

# OPINION

**By Assoc. Prof. Elenka Stoilova Georgieva, PhD**

**Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"**

of the documents submitted for participation in the contest for the academic position of

**"associate professor" at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"**

by: field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics,  
professional direction 4.3. Biological Sciences (Zoology)

In the contest for the academic position "Associate Professor", announced in the State Gazette, No. 92 of 18.11.2023 and on the website of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" for the needs of the Department of Zoology at the Faculty of Biology, Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev from Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" has participated as a candidate.

## **1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate**

By order No. RD-21-14-334 dated 15.02.2023 of the Rector of the Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a contest for the academic position (AD) "associate professor" in the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" by region of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional direction 4.3. Biological sciences (Zoology), announced for the needs of the Department of Zoology at the Faculty of Biology.

The set of documents presented by Peter Boyadzhiev is in accordance with the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for implementation of LDASRB and the Regulations for academic development of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski". The set of the presented materials also complies with the additional requirements of Faculty of Biology. The set of paper materials includes all necessary documents.

The candidate Ch. Assist. Prof. Dr. Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev has submitted a total of 23 scientific papers, 3 teaching aids and a list of 2 research projects which were not used in the procedure for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degrees "Doctor" and "Chief Assistant Professor". 23 scientific papers are accepted for review, which are outside the dissertation and are counted in the final evaluation, 3 study aids and 2 scientific research projects. 7 scientific papers and a chapter of a collective monograph on the dissertation are not reviewed. The distribution of the scientific works according to the respective minimum requirements by groups, in the country and abroad is as follows: 8 scientific works for equating a habilitation work (Q2 – 2 nos.; Q3 - 4 nos.; Q4 – 2 nos. ) and 15 scientific works are attached to indicator D (Q3 – 10 items; Q4 – 5 items).

## **2. A general description of the applicant's activity**

Regarding his teaching work, chief assistant Dr. Petar Boyadzhiev develops and conducts lecture courses for students from the Bachelor's College of Medicine in the disciplines: Medical Zoology, Invertebrate Zoology, Animal Diversity, Zoology, Ethology, Biological Control, Parasitology, Zoological Objects in Pharmaceutical Technology (optional discipline). He also conducts exercises in some of these disciplines. Along with this, he gave lectures and exercises on the disciplines of Ethology and Biological Control with students from the "Bachelor" University of Applied Sciences in the branches of the Plovdiv University in the town of Smolyan and the town of Kardzhali. He gave lectures and exercises on freely chosen subjects (Biological foundations of behavior and Methods for collecting and processing zoological materials) with students from the Master's program "Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation". In the "Parasitology" master's program, he conducts lectures and exercises in the disciplines: Protozoan parasites of humans and animals, Medical entomology and acarology, as well as field practice. Under the scientific guidance of Ch. assistant professor Dr. P. Boyadzhiev successfully defended their diploma thesis 5 graduates from the Faculty of Biology.

Dr. Boyadzhiev participated as a co-author in a total of 3 study aids presented. Participated in the development of a textbook - Biology and health education for the 7th grade; one Grade 7 Biology and Health Education Workbook and one Invertebrate Zoology Laboratory Manual. The presented teaching aids are valuable tools for the students of various specialties of the Faculty of Biology at the PU. Dr. Boyadzhiev conducts the educational process at a high professional level and achieves very good results.

Regarding the scientific and scientific-applied activity, Dr. Boyadzhiev presents a total of 23 scientific papers in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus). The publications have a total impact factor: 9.073 and a total SJR: 6.679. They are written in English and are co-authored. In 8 of the publications ch. Assistant Professor P. Boyadzhiev is the first author. The distribution of the scientific publications is as follows: 8 scientific works for equating a habilitation work with a total number of points 124 of the required 100 points (Q2 – 2 items; Q3 - 4 items; Q4 – 2 items). The scientific works for indicator D are a total of 15 nos. (Q3 – 10 units; Q4 – 5 units), forming a total of 210 points out of the required 200 points. Regarding indicator D11, a total of 40 citations are presented, which earn the candidate a total of 80 points out of the required 50 points. The candidate is involved in the development of two research projects.

From the presented documentation it is clear that Dr. Boyadzhiev also fulfills all the additional requirements of BF - he presents 3 study aids, scientific supervisor of a total of 5 graduate students in the Faculty of Biology, has 27 years of teaching experience, participates in two scientific projects and in a candidate student Faculty of Biology campaign.

The main scientific interests of Dr. Boyadzhiev are in the field of zoology, and the contributions of the submitted materials for participation in the competition can be grouped into three scientific and scientific-applied directions:

- Taxonomic studies related to the description of new species of the Eulophidae family, supplemented with descriptive tables for distinguishing them from morphologically close representatives, as well as with taxonomic notes and redescription of poorly studied species;

- Methodological studies with the development and description of streamlined devices and work methods suitable for studies of small insect species and other biological objects;

- Faunal studies expanding the knowledge of the biological diversity of the Eulophidae family and other representatives of the superfamily Chalcidoidea (Hymenoptera) in Bulgaria and neighboring countries, supplemented with practical observations of their biology and ecology.

All quantitative indicators of the criteria for occupying the academic position "docent", national as well as the additional specific requirements of the BF have been met, and in most indicators - exceeded.

I know the candidate as a responsible and intelligent colleague who shows himself with his permanent interests in the field of zoology, as well as with professionally built competencies as a teacher and scientist at the Faculty of Biology of the University of Plovdiv.

### **3. Critical remarks and recommendations**

I have no comments or recommendations for the candidate.

### **CONCLUSION**

The documents and materials presented by Chief Assistant Professor Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev, PhD meet all the requirements set by the LDASRB, the Regulations for its implementation, the Regulations for academic development of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", as well as the Additional requirements of Faculty of Biology. Chief Assistant Professor Peter Boyadzhiev has presented a significant number of scientific publications in well recognized international and national journals. The theoretical developments have practical applicability, and some of them are directly oriented to the academic work. The scientific and teaching qualifications of Chief Assistant Professor Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev are undoubted.

The achieved by Chief Assistant Professor Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev results in the teaching activities and research fully comply with, and by some criteria exceed, the minimum national and additional requirements of the Faculty of Biology of University of Plovdiv for the academic position of "Associate Professor".

After the assessment of the presented materials, scientific works and analysis of their significance along with the achieved scientific and applied contributions, I recommend to the Scientific

Jury a preparation of a report-proposal to the to the Faculty Council of Faculty of Biology, University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" towards the election of Chief Assistant Professor Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev, PhD for the academic position "Associate Professor" in University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" in the field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional direction 4.3. Biological Sciences (Zoology).

30.03.2023 г.

**Prepared the opinion:** .....

(Assoc. Prof. Elenka Georgieva, PhD)