

## **OPINION**

by

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### **Regarding**

the application for the academic position of Associate Professor, announced in the State Gazette, issue 14/ 18.02.2022, Area of Higher Education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, Professional Field 4.2 Chemical Sciences, scientific specialty: Chemistry for the needs of the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University "Paraskev Stoyanov" of Varna.

By order № № P-109-168/14.04.2022 signed by the Rector of Medical University of Varna I'm appointed as a member of the scientific jury. At its first meeting on 27.04.2022 I was chosen to write an opinion.

Sen. Lect. Katya Peycheva, PhD is the sole applicant for the academic position of Associate Professor announced in the State Gazette, issue 14/ 18.02.2022. I have received electronically and as hard copy all materials for the competition.

### **Brief Biographical Data**

Katya Peycheva, PhD was awarded a Bachelor Degree in 2005, specialty Analytical Chemistry in Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at Sofia University. In 2007 Dr. Peycheva was awarded 2 Master Degrees at Sofia University: Teacher of Chemistry, and Advanced Spectral Chromatographic Methods of Analysis. In 2016 she was awarded with a Doctoral Degree Specialty "Bioorganic Chemistry, Chemistry of Naturally and Physiologically Active Compounds" at Medical University of Varna. Since 2008 she is part of the academic staff of the Department of Chemistry, at the Faculty of Pharmacy, at Medical University of Varna, first as Assistant (2008-2018), and since 2018 Dr. Katya Peycheva is a Chief Assistant at the Department of Chemistry.

### **Teaching Activities**

The total teaching experience of Dr. Peycheva exceeds 14 years. The submitted reference shows that the teaching activities of Chief Assistant Katya Peycheva exceed the teaching workload at Medical University of Varna per academic year. For example, last year (2020-2021 г.) her teaching workload was of 552 hours.

Sen. Lect., Katya Peycheva PhD delivers lectures, laboratory practices and seminars to Bachelor Degree Students in: Chemistry, General and inorganic chemistry, Physical And colloid chemistry, Chemistry and environment in Bulgarian and English education forms for students in 3 specialties: Medicine, Dental medicine and Pharmacy.

According to the application documents Dr. Peycheva developed 3 new teaching programs for Chemistry and General and inorganic chemistry for Students in Medicine, Dental medicine and Pharmacy.

### **Scientific Activities**

The scientific interests of Sen. Lect. Dr. Katya Peycheva are in the fields of 3 directions: 1) Safety Black sea fishes and mollusks; 2) Composition and biological activity of sea – type and freshwater organisms and mollusks; and 3) Estimation of risks at consumption of Black sea mollusks. The major topic in scientific papers of candidate is characterization of sea – type and freshwater organisms, focusing on content of toxic pollutants, such as some heavy metals (Cd, Mn, Fe, Cu and Pb)

It should be noted that all application documents, incl. all scientific works of candidate strictly correspond to the academic position of Associate Professor at Medical University of Varna and announced in the State Gazette, issue 14/18.02.2022.

The application folder of candidate includes:

- 1 single author monograph;
- 12 Publications in scientific journals indexed in Scopus and /or Web of Science;
- 27 Publications in scientific journals not-indexed in Scopus and /or Web of Science;
- 39 participations in scientific forums;
- 119 citations according to Scopus
- 8 participations in a research teams as a principal investigator, investigator or as expert in scientific or education projects, which are in the area of competition

### **Meeting the Minimum National Requirement**

The set of materials submitted by Dr. Katya Peycheva is in compliance with The Regulation on the Terms and Procedure for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and the Habilitation Procedure at Medical University of Varna and includes all administrative and scientific documents required.

**Group A** Indicators presents the applicant's PhD dissertation on "Determination of content of toxic chemical elements in the system water –biota- sediments “– Varna, 2017, 165 pages (**50 points**)

In **Group B** a monograph is presented: Peycheva K., 2021 „Toxic and essential elements in Black sea fishes. ....“ – Varna, 2021, Medical University of Varna, 133 pages, ISBN 978-619-221-356-5– **100 p.**

In **Group Г** Sen. Lect. Katya Peycheva, PhD submits for the completion a total list of 12 publications (Web of Science / Scopus, SJR). It should be noted that all of these publications strictly correspond to the academic position of Associate Professor at Medical University of Varna and announced in the State Gazette, issue 14/18.02.2022.

According to the regulations procedures in professional field 4.2 Chemical sciences involve quartiles Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4 according to the metrics SJR. In this regard Dr. Katya Peycheva, submitted 2 publications Q1 (50 p.); 4 publ. Q2 (80 p.), 1 publ. Q3 (15 p.), and 5 publ. Q4 (60p.) – (total **205 p.**).

**Group Д** consists of 33 citations presented in Web of Science and Scopus- **66 points.**

**Total Number of Points = 421** (see the Table below).

Group Indicators	Minimal National Requirements	Total points achieved by candidate Katya Peycheva, PhD
A	50	50
Б	0	0
B	100	100
Г	200	205
Д	50	66
<b>Total Number of Points</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>421</b>

According to the analysis of the results the minimum number of points in each group of indicators required for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional field 4.2 Chemical Sciences, according to the Minimal National Requirements, and Regulations for the development of the academic staff of Medical University of Varna are met.

## CONCLUSION

Once I have read the materials and scientific publications submitted and have made an analysis of their significance and the scientific contributions contained in them, I think that the sole candidate: Sen. Lect. Katya Peycheva, Ph.D. has accomplished all the minimal national requirements set in the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, and all other relative normative documents. I find it worthwhile **to give my positive assessment** and to recommend to the Scientific Jury to make a report to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Pharmacy to ask them to grant the academic rank **Associate Professor to Sen. Lect. Katya Peycheva, Ph.D.** at Medical University of Varna in the Area of Higher Education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, Professional Field 4.2 Chemical Sciences (Chemistry).

17.05.2022

Scientific Jury Member:

(Prof. Christomir Christov, DSci)

