

Anexa 1. Propunere pentru acordarea unui titlu onorific al Universității de Vest din Timișoara

Important: Confidențialitatea este foarte importantă în procesul de nominalizare. Vă rugăm să nu informați persoana nominalizată că o propuneți pentru acordarea unui titlu onorific.

Nume	SWAMI
Prenume	VIREN
Titlu complet	PROFESOR
Data nașterii	15.05.1980
Țara de origine	MALAYSIA
Poziția curentă:	Professor of Social Psychology, Anglia Ruskin University Director of Center of Psychological Medicine, Perdana University
Adresa de corespondență:	School of Psychology and Sport Science, Anglia Ruskin University, East Road, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB1 1PY, United Kingdom.
E-mail:	viren.swami@anglia.ac.uk
Telefon:	+44 (0) 1245684357
Titlul onorific pentru care este propus	DHC

Domnul Profesor Viren Swami este Profesor în domeniul Psihologiei Sociale la Anglia Ruskin University din 2015 și Director al Centre for Psychological Medicine, Perdana University din 2017 până în prezent. Cariera sa didactică a început în anul 2006, după ce și-a încheiat studiile universitare ca șef de promoție. El a activat la University of Liverpool și, ulterior, la University of Westminster, parcurgând toate gradele didactice și specializându-se în Psihologia Sănătății și ulterior, în Psihologie Socială. Domnul profesor Viren Swami a fost doctorandul unei alte personalități din domeniul Psihologiei Sănătății, profesor Adrian Furnham, doctorat pe care l-a terminat în timp record, profesor care îl descrie ca o stea a generației sale.

Domeniile de cercetare ale domnului profesor Viren Swami sunt din sfera Psihologiei Sănătății și Psihologiei Sociale. El are un CV impresionant cu aproape 400 de lucrări publicate și în curs de publicare, fiind extrem de productiv așa cum o arată CV-ul său. De asemenea, majoritatea lucrărilor sale sunt în jurnalul de top din aria sa particulară de interes – Body Image.

Domnul profesor este recunoscut ca fiind liderul mondial în domeniul său de cercetare, imaginea corporală. Majoritatea lucrărilor sale sunt din sfera imaginii corporale, acest subiect preocupând autorul de la începutul carierei sale, pornind de la primele publicații din 2005. Studiile sale au început prin interesul pentru atractivitatea fizică la ambele genuri și curând au fost legate de noțiunea de imagine corporală, căreia ulterior i-a dedicat majoritatea studiilor sale, ajungând autorul de referință la nivel mondial pentru acest subiect.

De asemenea, domnul profesor Swami a fost preocupat de cercetare și în cadrul unor granturi, ultimul câștigat fiind un grant de tip Horizon, intitulat “Community-centred language REVitalisation powered by heritage-led storytelling and digital innoVation in Europe” – proiect propus de domnul profesor și la care Universitatea de Vest este parteneră.

Activitatea științifică a domnului Profesor Viren Swami constă în 333 lucrări publicate în reviste de prestigiu din domeniul sferei sale de interes și care apar în Web of Science, domnul profesor având un h-index de 52 în ISI Web of Science, cu un număr de 11.317 citări, și pe platforma Google Scholar are un h-index de 91, cu 323 de articole indexate i-10 și 28.227 de citări. De asemenea, domnul profesor are 4 cărți de autor, 3 cărți de co-autor și 44 de capitole de carte. Domnul Profesor Viren Swami și-a început colaborarea cu Departamentul de Psihologie al Universității de Vest din Timișoara în anul 2016. De atunci, a avut o colaborare fructuoasă care s-a concretizat în 10 articole publicate în reviste ISI de prestigiu, la care au colaborat șase cadre didactice ale universității noastre din Departamentele de Psihologie și Asistență Socială. În decursul colaborării cu domnul profesor Swami, cercetarea realizată a permis intrarea cercetărilor de la universitatea noastră în acest domeniu nou și de actualitate și, a permis realizarea unor studii din domeniul imaginii corporale pe populația românească care sunt deschizătoare de drumuri în acest domeniu. Participanții, colegi de la universitatea noastră, au putut beneficia prin dărnicia domnului profesor Viren Swami în ceea ce privește ideile și timpul său de informații noi, atât din domeniul teoriei, cât și al metodologiei și al sofisticării statistice ale acestuia. Domnul profesor este adeptul cercetărilor inter și multidisciplinare pentru a avea o imagine cât mai complexă asupra problemei studiate. El este un om de echipă, care împărtășește cu dărnicie din știința sa în domeniu.

De asemenea, Universitatea de Vest a început o colaborare pe un subiect de cercetare de interes pentru comunitatea europeană și materializat în proiectul Horizon - *Community-centred language REVitalisation powered by heritage-led storytelling and digital innoVation in Europe*, proiect coordonat de profesor Viren Swami, care se întinde pe parcursul a 3 ani (2024-2027) și în care sunt implicate mai multe cadre didactice ale universității noastre cu interese în

domeniul acesta de cercetare.

În baza celor menționate anterior considerăm că Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara va beneficia de următoarele oportunități în eventualitatea primirii în comunitatea academică a UVT prin decernarea titlului DHC domnului profesor Swami: creșterea numărului de cercetări și implicit de publicații în domeniul imaginii corporale, posibilitatea de a fi parte și în alte proiecte /granturi de cercetare de tip Horizon, oportunitatea de a realiza schimburi de bune practici în domeniul psihologiei sănătății, conectarea cu specialiști din domeniu care fac parte din echipa interanțională a domnului Profesor Swami, deschiderea de oportunități de a ține cursuri pentru comunitatea academică.

Având în vedere vasta activitate de cercetare și publicare, vă rugăm să fiți de acord cu propunerea de a acorda titlul Doctor Honoris Causa pentru domnul profesor Viren Swami de la Anglia Ruskin University.

Referenți care au acceptat să scrie scrisori de recomandare (maximum trei pentru DHC, maximum două pentru AHC și Professor Emeritus, respectiv, una pentru Membrum Senatus Honorifici)

1. Tracy Tylka, Ohio States University, Department of Psychology, Editor in-chief Body Image
2. Adrian Furnham, Department of Leadership and Organizational Behavior, Norwegian Business School, Oslo, Norway
3. David Barron, Heriot – Watt University, Malaysia, Director of Research and Enterprise

Persoana care face propunerea

Titlu, nume și prenume

Prof. Univ. Dr. Mona Vintilă

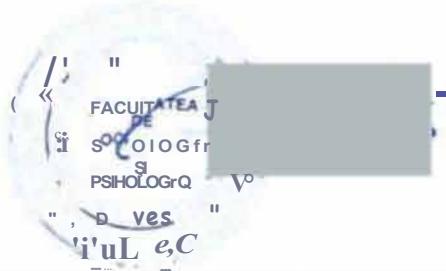
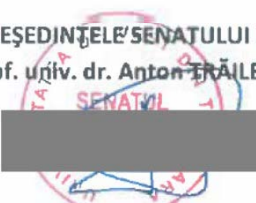
Semnătura



Facultatea: de Sociologie și Psihologie

Adresă E-mail: mona.vintilă@e-uvt.ro

AVIZE

AVIZAT, În Ședința Consiliului Facultății 24 din data 15.11.2024	DECAN, Conf. Dr. Marius Lupșa Matichescu 
APROBAT /RESPINS În Ședința Senatului din data 23.11.2024	PREȘEDINȚELE SENATULUI UVT Prof. univ. dr. Anton TRĂILESCU 

Anexa 2 Propunere comisie laudatio pentru acordarea titlului Doctor Honoris Causa

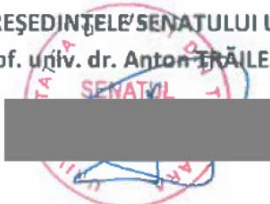
Domnului Profesor Viren Swami, Anglia Ruskin University

Președinte: Prof. Dr. Marilen Gabriel Pirtea, Rectorul UVT

Membri:

- 1. Prof. Dr. Anton Trăilescu, Președintele Senatului UVT**
- 2. Conf. Dr. Mădălin Bunoiu, Prorector responsabil cu activitatea de cercetare UVT**
- 3. Conf. Dr. Marius Lupșa Matichescu, Decan Facultatea de Sociologie și Psihologie UVT**
- 4. Prof. Dr. Delia Vîrgă, Director Departament de Psihologie UVT**
- 5. Prof. Dr. Cosmin Goian, Director Departamentul de Asistență Socială, UVT**
- 6. Prof. Dr. Maria Nicoleta Turliuc, Universitatea „Alexandru Ioan Cuza Iași”**
- 7. Prof. Dr. Mona Vintilă, Departamentul de Psihologie UVT**

AVIZE

AVIZAT, În Ședința Consiliului Facultății 24 din data 15.11.2024	DECAN, Conf. Dr. Marius Lupșa Matichescu 
APROBAT /RESPINS În Ședința Senatului din data 28.11.2024	PREȘEDINȚELE SENATULUI UVT Prof. univ. dr. Anton TRĂILESCU 

Către dl. Decan al Facultății de Sociologie și Psihologie, conf. dr. Marius-Lupsa Matichescu,

În urma analizei solicitării colegei noastre, prof. dr. Mona Vintila de acordare a titlului de Doctor Honoris Causa dr. Viren Swami, Profesor de psihologie sociala de la Universitatea Ruskin, Anglia, Director al Centrului de Psihologie Medicala de la Universitatea Perdana, ne-am exprimat acordul.

Propunem spre aprobarea Consiliului Facultatii de Sociologie si Psihologie aceasta propunere.

Timișoara

13.11.2024

Membrii Consiliu Departament Psihologie

Lect. Dr. Ramona Bran

Conf. dr. Roxana Toma

Lect. dr. Iuliana Costea

Director Departament Psihologie

Prof. univ. dr. Delia Vîrgă



Aprobat prin HS nr. 23 din 28.11.2024

HOTĂRÂREA nr. 24

Consiliul Facultății de Sociologie și Psihologie, în sesiunea din data de 15.11.2024

HOTĂRĂȘTE:

1. Aprobarea propunerii Departamentului de Psihologie de acordare a titlului onorific de *Doctor Honoris Causa Socialium Scientiarum* domnului Prof. univ. dr. Viren Swami, Profesor de psihologie sociala de la Universitatea Ruskin, Anglia, Director al Centrului de Psihologie Medicală de la Universitatea Perdana;
2. Aprobarea înființării Centrului de cercetare - dezvoltare în domeniul Psihologiei Organizaționale cu denumirea Centru de cercetare în psihologie organizațională și ocupațională (engl. Center for Research in Organizational and Occupational Psychology) cu acronimul CCOOP, propus de doamna Prof. univ. dr. Delia Vîrgă;
3. Aprobarea Regulamentului privind organizarea și desfășurarea concursului național pentru elevi "OLIMPIADA DE ALTRUISM", ediția a VIII-a;
4. Aprobarea Regulamentului privind organizarea și desfășurarea concursului național pentru elevi "EU ȘI PSIHOLOGIA ÎN 5 MINUTE", ediția a II-a;
5. Aprobarea Regulamentului privind organizarea și desfășurarea concursului național pentru elevi "COMUNITATEA MEA ÎN IMAGINI", ediția a V-a ;
6. Aprobarea Regulamentului și a comisiei privind organizarea și desfășurarea concursului național pentru elevi "ABILITĂȚI PENTRU SECOLUL XXI ", ediția a I-a;
7. Aprobarea Regulamentului și a comisiei privind organizarea și desfășurarea concursului național pentru elevi " EDUCAȚIE PENTRU SECOLUL XXI ", ediția a V-a.

Comisie evaluare concurs

Președinte: Conf. univ. dr. Claudia Borca

Membri: Lect. asoc. dr. Călin Rus

Lect. univ. dr. Leyla Safta – Zecheria

Prof. învățământ primar Adriana Boian

Secretar comisie concurs:

Asist. univ. drd. Andra Jurca

Comisie contestații

Președinte: Conf. univ. dr. Mihai Predescu

Membri: Conf. univ. dr. Otilia Bersan

Lect. univ. dr. Ramona Tutunaru

Lect. univ. dr. Cosmina Lungoci

8. Aprobarea comisiei de evaluare a dosarelor candidaților pentru **Granturile Visiting@UVT** din partea Facultății de Sociologie și Psihologie.

Decan – Conf. univ. dr. Marius Lupșa Matichescu

Prodecan Relații internaționale – Asist. univ. dr. Luiza Vlaicu

Prodecan Cercetare științifică – Conf. univ. dr. Coralia Sulea

Director departament Psihologie – Prof. univ. dr. Delia Vîrgă

DECAN,

Conf. univ. dr. Lupșa Marius Matichescu



Aprobat prin HS nr. 23 din 28.11.2024

Memoriu Justificativ pentru solicitare din partea Departamentului Psihologie a titlului de Doctor Honoris Causa din partea Universității de Vest din Timișoara pentru

Prof. Viren Swami – prof. Anglia, Ruskin University

Domnul Profesor Viren Swami este Profesor în domeniul Psihologiei Sociale la Anglia Ruskin University din 2015 și Director al Centre for Psychological Medicine, Perdana University din 2017 până în prezent. Cariera sa didactică a început în anul 2006, după ce și-a încheiat studiile universitare ca șef de promoție. El a activat la University of Liverpool și, ulterior, la University of Westminster, parcurgând toate gradele didactice și specializându-se în Psihologia Sănătății și ulterior, în Psihologie Socială. Domnul profesor Viren Swami a fost doctorandul unei alte personalități din domeniul Psihologiei Sănătății, profesor Adrian Furnham, doctorat pe care l-a terminat în timp record, profesor care îl descrie ca o stea a generației sale.

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indexate i-10 și 28.227 de citări. De asemenea, domnul profesor are 4 cărți de autor, 3 cărți de co-autor și 44 de capitole de carte. Redăm mai jos o listă a publicațiilor sale:

Cărți

- Swami, V. (2021). *Attraction explained: The science of how we form relationships* (2nd ed.). London: Routledge (Korean translation: IDEA Book Publishing, 2023).
- Swami, V. (2016). *Attraction explained: The science of how we form relationships*. London: Routledge (Spanish translation: Editorial Trillas SA de CV, 2017).
- Swami, V. (Ed.) (2011). *Evolutionary psychology: A critical introduction*. Oxford, UK: Wiley-Blackwell (Swedish translation: Studentlitteratur AB, 2013; Spanish translation: Fondo de Cultura Economica Mexico, 2016).
- Swami, V. (2007). *The missing arms of Vénus de Milo: Reflections on the science of physical attractiveness*. Brighton: Book Guild (Korean translation: IDEA Book Publishing, 2023).
- Swami, V., & Furnham, A. (2008). *The psychology of physical attraction*. London: Routledge (Chinese translation: Huaxia Publishing House, 2009; Russian translation: Piter Print, 2009; Korean translation: Alma, 2010).
- Swami, V., & Furnham, A. (Eds.) (2007). *Body beautiful: Evolutionary and sociocultural perspectives*. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Swami, V., & Tylka, T. L. (Eds.). *Handbook of diversity in body image*. London: Elsevier.

Articole în reviste peer-reviewed

În curs de publicare

- Davenport, C., & Swami, V. (in press). Identifying and supporting men who experience paternal postnatal depression. *Mental Health Practice*.
- Davenport, C., & Swami, V. (in press). “They just kept saying right, anti-depressants”: A qualitative study of fathers’ experiences of help-seeking for postnatal depression. *Primary Health Care*.
- Davenport, C., & Swami, V. (in press). “What can I do to not have this life?”: A qualitative study of paternal postnatal depression experiences in UK fathers. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*.
- Eastwick, P. W., Sparks, J., Finkel, E. J., Meza, E. M., Adamkovič, M., Adu, P., Ai, T., Akintola, A. A., Al-Shawaf, L., Apriliawati, D., Arriaga, P., Aubert-Teillaud, B., Baník, G., Barzykowski, K., Batres, C., Baucom, K. J., Beaulieu, E. Z., Behnke,

- M., Butcher, N., Charles, D. Y., Chen, J. M., Cheon, J. E., Chittham, P., Chwiłkowska, P., Cong, C. W., Copping, L. T., Corral-Frías, N. S., Čubela Adoric, V., Dizon, M., Du, H., Ehinmowo, M. I., Escribano, D. A., Espinosa, N. M., Expósito, F., Feldman, G., Freitag, R., Frias Armenta, M., Gallyamova, A., Gillath, O., GJoneska, B., Gkinopoulos, T., Grafe, F., Grigoryev, D., Groyecka-Bernard, A., Gunaydin, G., Ilustrisimo, R., Impett, E., Kačmár, P., Kim, Y., Kocur, M., Kowal, M., Krishna, M., Labor, P. D., Lu, J. G., Lucas, M. Y., Małecki, W. W., Malinakova, K., Meißner, S., Meier, Z., Misiak, M., Muise, A., Novák L., O., J., Özdoğan, A. A., Park, H. G., Paruzel, M., Pavlović, Z., Püski, M., Ribeiro, G., Roberts, S. C., Röer, J. P., Ropovik, I., Ross, R. M., Sakman, E., Salvador, C. E., Selcuk, E., Skakoon- Sparling, S., Sorokowska, A., Sorokowski, P., Spasovski, O., Stanton, S. C. E., Stewart, S. L. K., Swami, V., Szaszi, B., Takashima, K., Tavel, P., Tejada, J., Tu, E., Tuominen, J., Vaidis, D., Vally, Z., Vaughn, L. A., Villanueva-Moya, L., Wisnuwardhani, D., Yamada, Y., Yonemitsu, F., Zidkova, R., Živná, K., & Coles, N. A. (in press). A worldwide test of the predictive validity of ideal partner preference-matching. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.
- Finlay, W. M. L., Cattier, J., Donois, K., Goodings, L., Kaminskiy, E., Owen, C., Storey, L., & Swami, V. (in press). Norms concerning the recognition of victimhood in post-conflict societies: An analysis of ‘whatabouteries’ in online sectarian arguments. *Political Psychology*.
- Frayon, S., Swami, V., Wattelez, G., & Galy, O. (in press). Associations between academic achievement and weight status in a multi-ethnic sample of New Caledonian adolescents. *PLoS ONE*.
- Goh, P. H., Luginbühl, T., & Swami, V. (in press). Associations between body image and sexual health practices in emerging adults from Malaysia. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*.
- Swami, V., Pietschnig, J., Stieger, S., Voracek, M., & Tran, U. S. (in press). Transliminality: Converging evidence of associations with Openness to Experience and its facets in a latent-variable analysis of three samples of visitors to art galleries. *Zeitschrift für Psychologie*.
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Domnul Profesor Viren Swami activează ca:

Editor asociat la revistele:

- Body Image (2010-2020)
- PLoS ONE (2018-2022)
- Malaysian Journal of Psychology and Counselling (2018-prezent)
- Perdana International Journal of Health Sciences (2022-prezent)

În același timp, domnul profesor Viren Swami este membru în:

Editorial boards:

- Body Image (2007-2010; 2021-prezent)
- Eating and Weight Disorders (2019-prezent)
- Healthcare (2022-2024)
- Journal of Pacific Rim Psychology (2024-prezent)

Advisory boards:

- F1000 Social Psychology (2021-2023)
- Routledge Open (2023-prezent)

Board of Governors:

- Asian Psychological Association (2017-2020)

Board of Trustees:

- One Tenth Human (2021-)

Domnul profesor este și membru al **British Psychological Society**.

Domnul Profesor Viren Swami și-a început colaborarea cu Departamentul de Psihologie al Universității de Vest din Timișoara în anul 2016. De atunci, a avut o colaborare fructuoasă care s-a concretizat în 10 articole publicate în reviste ISI de prestigiu, la care au colaborat șase cadre didactice ale universității noastre din Departamentele de Psihologie și Asistență Socială. În decursul colaborării cu domnul profesor Swami, cercetarea realizată a permis intrarea cercetărilor de la universitatea noastră în acest domeniu nou și de actualitate și, a permis realizarea unor studii din domeniul imaginii corporale pe populația românească care sunt deschizătoare de drumuri în acest domeniu. Participanții, colegi de la universitatea noastră, au putut beneficia prin dărnicia domnului profesor Viren Swami în ceea ce privește ideile și timpul său de informații noi, atât din domeniul teoriei, cât și al metodologiei și al sofisticării statistice ale acestuia. Domnul profesor este adeptul cercetărilor inter și multidisciplinare pentru a avea o imagine cât mai complexă asupra problemei studiate. El este un om de echipă, care împărtășește cu dărnicie din știința sa în domeniu.

De asemenea, Universitatea de Vest începe o colaborare pe un subiect de cercetare de interes pentru comunitatea europeană și materializat în proiectul Horizon - *Community-centred language REVitalisation powered by heritage-led storytelling and digital innoVation in Europe*, proiect coordonat de profesor Viren Swami, care se întinde pe parcursul a 3 ani (2024-2027) și în care sunt implicate mai multe cadre didactice ale universității noastre cu interese în domeniul acesta de cercetare.

În baza celor menționate anterior considerăm că Univeristatea de vest din Timișoara va beneficia de următoarele oportunități în eventualitatea primirii în comunitatea academică a UVT prin decernarea titlului DHC domnului profesor Swami: creșterea numărului de cercetări și implicit de publicații în domeniul imaginii corporale, posibilitatea de a fi parte și în alte proiecte /granturi de cercetare de tip Horizon, oportunitatea de a realiza schimburi de bune practici în domeniul psihologiei sănătății, conectarea cu specialiști din domeniu care fac parte din echipa interanțională a domnului Profesor Swami, deschiderea de oportunități de a ține cursuri pentru comunitatea academică.

Având în vedere vasta activitate de cercetare și publicare, vă rugăm să fiți de acord cu propunerea de a acorda titlul Doctor Honoris Causa pentru domnul profesor Viren Swami de la Anglia Ruskin University.

Timișoara,

10.11.2024

Cu deosebită considerație,

Prof.univ.dr. Monica Vintila



Aprobat prin HS nr. 23 din 28.11.2024

Department of Leadership and Organisational Behaviour
Norwegian Business School
Oslo
Norway

10th November 2024

Professor Viren Swami:

I know Dr Swami because I co-supervised Dr Swami's Phd. We have also co-authored numerous papers (around 80) and two books together. I have supervised around 20 PhDs and examined over 50 and can say that Viren Swami's was easily among the top three I have ever encountered.

I have followed his phenomenal progress with interest. He is a star of his generation and well worthy of an honorary doctorate. I will comment on various features.

Ability and Personality

Viren Swami is an exceptionally able young man. He got the **best first of his year** and completed his **PhD in record time**. He has a very impressive CV with **nearly four hundred papers** in press or under-review. He is amazingly productive as his CV shows. Indeed, I would guess that he has as many papers as all the members of his department put together. Further many are **in the best journal for the particular area** he is interested in. He is a **recognised world leader in his area of research**

The key to explaining his success is not at all difficult. He is an *exceptionally clever* young man. This is easiest observed by the speed of uptake of the theories, research or methodology in different areas. I have witnessed this many times because he acted as an RA to me over a short period. Asked to do something he will quickly access and appraise a literature and get to the heart of the issues in a very short time. Further his ability to learn and use complicated statistical packages has really impressed me. He is one of the most efficient people I have ever come across. This is a function of his ability and temperament. He is *intellectually curious, hard-working and highly able*.

A second noticeable characteristic is his writing skill. English is his first language and he *writes with fluency* and clarity rarely seen in the social sciences. Perhaps because he is such a voracious reader he has a wonderful facility with words. He has translated books and writes with an elegance and parsimony of someone many years his senior. He is never without a book. Quality of writing is not always appreciated in the sciences but it is soon apparent that he writes wonderfully clearly and lucidly, reflecting his thinking.

A third characteristic is his *imagination*. He loves new areas of research and fizzes with new ideas, concepts and theories. His CV is testament to the great range of topics that interest him. As a result it is difficult to categorise him: he is interested in applied, evolutionary, health, social and work psychology and like me sees all these divisions as

rather artificial. Some academics might argue that his wide interests reflect a sort of dilettante-ism but I believe the opposite is true. He can work in different areas simultaneously, doing good work in all.

Prof Swami is a stable, agreeable, *introvert*. Indeed, he may come across in interviews as rather diffident. He under sells himself no doubt partly as a function of his personal and cultural experiences. He is always positive, polite and warm and has, with me, co-supervised a number of undergraduate projects. The students really warm to him. He is helpful without doing all the work for them and eager to ensure they have an appropriate learning experience. He sets high standards of his students and always challenges them to do better: the best thrive under his supervision.

Colleagues all like and respect Viren. He is utterly reliable and an ideal research partner and companion. He is generous with his ideas and his time

Publications

I doubt if it would be possible to find *any academic in the world* with Dr Swami's output. Three things should be pointed out in addition to the obvious point about quality. First, his work is programmatic and internally consistent within three or four area as he explores various related themes. Next, he publishes mainly in well respected international peer review journals many the top journals in the area. There is a noticeable move to the best journals which is a trend I believe will continue. Third, they are characterised by a impressive mix of theory and methodological and statistical sophistication. I am sure that he will turn out to be one of the highest cited scientists of his generation.

I should add that to my knowledge he has been very active in applying for research grants. He has put, and continues to put a great effort into this in a very difficult market. He has partly succeeded and I am sure will continue as he understands the importance of this for himself, his research and the university.

Reputation

Dr Swami is very highly regarded as a researcher. He is eagerly sought out by editors as a thorough and fair reviewer and has been appointed as an Associate Editor of a leading journal in his area. He has also been nominated for various prizes for his research. His quiet, inquisitiveness and shining ability is quickly noticed by anybody who works with him

I can think of few people who would be more deserving on an Doctor Honoris Causa than Viren Swami. It would bring additional recognition to both him and the university. I therefore very strongly support his nomination.

Yours faithfully

A  *m*

Adrian Furnham D.Phil (Oxon) D.Sc (Lond) D.Litt (Natal) FBPsS CLJ

Aprobat prin HS nr. 23 din 28.11.2024

12 November 2024

Dr David Barron
Director of Research & Enterprise
Heriot Watt University Malaysia

Letter of Recommendation for Professor Viren Swami's Doctor Honoris Causa Nomination

I am honoured to write in support of Professor Viren Swami's nomination for the award of Doctor Honoris Causa. Having had the privilege of being both his PhD student and collaborator on numerous research projects, I have directly experienced his exceptional intellect, dedication, and influence on the fields of body image and personality research, as well as his outstanding character and mentorship.

Professor Swami is particularly globally recognised as a pioneering authority in body image research. His extensive work in this area spans hundreds of peer-reviewed publications, which collectively address crucial questions about body image across diverse cultural contexts. Notably, his research challenges traditional Western-centric perspectives by highlighting and comparing body image phenomena worldwide, exploring how factors such as culture, social media, and evolutionary psychology shape self-perception. This global approach has set new standards in psychological research, encouraging scholars to account for diversity in body image and self-concept research.

He has published prolifically in top-tier journals, including many of the most prestigious in psychology. His work is consistently marked by theoretical depth, statistical sophistication, and methodological rigour, ensuring that each contribution is impactful and highly cited. His research consistently appears in journals with high impact factors, attesting to its significance and the respect it commands in the field. Few academics possess the methodological expertise and theoretical agility Professor Swami demonstrates across experimental, survey-based, and qualitative approaches. His work not only informs academia but has practical implications for public health policies and psychological interventions, especially as they relate to body positivity and mental health.

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Professor Swami is a deeply intelligent, reflective, and inquisitive scholar, as is evident from his prolific output, his grasp of complex theories, and his methodological versatility. In addition to his exceptional command of statistical techniques, he is adept at mastering new approaches with remarkable speed and precision. Having worked closely with him, I have seen first-hand his ability to synthesise vast bodies of literature and identify the key issues with insight and clarity. His work is not only academically rigorous but also accessible, which has significantly contributed to raising public awareness about the societal and cultural dimensions of body image.

His scholarly strength is matched by his extraordinary clarity of expression, both in written and verbal communication. Professor Swami writes with a rare fluency and precision, producing prose that is accessible without compromising academic rigour. His passion for reading and learning continuously informs his work and enriches his writing, which has reached both academic audiences and the general public through popular press and public engagements. Indeed, his publications are widely regarded as exemplars of how academic work can bridge the gap between scientific and public discourse.

Professor Swami's contributions extend well beyond his research; his dedication to mentoring students and supporting colleagues has had a transformative impact on all who work with him. As my PhD advisor, he set high expectations that encouraged me to pursue my best work while providing the support and guidance essential to achieving those standards. His mentorship style fosters independence, critical thinking, and a deep respect for ethical research practices, making him an ideal supervisor and role model. His students not only value his insights but also appreciate his genuine care for their academic and personal growth. Many of his mentees have gone on to establish successful academic careers, a testament to the lasting influence of his guidance.

Professor Swami is also a collaborative and supportive colleague. He is known for his intellectual generosity and openness to new ideas, which has made him a sought-after collaborator across a range of research areas. He consistently brings fresh perspectives and innovative solutions to collaborative work, whether through his methodological expertise or his willingness to engage thoughtfully with emerging fields. In addition to being highly productive, he is unfailingly reliable and professional, embodying the best qualities of an academic leader.

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Professor Swami has also made substantial contributions beyond academia, particularly through his efforts to promote mental health awareness and body positivity in the wider community. His commitment to public engagement is evident in his involvement with media outlets, his contributions to public discussions on mental health, and his authorship of accessible, impactful books. He has a gift for making complex psychological concepts understandable and relevant to the general public, thereby helping to foster a more inclusive, informed, and empathetic society.

His books, written for both academic and popular audiences, reflect his commitment to enhancing public understanding of body image issues and mental health. His work has inspired not only academics but also policymakers, health professionals, and lay audiences, making a tangible difference in people's lives. His outreach initiatives have helped to challenge stereotypes and promote more inclusive standards of beauty, especially in communities where body image issues are often stigmatised or misunderstood. Through these efforts, Professor Swami exemplifies the impact that academic research can have on society.

In conclusion, Professor Swami's outstanding contributions to body image research and beyond, his mentorship and support for students, his collegiality and collaboration, and his dedication to public engagement make him an exemplary candidate for the Doctor Honoris Causa. He is a scholar of remarkable integrity and intellect, whose work has had a transformative impact on both academia and society. I am confident that awarding him this honour would recognise not only his personal achievements but also his enduring contributions to the fields of psychology and public understanding of mental health.

Yours sincerely,



Dr David Barron

Aprobat prin HS nr. 23 din 28.11.2024

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November 11, 2024

Professor Mona Vintilă
Profesor universitar dr.
Departamentul de Psihologie | Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara
Director program masteral Psihologie Clinică și Psihoterapie

Dear Dr. Vintilă,

I highly recommend Dr. Viren Swami for Doctor Honoris Causa at your university, as he is an exemplary, high-profile researcher who has made numerous outstanding contributions to the field of body image. As I step back and examine the breadth of Dr. Swami's publication record, I am astounded by his steady and bountiful release of highly impactful empirical and review articles. As Editor-in-Chief of *Body Image: An International Journal of Research*, I consider Dr. Swami to be **the very top researcher** within our field. His work is cited an impressive 28,246 times and has an h-index of 91 and an i-10 index of 323 (according to Google Scholar). He is included in the *World's Top 2% of Scientists* database.

Dr. Swami served as an Associate Editor for the journal *Body Image* for over a decade, and three years under my tenure as Editor-in-Chief. He offers fair, constructive feedback to reviewers and is always willing to take on additional assignments. He is currently serving as a Guest Editor for our next special issue on white supremacy within body image research.

Dr. Swami is involved in countless successful research collaborations. Impressively, he has amassed and directed a collaboration of over 200 researchers from 65 countries to investigate the measurement invariance of several common body image and well-being measures, including the widely used Body Appreciation Scale-2 and Satisfaction with Life Scale. Within collaborations, he quickly assumes the position of a democratic leader who provides excellent guidance and direction for the group. I accept all offers to collaborate with Dr. Swami, as I know that it will be a clever project, and the process will be enjoyable and enriching.

Indeed, I have collaborated with Dr. Swami on a number of articles and projects, and we are currently co-editing the *Handbook of Diversity in Body Image* that will be published by Elsevier. Most recently, he served as the supervisory author of the updated Intuitive Eating Scale-3 (IES-3; Tylka, Maiano, Fuller-Tyszkiewicz, Linardon, Burnette, Todd, & Swami, 2024). In addition to writing and revising a significant portion of the article, he provided valuable guidance on

bifactor exploratory structural equation modeling that we used to explore the factor structure of the IES-3.

After working closely with Dr. Swami, I am continually impressed with how quickly and flawlessly Dr. Swami writes and provides support and guidance on projects. He is an excellent writer and consultant. When I email him, I often get a response with a thoughtful answer within a few hours (it often takes me a few days to respond to others' requests). When asked to write a section of an article, Dr. Swami has his contribution ready within days and it is flawless (it would take me much longer to produce such high-quality work). As an illustration, he wrote three chapters within a week for a handbook I am editing. He quickly appraises the literature and harnesses what needs to be done. I often marvel at the speed at which he works and wonder how he does it all so beautifully and seamlessly. Once I (jokingly) asked him if there were multiple Viren Swamis, which would help explain how he is able to be so deeply involved in so many projects. I simply don't understand how he does all that he does. It is so impressive. It illustrates his ability, intellectual curiosity, respect for colleagues, and dedication to advance the research on body image. I aspire to be more like Dr. Swami.

Overall, Dr. Swami's research is highly innovative and reflective of divergent thinking—he has a keen ability to find gaps in the research literature, fill those gaps by conducting innovative research, and provide scholars with ideas to build upon his work. His work is creative, collaborative, and expansive. His work is highly respected and valued by many researchers in the field. I consider him to be the top body image researcher in the world. As a result, I strongly support Dr. Swami's nomination for Doctor Honoris Causa.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tracy L. Tylka', is written over a grey rectangular redaction box.

Tracy L. Tylka, Ph.D.
Professor of Psychology
The Ohio State University
Fellow, Academy of Eating Disorders
Editor-in-Chief, *Body Image: An International Journal of Research*

Aprobat prin HS nr. 23 din 28.11.2024