

## STANDPOINT

assoc. prof. Maya Boyanova Georgieva, PhD  
designated as a member of the scientific jury, by order N RD 241/15.09.2022 of  
the Rector of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

on a competition for the nomination to an academic position "associated professor" in the field of higher education: 7. Health care and sports, scientific specialty: Pharmaceutical chemistry at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas, announced in State Gazette no. 45 of 17.06.2022 for the needs of the Department of Health and Pharmaceutical Care at the Medical College of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

The review of the materials presented in the competition is in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application, as well as the Rules for the Terms and Conditions for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions and the Relevant Quality Criteria for the development of the academic staff of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

In connection with my participation as a member of the scientific jury, I declare that I have no objections to the materials provided for my opinion and I have no conflict of interest.

For participation in the announced competition for the academic position "associated professor" in the scientific specialty Pharmaceutical Chemistry in the Department of Health and Pharmaceutical Care at the Medical College at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas documents were submitted by a single candidate ch. assistant professor Stefan Vanev Harkov, PhD, chief assistant in the same department.

### **Personal and professional data**

Ch. assistant professor Stefan Harkov was born in 1986. In 2010, he obtained a master's degree in pharmacy after completing pharmacy studies at Lviv National Medical University "Danilo Galitsky", Lviv, Ukraine. In the same year, he was enrolled as a full-time PhD student in Lviv National Medical University "Danilo Galitsky" for a period of 4 years. In 2014, he obtained a PhD in Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Pharmacognosy after a successfully defended dissertation on "Synthesis and biological activity of thiazolidine derivatives with a 2-oxo-1,3-dihydroindole fragment in the molecule". It is recognized according

to the legal procedure in Bulgaria (Certificate No. 120/10.01.2020) and the candidate is included in the NACID register.

During the period 2010-2019, he worked as a master pharmacist, and in 2016 he joined the Medical College at the University of "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas. In 2019, he won a competition for the position of chief assistant at the same college, where he taught the teaching of mandatory subjects according to the EDI for the acquisition of the OKS "professional bachelor" for students of the assistant pharmacist specialty. Since 2020, he holds the administrative position of Deputy Director of the Medical College at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

### **Teaching and learning activity.**

The educational and teaching activity of the candidate ch. assistant professor Stefan Harkov includes his participation in giving lectures and leading practical exercises, seminars, training practices and pre-graduate internships. For the last six years, according to the submitted study load report, the candidate has a total of 3397 study hours (567 hours per year), at a standard of 400 hours per year, which exceeds the full study load required by the University's regulations.

### **Research activity.**

Regarding his research ch. asst. prof. Stefan Harkov fully covers the scientometric criteria established in the Regulations for the conditions and procedures for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

For participation in the competition for associate professor, Harkov presents a list of **25** scientific papers, **16** of which were published in publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (SCOPUS) and **9** in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals.

The candidate is an independent author in four of the submitted publications, first and last author in 3 and in another position in the author collective in the remaining 18.

The publishing activity of ch. asst. prof. Harkov starts from 2013 and is in accordance with the field of higher education and the scientific specialty of the announced competition. The publications clearly show the consistency of his development as a promising scientist, which is in accordance with the national and university educational and regulatory framework for obtaining scientific



degrees and holding academic positions.

The scientific research activity of the candidate is mainly related to preparation and characterization of compounds having thiazolidine, pyrazoline and isatine heterocycle in their structure. The newly obtained structures were investigated *in vitro* for antitumor, antiviral and antioxidant activity and *in vivo* for toxicity.

The scientific activity of the candidate can be summarized in: contributions of a fundamental nature, contributions of an applied nature and in the field of phytochemistry – contributions of a confirmatory nature.

*Citations of works of Ch. assist. Prof. Dr. Stefan Harkov from other authors*

The reference submitted by the applicant includes a list of 4 citations. My search shows a total of 26 citations, excluding the self-citations of all co-authors. I believe that this is a good indicator, in terms of the relevance of the developments of ch. assist. Prof. Harkov and the interest they caused in the international scientific community, which determines Stefan Harkov as a qualified scientist.

The following table presents the author's quantitative reference for research activity and scientific activity.

<b>A group of indicators</b>	Minimum number of points according to national requirements	Regulations of the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas	ch. asst. prof. Stefan Harkov
<b>A</b>	50	50	50
<b>B</b>	-	-	-
<b>C</b>	100	100	101
<b>D</b>	200	220	232
<b>E</b>	50	60	60
<b>F</b>	-	20	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>473</b>

## Conclusion

Based on the data presented in my opinion about the candidate's teaching and research assets, I believe that ch. asst. prof. Stefan Harkov possesses the necessary qualifications for the academic position of "associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Pharmaceutical Chemistry". This allows me to give a positive assessment and suggest to the respected Scientific Jury to support my proposal for awarding the academic position of "associate professor" to ch. asst. prof. Stefan Vanev Harkov, candidate in the competition for the academic position of "associate professor" in the field of higher education: 7. Health care and sports, scientific specialty: Pharmaceutical chemistry at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" - Burgas.

Sofia

21.11.2022

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/assoc. prof. M. Georgieva, PhD/