Call for public competition for a PhD executive position in the Clinical Research PhD course of the University of Milan - Academic year 2022/2023.

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THE RECTOR

- Having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree No. 270, dated 22 October 2004, entitled “Amendments to Regulation No. 509 containing rules governing the educational autonomy of Universities, passed by a Decree of the Ministry for Universities and Scientific and Technological Research on 3 November 1999”;

- Having regard to Article 4 of Italian Law No. 210, dated 3 July 1998, as amended by art. 19, paragraph 1, of Italian Law No. 240 dated 30 December 2010;

- Having regard to Italian Regional Law No. 33, dated 13 December 2004, entitled “Rules governing Regional measures to ensure the right to study at university”, which makes provisions for services in favour of students enrolled in doctoral programmes;

- Having regard to Italian Ministerial Decree No. 226 dated 14 December 2021, “Regulation containing the accreditation methods of the locations and doctoral programmes and the criteria for the institution of doctoral programmes by accredited bodies”;

- Having regard to the Statute of the University of Milan, issued through Rectoral decree on 15 March 2012, as amended;

- Having regard to the University Regulations regarding research doctorates issued by Rector’s decree of 5 June 2015, as amended;

- Having regard to the Ministerial decrees protocol no. 808 of 28 November 2018, protocol no. 917 of 15 October 2019, protocol no. 555 of 28 August 2020 and protocol no. 970 of 23 July 2021, whereby the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MUR), pursuant to Ministerial Decree 45/2013, grants five-year accreditation to the doctoral research programmes proposed by the University of Milan, subject to compliance with the prescribed requirements;

- Having regard to the agreement between the University of Milan and the ASST Santi Paolo e Carlo with which the Institution expressed its willingness to activate 1 phd executive position for the PhD course in Clinical Research;

- Having regard to the decision of the board of teachers of the PhD course in Clinical Research of 21 December 2022;

- Having regard to the decisions of the Academic Senate and of the Board of Directors in the sessions of 12 and 28 April 2022, concerning institution of the 38th doctoral cycle.
Art. 1 - Institution

The following is activated at the University of Milan for the academic year 2022/2023 (cycle XXXVIII): no. 1 post of phd executive at ASST Santi Paolo e Carlo for the PhD course in Research Clinical Research.

A public competition on the basis of qualifications and examinations is therefore open at the University of Milan for admission to the aforementioned PhD course, for which the form attached to this decree, of which it is an integral part, a brief illustration, the time frame of the tests, the admission requirements, the research and in-depth study programme training programme to be proposed to candidates who will be admitted to the doctorates.

Art. 2 - Admission requirements

Applications for the post of phd executive may be submitted by employees of the ASST Santi Paolo e Carlo in possession of a master's degree, or an equivalent degree, or an equivalent degree in terms of level of study (Master's Degree) awarded at foreign universities, as specified in the forms attached to this decree.

The suitability of the foreign academic qualification with respect to content is assessed by the Examining Board set up for admission to each doctorate in compliance with the relevant legislation in force in Italy and in the country where the qualification was awarded and with international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the pursuit of studies.

Those who have not yet obtained a master’s degree may also take part in the competition. Candidates without a master's degree who are admitted to the PhD course must acquire the required degree by the date of enrolment, under penalty of forfeiture of admission.

Art. 3 - Application for admission

Applications must be submitted through the following procedure by no later than 2 pm of the 20th of January 2023:

1. Register onto the University portal. This operation is not required of those already registered on the portal or in possession of University access credentials (graduands or those who graduated from the University of Milan less than a year ago);
2. Login and apply for admission to the Doctoral programme admission services Servizio di ammissione dottorati di ricerca;
3. Pay a non-refundable fee of €50 for selection costs, within the deadline for admissions.

During the procedure applicants are required to upload the following documents as .pdf, .rtf or .jpg files, all under 10 MB:
a) Diploma Supplement or Bachelor’s/Master’s diploma (or equivalent qualification obtained in Italy or abroad), with transcript of records. Upcoming graduates are required to submit a certificate of enrolment in lieu of the diploma. The documents must be in Italian, English, French, German or Spanish. This document is not required of graduates/upcoming graduates of the University of Milan since it will be acquired internally;

b) CV, describing any professional experience and other qualifications held by the applicant;

c) Research project (using Form 1);

d) Copy of a valid passport (only for foreign students);

e) Any published work;

f) Annex A

The online application cannot be modified or supplemented with further documentation once it has been confirmed.

Self-certifications are accepted in the cases and in accordance with the methods provided for by the laws in force.

Failure to submit any one of the above-mentioned documents (from A to C) will lead to exclusion from the competition.

Qualifications and scientific publications may be submitted in Italian or English.

In addition to the above documentation, on request by the academic board and as specified in the programme tables, applicants must provide one or more reference letters, drafted according to Form 2 here attached, from qualified persons who have had a role in their education. The reference letters in .pdf must be e-mailed directly by said persons to the email address indicated in the section regarding the relevant doctoral programme by the competition deadline. In any case candidates may include reference letters written as indicated above with their application.

Art. 4 - Candidates with disabilities

In order to ensure equal treatment of candidates, those holding a certificate of invalidity and/or of disability pursuant to Law 104/1992 may apply for accommodations to the COSP Disability Office (ausili.ammissioni@unimi.it) attaching the certificate issued by the competent public health office. Candidates holding outdated certificates are required to apply for an updated certificate, to be submitted after enrolment for the purposes of using disability accommodations as offered by the study programme.

Art. 5 - Candidates with SLD
In order to ensure equal treatment of candidates, those holding a Specific Learning Disorder (SLD) certificate issued by the National Health Service, a private affiliated centre, or a private specialist (with a compliance certificate from the competent health authority), pursuant to Law 170/2010, may apply for accommodations to the COSP SLD Office (ausili.ammissioni@unimi.it) attaching the certificate. If the SLD was diagnosed in childhood, and the certificate is over three years old, students should apply for an updated certificate, to be submitted after enrolment for the purposes of using SLD accommodations as offered by the study programme.

Art. 6 - Admission exam

Admission to the doctoral programmes is through a public selection procedure involving the evaluation of qualifications and tests for the comparative assessment of candidates. An Examining Committee set up and appointed in compliance with current regulations will carry out the procedure. The selection procedure aims to ascertain the qualifications, capacity and aptitudes of candidates for scientific research and their personal motivations. It is based on assessment of the CV, a research project, which may be inspired by the work of the second cycle degree thesis, and an interview either in person or virtually. Please see the table applicable to the PhD programme for more information.

The research project, which should be drafted using a standard model (Form 1 here attached), is only for selection purposes and does not limit the choice of doctoral thesis in the case of admission.

The CV and research project are assessed before the interview. The outcome of the assessment is available on the University portal on the webpage for the programme. The CV is evaluated on the basis of the candidate’s university studies, publications, professional experience and other qualifications, if any. A maximum score of 20 points can be assigned to the CV. In assigning the points the committees consider the statistical distribution of exam grades for the study programme courses, as well as the conditions and the period over which the candidate has obtained his/her qualifications. A maximum of 10 points can be assigned to the research project. Candidates who obtain a score of at least 50% of the maximum points obtainable for the CV and the research project can be called for interview. The interview is public; the date will be posted to the University portal following the assessment of qualifications. The aim is to verify the candidate’s knowledge of the field of the doctorate. The interview includes a seminar-style presentation of the research project, followed by general discussion to verify the candidate’s expertise, scientific qualities and motivations. A maximum of 70 points may be assigned to the interview.

The interview is conducted in English.

To sit for the tests, candidates must show one of the following identity documents: identity card; passport; driver’s license (Italian).

The outcome of the tests will be communicated by the Committee at the end of the interview. At the end of the tests, the Committee draws up a general ranking list according to the total score assigned to the candidates for their CV, research project and interview. Candidates must
obtain a minimum score of 70/100 to pass the admission exam. The ranking is published online on the Postgraduate admission rankings page Postgraduate admission rankings page in the days following the examinations. The Committees must conclude their work no later than the 31st of January 2023.

Art. 7 - Admission to the course

Applicants are admitted to the programmes according to their position in the ranking list until the number of places available for each doctoral programme has been filled. The rankings of eligible applicants will be published in the days following the interviews on the University website Postgraduate admission rankings page.

The ranking posted to the University website is equivalent to a notice. Therefore, admitted candidates will receive no written notice.

Applicants admitted to the programmes lose their entitlement if they fail to enrol by the deadline. Their place is then given to the next applicant in the ranking list. This also applies if an admitted applicant withdraws within three months of the beginning of the programme. If the withdrawing student has already received any monthly scholarship payments, he/she is required to return them. Takeover applicants will be contacted personally by email by the Doctoral Students Administration Office (Segreteria Dottorati), which will provide instructions and deadlines for enrolment. Applicants ranked in more than one list can only choose one doctoral programme.

A student’s offer of admission will be rescinded if they fail to demonstrate English-language proficiency at a B2 level or higher under the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages), as required under this call for applications. Therefore, students must submit at the enrollment stage, as described in Art. 8, below a language-proficiency certification from an entity approved by the University. In order for a student's language-proficiency certification to be approved for purposes of programme admission and enrolment, it must have been issued within three years prior to submission (two for the TOEFL), and must, without exception, certify proficiency across all four areas: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking.

For purposes of admission and enrolment, students must submit, without exception, one of the following certifications recognised by the University certifying proficiency at a B2 Level under the CEFR:

- **FCE First Certificate in English** B2
- **CAE Certificate in Advanced English** C1
- **CPE Certificate in Proficiency in English** C2
- **CELTA Certificate in Teaching English for Speakers of Others Languages** C2
- **DELTA Diploma in English Language Teaching to Adults** C2
- **BEC Business English Certificates**
  - **Vantage** B2
  - **Higher** C1
- **IELTS International English Language Testing System**
(both Academic and General)
- 5.5 - 6.5 B2
- 7.0 - 8.0 C1
- 8.5 - 9.0 C2

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English
- Grade D or above B2

Cambridge IGCSE English as a Second Language
- Grade C or above B2

Cambridge O Level: English Language
- Grade C or above B2

Cambridge A/AS Level: English Language
- Grade E or above B2

CERTILINGUA

DIPLOMA DI SCUOLA SECONDARIA DI SECONDO GRADO

IB Diploma International Baccalaureate B2

ETS EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE

TOEFL Test of English as a Foreign Language

TOEFL iBT Internet based test:
- 72-94 B2
- 95-120 C1

TOEFL ITP Institutional Testing Program:
- 543-626 B2
- 627-677 C1

TOEIC Test of English for International Communication
- Min. 785 (Listening & Reading) + Min. 310 (Speaking & Writing) B2
- Min. 945 (Listening & Reading) + Min. 360 (Speaking & Writing) C1

PEARSON

PTE Pearson Test of English Academic
- 59-75 B2
- 76-84 C1
- 85-90 C2

PTE Pearson Test of English General
- Level 3 B2
B2 Level under the CEFR: anyone failing to demonstrate, upon applying for enrolment, that they meet the minimum requirements will have their admission rescinded, and will not be permitted to matriculate into the PhD programme.

This rule will be applied, without exception, under the following circumstances:

(i) failure to submit, or late submission (in respect of the deadline appearing in the posted enrolment procedure) of a language-proficiency certification from one of the institutions listed above (certifications from any other entity will be rejected);

(ii) certifications which do not list all of the required competencies (i.e. Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking);

(iii) certifications issued more than three years before the student submits their application for enrolment (two years for the TOEFL).

The following category of students will be the sole exception to the rules on language proficiency certification:

– those who, by the date of their enrolment, have earned a Master’s degree featuring an English-language specialization in one of the following Master’s Degree programme classes: LM-37 Modern European and American Languages and Literature, LM-38 Modern Languages for International Communication and Cooperation, LM-39 Linguistics, LM-94 Specialized Translation and Interpreting, or equivalent Master’s Degree;
– those who, by the date of their enrolment, have earned a Master’s degree in a programme taught entirely in English;
– those who, in their prior study programme, earned a B2 Level English-language proficiency certification issued by the SLAM Language Centre of the University of Milan within the four years prior to their matriculation into the PhD programme.


No other exceptions will be granted.

Art. 8 - Enrollment

Applicants admitted to doctoral programmes can enroll online from the 30th to the 31st of January 2023, at 2 pm though the Sifa Online Services and following the procedures published on the University website.
Candidates are admitted conditionally and may be excluded from the programme if they do not meet the requirements.

Candidates holding a qualification obtained abroad are required to upload the following documents when completing the online enrolment process:

- Original diploma (Master of Science or equivalent) with a translation into Italian, French, English, German or Spanish;
- Statement of Validity (Dichiarazione di Valore in Loco) issued by the Italian Embassy, or Diploma Supplement, or certificate of comparability issued by CIMEA, or other declaration of validity issued by ENIC_NARIC centres;
- Italian Tax Id;
- Valid residence permit (only for non-EU citizens).

To finalise one’s enrolment, one must also upload the following documents to the 
Supplemental documents enrollment portal by the 2nd of March:

- Pre-enrolment application receipt from Universitaly;
- student visa (only for non-EU non-Italian-resident students).

Verification of the validity of foreign qualifications is made on submission of the official documents. Until then, candidates are admitted to the programme conditionally, and may drop off the ranking if they are found not to meet the requirements.

**Art. 9 - Phd executive**

The phd executive includes, subject to prior stipulation of special agreements, the possibility of allocating, within the framework of PhD courses, places to employees of companies engaged in highly qualified activities, provided that they have passed the admission tests. The contracted subjects and available places are listed in the form attached to this call for applications.

Enrollment to the PhD course requires the payment of €156.00, corresponding to the regional tax regional tax for the right to study and stamp duty.

Each doctoral student is guaranteed a budget for research activities in Italy and abroad adequate appropriate to the type of course and in any case no less than 10% of the amount of the doctoral scholarship doctorate (gross annual amount of €16,350.00)

**Art. 10 - Obligations of Doctoral Students**

The doctoral research programmes entail 1500 hours of training-education and research activities per year. The duties and rights of students are set out in art. 22 of the University Regulations on doctoral research.
Art. 11 - Awarding of Qualification

The qualification of Doctor of Philosophy, abbreviated as "Dott. Ric" or "PhD", is awarded under the conditions indicated in art. 23 of the University Regulations on Doctoral Research.

Art. 12 - Processing of personal data

Pursuant to Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003, as amended by Legislative Decree no. 101 of 10 August 2018, as well as EU Regulation no. 679/2016 (General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR) the University undertakes to safeguard the confidential nature of the information provided by applicants; all data provided is processed solely for purposes related to the competition and possibly for managing the applicant's relationship with the University, in compliance with current legislation.

Art. 13 - Relevant regulations

Any items for which no specific provision has been made in this call for applications are regulated in accordance with Italian legislation and regulations governing doctoral research.

Art. 14 - Person in charge of the procedure and contacts

Person in charge of the procedure and contacts Pursuant to Law no. 241 of 7 August 1990, the person in charge of the present competition is Dr. Monica Delù (Head of Postgraduate Admissions and Student Public Relations Office). For further information please use the InformaStudenti, selecting the category: Postgraduates/Doctoral research students.

Milan, 20th December 2022

THE RECTOR
(Elio Franzini)
Doctoral programme in Clinical research

Learning Objectives
The objective of this PhD programme is to train participants to take a causal approach to research, and to the clinical management and treatment of disease.

Specific Objectives:
• identify the clinical requirements, and the leading grey areas in pathogenesis, diagnosis, and in the treatment approach taken to various clinical syndromes;
• correctly apply various research methodologies (randomised, observational-longitudinal, cross-sectional or transversal and case-control studies);
• identify and utilise biological and genetic markers to guide the process of disease diagnosis, and to predict the clinical outcomes of various illnesses;
• develop one’s critical abilities to analyse and comment on clinical research findings which are either published or presented at national or international conferences;
• begin conducting independent clinical research, and appreciate the ethical constraints and issues related to clinical research.

The PhD programme is taught entirely in English.

Academic disciplines

02/D (Applied physics, teaching and history of physics)

05/E (Experimental and Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)

05/H (Human Anatomy and Histology)

06/A (Pathology and Laboratory Diagnostics)

06/B (General Clinical Medicine)

06/D (Specialised Clinical Medicine)

06/E (Specialised Clinical Surgery)

06/F (Integrated Clinical Surgery)

06/G (Clinical Paediatrics)
06/I (Radiological surgery)

06/M (Public Health)

06/N (Healthcare, applied medical technology, physical exercise and sports science professions)

Duration
3 years

Positions
1 phd executive position art.10 DM 226/2021 and subsequent guidelines DM 301/2022:
1 place reserved for employees of ASST Santi Paolo e Carlo for the program: “The role of Rhinovirus viral infections in the genesis of moderate to severe COPD aggravations characterized by severe acute respiratory failure requiring oxygen therapy and/or non-invasive mechanical ventilation and collection of biological samples for non-invasive mechanical ventilation and collection of biological samples for the experimental development of innovative RNA-based aptamers with preventive/therapeutic effects.
This study is part of the topics developed in the CN3-RNA project (Spoke 5) of the NRP active at our University.

Doctoral programme coordinator

Prof Massimo Del Fabbro, Full professor in the MED/50 area massimo.delfabbro@unimi.it

Curricula

• Scienze odontostomatologiche
• Scienze mediche specialistiche

Curricula

• Dentistry
• Specialized medicine

Admission requirements

LM-41 Medicine,

LM-46 Dental Medicine,

LM/SNT1 Nursing and Midwifery Sciences,

LM/SNT2 Rehabilitation Professions,
LM/SNT3 Health Professions for Technical Assistance,
LM/SNT4 Preventive Care Professions.

Those in possession of an equivalent qualification, i.e. a Master’s Degree from a foreign university, may also apply for admission.

The suitability of the foreign academic qualification in terms of content is assessed by the Examining Board set up for admission to the doctorate in compliance with the relevant legislation in force in Italy and in the country where the qualification was conferred and with international treaties or agreements on the recognition of qualifications for the t of studies.

Reference letters

The University Faculty requires applicants to submit one Reference Letter.

Please use the attached Form 2, to be submitted via email to the PhD programme coordinator

Doctoral programme selection phases Clinical research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification assessment date</th>
<th>The assessment will take place on 24th January 2023. The assessment outcome will be posted on the University website, on the study programme page, by the interview start date.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interviews</td>
<td>Interviews will take place on 26th of January at 9:00 a.m. The interview schedule, showing each candidate's interview slot (name, date, time, and project presented), will be posted on the University website. The interview will be in English. This posting is equivalent to a notice to the persons concerned.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Allegato A

DICHIARAZIONE SOSTITUTIVA DI ATTO NOTORIO

Self-drafted affidavit
(art. 47 del DPR n° 445/2000)
(art. 47 Presidential Decree n. 445/2000)

Il sottoscritto/the undersigned
cognome/surname______________________________nome/name______________________________
nato a/born in___________________________________ il/on________________________________
consapevole delle sanzioni penali richiamate dall’articolo 76 del Dpr 445/2000 in caso di
dichiarazioni non veritiere e falsità in atti/
aware that providing false data and using fake documents are crimes punishable by law (art. 75
and 76 of the Presidential Decree n. 445/2000)

dichiara sotto la propria personale responsabilità
declares under his/her own responsibility

che al momento della presentazione della domanda di ammissione al presente bando risulta essere
dipendente dell’Azienda/Ente …………………………;
that at the time of submitting the application for admission to this call for applications, he/she is an
employee of the Company …………………………;

che le pubblicazioni/ i titoli sotto elencati, prodotti in copia tramite upload, sono conformi
all’originale:
that the publications and the qualifications listed below, produced as copies, comply with the
originals:

Milano, ________________________
Data/date ________________________
Firma/Signature ________________________

Ai sensi dell’art. 3 del DPR 445/2000 l’autocertificazione può essere utilizzata solo dai cittadini appartenenti all’Unione Europea. I cittadini non europei devono produrre documenti
originali o in copia autenticata secondo la normativa vigente. According to the art. 3 of the Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, only Eu citizens are entitled to use this form. Non Eu
citizens must submit the original documentation or photocopies authenticated in compliance with the law in force.
Il progetto dovrà avere almeno 2.000 e non più di 4.000 parole, bibliografia esclusa. The project should have at least 2,000 and not more than 4,000 words, excluding references.
Modello 2

LETTERA DI REFERENZA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cognome e nome del candidato</th>
<th>Corso di dottorato</th>
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Da compilare in tutte le parti

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Cognome e nome del referente</th>
<th>Ruolo</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Università/Ente</td>
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<td>Indirizzo</td>
<td>Città</td>
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<td>CAP</td>
<td>Paese</td>
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<td>Telefono</td>
<td>Email</td>
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<td>Data</td>
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Come valuta la qualità del candidato rispetto ad altri studenti di pari livello formativo (studenti di un corso, laureandi, ecc..)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sotto la media (50%)</th>
<th>Top 50%</th>
<th>Top 25%</th>
<th>Top 10%</th>
<th>Top 5%</th>
<th>Top 2%</th>
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Come valuta l’attitudine del candidato alla attività di ricerca?

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<th>Inabilità a rispondere</th>
<th>Sotto la media</th>
<th>Media</th>
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<th>Eccezionale</th>
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Commento (Giudizio personale sul candidato)

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16
Modello 2 (Eng)

REFEREE FORM

Applicant’s Name  PhD

To be completed in all areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referee’s name</th>
<th>Position/Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institution/Company</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip code</td>
<td>Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phone contact</td>
<td>Email</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

On the following scale, please rank the applicant against other students in comparable fields and indicate the comparison group used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bottom 50%</th>
<th>Top 50%</th>
<th>Top 25%</th>
<th>Top 10%</th>
<th>Top 5%</th>
<th>Top 2%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Please rate this applicant in overall promise for the doctorate (check one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unable to evaluate</th>
<th>Below Average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Outstanding</th>
<th>Exceptional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Give your comments here
(Your personal evaluation about the candidate)

___________________________________________________________________________________
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