



## REVIEW

regarding the competition for "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Genetics", announced in State Gazette № 36 of 23.04.2024 with candidate Assoc. Prof. Bojin Maksimov Bojinov, Ph.D. from the Department of "Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Genetics" at the Agricultural University – Plovdiv

**Reviewer:** *Prof. Dr.Sci. Diana Lilova Svetleva, Ph.D.* retired from the Agricultural University, Plovdiv; (Department of "Genetics and Plant Breeding"); Field of higher education **4.** Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics; Professional direction **4.3.** Biological Sciences; Scientific specialty "Genetics", appointed as a member of the scientific jury by Order № RD-16-808/18.06.2024 of the Rector of Agricultural University – Plovdiv

### 1. General part

In the competition for the academic position of "Professor", announced in the State Gazette № 36 of 23.04.2024 for the needs of the "Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Genetics" department at the Agricultural University, after checking the documents by the authorized persons at the university, one candidate - Associate Professor Bojin Maksimov Bojinov, PhD - was admitted to participate.

The applicant's set of documents and materials is complete and correctly presented. It is in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff of Agrarian University, Plovdiv.

### 2. General data on the candidate's career and thematic development.

Associate Professor Bojin Bojinov was born on 30.11.1965 in the town of Chirpan, Haskovo region.

He completed his higher education with a master's degree in 1990 at the "Vasil Kolarov" Higher Agricultural Institute (now the Agricultural University) Plovdiv with specialty "Agricultural engineer".

From 1990 to 1995, after successful competitions, he was appointed as a research assistant III, II and I degree (equivalent degrees of assistant, senior and chief assistant) in the "Cotton Breeding" section at the Institute of Cotton and Durum Wheat, town of Chirpan.

After that (from 1995) his scientific career continued in the Department of "Genetics and Plant Breeding" at the Faculty of Agronomy of the Agricultural University, Plovdiv.

In 2000, he successfully defended his Doctoral thesis and obtained Educational and Scientific Degree "Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)" in the scientific specialty "Breeding (Plant Biotechnology)". He was qualified as an "Associate Professor" in 2005.

His path of development in the Department of "Genetics and Plant Breeding" at the Faculty of Agronomy has passed through several administrative positions. From 2008 to 2016, he was Dean of the Faculty for two terms, and from 2016 to 2020, he was Head of the Department "Genetics and Plant Breeding".

After closure of the "Genetics and Plant Breeding" department at the Agricultural University, some of the professors, including Assoc. Prof. Bojinov, were transferred to the newly formed "Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Genetics" department, where from May 2024 he was elected as a Head of department.

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov is a member of a large number of prestigious scientific organizations - FAO Inter-regional cooperative research network on cotton; International Cotton Genome Initiative (ICGI); European Federation of Biotechnology (EFB) and Public Research and Regulation Initiative (PRRI).

The total duration of the scientific work experience of Assoc. Prof. Bojinov to date is 33 years, of which 28 years and 9 months were at the Agricultural University, Plovdiv.

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov has very good computer literacy and is proficient in multiple software programs and products.

He speaks English and Russian proficiently, and French at a good level.

### **3. Comparison of the minimum national requirements with results of the candidate's scientific activity for acquisition of the academic position "Professor".**

Based on the regulated minimum national requirements, that must be met by candidates for the academic position of "Professor" and from the analysis of the scientific production, as well as the research activity carried out by Assoc. Prof. Bojin Bojinov, PhD it is established that he meets the minimum requirements for the relevant indicators.

According to requirements in the Regulations for development of academic staff at the Agricultural University, with mandatory indicators for the academic position "Professor" a total of 600 points, Assoc. Prof. Bojinov presents information on the total of 697,52 received. This shows that approximately 1,16 times exceeds the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of "Professor".

The distribution of points by indicators is as follows:

#### **According to group of indicators A – Doctoral thesis for awarding Educational and Scientific Degree "doctor" (minimum numbers for criterion 50 points).**

In 2000, Assoc. Prof. Bojinov defended a Doctoral thesis titled: "Investigation of possibilities for application *in vitro* methods in cotton breeding" to awarding of the Educational and Scientific Degree "Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)" - **50 points.**

#### **According to group of indicators B – 4. Habilitation work or scientific publications in issues that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus), (minimum number for criterion 100 points).**

Candidate in the competition published in 2020 a monograph (habilitation work) titled: "Utilization of dominant and codominant molecular markers in diversity studies, DNA fingerprinting and breeding of crops and animals Current state of tool availability for breeders", Academic Publishing House of the Agricultural University Plovdiv . 127 p. ISBN 978-954-517-288-5 COBISS.BG-ID – 64688648 – **100 points.**

#### **According to group of indicators G – 7. Scientific publication in issues that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information with impact factor or SJR (minimum number for criterion 200 points).**

Twelve articles in English, published in the period 2003 – 2024 and included in the Scopus database, are presented. Three of them are co-authored with foreign colleagues - **207 points.**

#### **According to group of indicators D - 11. Citations in scientific publications, monographs, collective volumes and patents, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus), (minimum number for criterion 100 points).**

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov presented fifty-three citations of the article titled: Lacape, J. M., Nguyen, T. B., Thibivilliers, S., Bojinov, B., Courtois, B., Cantrell, R. G., Burr B., & Hau, B. (2003). A combined RFLP SSR AFLP map of tetraploid cotton based on a *Gossypium hirsutum* x *Gossypium barbadense* backcross population. [Genome, 46(4), 612-626] which were found in foreign publications from reputable scientific journals - **106 points.**

#### **According to group of indicators E - (minimum number for criterion 150 points).**

**15. Guidance of a successfully defended PhD students.** Assoc. Prof. Bojinov was supervisor of three successfully defended PhD students, one of whom had also a second supervisor - **125 points.**

**19. Management of the Bulgarian team in an international scientific or educational project.** Project is financed by the International Atomic Energy Agency (CRP D23025 Project № 12834) and is on the topic: "Pyramiding of mutated genes contributing to crop quality and resistance to stress affecting quality"; Task: "Identification of molecular markers closely linked to quality characteristics in upland cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum* L.)" - **50 points.**

20. Published university manual or manual that is used in the school network. In 2013, Assoc. Prof. Bojinov published a manual in the Academic Publishing House of the Agricultural University titled: "General Genetics: a manual for university students" (ISBN 978-954-517-173-4 COBISS.BG-ID - 1259768548), which brings him – **40 points**.

21. Published university textbook or textbook that is used on the school network. Three textbooks are included in the list of publications: "Manual for exercises in genetics", 2020 (ISBN - 978-954-517-299-1 COBISS.BG-ID - 49335304) - **10 points**; "Educational textbook on genetics", 2004 (COBISS.BG-ID - 1044394212) - **6.6 points**; "Tests in biology for candidate students and schoolers of 9-10th grade" (COBISS.BG-ID - 1037612004) - **2.86 points**.

From the above mentioned and recapitulation of points, it is clear that overperformance of indicators from group E is the highest (1,56 times).

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

Assoc. Prof. Bojin Bojinov, PhD has accurately and correctly presented list of his scientific publications.

His total output includes 91 publications. Of these, 3 are for the defense of his Doctoral thesis to obtain Educational and Scientific Degree "Doctor of philosophy, PhD" and 35 are for his participation in the competition for acquiring academic position "Associate Professor".

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov participated in the competition for acquiring academic position "**Professor**" with 17 papers, grouped as follows:

- ✓ Publications in issues that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, with an impact factor (IF) and an impact rank (SJR) - 12 issues;
- ✓ Monograph – 1 issue;
- ✓ Manual – 1 issue;
- ✓ Textbooks and tests for candidate students - 3 issue.

Most of the candidate's output has been published in prestigious international journals with impact factor/rank, as evidenced by their quartile distribution in WoS/Scopus and scientific journals (Table 1).

**Table 1. Journals in which the candidate in competition has published**

Scientific journals	WoS/Scopus Quartils (Q)	Number of publications
Critical Reviews in Biotechnology. Open Access (ISSN; 07388551).	<b>Q1</b> (IF = 6,542; SJR = 1,285)	1
Environmental Science and Pollution Research Open Access (ISSN; 09441344).	<b>Q2</b> (IF = 0,99; SJR = 0,952)	1
Genome (ISSN 08312796).	<b>Q3</b> (IF = 1,83; SJR = 1,316)	1
Journal of Central European Agriculture (ISSN; 13329049)	<b>Q3</b> (IF = 0, 23; SJR = 0,23)	1
Acta Horticulturae (ISSN 05677572)	<b>Q3</b> (SJR = 0,22)	1
Biotechnology and Biotechnological Equipment Open Access (ISSN;13102818).	<b>Q4</b> (IF = 0,622; SJR = 0,1173)	1
Bulgarian Journal of Agricultural Science (ISSN;13100351).	<b>Q4</b> (IF = 0,5; SJR от 0,240 до 0,262)	4
Genetika Open Access (ISSN;05340012).	<b>Q4</b> (IF = 0,19; SJR = 0,21)	1
Journal of Environmental Protection and Ecology (ISSN;13115065).	<b>Q3</b> (IF = 0,692; SJR = 0,263)	1
Monograph		1
Manual		1
Textbooks and tests for candidate students		3
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS:</b>		<b>17</b>

Candidate in the competition has submitted his articles in pdf format.

Seventeen scientific publications are subjected to review.

An indicator of high scientific value of the presented scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Bojinov, PhD is that eight articles were published in international specialized journals with an impact factor of 11,626, and the total Scimago Journal & Country Rank (SJR) of articles, presented for the current competition, is – 5,36.

Candidate's personal participation in the competition in indicated 12 articles is illustrated by the fact that in four of them (33,3%) he is the first or second author, and in eight (66,67%) he is a corresponding author. This gives me a reason to believe that Assoc. Prof. Bojinov was generator of the scientific idea in most developments.

He has one independent publication [article 4.8.10.], and two - are reviews [articles 4.8.3. and 4.8.7.].

Presented monograph - [Bojin Bojinov, 2020. Utilization of dominant and codominant molecular markers in diversity studies, DNA fingerprinting and breeding of crops and animals: Current state of tool availability for breeders. Academic Publishing House of the Agricultural University Plovdiv. 127 p. ISBN 978-954-517-288-5 [under № 4.8.1. from the list of publications] is written in English on 123 pages and includes a literature of 108 titles and is illustrated with 25 very clear figures. It is built on the basis of 19 scientific articles of Prof. Bojinov written independently or in co-authorship. Studies were carried out in different plant species (cotton, tomatoes, tobacco, barley genotypes) and animal species - goats. A comparison of the effectiveness and efficiency of ISSR technique compared to SSR, AFLP and other types of marker systems is made. Ability to transfer markers between different cotton maps has been verified. Molecular markers associated with qualitative traits in the separation of intraspecific populations of cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum* L.) and tobacco were identified and quantitative trait loci (QTL) of practical applicability in the studied species were identified.

In my opinion, the monograph has an important meaning. It is written concisely and comprehensibly, and the results obtained are important and of interest to scientists working with these organisms.

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov has created (in authorship and co-authorship) 5 varieties of cotton and 1 variety of lavender, which are not included for participation as achievements in the current competition.

He has competencies in management and organization of processes related to funding and implementation of fundamental scientific research. They were acquired within 3 mandates as a Head of Temporary and 2 mandates as a Head of Permanent Scientific Expert Commissions. During this term, he was elected as a member of Executive Board of the "National Science Fund" overseeing the field of "Agricultural Sciences".

#### **5. Main directions in the candidate's research work. Demonstrated skills or aptitude for leading scientific research (project management, attracted external funding, etc.).**

Results of candidate's scientific, research and publication activities in the competition are important for development of science and practice. Main directions in Assoc. Prof. Bojinov's works have a significant contribution to establishment of:

- Application of molecular markers for detection of induced genetic diversity, phylogenetic studies, establishing genetic authenticity, introgression of genetic material from closely and distantly related species and genetic mapping in cultivated plants and animals;
- Studying the possibilities of applying ISSR-system for rapid characterization of created breeding lines from different plant species with the aim of faster creation of new varieties with improved qualities.

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov conducts his scientific research on a wide biological diversity of different species: cotton, tomatoes, paulownia, small-sized populations of autochthonous goat breeds and pathogenic strains of *Escherichia coli*.

He has proven that he can also work successfully with teams on joint projects.

During the period 2004 - 2009, he took part in development and implementation of an international project under the International Atomic Energy Agency: "Pyramiding of mutated genes contributing to crop quality and resistance to stress affecting quality"; Task: "Identification of molecular markers closely linked to quality characteristics in upland cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum* L.)", CRP D23025 Project No. 12834. He was the head of Bulgarian team.

## **6. Evaluation of pedagogical preparation and activity of the candidate. Its role in training of young scientific personnel.**

Teaching activity and its provision with textbooks, study guides and visual materials are the most important requirements for university teachers.

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov has always shown very good qualities as a teacher.

In the competition documentation, he has submitted "Certificate" of his study load for the last five years (from 2018 to 2023). His total workload for this period is 2130,7 hours, which includes – 1459,2 hours of lectures and 53 hours of exercises with regular and part-time students; 152,8 hours of classes with "Erasmus+" students and 25 hours with foreign students. His extracurricular activity is 440,7 hours. This means that the average workload of Assoc. Prof. Bojinov for one year is 426,14 hours.

Along with teaching, it is necessary to carry out scientific research and to cope with its organizational and managerial activities.

In connection with his teaching activity, Assoc. Prof. Bojinov has developed 18 curricula - 9 for Bachelor's degree program and 9 for Master's degree programs (Table 2).

Of these, one program (for Educational and qualification degree "Bachelor") was developed in English for the purpose of training foreign students.

Two programs have been developed for Educational and qualification degree "Master" in English - one for training students under the "Erasmus +" program and one for training foreign students under the "Plant medicine" master's program.

In 2013, the candidate in the competition independently published a manual "General genetics: a textbook for university students", Academic Publishing House of the Agricultural University, Plovdiv (ISBN 978-954-517-173-4 COBISS.BG-ID - 1259768548). Manual is written on 342 pages. There are 48 literary sources used. It is illustrated with colorful figures and diagrams. It includes 9 chapters that are very well systematized and the basic knowledge in the field of "General genetics" are properly upgraded, which enables their good absorption by the students studying the discipline "Genetics" during their studies at the Agricultural University, Plovdiv. Manual is fully aligned with the developed and approved curricula, which makes it very suitable for students' training.

In connection with the competition, in the list of publications, Prof. Bojinov has included three study guides written in co-authorship, which are good sources to support practical preparation of students during the exercises:

✓ **Bojinov, B.,** M. Kostova. 2020. Genetics Exercise Guide. Academic publishing house of the Agrarian University, Plovdiv. ISBN - 978-954-517-299-1. This guide is written in 153 pages. Thirteen literature sources, 49 figures, 13 tables and 4 appendices are included. In the first appendix, 5 pictures with human karyotypes are published - 3 normal and 2 with chromosomal disorders. Different methodologies are included in the other applications. In my opinion, it would be more understandable for students if these applications were included in text to the corresponding developed unit by the management. It is quite right

and proper that each section of the guide ended with questions and/or tasks. This enables the teacher to check how far students have understood the material and, if necessary, to make further comments for illumination of the gained knowledges. This guide builds with new knowledge the other guide published in 2004, in whose collective Assoc. Prof. Bojinov also participates.

**Table 2. Developed study programs for Educational and qualification degrees "Bachelor" and "Master"**

Code in the curriculum	Year of approval	Discipline	Specialty
<b>Educational and qualification degree „Bachelor“ – 9 numbers</b>			
02.03.12.C	2018	Plant genetics	Plant Protection
04.07.26	2014	DNA recombinant technologies	Plant biotechnologies
02.04.18	2014	General genetics	Plant biology
01.02.06.II	2017	Genetics	Ecology and environmental protection
01.01.21.	2014	Introduction to agrarian education	Agronomy (Agriculture)
02.04.18.	2012	Genetics and plant breeding	Organic farming
	2014	Legislation, analysis and control of GMOs	Plant biology
03.06.03.II	2017	Innovations and Biotechnology	Plant biotechnologies
04.07.31	2014	Molecular Genetics	Plant biotechnologies
<b>Educational and qualification degree "Master" – 9 numbers</b>			
01.01.07.II	2018	Molecular-genetic approaches in plant protection	Plant protection
02.03.10.II	2018	Genetic sources of pest resistance	Plant protection
	2018	Plant genetics	ERASMUS
03.14.	2018	Plant genetic resources and resistance to pests	Plant medicine
01.01.02	2020	Fundamentals of genetics and plant breeding	Digitization and management of crop production
03.05.03	2019	Genetics and plant breeding	Mineral nutrition and fertilization
01.02.05	2014	Biotechnological methods of reproduction in plants	Production of seed and planting material
	2007	Protoplast cultures	Plant biotechnologies
	2007	Applied computer programs	Plant biotechnologies

✓ Svetleva, D., A. Stefanova, **B. Bojinov**. 2004. Textbook of Genetics. Academic publishing house of the Agrarian University. COBISS.BG-ID – 1044394212.

✓ Petrov, S., A. Stefanova, V. Kerin, P. Kostadinova, K. Kozhuharova, **B. Bojinov**, D. Svetleva. 2005. Biology tests for candidate students and scholars of grades 9-10. Academic publishing house of the Agrarian University, Plovdiv.

I am not commenting on the last two guides because I am a co-author of them. I just want to note that development of the guide - "Tests in biology for candidate students and scholars of grades 9-10" was necessary in connection with the conduct of candidate student campaigns in Agricultural University, in which we participated with Assoc. Prof. Bojinov as members of Examination Commissions. In that period, there were 11 different manuals in biology on which candidate students had to prepare for, and this did not allow us to unify our criteria when evaluating them.

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov has submitted a certificate that he was the supervisor of two defenses and five graduate students, which he now supervises. He was a supervisor of three successfully defended PhD students.

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov also demonstrated his teaching qualities in conducted mobility for the purpose of teaching at a State Agricultural University of Moldova under the "Erasmus + KA 107" program in 2019.

#### **7. Significance of obtained results, proven by citations, publications in prestigious journals, awards, membership in international and national scientific bodies, etc.;**

According to Scopus, the total number of noticed citations of Assoc. Prof. Bojinov, excluding self-citations, is 314.

In the current competition, candidate submitted only 53 citations from foreign authors of the article - Lacape, J. M., Nguyen, T. B., Thibivilliers, S., Bojinov, B., Courtois, B., Cantrell, R. G., Burr, B., & Hau, B. (2003). A combined RFLP-SSR-AFLP map of tetraploid cotton based on a *Gossypium hirsutum* x *Gossypium barbadense* backcross population. *Genome*, 46(4), 612-626. <https://doi.org/10.1139/g03-050> **Q1; IF = 1,86 and SJR = 1,316 [article 4.8.2].**

Total citation index of Assoc. Prof. Bojinov (*h-index* according to Scopus) is 5.

This is essential for evaluation of the results of his scientific achievements on an international scale and his prominence among international scientific circles.

#### **8. Significance of contributions to science and practice. A motivated answer to the question to what extent the candidate has a clearly defined profile of research work.**

I fully accept applicant's detailed report on contributions of the research and his scientific output. It includes 7 original scientific contributions and 6 scientific-applied ones.

Some of the main contributions, in my opinion, can be grouped as follows:

##### **I. ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

❖ A partial revision of arrangement of the 13 pairs of homeologous A/D chromosomes in the cotton tetraploid genome is proposed, based on the mapping of 68 SSR and RFLP loci. Comparative analyzes were performed on the alignment of different markers in previously published *G. hirsutum* x *G. barbadense* maps **[article 4.8.2].**

❖ An integrated and almost fully saturated genetic map has been developed in cotton combining RFLP, SSR and AFLP loci **[article 4.8.2].** Bulgarian cotton samples have their own specificity, which is why a separate genetic map was constructed for them, containing 5 linkage groups and including markers related to all investigated characteristics of the fiber.

❖ A comparative analysis of a set of marker systems (RFLP, SSR, AFLP and ISSR) was carried out and the possibility of their application in identifying genetic diversity in different populations of tomato species **[article 4.8.4.]** and paulownia **[article 4.8. 5.]**; interspecific crosses **[article 4.8.2]** and a segregating mutant population of cotton **[article 4.8.10.]**; intraspecific tomato crosses **[article 4.8.13.]**, as well as small populations of native goat breeds **[article 4.8.9.]**.

❖ By means of multilocus sequencing typing, the genetic profiles of circulating pathogenic strains of *E. coli* in entire biotope and the various members of respective biocenosis have been supplemented. Data are supplemented with their antimicrobial susceptibility and the type of intimin toxin they produce **[article 4.8.1.]**.

##### **II. SCIENTIFIC AND APPLIED CONTRIBUTIONS**

❖ A system has been developed and proposed for implementation, for selection of ISSR markers, suitable for use in identification of genotypes of different species: tomatoes **[articles 4.8.4.; 4.8.8.]**, paulownia **[article 4.8.5.]** and goats **[article 4.8.9.]**.

❖ A set of loci for quantitative traits in cotton have been identified and put into practical use **[articles 4.8.2.; 4.8.10.]** and tomatoes **[articles 4.8.6.; 4.8.8.]**.

❖ A region affecting simultaneously several quality characteristics of the fiber (strength, microner and elasticity) was identified in Bulgarian cotton accessions. Locus has a pleiotropic effect and allows direct application in national breeding programs [article 4.8.1.]. An integrated approach to create new tomato genotypes with increased antioxidant content was developed, based on the complex use of phenotypic, biochemical and genetic markers [articles 4.8.1.; 4.8.13.].

❖ Intra-breed genetic variation has been established in autochthonous breeds of goats for the preservation of local genetic diversity and development of future breeding programs in goats [article 4.8.9.].

❖ Environmental epidemiological typing of pathogenic *E. coli* strains affecting biosafety, human and animal health was carried out in order to control their spread [article 4.8.1.].

❖ In a team of international experts, a method for in-depth analysis of large arrays of Internet-based scientific information related to the application of genetic engineering in relation to increasing biotic and abiotic stress impacts was developed and used for the first time [article 4.8.7.].

❖ In co-authorship with an international team, a set of biotechnological approaches for the creation and rapid propagation of promising energy plant species have been analyzed and proposed for implementation [article 4.8.3.].

### **9. Critical notes and recommendations.**

Note – I have no substantive notes on the procedure.

I find only a slight discrepancy in the numbering of publications in the presented list and a misalignment in numbering of the pdf copies of articles.

Recommendation - In the future, Assoc. Prof. Bojinov to train more graduates on whom to pass his knowledge and to expand their cursory knowledge on the application of molecular markers in different species. This may strengthen their desire to conduct scientific research and apply for third-level studies to obtain Educational and Scientific Degree "Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)".

### **10. Personal impressions and opinion of the reviewer.**

I have known Associate Professor Dr. Bojinov since 1995, when he joined the department of "Genetics and Plant Breeding" at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv, where I have 40 years of work experience.

In my opinion, he is a smart, intelligent and ambitious person. He has a very analytical mind. He is always looking for innovations in science and strives for perfection in his work. He is a good teacher and has very high organizational qualities.

### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the analysis of the candidate's pedagogic, scientific and scientific-applied activities, I believe that Assoc. Prof. Bozhin Bozhinov, PhD meets the requirements of the Law on Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria, Regulations of the Law on Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of the Agricultural University for his application for the academic position of "Professor".

He presented a list of 17 scientific papers, some of which were published in journals with a total impact factor of 11,626. He has published one independent monograph in English.

He participated in an international project as a head of the Bulgarian team.

He has enough workload as a teacher. He has written one independent manual and co-authored three practice guides.

He was a supervisor of three successfully defended PhD students. He is a supervisor of two masters and five graduates who are in the process of training.



All this gives me a reason to **POSITIVELY** evaluate his overall activity.

I take the liberty of proposing to the honorable Scientific Jury also to vote positively and a members of Faculty Council from the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University - Plovdiv to elect **Assoc. Prof. Bojin Maksimov Bojinov, PhD** for the academic position of "**Professor**" in the scientific specialty "**Genetics**" for the purposes of the Department of "Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Genetics" at the Agricultural University – Plovdiv.

**Date:** 20/08/2024  
City of Plovdiv

**REVIEWER:**.....  
(Prof. Dr.Sci. D. Svetleva, PhD)