

## TO THE RECTOR OF MU-VARNA

### STATEMENT

By assoc. prof. Anelia Veselinova Bivolarska, MD, PhD

Head of the Department of Medical Biochemistry at MU-Plovdiv with a specialty in "Medical Biochemistry"

On the application for academic position "Associate professor" in the specialty "Biochemistry", Field of Higher Education: 4. "Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics", Professional field: 4.3. "Biological Sciences", based on the needs of the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Medicine and Nutrigenomics, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna

#### GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROSEDURE

The application for academic position "Associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Biochemistry" at the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Medicine and Nutrigenomics, Medical University-Varna is announced in DV, issue 59/26.07.2022. One candidate from the same department participated and was admitted in the competition – chief asst. prof. Oscan Bahidinov Tasinov, PhD.

The documents submitted by the candidate regarding the competition comply with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna.

#### EVALUATION OF THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT OF THE CANDIDATE

Chief. asst. prof. Tasinov completed his bachelor's degree in Molecular Biology in the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in 2009 and a master's degree in Molecular biology and biotechnologies in the Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" in 2011. In 2015, he defended his dissertation for education-qualification degree "PhD" on: "Study of antioxidant, antiobesity and antidiabetic action of *Sambucus ebulus* fruit extracts in vitro and in vivo".

After successfully passing a competition in 2010, Oscan Tasinov was recruited as an asst. prof. at the respective department and he has been working there ever since. He has been a chief asst. prof. since 2016. He teaches biochemistry to students in the specialties "Medicine", "Dental medicine" and "Pharmacy" in Bulgarian and English language, as well as a freely

chosen discipline to students in different specialties. In 2016 he obtained a specialty in "Biochemistry". His participation in various courses and specializations in Bulgaria and abroad is a determinant of his upward professional development and thrive to expand his knowledge in the science of biochemistry.

## EVALUATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Chief asst. prof. Tasinov has presented 17 scientific papers in the competition, out of which:

- Total number of publications in the referenced and indexed data bases *Web of Science* and *Scopus* – 13. Total number of points out of the publications presented in the reference for the implementation of the minimum national requirements for the academic position "Associate professor" (Indicator D7) is 209, with a minimum of 200 points required. The total IF of the journals with which the candidate has published is 22.746.
- In addition to the minimum scientometric requirements, chief asst. prof. Oskan Tasinov has presented 2 more full-text publications in scientific journals.
- A monograph entitled "Molecular mechanisms of the immunomodulatory action – a base for the prophylactic and therapeutic potential of *Sambucus ebulus* L" has also been presented. This scientific paper is a logical continuation of the candidate's interest towards the respective plant after his successful PhD defense. The contemporary scientific studies on the phytochemical contents and biological activity of isolates and products obtained from different parts of the danewort are presented in detail. Literature and personal data of the candidate explain on a molecular level how main signal pathways are influenced which is related to the biological effects of the danewort. The minimum mandatory requirements of 100 points according to Indicator B3 are fulfilled.

A reference for 25 positive citations in world famous data bases has been presented, that covers the minimum requirements for the academic position "Associate professor" (50 points of indicator D).

Chief asst. prof. Tasinov has an impressive participation with posters and reports in 57 scientific forums, of which 45 – international. Just as impressive is his list of participations in research projects – 19 in total, out of which 16 are funded by Bulgarian sources and 3 – by sources outside of the country. In one of these projects chief asst. prof. Tasinov was a scientific supervisor.

The distribution of the candidate's work divides into two scientific areas – biological and medicinal science. The main directions and achievements in the scientific studies of the candidate are in accordance with two of the five main scientific directions of priority positioned in the strategi for the development of scientific studies of Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna. These are:

### 1. Foods and nutrition

- Evaluation of the biological effects of medicinal plants in intervention studies and cell-culture model systems.

- Study of the biological effects of water and supplements that contain micro- and macroelements and their salts in intervention studies and cell-culture model systems.

2. Oncology – study of predictive and prognostic-diagnostic biomarkers in colorectal carcinoma.

## **EVALUATION OF THE EDUCATIONAL AND TEACHING ACTIVITY**

From the reference attached by MU-Varna it is evident that the annual academic workload of chief asst. prof. Tasinov for the period 2017-2021 ranges from 362 to 433 hours and exceeds the minimum of 360 hours for an assistant professor at a department with no clinical activity. It is mainly related to lessons and exams for students in Bulgarian and English language, in different specialties of MU-Varna as well as the conduction of freely chosen disciplines.

The candidate has 12,5 years teaching experience in the specialty.

He has presented 4 diplomas for his scientific achievements.

## **CONCLUSION**

The presented by chief asst. prof. Oskan Bahidinov Tasinov, PhD materials regarding the announced procedure comply with the minimum national requirements for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor" of LDASRB and the additional requirements, according to the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Medical University – Varna. The scientific publications and established citations are sufficient in number and quality. The presence of in-depth and systematized production over the years accompanied with scientific and educational contributions in the field of Biochemistry show that chief asst. prof. Tasinov is a fully accomplished professional biochemist, teacher and scientific worker with serious competences and practical skills and ability to work both independently as well as in a team.

I am fully convinced in his successful future realization as an Associate professor at the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Medicine and Nutrigenomics of Medical University - Varna

In conclusion, I give my POSITIVE assessment and propose that the respected scientific jury awarded chief asst. prof. Tasinov with the academic position "Associate professor" in scientific specialty "Biochemistry", Professional field: 4.3. "Biological Sciences", Field of Higher Education: 4. "Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics".

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