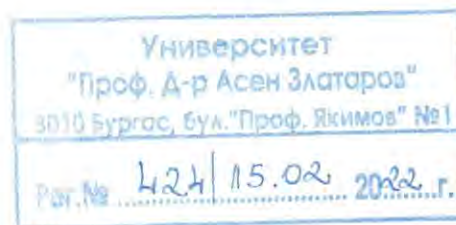


STATEMENT



by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Veselin Kostadinov Petrov, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Department of Physical Chemistry, Sofia University St. "Kl. Ohridski", member of the scientific jury of the competition for the academic position of ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR in the professional field 4.2. Chemical Sciences, scientific specialty "Ecology and Environmental Protection", announced in SG No. 87 / 19.10.2020 from "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov " University - Burgas, scientific specialty" Ecology and Environmental Protection "(Ion exchange and bioelectrochemical methods for water purification)

The only candidate in the announced competition is Ch. Assistant Professor Blagovesta Nikolaeva Midyurova, Ph.D. The materials submitted for the competition are in full agreement with the Regulations of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff and covers all the necessary documents.

Blagovesta graduated from "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov " University, Burgas with specialization "Materials Technology and Materials Science " in 2012. In 2016 she defended her dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Science in Water Purification Technology on the topic "Application of proton-exchange membranes in fuel cells".

Dr. Midyurova has worked consecutively as a technician - chemist, assistant and chief assistant in the Department of "Ecology and Environmental Protection" at "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov " University. She has been holding her current position since 2017.

Research activities of Dr. Midyurova's include over 40 papers, of which: 20 publications in specialized international journals with impact factor, cited more than 30 times. She has also published an independent monograph on the subject. The candidate participates in the competition with one monograph, seventeen articles and two participations in international conferences (referred to in SCOPUS). The presented publications are most often published in "Oxidation Communications", "Journal of Chemical Technology and Metallurg" and "Journal of Environmental Protection and Ecology", and in almost all publications Blagovesta is the lead author. The presented documents exceed the scientometric requirements of both the law and the internal criteria of "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov " University.

Blagovesta's **scientific works** are mainly in four directions: Ion exchange methods in natural water treatment, Application of bioelectrochemical systems in wastewater treatment, Methods for assessment of surface water pollution and Application of neural networks and fuzzy sets in bioelectrochemical systems by mean of mathematical modeling and computer simulations. The main scientific contributions of Dr. Midyurova are in the field of analysis, purification using bioelectrochemical systems, microbiological reactors, membranes and others for the preparation of water and their use. Additionally, research should be mentioned in the field of pollution assessment in assessing the ecological characteristics of water, as well as the application of mathematical modeling and neural networks combined with regression analysis in the planning and optimization of the experimental process.

A significant part of the candidate's production is scientific and **applied activities**. Over the years, Blagovesta has participated in 8 nationally and internationally significant and funded projects.

In conclusion, I believe that the candidate Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Blagovesta Midyurova meets all the requirements of the Law for Occupying the Academic Position of Associate Professor in Ecology and Environmental Protection, as well as the additional recommended criteria adopted by the CS of the EEA of the University: 1) Holds the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"; 2) Has presented publications in specialized scientific journals, which do not repeat the ones presented for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"; 3) Has presented a large number of other original research publications; 4) Has participated in research projects; 5) Has participated with reports in international and national scientific forums; 6) Has presented developed curricula for Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

Based on the above and my conviction that Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Blagovesta Midyurova is a fully developed and independent scientist, I propose she be elected Associate Professor of "Ecology and Environmental Protection" at the Department of "Ecology and Environmental Protection", "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov " University - Burgas.

Sofia

2.02.2022

Assoc. Prof. Dr. V. Petrov