

STATEMENT

By Assoc. Prof. Wiliam Dokov, MD, PhD
Department of General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology
Faculty of Medicine
Medical University “Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov”, Varna

Re: Competition for acquiring an academic position “Associate Professor” in the specialty “General and Clinical Pathology“, professional field 7.1. Medicine, area of higher education 7. Health and Sports – one/0.25 staff position; for the needs of the department of “General and Clinical Pathology Forensic Medicine and Deontology“ at the Medical University “Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov” Varna, Faculty of Medicine, promulgated in State Gazette 8/28.01.2020.

According to Order No P-109-179 /3.06.2020 of the Rector of the Medical University of Varna I was appointed as an internal member of the scientific jury and with the decision of its first meeting held on 10.06.2020 I was appointed to prepare a Statement.

In the present competition there is only one candidate, Svitlana Yurievna Bachurska, MD, PhD. The candidate has presented all necessary documents as required by the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for its application.

I. Career development of the candidate

Svitlana Bachurska has graduated in 2005 with a Master degree in Medicine from the Medical University of Plovdiv and in 2016 she has acquired a specialty in „General and Clinical Pathology“.

After a successful defence of a doctoral thesis on the topic: „Diagnostic importance of ERG in the immunohistochemical panel for the diagnosis of prostate carcinoma from needle biopsies“ Dr. Bachurska has been awarded the academic degree „Doctor“ in the scientific specialty „General and Clinical Pathology“.

From 2011 to 2017 Dr. Bachurska specializes “General and Clinical Pathology” at the university hospital „St. George“- Plovdiv. From 2017 until 2018 she is the Head of the of Department of Clinical Pathology at the Multi-profile Hospital for Active Treatment in Asenovgrad. In the period 2018-2019 she is the Head of a Department at the Oncological Center Plovdiv. The same year she becomes the Head of the Clinique of Pathology at the University Hospital of Oncology Sofia, where she is working at the moment.

The academic career of Dr. Bachurska is strongly influenced from her work as an assistant professor at the Department of General and Clinical Pathology in the period 2011-2017 and as a Senior Assistant Professor in the period 2017- 2019.

Dr. Bachurska uses actively Russian and English languages.

II. Scientific activity of the candidate

The scientific works of the candidate for this contest include 86 publications in total, of which:

- 1 monograph;
- 13 full-text publications in refereed scientific journals;
- 22 full-text publications in non-refereed, reviewed scientific journals;
- 50 abstracts from scientific forums.

All publications with the exception of the monograph are authored by teams of authors. The participation of Dr. Bachirska in the teams is relatively evenly distributed among the first, second, third and next place in the author teams. A document proving 28 citations of the publications of Dr. Bachurska is also presented.

Qualitative Characteristics of the Scientific Work

The topics of the scientific works of Dr. S. Bachurska are related to different aspects of oncopathology, pathology of the oral cavity, experimental morphology and other areas.

The study of prostate pathology in the area of oncopathology demonstrates a very interesting application of the most recent classification schemes and algorithms for diagnostic categorization of different benign and malignant changes in the prostate gland.

Serious scientific contribution has the study on the identification and description of rare tumors of the urogenital (sarcomatoid carcinoma of the penis, para-testicular liposarcoma, adenomatoid tumor, atypical polypoid adenomyoma of cervix uteri) and neuroendocrine systems.

The genetic analysis with a description of clinical and morphological characteristics and correlations of a case of pheochromocytoma-associated Von Hippel Lindau syndrome and its morphological and immunohistochemical characteristics is an example of a study following recent scientific trends.

The publications related to the analysis of morphometric diagnostic possibilities for differentiating neoplastic and inflammatory diseases of the stomach from gastroscopic materials, as well as the studies of pathomorphological and immunohistochemical characteristics of colorectal carcinoma in correlation with microsatellite KRAS status are also very interesting.

In the area of oral pathology, a significant contribution have the studies on therapeutic associated histological changes as a result of application of various photodynamic sources (lasers). Further the histological and molecular changes in oral lichen planus are studied and the pathomorphosis of the disease as a result of the application of various photodynamic sources (lasers) is described.

The publications in the area of experimental morphology have a significant contribution. Dr. Bachurska and a team of the Clinique of Thoracic Surgery have developed an experimental animal model of closed chest trauma. In a series of publications the histological changes in cardio-pulmonal contusion as a result of closed chest trauma in mice models have been extensively studied.

All those as well as the rest of the publications presented by Dr. Bachurska provide evidence for her profound works in the field of pathomorphology, applying various recent scientific methods.

III. Educational Activities

According to the presented documents for the period 2013 to 2019 Dr. Bachurska has between 448 to 540 hours seminars of the discipline “General and Clinical Pathology” to students in medicine and dental medicine. Her academic workload exceeds more than two times the existing norms for lecturers without academic ranks at the Medical University of Plovdiv.

IV. Compliance with the requirements of MU-Varna for obtaining the academic position „Associate Professor”

The presented information reveals that Dr. Bachurska, PhD covers and exceeds in two of the groups the minimal indicators for occupying the academic position “Associate Professor” required under the Rules for Development of the Academic Staff of the Medical University of Varna (table 1)

The points assigned for group G of the indicators are 393,5 exceeding the required minimum with 193,5 points. The points assigned for the indicators from group D also exceed the required minimum with 255 points.

Table 1: Compliance with the requirements of the MU-Varna for obtaining academic position “Associate Professor”

<i>Group of indicators</i>	<i>Required number of points</i>	<i>Points based on presented evidence, as accepted by a committee of MU Varna</i>
<i>A</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>G</i>	<i>200</i>	<i>393,5</i>
<i>D</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>305</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

V. Conclusion

In the present competition there is only one candidate – Dr. Svitlana Yurievna Bachurska, PhD. The analysis of the presented materials reveals that they cover and

exceed the minimal national requirements for the Academic Position “Associate Professor” and the requirements of the Academic development Act of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for its application. Dr. Bachurska demonstrates impressively rich practical, educational and scientific experience in the area of General and Clinical Pathology as evidenced from the analysis of the presented documents.

These are the grounds for my positive assessment of the application of Dr. Svitlana Bachurska, PhD for the academic position “Associate Professor” for the scientific specialty “General and Clinical Pathology” for the needs of the Department of General and Clinical Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Deontology, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University “Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov” – Varna.

18.08.2020

Signed by:



Assoc. Prof. Wiliam Dokov, MD, PhD