

OPINION

Университет
„Проф. Д-р Асен Златаров“
8010 Бургас, Бул. „Проф. Якимов“ №1

Regarding the competition for the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in the field of higher education **5. Technical sciences**, professional direction **5.11. Biotechnologies**, scientific specialty "**Technology of biologically active substances (incl. enzymes, hormones, proteins)**", announced in State Gazette № 70/20.08.2024, for the needs of the Department of "Biotechnology" at the Faculty of Technical Sciences, University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" with candidate: Assistant profesor Dr. Galina Yordanova, PhD

Member of the Scientific Jury: Assoc. Prof. Eng. Gjore Nakov, DSc
Technical University - Sofia, College - Sliven,

Pursuant to Rector's Order №. ПА – 374 / 25.10.2024 issued by the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov"

1. General characteristics of the candidate's research and scientific-applied activity

In the competition for the academic position of "Associate professor", Assistant profesor Galina Yordanova, PhD, is a participant. In September 2013, she obtained the scientific degree of "PhD" at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas. From 2006 to 2007, Dr. Yordanova worked as a part-time assistant at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas. Between 2007 and 2014, after successfully winning a competition, she continued her work at the same university. Since 2016, she has held the academic position of Chief Assistant Professor. For this competition, the candidate has submitted the following scientific output:

- 1 monographic work "**B.3**", published in 2022, available through the free catalog COBISS.BG . The monograph is titled "Methods for improving quality in organizations from the chemical and biotechnology industry", comprising 224 typewritten pages. It was co-authored with Dobromir Yordanov, PhD, who has provided a declaration conforming that Assistant professor Galina Yordanova, PhD, contributed 70% of the monographic work. Based on this indicator, the candidate earns 100 out of 100 points, as required by the minimum criteria under the ZRASRB for the academic position of Associate professor;
- 28 articles under indicator "D", categorized as follows:
 - 7 articles in referenced and indexed journals listed in globally recognized databases such as Scopus and WoS (indicator "D.7");
 - 21 articles in non-refereed but peer-reviewed journals (indicator "D.8").The total number of points under indicator "D" is 309.03, exceeding the required thresholds of 200 and 300 points, as stipulated by the ЗРАСРБ and the Regulations for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas, respectively;
- 15 citations under indicator "D", which are in publications issued in journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases Scopus and WoS . According to this indicator, Dr. Yordanova has 150 points out of 50 and 100, which are required according to Law (ЗРАСРБ) and the Regulations for the conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas, respectively;
- According to indicator "E", as outlined in the Regulations for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen

Zlatarov" - Burgas, 100 points are required. References are provided to meet this requirement as follows:

- a list of participation in 14 scientific intra - university projects, of which she is the project manager in 2;
- certificate of participation in a project under OP "Innovations and Competitiveness" doc. №. BG 16RFOP002-1.005-0031", titled Development of an Innovative Product - Imaging Cytometer 'Hand-held' "; certificate of participation in project №. BG05M2OP001-2.02-0001, titled "Student Practices" - Phase I and Phase II;
- 1 book (notes) titled "Food Legislation and Food Policy";
- 1 published application for invention titled "Solid Fuel Based on Domestic and Industrial Waste, Method for Its Preparation and Use".

2. Assessment of the candidate's pedagogical training and activity

Based on the references provides, it is clear that Dr. Yordanova has accumulated experience as a teacher. Her pedagogical training meets the requirements for holding the academic position of "Associate professor", as evidenced by the following:

- Over the past three years, she has delivered lectures and conducted exercises with students at the OKS "Bachelor", "Professional Bachelor", and "Master's" level in various disciplines related to the specialty she is applying for. All courses were taught at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas;
- Developed and updated 8 curricula;
- Supervised 10 diploma theses;
- Participated as a member of the General Assembly of UAZB and the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Technical Sciences from 2022 to the present;
- Served as a member of the commission for conducting the State Examination "Bachelor" in the specialties "Biotechnologies" and "Food Technologies";
- Participated as a member of the committee for conducting the biology exam for the OCS "Master's" program in the specialty "Medicine".

3. Basic scientific and scientific-applied contributions

The scientific activity of Assistant professor Dr. Galina Dimitrova Yordanova corresponds to the field of Technical Sciences and the professional direction "Biotechnologies", as well as the scientific specialty "Technology of Biologically Active Substances" (including enzymes, hormones and proteins), as stated in the competition. Her publications are presented in Bulgarian and international scientific journals and meet the requirements of national and university regulations for the acquisition of scientific degrees and academic positions.

I accept the reference for her scientific and scientific-applied contributions, which are divided into several main areas:

1. Development of integrated methods and procedures for input, process and output control that ensure increased precision, identification, and elimination of inconsistencies, as well as decision-making for compliance with regulatory requirements in enterprises from the chemical and biotechnology industries, as well as in testing and medical laboratories;
2. Biodegradation of phenol and phenolic derivatives using immobilized cells of microorganisms on various supports;

3. Quality control and management in various food production processes and laboratories;
4. Quality of yeast, including their vitality and viability ;
5. Application of molds and yeasts to obtain valuable bioproducts.

4. Significance of contributions to science and practice

The scientific research activity of Assistant professor Dr. Galina Yordanova is distinguished by her theoretical-cognitive, methodological, and practical-applied contributions. The presented results substantiate the positive assessment of her research work. All published articles are thematically related to the professional field of "Biotechnologies", corresponding to the announced competition. The candidate meets the requirements for quantitative indicators set out in the Regulations for the Conditions for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas, as well as the legal requirements of ЗПАССБ and the relevant rules for its application.

5. Critical notes and recommendations

I have no substantial critical remarks to challenge the candidate's basic scientific, scientific-applied, and applied contributions.

CONCLUSION

Assistant professor Dr. Galina Yordanova meets the minimum requirements for holding the academic position of "Docent" in the Technical Faculty of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov". She fulfills all groups of indicators, significantly exceeding the required minimum of 400 points according to the National Requirements and 650 points according to the Regulations for the conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas, with a total score of 709.03 points. Dr. Yordanova's scientific and scientific-applied work represents a significant contribution to the field of "Biotechnologies", which is confirmed by citations in the academic community. Based on the presented scientific publications and achieved results, I positively assess her scientific output and teaching activity. I recommend that the members of the Scientific Jury propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Technical Sciences that Assistant professor Dr. Galina Yordanova be elected to the academic position of "Docent" in the professional field 5.11 Biotechnologies at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov".

09.12. 2024

MEMBER OF THE JURY:

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Assoc. Prof.Eng. Gjore Nakov, DSc