

REVIEW

from Prof.Dr. Krassimir Metodiev, MD, PhD, DScmed,
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Ref.

Academic concourse for full professor in the field of higher education 7.Healthcare and sport, professional direction 7.1 Medicine, specialty "Hygiene (incl. labour, communal, school, radiology, etc.)", at Faculty Public Health, Dept. Hygiene and epidemiology, according to the official announcement in "Durjaven vestnik", N.59 / 26.07.2022,

With one single candidate: **Assoc.prof.Dr. Tzonko Paunov Paunov**, MD, PhD,
Born 16 January 1966,

Private address: 9000 Varna, Frederik Shopen street 12, floor 3, apt. 9

Mobile phone: +359 887 056 626, e-mail:dr_paunov@abv.bg

Details for the academic concourse:

Field of higher education

7. Healthcare and sport

Professional direction

7.1. Medicine, specialty "Hygiene (incl. labour, communal, school, radiology, etc.)"

By Order of the Rector of Varna Medical University P-109-370 from 21-09-2022, I have been appointed as a reviewer on the procedure to obtain the academic position "Professor", with a concourse of Varna Medical University, announced in "Durjaven vestnik" N. 59/26.07.2022, with a single candidate Assoc.prof.Dr. Tzonko Paunov Paunov, MD, PhD

Short personal details:

Assoc.Prof.Dr. Tzonko Paunov Paunov was born on 16 January 1966 in Plovdiv city, Bulgaria
Employment: Medical University, Faculty Public Health, Dept. Hygiene & Epidemiology,
9002 Varna, 55 M.Drinov str.

Education: 1987/1993 – higher degree "master of medicine", Medical Institute,
Plovdiv-Bulgaria

Medical specialty: 1998/2002: achieved/approved specialty "Epidemiology of infectious diseases"

PhD-thesis: 2007/2010 – PhD in epidemiology

Qualification: MD

Post-doc specialization: Epidemiology of infectious diseases

Additional post-doc courses: total of 12 courses

Language level: very good English, German and Russian, plus excellent computer skills

1993-1998: MD in Emergency clinic, City outpatient hospital, town of Septemvri

1998-2002: assistant-professor, Dept. "Infection diseases, epidemiology and tropical medicine", Medical University, Varna-Bulgaria

2002-2004: chief-assistant, same department

2004-2010: head-assistant, same department

2012-now: associate professor, specialty "Epidemiology", same department

2019-2020: chair of educational sector “Epidemiology of infections”, Dept. “Hygiene and epidemiology”

2020-now: chair of Dept. “Hygiene and epidemiology”, Medical University Varna

PhD-thesis “Study of the role of disinfection for control of infections in health institutions”

Documents, provided for the present concourse:

Monography: 1, with 215 standard pages

Articles: 84, total volume 483 standard pages

Reports: 75, total volume 263 standard pages

Participation with oral and poster presentations at national and international scientific meetings: 52 altogether

Presented data of 9 research projects, adding certain bonus to the concourse

Educational luggage: teaching in Epidemiology of infectious diseases for students and post-docs in all faculties and directories of Medical University Varna

Supervisor of 4 diploma students and 5 PhD-students, one of them with successfully completed dissertation

Analysis of all presented documents for the current concourse for the academic position “full professor”:

Based on a profound analysis of the presented documents for the afore-cited concourse, I would dare announce the following issues and conclusions:

--According to me a very significant moment for any academic teacher is his/her participation in national and international scientific meetings, where at such forums his/her expertise, skills and routine could be evaluated accordingly, but in addition, he/she would be able to make for himself/herself a conclusion how his/her level in his/her specialty can be compared to the foreign experience. Thus, Dr. Paunov presents documents and certificates from a total of 59 scientific meetings in Bulgaria (national and international), as well as abroad (SEEC: South-East European Conference, together with IMAB: International Medical Association Bulgaria). His participations are real-time attendances, with presented posters, oral papers, short and full-time lectures and communications.

This part of his activity demonstrates his expertise, practical skills, results of his research investigations and most important, continuing communication in contacts with his colleagues from Bulgaria and abroad.

I would like to share my personal impression of his participations in some of the high-level international meetings in Bulgaria and abroad, where he not only presents his knowledge in oral and round-table sessions, but he is also a member of the Organizing Committee of the forum.

The examples for such respectful attendance are the afore-mentioned International Assembly of IMAB plus the Annual meetings of SEEC in Plovdiv 2021 and Stara Zagora 2022, where Dr. Paunov has had the responsibility to be a member of the Org.Committee, and in addition, to be a chair of scientific sessions.

We thank him warmly for his support to the activities of IMAB and SEEC, on behalf of the organizers, but also on my behalf, as President of IMAB and Hon.Chair of SEEC.

- For me, being a reviewer of the academic concourse for a full professor, the publications of the candidate in national and international journals are also a very important detail.

Thus, Dr. Tzonko Paunov provides for the current concourse a very serious material, not in

quantity only, but also in quality, because his published papers certainly add definite sense and usefulness for his specialty, but in addition for the medical science and practice as a whole. For the current concourse Dr. Paunov provides one monograph "Actual aspects of prophylactics and control of infectious diseases", with 209 standard pages. This is a very good proof of his professional and research expertise in the field of infectious diseases and epidemiology.

The total number of his published papers (84) and reports (75), in high-quality forums and issues, especially those with high indexes, adds a new level to his successful publication efforts.

The scientific papers of the candidate for a full professor degree, together with his attendance in national and international meetings in Bulgaria and abroad, and namely those which come after his first habilitation for associate professor, as well as the new ones for the current concourse for a full professor, together with the citations (28) for the same period, referred and indexed in the international data base with scientific information (Web of Science и Scopus), allow me to evaluate a very high degree for the academic level of the candidate in the concourse. The same reveals out from the evaluation according to Google Scholar.

- The participation of the candidate in two respectful projects, the first one is international in the period 2017-2019, and the second one is national in the period 2019-2021, are also bringing specific bonus to the concourse for a full professor.

- Dr. Tzonko Paunov reveals and conducts exercises, educational programmes, seminars, lectures, practical hours and workshops in a very significant volume, in a wide spectrum of content, themes, disciplines and professional directions. In addition, he is the supervisor of the English-language course for pre-graduate medical students in the University hospital "St. Marina" in epidemiology for the last few academic years.

- He is a reviewer of publications, submitted to the Journal of IMAB, which has the highest index according to the international standards among all journals, issued and published in Bulgaria.

- I would dare add, based on my position as President of IMAB, also as founder and Hon. Chair of SEEC, that throughout the long years of mutual activities with Dr. Paunov (he is a member of the Board of IMAB as well), he is not only a participant of our recent international forums, IMAB and SEEC, but with his presentations, in oral and poster sessions, he definitely proves his exclusive competence and expertise with his papers. And to add, Dr. Paunov proves his collegial engagement to support the young scientists, a fact which is not yet demonstrated by other colleagues and institutions. Compliment for Dr. Paunov!

- In terms of the educational activity of the applicant for a full-professorship in the current concourse, I am obliged to mention the broad spectrum of the candidate, as well as his huge academic work-load: compared to the mandatory minimum of academic hours as university teacher, Dr. Paunov reports definitely bigger load: at the background of the annual protocol of 126 academic hours, he declares over 300 academic hours annual work load from 2018 until now, which is far over the university requirements.

- Dr. Paunov has lectures, theoretical and practical workshops with students from all faculties and branches of the Medical University Varna, including Bulgarian and English-speaking students, post-docs and PhD-students, adding bonus to his educational impact.

In addition, together with his work within the Medical University Varna, he demonstrates his expertise in a number of additional initiatives in and outside the University.

- I can dare and share my personal impression for the candidate professor in the current

concourse, because I have had the chance to collaborate with Dr. Paunov in many of the projects of the unique Organizations IMAB, also SEEC, and not only: I am glad to know and cooperate with him in professional, academic and personal plan for many years until today. He is a very correct, well-educated, exact, trusted, direct, honest and nature-loving person, with whom we can only win having contacts and mutual projects. I am certain that the Medical University Varna should be proud to have such devoted professors and scientific capacities, the way Dr. Tzonko Paunov is.

Conclusion: based on a profound analysis of the entire documentation, provided to me for a review on the application of Dr. Tzonko Paunov for the academic title full professor, **I hereby, completely and confidently confirm my positive vote** for the inconsiderable necessity of such established scientists, specialists and experts in the name of Dr. Tzonko Paunov and for the benefit of the Medical University Varna.

And to add, when analyzing such concourse, as a main reviewer, I can only express again my compliment to the Medical University Varna to have in its team such example for academic level and established expertise in the name of the applicant in the concourse for a full-professor Dr. Tzonko Paunov.

I dare address my collegial request to the rest members of the Academic Jury to vote with their positive sign for granting the academic title full professor to Dr. Tzonko Paunov Paunov, the way I myself shall do.

Reviewer:

Prof.Dr. Krassimir T. Metodiev, MD, PhD, DScmed

Varna, 3 November 2022

