

Dr. Albena Todorova



1. Who was your supervising tutor when you visited the University of Würzburg?

I visited Wuerzburg in 2002/2003 in my quality of a Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. My supervising tutor at that time was Prof. Clemens Mueller-Reible, Institute of Human Genetics, Biozentrum, University of Wuerzburg, Am Hubland.

2. We would be happy to get to know something about your academic/ professional career and it would be nice if you could describe your professional work in a few words.

My academic career is focused in two directions:

1. I am ahead of a genetic medico diagnostic laboratory, dealing with genetic tests for inherited disorders, predispositions and infectious disease. Apart from diagnostic work, we are also involved in research projects. My laboratory still works in very close collaboration with the group of Prof. Clemens Mueller-Reible.
2. I am assistant professor in Department of Biochemistry, Sofia Medical University, teaching students in medicine, dental medicine and pharmacy in biochemistry and genetics.

3. Whats your image from India? Do you have any experiences with the cultural differences of your home country and India? Do you have any experience regarding a scientific or economic exchange between India and the European Union?

I have been in India in 1996 as a participant in an International conference of biochemistry and molecular biology. At that time, I was deeply impressed by the great difference between what I saw along the street from one side and the high level in the field of science on the other side.

What is the situation in India right now and how it has been changed during the past years, I have no idea. But after my visit in India, we have several India/Bulgarian research projects and the collaboration was very fruitful. At present, each year I have students from India, who chose to study in Sofia Medical University and their level and preliminary experience is very high in comparison to other foreign students for example from Turkey.

4. What do you think about the importance of Alumni in terms of the cultural, academical and economical exchange?

I really find that Alumni plays an important role in cultural, academical and economical exchange, but I could be more precise on this point after the meeting in Wuerzburg.