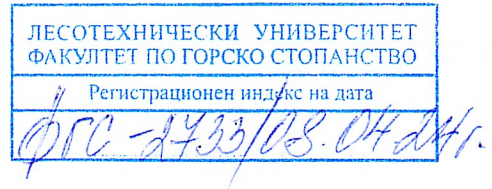


OPINION



on the materials submitted for participation in the competition for “Associate Professor” in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, Professional field 6.5. Forestry, scientific specialty “Forest management planning and inventory” in the discipline “Forest management planning”, published in the State Gazette, No. 102/08.12.2023. Code FOR-AsP-1123-115.

Applicant: Toma Ivanov Tonchev, Dr – University of Forestry – Sofia.

Opinion by Prof. Dr. Tzvetan Mladenov Zlatanov, Professor in code 4.3. Biological Sciences, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Associate Professor in Professional field 6.5. Forestry.

1. Brief biographic data of the candidate:

Dr. Tonchev holds a Master's degree in Forestry from the University of Forestry, Sofia, as well as an educational and scientific doctorate degree in `Forest management planning and inventory. The candidate has over 25 years of professional experience in the fields of Forest inventory and Forest management planning.

2. Correspondence of the submitted documents and materials of the applicant according to the Regulation for the Development of academic staff at the University of Forestry.

The documents and materials submitted by the candidate fully comply with the Law for Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation, and the Regulation for the Development of Academic Staff in the University of Forestry – Sofia.

3. Assessment of the candidate's teaching activities

Dr. Tonchev has been teaching the disciplines " Forest management planning and inventory ", “Forest Inventory” and “Forest growth” for a long-time. The candidate has organizational skills and competences realized in his participation in the Academic Council of the University of Forestry, Sofia (2012-2020).

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

4.1. Participation in scientific, applied and educational projects

The applicant has rich experience, especially when it comes to applied projects. Through the implemented projects, Dr. Tonchev contributes to the sustainable management of Bulgarian forests.

4.2. Characteristics of the publication activities

having a trace in the Web space. Eight of the publications are included in the prestigious SCOPUS database. One publication out of the latter is in a journal abroad. All publications are of good quality and correspond to the subject of the contest.

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

I found 36 positive citations (excluding self-citations) of the candidate's works. From the documents published in SCOPUS, 2 citations were found, H index - 1.

4.4. Contributions of the candidate's works (scientific and applied)

I accept the submitted contributions and consider them to be essential

5. Evaluation of the personal contribution of the candidate

The candidate is first author in 7 of the scientific works presented in the competition. I have reasons to believe that in most of the publications in which the applicant is not the first author, he has made a substantial contribution.

6. Critical comments and recommendations

I have no critical comments. My recommendation is that Dr Tonchev should publish in prestigious international journals in his scientific field more often.

7. Personal impressions

I know the candidate as a conscientious researcher, and an ethical colleague.

8. Conclusion

On the basis of the submitted documents, I believe that Dr. Tonchev meets the legislative requirements for the academic position "Associate Professor", hence I PROPOSE the candidate TOMA IVANOV TONCHEV to occupy the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, Professional field 6.5. Forestry, scientific specialty "Forest management planning and inventory" in the discipline "Forest management planning"

Opinion by:



Digitally signed by TZVETAN
MLADENOV ZLATANOV
Date: 2024.04.07 18:13:28
+03'00'

(Prof. Dr. Tzvetan Zlatanov)

Opinion submitted on 7.4.2024 r.