Review

From: Assoc. Prof. Julian Rumenov Ananiev, MD, PhD - Dean, Medical Faculty, Trakia University; Department of General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology, and Dermatovenereology, Faculty of Medicine, Trakia University

<u>Subject</u>: competition announced for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty: "General and Clinical Pathology", announced for the needs of MU-Varna, Department of General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology, Faculty of Medicine

Description: According to order № P-109-179 / 03.06.2020 of the Rector of MU-Varna I was selected as a "Reviewer" in a competition announced for the needs of MU-Varna, Department of General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology, Faculty of Medicine in SG, no. 8 of 28.01.2020

In this competition for "Associate Professor" documents were submitted by a single candidate - Svitlana Yurievna Bachurska, MD, PhD from the Clinic of Clinical Pathology USBATO - Sofia. In the documents provided to me, I find the full range of required components, both electronic and paper. They are presented in accordance with the dates and requirements in the law and the official regulations forms of MU-Varna.

I. Biographical data

The candidate Svitlana Yurievna Bachurska, MD, PhD was born on March 6, 1982 in Ukraine. In 2005 she graduated from the Medical University in Plovdiv, and in 2016 she acquired a degree in General and Clinical Pathology. In 2017, Dr. Bachurska defended "PhD" in the scientific specialty "Pathology and Cytopathology" (certificate № 196 from 1.6.2017 MU-Plovdiv) at the Department of General and Clinical Pathology at MU - Plovdiv with a thesis named

"Diagnostic value of ERG in the immunohistochemical panel for the detection of prostate cancer needle biopsies. In the reference we also find that Bachurska MD, PhD has conducted courses as follows:

- dermatopathology of BMA, Plovdiv, Bulgaria, 2018;
- diagnostic soft tissue pathology, Linz, Austria, 2018;
- diagnostic gynecological pathology, Linz, Austria, 2018;
- short course in skin pathology, Budapest, Hungary, 2018;
- basics in the diagnosis of breast pathology, Linz, Austria, 2017;
- Clinical Research Methods, Salzburg, Austria, 2017;
- Urological Pathology, Salzburg, Austria, 2016;
- specialized course in "Immunochemistry and Immunohistochemistry", Sofia, Bulgaria, 2015;
- statistical software package SPSS MU Plavdiv, 2014;
- Urological Pathology JHMI, Baltimore, USA, 2013;
- others;

In terms of academic career, the candidate has a total professional work experience as of March this year, a total of 8 years and 11 months, of which as a university assistant - 8 years and 1 month. In the first 3 years and 11 months after graduation, the candidate works as a medical officer; followed by 8 years as a lecturer, and from 7 months Bachurska, MD, PhD has been working as Head of Clinic at USBALO, Sofia.

In **summary**, Svitlana Bachurska, MD, PhD has passed through the "ladder" of academic growth, and the opportunity to qualify further creates a prerequisite for future development and growth in research and teaching and clinical field.

II. Evaluation of scientometric indicators

The assessment was made on the basis of the candidate's scientific publications in Bulgarian and world journals and full-text reports in scientific journals, as well as the submitted monographs and lists of citations, together with the evidence.

Svitlana Bachurska, MD, PhD presents 1 abstract of a dissertation for "PhD", 1 monograph (habilitation thesis), 21 publications and reports published in

scientific journals, referenced and indexed in referenced databases (Scopus and Web of science), as well as 18 publications and reports published in non-peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes.

Based on this, the applicant distributes the publications and participations that do not repeat those submitted for acquisition of "PhD" as follows:

- 1 monograph on "Morphological dilemmas of prostate oncopathology";
- 13 publications in peer-reviewed journals;
- 22 publications in non-peer-reviewed;
- 50 participations in scientific forums in the country and abroad;
- 10 citations in referenced journals in the databases;
- 13 citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review;
- 5 citations in unreferred journals with scientific review.

After an analysis, it is evident that Dr. Bachurska is the first author in a total of 14 publications listed in the report.

In addition, the candidate presents a reference for the management of an university project at MU-Plovdiv with number NO-12/2018 on the topic: "Immunohistochemical subtyping of patients with colorectal cancer in correlation with KRAS mutation status and microsatellite instability."

Last but not least she attached reference for the candidate's participation in writing a number of textbooks with a focus on the teaching activities of the Department of General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology of MU – Plovdiv.

In **summary**, the publications, forums and citations presented are completely comprehensive and provide information on the required indicators in this section.

III. Evaluation of scientific activity and contributions

Regarding the scientific profile of the candidate, it has a well-defined one, and it is obvious that it follows the direction of work in the applied part of oncopathology and in particular - the pathology of prostate cancer, pathological changes in the oral cavity and their relationship with genesis and clinic, as well as experimental pathology, presentation of rare cases from practice, etc.

1. Contributions in the field of oncopathology

- a wide analysis of prostate pathology in the Bulgarian population was performed and new classification schemes and algorithms for diagnostic clarification were applied;
- a number of urological oncological diseases were studied on the basis of examined histological material in one of the larger medical university center in the country;
- rare forms of urological neoplasms and endocrine neoplasms have been studied and described and discussed;
- morphological forms and deviations of some of the predictive markers in the pathology of the mammary gland are described;
- morphological and immunohistochemical features of colorectal cancer in connection with KRAS and microsatellite status have been studied and described;

2. Contributions in the field of oral pathology

- the histological changes in the oral cavity after application of photodynamic sources were studied;
- patients with oral form of lichen planus and morphological changes after application of photodynamic sources were studied;
- analysis of premalignant lesions to compare the "gold standard" and non-invasive methods:
- histological changes in different methods of gingivectomy were analyzed;
- morphological changes in different types of endodontic treatment have been studied and described;

3. Contributions to experimental pathology

- an experimental model of closed chest trauma in animal models was created;
- the histological changes in cardiopulmonary resuscitation of models of closed chest trauma were studied;

4. Other contributions

• comparison between inflammatory changes and cell infiltration in normal prostate and pathologically altered prostate;

In **summary**, the reference to the contributions shown that the candidate indicates that she has a "scientific line" that follows, but also a deep interest and activity in a number of other areas, which further contributes to the establishment as a reliable scientist.

IV. Evaluation of learning activities

Dr. Svitlana Bachurska, MD, PhD has held consecutive academic positions assistant and senior assistant at MU - Plovdiv in the period 2011-2020, working as an assistant for a total of 5 years and 8 months, and as a senior assistant - 2 years and 5 months. During the same period she led a number of practical exercises in three faculties of MU - Plovdiv.

Regarding the study workload of the candidate, it is evident that for the period 2013-2019, the workload according to the norm for non-habilitated lecturers is 270 hours - 540, as Dr. Bachurska exceeds the norm. Its workload was formed on the basis of practical exercises for students majoring in medicine, dentistry and pharmacy, respectively - Bulgarian and English language training.

V. Compliance with requirements

Mandatory quantitative scientometric criteria for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at MU - Varna presented by the candidate

Criteria	Min.points	Candidate
		point
A	50	50
Б	100	100
Γ	200	393.5
Д	50	305
TOTAL:	400	848.5

The candidate Dr. Svitlana Bachurska, MD, PhD fulfills the conditions for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor", as:

- has completed higher medical education;
- own acquired a specialty in "General and Clinical Pathology";
- own a "PhD" in the scientific specialty "Pathology and Cytopathology";
- covers the required quantitative scientometric indicators.

VI. Personal impressions

I have known Dr. Bachurska since 2015, and I have direct observations on her academic development. For the period I had the opportunity to get acquainted in detail with the work as a assistant and scientist. Dr. Bachurska is a young and energetic lady, built as a good specialist in the field of pathology. She has a positive attitude towards the teaching process, students, PhD-students and graduates with whom she has worked, as well as highly academic relations with her colleagues. In her work as a scientist she is distinguished by deep interest and constant desire to search for new projects and opportunities for development.

Last but not least, I can safely define her as a meticulous and erudite professional with a desire and willingness to assist in the development of her colleagues.

VII. Recommendations

I would like to make a recommendation in this regard, after this stage of development, to continue her research and publications in the fields in which she currently works, as well as to focus on development of other future young scientists and search of new project opportunities in order to apply the potential it has.

VIII. Conclusion

Based on the above, I can summarize that given the submitted documents, the candidate **Svitlana Yurievna Bachurska**, **MD**, **PhD** is a well-established scientist, erudite teacher and physician who manages to combine both precise diagnostic work and training, teaching and research work. It is evident that the scientific, publishing and teaching activities of the candidate meet the requirements for acquiring the academic position "Associate Professor".

That is why I give my **positive review** and I will confidently vote "**Positive**" for the award of the academic position of "**Associate Professor**", and appealing to the other members of the esteemed Scientific Jury to vote with the same position.

10/08/2020 Assoc. Prof. Julian R. Ananiev, MD, PhD