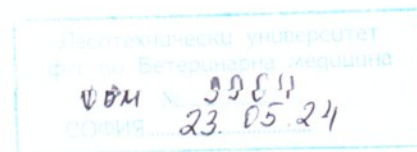


STATEMENT



On the materials for participation in a competition for the academic position of "**Associate Professor**", field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, professional direction 6.4. Veterinary medicine, scientific specialty "Animal Pathology" under the discipline "Propaedeutics of Internal Diseases" for the needs of the Internal Non-Infectious Diseases, Pathology and Pharmacology Department, announced in SG № 18/01/03/2024, procedure code: VM-AsP-0224-125.

Candidate for participation in the competition: the only candidate for participation in the competition is Dr. Petar Strahilov Stamberov, PhD, assistant professor, higher education area 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, professional field 6.4. Veterinary medicine, scientific specialty "Animal Pathology", teacher of the main employment contract in the department of "Internal non-infectious diseases, pathology and pharmacology" at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in the University of Forestry.

Author of the statement: associate professor Anton Georgiev Rusenov, PhD, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Trakia University, higher education area 6. Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, professional direction 6.4. Veterinary medicine, scientific specialty "Animal Pathology", appointed as a member of the scientific jury by Order No. 201/15.04.2024 of the Rector of University of Forestry.

Short biographical data on the applicant

Petar Strahilov Stamberov was born on 31.08.1978 in the village of Eleshnitsa, region of Blagoevgrad, Razlog municipality. In 2011, he completed his higher education at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Forestry, Sofia with a master's degree in veterinary medicine. In 2012, after successfully winning a competition, he was appointed as a full-time assistant in the Department of Internal Diseases, Pathology and Pharmacology of the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Forestry, Sofia. For the period 2016-2019, he held the position of veterinary doctor at the University Clinic for Small Animals at the FVM at the University of Forestry, Sofia. In 2018, he successfully defended his dissertation on the topic "Research on lead ammunition as a source of poisoning in wild birds and a risk eco-toxicological factor" and obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor". In 2019, after passing an examination, he was appointed to the academic position of senior assistant professor. He is fluent in both English and Italian.

Compliance of the submitted documents and materials of the applicant in accordance with the Rules for Development of the Academic Staff at the University of Forestry

Senior assistant professor Dr. Petar Strahilov Stamberov has presented in a very orderly manner all the documents necessary for participation in the competition for the academic position "**Associate Professor**", as they have been prepared according to the requirements of the rule book for the development of the academic staff at the University of Forestry.

Assessment of the teaching activity of the applicant

The educational and teaching experience of Dr. Stamberov is 8 years and 7 months as of 12.04.2024. In the period 2012-2016, he held the academic position of assistant professor, and from 2019 - the academic position of senior assistant professor. The candidate conducts practical classes in the mandatory disciplines "Propaedeutics of internal diseases", "Internal

noninfectious diseases" and "Mobile clinic" with students of the master's programme in veterinary medicine in Bulgarian and English. Since 2022 he has been presenting a part of the lecture course of the compulsory disciplines "Propaedeutics of Internal Diseases" and "Toxicology" in Bulgarian, and from the 2019/2020 to the 2020/2021 academic year - on the compulsory discipline "Game Diseases" in English. His academic attendance during the last four years is over 340 hours, and his total yearly attendance is over the required 360 hours per year.

The above data displays that senior assistant professor Dr. Stamberov has gained a lot of teaching and learning experience in conducting practical classes and lectures in Bulgarian and has taken an active part in foreign language training.

Assessment of the applicant's scientific and publication activities

The materials for the educational and scientific degree "doctor" include a dissertation, an abstract and 4 publications (1 in Bulgarian and 3 in English) published in refereed journals.

In order to participate in the competition for the academic position "associate professor", the candidate submitted a total of 30 scientific works, which are different from those for acquiring the title of "doctor".

The total number of points with which the candidate participates in the competition for "associate professor" is **598.9** points, with a required 400 points. They are distributed as follows:

- In indicator group "A": 50 points out of 50 required - for having a dissertation and the educational and scientific degree "doctor";

- In indicator group "B": 0 points out of 0 required;

- In indicator group "B": Habilitation work - scientific publications (not less than 10) in publications that are peer-reviewed and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (60/n) - **111.5** points out of the required 100 ;

- In indicator group "Г": **232.4** points out of the required 200 points, distributed as follows:

- o Published book based on a defended doctoral thesis - "Lead ammunition as a source of poisoning in wild birds and an ecotoxicological risk factor", Intel Entrans, ISBN: 978-619-7703-13-9 – 40 points;

- o Articles and reports published in scientific publications, peer-reviewed and indexed in world-famous databases for scientific information (30/n) - 173.6 points;

- o Articles and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes (10/n) - 18.8 points;

- In indicator group "Д": **205** points out of 50 required, of which:

- o Citations or reviews in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes - 165 points;

- o Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - 30 points;

- o Citations or reviews in non-refereed journals with scientific review – 10 points;
 - In indicator group "E": 0 points out of 0 required.

The scientific output of Dr. Stamberov amounts to **598.9** total points and significantly exceeds the Minimum National Requirements set by the rules for the development of the academic staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and the rules for the development of the academic staff of the University of Forestry for occupying the academic position of "**Associate Professor**".

Participation in scientific and educational projects

Dr. Stamberov is the head of one scientific project financed by LTU, contract No. NIS-B1295/2023, and participated in the work groups of 4 scientific projects: contract No. NIS-B1333/2024, No. 13/2016 under NID, No. 23/2016 under NID, MES - FNI No. B 01/22/2012.

Characteristics of the published scientific results

The scientific work presented by senior assistant professor Dr. Petar Stamberov for participation in the competition for "associate professor" amounts to 30 scientific papers. They include, respectively: Habilitation thesis - scientific papers in publications that are peer-reviewed and indexed in world-famous databases for scientific information (10 issues), a published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of the "Doctor" degree (1 issue), 13 papers published in scientific publications, peer-reviewed and indexed in world-renowned databases for scientific information and 6 articles published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals. There are 27 articles published in English, which is a prerequisite for Dr. Stamberov's scientific output to be read and cited as much as possible.

Reflection of the candidate's scientific activity in literature

Dr. Stamberov's citations are sixteen in total. Six of the candidate's works are in scientific publications, peer-reviewed and indexed in world-renowned databases (11 citations). Two were cited in peer-reviewed monographs and collective volumes (3 citations) and 2 were cited in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals (2 citations).

Contributions of the candidate's works

The scientific contributions of the presented works of Dr. Stamberov have a scientific and applied nature and can be attributed to the following spheres:

- Toxicology - studies on 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 from 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;

- Pathology of animals - pathological changes related to acute poisoning and neoplastic formations in horses, mastitis in goats, prevention and treatment in ruminants, equids, companion animals, domestic and wild birds;
- Interdisciplinary research related to the implementation of innovative diagnostic methods - infrared radiography.

Assessment of the candidate's personal contribution

The personal contribution of senior assistant professor Dr. Petar Stamberov is undeniable. Proof of this is the significant number of scientific publications in refereed and indexed journals, of which he is the lead or sole author. He is also the sole author of the book published on the basis of a dissertation work.

Critical notes and recommendations

I would like to give a word of recommendation to Dr. Petar Stamberov to actively continue with his research and to publish his scientific results primarily in refereed and indexed journals with an impact factor or impact rank. I recommend that the candidate be actively involved in participation in national and international scientific projects, as well as in author collectives for writing and publishing teaching aids and tools.

Personal impressions

My personal impression of Dr. Petar Stamberov comes down to a detailed review of the submitted documents for participation in the competition for the academic position of "associate professor". The presented materials were arranged with great care and academic literacy, in chronological and thematic order, which facilitates their evaluation by the Scientific Jury.

Conclusions

The presented rich scientific works from senior assistant professor Dr. Petar Strahilov Stamberov fully meets the requirements for "Associate Professor" referred to in the regulations for the development of the academic staff of LTU and the minimum national requirements of NACID in accordance with the law on the development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

My comprehensive assessment, as a member of the Scientific Jury, is Positive, and this gives me reason to confidently propose that the candidate Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Petar Strahilov Stamberov occupy the academic position "Associate Professor", in the field of higher education 6.0. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, professional direction 6.4. Veterinary medicine, scientific specialty "Animal pathology" under the discipline "Propaedeutics of internal diseases", announced in the State Gazette, issue 18/01.03.2024, in the department of Internal Noninfectious Diseases, Pathology and Pharmacology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Forestry University, Sofia.

15.05.2024

Stara Zagora

Prepared the opinion:.....

/Ass. Prof. Anton Rusenov, PhD/