



Roc Boronat, 138  
08018 Barcelona  
[Tel.] +34 935 422 322  
[Fax] +34 935 422 321  
iula@upf.edu  
www.iula.upf.edu

### Report on Renáta Panocová, Ph.D.

This report is based on a thorough review of Dr. Panocová's *Curriculum Vitae*, my careful reading of one of her monographs (*The Vocabulary of Medical English*, 2017), my review of her book on Intercultural Communication and my personal knowledge of her contributions at several international conferences. In addition, I have had the opportunity to view her interaction with her colleagues on several occasions at Jozef Šafárik University in Kosičce, which I will comment on following my academic assessment of her research and range of teaching.

Dr. Panocová's research interests overlap with many of my own and may be characterized as covering morphology and especially word-formation in English and in Slavic languages, and linguistic, principally lexical, analysis of specialized discourse in English. Her work is strongly rooted in theoretical approaches to word structure and much of her work adds to the body of literature on specific types of word formation processes. However, and much to her credit, Dr. Panocová has not limited her research output to topics of theoretical interest but has also published extensively in what may be characterized as applied research, as materials for university students, particularly those at the beginning of university degrees (I am referring to her book on Intercultural Communication). I attach great importance to this in the context of promotion to rank for a number of reasons: 1) it signals her breadth of knowledge, because you can only write a successful introductory textbook if you are in full command of the subject; otherwise, you are unable to prioritize some topics over others and that is important in the context of introductory materials; 2) it signals that she sees a close relationship between her research and her teaching, so that she wants to take advantage of her research to inform her teaching, which is clearly beneficial to her university; and 3) it demonstrates that she knows how to apply methods and knowledge from one field of study to other contexts.

This last characteristic mentioned above—knowing how to apply methods and knowledge to new settings—means that Dr. Panocová can be expected to have publications that are not limited to a narrow topic, and this is indeed what I have seen in her *Curriculum Vitae*. She has worked extensively on the relationship between borrowings and word-formation, on diminutives, and on neoclassical word-formation, all of which fall under the field of morphology, but she also has a significant body of work in what may be called terminology and specialized discourse studies in English and Slovak, which in most European university contexts is related to translation studies as opposed to theoretical linguistics. In this respect, Dr. Panocová interests are broad enough to allow her to teach a number of

*G. L. L. L.*

Roc boronat, 138  
08018 Barcelona  
[Tel.] +34 935 422 322  
[Fax] +34 935 422 321  
iula@upf.edu  
www.iula.upf.edu

different university courses while being constrained enough to show that her main interests lie in issues related to the formation and use of words.

The methodology used in much of Dr. Panocová's work may be described as being both traditional and very current for studies on word-formation. Traditionally, studies on morphology have been based on both introspective analysis of data and on analysis of dictionary data, and for the past few decades linguists have turned to computational tools to analyze the large amounts of data found in a computer-generated corpus. Dr. Panocová's work uses both approaches, which I personally find very refreshing in morphology because while there is an important role to be played by statistical analysis of large amounts of data, it does not seem to me that everything that is interesting to say about word-formation can be couched in terms of statistics and frequency of use. There is plenty in language production and usage that has to do with stylistics in a particular subject domain, which cannot only be explained by statistical analysis, and as such she takes what I would characterize as a more traditional approach in analyzing data in her work on word-formation. Her study of medical vocabulary in English, on the other hand, clearly benefits from analysis of corpus data and statistics, because the only way to determine what constitutes "medical English" is to determine which lexical items occur in texts. One might ask why it is of consequence to know what "medical English" or "legal English" is: isn't it good enough to just study English? In today's Europe, in fact, in today's world, in which much advanced instruction in institutions of higher learning takes place in English and in which much, if not most, advances in technological and scientific fields are discussed primarily in English, it is important for university students specializing in fields that are not language-focused to be able to comprehend texts and communicate effectively in English, and as such developing a clear understanding of what type of vocabulary and structures are particularly used in those domains is essential to European university education in non-English speaking contexts. As such, Dr. Panocová's research output is not only of scientific interest and merit, it is also of practical use and importance to many, many people.

Dr. Panocová presents an impressive list of research activities that complement her publications, such as participation in research projects and organization of research activities. Her work has been presented at the leading international conferences in the field (biannual meetings of the European Association for Lexicography, International Morphology Meeting, Meeting of the *Societas Linguistica Europaea*, Word-Formation Theories conferences, International Congress of Linguists, among others). I have personally attended several of the conferences she has participated in and have seen that she is a well-respected researcher at these venues. Another very positive indication of how other researchers in the field evaluate her judgment is the fact that she has reviewed abstracts for both major conferences and academic publications.



Roc boronat, 138  
08018 Barcelona  
[Tel.] +34 935 422 322  
[Fax] +34 935 422 321  
iula@upf.edu  
www.iula.upf.edu

One characteristic of Dr. Panocová's Curriculum Vitae that particularly stands out is that she clearly moves on the international stage: not only are many of her publications international in nature (the monographs published in the U.K., for example), but she has also participated in several Erasmus+ exchanges. This is particularly important in the European (and, in fact, global) context, where national borders are increasingly invisible in terms of the circulation of research and researchers.

I would like to speak to Dr. Panocová's personal ability to work with her colleagues and to earn their respect. Over the years, she has co-authored several papers with Dr. Pius ten Hacken, a highly respected Dutch professor of linguistics currently teaching at the University of Innsbruck. I was able to personally observe how Dr. Panocová's colleagues at Jozef Šafárik University in Košice interacted with her, and it was clear to me that the junior colleagues looked up to her and the senior colleagues respected her. While she has put together a very respectable research curriculum, she has taken on administrative duties at the university, for which she must be commended.

I would like to end this letter on a more personal note. I like to say that there are only 24 hours in a day, and given what Dr. Panocová has achieved, it is clear to me that she has devoted many, many of those hours to research as well as to university teaching and administration. As a native speaker of English who has taught English in Europe for over 30 years, I can attest to her fluency and command of the language. This may seem like an obvious statement, but I assure the evaluating committee that it is not always the case. I have no doubt whatsoever that she will continue to be an active researcher in the field for the years to come, and an asset to your university in every respect. **I am pleased to extend my highest recommendation for her promotion to Professor.**



Janet DeCesaris  
April 25, 2021