

**To
Chairman of the Scientific Jury
Determined by Order № P-109-158/14.4.22
Of the Rector of MU - Varna**

Concerning Protocol: № 63/от 5.4.2022 г.
Order № P-109-427/19.4.2022 from a meeting of the SJ

Applied I present: Statement

on the competition for the academic position “Associate Professor” in the scientific field: “Forensic psychiatry”, professional field 7.1. Health and Sports, for the needs of the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology at the Faculty of Medicine at the Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” and First Psychiatric Clinic at the University Hospital “St. Marina” - Varna, announced in the SN, issue 14 / 18.02.2022.

Statement prepared by: prof. Dobrinka Demireva Radoinova, MD

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A single applicant is involved in the competition: **dr. Adelina Boyanova Dzhordzhanova, MD** at MU – Varna, Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology at the faculty of Medicine at Medical university “Prof. dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” and First psychiatric clinic at UMHAT “St. Marina” – Varna.

The full set of administrative documents is presented in accordance with the requirements of the LDASRB and the Regulation for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" of the rulebook of MU-Varna, they are described in the application of the candidate to the Rector of MU – Varna.

I. Analysis of the career profile of the candidate

1. Education and qualification

From the documentation it is established that the candidate dr. Adelina Dzhordzhanova meets the requirements for the competition: she has a university degree in medicine (diploma № 005073 from MU - Varna 1988/1995), a certificate for an acquired specialty in psychiatry (diploma № 009874/20.06.2005 from MU - Varna) and in forensic psychiatry (diploma № 016159/30.06.2011 from MU - Varna); a defended dissertation for the ESD “Doctor” in the scientific field: Psychiatry (forensic psychiatry) (diploma № 151/20/05/2016 from MU - Varna) at the Department of “Psychiatry and medical psychology” at MU – Varna.

2. Work experience

Dr. Dzhordzhanova has a total professional work experience /up until 16.03.22/ - 16 years, 8 months and 26 days, and teaching experience up to the same date: 2 school years as a part-time lecturer, and 4 years and 5 months as a chief assistant.

3. Workload and teaching activity

From the reference regarding the workload, it is noted that for the presented 2 school years /2011-2012 and 2016-2017/ the total workload is 61 hours. The workload during the school year

2017/2018 is 232 hours, during 2018/2019 – 268 hours, during 2019/2020 – 231 and for 2020/2021 – 197 hours. The standard workload for non-habilitated lecturers is 220 hours.

4. Administrative-academic activity

Dr. Adelina Dzhordzhanova has worked as a part-time lecturer and as a chief assistant. As a part-time lecturer during the school years 2011-2012 and 2016-2017 she has taught students in 5th year psychiatry at the Department of Psychiatry and Medical Psychology. As chief assistant at the same Department at MU-Varna she has taught during the years 2017/2022 students of medicine, dental medicine, and at the medical college psychiatry and medical psychology. During the time period 2013-2016 she is a doctoral student of independent study at the same department on the topic: “Analysis of the forensic psychiatric and forensic psychological expertise in the civil process according to the inventory of District Court - Varna, for the time period from 2007 to 2012”.

II. Complete description of the presented materials for the competition

The presented documents are complete and well-structured in a logical sequence as per the competition's requirements. The monography, articles, textbook are numbered separately from the presentations at congresses and conferences. The materials for her competition for AD "Associate Professor" are also given separately.

III. Evaluation of the scientific work of the candidate for the entirety of her academic development

For this competition dr. Dzhordzhanova has presented a total of 12 scientific studies, of which a dissertation, monography (habilitation work), two publications in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world known databases with scientific information, and seven – in journals with scientific reviewing, not referenced in world known databases with scientific information. Besides the forementioned in the evidence material for meeting the minimal requirements for the AP “Associate Professor”, the candidate presents one full text publication. Dr. Dzhordzhanova also participates in a textbook on psychiatry, published by MU-Varna, in the section on Forensic psychiatry. She also includes presentations in congresses and conferences (three abroad).

1. Full characteristic of scientific production and publication activity

Dr. A. Dzhordzhanova has presented sufficient scientific production:

- on criterion G, indicator 7 she is the first author in one publication and in the second – second author;
- on indicator 8 she is the first author of 4 publications out of a total of 6;
- her monography “Forensic psychiatric expertise in the civil process” is a contemporary view and overview of this important problem. The bibliography includes 156 bibliographic sources and is illustrated with 17 graphics.
- her dissertation “Analysis of the forensic psychiatric and forensic psychological expertise in the civil process according to the inventory of District Court - Varna, for the time period from 2007 to 2012” has been evaluated well enough by the NJ.

2. Scientific activity – distribution and application of the scientific and practical achievements of the candidate amongst the scientific community

According to the presented reference, dr. Dzhordzhanova has 11 citations, which amount to 70 points, wherein the minimal national requirement for this indicator is 50 points.

3. Participation in the execution and management of projects

Dr. Dzhordzhanova has participated as a researcher-expert in the research team on project № 15020, according to contract №ФМН-79/21.12.2015r. for a period of three years for MU-Varna on

the topic: “Study of the effectiveness of transcranial magnetic stimulation for influencing cognitive impairment in depressive episodes within recurrent depressive disorder and bipolar affective disorder”, funded by MU-Varna’s fund “Science”.

4. Scientific creative achievements (scientific authority) (additional indicators): research activity – membership in organizations, editorial boards, juries, awards, reviews.

According to the presented reference, dr. Dzhordzhanova has scientific theoretic contributions in the following scientific fields: • forensic psychiatry; • researches in the field of psychology.

The candidate has participated in the organizational committee of an international conference, for which she has received a letter of gratitude.

From 2005 to 2019 she worked as an expert to District court – Varna: she has prepared numerous expertises both independently, as well as complex, combined, etc. expertises.

5. Medical-diagnostic activity

The candidate, dr. Dzhordzhanova, since 2011 to the present moment has been working as a forensic psychiatrist at First psychiatric clinic at UMHAT “St. Marina” – Varna. Since 2017 she has been administrative head at the same clinic. Since 2017 she has been a chief assistant on psychiatry at the Department of psychiatry and medical psychology at MU – Varna.

IV. Evaluation of the publications, presented for participation in the competition

For the competition dr. Dzhordzhanova has presented scientific publications, which do not duplicate the ones submitted for the acquisition of ESD "Doctor". They are as follows: other than the dissertation, one monographic work (“Forensic psychiatric expertise in the civil process”); 2 full text publications in referenced journals, 7 full text publications in non-referenced journals; a section in a textbook on psychiatry and 9 participations in scientific forums – national and international.

1. Evaluation of the scientific papers with contributions in the field of forensic psychiatry

In her dissertation dr. Dzhordzhanova has done a comprehensive analysis of the forensic psychiatric and psychological expertises in the civil process, referring to the legal laws, the family and the civil procedure codex. 327 certified persons with consequent court decisions are examined for a total period of five years. Her dissertation analyses the problems in the unaccepted forensic psychiatric expertises (FPE) and the causes, leading to that. The results prove that only 8.25 % of the examined expertises meet the criteria of the Ordinance on the preparation of forensic psychiatric expertises. The necessity for the preparation and adoption of a Standard for the structure of forensic psychiatric expertises, according to which they should be prepared, is proven.

The monography is a continuation of the dissertation with a volume of 333 pages, illustrated with 18 figures. The used literature includes 156 sources. This work is an in-depth continuation of the candidate’s long-time work in the field of FPE in the civil process. In it dr. Dzhordzhanova does an analysis on undeveloped or poorly researched problems of the FPE in the civil process, which are also important for legal theory. The rich forensic practice included, a result of her personal expert experience, is important. Therefore, the monography could be a guide for young professionals in the preparation of FPE.

The aim of the article „Special features of the outpatient forensic psychiatric examination in civil proceedings according to the Varna district court docket for the period 2007-2012” is to consider the specific features of the outpatient expertise and the difficulties in the preparation of postmortem forensic psychiatric expertises in the civil process. That is especially complicated due to the absence of the object of evaluation and the conclusion is based on evidence on the case. In

numerous cases another common difficulty in postmortem psychiatric expertise is the absence of medical documentation. The objectification of the status of the examined person during the conduction of a civil act in such circumstances is significantly complicated. The issue of the creation of a national electronic database, providing timely and reliable access during the preparation of documents of expert importance, is presented.

In the article „Expert assessment of a male suffering mixed sensory and motor aphasia when entering into an agreement” a case is presented on a civil case of a man, suffering from sensory and motor aphasia at the time of transferring his ownership of real estate with a contract sale

In the paper “Evaluation of the expertises and decisions in various areas of civil law” are analyzed the tasks, which lie before the experts for a primary and second FPE. Whereas for a primary FPE the restriction of civil rights is mainly examined, for the second FPE other tasks are set concerning the capability of individuals to manage their personal affairs. The absence of clear clinical criteria for incapacity for the various mental disorders oftentimes leads to incorrect forensic psychiatric conclusions, on which the fate of the certified, and their family, might depend. In the interest of preserving the decision of the testator and the rights of the heirs, the law may regulate the preparation of forensic psychiatric, forensic psychological or complex consultations before the preparation of wills, donations and transactions.

In the article “Diagnostic evaluations leading to the admittance of incapacity or limited capacity and their relationship to the parameters of FPE and expert evaluation” are analyzed the diagnostic assessments up to the acceptance of incapacity or limited capacity and their relationship to the parameters of FPE. Object of the research are 327 persons, certified on civil cases with consequent court decisions by District court – Varna for a period of 5 years. Regarding the definition of the criterion “incapacity” in psychiatric diagnoses the following symptoms and syndromes are mostly encountered: disorders of thought, hallucinations and delusional interpretations of reality, affective disorders with predominance of disturbed emotions, disorders of orientation for the self and situations, disorders of attention and memory, heavy disorders of the self, qualitative and quantitative disorders of awareness, lack of insight, negative symptoms, parathymia and parabulia.

In the article “Historical development of forensic psychiatry in Bulgaria” an overview of the historic development of forensic psychiatry in Bulgaria from the ancient Thracians to present day is presented.

In the article „Schizophrenic disorders in forensic psychiatric expertise in civil process” are examined 99 persons with schizophrenic disorders, which have been objects of expertises in civil cases. Analyses prove that the influence of subjectivity on the results of psychiatric assessments is significant, and one of the ways to overcome it is to raise of objectivity through the application of standardized procedures.

In the article “Organic psychiatric disorders in FPE in the civil process” are studied 84 persons with organic mental disorders with subsequent court decisions by District court – Varna, wherein an attempt is made at an interconnection between organic mental disorders and the ruled court decisions.

2. Evaluation of the scientific papers with contributions in the field of psychology

Two publications are included here which focus on psychological assessment of healthy individuals and persons with cognitive impairments in the Bentan test. The relationship between

some demographic factors, the condition of the total cognitive capacity and the test score is considered.

3. Evaluation of the scientific papers with scientific and practical contributions

The following may be noted:

- forensic psychiatric expertise in civil proceedings has not been comprehensively studied, and this is a testament to the importance and relevance of the presented dissertation and monograph;
- a proposal for the preparation of a Standard for structure of FPE in order to improve its quality, which reflects on the judiciary: reducing the time for issuing court decisions and the cost of follow-up examinations;
- an idea for the creation of a national electronic database with quick and reliable access for the preparation of documents with expert importance;
- in the interest of preserving the decision of the testator and the rights of the heirs, the preparation of forensic psychiatric, forensic psychological or complex consultations may be legally regulated before the preparation of wills, donations and transactions..

V. Reflections (citation) of the candidate's publications in national and foreign literature (publication image)

For the competition dr. A. Dzhordzhanova presents 11 citations in referenced journals. That is still a weak “publication image”, which could be explained by the fact that citations require “technological time” for familiarization with and evaluation of the published materials.

VI. Comprehensive quality assessment of teaching and professional activity

During her short work experience dr. Dzhordzhanova has shown good professional, scientific and teaching qualities.

VII. Critical notes and recommendations

I know the candidate personally and I can say that she started scientific work later, but with hard work and perseverance she copes with her combined duties: to be three in one – an expert to the court, a teacher /assistant/ and a clinician. As a recommendation, I advise dr. Dzhordzhanova to continue delving in the depths of civil FPE in unison with the challenges of our time.

VIII. Overall assessment of the applicant's compliance with the mandatory conditions and the mandatory quantitative criteria and scientometric indicators in accordance to the Regulations for holding academic positions at MU-Varna in Section IV “*Holding an academic position “Associate Professor” at MU – Varna*” and “*Appendix №1*” the rules for the development of the academic staff of MU-Varna.

Dr. Adelina Dzhordzhanova meets all of the requirements for a university degree in medicine, two acquired specialties (in psychiatry and in forensic psychiatry), a defended ESD “Doctor” in the scientific field: Psychiatry (forensic psychiatry), as well as the mandatory quantitative scientometric criteria, which are required for the AP “Associate Professor”.

Out of the normatively required 200 points, she has collected 225 points, thus fulfilling the scientometric indicators.

IX. Conclusion

After getting acquainted with the presented materials, I have done a complete assessment of the applicant in the competition for the academic position „**Associate Professor**” in the scientific field **Forensic psychiatry** and I reckon that the candidate **dr. Adelina Boyanova Dzhordzhanova, MD** exceeds the requirements of the LDASRB and the Rules for the development of the academic

staff of MU-Varna and fully **meets** the criteria for the academic position „**Associate Professor**” at Medical University - Varna.

X. Proposal for the position

In accordance to the mandatory scientometric criteria in a quantitative and qualitative aspect, and in compliance to the requirements of the LDASRB and the Regulation for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" of the rulebook of MU-Varna, I offer my positive assessment and invite the other members of the esteemed Scientific Jury to vote for the award of the AP “Associate Professor” to **dr. Adelina Boyanova Dzhordzhanova, MD**. She can be proposed to the Scientific Council for election and to the Academic Council of MU-Varna for approval for the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in the scientific specialty: **Forensic psychiatry**.

3.6.2022

Statement prepared by:

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