

STATEMENT

by Prof. Dobri Lazarov Ivanov, PhD
Department of Biology, Faculty of Pharmacy
Medical University "Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov" - Varna,
member of the Scientific Jury, according to Order No R-109-517 of 30.11.2023
issued by the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov", Varna

Regarding: competition for the acquiring of an academic position "Associate Professor" in the area of higher education 7. Public health and sports, professional field 7.4 Public health, scientific specialty " Public Health Management (Medical Biology)", for the needs of the Department of "Biology" at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the Medical University - Varna, announced in State Gazette No. 83/03.10.2023

1. Brief information about the procedure

Based on the decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Pharmacy (Protocol No. 63/10.10.2023) and the order of the Rector of the Medical University - Varna (No. R-109-517 of 30.11.2023), I have been elected a member of the scientific jury, and by protocol No. 1/14.12.2023, I have been appointed to prepare a statement on the procedure for acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor" for the needs of the Department of "Biology" at the Medical University of Varna, in the area of higher education 7. Public health and sports, professional field 7.4 Public health, scientific specialty "Public Health Management (Medical Biology)".

The only candidate in the competition is chief assistant professor Tsonka Slavova Dimitrova, PhD. The applicant has submitted all relevant documents in accordance with the requirements of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, its implementing Regulations and the Rules for Development of Academic Staff of Medical University of Varna.

2. Brief information about the applicant

Assistant professor Tsonka Slavova Dimitrova graduated from Plovdiv University 'Paisii Hilendarski' in 2000 with master's degree in biology. From 2001 to 2010, she works as biologist at the Immunohistochemical Laboratory in the Clinic for General and Clinical Pathology at St. Marina University Hospital of Varna.

Since 2010, she has been appointed for an assistant professor in biology, and since 2022, after defending a doctoral thesis 'Investigations and screening methods for early diagnosis of

patients with gastrointestinal disorders as a result of mushroom consumption' in the scientific specialty "Medical biology", she won a competition for a chief assistant professor. He has acquired a medical specialty "Medical biology".

3. Educational and teaching activity

Chief assistant professor Dimitrova has a teaching experience of 13 years and 7 months. She conducts biology classes in Bulgarian languages for students of the specialties of 'Master pharmacist' and 'Assistant pharmacist' and in the discipline of 'Human Biology' of the specialties of 'Medicine' and 'Dental medicine'. The average annual classroom load of chief assistant professor Dimitrova for the last 5 years is more than 550 hours and exceeds the requirements of 360 hours for the position. She is the co-author of five task books for students published by a team from the department.

4. Presented scientific production and scientometric data

Chief assistant professor Dimitrova participated in the competition with 23 articles, of which:

A1 - Dissertation thesis - 1 pc. – 50 pts.

B4 - Habilitation work or substitute publications - 10 pcs. – 187.3 pts.

G7 - Publications and reports published in scientific editions, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 2 pts.

G8 - Publications and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes - 10 items.

TOTAL (indicators G5-9) mandatory minimum – 200 points - 228.9 points.

D10 - Citations or reviews in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes - 4 items. – 60 points.

Full-text publications in scientific journals and anthologies, beyond the minimum scientometric requirements for holding the position of associate professor - 1 item. – 4.3 pts.

Twelve publications are referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific information databases (Web of Science and Scopus).

Chief assistant professor Dimitrova also indicates 12 participations (with reports and posters) in national scientific forums.

The analysis of the publication activity of Chief assistant professor Dimitrova shows that she fully complies with all the scientometric indicators of the normative requirements for acquiring the academic position "Associate Professor", according to the Regulations of the Medical University-Varna for the implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria.

5. Evaluation of scientific activity and scientific contributions

The main directions of the scientific activity of Chief assistant professor Dimitrova are related to the study of:

Knowledge of wild mushrooms and their use, analyzed within the framework of surveys among the elderly population in the Varna region, taking into account the differences between the respondents in terms of place of residence and their educational level

Dermatoglyphics and immunohistochemistry of breast cancer in relation to the individual quality of life of patients with this socially significant disease;

Triple and quadruple negative breast cancer

Behaviour of blastocysts after vitrification during in vitro fertilization

Antimicrobial effectiveness of the biologically active glass

The research activity of Chief assistant professor Dimitrova, in the field of breast cancer dermatoglyphics is reflected in four publications, that of the immunohistochemistry of breast cancer and of the triple and quadruple negative breast cancer in two publications each, and that of patients' quality of life in one article. A series of statistically significant differences in terms of the dermatoglyphic dactiloscopic and palmoscopic characteristics between women with breast cancer and healthy controls are proved which could help the performance of a rapid, cheap, and reliable early screening of the disease. The diagnostic value of the traditional immunohistochemical examinations in the female patients with this disease is studied.

The scientific work of Chief assistant professor Dimitrova is the result of effective collaboration within the framework of interdisciplinary teams of botanists, biologists, anatomists and gynecologists.

Chief assistant professor Dimitrova, PhD, has active and regularly updated profiles in the scientific databases Google Scholar, SCOPUS Author ID and ORCID.

6. Conclusion

Based on the materials submitted for the competition from chief assistant professor Dimitrova, I am convinced that she fully meets the requirements of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, its implementing Regulations and the Rules for Development of Academic Staff of Medical University of Varna for acquiring an academic position "Associate Professor". Chief Assistant Professor Tsonka Slavova Dimitrova is a very well prepared specialist and teacher, and I strongly recommend to the scientific jury to award her the academic position "Associate Professor" in the area of higher education 7. Public health and sports, professional field 7.4 Public health, scientific specialty "Public Health Management (Medical Biology)", for the needs of the Department of "Biology" at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the Medical University - Varna.

16.02.2024

City of Varna

Member of the scientific jury:

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

(Prof. Dobri Lazarov Ivanov, PhD)