



OPINION

by Assoc. Prof. Violeta Gerasimova Alexandrova, Ph.D.

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of the materials submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional field 6.4 Veterinary Medicine, scientific specialty: "Epizootology, infectious diseases and prevention of infectious diseases in animals", in the discipline "Immunology".

In the competition for associate professor, announced in the State Gazette no. 100 from 16.12.2022 and on the website of the Forestry University, procedure code VM-AsP-1222-95, as the only candidate participating Chief Assist. Prof. Iliyan Manev Manev, Ph.D., lecturer in the Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Animal Sciences at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

1. Brief biographical data

Dr. Iliyan Manev Manev was born on February 7, 1983.

In 2008 Dr. Manev graduated from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Forestry - Sofia, specialty - Veterinary Medicine, Master.

In 2017 Dr. Manev obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor of Veterinary Medicine", PhD Thesis in the scientific specialty "Epizootology, infectious diseases and prevention of infectious diseases in animals"; topic: "Studies on some factors of immunity and immunoprophylaxis in myxomatosis in rabbits".

From 05.2008 until 09.2013 practices as a veterinarian at the Veterinary Center "St. Antim" EOOD, Vranya St. No. 63, Sofia.

From 12.2013 until 03.2018 Dr. Manev started working as an assistant in the Pathophysiology and Immunology disciplines at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Forestry - Sofia. From 03.2018 to this day he holds the position of chief assistant in the same disciplines.

To date, Dr. Manev has more than 9 years of work experience at University of Forestry.

Along with his direct daily teaching work, Dr. Manev is constantly improving his professional qualifications in the field of veterinary medicine and working with modern diagnostic equipment, gaining additional skills and competences in the field of information technology and the use of modern teaching methods.

Dr. Manev is fluent in written and spoken English and Russian.

Dr. Manev has a prominent professional activity with his participation in various committees at University of Forestry and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and as a member of the Academic Council of University of Forestry.

2. General description of the submitted materials

According to the submitted documents, the candidate Dr. Manev participated in the competition for "Associate Professor" with:

Dissertation - 1

Monograph – 1;

Published book based on a protected dissertation work for the award of the educational and scientific degree "PhD" - 1

Publications in scientific journals:

- with impact factor – 2;
- in foreign referenced – 2;
- in Bulgarian referenced – 14;
- in unreferenced – 6;

Publications in collections of scientific international forums – 2;

The publications according to the language in which they were written are 4 in Bulgarian and 24 in English.

Publications by number of co-authors are - independent - 10; with one co-author – 2; with two co-authors – 7; with three or more co-authors – 5.

Publications related to the dissertation – 3.

3. Reflection of the candidate's scientific publications in the literature (known citations) - a total of 18

Citations in referenced and indexed in world famous databases with scientific information

Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - 4

Citations in unreferenced scientific peer - reviewed journals - 5

The total number of points from the presented materials covers and exceeds the minimum requirements for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional field 6.4 Veterinary Medicine.

4. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

4.1. Educational - pedagogical activity (work with students and doctoral students)

Dr. Manev participates regularly and actively in the educational - pedagogical activities, fulfilling the mandatory total annual workload of 360 academic hours in Bulgarian. The presented hours worked as total classroom and extracurricular employment fully meet the requirements of the regulations.

Dr. Manev participated in the organization and conduct of practical classes and part of the lecture course in the disciplines of Immunology (in Bulgarian and English), Pathophysiology (in Bulgarian and English), Biochemistry (in English) - during the academic years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 and taught part of the lecture course on the optional discipline "Quality and safety of animal feed".

Takes part in conducting the practical and theoretical exams in the same disciplines in Bulgarian and English.

The candidate is a co-author in writing the study program for the compulsory discipline "Immunology" according to the current curriculum from 2021.

4.2. Scientific and applied science activity

It should be noted in relation to the scientific activity of the candidate, the great diversity in the topics of the presented publications, which confirms the comprehensiveness of the knowledge and accumulated experience in the work of Dr. Manev. However, the main directions of the candidate's research in the field of immunity, immunoprophylaxis and electrocardiography can be highlighted.

Dr. Manev participated in 1 project.

4.4. Contributions

The contributions of scientific publications submitted by the candidate for participation in the competition for "Associate Professor" are classified into 7 main areas:

1. Infectious pathology – epidemiology of infectious and vector-borne diseases in domestic animals.
2. Immune-mediated diseases.
3. Post-vaccination immune response.
4. Electrocardiographic changes in infectious and non-infectious diseases.
5. Accumulation of lead in domestic and wild birds, subject to hunting.
6. Accumulation of heavy metals in the Black Sea ecosystems and their impact on human health.
7. Biochemical indicators of blood in wild rabbits in Bulgaria.

5. Assessment of the personal contribution of the candidate

In all the reflected areas, in connection with the participation of the candidate in the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor", I define a very well expressed scientific activity, with outstanding personal contribution of Dr. Manev, which gives me full reason and conviction to give high marks at this point.

6. Critical remarks

All materials are presented very detailed and systematized, I would only note that the contributions could be presented more clearly to the directions, to highlight their importance and numbers, and not as such to the content of the publications.

7. Personal impressions

I have known Dr. Manev since his student years as his teacher, and I would characterize him as an extremely inquisitive, ambitious, hard-working, respectful and high-presenting modern theoretical and practical knowledge scientist and teacher, handling the most modern research equipment. Extremely collegial, ethical, good team player, flexible in terms of priorities in the specific situation.

8. Conclusion

The documents and materials presented by Chief Assist. Prof. Dr. Iliyan Manev Manev, meet the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation at University of Forestry.

Taking into account the relevance of the presented problems and the modern methodology and approach in the developed and presented scientific publications, conclusions and contributions, as well as the impeccable experience of the candidate in research and teaching

activities, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and recommend to the scientific jury, Dr. Iliyan Manev Manev, to be elected to the academic position of "Associate Professor" under the announced competition in professional direction 6.4 Veterinary medicine, scientific specialty "Epizootology, infectious diseases and prevention of infectious diseases in animals", in the discipline "Immunology".

Opinion prepared by:

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10.03.2023г.

(Assoc. Prof. Dr. V. Alexandrova, Ph.D.)