

STANDPOINT

by Prof. Dr. Viktoriya Tsvetanova Doycheva, MD

Head of the Epidemiology and Hygiene Department at the Sofia University

**External member of the Scientific Jury determined by Order No. R-109-370 /
21.09.2022. of the Rector of the University of Varna**

Regarding: Contest for the occupation of the academic position "Professor", in the scientific specialty "Epidemiology", for the needs of the "Hygiene and Epidemiology" Department, Faculty of Public Health, MU-Varna, announced in SG No. 59/26.07.2022. with a single candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsonko Paunov Paunov, MD.

The documents presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsonko Paunov, MD, meet the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Belarus and the Regulations for its Implementation at the University of Varna.

Biography and professional development:

Assoc. Prof. Paunov was born in 1966. in the city of Plovdiv. He graduated from the German language high school "B. Brecht" - Pazardzhik in 1985. In 1993, he graduated from the medical school "Iv.P. Pavlov" - Plovdiv. From 1993 to 1998 he works at the City Polyclinic of Septemvri as a doctor in the "Emergency and Urgent Medical Care" unit. Since 1998, he has been an assistant at the Department of Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology and Tropical Medicine at the University of Varna. He successively held the positions of senior assistant 2002-2004. and chief assistant 2004-2010. Since 2003 he heads the "Anti-Epidemic Control" Unit at the "St. Marina". He has certificate for speciality "Epidemiology" since 2002. In 2010, he defended his dissertation on the topic: "Role of disinfection in infection control in healthcare facilities". Since 2012, he occupies the academic position of "associate professor". From 2020 to the present, he is the Head of the "Hygiene and Epidemiology" Department at the Faculty of Public Health in the Medical University of Varna. He has an additional qualification with a passed exam in the NCIPD: Head of Pest control activities. Assoc. Prof. Paunov has a number of additional qualifications: "To learn how to teach" 2002; "e-Learning in the medical education" 2003; Course at the NCIPD "Problems of HIV/AIDS in Bulgaria 2004; "European Training Program in Applied

Epidemiology" 2005; "New methods of training in Epidemiology at Medical Universities in Bulgaria" 2007; "Innovative ideas in the field of planning and construction of modern departments for central supply of sterile materials" 2010; "Basic principles for cleaning and disinfection in the medical sector - products and solutions" 2011, Postgraduate Studies Course in Health Management - MU Varna 2011, ECDC "Control of multidrug-resistant organisms (MDROs) in healthcare settings 2021" 2021 , "Patient safety first: how to optimize reprocessing processes in CSSD" 2021. He is fluent in German, English and Russian languages. He is a member of: Bulgarian Medical Union, Bulgarian Scientific Society for Epidemiology of Infectious and Non-Infectious Diseases, Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Bulgarian Association for Prevention and Control of Nosocomial Infections "BulNozo", Association for Pest Control, Bulgarian Scientific Society for Public Health.

Scientific activity:

Assoc. Prof. Paunov presents scientific works and participations for the period from 01.01.2005 to 08.18.2022. As evidentiary material covering the minimum scientometric requirements for occupying the AP "professor" are specified - a monograph on the topic "Modern aspects of prevention and control of infectious diseases", Varna, 2022, dissertation work, 7 articles in English in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases (Web of Science and Scopus) (G7, Acad. reference #15 of the attached documents). One of the articles is in a journal with an impact factor - Helminthologia IF=0.731 for 2018 (Academic reference #15 of the attached documents). 15 full-text publications in Bulgarian and international scientific publications with ISSN are presented, 2 articles are in English. In addition to the minimum requirements, 8 more full-text publications in Bulgarian and international scientific publications with ISSN have been submitted (G8 and list, Academic reference #15 of the attached documents). For the period 2012-2022. after occupying AP "associate professor", 30 participations with scientific reports and posters in national and international scientific forums were presented (List No. 18 of the attached documents). As of 01.08.2022, Assoc. Prof. Paunov's scientific works have been cited 28 times in scientific publications, monographs and collective volumes, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus), dissertations, excluding self-citations from all

authors. 13 of them were used as evidentiary material covering the minimum scientometric requirements for the occupation of AP "associate professor" for this competition (D10-12, Academic reference No. 15 645/18.08.2022 issued by the Library of MU-Varna). The author's h-index is 2 according to Google Scholar.

Summary of scientific activity:

Publications in Bulgarian - 21 pcs.

Publications in English - 9 pcs.

Distribution of scientific works by authorship:

Independent author - 2 pcs.

In co-authorship - 30 pcs, of which as: first author - in 2 publications, second author - in 9 publications, third author - in 9 publications, subsequent author - in 10 publications. The main directions in the research work of Assoc. Prof. Paunov are aimed at the field of preventive medicine. The wide range of developed thematic areas related to the problems of the epidemiology of infectious diseases, infectious health threats, methods and means of interrupting the epidemic process is impressive. The distribution of contributions is presented in the thematic areas of research activity. The main directions of the scientific works developed by Assoc. Prof. Paunov are: Epidemiology of health-care associated infections , Disinfection, disinsection and deratization, Immunoprophylaxis, Epidemiology of respiratory tract infections, Epidemiology of intestinal infections, Epidemiology of zoonotic infections (blood-transmissible), Epidemiology of viral hepatitis, Epidemiology of roof infections, Marine epidemiology, Epidemiology of HIV infection and AIDS.

Assoc. Prof. Paunov is the scientific supervisor of a doctoral student - Dr. Miglena Kolarova-Dimitrova, who successfully defended her dissertation in 2019. Currently, he is the scientific supervisor of three doctoral students.

Minimum required points by groups of indicators for AP "Professor".

Group of indicators	Content	Professor (points)	Assoc. Prof. Paunov points
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 2	-	-
C	Indicators 3	100	100
D	Sum of indicators from 5 to 9	200	202,9
E	Sum of indicators from 10 to 12	100	100
F	Sum of indicators from 13 till the end	100	165

Teaching and learning activities:

The author's reference for the teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Paunov shows his participation in lecture courses in the discipline "Epidemiology of infectious diseases" of the following specialties: Master of Medicine 5 and 6 course for Bulgarian students, Master of Medicine 5 and 6 course students in English Language, Master of Dental Medicine Bulgarian students, Master of Dental medicine 3 course students in English Language, Public Health Inspector, Master of Public Health Protection and Control, Master of Public Health, Master and Bachelor of Health Care Management, Bachelor of Health Management, Midwifery, Medical Laboratory Assistant, Nurse, Foreign English-speaking medical students and exchange programs between universities. Assoc. Prof. Paunov's academic load significantly exceeds the required one.

Conclusion:

All indicators - scientometric and educational-teaching indicate that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsonko Paunov Paunov, MD meets the requirements for occupying the academic position "Professor" according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Belarus and the Rules for its Application in the MU- Varna.

On the basis of all of the above, I give my positive assessment to the candidate in the competition and I strongly recommend to the members of the Scientific Jury to award Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsonko Paunov Paunov, MD, the academic position "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Epidemiology", for the needs of the Department "Hygiene and Epidemiology" at the Medical University of Varna.

02.11.2022г.

Prof. Dr. V. Doycheva, MD

