

Bx. №205-HO-05-06/01.03.2024

Statement

From: Prof. Dr. Nikolay Dobrinov Natchev, Department of Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Shumen University, elected as a member of the Scientific Jury and appointed by order of the Director of IBEI-BAN No. 112/28.12. 2023, in connection with a procedure for the selection of an associate professor in the scientific field "Ecology and ecosystem protection", professional direction 4.3. "Biological Sciences", for the needs of the research group "Fauna, Taxonomy and Ecology of Invertebrate Animals", Section "Biodiversity and Ecology of Invertebrate Animals" of the Department "Animal Diversity and Resources" of IBEI-BAN.

Subject: Procedure for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field 4.3. Biological sciences, scientific specialty "Ecology and protection of ecosystems" for the needs of the research group "Fauna, taxonomy and ecology of invertebrate animals", announced in issue No. 92/03.11.2023 of the State Gazette,

In the announced procedure, the only candidate is Doc. Teodora Marius Teofilova. After a detailed review of the attached documents, it can be concluded that all the necessary elements required by the ZRASRB, the Rules for the implementation of the ZRASRB, the Rules for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions of IBEI-BAS are available. The submitted documentation for the competition is properly structured and adequately presents the applicant's scientific activity.

Doc. Teofilova graduated from the Forestry University, Sofia, in "Ecology and Environmental Protection" as a bachelor. She continued her education as a master's degree in the same educational institution with a specialization in "Residential Ecology". She obtained a master's degree in 2004 and specialized for another two years in the specialty "Canine Science". In the Faculty of Biology of the SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" defended a dissertation on the topic "Composition and structure of carabid communities (Coleoptera: Carabidae) in the area of Cape Emine".

The reference on the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements by the applicant under Art. 2b of the RASRB for scientific field 4. Natural sciences, mathematics and informatics; professional direction 4.3. "Biological Sciences" indicates the fulfillment of the minimum number of points for the criteria:

group A "dissertation work" 50 points out of the required 50 points; group C "habilitation work" 105 points out of the required 100 points; group D "scientific publications" 232 items out of the required 220 items; group D "citations" 68 points out of the required 60 points. The total number of points in the procedure is 455.

It is evident from the documentation that Doc. Teofilova's scientific production and realization exceed the necessary criteria for the acquisition of "Associate Professor" under the legislation of the Republic of Bulgaria. The authorship and relevance of the submitted titles for the competition are beyond doubt. The candidate's research is directed in several areas (related to studies of both invertebrates and vertebrates), but the main part is related to work on the study of Carabid beetles. The candidate has a sufficient number of citations, which have been realized in a relatively short period of time, which testifies to the quality and importance of the publications in which she is an author or co-author.

Doc. Teofilova publishes articles as a single author, as a co-author with one partner, or as a participant in larger working groups. This testifies to the ability to independently create scientific concepts and conduct independent research, as well as to work in larger teams and contribute to the production of large-scale scientific products. The article in the first-class magazine Diversity (Q1) makes a special impression. The total number of publications by Doc. Teofilova far exceeds that of the publications submitted for the procedure. Seven publications were submitted for the habilitation work.

The candidate's participation in projects and expert groups indicate high activity and over a period of about 20 years, nearly 30 orders have been implemented. Doc. Teofilova participated in 42 scientific forums with 80 products. She was a reviewer of 23 scientific manuscripts, working for various international and Bulgarian publications.

In my opinion, the contributions are presented completely reliably and adequately represent the candidate's scientific output. The presentation of the contributions is done very conveniently, the contributions are grouped, but not artificially aggregated, but it is completely clear stated under which contribution, exactly which studies are taken as a basis. Seven studies contributed to new geographic distribution data, three were confirmations of already published data, eleven were grouped as ecological contributions, five were relevant to conservation biology, and two were methodological.

Conclusion

After a detailed analysis of the documentation submitted under the procedure, I can state that the candidate fully fulfills the requirements for the occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor" according to the ZRASRB and the Regulations for its implementation, as well as the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at IBEI-BAS. As a member of the Scientific Jury, appointed by order of the Director of IBEI-BAN No. 112/28.12.2023, I give a positive assessment and vote positively for the election of Doc. Teodora Marius Teofilova to the academic position of "associate professor" in professional direction 4.3. Biological Sciences.

24.02.2024

Signature:

Shumen