

STATEMENT

by **Assoc.Prof. Dr. Hristina Ivanova Arnautska, DMD, PhD**

Head of Department of Orthodontics, Faculty of Dental Medicine, MU-Varna

Internal member of the Scientific jury, according to an order of the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov"-Varna- № P-109-522/30.11.2023

Subject: Competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in Prosthetic dentistry the field of higher education "7. Health care and sports", professional direction "7.2. Dental medicine" for the needs of the Department of Dental material science and Prosthetic dental medicine (published in the SG, no. 83 of 03.10.2023)

Candidate: Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Dzhendo Atanasov Dzendov, DMD, PhD – Chief Assistant Professor at the Department of Orthodontics, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University – Varna

Candidate's career profile

Dr. Dzeno Atanasov Dzendov was born in 1976 in Dobrich. In 2006 he graduated as a Master Doctor in Dental Medicine at the Medical University of Plovdiv. Since 2009 he has been an assistant professor at the Department of Dental Materials Science and Prosthetic Dentistry. In 2017 he was enrolled as a full-time PhD student at the Department and after successful defense of his dissertation thesis entitled: "Unbreakable prosthetic constructions of Co-Cr alloys made by material addition technologies", in 2018 he obtained the educational and scientific degree of "Doctor" and became a senior assistant at the Department. He has acquired a specialty in Prosthetic Dentistry. He speaks German, English and Russian. He has 34 publications and a number of participations in National and International conferences and symposiums.

Overall assessment of the documentation submitted for the participation in the competition.

The materials submitted for participation in the announced competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" are in accordance with the requirements of the Law on Academic Staff Development and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff and Academic Positions at the Medical University - Varna.

In the academic report on the publications, citations, and scholarly profiles of Ch. Ass. Prof. Dr. Dzeno Dzendov, DMD, PhD the scientometric indicators for obtaining the academic position of "Associate Professor" include:

- Dissertation on the acquisition of scientific and educational degree "Doctor" on „Non-removable prosthetic structures from Co-Cr alloys. made by technologies with material addition", 2017
- A monographic work on the topic: "The virtual patient in dental education", Second updated edition, 2023, ISBN 978-619-241-260-9.

- 7 publications published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world databases with scientific information such as Scopus and Web of Science
- 10 publications and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review
- 4 publications beyond the minimum scientometric requirements for acquiring academic position "Associate Professor" in non-refereed journals with scientific review

All publications are correctly and precisely described and applied in full in electronic format to the materials for the competition. The total number of points from the actually published articles is 217,12.

Dr. Dzendov is an independent author of 1 publication, the first author of 10 articles, the second author of seven publications, and a subsequent author in the remaining 6.

Dr. Dzendov also provides an additional information describing the entire publication activity before the announcement of the competition for the position of Associate Professor. This activity includes 3 full-text publications for obtaining an educational and scientific degree of "Doctor" and 7 scientific works for obtaining the position of Chief Assistant.

The results of the research work have been presented to a wide audience at universities and scientific forums both abroad and in Bulgaria (List 19 from the attached documents). Primarily oral presentations have been delivered at 31 scientific forums, of which 25 were in Bulgaria with international participation and 6 were abroad: Macedonia, Russia, France, Italy, Portugal, and Lithuania. All these participations contribute to the popularization and good visibility of the candidate's scientific work.

The presented scientific papers and research results are thematically categorized mainly into two scientific directions:

- 1 Application of modern manufacturing technologies in 3D printing in prosthetic dental medicine.
- 2 Implementation of modern teaching methods for students in prosthetic dental medicine

Citations in scientific publications referenced and indexed in globally renowned databases of scientific information amount to 12, earning a total of 180 points.

Dr. Dzhendov's registered research profiles in four databases is presented: Google Scholar, ORCID, Web of Science Researcher and SCOPUS.

The presented monographic work of Dr. Dzeno Dzendov entitled: "The Virtual Patient in Dental Education" is dedicated to one of the most modern and developing areas in dental education - the use of virtual simulators "virtual patient".

An attempt is made to convey the process of creating and using the virtual simulator and to clarify the role of each participant. The development of virtual simulators in the learning process, the integration of digital dental technologies into a single "virtual patient," the advantages of using virtual patients to build skills in students for patient communication, downloading an accurate anamnesis, and clinical skills are discussed.

The penetration of computer simulation in dental education is also discussed. Virtual simulators can provide a self-contained method with immediate feedback to the students on their progress in clinical case study or clinical skill development. Disadvantages include cost, difficulty in

integrating virtual simulators into curricula, editing difficulties, technological limitations, and the level of resources required.

The different types and characteristics, advantages and disadvantages of simulation systems used in teaching dental students are presented. The simulation systems introduced in the dental education increase the students' manual skills and make a connection with the modern technologies for making removable and non-removable prosthetic structures using CAD/CAM technologies. The correlation of simulators with intra- and extra-oral scanners provides students with new skills and prepares them for adequate clinical work that meets modern requirements. Virtual and augmented reality technologies can be used to simulate and evaluate clinical techniques. They provide unrestricted access to training sessions, immediate feedback needed for learning and allow standardized assessment of skills acquired by students.

Complex, qualitative assessment of educational-methodological and teaching activities

The academic transcript shows that Dr. Dzeno Dzendov has a teaching experience of 14 years and 8 months. Dr. Dzendov's teaching load significantly exceeds the norm of 360 hours average teaching load throughout the period: 2018/2019 - 372 hours; 2019/2020 - 366 hours; 2020/2021 - 396 hours; 2021/2022 - 464 hours and 2022/2023 - 506 hours. Dr. Dzendov leads practicum and pre-graduate internship of Bulgarian-speaking students in the disciplines of Dental Materials Science and Prosthetic Dentistry. In the last year 2022/2023 he also taught a lecture course in Dental Materials Science to Bulgarian speaking students. He also has three graduate students.

Compliance with the requirements of MU-Varna for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor

The presented academic record demonstrates that Ch. Ass. Prof. Dr. Dzeno Atanasov Dzendov, fully meets the minimum scientometric indicators required for the position of Associate Professor, in accordance with the regulations for the development of the academic staff at MU-Varna.

Indicator groups	Scientific work	Required number of points	Number of points based on evidence presented by the applicant
A/Indicator 1	Dissertation for scientific and educational degree "Doctor" before associate professor	50 p.	50 p.
B/Indicator 3	Habilitation work - monograph	100 p.	100 p.
C /Sum of Indicators 5-9	Total publications	200 p..	217.12 p.
D/ Sum of Indicators 10-12	Citing	50 p.	180 p.

The extensive experience as a specialist and educator, the work with students and postgraduates, as well as the time devoted to science and research, define a high academic level of development for Dr. Dzeno Dzendov.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize again that the candidate in the current competition, Dr. Dzeno Dzendov, fully meets the requirements of the Law for the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at MU-Varna for the academic position of Associate Professor.

The achieved scientometric indicators are entirely sufficient, which gives me the confidence and conviction to give my **positive assessment** and to confidently propose to the members of the Scientific Jury to choose Chief Assistant Dr. Dzeno Atanasov Dzendov, DMD, PhD for granting the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports, professional field 7.2. Dental medicine, in the specialty "Prosthetic dental medicine" for the needs of the Department of "Dental Materials Science and Prosthetic Dental Medicine" at the Faculty of Dental Medicine of MU-Varna.

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