



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 "Infectious diseases (Diseases of production animals, Diseases of equids, Diseases of companion animals)".

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-1222-96, as the only candidate participating Chief Assist. Prof. Georgi Malinov Stoimenov, Ph.D., lecturer in the Department of "Infectious Pathology, Hygiene, Technology and Control of Foods from Animal Origin" at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

1. Brief biographical data

Dr. Georgi Malinov Stoimenov was born on April 29, 1986.

In 2011 Dr. Stoimenov graduated from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Forestry - Sofia, specialty - Veterinary Medicine, Master.

In 2017 Dr. Stoimenov 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: "Study on influenza A viruses in wild birds in Bulgaria".

From 07.2011 until 12.2013 practices as a veterinarian at ZOO CITY CENTER, Sofia.

From 04.2012 until 01.2018 Dr. Stoimenov works at IEMPAM-BAS, Surgical manipulations of laboratory animals related to research projects.

In 12.2013 the candidate is employed as an assistant in the disciplines of Virology; Epidemiology and preventive veterinary medicine; Infectious diseases; Diseases of bees, fish

and game, at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Forestry - Sofia. From 09.2017 to this day he holds the position of chief assistant in the same disciplines.

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

Along with his direct daily teaching work, Dr. Stoimenov continuously improves his professional qualifications, both in the field of veterinary medicine, and also acquires additional skills and competences in modern and international standards regarding the preparation of scientific articles, reports, projects and systems for e-learning, biorisk assessment and management and much more.

Dr. Stoimenov is fluent in written and spoken English.

Dr. Stoimenov has a prominent professional activity with his participation in the composition of various permanent and temporary committees at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at University of Forestry, as well as being a member of the European biosafety association (EBSA) for 2021.

2. General description of the submitted materials

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

Dissertation - 1

Monographs – 1;

Book based on dissertation-1

Issued textbooks and study aids-1

- In virtual libraries-1 (Blackboard Learn™, University of Forestry).

Publications in scientific journals – 21

- In journals with an impact factor of -5;
- In foreign referenced outside Web of science and Scopus-3;
- In Bulgarian referenced in Web of science and Scopus-9;
- In Bulgarian referenced outside Web of science and Scopus-4

Publications in collections of scientific forums - 1

- National – 1;

Place of publication:

- Articles in foreign magazines – 8;
- Articles in national magazines – 13;
- Reports in proceedings of international and national scientific forums-1

The publications according to the language in which they were written are 8 in Bulgarian and 17 in English.

Publications by number of co-authors are - independent - 4; with one co-author – 4; with two co-authors – 4; with three or more co-authors – 13.

Publications related to the dissertation work – 3.

3. Reflection of the candidate's scientific publications in the literature (known citations) - a total of 21

Citations in referenced and indexed in world famous databases with scientific information - 10

Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - 2

Citations in unreferenced scientific peer - reviewed journals - 9

The total number of points from the presented materials cover and exceed almost twice the minimum requirements for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" in professional direction 6.4 Veterinary Medicine.

4. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

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

Dr. Stoimenov 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. Stoimenov participated in the organization and conduct of practical classes and part of the lecture course in Bulgarian and English in the disciplines Infectious Diseases Module (general part, diseases of productive animals, diseases of equids, diseases of animals for company), Management of herd health, Epidemiology and preventive veterinary medicine, Virology, Diseases of bees, fish and game and conducts classes in the Mobile Clinic. The candidate also gives lectures at foreign universities - Cordoba, Italy.

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

The candidate is a co-author in the writing of 5 study programs in the disciplines taught by him, he also participates in accreditation procedures for PhD programs at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at University of Forestry as a member of a working group.

Dr. Stoimenov also participated in the creation of a teaching laboratory for the diagnosis of infectious diseases in animals at the department of "Infectious Pathology, Hygiene, Technology and Control of Foods from Animal Origin".

4.2. Scientific and applied science activity

It should be noted in relation to the scientific activity of the candidate is 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. Stoimenov, and the main directions of the candidate's research in the field of infectious pathology in different species can be highlighted.

Dr. Stoimenov participated in 1 project as a consultant, in 2 projects as a trainee and in 3 projects as a team member.

4.4. Contributions

The contributions from scientific publications submitted by the candidate for participation in the competition for "Associate Professor" are classified into 9 main areas, 25 in total:

1. Contributions in the field of infectious pathology in birds - 10.
2. Contributions in the field of infectious pathology in small ruminants - 4.
3. Contributions in the field of infectious pathology in pigs – 1.
4. Contributions in the field of vector-borne infections - 1.
5. Contributions related to the study of the carcinogenic influence of various toxic substances - 2.
6. Contributions related to the study of hematological and biochemical parameters of blood in large ruminants - 2.
7. Contributions related to infectious pathology in rabbits - 2.
8. Contributions related to the amplification of DNA fragments from helminths - 2.
9. Contributions to education – 1.

5. Assessment of the personal contribution of the candidate

In all reflected directions, in connection with the candidate's participation in the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor", I define an excellent scientific activity, with an outstanding personal contribution of Dr. Stoimenov, which gives me the full reason and conviction to give a high marks at this point.

5. Critical remarks

6. *Personal impressions*

I would characterize Dr. Stoimenov as an extremely inquisitive, ambitious, hard-working, respectful and presenting modern theoretical and practical knowledge teacher, handling the most modern literature and research equipment. For his internship at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at University of Forestry, he developed as a very active scientist, with energy, strength and participation in various activities - expert, consulting, specializations in the country and abroad. 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. Georgi Malinov Stoimenov, 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 and activity of the candidate in research, expert and teaching activities, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and recommend to the scientific jury, Dr. Georgi Malinov Stoimenov 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 "Infectious diseases (Diseases of production animals, Diseases of equids, Diseases of companion animals)".

Opinion prepared by: ...

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

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