

## OPINION

by competition for an academic position

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

in professional field

**4.6 Informatics and computer sciences ( Information technologies on the Internet), for the needs of Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski" (PU), Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics (FMI), department " Software Technologies", announced in SG №. 39 of 02.05.2023 and on the PU website**

The opinion was prepared by: **Prof. Dr. Daniela Ivanova Tuparova , Department of Informatics , Southwest University "Neofit Rilski"**, as a member of the scientific jury for the competition in professional field 4.6 Informatics and computer sciences (Information technologies on the Internet) according to Order No. RD-21-1599/31.07.2023 of the Rector of the PU

**Only one candidate** submitted documents for participation in the announced competition :

**Chief Assistant Dr. Hristo Toshkov Hristov,**

from the "Software Technologies" Department of FMI at PU

### **1. Brief biographical data**

The candidate Ch. Assistant Professor Hristo Hristov, Ph.D., obtained bachelor's and master's degrees in informatics at VTU "St. St. Cyril and Methodius", Veliko Tarnovo. In 2016, he successfully defended a PhD thesis on the topic "Methodology of teaching modern technologies for creating software" for the acquisition of the degree "doctor" in professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of training in ..., scientific specialty "Methodology of teaching in informatics and information technologies". He has worked as a computer science teacher and as a software architect and web developer. From 2011 until now, he has been successively an assistant and chief assistant in the FMI of "Paisiy Hilendarski" PU.

### **2. General description of the presented materials**

The candidate fulfills the minimum national requirements and the additional requirements of PU "Paisiy Hilendarski" for occupying the academic position of "associate professor" in PN 4.6. Informatics and Computer Science'

Candidate Dr. Hristo Hristov participated in the competition with:

- **14** indexed publications, of which 4 are presented in Group C, and the rest are in Group D. All publications are indexed in Scopus and/or WoS . Of the submitted publications, 6 are indexed in Scopus with SJR. The remaining publications according to the

reference submitted by the applicant on 15.07.2023 are in SCOPUS without SJR or WoS without IF. I should note here that in August 2023, Mathematics and Informatics journal and TEM Journal also acquired IF for 2022 , but they have not yet been assigned quartiles . In this context, the publications in these journals could be attributed to Q4 as a minimum.

- Two requests for registration of useful models;
- One chapter of a book, published abroad;
- A study guide "Guide to designing and styling web pages with CSS GRID SYSTEM, UI PU "Paisiy Hilendarski", 2023, first edition, 108 pages, ISBN: 978-619-202-855-8 (in accordance with additional requirements of PU "Paisiy Hilendarski").

### **3. Reflection of the candidate's scientific publications in the literature (known citations)**

The candidate has provided evidence of 10 citations in Scopus/ WoS, which covers significantly more of the minimum scientometric indicators for occupying the academic position "associate professor" in PN 4.6 Informatics and computer sciences. From the reference made in SCOPUS , it is clear that he achieves h-index=2 without the self-citations of all the authors of the publications. This is clear proof that candidate Hristo Hristov, Ph.D. which is recognised in the scientific community.

### **4. General characteristics of the applicant's activity**

#### **4.1. Educational and pedagogical activity (work with students and doctoral students)**

According to the documents provided, ch. ass. prof. Dr. Hristov has led classroom classes in more than 10 disciplines, that are in the competition profile. A textbook and a study guide has been issued. He works actively with students and PhD students. He has been the supervisor of more than 20 successfully defended diplomas from FMI, and with four students and seven doctoral students he has co-authored a total of 10 scientific publications. Ch. Ass. Prof. Hristo Hristov, Ph.D., actively participates in the administrative activities of FMI and the "Software Technologies" department.

#### **4.2. Scientific and scientifically applied activity**

The candidate Hristo Hristov, PhD, for his overall scientific and scientific-applied activity, has 35 scientific publications, one textbook, one teaching guide, two book chapters, one PhD thesis, and two requests for useful models. As 19 of the papers are indexed in the world-renowned databases of scientific information Web of Science and SCOPUS.

As can be seen from the table attached below, Dr. Hristov meets the minimum national scientometric indicators for occupying the academic position "associate professor" in PN 4.6 Informatics and Computer Science.

Group	A	B	IN	D	D
Minimum number of points	50	-	100	200	50
Achieved by the candidate	50	-	108	261	80

He has participated in 9 scientific and educational projects, of which 3 have been national projects and 6 were intra-university projects funded by the "Scientific Research Fund" at "Paisii Hilendarski" University.

#### **4.3. Contributions (scientific, applied science, applied)**

The applicant's contribution claims are detailed in the Author Statement. I accept the submissions as presented by the applicant and leave them for detailed assessment by the reviewers.

#### **5. Evaluation of the candidate's personal contribution**

Due to the lack of separation protocols for co-authored works, I accept equal participation of each of the authors.

#### **6. Critical notes and recommendations**

I have no comments essentially.

#### **7. Personal impressions**

I don't know the candidate personally.

#### **8. Conclusion:**

After having familiarized myself with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition and based on the analysis of their significance and the scientific and scientific-applied contributions contained in them, I confirm that the scientific achievements meet the requirements of ZRASRB, the Regulations for its application and the relevant Regulations of the PU "Paisiy Hilendarski" for the candidate's occupation of the academic position "associate professor" in the scientific field and professional field of the competition. In particular, the candidate satisfies the minimum national requirements in the professional field and no plagiarism has been found in the scientific works submitted for the competition.

I give my **positive conclusion** for choosing ch. Assistant Professor Hristo Toshkov Hristov, Ph.D., for the academic position "associate professor" under the current competition.

Based on the above, **I recommend** to the scientific jury to propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics at PU "Paisiy Hilendarski" to elect ch. ass. prof. Hristo Toshkov Hristov, PhD, to take the academic position of "associate professor" in professional field 4.6 "Informatics and computer sciences" (Information technologies on the Internet).

26/09/2023

Prepared the opinion:

/prof. Dr. Daniela Tuparova /