

# Statement

made by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Georgiev Baltadjiev, MD, PhD

Department of Anatomy, Histology and Embryology

Medical University – Plovdiv

on the materials submitted for participation in the competition

for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski"

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

professional field 4.3 Biological Sciences (Morphology)

In the competition for "associate professor", announced in the ДВ, issue 98 of 19.11.2024 and on the website of Plovdiv University "Paisic Hilendarski" for the needs of the Department of "Developmental Biology" at the Faculty of Biology, the candidate is Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Stella Georgieva Stoyanova from the Department of "Developmental Biology" at the Faculty of Biology.

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

By order No. PD 22-441 of 18.02.2025 of the Rector of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" (PU), I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position of 'associate professor' at PU in the field of higher education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics, professional field 4.3 Biological Sciences (Morphology), announced for the needs of the Department of Developmental Biology at the Faculty of Biology.

A single candidate has submitted documents for participation in the announced competition:

Chief Asst. Prof. Dr. Stella Georgieva Stoyanova from the Department of Developmental Biology at the Faculty of Biology.

The set of materials on paper submitted by Dr. Stella Georgieva Stoyanova is in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the University of Plovdiv.

The candidate Dr. Stella Georgieva Stoyanova has submitted a total of 33 scientific papers, 2 textbooks and teaching supplements and a list of 10 research projects. Ten scientific papers that are outside the dissertation and are taken into account in the final grade, 2 teaching aids and 10 research projects are accepted for review.

### **1.1 Brief biographical data**

Dr. Stoyanova joined the Faculty of Biology of the Paisii Hilendraski University, Department of Developmental Biology, as a part-time assistant in 2009. She successively acquired the academic positions: assistant and chief assistant. In 2015, she acquired the ONS "Doctor", defending her dissertation "Influence of pesticides on morphophysiological indicators in commercial fish species of the Cyprinidae family". The candidate speaks English at level B1.

## **2. General characteristics of the candidate's activities**

### **2.1 Assessment of educational and pedagogical activity**

Dr. Stoyanova has a bachelor's degree, specialty "Biology" and a master's degree, specialty "Anthropology". She has over 10 years of teaching experience, over 8 years she has held the position of Chief Assistant.

### **2.2 Assessment of the candidate's scientific and scientific-applied activity**

Indicator "B"

The candidate submits 10 articles in refereed Web of Science and Scopus journals: Q2 - 1 pc., Q3 - 6 pcs., Q4 - 3 pcs. total 146 points.

Indicator "D"

The candidate submits 23 articles in refereed Web of Science and Scopus journals: Q1 -2 pcs., Q2 - 3 pcs., Q3 - 2 pcs., Q4 - 16 pcs. total 332 points.

Indicator "D"

Dr. Stoyanova presents 272 citations in various journals, which amount to 544 points, H-index = 12.

Indicator "E"

The candidate presents 2 manuals: Manual of Histology and Manual of Histology and Pathology. She has participated in 10 scientific and teaching projects. The total number of points amounts to 70 points.

The total number of points from all indicators amounts to 1142 points.

## **2.2 Contributions**

1. Contributions regarding the use of hydrobionts as suitable indicator species for monitoring pollution of aquatic ecosystems with organic pollutants and heavy metals.
2. Contributions to the study of the influence of organic pollutants in aquatic ecosystems.
3. Contributions to the study of the influence of heavy metals in aquatic ecosystems.
4. Contributions to the study of the influence of nutritional supplements on male infertility.
5. Contributions to the study of metabolic syndrome and the influence of the hormone ghrelin.
6. Contributions in the field of educational activities.

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

I have no critical remarks and recommendations on the received and analyzed documents.

## **CONCLUSION**

The documents and materials presented by Dr. Stella Georgieva Stoyanova 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 ZRASRB and the relevant Regulations of the PAISII HILENDARSKY University.

The candidate in the competition has presented a sufficient number of scientific works published after the materials used in the defense of the ONS "Doctor" and AD "Senior Assistant". The candidate's works contain original scientific and applied contributions that have received international recognition, as a representative part of them have been published in journals and scientific collections published by international academic publishing houses. The theoretical and developments have practical applicability, as some of them are directly oriented towards academic work. The scientific and teaching qualifications of Dr. Stella Georgieva Stoyanova are undoubted.

The results achieved by Dr. Stella Georgieva Stoyanova in the educational and scientific research activities fully comply with the minimum national and additional requirements of the Faculty of Biology, adopted in connection with the Regulations of the University of Sofia for the implementation of the ZRASRB.

After familiarizing myself with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, analyzing their significance and the scientific, applied scientific and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment 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 Dr. Stella Georgieva Stoyanova to the academic position of "Associate Professor" at the University of Sofia "Paisii Hilendarski" in: field of higher education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics professional field 4.3 Biological Sciences (Morphology).

28.02. 2025

Written by: ..... (signature)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Baltadjiev, MD