



STATEMENT

About: academic position "Associate Professor, Field of Higher Education: 6. Agricultural science and veterinary medicine, Professional Field: 6.1. Plant growing, Scientific Specialty "Soil science", announced by the Agricultural University - Plovdiv in the State Gazette vol. 7/23.01.2024.

Applicant for the competition: Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Mladen Pavlov Almaliev

Prepared by: Prof. Dr. Alexander Matev from IPGR-Sadovo, Field of Higher Education: 6. Agricultural science and veterinary medicine, Professional Field: 6.1. Plant growing, Scientific Specialty "Melioration", determined a member of the scientific jury, according to Order №RD-16-407/20.03.2024 of the Rector of the Agricultural University, Plovdiv.

Brief presentation of the applicant

Mladen Pavlov Almaliev graduated from Agricultural College - Plovdiv with a major in Farming. Subsequently, in 2008, he obtained a bachelor's degree at AU - Plovdiv, majoring in Viticulture and Horticulture, after which he continued his education and in 2010 received a master's degree in "Tourism Management". In 2014, after successfully defending a dissertation on the topic: *Agrochemical evaluation of some genotypes of durum wheat*, the candidate received the PhD degree and started working as a chief assistant in the Department of Soil Science and Agrochemistry at AU - Plovdiv. According to the information presented, he also knows and uses the English language perfectly.

General description of the scientific production

In the competition for "docent" Dr. Mladen Almaliev presented his entire scientific production as follows:

- * *Publications related to the PhD Thesis* – 8, not subject to review. The candidate has submitted a monographic work based on his dissertation, which earns him 40 points.
- * *Publications in refereed indexed publications in world renowned databases with scientific information* – 10 issues (indicator B3). The total number of points for the evaluation of that category of publications is 139,5 (100 points required), i.e. exceeding the minimum required for taking the academic position of Associate Professor in the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, in the Regulations for Application of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and the Regulations of the Agricultural University. Additionally, two of the cited publications are in journals that have an IF.
- * *Papers and reports submitted in referenced and indexed issues in the world-famous scientific information databases* – 14 issues. *Publications in non-refereed peer-reviewed scientific journals or published in peer-reviewed collective volumes* – 21 issues. Thus, in this section, Dr. Almaliev has a total of 203 points, which fully fulfills the requirements, since the minimum norm is 200 points.

The candidate participated in a total of 15 international scientific conferences outside the country, delivering 1 report and presenting 14 posters. In international conferences organized by Bulgarian scientific institutions, there were a total of 18 participations, one of which was through a report. All this contributes significantly to the formation and confirmation of Dr. Almaliev as a scientist in the field of soil science and in plant breeding in general.

Dr. Mladen Almaliev published his scientific work in the following Bulgarian and foreign journals:

Agricultural Science and Technology (3 articles), *Scientific papers series A. Agronomy-University of Agronomic Science and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest Faculty of Agriculture* (14 articles), *KNOWLEDGE International Journal Scientific papers* (2 articles), *Bulgarian Journal of Agricultural Science* (1 article), *Agronomy Research* (1 article) etc..

Teaching activity

Mladen Almaliev, has over 9 years of teaching experience in the Department of Agrochemistry and Soil Science at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv. During this period, he gave lectures and exercises to students in the discipline of soil science. According to the attached report, in the last five years (2018-2023), Dr. Almaliev has performed a total of 2,890 hours equated in exercises. Thus, he significantly exceeds the educational workload of the teaching staff foreseen for AU - Plovdiv. Together with the teaching activity, he has successfully trained 7 graduates, and another 5 are awaiting defense.

Research activity

Areas of publication

Regarding science, ch. Associate Professor Mladen Almaliev has clearly defined interests as follows:

- Establishing the suitability of areas for creating and growing perennial crops
- Studies related to establishing the acidity of the soil in vineyards
- Monitoring the changes in indicators characterizing the acid- alkaline balance in the soil after use of ameliorants

Author Citations

A total of 6 citations are presented. Of them, 2 issues in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information. The standard for this scientometric indicator (50 points) is covered by the candidate, as 60 points have been achieved.

Participation in projects

The research activity of Ch. assistant professor Mladen Almaliev, is mainly based on his participation in scientific projects, of which 1 international, 1 financed by AU-Plovdiv and 7 implementation projects.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis of the applicant's pedagogical, scientific and applied scientific activity, I believe that Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Mladen Pavlov Almaliev meets the requirements of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, the Regulations for Application of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic

of Bulgaria Act, and the Regulations of the Agricultural University for its application. The presented materials are enough in volume and meet the minimum scientific metrical requirements for occupying the academic position. The results of the presented publications are up-to-date and solve some of the problems of modern agriculture. This gives the candidate a reason to present a significant number of scientific and scientific-applied contributions in the field of soil science. That is the reason for me to give a **POSITIVE** evaluation of his overall research activity.

I allow myself to propose to the Honorable Scientific Board to vote positive and to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University to elect Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Mladen Pavlov Almaliev an „**Associate Professor**“ in the scientific specialty “Soil science”.

Date: 04.04.2041
Sadovo

PREPARED
STATEMENT:

(prof. A. Matev)

