



OPINION

regarding the competition for "professor" in "Genetics",
field of higher education is 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics,
professional direction 4.3. Biological Sciences,
announced in SG no. 36 of 23.04.2024
with candidate associate professor Dr. Bojin Maksimov Bojinov

by Associate Professor Samir Izetov Naimov,
University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", Plovdiv,
appointed by an Order No. RD 16.808/18.06.2024 of the Rector of
the Agricultural University – Plovdiv for a member of the scientific jury

1. Brief introduction of the candidate.

Associate Professor Bojin Bojinov was born on November 30, 1965, in the city of Chirpan. In 1990, he graduated from the Higher Agricultural Institute "Vasil Kolarov" in Plovdiv. Over the next five years, he progressed through the ranks of third, second, and first research assistant at the Institute of Cotton and Durum Wheat in Chirpan.

From 1995 to 2024, he held positions as assistant, senior assistant, chief assistant, and associate professor in the Department of Genetics and Breeding at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv. During this period, the candidate successfully obtained a PhD degree, awarded by the Higher Attestation Commission of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria.

In addition to his teaching and research responsibilities at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv, Associate Professor Bojinov has gained extensive administrative experience, serving as the Head of the Departments of Genetics and Selection, and Plant Physiology, Biochemistry, and Genetics, as well as the Dean of the Faculty of Agronomy.

The candidate is fluent in several foreign languages and has completed numerous specializations abroad.

2. General description of the scientific production.

The scientific production of Prof. Bojinov. It includes a total of 56 scientific articles, 38 of which were used in acquiring the scientific and educational degree "doctor" or the academic position "associate professor" and therefore should not be reviewed.

Assoc. Prof. Bojinov participated in the competition for "Professor" with 18 scientific papers grouped as follows:

- Scientific publications on the nomenclature specialty - 12 articles, of which:
 - Publications related to the doctoral dissertation, which are not subject to consideration - none;
 - Publications with an impact factor or SJR – 12 articles
 - Publications in peer-reviewed and refereed scientific journals – 12 articles;

- Publications in conference proceedings – none;

The candidate's personal participation in the mentioned scientific works is illustrated by the fact that he is the leading (first or last) author in six publications, and the rest are co-authors with leading world scientific teams.

- One habilitation paper
 - Two textbooks.
 - Two study guides.
 - Other educational and support literature - one
- All of the above 18 scientific publications are subjected to analysis.

3. Teaching activity

As part of his teaching activities, the candidate has delivered lectures and conducted student practicals at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv, including mentoring a number of students and trainees under the Erasmus program. From 2018 to 2023, the candidate's average annual teaching workload was 355 hours, although it should be noted that during certain periods, Professor Bojinov had a reduced teaching load.

The candidate has contributed to the development of 40 study programs, with 18 for the Bachelor's degree and 22 for the Master's degree. Additionally, as part of his teaching activities, Professor Bojinov has published two textbooks, two manuals, and a compendium of tests for the preparation of prospective students. He has also successfully supervised three doctoral students and two graduate students. Currently, five more graduate students are working under Professor Bojinov's supervision.

Based on the above, I conclude that the teaching activities of Associate Professor Bojinov fulfill all the requirements of national law, as well as the regulations of the Agricultural University of Plovdiv.

4. Scientific research activity

The majority of the publications under consideration focus on the application of molecular markers to assess specific traits of varieties that are important for practical use. These include varieties of cotton, tomatoes, and Paulownia. The core of Professor Bojinov's scientific contributions lies in the development and application of molecular markers for modern marker-assisted selection. A smaller portion of his work involves studies on animals and microorganisms. The combined Impact Factor (IF) and SCImago Journal Rank (SJR) of the publications submitted for this contest is 5.36.

Associate Professor Bojinov's work has been widely cited in reputable scientific journals, with evidence provided for 53 independent citations. From my personal observations of the candidate's scientific research, I can attest that it is of an exceptionally high standard. Professor Bojinov is a meticulous and self-critical scientist who would significantly contribute to establishing the Agricultural University as a leading higher education institution.

Throughout his scientific career, Professor Bojinov has participated in numerous international and national scientific projects, as well as various public initiatives aimed

at promoting modern selection methods. In recent years, Associate Professor Bojinov has been actively involved in Scientific Panels of Agricultural Sciences and is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Bulgarian National Research Fund.

The candidate has gained extensive administrative experience and has established himself as a leading scientist in the field of modern genetics.

5. Notes and recommendations

I have no specific recommendations regarding the candidate's research and educational activities. I commend Assoc. Prof. Bojinov's efforts to elevate the prestige of the Agricultural University of Plovdiv and to establish it as a leading center of agricultural science.

6. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of the candidate's teaching and scientific activities, I conclude that he meets all the requirements of national law and the regulations of the Agricultural University for obtaining the title of Professor in Genetics. Associate Professor Bojinov is a recognized expert in the field of genetics, with a distinguished scientific and academic career, as well as significant administrative experience. Therefore, I assess his overall contributions as POSITIVE.

I respectfully propose that the esteemed Scientific Jury also cast a positive vote, and that the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agronomy at the Agricultural University of Plovdiv elect Associate Professor Bojin Maksimov Bojinov to the position of "Professor" in the field of higher education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Informatics, professional direction 4.3. Biological Sciences, Science Major: Genetics.

15.08.2024
Plovdiv

Signature:


Assoc Prof. Samir Naimov DSc