

OPINION

by Prof. Dr. Eng. Pancho Krastev Tomov

of the materials submitted for participation in the competition
to occupy the academic position "professor"
at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv
by: field of higher education 5. Technical sciences
professional direction 5.1. Mechanical Engineering
(Engineering automation and automated design systems)

In the competition for "professor", announced in the State Gazette, no. 96 of 17.11.2023 and on the website of Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski" for the needs of the "Mechanical Engineering and Transport" department at the Faculty of Physics and Technology, as a candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Yasenov Lyubomirov from Plovdiv University "Paisius of Hilendar".

1. General presentation of the received materials

By order No. PD-21-385 dated 16.02.2024 of the Rector of the Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski" (PU), I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position of "professor" in the PU in the field of higher education 5. Technical sciences, professional direction 5.1. Mechanical Engineering (Automation of engineering work and systems for automated design), announced for the needs of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Transport at the Faculty of Physics and Technology.

For participation in the announced competition, documents were submitted by only one candidate: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Yasenov Lyubomirov from Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv.

The electronic set of materials presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Yasenov Lyubomirov is in accordance with the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff of the PU, and includes all the required documents.

The candidate, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Yassenov Lyubomirov has submitted a total of 93 scientific works, 1 monograph, 1 book, 7 textbooks and teaching aids and a list of 14 scientific research developments. The distribution of scientific works by relevant headings, in the country and abroad, is as follows: 25 are presented abroad and 27 are presented in the country. A list of 41 noticed citations other than those used for the occupation of the academic position of associate professor is presented. Documents (in the form of memos) for a published patent or utility model application are also provided. Owns a registered utility model with reg № 4664.

2. Brief biographical data of the candidate

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Lubomirov was born in 1970. He completed his secondary education in 1988. Since 1999, he has a master's degree in computer systems engineering with a specialization in information technologies from the Technical University of Sofia - Plovdiv branch. In 2013, he defended his dissertation on the topic "Research of hardware and software for digital relay protections" and obtained the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in scientific specialty 5.2. Electronics, Electrical Engineering and Automation from Technical University - Sofia. From 2015 until now, he holds the academic position of "associate professor" at "Paisiy Hilendarski" University of Plovdiv.

The professional biography of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Yassenov Lyubomirov clearly shows pedagogical competence and scientific awareness combined with in-depth knowledge in the field of mechanical engineering technologies.

3. General characteristics of the applicant's activity

Presented for participation in the competition for the academic position of "professor" of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Lyubomirov are: 1 habilitation thesis - monograph "Digital tools and systems for automated design in mechanical engineering", one textbook and one teaching aid, and as well as 10 project-based electronic courses, which are used for the training of students in the Faculty of Physics and Technology of PU "Paisiy Hillen-darski". The presented scientific works can be divided as fol-

lows: 11 scientific publications in issues that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific information databases and published in Web of Science and Scopus. from group D7.1. to D7.11 and 41 scientific publications in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or edited collective volumes.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Lubomirov has two PhD students and is the supervisor of 4 PhD students, which proves his indisputable teaching qualification and high professional qualities.

Based on the scientific publications presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Lyubomirov, and the attached reference for self-assessment of the contributions, I accept all 5 scientific contributions. In the presented 8 Scientific-Applied Contributions, I would recommend reformulating the last one by emphasizing the conclusions from the application of the courses with students. I also accept the submitted 5 Application Contributions.

The candidate has submitted a list of 41 citations, other than those used for the academic position of associate professor. From the presented list of citations, it is noticeable that 21 citations are from foreign authors. The information on citations in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in the world-famous scientific information databases Web of Science and Scopus by year is as follows: for 2020, 5 citations; for 2021, 12 citations; for 2022 8 citations and for 2023 2 citations. A total of 27 citations in Web of Science and Scopus for the last 4 years. The remaining 14 citations were in peer-reviewed collective volumes and in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals. No auto-citation available.

The comparison between the table "Minimum national requirements" for opening a procedure for occupying the academic position "professor" in professional fields and the table presented by the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Slavi Lyubomirov (8. Reference on the minimum national requirements - Appendix 1),

Group of indicators	Contents	Minimal requirements	Total number of candidate
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 2	-	-
V	Indicators 3 and 4	100	100
G	Sum of indicators from 5 to 11	200	352.49
D	Sum of indicators from 12 to 15	100	302
E	Sum of indicators from 16 to 28	150	274
	Total points:	600	1078.49

The above table clearly shows the applicant's serious publication activity, as in this area he exceeds the minimum requirements by more than 170%. On the other hand, he is well-known in scientific circles, which is proven by the three-fold increase in the minimum number of citations of his work. The quantitative indicators of the criteria for occupying the academic position of "professor" have been met according to all the indicators of the minimum national requirements.

4. Evaluation of the candidate's personal contribution 4.

I am convinced that the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions in the candidate's works are the personal contribution of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Lyubomirov, as well as the entire presented scientific production. No distribution protocol was presented, but there is no reason to doubt the active participation of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Lyubomirov in the publications presented by him.

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no substantive critical remarks to challenge the candidate's basic scientific, scientific-applied, and applied contributions. Minor technical errors are noted.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Yasenov Lyubomirov meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic

Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the ZRASRB and the relevant Regulations of PU "Paisiy Hilendarski" .

The candidate in the competition has submitted a sufficient number of scientific works published after the materials used in the defense of the ONS "doctor" and scientific works for the occupation of the academic post of associate professor. The candidate's works contain original scientific and applied contributions that have received international recognition, a representative part of which has been published in journals and scientific collections issued by international academic publishing houses. His theoretical developments have practical applicability, and some of them are directly oriented to academic work. The scientific and teaching qualifications of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Lubomirov cannot be doubted.

The results achieved by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Yasenov Lyubomirov in his educational and research activities fully correspond to the minimum national and additional requirements of the Faculty of Physics and Technology, adopted in connection with the Rules of the PU for the application of ZRASRB.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analyzing their significance and the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and recommend the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Physics and Technology at Plovdiv University "Paisiy Hilendarski" for the election of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Slavi Yasenov Lyubomirov to the academic position of "Professor" at PU "Paisiy Hilendarski" in: field of higher education 5. Technical sciences, professional direction 5.1. Mechanical Engineering (Automation of engineering work and automated design systems).

02.04.2024

Member of the scientific jury :
(prof. PhD. Eng. P. Tomov)