



College of Agriculture
Food and Natural Resources

University of Missouri-Columbia

Division of Animal Sciences and
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Professor Ing. Ján Tomáš CSc.
Dean, Faculty of Biotechnology and Food Sciences
Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra
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RE: Letter of Evaluation

Dear Professor Tomáš,

It is my great pleasure to provide this evaluation of the promotion dossier submitted by Dr. Adrian Kolesarova, an Associate Professor of Agricultural Biotechnology who is seeking promotion to Full Professor from the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra.

I am a tenured full professor at the University of Missouri, known internationally for my work in the field of reproductive and developmental biology, focusing on mammalian gametogenesis, fertilization and pre-embryo development. My credentials include 165 research and review papers and book chapters, cited 4,900 times in SCOPUS database with *h*-index of 37, two books and a book series, 13 US and international patents, a number of university, national and international-level honors and awards, as well as numerous appointments on US and foreign grant study sections, promotion and tenure committees and senior level editorial board appointments in distinguished journals including *Cell & Tissue Research*, *Systems Biology in Reproductive Medicine*, and *Advances in Anatomy, Embryology and Cell Biology*. I got to know Dr. Kolesarova when she invited me to speak at the Animal Physiology 2011 conference in Mojmirovce, Slovakia, which she organized with great passion, scientific insight and professionalism. Recently, Dr. Kolesarova visited my laboratory and gave a very well organized, informative, clearly presented seminar for our Division of Animal Science.

Research and Publications: Dr. Kolesarova's research is concerned with agricultural biotechnologies with special focus on reproductive and cell biology, reproductive toxicology, microbiology and endocrinology, using livestock species, rodents and cultured cell lines. She is credited with introducing new techniques and strategies to her

department, particularly with regard to ovarian granulosa cell culture. Notably, she published cited work as a lead/senior author on the effect of heavy metals and fungal toxins on cultured porcine granulosa cells. She received several institutional and national awards, most notably the Slovak Scientist of the Year 2008 award for her monograph. She also received honorary medal for international collaboration from the dean of the College of Animal Science and Biotechnology, Banat University, Romania. She was lead investigator/coinvestigator on 18 national/institutional and four international research and education grant projects.

Currently, SCOPUS database shows 40 publications co-authored by Dr. Kolesarova 2008-2016; these have been cited 220 times (h-index =9). Considering Dr. Kolesarova's predominantly teaching appointment, I find this scientific output and impact comparable or higher than that of her institutional peers with similar appointments and academic duties. In addition to research papers, Dr. Kolesarova coauthored three monographs (two in English, one in Slovak), and contributed one chapter to a CD-ROM monograph and one to a monograph published in India. She also contributed to three hard cover textbooks, in English and Slovak, and to 7 soft cover textbooks. Dr. Kolesarova presented her research at a number of scientific conferences and invited talks at universities across Europe, as well as in New Zealand, United Arab Emirates and USA. There are a total of 361 scientific outputs listed in her dossier, including publications, theses, conference proceedings and conference abstracts. Altogether, Dr. Kolesarova's publications significantly surpass the minimal criteria set for promotion by her University, as per requirement table included in her dossier.

Teaching, Advising and Lecturing: Over the course of her extensive teaching appointment, Dr. Kolesarova has been the lead lecturer for 6 undergraduate level classes in physiology, reproductive biology, neuroscience, endocrinology and cell biology, which illustrates the breadth and depth of her scientific interest. She taught both in English and Slovak languages, and developed a total of five new classes. Furthermore, she contributed to teaching at least nine other courses covering the aforementioned topics as well as nutrition and molecular biology, and has taught summer school classes and invited lectures in Slovakia, Romania, Spain and Poland. In her career, Dr. Kolesarova advised 34 master students and graduated two doctoral students, which meets/surpasses promotion criteria set by her University.

Service: Dr. Kolesarova served on various faculty committees at her division and college, including graduate thesis committees as committees for education, admission and for student research competitions. Furthermore, she served as an editorial board member at *The Journal of Microbiology, Biotechnology and Food Sciences*, a scientific committee member for several regional/international conferences, and on several European Union committees for specific multinational research projects. She reviewed manuscripts for a number of established journals in her field, including *Human Mutation* (IF=5.34) and *Toxicology* (IF=3.68). Importantly, Dr. Kolesarova has been a great ambassador for her University, making school presentations in eight different countries.

Professional Development: Dr. Kolesarova is clearly very serious about her professional advancement, as demonstrated by her frequent participation in conferences and workshops, as well as invited presentations at home and abroad. Early in her career, she took advanced English classes, a supplemental course in education, ECDL computer proficiency certification; she completed multiple visiting scholar type courses at home and workshops abroad focusing on laboratory techniques.

In summary, Dr. Kolesarova is a well-rounded educator, efficient administrator and an achieved researcher who surpasses your University requirements and expectations in all the aforementioned categories. I strongly believe that Dr. Kolesarova is a prime candidate for promotion to the rank of Full Professor at your respected University, and I am very enthusiastic about her potential to further her professional development to benefit your school. Please do not hesitate to let me know if I can be of further assistance in the processing of Michal's application, which undoubtedly will benefit the advancement of our field.

With the best regards,

Peter Sutovsky, PhD, Dr.h.c.
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