

**TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY,
DETERMINED BY ORDER No. P-109-224/ 26.07.2024
OF THE RECTOR OF MU - VARNA**

OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Nikolay Dimitrov Dimitrov, PhD,

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Elected as a as a member of the scientific jury

Subject: Competition for two vacancies for the academic position of Associate Professor full-time in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sport", professional field 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" for the needs of the Department of „Anatomy and Cell Biology“, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, according to the order of the Rector of MU - Varna № R-109-224 / 26.07.2024. The competition was announced by MU - Varna in State Gazette, Issue 45 of 28.05.2024.

According to: Order of the Rector of MU – Varna, No. № R-109-224 / 26.07.2024.

Candidates for the announced competition:

Two candidates participate in the competition: **Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Desislava Marinova Marinova, MD, PhD and Chief Assist. Dr. Prof. Meglena Valdemarova Angelova, MD, PhD.**

The required complete set of administrative documents has been submitted for the preparation of the opinion according to the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LADAB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the LADAB and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff at Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna.

I. Analysis of the candidates' career profile.

1. Education and qualification.

The candidate **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD**, completed his higher education, with a master's degree, in the specialty "Medicine" at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University - Varna in 2006. In 2014, **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** after successfully defending his dissertation on the topic "Proliferation and differentiation of progenitor cells in adult primate spinal cord", she was awarded the educational and scientific degree "Doctor of Philosophy". She acquired a specialty in "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" in 2013.

The candidate **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD**, completed his higher education, with a master's degree, in the specialty "Medicine" at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University - Varna in 2003. She acquired a specialty in "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" in 2009. In 2015, **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** after successfully defending his dissertation on the topic "Analysis of progenitor cells during pallium development in human", she was awarded the educational and scientific degree "Doctor of Philosophy".

2. Work experience and specializations.

The candidate **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** has more than 16 years of experience in the Department of „Anatomy and Cell Biology“ of MU - Varna, including more than 8 years as a Chief Assistant Professor. In 2007 after a competitive examination she took the position of Assistant Professor at the Department of „Anatomy and Cell Biology“ of the Medical University - Varna. In 2015 after a competition, the candidate took the Academic position of Chief Assist. Professor. In 2022, the candidate obtained an additional qualification in Digital Skills. **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** is fluent in English.

The candidate **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** has more than 17 years of experience in the Department of „Anatomy and Cell Biology“ of MU - Varna, of which 13 years as Chief Assistant Professor. From 2003 to 2006 she worked as a physician at the Emergency Care Center of Shumen, branch of Novi Pazar Public Hospital. In 2006, after a competitive examination **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** took the position of Assistant Professor at the Department of „Anatomy and Cell Biology“ of MU - Varna. Consecutively the candidate held

the positions of Senior Assist. Professor in 2010 and Chief Assist. Professor in 2011. **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** is fluent in English.

3. Teaching workload and educational activities.

The average hourly workload of lectures and seminars of **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** is over 550 hours per year. She has conducted practical exercises in the discipline "Cytology, General Histology and General Embryology" in Bulgarian and English for first-year students, specialty "Medicine", practical exercises in the discipline "Human Anatomy and Histology" in Bulgarian and English for first- and second-year students, specialty "Medicine" and "Dentistry", practical exercises in the discipline "Human Anatomy" for first-year students, specialty "Pharmacy", lecture course and practical classes in the discipline "Human Anatomy" for first-year Nursing students, MU-Varna, branches Sliven, V. Tarnovo and Shumen, lecture course and practical classes in the discipline "Human Anatomy" for first-year students of the specialty "Dental Technician", preparatory course in Human Anatomy for students of the specialty "Medicine". For the period 2011-2014, **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** was the responsible person for the Cadaver dissection sector of the Department of „Anatomy and Cell Biology“ of MU - Varna.

The average hourly workload of lectures and exercises of **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** is over 550 hours per year. She has conducted practical exercises in the discipline "Human Anatomy and Histology" in Bulgarian and English for first- and second-year students of "Medicine" and "Dentistry", practical exercises in the discipline "Human Anatomy" for first-year students majoring in "Pharmacy", classes in the discipline "Human Anatomy" for first-year students Nursing students, classes in the discipline "Human Anatomy" for first-year students majoring in "Dental Technician".

II. General description of the materials submitted for the competition.

The documentation is complete and accurate, presented in a logical sequence according to the competition requirements.

III. Evaluation of the candidates' scientific publications for the overall academic development.

Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD submitted for participation in the competition - 1 dissertation, 14 full-text articles (9 of them have been published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information and 5 articles have been published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals), 1 monograph (on topic: „Analysis of Proliferative Processes in Mammalian Intact Spinal Cord“), 1 book for students („Human Anatomy Tests for Nursing Students“) и 17 participations in national and international scientific forums. In 4 of the publications **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** is the first author.

Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD submitted for the competition - 1 dissertation, 19 full-text articles (8 of them have been published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information and 11 articles have been published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals), 1 monograph (on topic: „Anatomical features of the human foot“), 1 book for students („Human Anatomy Tests for Nursing Students“), 2 research projects („Expression of some transcription factors in progenitor cells during human pallium development“ and „Foot types in Bulgaria: frequency and clinical correlations in people in the age group 18-64 years“) and 18 participations in national and international scientific forums. In 3 of the publications **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** is the first author.

IV. Evaluation of the scientific publications submitted for participation in the competition.

The presented scientific works and the results of the research work of the **candidate Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** are in the field of neuroanatomy and neurogenesis, anatomical variations, anatomical features of the human foot.

The presented scientific works and the results of the research work of the **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** are in the field of neuroanatomy and neurogenesis, anatomical variations, anatomical features of the human foot, cytology and reproductive health.

Summary: The candidates have the necessary skills to conduct quality scientific research based on the demonstrated scientific output. The scientific papers with which the candidates participates in the competition are written clearly, in a good scientific style and have an actual application in clinical practice.

V. Citation of the candidates' publications.

Candidate **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** has 4 citations of her articles.

Candidate **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** has 4 citations of her articles.

VI. Overall assessment of the candidates compliance with the mandatory conditions and the mandatory quantitative criteria and scientometric indicators according of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LADAB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the LADAB and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff at Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna, for holding the academic position " Associate Professor ".

Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD and Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD meet the general conditions for completed higher education, acquired educational and scientific degree "Doctor of Philosophy" in the scientific specialty "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology", as well as the mandatory quantitative scientometric criteria, which are required for holding an academic position " **Associate Professor** ".

Table: Comparison of the scientometric indicators of **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** and **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** with the mandatory quantitative criteria for holding the academic position " Associate Professor ".

Group of indicators	Content	Mandatory quantitative criteria for occupying the academic position „Assoc. Prof.“ MU-Varna	Quantitative criteria Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Desislava Marinova Marinova, MD, PhD	Quantitative criteria Chief Assist. Prof Dr. Meglena Valdemarova Angelova, MD, PhD
A	Indicator 1	50	50	50
B	Indicator 2	-	-	-
C	Indicators 3 or 4	100	100	100
D	Sum of Indicators 5-9	200 (for NCS ≥ 80)	201.29	209.74
E	Sum of Indicators 10-12	50	60	60
F	Sum of	-		

	Indicators 13-22			
Min. total required sum		400	411.29	419.74

VII. Conclusion. Based on the overall performance of the candidate in the competition, I believe that **Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** and **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD** are quality scientists with valuable scientific output, extensive experience, and high qualifications and **meets the mandatory** and specific conditions and scientometric criteria for the academic position " Associate Professor".

Based on the above and following the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LADAB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the LADAB and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff at Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna. I recommend the respected Scientific Jury **to propose. Dr. Desislava Marinova, MD, PhD** and **Dr. Meglena Angelova, MD, PhD for the selection of the academic position "Associate Professor "** in the scientific specialty in the scientific specialty "Anatomy, Histology and Cytology" **full-time** for the needs of the Department of „Anatomy and Cell Biology“, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna.

Date:15.09.2024

Member of the Scientific Jury:

Заличено на основание чл. 5,
§1, б. „В“ от Регламент (ЕС)
2016/679

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(Assoc. Prof. Nikolay Dimitrov Dimitrov, MD, PhD)