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To Whom It May Concern

Re: Dr. Alena Kačmárová's review

It is my pleasure to write a review on dr. Alena Kačmárová's work. I got to know dr. Kačmárová when she stayed at the State University of New York as a Fulbright scholar in the academic year of 2014-2015. She was doing research under my supervision. I selected dr. Kačmárová out of six other Fulbright applicants who wanted to work with me. During her stay in Albany she proved to be a hard-working, well-prepared scholar who made significant progress in her research. As the editor-in-chief of the journal "Intercultural Pragmatics" I occasionally invited her to do reviews for the journal. I trusted her professional expertise and judgment and I was not disappointed.

I have carefully gone through the requirements for the professorship. What I have found was that dr. Kačmárová not only fulfilled all criteria but in most of the categories her work appears to be way over the required level. The list of publications of dr. Kačmárová is quite impressive. I find especially important that her papers and chapters were published in several countries including the Czech Republic, Poland, Russia, Japan, UK, Montenegro, Germany, Latvia, and Ukraine. She also published in the Russian Journal of Linguistics which is a Scopus journal, and with well-known publishers such as Peter Lang and Cambridge Scholars Publishing. Dr. Kačmárová published as an author or co-author four university coursebooks. Her works appeared in significant numbers in prestigious Slovakian publication outlets.

Dr. Kačmárová research focuses on a variety of issues. She addresses various aspects of English linguistics, English-Slovak comparative linguistics, formulaic language and intercultural communication.

I am happy to see that especially after 2015 she has had a solid guiding theoretical framework that builds on multicompetence and the socio-cognitive approach that she had the chance to get acquainted with during her Fulbright scholar visit in Albany. That framework has helped her analyze and discuss various topics in a convincing way. In her scholarly works dr. Kačmárová applies the relevant literature and research methodologies with care and confidence. In some of her papers and chapters she presents some original ideas. Her conclusions are well-argued and mostly based on rigorous data analysis. I find especially important three of her works. The first one is Kačmárová, A. (40%) – Bilá, M. – Vaňková, I.: *The Conceptualizing of Conceptualization*, Prešov: PU v Prešove. This is a book with significant contribution from dr. Kačmárová. It discusses how the multilingual mind work, what happens to the linguistic information that comes through the subsequent language channels, how conceptualization takes place and what the result of that developmental process are. The book represents a fully fleshed out scholarship in which dr. Kačmárová played a leading role. Another important piece among dr. Kačmárová' works is the paper Bilá, M. – Kačmárová, A.: *Multi-word lexical units in English and Slovak linguistics terminology*, In: *Russian Journal of Linguistics* (2016), pp. 164 – 175. This paper analyzes the different understandings of the term “multi-word lexical unit” which has often been used in various kinds of linguistic analysis. What makes the paper significant is that it makes it clear that multi-word lexical units are not only linguistic but also psychological entities. The third piece of work is expected to be published in the first part of 2019 in the volume of R. Kiełtyka and A. Uberman (eds): *Studies in Linguistics, Anglophone Literatures and Cultures*. It is titled “There's many...”: *Non-standard grammar or formulaic language?* In this paper dr. Kačmárová continues showing a strong interest in formulaic language. She discusses the status of the existential clause “there's” combined with a plural noun which clearly violates the rules of English syntax, still it is a formula that is used quite often by native speakers of English. Through this corpus-based case study dr. Kačmárová managed to demonstrate the power of conventionalization in the development of formulas.

In this review I had no room for addressing all issues that are connected with this professorship. When reading dr. Kačmárová's work what I was mainly interested in was how her scholarship relates to the work of

those huge number of scholars from all over the world whose scholarship I have evaluated. I must say that dr. Kačmárová passed my own test: her scholarship is way above average in international comparison. I think she is more focused than she was some years ago and now is on the right track in her scholarship. Her research has good potentials that can be used for the benefit of her students and her institution. In sum, I have been fully convinced that dr. Kačmárová deserves the honor of being awarded the title of full professor in English linguistics at the University of Kosice, Slovakia.

Sincerely,

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