

OPINION

by: Associate Professor Yavor Ivanov Mitkov, PhD

member of the scientific jury, determined by order No. P-109-117/22.03.2024 of the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna

on a competition for the occupation of an academic position "Associate Professor", in the specialty "Pharmaceutical Chemistry", announced in the State Gazette no. 7/ 23.01.2024 for the needs of the "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" Department, Faculty of Pharmacy at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna.

with candidate: ch. Asst. Nadia Vasileva Agova, Ph.D., chief assistant in the Department of "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the MU - Varna.

The opinion was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria (LAD), the Code of Practice for its Implementation and in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov"-Varna (PRASMU) and the Qualitative and quantitative criteria included in it.

Procedure.

The competition for the occupation of an academic position "associate professor" in the field of higher education: 7. Health care and sports, by professional direction: 7.3. Pharmacy and specialty: "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" has been announced for the needs of the "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" Department of the Faculty of Pharmacy at the MU - Varna. The announcement was published in the State Gazette no. 7 / 23.01.2024

For participation in the announced competition for the academic position of "associate professor" in the department of "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the Medical University - Varna, only one candidate, Nadia Vasileva Agova, Ph.D., chief assistant in the same department.

In accordance with the legal norms described in Art. 125. (1) the candidate has provided evidentiary material corresponding to the specified requirements and supported by a Declaration of Credibility signed by the chief assistant Agova.

For participation in the competition and in response to the requirements of Art. 126. (1) from PRASMU, the candidate has submitted the all the necessary documents to the KR department of MU-Varna.

Brief biographical data.

Chief assistant Nadya Agova, PhD, completed her higher education in 2016 at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the MU "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" city of Varna, acquiring a master's degree in pharmacy. In the

same year, she was enrolled as a self-study doctoral student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry in the same faculty. In 2019, after defending a dissertation on the topic "Obtaining and characterization of bexarotene derivatives with potential biological activity", she obtained a doctorate from the National Academy of Sciences in the scientific specialty Pharmaceutical Chemistry. In the period 2016-2019, she was enrolled in a specialization in Analysis of Medicinal Products, successfully recognized at the Medical University Sofia. In 2019, she was enrolled in the Medical University of Varna for a specialty in Toxicology and toxicological analysis, which she successfully completed in 2022.

Nadia Agova's work experience began immediately after her graduation as a Master of Pharmacy, and for the period 2016 to the present, she successively held the administrative positions of assistant (2016 - 2020) and chief assistant (2020 - until now) in the department in "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the MU "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" city of Varna.

Teaching activity of the candidate and related assets.

The educational and teaching activity of N. Agova began in 2016 and includes conducting practical and seminar classes in the disciplines "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" and "Pharmaceutical Analysis" for students in the master's program for training in the specialty Pharmacy with a fully completed study load, certified by the provided study load report showing the candidate's classroom employment of a total of 1,805 hours at a standard of 1,440 hours (360 hours per year) for the last 4 years.

In her capacity as a teacher, Ch. Asst Agova also participated as a co-author in the development of three textbooks on the disciplines she led.

Research activity

Ch. Asst Nadia Agova, PhD participated in the competition with one monographic paper and 23 scientific papers divided into the following sections:

1. Monographic work on the topic: 'Systematic review of the properties and action of nutritional supplements. Safety and Quality', a collective monograph with a separate protocol reflecting the participation of the two co-authors;
2. Publications published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in Scopus and/or Web of Science (WoS) – 6 in number;
3. Publications published in non-refereed journals with scientific review – 17 in number,

The submitted materials correspond to the theme of the announced contest.

According to the summary report on the candidate's participation in scientific forums in Bulgaria and abroad, 38 participations were made, of which 31 in Bulgaria and 7 abroad. 21 of the participations in the country are in the form of an oral presentation.

The scientific contributions in the publications submitted for participation in this competition focus on several interrelated scientific areas as follows:

- development and validation of a rapid, precise and accurate HPLC method. (Article D7-1, D8-1, D8-4, Project FN #17011);
- Development of a software model of mathematical prediction. (Article D8-3, D8-9, Project FN #18018);
- successful identification of the possibilities for metabolic activation of bexarotene, its metabolites and derivatives using theoretical models. (Article D7-2, D8-2, D8-7, D8-9, Project FN #20008, Project with contract #434/2019 - University "Prof. Dr. A. Zlatarov" - Burgas);
- assessment of the radical binding activity and determination of the antioxidant potential of newly synthesized structures. (Article D7-3, D8-10, Project FN #18018);
- Conducting an analysis of the data in the scientific literature (Article D8-2, D8-11, D8-13, D8-14);
- study of the antibacterial activity of a newly synthesized bexrotene derivative. (Article D8-6, Article D7-4, Article D8-8, Article D7-6).
- research on consumer attitudes towards the use of nutritional supplements. (Article G7-5);
- analysis of the data in the scientific literature regarding the risk of liver damage when using nutritional supplements. (Article D8-15)

In addition, the candidate presented Certificate No. 110-211/02.02.2024, which shows her participation in 7 research projects, 6 of which were financed by the "Science" fund of MU-Varna and 1 financed by the Research and Artistic Competition activity, University "Prof. dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

Ch. Asst Agova provides a list of citations covering the minimum requirements for holding the position of associate professor, showing the presence of a total of 6 citations, 2 of which are in publications indexed and referenced in world-renowned databases with scientific information and 4 in non-refereed journals with scientific review.

The presented documents show that the criteria laid down in the requirements of the Regulations for occupying academic positions of the MU - Varna regarding the occupation of the academic position "associated professor" in professional direction 7.3. Pharmacy are fulfilled.

Conclusion

Taking into account the data provided to me about the achievements of the candidate in the competition for the academic position "associate professor" in the specialty "Pharmaceutical Chemistry", I believe that Ch. Assistant Professor Nadia Agova, PhD, meets the necessary criteria for occupying this academic position. Her teaching experience, achieved scientific results and qualifications allow me to give a positive assessment and to recommend the respected Scientific Jury to vote on a proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Pharmacy at the MU "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" city of Varna, ch. Nadia Vasileva Agova, assistant professor, to be elected to the academic position of "associate professor".

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3.06.2024

Associate Professor Yavor Ivanov Mitkov, prof