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| Masaryk University | |
| Faculty | Faculty of Arts |
| Procedure field | Germanic Languages and Literature |
| Applicant | Mgr. Martina Horáková, Ph.D. |
| Applicant's home unit, institution | Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University |
| Habilitation thesis | Pursuits of Settler Belonging in Australian Contemporary Memoirs |
| <u>Board members</u> | |
| Chair | prof. Mgr. Milada Franková, CSc., M.A. <i>Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University</i> |
| Members | Prof. Eva Darias Beautell, Ph.D. <i>University of La Laguna</i> Prof. Dr. hab. Anna Branach-Kallas <i>Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun</i> doc. Mgr. Janka Kaščáková, PhD. <i>Katolícká univerzita v Ružomberku</i> Assoc. Prof. Rūta Šlapkauskaitė <i>Vilniuská univerzita</i> |

Evaluation of the applicant's scholarly/artistic qualifications

The candidate Mgr. Martina Horáková, Ph.D. received her Master's Degree in English language and literature in the Department of English and American Studies and Spanish language and literature in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University in 2003 and her Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Comparative Literature likewise from the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University in 2007. Since then, her academic activities, interests and research have explored the fields of American, Canadian and Australian literatures and cultures, with particular focus on Australian indigenous themes. In these areas she published one book *Inscribing Difference and Resistance: Indigenous Women's Personal Non-fiction and Life Writing in Australia and North America*, co-authored *Alternatives in Biography: Writing Lives in Diverse English-language Contexts* and contributed chapters to 12 scholarly book publications. At the same time she published 11 scholarly articles in *WoS*, *Scopus* and other peer-reviewed journals, 2 in proceedings, 7 book reviews and four times acted as General Editor of *JEASA*. Dr. Horáková delivered 11 invited lectures in Balearic Islands, Spain, in Hungary, Croatia, Australia and in Brno for CERPEK MUNI. She presented her research at 29 conferences in many European countries and also in Canada and Australia. Her academic work was greatly enhanced and supported by 9 placements over one month in duration at four different universities in Australia and in Canada and Germany and another 9 shorter placements up to one month in various European countries.

Her published work has received 13 citations in international data bases and 35 other citations. In the course of her career, the Candidate has examined a great variety of academic themes, operating in a large spectrum of national literatures, and her comparative perspective is commendable.

Conclusion: The applicant's scholarly/artistic capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation appointment procedure in the field of Germanic Languages and Literature.

Evaluation of the applicant's pedagogical experience

Dr. Horáková's pedagogical work and experience started in the Department of English and American Studies, Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University after she completed her doctoral studies in 2007. Since then she has taught courses at Bachelor's level, such as *Introduction to Literary Studies I and II*, *American Literature 1960 – Present*, *Australian Literature and Culture*, *Introduction to (Post)Colonial Literature and Culture*, at Master's level *Literary and Cultural Theory II*, *Postcolonial and Feminist Rewritings of Master Narratives*, *Indigenous Literature*, *American Cross-cultural Narratives* and *Thesis Seminar I* for both Bachelor's and Master's levels. In doctoral studies she teaches the compulsory course *Profession of English*, *Methodology Seminar* and participates in *Selected Chapters in Literary and Cultural Theory*.

She has created numerous e-learning courses in the ELF as a teaching support to courses taught at the department. She has also published 7 popular science texts in Czech about American, Canadian and Australian literary and cultural contexts.

Dr. Horáková is a member of state examination boards (SEB) and doctoral committees in the programmes *Literatures in English* and *Comparative Literature*. She has supervised 61 successful Bachelor's Theses and 67 Master's Theses, and 3 successfully defended PhD dissertations.

Conclusion: The applicant's pedagogical capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a habilitation appointment procedure in the field of Germanic Languages and Literature.

Habilitation thesis evaluation

Dr. Horáková's habilitation thesis "Pursuits of Settler Belonging in Australian Post-Millennial Memoirs" was assessed for the purpose of habilitation by three specialists in Australian literature and culture. All three reviewers/opponents declare that Dr. Horáková's manuscript meets the required standards for habilitation.

Assoc. Prof. Iva Polak (University of Zagreb) considers Dr. Horáková's habilitation thesis "a timely and much needed revitalization of the genre of 'the memoir of settler belonging'" and her "handling of the material confident, thorough, (with) a high level of critical engagement." She appreciates that Horáková works with "some of the most recent publications" and commends her "rigorous scholarship and well-balanced discussion" while she deems the thesis to be a substantial and original contribution to contemporary settler colonial studies".

Assoc. Prof. Lars Jensen (Roskilde University, Denmark) deems „Horáková's Habilitation Thesis exemplary, broad-ranging, thoroughly researched and carefully executed." She appreciates the "cross-genre approach and thorough contemporary engagement" while "the amount of material engaged is formidable." She expects the Thesis to "become a standard reference work ... on questions of contemporary belonging in Australia and the issue of a politics of national identity."

Professor Dolores Herrero (University of Zaragoza) declares Dr. Horáková's book to be "a superb and thought-provoking contribution to the study of the concepts of 'settler identity' and 'belonging'", a topic very relevant today, because it still remains controversial in Australian literature and culture. She commends the Thesis for its very clear style, for being highly informative, particularly on "the variety and evolution of contemporary settler memoirs", "the deep and nuanced analysis" and high critical standards.

Conclusion: The applicant's habilitation thesis **meets** the requirements expected of habilitation theses in the field of Germanic Languages and Literature.

