



REVIEW

on the materials for participation in a competition for the academic position "docent", field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, PD 6.4. Veterinary medicine, scientific specialty "**Animal pathology**", in the discipline "**Propaedeutics of internal diseases**", announced by the University of Forestry in SN no. 18/1.3.2024, procedure code VM-AsP-0224-125.

Candidates for participation in the competition are:

1. Ch. Assistant Professor Petar Strahilov Stamberov;

Reviewer: Dr. Dian Todorov Kanakov, Professor of PD 6.4. Veterinary Medicine from Trakia University, Stara Zagora.

1. Brief biographical data about the candidate

Dr. Petar Strahilov Stamberov graduated in 2011 as a Master of Veterinary Medicine at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the Forestry University, Sofia. In 2012 was elected as an assistant in the Department of "Internal Diseases, Pathology and Pharmacology" at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Forestry in Sofia, and in 2019 as the chief assistant in the same department, as he is until now.

In 2018 Dr. Stamberov obtained the educational and scientific degree Doctor in "Animal Pathology" for a defended dissertation on the topic: "Research on lead ammunition as a source of poisoning in wild birds and a risk ecotoxicological factor". The candidate conducted teaching mobility in 2014. in Sassari, Italy; 2022 in the city of Cordoba, Spain and 2023. in the city of Bucharest, Romania.

2. Conformity of the applicant's submitted documents and materials with the requirements according to the Regulations for Development of Academic Staff at University of Forestry;

The documents and materials submitted by the applicant meet the requirements of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the regulations for its application and include: Application to the Rector of the University of Forestry; Declaration of reliability of information; Reference in connection with the assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements (MNR) for the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"; Reference-self-assessment for compliance of the scientific production with the minimum national requirements according to Art. 2b of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and Art. 2a, paragraph 1 of the Regulations for Development of Academic Staff at University of Forestry; Document for taking an internship in the specialty; Criminal record certificate; Medical certificate; Certificate of academic position; List of publications and citations, as well as supporting material for all activities.

3. Evaluation of the candidate's educational and teaching activities

Chief assistant professor Petar Strahilov Stamberov, PhD, has 8 years and 7 months of scientific and teaching experience. The candidate has completed a course in Academic Teaching Methodology and in Methods and Systems for Electronic Learning, proof of a quality methodological basis for his teaching work.

From the presented documentation, it can be seen that Dr. Stamberov fulfills the normative academic employment for the academic position of chief assistant. He actively participates in conducting exercises and seminars in the disciplines: Propedeutics of Internal Diseases, Internal Non-Infectious Diseases and Mobile Clinic in Bulgarian and English, held in the department. Dr. Stamberov also leads a part of the lecture course on the disciplines "Propaedeutics of internal diseases", "Toxicology" and "Game diseases".

4. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific, scientific-applied and publication activities

4.1. Participation in scientific, scientific-applied and educational projects

Dr. Petar Stamberov was the head of a faculty scientific project "Thermovisual diagnostics and monitoring of inflammatory processes in horses" and participated as a member of the working groups of four other scientific projects, one of which was of the Ministry of Education and Science.

4.2. Characteristics of published scientific results

The total number of submitted scientific works for participation in the competition is 30, including one book based on a protected dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and 29 scientific publications. Of these, 23 were published in refereed and indexed journals.

In his career so far, Dr. Stamberov has taken part in eleven scientific forums in the country, and at the international scientific conference "Traditions and Modernity in Veterinary Medicine" in 2020 he was a member of the organizing committee.

The presented publications are in different directions of medical science (animal pathology, toxicology and ecotoxicology, immunology, paleopathology, animal breeding sciences, genetics, etc.) and have both a theoretical and an applied nature.

The work with wild animals and birds is impressive; fallow deer, pheasants and griffon vultures.

Publication in popular publications, such as: Horse Riding, Hunting and Fishing, Veterinary assembly, Animal Husbandry BG and Veterinary practice ensures a wider audience and popularity of the author.

The availability of published clinical cases completes Dr. Stamberov's clinician profile.

4.3. Reflection of the candidate's scientific activity in the literature (citability)

The candidate participating in the competition presents 16 citations of his scientific works. In the Google Science platform, a greater number of citations are actually found for the publications

in which Dr. Stamberov is a co-author. According to the same public information source, the author's h-index is 3.

4.4. Contributions in the candidate's works (scientific, scientific-applied, applied)

The scientific contributions in the presented publications can be attributed to the following areas: Toxicology - studies of toxicological effects of lead ammunition in wild birds and game meat products; Ecotoxicology - contamination of the environment with lead as a result of the use of lead ammunition; Paleopathology - the study of pathological changes in osteological material from dogs of the Late Iron Age; Livestock breeding and genetics - research of genetic material from Bulgarian autochthonous and selected breeds of sheep with the aim of improving their productive qualities; Animal pathology - pathological changes related to acute poisoning and neoplastic formations in horses, mastitis in goats, prevention and treatment in equids, ruminants, company animals, domestic and wild birds; Interdisciplinary research related to the implementation of innovative diagnostic methods - infrared radiography.

5. Evaluation of the candidate's personal contribution

The total number of published articles with the participation of Dr. Stamberov is thirty. Of the materials presented in the competition, three are individual, in ten of the publications are the lead author, and in three he is the second author.

In the scientific production, his co-authorship exclusively with Bulgarian scientists makes an impression. Unfortunately, Petar Stamberov is not found as an author in the Scopus database.

6. Critical notes and recommendations

My recommendation to Dr. Stamberov is to aspire to publish in SJR and Impact Factor journals. This will increase its scientometric indicators and the citability of scientific production in the future.

It is also desirable to enrich and expand the list of scientific forums for reporting results at home and abroad, in addition to the conferences of the own faculty.

The candidate's lack of participation in writing teaching handbooks and other materials for veterinary medicine students is also impressive.

7. Personal impressions

I do not know the candidate personally and our professional paths have not crossed until now. From familiarization with the documentation, a good impression is made of the command of a second Western language - Italian.

Dr. Stamberov has invested heavily in trainings related to information technologies, use of modern teaching methods, through ICT, web technologies, biostatistics and work with Free Open Source /R software/.

The candidate's inclinations towards wild animals and nature are palpable, supported by the relevant additional qualifications in environmental protection and a specialized course "Wildlife epidemiology and disease control" in the city of Suidad Real, Spain.

Dr. Petar Stamberov's commitment to the mission and activities of Green Balkans also characterizes him as a committed professional and public figure.

8. Conclusion

My detailed familiarization with the documents, scientific works and references provided under this competition for the scientific, teaching and organizational activities of ch. Assistant Professor Petar Stamberov, Ph.D., shows that his candidacy fully meets the requirements of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. The candidate has presented a substantial output that characterizes him as an active and productive scholar. He has articles, as well as citations of works in authoritative scientific journals, which is proof of noticeability and recognition of our scientist. A large part of his contributions and achievements have an original character.

Due to all this, I believe that the candidacy of Ch. Petar Stamberov, PhD, meets the specific requirements and criteria of the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the University of Forestry. His overall publication, research and teaching activities are closely related to the announced competition and characterize the candidate as an established scientist with marked organizational skills. I believe that Dr. Stamberov meets the necessary qualitative and quantitative criteria to determine and lead scientific directions in the field of internal pathology in animals. The presented documents indisputably prove that he is fully prepared to occupy the academic position "Docent" according to the announced competition, in the field of higher education 6. "Agrarian sciences and veterinary medicine", professional direction 6.4. "Veterinary medicine" in the subject "Propaedeutics of internal diseases" for the needs of the department "Internal non-infectious diseases, pathology and pharmacology".

All of the above are evidence of the candidate's extremely responsible attitude towards the assumed commitments of a researcher, scientist and teacher. That is why **I SUGGEST the candidate Chief assistant professor Petar Strahilov Stamberov, to take the academic position of "associate professor" in the subject "Propaedeutics of internal diseases" from Professional Direction 6.4. Veterinary Medicine**

Reviewer's signature:

The review was submitted on: 5/21/2024.