



STATEMENT

On the competition for occupying an academic position of Associate Professor in the scientific specialty "Ecology and Ecosystem Conservation", announced in State Gazette No. 7 of 23.01.2024 with candidate Slaveya Tencheva Petrova

By assoc. prof. Milena Tankova Tzanova-Stoeva, member of the scientific jury according to the order No. RD 16-403/20.03.2024 of the Rector of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv

1. Brief biographical data and career profile of the candidate.

The candidate for the announced competition for Associate Professor in "Ecology and Conservation of Ecosystems" at the University of Plovdiv, Slaveya Tencheva Petrova, graduated in 2008 a master degree in "Ecology and Conservation of Ecosystems" at University of Plovdiv. Four years later, she defended a dissertation on the topic: "Passive and Active Phytomonitoring of Atmospheric Pollution in the City of Plovdiv" and obtained her PhD in the same professional field and specialty. Currently, she is assistant professor at the Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection at the University of Plovdiv "P. Hilendarski" and assistant prof. at the Department of "Microbiology and Ecological Biotechnologies" at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv. Dr. Petrova has extensive research and teaching experience. She is a member of the editorial board of an indexed scientific journal, scientific organizations, as well as a public expert advisor at the Municipality of Plovdiv. She is actively involved in organizing and conducting various initiatives for students.

2. General description of the scientific production.

In the competition for "associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Ecology and Ecosystem Protection", the candidate participated with a total production of 25 papers, grouped as follows:

❖ *Scientific publications on the nomenclature specialty – 25 pcs, grouped in:*

- *Publications related to the PhD - 3 pcs that are not subject to consideration in the present competition;*

- *Publications with impact factor – 10 pcs*

- *Publications in peer-reviewed and refereed scientific journals – 12 pcs;*

- *Publications in conference proceedings – none;*

The personal participation of Dr. Slaveya Petrova in the mentioned 22 papers is illustrated by the fact that in 1 she is single, in 9 - she is the first, in 3 - she is the second, and in the remaining 9 - she is the third and subsequent author.

❖ *Learning books – 1*

❖ *Training manual – 1.*

24 publications (22 scientific publications, 1 learning book and 1 training manual) were analysed for this Statement.

3. Educational and teaching activity.

Dr. Slaveya Petrova has many years of teaching experience. For more than 10 years she is employed as an "Assistant Professor" at the Faculty of "Biology" at University of Plovdiv "P. Hilendarski" on basic contract, and since 2017 at the Faculty of "Plant Protection and Agroecology" at the Agricultural University in Plovdiv on an additional contract.

Candidate's educational employment.

Dr. Slaveya Petrova reads lectures and leads students at the Bachelor and Master degrees laboratory exercises in the Department of "Ecology and Environmental Management" of University of Plovdiv "P. Hilendarski", and students at the Bachelor's degree programme in the Department of "Microbiology and Ecological Biotechnology" in the Agricultural University of Plovdiv. In the Agricultural University she has in the last 5 years an average of 189 hours of teaching.

Published teaching materials.

Dr. S. Petrova is co-author of one learning book and one training manual.

Developed study programmes.

The applicant developed two programs for students in the "Plant protection" and „Ecology and environmental protection“ courses.

4. Scientific research activity.

Publication' fields.

Dr. Slaveya Petrova is recognizable in Scopus and WoS. According to Scopus she has 36 published papers. For the current competition she has listed 22 publications in the fields of urban ecosystem ecology; natural ecosystem ecology and organic agriculture.

Citation and referencing of scientific output.

According to Scopus, Dr. Petrova has h-Index 8 and 211 citations in 175 documents. For the current competition she has listed 35 citations, which according to the minimum national requirements for indicator E bring her 70 points against the required 50.

Participation in research projects.

The applicant has participated in 6 national (university) projects.

5. Comments and recommendations.

- For two of the articles attached to indicator D, published in the Bulgarian Journal of Agricultural Science, IF is indicated. However, the journal does not have one for the years indicated (2014 - article #8 and 2021 - article #10).
- In NACID (National center for informational and documentation) Slaveya Tencheva Petrova is registered as "Doctor" and there are listed 2 articles carrying 30t. (1. Taraxacum officinale as a biomonitor of metals and toxic elements (Plovdiv, Bulgaria) - Bulgarian Journal of Agricultural Science, 19(2): 241-247 - 2013 - L. Yurukova, I. Velcheva; 2. Inorganic characteristics of polyfloral honey in Plovdiv (Bulgaria) - Biotechnology & Biotechnological Equipment, 24 (2): 284-288. - 2010 - Yurukova L., N. Shopova), which are different from those mentioned in the List of scientific works, item I a) Works with which the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" was obtained).

- I recommend Dr. Petrova to indicate her second address too (Agricultural University of Plovdiv) when publishing her works.

6. Conclusion.

On the basis of the analysis of the candidate's pedagogical, scientific and scientific-applied activity, I consider that Dr Slaveya Petrova meets the requirements of the RASDP Act, the RASDP Regulations and the Rules of the Agricultural University of Plovdiv for its implementation. The total number of points is 460 (on the indicators of group A - 50pts; C - 120pts; D - 200pts; E - 70pts; F - 20pts) and exceeds the minimum national requirements of 400pts (summed from indicators A, C, D and E).

All of this gives me reason to rate **positively** her overall work.

I propose to the Honorable Scientific Jury to also **vote positively** and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of „Plant Protection and Agroecology“ at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv **to elect Slaveya Tencheva Petrova as "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty of „Ecology and Ecosystem Conservation“.**

26.04.2024
Plovdiv

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THIS STATEMENT:.....

(assoc. prof. Milena Tzanova, PhD)

