

## POSTURE



**Concerning:** Competition for occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor" in: field of higher education 6. *Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine*; the professional field 6.1. *Crop Production*, scientific specialty *Plant biochemistry*, announced in the State Gazette No. 36 of April 23, 2024 with candidate Chief Assistant Professor Adelina Slavova Harizanova, PhD

from Prof. Svetla Stoyanova Kostadinova, PhD, Agricultural University - Plovdiv, field of higher education 6. *Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine*; professional field: 6.1 *Crop production*; scientific specialty *Agrochemistry*, appointed as a member of the scientific jury according to order № RD-16-807/18.06.2024 of the Rector of the Agricultural University of Plovdiv

In the announced competition for Associate Professor in the scientific specialty *Plant biochemistry*, documents were submitted by one candidate - Ch. Assistant Professor Adelina Slavova Harizanova, PhD. The submitted documents and materials in connection with the announced competition comply with the legal requirements arising from the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria an, the Regulations to it and the Regulations of the Agricultural University of Plovdiv.

### **1. Brief introduction of the candidate.**

Ch. Assistant Professor Adelina Slavova Harizanova graduated from Agrarian University of Plovdiv with a bachelor's degree in Plant protection in 2005 and in 2006 she obtained a master's degree in Plant protection at the same university. In 2017, she successfully defended her doctoral degree at AU-Plovdiv in the scientific specialty "Plant Physiology". Since 2017, she has been an Assistant Professor, and since 2018, she has been a Ch. Assistant Professor in Plant Biochemistry in the Department of Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Genetics. The candidate has an excellent command of English and German and a very good level of Russian and she is competent in using various computer programs.

### **2. General description of the presented materials**

For participation in the competition for "Associate Professor" in the specialty "Plant biochemistry" Ch. assistant professor Adelina Harizanova, presents scientific works, grouped as follows:

- *PhD thesis for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor" - 1 number, which is not subject to consideration;*
- *Publications related to the doctoral dissertation - 5 issues that are not subject to consideration*
- *Publications in journals with an impact factor – 5 issues, of which with Q1 – 1 issue; with Q2 – 1 issue; Q3 – 1 issue and with Q4 – 2 numbers*
- *Publications in peer-reviewed and refereed scientific journals - 15 issues*



- *Published book based on a protected dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor" - 1 issue*
- *Scientific publication in non-refereed journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes – 12 issues*
- *Studies published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world famous databases with scientific information – 2 issues*

To prepare the review, I accept a **total of 35 scientific papers for analysis.**

According to **indicator A**, the minimum requirements have been met - a PhD thesis (50 points) has been successfully defended and 5 publications have been presented, which are not subject to discussion.

According to **indicator B3**, 10 scientific publications are presented in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information with a total of 146 points out of the required 100 points.

According to **indicator Г**, the minimum requirements are for a total of 200 points. The total number of points for the candidate's performance ( $\Gamma 6 + \Gamma 7 + \Gamma 8$ ) is 302.8 points, i.e. the overrun is 50%.

With a total amount of scientometric indicators for an associate professor of 400 points, the candidate's performance is 618.8 points

The personal participation of Ch. Assistant Professor Adelina Harizanova in the specified 35 publications under the current competition is illustrated by the fact that 13 scientific papers are the first author (37.1%), in 17 she is the second author (48.5%), in 4 she is the third author (11.4%), and in 1 issue she is the fourth author. The scientific works presented in the competition are well-formed and 20 of them have been published in English.

### **3. Teaching activity**

The total length of service of Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova has been a university teacher at the Department of "Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Genetics" for 7 years. She leads exercises in the discipline Plant Biochemistry. She actively participates in the Erasmus+ program as a coordinator of the Faculty of Agronomy and conducts exercises in English in the disciplines of Plant Biochemistry and Enzymology. During the last 5 academic years, her direct classroom employment and extracurricular employment totaled 2548.7 hours or an average of 500 hours per year, i.e. the applicant's educational employment significantly exceeds the required. The role of Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova for the training of young people is also illustrated by the fact that under her supervision, 2 students from the "Bachelor" degree and 3 from the "Master" degree successfully defended their theses.

### **4. Research activity.**

**Areas of publication.** Main directions in the research activity of Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova are related to a study of the effect of the application of silicon in cucumbers and zucchini; the effect of application of protein hydrolyzants in stress conditions of low positive temperatures in cucumbers; the influence of microalgae in barley grown on contaminated soils; the influence of some biostimulants on the quantity and quality of yield in alfalfa. The predominant part of



the research work is based on biochemical analyses. Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova presented a report with 13 scientific and applied contributions to the competition. I accept the contributions indicated by the candidate.

**Citation and referencing of scientific production.** Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova presented 8 citations to two of her scientific publications. All citations are to journals in Scopus (Q1), which indicates the interest in the subject and the applicant's scientific results. The total score for indicator Д13 is 120 points out of a required 50 points.

**Participation in scientific projects.** Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova was a participant in a total of 5 scientific projects, of which 1 international project, 2 projects with external funding for AU and 1 internal research project. Participation in these projects is an attestation of the significance of the candidate's research activity and has given her the opportunity to increase her competences and skills for her growth as a scientist.

#### **5. Notes and recommendations.**

I have no significant comments on the presented scientific production from Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova, who fully meets the requirements of the current competition in terms of the topic and quality and precision of the research work performed. I believe that she has the potential to develop as a promising researcher and lecture in the field of Plant Biochemistry. I recommend to Ch. Assistant Professor A. Harizanova, that her future activity should be focused on the training of our and foreign doctoral students

#### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the analysis of the pedagogical, scientific and scientific-applied activity of the candidate, I believe that Chief Assistant Professor Adelina Slavova Harizanova, PhD, meets the requirements of ZRASRB and the Regulations for implementation of ZRASRB of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv. The scientific production presented by her, her teaching work and her overall activity indicate that Ch. Assistant Professor Adelina Harizanova, is a very well-prepared lecturer and a proven professional in the field of research work.

All this gives me reason to **POSITIVELY** evaluate her overall activity and to propose to the esteemed Scientific Jury to vote positively, and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv to choose **Adelina Slavova Harizanova** for the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in the scientific specialty Plant Biochemistry.

Date: 11.07.2024

Plovdiv

**PREPARED THE OPINION:**  
(Prof. Svetla Kostadinova, PhD)

