

REVIEW

BY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMIL IVANOV HRISTOV, MD, PhD
Member of Educational and Scientific Laboratory "Social Pharmacy"
Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

With reference to:

Contest for the academic position "Associate Professor" in Professional field 7.3 "Pharmacy", Scientific specialty "Social medicine and organization of healthcare and pharmacy" for the needs of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, announced in State Gazette No. 52/02.07.2019

1. GENERAL PRESENTATION OF THE PROCEDURE

1.1. LEGAL BASIS OF THE PROCEDURE

The competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in professional field 7.3 "Pharmacy", scientific specialty "Social medicine and organization of healthcare and pharmacy" for the needs of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy (FCP), is proposed by the Faculty Council (FC) of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy with a decision of the Academic Council of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" from May 2019, announced in SG no. 52/02.07.2019. The deadline for the candidates to submit their applications and accompanying documentation expired on 02.09.2019.

1.2. PARTICIPANTS IN THE COMPETITION

Within the legal deadline only one candidate has submitted application and accompanying documentation for participation in the competition – Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD.

1.3. ADMISSIBILITY OF CANDIDATES

Pursuant to Art.56 of the Rules for Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the second subparagraph of Art.109 of the Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" by Order No. RD 38-454/24.07.2019 appointed a Committee to review the documents and draw up a Protocol for admission or non-admission of the candidates in the competition.

Pursuant to Art.4 and Art.25 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the first and second subparagraphs of Art.57 of the Rules for Implementation of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the first and the third subparagraphs of Art.108 of the Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions in Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and the decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Minutes №15 of 16.07.2019, the Rector of Sofia University "St.

Kliment Ohridski" issued Order № 38-491/09.08.2019., for the appointment of a Scientific Jury to hold the announced competition.

Within the statutory 3-day period, with the Minutes of 05.09.2019, the Committee on Documents decided to admit to the competition the sole candidate Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD and the same candidate has been duly informed thereof.

The first meeting of the Scientific Jury was held on 10.09.2019. The Chairman of the Scientific Jury was elected, two reviewers were appointed, the materials on the competition were distributed to all members and a decision was made in accordance with the first and third subparagraphs of Art.109 of the Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski " - the Scientific Jury to evaluate compliance with the minimum national requirements and the additional requirements and to decide on the admission of the applicant to scientific evaluation till 16.09.2019.

On September 16, 2019, pursuant to the fifth and sixth subparagraphs of Art.109 in conjunction with the first, third and fifth subparagraphs of the Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski ", the Scientific Jury agreed unanimously that the provided scientific production for participation in the competition by the candidate Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD, meets the minimum national requirements and the additional requirements of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski "and in accordance with the fourth subparagraph of Art.109 admitted him to scientific evaluation. The applicant is notified in writing that he has been admitted to the merits of the competition.

2. GENERAL PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

2.1. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD was born on 29.11.1970 in the town of Silistra. He graduated from the High school of Natural sciences and Mathematics in Silistra, profile "Chemistry". During the period 1990-1995 he studied Pharmacy at the Faculty of Pharmacy at the Medical University of Sofia and in 1995 he acquired a degree Master of Pharmacy. In 1998 he obtained a second Master's degree in Law and Business from the Veliko Turnovo University "St. Cyril and Methodius".

The professional career of Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD began as a pharmacist's in community pharmacy and subsequently began his development at multinational pharmaceutical companies. For a 13 year period, from 1995 to 2008, he consistently worked as a medical representative for Veliko Turnovo and Sofia, product manager and national sales manager at the pharmaceutical company Gideon Richter. From 2008 to 2010 he held the position of Cardiology and Neurology Manager at Boehringer Ingelheim, Bulgaria, after that he became the Director of Exclusive Products at the wholesaler Sopharma Trading S.A. Since 2012 till now, he is a General Manager of Pharmaceutical Works Polpharma S.A. for Bulgaria with a management contract.

Since December 1, 2016 he occupies the academic position “Chief Assistant Professor” at the Educational and Scientific Laboratory “Social Pharmacy” at the Department of Physicochemistry of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

3. APPLICANT EVALUATION

The evaluation of the applicant was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the first subparagraph of Art.24, the first, second, third and fourth subparagraphs of Art.27 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the first subparagraph of Art.52 of the Rules for the Implementation of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the first subparagraph of Art.105, and the first subparagraph of Art.121 of the Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

The requirements (criteria) under assessment in this review are as follows:

Criterion № 1

Presence of the acquired educational and scientific degree "doctor", which for the specialties of the regulated professions must be in the same specialty

The applicant presents the diploma for degree “Doctor of Philosophy” in professional field 7.3 Pharmacy and scientific specialty "Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulations", issued by the Medical University of Plovdiv, Faculty of Pharmacy, on the basis of the defended PhD thesis "Positioning of some sartans on the antihypertensive market in Bulgaria". Until the end of 2013, the PhD program in social sciences at the Faculty of Pharmacy-Plovdiv was under the name "Social Medicine and Organization of Healthcare and Pharmacy". Since the beginning of 2014, it has been re-named “Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulations” without changing the curriculum.

Compliance of the applicant's scientific specialty with the scientific specialty in which the competition was announced

Until the end of 2013 incl., all the Pharmacy and Public Health Faculties in Bulgaria conducted training in a single PhD program “Social Medicine and Organization of Healthcare and Pharmacy”, regardless of the different professional fields Medicine, Pharmacy, Dental Medicine, such as it enrolled masters of medicine, pharmacy, dental medicine, economists, lawyers and other professionals involved in the social sciences of the healthcare system. In the last 5 years, the PhD program has been renamed without variations of its original content. Programs with new names have emerged - Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Regulation, Social Medicine and Health Management, Pharmaceutical Management, Public Health, and others, with no change or difference in content with their “mother program” - "Social Medicine and Organization of Healthcare and Pharmacy." Another important point is that the all newly named programs - master and PhD, are managed by academic staffs habilitated in "Social Medicine and Organization of Healthcare and Pharmacy". The Curricula and scope of PhD programs in medical and social sciences of

all pharmacy faculties in Bulgaria are identical and comply with the European and World standards to study the social science in the field of medical specialties. For these reasons, I suppose that there is complete correspondence between the applicant's scientific specialty and the scientific specialty in which the competition was announced.

Criterion № 2

No less than two years:

(a) should have held the academic position "assistant professor", "chief assistant professor", or

(b) should have been lecturers, including part-time, or members of a research group at the same or another higher educational institution or scientific organization

The candidate, Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD, submitted information that since December 1, 2016 he has been on the academic position "Chief Assistant Professor" at the Educational and Scientific Laboratory "Social Pharmacy" at the Department of Physicochemistry of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University "St. Kliment" Ohridski". The supporting documents include - 1. Transcript-extract from Minutes No. 4 of the meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, held on November 8, 2016, showing that he was unanimously elected as Chief Assistant Professor at the same meeting after a competition for the occupation of the academic position of Chief Assistant Professor in the professional field 7.3. Pharmacy as announced in the State Gazette no. 58 / 26.07.2016; 2. Copy of employment contract with Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"; 3. Information from the National Insurance Institute for work experience; 4. Transcripts-extracts from the workbook; 5. Certificate No. 185 dated July 16, 2019, issued by Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", showing that at the date of issue of the certificate he has 2 years, 7 months and 5 days work experience as Chief Assistant.

Criterion № 3

The candidate should have been a specialist in real practice and should have proven achievements in their field.

The presented CVs and the data on the career and professional development of Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD, demonstrate that he has a sustainable, gradual and consistent development in the pharmaceutical sector. His professional interests are mainly focused on pharmaceutical marketing and management, the economic aspects of pharmacy, theories of pharmaceutical management, drug promotion, advertising and drug information, communication strategies and skills, working in a multicultural and multilingual environment, etc. Proof of this is his upward professional development.

Also I would like to emphasize his public activity in the pharmaceutical sector at national level: Member of the Management Board of the Association of Hospital Pharmacists from September 2006 to October 2014; Vice-President of the Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Union from February 2007 to October 2010; Member of the Board of Directors of the Bulgarian Generic Pharmaceutical Association since March 2019; participation in various working groups to government bodies and institutions.

It is necessary to underline that the candidate was interested in scientific work soon after graduation - his first scientific publications dated from 2001, long before his entry into the academia.

Criterion № 4

Present published monograph or equivalent publications in specialized scientific magazine or evidence of relevant artistic achievements in the field of arts, which do not repeat the ones submitted for the “Doctor of Philosophy” degree and for the “Master of Science” degree

The applicant, Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD, presents his scientific production in 3 types of lists, prepared in sections, in accordance with the latest amendments to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff and the Rules for the Implementation of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria:

1. List of all scientific production

Habilitation work / monograph - **1 item**

Published chapter of a collective monograph - **39 count**

Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information – **22 counts, 5 of them in press. 9 of the scientific publications are with IF.**

Publications and reports published in non-refereed scientific peer-reviewed journals or in peer-reviewed collective volumes - **58, two scientific papers are in press.**

2. List of all scientific production unrelated to the PhD thesis

Habilitation work / monograph - **1 item**

Published chapter of a collective monograph - **37 count**

Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information – **20 counts, 5 of them in press. 6 of the scientific publications are with IF.**

Publications and reports published in non-refereed scientific peer-reviewed journals or in peer-reviewed collective volumes - **54, two scientific papers are in press.**

3. List of scientific products after the PhD thesis defense

Habilitation work / monograph - **1 item**

Published chapter of a collective monograph - **31 count**

Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information – **8 counts, 5 of them in press. 2 of the scientific publications are with IF.**

Publications and reports published in non-refereed scientific peer-reviewed journals or in peer-reviewed collective volumes - **48, two scientific papers are in press.**

Reference is made to the citations from the Central Medical Library of the Medical University of Sofia, which maintains specialized medical databases. There were 17 citations on the scientific production of the candidate, 6 of which were auto-citations.

The posting activity of Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD is evenly distributed over the years. It is noteworthy that it has grown since taking up the academic position of Chief Assistant Professor in 2016. The quality and quantity of the scientific output after the PhD thesis defended are sufficient on their own to satisfy the requirements for occupying an academic position of "Associate Professor".

The applicant's scientific production covers the whole spectrum and subject of the scientific specialty "Social Medicine and Organization of Healthcare and Pharmacy", which can be conditionally divided into the following areas:

- Analysis of health systems, health insurance models, management of hospital care;
- National drug policy;
- Pharmacoeconomics and Health Technology Assessment;
- Pharmaceutical marketing and management;
- Pharmacovigilance;
- Pharmacotherapy of socially significant diseases;
- Clinical pharmacy and pharmaceutical care;
- History of pharmacy;
- others

The largest share of the scientific interests of Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD occupies the fields of pharmacotherapy of socially significant diseases, clinical pharmacy and pharmaceutical care. The total number of 52 scientific publications and reports from scientific events focus on this topic. Particular attention is given to cardiovascular diseases and their pharmacotherapy. A large part of the publications fall under the heading "Family medicine" and "Pharmaceutical care" - new theoretical areas in medicine and pharmacy, not yet developed in the real practice in our country.

The count of 38 scientific papers and reports, mainly chapters of collective monographs and 1 monograph, contains theoretical, scientific, practical and applied general medical and pharmaceutical analyses of the healthcare system in Bulgaria and the EU, analyses of critical points, advantages and disadvantages, as well as a series of suggestions and practical steps to overcome the problems identified.

On third place in terms of quantity, but perhaps on first place in qualitative terms, are the scientific publications dedicated to pharmaceutical marketing and management - 10 scientific publications and reports presenting original analyses of the antihypertensive market in Bulgaria are highlighted, emphasizing the particular importance of the sartans. Fundamental marketing methods and strategies and their practical application in Bulgaria are demonstrated. It is probable that the candidate's interest in this matter is also conditioned by his successful professional development in the pharmaceutical sector.

Criterion № 5

The applicant shall meet the minimum national requirements under the second and third subparagraphs of Art.2b, respectively of the requirements of the fifth subparagraph of Art.2b of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria

The presented scientific production in terms of quantity and quality exceeds significantly the minimum national requirements for the occupation of the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the area of higher education 7.0 "Health and Sports", respectively Professional field 7.3 "Pharmacy". The data are presented in table 1.

Table 1

Number and content of indicator	Score
Group of indicators A	
Indicator 1: PhD thesis	50
Group of indicators B	
Indicator 3: Habilitation work / monograph	100
Indicator 4: Habilitation work / monograph or - publications in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information (at least 10)	146.17
Total score B	246.17
Group of indicators Γ	
Indicator 7: Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information	89.5
Indicator 8: Publications and reports published in non-refereed scientific peer-reviewed journals or in peer-reviewed collective volumes	448.22
Indicator 9: Published chapter of a collective monograph	325.58
Total score Γ	863.3
Group of indicators Δ	
Indicator 10: Citations or reviews in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information or in monograph and collective volumes	90
Indicator 12: Citations or reviews in non-refereed scientific peer-reviewed journals	25
Total score Δ	115
Total score	1 274.47

If not less than 400 points are required, the presented scientific production by Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD corresponds to 1 274.47 points.

Criterion № 6

There should be no proven plagiarism in scientific works

I do not find information on proven plagiarism in the candidate's scientific works.

Additional criteria

As Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD is the only one candidate in the competition, it is not necessary to analyze the additional criteria in accordance with the fourth subparagraph of Art.27 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. However I will focus on them as well.

Criteria related to the learning activity:

(a) classroom and extracurricular activities; innovations in teaching methods, provision of occupations in a practical environment outside the higher education institution or scientific organization

The academic load for the period December 2016 - June 2019 is presented properly and correctly. From the individual reports available for that period, it can be seen that the annual workload exceeds 400 hours.

Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD participated in the development of the curriculum for teaching of pharmacy students in the discipline "History of Pharmacy" in English and in the development of a curriculum of "Cosmetic Legislation" for master degree of chemistry students in the specialty "Cosmetics and Household Chemistry" at the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

He independently organizes and manages internships for students in real-world environments at pharmaceutical companies, focused on the acquisition of additional skills in areas such as: pharmaceutical marketing, pharmaceutical management, analysis of data on rational drug use and drug utilization, promotion and advertising of medicinal products, presenting medical information to healthcare professionals and others. The program started in 2017 and so far included more than 10 pharmacy students from the Faculty.

(b) work with students and PhD students, including working together with students and PhD students in research and artistic projects

The candidate presented 3 scientific publications in collaboration with students which were published in scientific journals referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information and 3 scientific publications in collaboration with students published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals. There are 8 reports at scientific conferences with students, published in edited collective volumes.

In addition, he provided information on 4 upcoming participations in a team with students with scientific reports on the 7th International Pharmacy Congress that will take place from 21st till 24th of November 2019, Rila Hotel, Borovets.

Research-related criteria:

(a) a membership of a credible creative and / or professional organization in the relevant scientific field

The applicant provided verifiable membership data at professional organizations in the field of pharmacy.

1. 2007 – till now - Member of the Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Union
2. March 2019 - Member of the Board of Directors of the Bulgarian Generic Pharmaceutical Association.
3. September 2006 - October 2014 - Member of the Board of Directors of the Hospital Pharmacists Association.
4. February 2010 - November 2012 - Member of the Advisory Board of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance, representative of the Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Union.

5. February 2007–2010 - Vice-President of the Bulgarian Pharmaceutical Union.

(b) applied research findings; inventions and other intellectual property products

The candidate presented data for participation in two scientific projects: Project BG05M2OP001-2.009-0028 "Achieving the optimal environment for training, research, innovation and sustainable development of human capital in the chemical sciences: Adapting education today for tomorrow" and Project "Study of the system for reporting adverse reactions among pharmacists and patients in Bulgaria 2017" under contract with the University Fund for Scientific Research.

4. CONCLUSION

The submitted documentation for the competition by Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD fully complies with the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

The overall professional and scientific development of Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD, shows that he possesses the necessary qualities and qualification as a teacher, and his scientific achievements are indisputable.

I will vote "FOR" the occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor" by Chief Assistant Professor Sava Ognianov Georgiev, PhD.

**14.10.2019 г.
Sofia**

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMIL IVANOV HRISTOV, MD, PhD
Educational and Scientific Laboratory "Social Pharmacy"
Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy
Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"