

OPINION

in a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor"

by scientific specialty

"Pharmaceutical chemistry and pharmacognosy"

for the needs of the **Department of Pharmacy**

Medical College, University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov", Burgas,

announced in SG, no. 105 of 11.12.2020

from

Assoc. Prof. Svetlana Fotkova Georgieva, Ph.D.

Head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry at the Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, elected as an Internal Member of the Scientific Jury, according to Order № RD-28 / 05.02.2021 of the Rector of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas - Prof. Dr. Magdalena Mitkova

Regarding the procedure for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor":

Area of higher education - 7. Health and sports

Professional field - 7.3 Pharmacy

Scientific specialty - Pharmaceutical chemistry and pharmacognosy

The only candidate is Ch. Assistant Prof. MPharm. Stefan Vanev Harkov, PhD, Deputy Director of the Medical College of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

Biographical data: In 2010, Ch. Assistant Professor Stefan Vanev Harkov graduated with a master's degree in the regulated professions "Pharmacy" at the Lviv National Medical University "Danilo Halitsky" Lviv, Ukraine. He defended his master's thesis at the Department of Pharmacognosy and Pharmaceutical Botany. In 2010 he enrolled as a doctoral student in the Department of Pharmaceutical, Organic and Bioorganic Chemistry at Lviv National Medical University "Danilo Halitsky", Lviv, Ukraine with a term of study - 4 years. In 2014 he successfully defended his dissertation on "Synthesis and biological activity of thiazolidine derivatives with 2-oxo-1,3-dihydroindole fragment in the molecule" and acquired "PhD" degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, which is recognized accordingly in Bulgaria - Certificate №120 / 10.01.2020 and the applicant is included in the NACID register. Since 2016, after a competition, he holds the academic position of "assistant" in pharmaceutical

chemistry at the Department of Pharmacy of the Medical College at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov "- Burgas. Since 2018 he has been a senior assistant, and since January 2020 - Deputy Director of the College.

Harkov's work experience is over 10 years. He works as a master pharmacist in various pharmaceutical organizations and has significant practical experience, skills and established positions in professional, teaching and research circles.

Research activity: Ch. Assistant Professor Harkov, PhD has published a total of 26 scientific publications, including 11 publications in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information, all in English and impact-rank; 6 publications and reports in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Scopus, Web of Science) and 8 in non-refereed journals with scientific review. The dissertation for the acquisition of "PhD" is in the scientific specialty of the competition. The minimum national requirements and the scientometric indicators of the Regulations for the conditions and the order for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov "- Burgas (PURPNSZAD).

Dr. Harkov's research interests in the field of pharmaceutical chemistry are represented by 12 full-text publications. The candidate has extensively studied newly synthesized compounds including thiazolidine, pyrazoline and isatin fragments for their activity and toxicity as potential drugs. The synthesized compounds were studied for antitumor, antiviral and antioxidant activity *in vitro*, as well as a detailed study of their toxicity "in vivo". An *in silico* study and COMPARE analysis of the groups of potentially antitumor and antiviral agents were performed, on the basis of which to build hypotheses about the mechanism of action and formulate proposals for targeted synthesis of new drug molecules.

The scientific interests of Ch. Assistant Professor Harkov in the field of pharmacognosy are presented by 3 full-text publications. In the field of pharmacognosy, morphologically, anatomically and phytochemically, the genus "Geum L.", the underground and aboveground organs of "Geum urbanum" were studied and the quantitative content of BAS was determined. The quantitative content of tannins in the individual organs (underground and aboveground) is determined depending on the period and phase of harvesting. Phytopreparations were obtained and their antimicrobial activity was determined. I recommend expanding research in the field of pharmacognosy.

The candidate presents 5 research projects. There are about 170 citations.

Teaching activity: Ch. Assistant Professor Stefan Harkov has the necessary teaching experience and activities at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov "- Burgas and Medical College. Since the academic year 2016/17 he has held the academic position of "assistant", and since 2018 he has been a

chief assistant professor. It has the necessary work load. The reference for the work load covers the requirements of PURPNSZAD of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov "- Burgas.

Overall assessment: The materials presented in the competition give me reason to believe that Ch. Assistant Professor Stefan Vanev Harkov, PhD covers all the basic and additional requirements for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov "- Burgas, according to PURPNSZAD and the Regulations for application of ZRASRB.

The scientific developments are entirely in the field of scientific specialties of the competition - pharmaceutical chemistry and pharmacognosy. Publications in the field of pharmaceutical chemistry predominate. They have a pronounced practical orientation, which shows that the candidate is an established specialist in practice and has proven achievements in the field of research.

Conclusion: Due to the above, I give a **positive assessment and propose** to the esteemed jury to award the academic position of "Associate Professor" to the candidate **Ch. Assistant Professor Stefan Vanev Harkov, Ph.D.**

April 1st 2021
Varna

Sincerely:..
(Assoc. Prof. *Svetlana* Georgieva, PhD)