

REVIEW

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member of the scientific jury for academic position "Professor" (published in State Gazette No. 21/07.03.2023), confirmed by order of the director of the Institute of Microbiology - BAS No. I-52/28.04.2023, higher education area 7. Healthcare and sports, professional direction 7.3. Pharmacy, for the needs of the Department "Virusology" of the Institute of Microbiology - BAS.

One candidate participated in the competition – Assoc. Prof. Milka Milcheva Mileva, PhD

I. Biographical data and career profile of the candidate

Associate Professor Milka Mileva, PhD was born on 08.01.1961 in the town of Karnobat and graduated from the "Georgi Dimitrov" Modern High School - Plovdiv in 1978. In 1993 she graduated from the Chemistry Faculty of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendararski". Worked successively as a laboratory assistant at the "Alen Mak" (1978-1983), a specialist at the Institute of Physiology - BAS (1984-1991) and a chemist at the Department of Physics and Biophysics, Medical University - Sofia (1994-2009). In 2002, she successfully defended his doctoral degree at the Department of Physics and Biophysics, Medical University - Sofia. Since 2009, Milka Mileva is the chief assistant at the "Stefan Angelov" Institute of Microbiology - BAS, Section "Microbial Biochemistry". The candidate acquired the academic position of "associate professor" at the "Stefan Angelov" Institute of Microbiology - BAS, Department of "Virusology" in 2011.

Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva has teaching experience in lectures and practical exercises in pharmacology at Medical University - Sofia, Sofia University „Kliment Ohridski“, Southwest University – Blagoevgrad, and in analytical chemistry "Yordanka Filaretova" Medical College. Currently, Prof. Mileva works at the "Stefan Angelov" Institute of Microbiology - BAS, Department of "Virusology".

Assoc. Prof. Mileva is the supervisor of 2 doctoral students who have successfully defended their dissertation work and of 1 doctoral student who is currently in the process of defending his dissertation work. Associate Professor

Milka Mileva has participated in 12 national and 1 international project, and she is the head of 5 of the research projects.

Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva participates in scientific juries and reviews articles for MDPI. She is a member of 2 editorial boards. From 2017 to the present, she is the chairman of the General Assembly of scientists at Institute of Microbiology.

Assoc. Prof. Mileva is fluent in written and spoken English and Russian, has very good computer literacy, as well as skills in working with research and analytical equipment.

II. General description of the submitted materials for the competition

Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva has attached a complete set of documents, in accordance with the Regulations of the Institute of Microbiology - BAS: diploma for the acquired scientific and educational degree "doctor", diploma from BAS for holding the academic position of associate professor, curriculum vitae, list of publications in refereed and non-refereed journals, habilitation certificate, citations of the scientific publications participating in the formation of the points according to indicator D10, citations of the scientific publications participating in the formation of the points according to the indicator D12, citations of the scientific publications participating in the formation of the points according to the indicator D15, list of guidance of doctoral students. The documents are submitted on an electronic medium.

III. Evaluation of the scientific works of the candidate for the overall academic development

Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva has significant publication activity. She is the author of a total of 128 scientific articles, of which 41 are in the procedure for professorship, as well as 156 published summaries of scientific events in the field of pharmacology and of independent chapters in textbooks and teaching aids.

The candidate participated in the competition with a habilitation thesis and 41 scientific papers. The articles to meet the requirements for holding the academic position "professor" are distributed as follows: articles replacing habilitation work - 13 articles, in 10 of them the candidate is the first or corresponding author - 111.78 points; articles with original scientific contributions in refereed journals - 7 articles, 6 of which are first or corresponding author - 112.09 points; articles in non-refereed journals with scientific review - 19 articles, of which 11 are first or corresponding author - 137.44 points; 2 chapters of collective monographs, in 1 first or corresponding author, 13.33 points.

In his self-assessment, the candidate divided the points to be awarded for each scientific work presented, in proportion to the number of co-authors, and the candidate's points by groups of indicators, which I recognize, are as follows: indicator A - 50 points, indicator B - 111.78 points. and indicator D – 262.85 points according to the requirement of the Regulations for the application of the ZRASRB - points for "professor" in District 7. Health care and sports and indicator A – 50 points, indicator B – 257 points and indicator D – 318, 32 items according to the requirement of the Regulations for the Application of the ZRASRB - points for "professor" Institute of Microbiology.

The candidate meets and exceeds the normative requirements for publication activity (374.64 points with a requirement of 300 points according to the requirement of the Regulations for the Application of the ZRASRB - points for "professor" in District 7. Health and Sports and 592 points with a requirement of 320 t. according to the requirement of the Regulations for the Application of the ZRASRB - points for "professor" Institute of Microbiology).

The research activity of Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva covers the following scientific areas: Oxidative damage and the role of antioxidants in the prevention and therapy of diseases related to the development of oxidative stress in experimental models *in vivo*; and Pharmacological potential of plant extracts, technological products obtained by hydro-steam distillation of essential oils from Bulgarian oil-bearing roses and their ingredients in experimental models *in vivo* and *in vitro*.

IV. Evaluation of the monographic work or equivalent publications submitted for participation in the competition

The candidate has submitted a habilitation thesis of 13 publications, including research on oxidative damage and the role of antioxidants in the prevention and therapy of diseases related to the development of oxidative stress in experimental *in vivo* models.

In the publications presented as equivalent to habilitation work, oxidative damage in influenza virus infection and optimization of therapeutic approaches involving a combination of specific inhibitors of viral replication and non-specific adjuvants to control virus-induced pathogenesis in target organs; markers of oxidative stress and antioxidant protection in conditions of antioxidant deficiency - non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and acute radiation syndrome; newly synthesized hydrazide-hydrazone derivatives of isoniazid as suitable antituberculosis drug candidates with low toxicity and good bioavailability.

The habilitation work of the candidate is of important scientific and applied importance.

V. Citation of the candidate's publications in the national and foreign literature

The total number of citations of the candidate is 716. Citations submitted for participation in the competition for the appointment of academic position "professor" are presented in the following groups: citations in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in global databases - 50, form 750 points; citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - 13, form 130 points; citations in non-refereed journals with scientific review - 16, form 80 points.

The candidate meets and exceeds the normative requirements for citation of scientific works (960 points against a requirement of 100 points).

VI. Assessment of teaching and learning activities

Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva teaches the subject of pharmacology at Medical University - Sofia, Sofia University "Kliment Ohridski" and Southwestern University - Blagoevgrad, and for the period 2019 - 2022, there is classroom occupancy in lectures - 800 hours and in exercises - 240 hours. During the period 2005 - 2009, Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva teaches the subject of analytical chemistry at "Yordanka Filaretova" Medical College.

Associate Professor Milka Mileva is the scientific supervisor of 4 doctoral students, two of whom have defended the educational and scientific degree "Doctor".

VII. Critical notes and recommendations

I have no critical remarks about the candidate. My recommendation is that she continues his high publication activity.

VIII. General evaluation of the candidate's compliance with the mandatory conditions and mandatory quantitative criteria and scientometric indicators according to the Regulations for the Application of the ZRASRB and the regulation for occupying academic positions at the Institute of Microbiology - BAS.

The total number of points for participation in the competition for holding the academic position "professor" of Assoc. Milka Mileva is 1567, 64 points (out of the required 750 points).

Table 1. Minimum required points by groups of indicators for the various scientific degrees and academic positions at the Institute of Microbiology - BAS.

A group of metrics	Contents	Professor	Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva
A	Indicator 1	50	50
Б	Indicator 2	-	
В	Indicators 3 & 4	100	257
Г	Sum of indicators 5 to 9	220	318,32
Д	Sum of indicators 10 to 12	120	800
Е	Sum of the indicators from 13 to the end		340

IX. Conclusion

My comprehensive assessment of the scientific and teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva is positive.

The materials submitted by the candidate for the competition show that Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva meets the requirements for occupying the academic position "Professor", according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Application and The regulations of Institute of microbiology - BAS. The presented scientific works and evidence of the scientific activity meet the quantitative and qualitative criteria and show a high contribution character.

I give my positive assessment to Assoc. Prof. Milka Mileva in the competition and propose to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to award Assoc. Prof. Milka Milcheva Mileva, PhD, the academic position of "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.3. Pharmacy.

22/05/ 2023

Prepared the review: ..

/Prof. Dr. Rumens Pavlov Nikolov, PhD/