions in this area have been addressed in the candidate's dissertation and are not of substance to the evaluation of the present competition.

Field 2. Methodology in therapy approaches in schizophrenia, addressed in the Habilitation thesis (B3) and publications G7.2; G7.4; G7.7; G7.9. Of particular significance are publications related to the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for patients with schizophrenia.

Field 3. Phenomenology and Psychopathology presented in habilitation thesis (B3) and publications G6.1; G7.1; G7.2; G7.6. Particularly valuable for practice is the proposed model of an algorithm for interviewing a patient with mental issues and the systematisation in the conceptual apparatus of the term "alexithymia".

Field 4. Psychosocial factors and severity of psychiatric disorders, addressed in publications G7.4; G7.7; G7.9. Issues have been developed that analyse the creation of a therapeutic relationship with patients with debilitating diseases, the implications of isolation, psychoeducation of the patient's relatives, the stigmatization of the mentally ill patient, and the doctor's role, as well as the role of the media and the community.

5. Instruction and Medical Activities

Dr Radeva began her instruction activity at Varna Medical University on September 17, 2018. The enclosed reference for a period of five academic years shows that her instruction workload includes a total of 32 periods of lectures for Bulgarian-speaking students and a total of 989 periods of seminars (of which 238 periods for English-speaking students). Her average annual workload is 205 periods per year (with a limit of 220 periods, based on the decision of the Academic Council of Varna Medical University, as seen in Protocol 30/April 11, 2011).

6. Participation in scientific forums and organisations

The candidate has active profiles in Google Scholar, Scopus ID, and ORCID. She has participated in two projects: as a trainer (project "New Opportunities for Quality and Modern Services for People with Mental Disorders" and as a member of the research team (project "Investigation of the Effectiveness of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation in influencing cognitive impairment in depressive episodes within recurrent depressive disorder). She has participated in

six scientific forums as a lecturer. She is a supervisor of trainees at the School of Systemic-Dialogue Psychotherapy– city of Bergamo (Italy) and the Diagnostic and Consultation Centre St. Marina Sole Proprietor, Joint Stock Company, Varna.

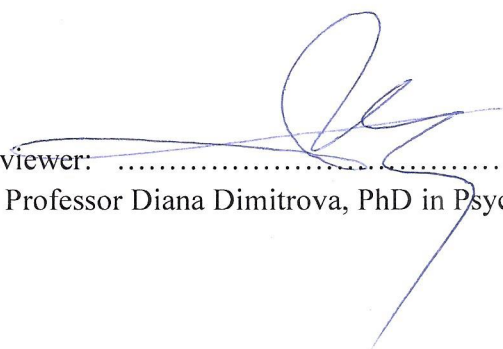
7. Summary and Conclusion

Table 1 presents the summarised data in a quantitative form from various areas of the candidate's scientific activity, and compares them to the requirements for the respective groups of indicators under the Regulations on the Academic Staff Development at Varna Medical University (and Annex 1 and 2) for the academic position of Associate Professor in Medical Psychology, professional field 3.2. Psychology, area of higher education 3. Social, Economic and Legal Sciences. The candidate's actual parameters meet those of the University's Regulations.

Dr Tatiana Radeva has the potential to expand her scientific ambitions and enhance her research pursuits. Her qualifications as a hypnotherapist and cognitive-behavioural counsellor, along with her psychiatric expertise, would support a thorough holistic approach to patients' mental and emotional health. I would recommend that Dr Radeva focus her publishing activity on impact-factor journals, in peer-reviewed scientific journals and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information.

The overall evaluation of the candidate's scientific and instruction activity shows that she meets the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act at Prof. Dr Paraskev Stoyanov Varna Medical University for the academic position of Associate Professor in Medical Psychology, professional field 3.2. Psychology, area of higher education 3. Social, Economic and Legal Sciences.

Taking into account the professional development and scientific achievements of Dr Tatiana Georgieva Radeva, I give my positive evaluation of her election to the position of Associate Professor in Medical Psychology, professional field 3.2. Psychology, area of higher education 3. Social, Economic and Legal Sciences.

Reviewer: 

Associate Professor Diana Dimitrova, PhD in Psychology