

REVIEW

by

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REGARDING: competition for the academic position of Associate Professor

I. Analysis of the candidate's career profile

The candidate for the academic position of "Associate Professor" Senior Assistant Professor Radiana Staynova successfully obtained a master's degree in pharmacy in 2015 at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Medical University - Plovdiv. In the same year, she applied for and won a competition for an assistant professor at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Medical University - Plovdiv. In 2019 defended a dissertation on the topic "Medical and social aspects and the role of the pharmacist in the management of gestational diabetes mellitus" and acquired the degree "doctor" in PD 7.3 "Pharmacy", under the doctoral program "Pharmacoeconomics and pharmaceutical regulation" at the Faculty of Pharmacy of MU-Plovdiv. In the same year, she also acquired a specialty in "Organization and economics of distribution and pharmacy practice". She is currently enrolled and specializing in "Organization and economics of pharmaceutical production" at the Faculty of Pharmacy, MU-Sofia. From 2020 to the present, she holds the academic position of "senior assistant" successively at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Department of Organization and Economics of Pharmacy (2024) at the Faculty of Pharmacy of MU-Plovdiv.

Dr. Stanova is a member of several national and international societies such as the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy (ESCP), the International Society of Pharmacoepidemiology (ISPE), the International Society of Pharmacovigilance (ISoP), the European Teratology Society (ETS), the International Society of Gynecological Endocrinology (ISGE), the Young Scientific Society "Asclepius" and the Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Union. She has participated in several short-term specializations in gestational diabetes mellitus, pediatric pharmacoepidemiology, biosimilar insulins, drug use during pregnancy, the development of Cochrane systematic reviews, etc. She has taken part in three international mobilities under the Erasmus+ Program for the purpose of training in Slovakia (2017), Spain (2019) and Hungary (2023). At the last attestation she received a grade of "Very good".

Based on the above, I can safely categorize the candidate as erudite, highly motivated and with a desire for self-improvement, which definitely leads to high professionalism and competence.

II. General description of the materials submitted for the competition

In this competition for the academic position of "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" in the scientific specialty "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation", announced for the needs of the Department of Organization and Economics of Pharmacy in the State Gazette, issue 15/21.02.2025, the only candidate is Senior Asst. Radiana Atanasova Staynova, Ph.D. The candidate has submitted the required materials and documents on paper and electronic media within the deadline in accordance with the Regulations for Academic Development of MU-Plovdiv.

III. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific work

Senior Asst. Radiana Staynova participated in the competition with a total of 41 full-text scientific publications. 24 publications are in scientific publications, refereed and indexed in Scopus or Web of Science, 15 of which are in journals with an impact factor according to Clarivate Analytics (total IF = 34.9). The candidate also participated as a co-author of a chapter of a collective monograph "Gestational Diabetes Mellitus – New Developments" (ISBN 978-1-83969-819-4).

Dr. Staynova has promoted her research in 87 participations in congresses, conferences and symposia, of which 38 are international and 49 are national.

The candidate is a leading researcher or participant in 10 projects, of which 8 are national and 2 are educational projects with European funding.

The scientific directions and interests of Senior Asst. Radiana Staynova are in several main areas of the pharmaceutical profession, the main ones being pharmacoepidemiology and drug safety monitoring; pharmacoeconomics in socially significant and vaccine-preventable diseases; pharmaceutical care in specific patient groups; pharmaceutical regulation; application of essential oils in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industry;

I accept the fully prepared author's report of the contributions presented in scientific areas and structured as scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied. Some of the more basic ones in my opinion are that for the first time a systematic analysis of studies evaluating the role of the clinical pharmacist in the management of breast cancer has been made and the importance of including a clinical pharmacist in the oncology team has been confirmed; for the first time in our country, the attitudes and barriers relevant to providing optimal individualized pharmaceutical care for pregnant women have been assessed and defined; the possibilities for optimizing drug therapy in patients with ulcerative colitis by applying innovative pH-sensitive drug delivery systems have been outlined; for the first time in Bulgaria, a study has been conducted evaluating the use of nutritional supplements as a means of reducing body weight, as well as the various

approaches to weight control applied of the population in Bulgaria; for the first time in the country, the frequency of use of hormone replacement therapy with levothyroxine among euthyroid pregnant women has been established; innovative approaches to improve the management of gestational diabetes have been defined, such as web-based educational programs and new technologies, including telemedicine and smartphone applications.

IV. Evaluation of the monographic work

The candidate has also presented the monograph "The Pharmaceutical Profession in the 21st Century: Positive Change for Better Healthcare" ISBN 978-619-7413-51-9. The work contains 165 standard pages, divided into seven chapters, is based on 300 literary sources and is illustrated with 46 figures and tables. The monographic work provides an overview of the pharmaceutical profession and examines the new responsibilities and tasks of pharmacists in the healthcare system. A detailed and up-to-date analysis of the studies conducted by the Bulgarian scientific school on the attitudes towards providing such pharmaceutical services has been carried out. Good practices are presented, including activities such as vaccination and rapid diagnostic tests by pharmacists, which contribute to the prevention of antimicrobial resistance. The description of methods for optimizing drug therapy in geriatric patients, including the conduct of medication review by pharmacists, the identification of potentially inappropriate drugs and the process of canceling prescriptions (deprescribing), is valuable and practically oriented. It is very valuable to emphasize the role of training and attitudes of pharmacists for inclusion in innovative pharmaceutical services, such as pharmacogenetic testing and consulting professional athletes to avoid unintentional doping. The presented monograph is definitely valuable and necessary, especially at the present time, in order to protect and outline the role of the pharmacist before society and the profession in particular.

V. Reflection (citation) of the candidate's publications in the national and foreign literature (publication image).

A reference is presented to the candidate's citations - 116, of which 77 citations in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science (h-index in Scopus = 4; h-index in WoS = 4; h-index in Google Scholar = 7). Senior Asst. Staynova presents evidence for 4 citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review and 35 citations in non-refereed journals with scientific review. The number of citations shows that the publications of Senior Asst. Staynova are widely reflected in the foreign and Bulgarian scientific literature and are of interest to the scientific community.

According to the attached reference from Web of Science, Senior Asst. Staynova has been a reviewer 63 times for prestigious scientific journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Science such as Scientific Reports (Nature Portfolio), BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth, Frontiers in Public Health, etc.

VI. Comprehensive, qualitative assessment of teaching and methodological and teaching activities, including scientific supervision of students, doctoral students, and postgraduates.

Senior Asst. Radiana Staynova presents a certificate of teaching experience at MU-Plovdiv for 9 years 7 months, with the last 5 years 1 month and 10 days holding the academic position of "senior assistant". For the last 3 academic years she has realized a teaching workload of 1767 hours of lectures and exercises, which exceeds the standard of MU-Plovdiv. The teaching and teaching activities of Senior Asst. Staynova includes practical exercises and lectures on the disciplines "Social Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Legislation", "Pharmaceutical Care", "History of Pharmacy", "Pharmacoeconomics" and the SID "Clinical Pharmacy and New Areas in Pharmaceutical Practice" for students of the Pharmacy specialty (in Bulgarian and English). In the postgraduate qualification program, she conducts training and colloquiums for specialists in "Organization and Economics of Distribution and Pharmacy Practice". She is currently the supervisor of one specialist in "Organization and Economics of Distribution and Pharmacy Practice" under the Postgraduate education, MU-Plovdiv.

The educational, methodological and teaching activities also include the participation of Senior Asst. Staynova in 4 textbooks and 2 teaching aids for pharmacy students. One of the textbooks ("History of Pharmacy") and one of the teaching aids ("Guide to Pharmaceutical Care") have also been published in English.

Senior Asst. Radiana Staynova works actively with students and doctoral students, as evidenced by the joint awards achieved in scientific forums and competitions. The candidate presents a list of 61 joint participations in scientific forums with students and doctoral students, as well as 4 scientific projects. Under her leadership, students have been awarded certificates for presented poster presentations. Senior Asst. Staynova prepares students for participation in the annual national competition "Become a Hospital Pharmacist", and in 2024, under her mentorship, the MU-Plovdiv team won first place.

Senior Asst. Radiana Staynova has been awarded two consecutive years for the best tutor of exercises for pharmacy students, 5th year, for which she was awarded a diploma by the University Quality Commission of MU-Plovdiv. Senior Asst. Staynova is an administrative assistant and responsible for the educational activities of the Department of Organization

and Economics of Pharmacy. She is also an academic mentor of students under project BG05M2OP001-2.013-0001 of the Ministry of Education and Science "Student Practices - Phase 2" (13.01.2020 - 31.12.2023), funded by the Operational Program "Science and Education for Smart Growth (OP NOIR), co-financed by the European Social Fund. She participates in examination committees in competitions for the academic position of "Assistant" and a competition for a full-time doctoral student at the Department of Organization and Economics of Pharmacy.

All of the above gives me reason to believe that Senior Asst. Staynova is a well-established and highly erudite lecturer with broad scientific and pharmaceutical expertise, who independently and fully purposefully sets scientific goals and achieves scientific achievements.

VII. Critical remarks and recommendations.

none

VIII. General assessment of the candidate's compliance with the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3, respectively the requirements under Art. 2b, para. 5 of the Law on the Promotion of Research and Development of the Republic of Bulgaria and the specific requirements for the direction 7.3. Pharmacy, set out in the Regulations for Academic Development at the Medical University - Plovdiv.

The scientometric indicators of Senior Assistant Radiana Staynova and the required minimum number of points from the mandatory minimum requirements for occupying the position of Associate Professor are presented in a comparative tabular form. The scientometric indicators of the candidate significantly exceed the minimum requirements set out in the Regulations for Academic Development of the Medical University - Plovdiv for occupying the academic position of Associate Professor in the professional direction 7.3. Pharmacy. With a minimum score requirement of 1270, Senior Asst. Staynova collects 4373.48 points, which is several times higher than required. (Table 1).

Table 1. Reference for compliance with the minimum requirements for holding the position of Associate Professor by groups of indicators

ГРУПА ОТ ПОКАЗАТЕЛИ	СЪДЪРЖАНИЕ	Минимални изисквания АД „Доцент“ Правилник за академично развитие на МУ-Пловдив	гл. ас. Радана Стайнова, дф
А	Показател 1	50 т.	50 т.

Б	Показател 2	-	-
В	Показатели 3 или 4	100 т.	100 т.
Г	Сума от показателите от 5 до 9	210 точки 10 статии в списания реферирани в Scopus и/или Web of Science, в т.ч. 6 статии с IF	591,3 т.
Д	Сума от показателите от 10 до 12	300 точки 12 цитирания в списания, реферирани в Scopus и/или Web of Science	2315 т.
Е	Сума от показателите от 13 до 22	50 точки - 2 научни проекта (вкл. ВУП) - придобита специалност	214,5 т.
Ж	Учебна натовареност (лекции и упражнения)	360 точки (за последните 2 г. X 0.5 т/час)	1102,68 т.
	Академична длъжност	200 точки (гл. асистент - 100 т. за 1 год.)	
ОБЩО:		1270 т.	4373,48 т.

IX. Conclusion

Based on the materials submitted by the candidate in this competition, I believe that they significantly exceed the requirements of the Law on the Promotion of Research and Education of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Implementation and the Regulations for Academic Development of MU-Plovdiv for holding the academic position of "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR", which gives me reason to give my positive assessment of the scientific research and teaching activities of Senior Asst. Radiana Staynova.

Based on the Law on the Promotion of Research and Education of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Implementation and the Regulations for Academic Development at MU-Plovdiv, I strongly recommend that the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury award the academic position of "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" to Senior Asst. Mag.-Pharm. Radiana Atanasova Staynova, PhD in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.3 Pharmacy in the specialty "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation".

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Sofia

Reviewer 

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