

OPINION

Relative to competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in direction 4.3. Biological Sciences (Microbiology) for the needs of the Department of Infectious Microbiology, Laboratory "Cytotoxicity and Signal Transduction", announced in the State Gazette no. 47 of 22.05.2020

Member of the Scientific Jury: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anastas Dimitrov Pashov, Laboratory of Experimental Immunotherapy, Stefan Angeloff Institute of Microbiology, BAS

Order for scientific jury by the Director of IBIR, BAS № I-83 / 01-07-2020.

One candidate participates in the competition - Assistant Professor Maya Margaritova Zaharieva, Ph.D. The candidate meets the conditions under Art. 24 (1) of ZRASRB and the Criteria of IMicB, BAS for holding the academic position "Associate Professor".

1. Biographical data

Maya Zaharieva was born on July 26, 1975, holds a master's degree in pharmacy from the Faculty of Pharmacy, MU, Sofia, obtained in 2001. She defended her doctoral dissertation in 2008 on "Study on the pharmacodynamic effects of erufosine in tumor-transformed and normal hematopoietic cells" at the Department of Pharmacology, Pharmacotherapy and Toxicology of the Faculty of Pharmacy, MU Sofia. She completed a doctoral specialization at the German Center for Oncological Research Heidelberg, Department of Toxicology and Chemotherapy under Prof. Dr. MR Berger, and after obtaining a doctorate she attended a course in cellular model systems at the National Research Center in Tor Vergata, Italy, specialization in quantitative polymerase chain reaction based on TaqMan probes as well as specialization in loop-mediated DNA amplification for identification of pathogens in food matrices - both in Merelbeke, Belgium.

2. Research activity

Maya Zaharieva's research is a source of her main contributions. Her main research interests are in the field of translational research: study of the effect of biologically active substances (BAS) on cell lines and bacterial cultures as well as modeling of proliferation and metabolic activity in vitro for the purposes of these studies.

In relation to these studies, Maya Zaharieva demonstrated expertise in pharmacology, toxicology and cell biology. The candidate's contributions are mainly in: the study of the effect of biologically active

substances (BAS) on cell lines; antimicrobial activity of plant extracts, BAS and human neutrophil peptides (defensins); toxicological analysis of compounds and extracts with antineoplastic and antimicrobial activities in vitro and in vivo as well as modeling of malignant cell proliferation and metabolic activity in bacteria.

The candidate submits for participation in the competition 27 scientific publications (total IF of publications in peer-reviewed publications - 45.7, total number of citations - 235, h-index = 9). Of these publications, 21 are in journals with an impact factor. She is the first author in 7 articles (5 with impact factor). The candidate also presented a list of 30 participations in scientific forums. The candidate has participated in 14 projects.

The documents presented by Maya Zaharieva meet the requirements of the Criteria of the Institute of Molecular Biology for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor".

3. Scientific and applied activity

Maya Zaharieva has practical contributions related to the expansion of the infrastructure of the Department of Infectious Microbiology at the Institute of Microbiology by establishing and developing a Laboratory of Cytotoxicity and Signal Transduction for the needs of the Department of Infectious Microbiology

4. Teaching activity

The candidate has teaching experience as an assistant in the module "Pharmacology" (315 teaching hours) in the period 2011-2012 at the Medical Faculty of Sofia University "Kliment Ohridski" in the specialties "Medicine", "Nurse" and "Medical Rehabilitation and Occupational Therapy". . She participated in the development of textbooks - "Guide to Pharmacotherapy". Ch. editor Assoc. Prof. Dr. S. Konstantinov, MD Ed. Softtrade, 2011

She was the scientific supervisor of three master students.

5. Conclusion

After getting acquainted with the submitted documents, I believe that Maya Zaharieva has the necessary professional qualities to hold the academic position of "Associate Professor". The good scientific production, the current topics and the citation of the published results prove that Maya

Zaharieva is a prominent specialist in the field of pharmacology, toxicology and cell biology with significant scientific contributions.

I strongly suggest to the National Assembly of the institute to choose Maya Zaharieva for "associate professor" in 4.3. Biological sciences (Microbiology).

10.09.2020

Prepared the opinion:

Sofia

Assoc. Prof. Anastas D.
Pashov