

ACADEMIC REVIEW

For competition for the academic position associated professor for the subject “Anatomy, Histology and Cytology”, higher education, field 7. Health care and sport, Medical education 7.1. Medicine, for the needs of at the Burgas State University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov in the field of higher education: 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional direction: 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty Anatomy, histology and cytology by order No. RD-207 of 23.06.2025 of the Rector of the Burgas State University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov,

I am confirmed as a member of the scientific jury for the above competition. The competition was announced in the State Gazette, Issue No. 34 / 22.04.2025.

Reviewer: Academician Vladimir Atanasov Ovcharov

This review has been written in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Application of LDASRB, and the Regulations for the Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Academic Positions at the University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov; - Burgas.

For this competition, one applicant submitted documents: Antoaneta Vasileva Fasova, MD, PhD.

The submitted application materials comply with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Application of LDASRB, and the Regulations for the Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Academic Positions at the University “Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov” - Burgas.

Dr. Antoaneta Fasova graduated Medicine in Medical Faculty of Medical University – Plovdiv in 2001. After graduation, from 2002 to 2003, she worked as a resident at Hospice Milosardie - Plovdiv, and after that from 2003 to 2006 she was a resident at the Emergency Medical Center - Plovdiv.

In the last year she become assistant position in Department of Anatomy, Histology and Cytology of Faculty of Medicine – Medical University Plovdiv.

On the base of her competence she was appointed as the chief administrative assistant in the Department from the period from 2020 till 2024. In 2023 she successfully defended her dissertation and obtained a Ph.D. degree in professional field 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional direction: 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty Anatomy, histology and cytology on the subject Anthropometric and anthroposcopic characteristics of humerus in the Bulgarian population and its application as a sex predictor, at the Medical University - Plovdiv.

Since 2024 she has the academic position of Chief Assistant Professor. She is fluent in English and holds a Cambridge Certificate in English, Level B2, and had many courses in English (2007, 2010, 2012, 2022, 2023 г.). Over the years dr. Fasova to increased her level of competence passed many special courses - a course in Imaging Diagnostics (2007), a course in Medical statistics (2013), specialized courses in Forensic Anthropology (2013, 2021), courses on virtual microscopy and virtual autopsy (2017, 2021, 2024), which speaks of the continuous upgrading her professional qualifications.

Her computer competence gives her the possibility to works with several operations systems, which contributed to her teaching and scientific level.

Dr. Fasova is a member of some scientific societies - Bulgarian Anatomical Society, Bulgarian Anthropological Society, Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Bulgarian Medical Union.

Her scientific activity is reflected in number scientific papers in referated journal and non-referated journals, which are many times cited, which an indicator for their scientific value. Scientific studies and contributions of dr. Fasova could be divided in several groups: anthropological characteristics of long bones, variations found during routine dissections of human cadavers and interdisciplinary studies. She has results in clinical anthropology, normal morphology and variations in the structure of human body. The results of her scientific activity is reflected in original papers.

Dr. Fasova has presented 35 scientific papers, which could be divided in four groups:

1. Articles in unrefereed journals with scientific peer review or in edited collective volumes -19; 2. Habilitation work – scientific publications (no less than 10) in refereed journals indexed in world- renowned databases of scientific information, Scopus and/or Web of Science; 3. Scientific publications in refereed journals indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information, Scopus and/or Web of Science – 4; 4. Teaching materials - tests on Topographic anatomy for medical and dental students, in Bulgarian and tests on Anatomy for dental students, in English - 2. From the total number of 14 publications in Scopus and/or Web of Science, 6 are with Impact factor.

The main part of Dr. Fasova work is related to the anthropological characteristics of long bones - humerus and femur, and their sex identification. This data are included in her PhD thesis, as the anthropological study on the identification of bones continues after that. The information in the thesis has been created for easy application in forensic anthropology, which provide information both about the independent contribution of each anatomical part of the bones, and the combination of anthropometric features could contribute to sex estimation. Publications connected with the identification of skeletal remains, give possibility to determine the age and cause of death, are of great

practical importance in forensic anthropology. A significant scientific contribution is the use of innovative approaches in anthropology, such as three-dimensional 3D laser scanning of skeletal remains and the creation of a quantitative method for anthroposcopic study of bones applied for the first time in anthropological practice. A number of publications (8 in total) are related to the study of variations found during routine dissection of human cadavers. Variations of vessels, nerves and muscles were studied and described. Variational anatomy is important for clinical practice, in particular surgery, pathology, and for imaging diagnostics. Interdisciplinary studies. One part of the publications are focussed in the field of forensic pathology and general pathology. They belong to specialties with a wide overlap of knowledge and practical focus in terms of morphology and form a unique group of medical morphological specialties as there is a logical scientific and practical interrelation between them.

Dr. Fasova participates in scientific publications and one scientific project with forensic pathology specialists, focused on forensic traumatology in relation with the study of the anthropometric characteristics of the patients.

Traumatic brain injuries and suicides are examined in relation to the mechanism and cause of death. Violence against children and adults represent important social problems for our modern society.

The importance of dermatoglyphic features in clinical psychiatric practice has been studied in two publications and in one scientific project. The anthropological characteristics of patients with schizophrenia and bipolar affective disorder type I and their dermatoglyphic features have been studied. These data could make a statistically significant contribution to distinguishing schizophrenic patients from healthy people have been determined, and gender differences in dermatoglyphic features in schizophrenia and bipolar affective disorder type I have been studied as well as. Dr. Fasova

presents 14 full-text citations in scientific publications, refereed and indexed in Scopus and/or Web of Science and 3 reviews in a journal with impact factor (JCR). Dr. Fasova's Hirsch index is 4 /Scopus/. 7 of the citations are in journals with impact factor (JCR), and one is in a handbook of muscle variations, which is indicative of the scientific value of the cited publications.

Dr. Fasova is an established lecturer teaching anatomy, histology and cytology in Bulgarian and English to medical and dental students.

She covers the obligatory criteria and requirements for the position Associated Professor according to the Law on the requirements for the position of Associated Professor according to the Law on the development of Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulation for the Application of LDASRB, and the Regulation for the Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Academic positions at the Burgas State UNIVERSITY "Prof. Dr. Assen Zlatarov".

General conclusion

Based on my positive assessment of scientific and teaching qualities, I proposed that the Scientific Jury to select the candidate Dr. Antoaneta Fasova, for the academic position "Associated Professor" for the subject "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology", higher education, field 7. Health care and sport, Medical education 7.1. Medicine, for the needs of the Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology at Burgas State University Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov I recommend that the esteemed Scientific Jury support the candidate in this competition. I recommend that the esteemed Scientific Jury support the candidate in this competition.

August 15th, 2025

Reviewer:

