

To the chairman of the Scientific Jury
defined by Order No № P- 109-159 / 14.04.2022
of the Rector of Medical University
“Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” - Varna
Prof. Diana Georgieva Ivanova PhD, DSc.

STATEMENT

From: **assoc. prof Lyuba Dineva Miteva, PhD**
the field of higher education: 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics,
professional field: 4.3. Biological Sciences,
scientific specialty: Molecular biology
Department of Molecular biology, Immunology and medical genetics
Medical Faculty, Trakia University, Stara Zagora, Bulgaria
e-mail: lyuba.miteva@trakia-uni.bg

For: **the competition of the academic position “Associate Professor”**
the field of higher education: 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics,
professional field: 4.3. Biological Sciences,
scientific specialty: Biology
for the needs of the Department of Biology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” - Varna
announced in State Journal, issue 14/18.02.2022

Information about the competition:

The competition was announced for the needs of the Department of Biology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” - Varna in the State Journal, issue 14/18.02.2022. I participate in the scientific jury according to Order № P- 109-159 / 14.04.2022 of the Rector of the Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna. I have been appointed to give a statement on the procedure.

Only one candidate - **Chief Assist. Prof. Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, PhD**, participates in the current competition for the academic position “Associate Professor” in scientific specialty: Biology in Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University – Varna.

The candidate has submitted all necessary documents and has been admitted to participate in it.

As a member of the scientific jury, I declare that I have no common publications, projects, or other conflicts of interest with the candidate in the current competition.

Career development of the candidate:

In 2004, Chief Assist. Prof. **Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, PhD** obtained a Master's degree in Biology from the Faculty of Biology at the University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski”. She has held the positions of "medical laboratory assistant" and "biologist" at clinical diagnostic laboratories at the University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD, Varna. In 2009, she has been elected as an assistant in Biology at the Department of Biology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University (MU) - Varna. In 2016, the candidate acquires a specialty in Medical Biology at MU-Varna, which meets the additional conditions of the announced competition for the acquired

specialty in "Medical Biology". In the period from 2015 to 2018, Chief Assist. Prof. Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, PhD was enrolled as a PhD student in the self-study PhD program in medical biology at the Department of Biology at the Faculty of Pharmacy - MU-Varna. After successfully defending of a PhD thesis titled: "Medical-dermatoglyphic study of finger and palm images in women with breast cancer in Northeastern Bulgaria" she obtained a PhD degree in this scientific specialty. From 2019 to the present, she holds the academic position of "Chief Assistant" at the same department of MU-Varna.

Scientific research activities of the candidate

The candidate has defended in 2018 a PhD thesis entitled "Medical-dermatoglyphic study of finger and palm images in women with breast cancer in Northeastern Bulgaria". Thus, the candidate has the required **50 points in Criteria A**.

According to **Criteria B**, the candidate submitted a monograph published in 2021 in English languages titled: "RECENT ADVANCES IN BREAST CANCER IMMUNOHISTOCHEMISTRY RESEARCH ". Chief Assist. Prof. Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, PhD is a single author of that monograph. The monograph is in a volume of 182 pages with an average of 1800 characters per page, published by Varna Medical University Press with ISBN 978-619-221-367-1. The presented monograph meets the quantitative formal requirements for a monograph set out in the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. The monograph was reviewed by two reviewers, external - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ivan Maslarski, Faculty of Medicine, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and internal - Prof. Dr. Rumen Nenkov, MD, Medical University "Prof. Paraskev Stoyanov" Varna. Both reviews are positive and are attached to the monograph.

The structure of the monograph includes the Introduction, the Main part subdivided into 7 chapters, Conclusions, and References. The monograph summarizes current knowledge of imaging methods and immunohistochemistry technologies applied for the diagnosis of breast cancer and discuss the diagnostic and prognostic value of several immunohistochemistry biomarkers. Topics, which are widely discussed in the scientific community on several scientific forums, including the 33rd European Congress of Pathology, held on 29-31 August 2021. Chapter 7 of the monograph presents and analyzes own data from 128 randomly selected breast cancer patients. The authors have studied immunohistochemistry biomarkers - estrogen (ER) and progesterone receptors (PR), receptor 2 of human epidermal growth factor (HER2), and a proliferation index based on the nuclear Ki-67 antigen.

In accordance with the above, I accept the mandatory minimum requirement of **100 points in criteria B for "Associate Professor" as fulfilled.**

According to **Criteria Г**, the candidate submitted **16 scientific publications** published in Web of Science and/or Scopus referred sources, obtaining **254 points with respect to the document presented by the Library of MU-Varna, which covers the required minimum of 200 points.**

From the presented publications, **1 pc.** is published in the scientific journal *Toxins*, ranked in **Q1**; **2 pcs.** are published in journals ranked in **Q2**, respectively *Genes* and *J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med*; **2 pcs.** in *Open Access Macedonian Journal of Medical Sciences* (**Q3**); **2 pcs.** in *Botanica Serbica* (Q4) and more than 50% of the papers - **9 pcs.** are published in the *Journal of IMAB*. According to the document provided by the Library of MU-Varna the *Journal of IMAB* with ISSN: 1312-773X (Online) was ranked in Q3 which resulted in 15 points per paper. I accept that the report is based on data of the SCImago Journal & Country Rank platform, which ranked the *Journal of IMAB* in Q3 for 2020 with $SJR_{2020} = 0.225$. I would like to note that

in the Scopus, the journal is included for the period 2015-2017 and is currently discontinued. Since, the announcement of the new scientific indicators of the referenced journals for 2021 is expected in June 2022, and the officially issued reference from the Library of MU-Varna №165 is from 07.04.2022, I accept, even with some reservations, that the publications from 2021 and 2022 in the *Journal of IMAB* can also be scored with 15 points each. However, I would like to recommend to the candidate the future publishing activity to focus on more various scientific journals.

The additional requirement according to the rules of MU-Varna for application of the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, more than 60 points to be reached in Г7 has been fulfilled. The candidate is a first author in 5 (31%) scientific publications, the last in 3 (19%), second in 3 (19%) and in 5 (31%) is third and subsequent. Another 21 publications in other scientific journals and collections, as well as 8 participations in national scientific forums, were presented by the candidate.

The candidate meets the minimum requirement of 50 points in the Criteria Д for the academic position "Associate Professor". The document provided by the Library of MU-Varna includes 26 citations in Web of Science and/or Scopus sources, **equal to 52 points**. It is noteworthy that only 3 (11.5%) of the presented citations are made by foreign research teams, which probably points to the local significance of the candidate's researches. Respectively, I would like to make a recommendation for focusing the candidate's research interests and publishing activities in more world-significant scientific topics. Since the candidate summarized her research interests in 9 main fields, I assume that it is appropriate to prioritize her future scientific work on fewer fields.

Teaching activities of the candidate:

Chief Assist. Prof. Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, Ph.D. has 13 years of total teaching experience at the Department of Biology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University, Varna, where she successively holds consequently academic position "Assistant professor" and "Chief Assistant professor". **Her annual workload varies from 466 to 525 academic hours for the last 5 years.**

Chief Assist. Prof. Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, Ph.D. has conducted practical classes in the discipline "Biology" for the specialties "Pharmacist" and "Assistant Pharmacist", as well as in the discipline "Human Biology" for the specialties "Medicine" and "Dental Medicine" in Bulgarian and English languages. The candidate has also conducted selected lecture (average 44 hours per year). She is involved in the development of practical classes and lectures in Biology for specialties "Pharmacy" and "Assistant Pharmacist", in the development of test combinations for the written exam in the BLACKBOARD system and is a co-author in 3 textbooks - Collections of tests for the entrance exam in Biology.

Conclusion:

Based on the materials and documents presented to me for the statement, I consider that the research activities of Chief Assist. Prof. Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, Ph.D. fully correspond to the profile of the announced competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Biology". Chief Assist. Prof. Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, Ph.D. fulfills the required indicators for the academic position "Associate Professor" according to the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for its application and the Rules for development of the academic staff at the Medical University, Varna. She has significant teaching experience and the potential to contribute to further scientific and educational activities of the Department.

In conclusion, I give my **positive vote and recommend Chief Assist. Prof. Galina Aleksieva Yaneva, Ph.D. to be awarded the academic position “Associate Professor”** in the scientific specialty “Biology”, professional field 4.3. Biological Sciences, the field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics, and informatics, for the needs of the Department of Biology, Faculty “Pharmacy” Medical University, Varna.

14 June 2022
Stara Zagora

Prepared the statement:
/assoc. prof Lyuba Miteva, PhD/

