

OPINION

By: **assoc. prof. Aleksandar Dimov, PhD**
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On: **Application for an assoc. professor position
in professional field 4.6.** Informatics and computer science
(Embedded and autonomous systems),
announced in State Gazette No. 74/21.08.2020 г.
for Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics (FMI)
in Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”
by Ioannis Patias, PhD

1. Short information about the applicant

Dr. Ioannis Patias graduated from the Technical University – Sofia in 1993 with a degree in Computer Science - Engineer in Electronics and Automation. In 2001, again at the Technical University - Sofia, he defended a PhD thesis, entitled "Methods and tools based on descriptive logic for the presentation of knowledge in decision support systems." Subsequently, in 2013, he received a second master's degree in Business Administration from the International Greek University.

In his professional career, Dr. Patias was employed at various positions, also managerial, at several organizations and projects related to information technology. From 2016 until now he is at the position of Chief Assistant at FMI of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

2. Assessment of position requirements completion

To apply for the position the candidate has submitted a monography thesis, which is enough to meet the requirements of criteria C of the regulations for application of the law for academic staff in Bulgaria. A list of two co-authored monographs and 8 scientific publications indexed in recognized scientific databases is also provided. There is data about 11 citations of his works in another relevant scientific publications.

I have some remarks on the documents submitted by the applicant:

- The monographies, which are co-authored should fall in criteria G8, i.e., each of them should be evaluated with 15 points.

- There does not exist data about the last item in the list with citations (the paper „Mobile Medical Applications as Instrument in Supporting Patients Compliance” is not referred by “Evidence-Based Medicine and Computer Skills of Medical Professionals in Bulgaria“).

Despite these omissions in the documents, the works submitted by the candidate for application for the position of assoc. professor as well as the list with references (246 points on criterion D and 60 points on criterion E of the regulations) are sufficient to meet the requirements for the position of "associate professor", according to the current legislation.

3. Assessment of the teaching activities

Dr. Patias has a lot of experience as a lecturer, which has been gained over the last 20 years. At various times during this time, he has taught a variety of disciplines in computer science and information technologies, including programming, databases, artificial intelligence, embedded systems, project management and so on. During the last 4 years, as a chief assistant at FMI, he actively participates the educational process, teaching 4 disciplines in the bachelor's degree and 2 - in the master's degree, and has also been the supervisor of 7 diploma theses.

4. Assessment of the publications and scientific contributions of the applicant

All scientific papers submitted by the candidate have been published in the last 5 years, which indicates the relevance of his scientific interests. Problems addressed in these publications are significant and interdisciplinary and affect areas such as: Embedded and autonomous systems; Project management; Distributed software systems, etc. He also has practical contributions in the fields of e-health, transportation systems and big data.

The main monographic work with which the candidate applies for the position is also interdisciplinary and covers areas such as embedded software systems, software architectures and entrepreneurship. I have direct impressions as a reviewer of the monograph and I can say that the text in it is well written and can be used both as a guide for researchers and as a textbook in these areas.

In total during his scientific career, the candidate has published 24 publications, 2 book chapters, 1 monograph and has participated as a co-author in two monographs.

From what has been written so far, it can be concluded that the candidate has the necessary scientific and practical experience to be elected as associate professor in the field of computer science and embedded systems.

5. Critical comments and recommendations

I have no significant recommendations. My main remarks are focused on the preparation of the documents for this application and in particular in the provided references for contributions and fulfilment of the legislation requirements as discussed in section 2 of this document.

6. Personal impressions

I have contacts with Dr. Patias since very recently, mostly from some joint activities in the organization of the learning process at FMI. In these, brief contacts, he has shown himself as a responsible person who strictly and qualitatively fulfills all commitments he has made.

7. Conclusion

I consider that the candidate fulfills the legislation requirements in Republic of Bulgaria and the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

This way, I recommend to the honored scientific committee to elect chief assistant Ioannis Patias for associate professor in professional field 4.6. Informatics and computer science (Embedded and autonomous systems) in the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

14.12.2020 r.
Sofia

Signed:

/assoc. prof. Aleksandar Dimov, PhD/