

STATEMENT

by **Prof. Dr. Velizar Kostadinov Gotchev,**

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on the materials submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position

"Associate Professor" at Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv

field of higher education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics

professional field 4.3 Biological sciences (Ecology and ecosystem conservation)

1. General presentation of the obtained materials

By Order No. RD-21-1416 of 08.07.2024 of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" (PU) I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at PU in the field of higher education 4.3. Biological Sciences (Ecology and Ecosystem Conservation), announced in the State Gazette, No. 32 of 09.04.2024 and on the Internet page of PU, for the needs of the Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection at the Faculty of Biology. For participation in the announced competition the following candidates have submitted documents, listed in the order of submission of the applications. Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. Vesela Slavcheva Yancheva and Senior Assist. Prof. Slaveya Tencheva Petrova.

The sets of materials submitted by both candidates on paper are, in principle, in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of PU (PRAS-PU). Some of the documents attached by Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva in the electronic set of documents differ from those attached in the paper version, and a large part of them (application form, CV, list of scientific works, habilitation transcript, etc.) are attached in the electronic version undated and unsigned by the candidate. Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova's electronic version of the documents lacks the monography G5.2, which only appears in the paper version. The discrepancies observed in both candidates do not prevent them from participating in the current competition.

The senior assistant, Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva, has enclosed a total of 73 scientific publications, four textbooks, and teaching aids for participation in the competition. All the submitted materials, which are beside the dissertation for the degree of PhD (2 scientific articles), i.e., 71 scientific publications, are accepted for review. I would like to note that the Senior Asst. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva has not indicated a list of the scientific works used for the acquisition of the academic position of "Senior Asst. Prof." which is a mandatory condition according to Article 65 (2) of the PRASPU (version of 18.12.2023) and I consider this to be a significant omission in the formulation of the documents, but given the large total number of scientific works applied for participation, I assume that the principle conditions for participation in the competition are met. The applicant has attached references for participating in research projects and teaching work.

For participation in the competition, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has submitted a total of 49 scientific works, of which 34 scientific publications, 2 monographs, 1 book based on a

defended dissertation, 3 chapters of a collective monograph, and 13 textbooks and teaching aids. All 40 submitted materials that are outside the dissertation for the acquisition of a PhD degree (3 scientific articles) and 6 scientific publications used for the acquisition of the academic position of Senior Assistant Professor, which Dr. S. Petrova has correctly described, are accepted for review. The candidate has attached references for participating in scientific projects, teaching work, and developing courses.

2. Brief biographical data of the candidates

Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva obtained her bachelor's degree in Plant Protection at the Agricultural University, Plovdiv. She has obtained a Master's degree in Ecology at the Norwegian University of Natural Sciences and a Ph.D. in Ecology and Ecosystem Conservation at the Plovdiv University. Since 2014, she has held the academic position of Senior Assistant Professor in the Department of Ecology and Environmental Conservation at PU's Faculty of Biology (FB).

Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in Ecology from PU. She graduated from PU with a PhD in Ecology and Ecosystem Conservation. Since 2011, she has held the academic position of "Senior Assistant Professor" in the Department of Ecology and Environmental Conservation at the Faculty of Arts at PU, and since 2024, she has also held the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education. 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, professional field 4.3 Biological Sciences (Ecology and Ecosystem Conservation) at Agricultural University, Plovdiv.

The education and career development of both candidates are entirely within the scope of the announced competition.

3. General description of the applicants' activities

Assessment of the applicants' scientific activity

Group of indicators A: Indicator 1 Dissertation for the award of a Educational and scientific degree Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Both candidates hold a PhD in Ecology and Ecosystem Conservation from the University of Plovdiv.

Group of indicators B (Sum of indicators 3 or 4).

Both candidates have publications equivalent to a habilitation thesis.

Indicator 4 Scientific publications in journals that have been refereed and indexed in the world databases of scientific information Scopus and Web of Science

In order to fulfill this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva has submitted 12 publications, of which only 7 (from B.4.6 to B.4.12) meet the imperative requirement of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB). This indicator only includes publications that have been refereed and indexed in the databases Scopus and Web of Science. Therefore, I have excluded publications from B.4.1 to B.4.5. The candidate has correctly not assigned a score to these publications. Dr. V. Yancheva's documents show that he published 3 articles in journals with Q2 (B.4.8, B.4.10, B.4.12), 3 articles in journals with Q3 (B.4.6, B.4.7, B.4.11), and 1 in a journal with Q4 (B.4.9), resulting in a total

score of 117 points. The publications are thematically grouped and are devoted to the study of ecotoxicological effects (histopathological and biochemical) of toxicants, such as heavy metals and pesticides, on different fish species—carp, perch, and rudd. The website www.scimagojr.com reveals that in 2015, the Journal Archives of Biological Sciences achieved a quartile of Q3, not Q2. Therefore, publication B.4.10 in the Archives of Biological Sciences should receive a score of 15 points, not 20. In relation to the requirement of Article 65 (2) of the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the University of Plovdiv (revised 18.12.2023), I quote "(2) (New - 20.06.2011) The materials from indicator 3 and indicator 4 should not repeat others with which the candidate has participated in successful procedures for acquiring the educational and scientific degree of "PhD" and the scientific degree of "Doctor of Science" and for occupying the academic position of "Senior Assistant Professor"—regardless of which scientific organization this has happened, as well as for the academic positions of "Associate Professor" and "Professor" at the University.", I requested from the Department of Academic Staff Development and Doctoral Studies, a reference to the documents that Dr. V. Yancheva had submitted in a competition for the academic position of "Senior Assistant Professor" held in 2014. From the provided reference and the list of publications used to occupy the position of Chief Assistant, personally signed by Dr. V. Yancheva, I found that the publications B.4.7 Yancheva V., Stoyanova S., Velcheva I., Petrova S., Georgieva E. 2014. Metal bioaccumulation in common carp and rudd from the Topolnitsa reservoir, Bulgaria. Archives of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology, 65(1): 57-66 and B.4.9 Georgieva E., Stoyanova S., Velcheva I., Vasileva T., Bivolarski V., Iliev I., Yancheva V.* 2014. Metal effects on histological and biochemical parameters of common rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus* L.). Archives of Polish Fisheries, 22: 197-206 have already been used by Dr. V. Yancheva for obtaining the academic position of "Senior Assistant Professor." Therefore, observing the PRASPU, I do not accept them for re-use in the present competition for "Associated Professor" and deduct 27 points from the total points of the candidate under indicator C.

After these adjustments, the total points of Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva's total score for indicator B is **85 points, which does not meet the threshold criterion of 100 points set by the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria.**

For this group of indicators, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has submitted 5 publications (from B.4.1 to B.4.5), which meet the imperative requirement of LDASRB, that only publications refereed and indexed in the databases Scopus and Web of Science participate in this indicator. Of these, 4 articles were published in Q1 journals and 1 article was published in a Q2 journal, generating a total for the indicator of 120 items. The publications are thematically clustered and are devoted to plant monitoring of air pollution in urban environments.

By group of indicators B Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva generated a total of 85 points, and Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova generated a total of 120 points. Dr. S. Petrova exceeds the threshold value of indicator B of 100 points and meets the requirement of the LDASRB on awarding the academic position "Associate Professor".

Group of indicators C (Sum of indicators 5 to 10)

Indicator 5 Published monography not presented as a major habilitation thesis

For participation in the competition, according to this indicator, only the Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has submitted 2 monographies (C.5.1 and C.5.2), of which the candidate generated a total of 60 points.

Monography C.5.1. "The green system of the city of Plovdiv: ecological aspects of the development and adaptation of some tree species," University Publishing House "Paisii Hilendarski," 202 pages, ISBN 978-619-202-968-5, is a natural reflection of the main part of Dr. S. Petrova's scientific interests and expertise in monitoring air pollution in urban environments and approaches to dealing with the problem. When I checked the StrikePlagiarism.com system, to which PU has institutional access, I found no plagiarism. The monograph has two official reviewers, is an independent and comprehensive study of the problem of air pollution in the city of Plovdiv, is based on the author's own experimental data, which have not been the subject of previous publications, and is correctly interpreted against the background of literature data of other authors. The formulated guidelines for the development of the green system of the city of Plovdiv are the author's original proposals.

The monography C. 5.2 is not included in the electronic version of Dr. S. Petrova's documents, but it is present in the paper version. When familiarizing with the content of monography C.5.2 Paleo-ecological reconstruction of Perunika village region (Bulgaria): Molluscs (Mollusca: Gastropoda, Bivalvia) as indicators for the paleoenvironment. Lambert Academic Publishing, Berlin, Germany, p. 80. ISBN 978-3-659-28268-3. I found that it does not meet the definition of a monographic work, as stated in the Supplementary Regulations section of the HEA (Higher Education Act), Article 10. With regard to the requirement to cite "a volume of not less than 100," therefore I do not accept it to be scored with 30 pts. As a result of the content analysis of the two monographies and their formal compliance with the requirement of the HEA, I only recognize monographies C.5.1, and on indicator 5, Dr. S. Petrova generates only 30 points and not 60 points.

Indicator 6 Published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor of Philosophy"

For participation in the competition, according to this indicator, only Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has submitted 1 book (C.6.1) "Passive and Active Phytomonitoring of Air Pollution in the City of Plovdiv" University Press "Paisii Hilendarski", 236 pages, ISBN 978-619-202-619-6, from which the candidate generated 20 points.

Indicator 7 Scientific publications in publications that are refereed and indexed in the world databases of scientific information Scopus and Web of Science.

In order to fulfill this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva has submitted 59 publications. However, only 38 of these publications meet the LDASRB's imperative requirement to only include publications that have been refereed and indexed in the databases Scopus and Web of Science. Therefore, I have excluded 21 publications from these databases (C.7.1-C.7.74, C.7.11, C.7.20, C.7.21, C.7.33-C.7.35, C.7.38-C.7.40, C.7.43, C.7.39, C.7.40, C.7.46, C.7.47, C.7.51-C.7.54, and C.7.56). The applicant correctly did not assign scores to these publications. Of these publications, 3 are in Q1 journals, 4 are in Q2 journals, 5 are in Q3

journals, and 26 are in Q4 journals. These publications have generated a total of 542 points. The applicant is the lead author of 16 of the 38 publications, or 42.1% of them. All the publications of the Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva is working in the area of the competition that is related to her main research interest, which is studying the ecotoxicological effects of different toxicants, mostly heavy metals and pesticides, on bioindicator organisms in aquatic environments (fish and zebra mussels). This topic has been clearly defined in the publications listed in Group C. As the main contribution in the publications of the Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva is the application of a multi-biomarker approach with emphasis on histological and biochemical indicators for the purpose of integrated ecomonitoring. Contributions in the publications of head . Dr. V. Yancheva I assess as scientifically applied, which in most of them are building on and complementing existing knowledge.

For the fulfillment of this indicator, the Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has submitted 29 publications, meeting the imperative requirement of the LDASRB, in this indicator to participate only publications refereed and indexed in the databases Scopus and Web of Science. Of the publications listed, 1 is in a Q1 journal, 6 are in Q2 journals, 8 are in Q3 journals, and 14 are in Q4 journals. The total number of points generated by these publications is 433 points. The applicant is the lead author of 13 of the 29 publications, or 44.8% of them. All the publications of the Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova are in the field of the announced competition, thematically related, and are focused on her main research interest: passive and active phyto-monitoring of air pollution in urban environments, clearly defined by the publications mentioned in the criterion Group of Indicators C. The main contribution of Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova's publications is the application of complex studies on the state of key components of the urban ecosystem, such as soils, soil communities, and green infrastructure, to identify priority pollutants and their sources. Additionally, she has developed a model for assessing the development and adaptation of tree species to the urban environment. Contributions in the publications of Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova I evaluate as scientifically applied, which in most of them are superior and complementary to existing knowledge.

Indicator 8 Published book chapter or collective monography

For participation in the competition, according to this indicator, only Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has submitted materials in the form of one chapter (C.8.1) of a collective monography /book "Advances in environmental research" (Ed. Justin A. Daniels) published abroad and two sections (C.8 .2 and C.8.3) of the collective monography /book "Fauna of Sarnena Sredna Gora Mts" (Eds. Georgiev, D., Bechev, D. & Yancheva, V.), published in Bulgaria, which generated the candidate a total of **45 pts**.

On group of indicators C Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva generates a total of 542 points, and Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova generates a total of 528 pts. Both candidates exceed the threshold value of indicator C of 200 points more than twice.

Group of indicators D (Sum of points in indicator 11)

Indicator 11 Citations in scientific journals, monographs, collective volumes and patents referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus)

For the fulfillment of this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva has submitted 323 citations in the world databases (*Web of Science* and *Scopus*), which, according to the Regulations for the implementation of the LDASRB and PRASPU, generate **646 points**.

For the fulfillment of this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has submitted 265 citations in the world databases (*Web of Science* and *Scopus*), which, according to the Regulations for the Implementation of the LDASRB and the PRASPU, generate **530 points**.

By group of indicators D Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva generates a total of 646 points, and Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova generates a total of 530 points. Both candidates exceeded the threshold value of indicator D of 50 points more than ten times.

Group of indicators F (Sum of indicators from 12 to the end)

Indicator 14 Participation in a national scientific or educational project

For the fulfilment of this indicator, the Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva has indicated participation in 2 national projects, which generates a total of **20 points**.

For this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has indicated participation in 9 national projects, which generates a total of **90 points**.

Indicator 15 Participation in an international scientific or educational project

For this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva has indicated participation in one international project, which generates **20 points**.

For this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has indicated participation in 6 international projects, which generates her a total of **120 points**. I do not accept as correct the scoring as international of the first two projects from the list, for which the funding organization is listed as the Ministry of Education and Science, therefore I classify these two projects as national, i.e. they generate the applicant not $2 \times 20 \text{ points} = 40 \text{ points}$, but $2 \times 10 \text{ points} = 20 \text{ points}$. After the correction, I acknowledge **80 points** from international projects and another **20 points** from national projects.

Indicator 16 Leadership of a national scientific or educational project

Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. Yancheva has been the leader of 1 national project funded by the National Research and Education Fund of the Ministry of Education, which earns her 20 points.

Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has indicated that she has been the head of 3 national projects, which according to the candidate brings her **60 points**. The reference I made shows that Dr. S. Petrova has been the project leader of 1 project KP 06 H65/13 "*Opportunities and practical solutions for optimization of the transition from waste management to green economy*", financed by the National Research and Education Fund of the Ministry of Education and Science, which brings her **20 points**. The marked as two separate projects, the second and the third from the applicant's list, are actually the same project BG161PO003-1.2.02-0042-C0001 "*Capacity Building for Technology Transfer at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"*", in which Dr. S. Petrova was the head of a team performing two research tasks under the project, and the presence of two contracts for the same project does not mean the management of two

scientific projects. For this reason, I count the candidate only **10 points** as a participant in a national project.

Indicator 18 Funds raised in projects led by the applicant

Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova reports **12 points** for attracted 60 000 BGN under the project KP 06 H65/13 "*Opportunities and practical solutions for optimization of the transition from waste management to green economy*", funded by the National Research Fund of the Ministry of Education and Science.

Indicator 19 Published university textbook or textbook used in the school network

For the implementation of this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva has indicated co-authorship of 2 university textbooks (E.19.1 and E.19.2), which bring her **26.67 points**.

For the implementation of this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has indicated co-authorship of 4 university textbooks (E.19.1 - E.19.4), which bring her **46.67 points**.

Indicator 20 Published university textbook or textbook used in the school network

For the fulfilment of this indicator, the Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva has indicated co-authorship of 2 university textbooks (E.20.3 and E.20 .4), which bring her **8 pts**. Having familiarized myself with the content of the two textbooks, I categorically do not accept as a university textbook "*Manual for sustainable management of parks and prevention of environmental disasters in settlements*", in the introduction of which the authors themselves have written, quote "*This manual is designed to support the work of employees in public and private structures dealing with parks and green areas in settlements. It can also be used by biologists and nature lovers*". The book does not meet any requirements for a textbook, neither in terms of length, nor in terms of specific methodological tasks, nor in terms of a bibliography; it is even more strange that a textbook should be published as a supplement to a scientific periodical Zoo Notes. For this reason, on this indicator, I acknowledge to the Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva only **4 points**.

For the fulfilment of this indicator, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova has indicated co-authorship of 9 university textbooks (E.20.1 to E.20.9), which bring her **41.83 points**.

In the group of indicators E, Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva generated a total of 90.67 points, and Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova generated a total of 320.5 points.

Evaluation of the educational and pedagogical activities of the candidates (teaching aids, lecture courses, work with students, graduates and doctoral students)

When choosing an "associate professor" in an educational institution, such as a university, and not in the system of BAS or Agricultural Academy, the educational and pedagogical activity should be highly evaluated.

The report on the workload of Senior Assist. Prof. V. Yancheva at the Faculty of Biology is not in the traditionally accepted format; it should clearly indicate the hours of lectures, seminars, and laboratory exercises that have been held by the candidate for a certain period of time and for a given discipline and specialties. I cannot comment on the reason why the candidate has chosen to present her audience engagement with part of her attestation report to the department

and why she has attached working versions of her individual plans, which have not been signed by the head of department, by the dean, or by the rector. From the administrative position I occupy, despite this non-traditional and free form of the report on academic employment, I can categorically state that Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. V. Yancheva fulfills and many times exceeds its annual standard for Classroom Employment. Together with Prof. Dr. I. Velcheva, the candidate conducted a compulsory lecture course in "Environmental Toxicology" for the specialties "Ecology and Environmental Protection" and "Pharmaceutical Biotechnologies." She has independently conducted compulsory lecture courses in "Aquaculture," "Climatology and Hydrology" and "Water Pollution" for the specialties "Ecology and Environmental Protection" and "Geography, Technology and Entrepreneurship" from the EQD of "Bachelor". Senior Assistant Dr. V. Yancheva also supervises an optional course "Methodological Guidelines for the Development of a Diploma Thesis", offered for all specialties by the Faculty of Biology of the University of Plovdiv. The candidate has also held 20 hours of lectures in the compulsory discipline "Water Resources Management" for the Master's degree. The candidate has attached an official note certifying that from 2020 to 2024 she has lead 210 hours of lectures in the disciplines "Toxicology", "Climatology" and "Conservation and Management of Water Resources" at the "L. Karavelov" Branch in Kardzhali. Dr. V. Yancheva is also actively involved in the work of the doctoral school Academia Iuventutis, where she teaches two courses "Methodological Guidelines for the Development of a Scientific Publication" and "Methodological Guidelines for the Development of a Dissertation and a Scientific Publication". Senior Assistant Dr. V. Yancheva has not submitted a reference for updated or newly developed training courses in disciplines from existing curricula by herself, independently or in co-authorship. Senior Assist. Dr. V. Yancheva has presented a list of 5 successfully graduated students. She is a co-author of 2 university textbooks and 1 university textbook, which I have already commented on in my opinion.

The report on the workload of Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Petrova covers a 5-year period and is extremely detailed, describing the disciplines taught, the number of lectures, seminars, and laboratory exercises conducted in the Faculty of Biology and the branches of the University of Plovdiv in the cities of Kardzhali and Smolyan. The report is signed by the head of the Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection. For the reporting period, Senior Assist. Dr. S. Petrova has led an average of between 268 and 406 lecture hours, without doubling, in the following compulsory disciplines - "Ecology", "Ecology and Environmental Protection", "Soil Science and Soil Pollution", "Fundamentals of Paleontology", "Geology and Petrography", "Geomorphology". The candidate has attached an official note certifying that from 2020 to 2024 she has lead 570 hours of lectures in the disciplines "Soil Resources Conservation", "Environmental Legislation", "Environmental Management", "Soil Science and Soil Resources Conservation" and "Restoration of Natural Ecosystems" at the "L. Karavelov" Branch in Kardzhali. The candidate has attached an official note certifying that from 2021 to 2024 she delivered 150 hours of lectures on the disciplines "General Ecology" and "Fundamentals of Paleontology" at the Smolyan Branch. Senior Assistant Dr. S. Petrova has attached a reference for a huge number of newly developed and updated training courses in 9 compulsory, 12 elective and 3 optional disciplines. Senior Assistant Dr. S. Petrova has presented a list of 36 successfully graduated students. Dr. S. Petrova is a co-author of 4 university textbooks and 9 university textbooks

I evaluate highly the educational and pedagogical activity of both candidates, which is entirely in the field of the announced competition, but the teaching activity of Senior Assist.

Prof. Dr. S. Petrova, is significantly larger and more pronounced in every respect – self-delivered lecture courses, updated and developed new lecture courses, successfully graduated students and published textbooks and teaching aids.

4. Assessment of candidates' personal contributions

I believe that at the current stage of scientific development, especially in the field of natural sciences, an assessment of an individual author's personal merit for the realization of a publication or a formulated contribution is impossible and unnecessary because it is teamwork. Both candidates had the unique chance, at the beginning of their careers, to be included in a particularly productive team, created and led by the late Prof. Dr. Iliana Velcheva, long-time head of the Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection, and Prof. Dr. Elenka Georgieva, Head of the Department of Developmental Biology. Colleagues from the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology also took an active part in this team, which allowed the Faculty of Biology to expand the scope of ecotoxicological studies. In line with standard reviews and opinion formats, I would like to express my appreciation for the personal contributions made by the two candidates to the implementation of the presented publications. These contributions were fully relevant to their experience and competence as ecologists, specifically in areas such as habitat selection, factor and range of influence, sampling, field work, and publication preparation. All these activities fully meet the requirements for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor.

To form my final decision in the announced competition, I compare the performance of the indicators under the LDASRB by the two candidates.

Table 1. Fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor in a scientific field 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, professional field 4.3. Biological Sciences from the two candidates for participation in the course.

Indicator group	Indicator	Points	Implementation by Senior Assist. Dr. V. Yancheva	Implementation by Senior Assist. Dr. S. Petrova
A	1. Dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"	50	50 Meets the criteria	50 Meets the criteria
B	4. Habilitation work – scientific publications in journals that are refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (Web of Science и Scopus)	100	85 Does not meet the criteria	120 Meets the criteria
C	Sum of the indicators from 5 to 10	200	542 Meets the	528 Meets the

			criteria	criteria
	5. Published monography that is not presented as a main habilitation matherial			30
	6. Published book on the basis of a defended dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree of "Doctor"			20
	7. Scientific publication in journals that are refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (Web of Science and Scopus), outside the habilitation work		542	433
	8. Published chapter of a book or collective monograph			45
D	11. Citations in scientific journals, monographs, collective volumes and patents, refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (Web of Science и Scopus)	50	646 Meets the criteria	530 Meets the criteria
E	Sum of the indicators from 12 to the end	-	90.67	320.5
E	14. Participation in a national scientific or educational project		20	120
	15. Participation in an international scientific or educational project		20	80
	16. Leadership of a national scientific or educational project		20	20
	18. Attracted funds for projects led by the applicant			12
	19. Published university textbook or textbook that is used in the school network		26.67	46.67

	20. Published university textbook or textbook that is used in the school network		4	41.83
Общ брой точки:		400	- Does not meet the criteria	1548.5 Meets the criteria

Table 2. Fulfillment of the additional requirements of the Bulgarian Philosophy for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" in a scientific field 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, professional field 4.3. Biological Sciences by the two candidates for participation in the competition

Requirements	Implementation by Senior Assist. Dr. V. Yancheva	Implementation by Senior Assist. Dr. S. Petrova
1. The candidate must be the author or co-author of at least 2 (two) textbooks in the relevant field and specialty of the announced competition	3 Meets the criteria	13 Meets the criteria
2. The candidate must have supervised at least 5 (five) successfully defended graduates in the relevant field of the competition	5 Meets the criteria	36 Meets the criteria
3. The applicant must submit a document for at least 5 (five) years of teaching experience;	9 years 7 months Meets the criteria	13 years 3 months Meets the criteria
4. The applicant must have participated in at least 2 (two) scientific projects	15 Meets the criteria	over 30 Meets the criteria
5. The applicant must have administrative experience (for the last 5 years) in at least one of the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in preparation and accreditation procedures; • Participation in activities to ensure the quality of education; • Participation in the preparation of an application campaign; • Participation in administrative activities, such as attestation committee, ethics committee, etc.; 	Yes Meets the criteria	Yes Meets the criteria

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have already expressed my critical remarks to the individual documents of the candidates in my opinion, but if I have to formulate a general remark to both candidates, it is related to the manifestation of more precision and self-criticism in the preparation of documents and self-assessment of achievements.

6. Personal impressions

My personal impressions of Senior Assist. Dr. V. Yancheva, and by Senior Assist. Dr. S. Petrova were wonderful. Both candidates in the competition are extremely ambitious, even outside the "healthy" limit, very active in both scientific and teaching activities. Both candidates are willing and willing to participate in activities related to accreditation, popularization of the faculty, CSC, international exchange, etc.

CONCLUSION

After getting acquainted with the presented by Senior Assist. Dr. Vesela Slavcheva Yancheva and Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. Slaveya Tencheva Petrova in the competition materials and scientific papers, analysis of their significance and contributions contained in them, I find it justified to give my positive assessment of Senior Assist. Dr. Slaveya Tencheva Petrova and not to give a positive assessment to Senior Assist. Dr. Vesela Slavcheva Yancheva, due to non-fulfillment of the minimum requirements for indicator B and to recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Biology for the election of Senior Assist. Prof. Dr. Slaveya Tencheva Petrova on the academic position of Associate Professor at the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" in: Field of Higher Education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, professional field 4.3 Biological Sciences (Ecology and Ecosystem Conservation).

28/08/2024

Prof. Dr. Velizar Gochev