



WARSAW UNIVERSITY OF LIFE SCIENCES – SGGW  
INSTITUTE OF WOOD SCIENCES AND FURNITURE

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**REVIEW**

**of the pedagogical and research activity, scientific authority  
of Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D.  
and recommendation concerning the appointment of the professor  
in the field of Technology of Wood Processing**

Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D., was born in Banska Bystrica, Slovak Republic, this 25.02.1961. She graduated as engineer in 1984 on Faculty of Wood Technology, High School of Forestry and Wood in Zvolen, Slovakia (Vysoká škola lesnícka a drevárska vo Zvolene, Drevárska fakulta Technológia dreva). In 1989 Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D., graduated on the same High School as Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in the field of construction of production machinery and equipment. Next, in 1998 she become an independent researcher (samostatný vedecký pracovník), and in 2001 become a docent (associate professor) on Faculty of Wood Technology, Technical University in Zvolen, Slovakia.

Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. started her professional activity in 1984 on wood industry as a shift manager. After a year, she began the internal postgraduate study at the High School of Forestry and Wood in Zvolen, Slovakia. On the same High School, in 1989, she was employed as a professional assistant (odborný asistent), and next year she started to work as a scientist. This position Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. held till 1997, and after she was an independent researcher. Between 2002 and 2005 Alena Očkajová was working as a docent at the Technical University in Zvolen, when in 2005 she moved to Matej Bel University (Univerzita Mateja Bela) in Banska Bystrica, Slovakia, to be employed as a docent on Faculty of Natural Sciences, Department of Technique and Technology (Fakulta prírodných vied, Katedra techniky a technológií).

### **Pedagogical activity**

Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D., in 1989 was employed by High School of Forestry and Wood in Zvolen, Slovakia as a professional assistant (odborný asistent), and next year she started to work as a scientist. During her stay on mentioned High School, renamed to Technical University in Zvolen, between 2002 and 2005 she has been a supervisor of the subjects: Machinery for woodworking, Transport and transportation technology, Safety engineering on 2<sup>nd</sup> stage study on Technical University of Zvolen, Faculty of Wood Technology, Department of Woodworking. She was involved in the elaboration of lectures, classes and exams.

Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. has been responsible for the creation of study material for the newly introduced subject "Safety Engineering" to teaching in the field of study Wood Engineering, in the specialization Operation of Machinery and Equipment at TU in Zvolen (Course guarantor).

She was also Member of the state examination commission for state examinations in subjects: Machines and equipment for primary wood production (2002-2005, 2007, 2008), Machines and equipment for secondary wood production (2003), Theory of wood processing (2003), Tools and their maintenance (2003).

Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. was a Member of the state examination commission for the defense of diploma theses in the field of study Wood Engineering, in the specialization Operation of Machinery and Equipment at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering TU in Zvolen, 2002-2006.

She was Manager of the Technical Council of Student scientific and professional activities (Studentská vědecká a odborná činnost, ŠVOČ) in 2003/2004 and 2004/2005, as well as Member and supervisor of the departmental committee of doctoral studies at Faculty of Wood Technology, TU in Zvolen for the field of study 33-01-9 Wood processing technology and 33-39-9 Constructions and processes of wood products production, (until 2010).

From 2005 to 2020 on Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Department of Technique and Technology, Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. was a supervisor of the following subjects: on 1<sup>st</sup> stage study Materials and technologies 1, Professional knowledge from technical fields, Health and safety legislation, Work environment, Ergonomics, Occupational health protection in teaching and study fields, selected topics from materials and wood technology, Technical practice 1, on 2<sup>nd</sup> stage study selected topics from materials and wood technology, on 3<sup>rd</sup> stage study selected topics from materials and wood technology, selected topics from machines and equipment.

As many as 26 defended bachelor's, 89 master and 5 Ph.D. theses has been completed under supervision of Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D.

Currently, in addition of the above mentioned pedagogical activity, Alena Očkajová is involved in: supervising of the master's study program Teaching Technology, creation of study material in the form of e-learning on the My e-ducation portal and in Moodle platform, Matej Bel Virtual University for newly introduced subjects Health and Safety Legislation, Working environment and Materials and technologies 1, Member of the commission for the defense of bachelor's theses and state exams in the study program Teaching of practical training at UMB in Banská Bystrica (from 2009), Member of the commission for diploma thesis defenses and state exams in the field of study Teaching of general education subjects in the specialization Technical education, resp. Technology at UMB in Banská Bystrica (since 2006), Chairman of the State Examination Commission for the Defense of Diploma Theses and State Examinations for the study program Production Technology in AR 2017/2018, 2018/2019 FEMT Zvolen, Member of the Faculty Departmental Committee for Doctoral Studies at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Technical University in Zvolen in study field 5.2.43 wood processing technology and in study field 5.2.45 construction and production processes of wood products (since 2009), in the field of study 5.2.44 Structure and properties of wood in daily form until 31.8.2018 and in external form until 31.8.2020, Reviewer of domestic and foreign scientific monographs, university textbooks, and script, professional publications, Opponent of 7 habilitation theses and 29 dissertations.

### **Research activity**

The total number of Alena Očkajová publications of various topics is 166. In this number, the scientific character publications is 60, 6 university handbooks and scripts, 45 national and foreign conference publications and abstract and other. In these publications, the predominant average contribution of Alena Očkajová can be estimated on the level of 40% and higher, that means, the co-authors respect the input of her in the published works.

Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. was managing of one scientific project titled “Physico-chemical and mechanical changes of the microstructure of the wood surface and elementary cutting wedge in their mutual interaction” (2001-2003). She was also a v-ce manager of three scientific projects (1998-2000, 2004-2006 and 2010-2011) in the field of wood machining. All the projects have been supported by Slovak Scientific Grant Agency VEGA.

### **Scientific authority**

Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. is reputable scientist in the international science community. Several times (1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004) has been a Member of organization committee of International Conference Chip and Chipless Woodworking Processes (Trieskové a beztrieskové obrábanie dreva), organized by Technical University in Zvolen. She also completed the following international scientific stays in foreign institutions: Epinal University (1999), Faculty of Forestry, Zagreb University, Zagreb, Croatia (2002, 2004), University of Zielona Góra, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Poland, 2012. These stays gave several scientific papers and conference presentations. This confirm the fruitful cooperation skills of Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. Except from above mentioned, to her national and international collaboration, confirmed by papers and presentations, needs to be added the following institutions: Technical University in Gdańsk, Poland, Mendel University in Brno, Czech Republic, Poznań University of Life Sciences, Poznan, Poland, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Warsaw, Poland.

Noteworthy is, that Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. active participated in national and international conferences, where published as many as 45 scientific publication on national conferences and 27 publication on international conferences. The citation number of her publication is 204 in total, where about 65% is foreign authors' citations.

## Conclusion

Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. is an experienced researcher and teacher with more than 30 years of experience, going through the next levels of professional development. As an academic teacher, he conducts classes in the wide field of wood technology with various topics, provided for in the study program. The tangible result of educating new staff is the promotion of 26 defended bachelor's, 89 master and 5 Ph.D. She remains an efficient organizer of life at her home university, but also outside it. Her scientific works bring new, important elements to the knowledge about the wood processing, as well as safety and health protection on workplace.

Noteworthy is, that Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D. has been responsible for creation of study material for the newly introduced subject "Safety Engineering" to teaching in the field of study Wood Engineering, in the specialization Operation of Machinery and Equipment at TU in Zvolen (Course guarantor).

She was a Member of organization committee of International Conference Chip and Chipless Woodworking Processes, organized by Technical University in Zvolen (1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004).

Noteworthy are valuable pedagogical and didactic achievements, fruitful scientific cooperation and significant organizational achievements at the home university and beyond. Worth to point here is also her foreign recognizability, which is confirmed by number of citations.

The function of the manager and v-ce manager of several scientific projects is significant and important, requiring organizational efficiency of Alena Očkajová and the ability to manage by her a large team members.

Application for proceedings for Assoc. Professor Ing. Alena Očkajová, Ph.D., according to the achievements given to date, is fully justified, therefore **I express my full support for appointing Assoc. prof. Ing. Alena Očkajová, PhD. as a Professor in the in the field of Technology of Wood Processing.**