

## STATEMENT

by **Anelia Mihaylova Stojanova**, PhD

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of the materials submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position of  
"Associate Professor" at the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv  
by: field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics,  
professional direction 4.3. Biological Sciences (Zoology)

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

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

By order No. RD-21-14-334 of 15 February 2023 of the Rector of the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv, I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" at the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv in the field 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 presented set of materials by Ch. Assistant Professor Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev, PhD in electronic form, includes all the necessary documents described in the application to the Rector of the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv and are in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the University of Plovdiv. The documents are prepared and presented correctly and accurately.

To participate in the competition, the candidate has submitted a total of 23 scientific works, 2 study aids, 1 textbook and a list of participation in 2 research projects. All of these materials are outside of his dissertation and are accepted for peer review. Dr. Boyadzhiev has also presented a list of 8 research papers associated with his PhD dissertation, which are not peer-reviewed. The candidate has submitted all the necessary references and certificates in connection with the procedure, proving his contributions and meeting the minimum national requirements and the specific criteria of the Faculty of Biology for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" at the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv.

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

### **Educational and pedagogical activity**

Dr. Peter Boyadzhiev has been a lecturer in the Department of Zoology since 1993 (on a permanent employment contract since 1995), and since 2003 he has been a Chief Assistant. During this period, he has gained considerable teaching experience and has led classes in the Faculty of Biology at "Bachelor" and "Master" degree level. Chief Assistant Dr. Peter Boyadzhiev has conducted lecture courses and practical laboratory classes in the disciplines: Invertebrate Zoology, Animal Diversity, Zoology, Medical Zoology Part I, Biological Control, Parasitology, Zoological Objects in Pharmaceutical Technology, Ethology (optional discipline) in 8 Bachelor's degrees in the Faculty of Biology (full-time and part-time). Peter Boyadzhiev has actively participated in field practical exercises, organized in accordance with the curricula. For the "Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation" and "Parasitology" Master's programs he has given lectures and tutorials on Principles of Taxonomy and Systematics of Organisms, Biological Bases of Behavior, Methods for Collecting and Processing Zoological Materials, Protozoan Parasites of Humans and Animals, Medical Entomology and Acarology. Peter Boyadzhiev has also had teaching commitments in the affiliate colleges of the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv in the town of Smolyan and the town of Kardzhali, where he gave lectures and exercises in the disciplines of Ethology and Biological Control at the Bachelor degree level.

Dr. P. Boyadzhiev has been the academic supervisor and co-supervisor of five graduate students from the Faculty of Biology who have successfully defended their diploma theses in the period of 2010-2018.

Dr. Boyadzhiev has co-authored 1 textbook and 2 study aids – "Manual for laboratory exercises in invertebrate zoology" for the purposes of teaching at the Faculty of Biology of the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv, "Biology and health education" and "Biology and health education notebook" for the 7th grade.

### **Scientific and applied scientific activity**

To participate in the competition, Dr. Boyadzhiev has submitted 23 scientific works published in internationally renowned peer reviewed scientific journals, indexed in the Web of Science and Scopus databases. All publications have an impact factor, and the candidate is the first author in 11 of them. The distribution of the scientific works of the candidate, according to the minimum national requirements of the Law for the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor", is as follows: group of indicators B: 8 scientific works, distributed by quartiles: Q2 – 2 issues, Q3 - 4 issues and Q4 – 2 issues, carrying 124 points and by group of indicators G – 15 scientific papers, distributed by quartiles: Q3 – 10 issues and Q4 – 5 issues, carrying 210 points. The submitted publications exceed the minimum national requirements in number of points.

Under indicator group D, the candidate has submitted a list of a total of 40 citations, carrying 80 points (50 points required). This affirms that Dr. Boyadzhiev's research activity is popular and well received by specialists worldwide. The most cited publications are: „Georgiev, G. & Boyadzhiev, P. (2002). New parasitoids of *Paraphytomyza populi* (Kltb.) (Diptera: Agromyzidae) in Bulgaria. Journal of Pest Science, 75: 69-71“ and „Todorov, I., A. Stojanova, D. Parvanov, P. Boyadzhiev. (2012). Studies on the gall community of *Diplolepis rosae* (Hymenoptera: Cynipidae) in Vitosha Mountain, Bulgaria. Acta zoologica bulgarica, Suppl. 4: 27-37“ (cited 5 times each).

The works of Dr. Boyadzhiev published after the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree PhD, are in the field of zoology, taxonomy, biological diversity, parasitic relationships. Works covering studies of parasitoid insects from the order Hymenoptera prevail, and the main field in which the candidate works is the study of the biodiversity of the Eulophidae family in Bulgaria, food specialization, host-parasitoid relationship, biology and ecology of species, etc. The candidate has demonstrated significant taxonomic contributions related to the identification of 4 new species of the studied group of insects and preparing keys for determining morphologically close species.

In the documents associated with this application Dr. Boyadzhiev has structured and formulated the research contributions well and they fully correspond to the scientific field of the announced competition.

The scientific research work of Dr. Boyadzhiev has also been associated with participation in two projects financed on a competitive basis.

Dr. Boyadzhiev fully fulfills the specific criteria for academic growth of the Faculty of Biology: he has presented 1 textbook and 2 study aids, he has been the scientific supervisor of 5 graduate students at the Faculty of Biology, he has 27 years of teaching experience, has participated in two scientific research projects and in a prospective student campaign at the Faculty of Biology, “Paisii Hilendarski” University of Plovdiv.

### **Personal impressions**

I have known Dr. Boyadzhiev since the time when we were Bachelor's students at the Faculty of Biology, “Paisii Hilendarski” University of Plovdiv, and my personal impressions are also the result of our long-term collaborative work together at the Department of Zoology. Peter Boyadzhiev is a responsible, approachable and dedicated colleague, and his professionalism is manifested in his teaching activities and research work. He is a person with a good collegial attitude and approach to students at the Faculty of Biology of “Paisii Hilendarski” University of Plovdiv.

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

I have no critical remarks and recommendations regarding the submitted materials for participation in the competition.

## CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by Ch. Assistant Professor Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev, Ph.D., meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of LDASRB and the relevant Regulations for academic development of "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv, as well as the Additional requirements of the Faculty of Biology.

All criteria for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" - national and additional specific requirements of the Faculty of Biology, have been met by the candidate. Dr. Boyadzhiev has deep scientific interests and a clear profile as a researcher with significant original scientific and applied contributions in the field of zoology that have received international recognition. Ch. Assistant Professor Boyadzhiev, PhD is a highly qualified lecturer and achieves excellent results in the teaching process.

Based on the analysis of the candidate's pedagogical, scientific and applied scientific activities, I am confident that the candidacy of Ch. Assistant Professor Peter Boyadzhiev, PhD, fully meets the requirements for the academic position of "Associate Professor". I give my **positive assessment** and recommend to the Scientific Jury the preparation of a report-proposal to the to the Faculty Council of Faculty of Biology, "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv supporting the election of Chief Assistant Professor Peter Stoykov Boyadzhiev, PhD for the academic position "Associate Professor" at the "Paisii Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv in the field of higher education 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, professional direction 4.3. Biological Sciences (Zoology).

30.03.2023 г.

Statement prepared by: .....

(Assoc. Prof. Anelia Stojanova, PhD)