

STATEMENT



On the materials for participation in a competition for occupation of academic position "Associate Professor" in scientific field 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, in professional direction 6.5. Forestry, scientific specialty „Silviculture, including Dendrology“, subject "Dendrology", announced by University of Forestry in State Gazette no.102/07.12.2021, code of the procedure: FOR-AsP-1121-77.

Applicant: Dr. Evgeni Ivanov Tsavkov, Senior Assistant Professor

Author of the statement: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ivaylo Velichkov Velichkov, Forest Research Institute at BAS, Sofia; scientific field 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, in professional area 6.5. Forestry, scientific specialty „Silviculture, including Dendrology“, assigned for a member of the scientific jury by order no.ZPS-42/04.02.2022 of the rector of University of Forestry.

1. Short biography of the applicant

Evgeni Ivanov Tsavkov was born on August 21, 1970 in the town of Silistra. In 1988 he graduated from ESPU "Kliment Ohridski" - Silistra. In 1995 he graduated from the Higher Institute of Forestry, Sofia, specialty "Master - Forestry Engineer". In 2017 he acquired a PhD degree in professional field 6.5 Forestry, scientific specialty "Forestry, including Dendrology" as a doctoral student at the University of Forestry (LTU), Sofia. From 11.10.1995 until now he has been working at LTU - initially as a forester at the Department of Silviculture for a period of 6 months and later as an assistant (1996 - 1999), senior assistant (1999 - 2002) and chief assistant (2002 - present) in Dendrology.

2. Compliance of the submitted documents and materials of the applicant with those required under the Regulations for Development of Academic Staff at the University of Forestry (RDASUF)

The presented materials meet the requirements. The points achieved by the applicant by groups of indicators exceed the values indicated in table 1 of the Annex to Art. 1a, para. 1 of PPZRASRB, Field 6. "Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine" of the "Regulations for the development of academic staff at the University of Forestry." The total number of points achieved by the applicant is 716.42 points, with a requirement of a total minimum number of 400 points.

3. Assessment of the applicant's educational activities

The feedback on the applicant's teaching activities is entirely positive. The applicant is an established lecturer at LTU with long experience in teaching the discipline of Dendrology. Practically, all the acquired work and professional experience are in this discipline, which testifies to the full and fruitful commitment of the applicant to his teaching and learning activities.

4. Assessment of the applicant's scientific, applied and publication activities

4.1. Participation in scientific, applied and educational projects

The applicant has indicated a total of 32 scientific, scientific-applied and educational projects with his own participation. Six projects are international projects and the rest are implemented at the national level. The applicant is the leader of 3 projects (as a civil contract expert) that have not been administered by LTU and 2 projects funded by NIS-LTU (UOGS).

4.2. Characteristics of published scientific results

A total of 51 published articles are presented as follows: by groups of indicators: B4 - 10 articles in referenced and indexed editions, selected by the applicant as the equivalent of a monograph, G7 - 3 articles also in referenced and indexed editions, G8 - 30 articles in non-referenced editions, G10 - 1 study in edited collective volume and G11 - 7 chapters from collective monographs. The number of publications (30) in non-referenced editions predominates. Many different scientific journals and conference proceedings have been used as publishing options, with no clear preference for a particular journal.

4.3. Reflection of the applicant's scientific activity in the literature (citations)

The applicant has indicated a total of 82 found citations of his publications, of which 43 in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, 29 citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review and 10 citations in non-referenced journals with scientific review. Presented materials related to the citations meet the requirements.

4.4. Contributions in the applicant's work (scientific, applied)

The applicant has defined a total of 13 contributions, of which 7 with scientific character, 3 with scientifically applied character and 3 applied contributions, and rightly noted that the division of contributions is conditional due to the interdisciplinary nature of much of the research. The main research areas and defined contributions are in the field of dendrology and dendrochronology.

5. Assessment of the applicant's personal contribution

Of the 51 submitted for the competition publications, the applicant is an independent author of 2 articles (1 study and 1 chapter of a collective monograph) and is the first author of 3 articles (1 article published in a scientific journal, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, and 2 articles published in non-referenced collections of scientific peer-reviewed proceedings), whereby his personal contribution to the publishing activity can be defined as sufficient for the purposes of the competition, but modest and unsuitable for his capabilities.

6. Critical notes and recommendations

As a negligence in the preparation of the documentation for participation in the competition, I report several mentioned auto-citations in the attached "List of cited publications". Such are, for example, citing articles 1, 2, 3 for article D13.19, citing article 5 for article D14.8.

I would like to recommend to the applicant an increase in the number of publications in referenced and indexed editions, which are currently almost two and a half times less than the publications in non-referenced editions (13:30). Also, in terms of authorship, I would like to recommend the applicant to publish more independent publications (only 2 of those submitted for participation in the competition are such) or to strive to be at least the first author (only in 3 of the submitted for participation in the competition publications, the applicant is the first author, as only 1 of them is in a referenced and indexed journal).

7. Personal impressions

I know the applicant personally and I have excellent impressions of his professional research and teaching activities, although so far I have not participated with him in joint articles or projects.

8. Conclusion

Based on the above, I propose Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Evgeni Ivanov Tsavkov to be elected "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 6. "Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine", professional field 6.5 "Forestry", scientific specialty "Silviculture, incl. Dendrology".

Date: 27/03/2022

Author of the statement:

Sofia

(Assoc. prof. Ivaylo Velichkov)