

STATEMENT

on a competition for the occupation of an academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional direction 4.5. Mathematics (ordinary differential equations, Hamiltonian systems and applications), for the needs of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" (SU), Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics (FMI), announced in the Bulgarian State Newspaper No 56 of 30.06.2023 and on the FMI and SU websites

The statement is prepared by Professor (in the professional field 4.5. Mathematics "Theoretical Mechanics") Evtim Venets Zahariev D.Sc., retire, Associate member at the Institute of Mechanics, BAS, as a member of the scientific jury, according to order No PD 38-514/29.08.2023 of the Rector of SU.

The following candidates submitted documents for participation in the announced competition:

Assistant Professor Dr. Georgi Ivanov Georgiev;

Assistant Professor Dr. Svetlin Georgiev Georgiev.

After the deadline for submitting the documents Assistant Professor Dr. Georgi Ivanov Georgiev withdrew his candidacy. Only Assistant Professor Dr. Svetlin Georgiev Georgiev at present participates in the competition. Assistant Professor Svetlin Georgiev Georgiev, is hereinafter referred to as CANDIDATE for short.

I. General description of the presented materials

1. Application data

Regarding the documents and materials submitted by the sole applicant, Assistant Professor Svetlin Georgiev, the Commission for Admission for participation in the competition, on August 31 2023 (after the deadline), found that the CANDIDATE has not signed his application and has not submitted part of the materials. The Commission authorized him to sign his application and submit the missing materials.

Regarding the signature on the aforementioned document - I am obliged to comply with the decision of the Admission Commission for the CANDIDATE to sign this important document after the deadline. But I don't accept the way it was done. Both pages of the application are signed using Adobe DocuSign software, that states in the Legal Notice section that no guarantees are made and confirmation by a legitimate third party is required. Electronically submitted documents are authenticated only by electronic signatures.

When examining the submitted documents, I realized that the reference under Art. 2b of ZRASRB and the Curriculum Vitae are also unsigned and undated. Page two of the agreement to the CANDIDATE's employment contract, where the original signatures should be, was also not presented. In fact, there is no single document in which the CANDIDATE's legally recognized signatures appear. I only reflect the facts, without comment.

Copies of the following documents are presented: diploma of higher education and its annex; diploma for educational and scientific degree "doctor"; certificate of work experience; medical certificate, and certificate regarding his mental and physical health, criminal record certificate, announcement in the Bulgarian State Newspaper.

For participation in the competition, the Assistant Professor Svetlin Georgiev Georgiev has presented a monography printed in Lambert Academic Publisher (LAP) and a co-authored publication in the journal Mathematical Methods in the Applied Sciences, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

According to the criteria and requirements of ZRASRB, PPZRASRB and the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski", the CANDIDATE has additionally submitted:

- list of all publications – 49; list of conference publications – 46; books 16;
- report for the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b of ZRASRB;
- a reference for the cited (3 publications) and citing publications (8 publications);
- a reference to the original scientific contributions to which the relevant evidence should be attached;
- report on the indicators under Art. 112, para. 2 with appropriate evidence, (in case of participation of more candidates);
- summaries of publications in Bulgarian and in English, as well as other publications of the CANDIDATE (in two separate files), necessary for the scientometric assessment.

The documents submitted by the CANDIDATE correspond to the requirements of the ZRASRB, PPZRASRB and PURPNSZADSU. Data on his teaching activities are not presented, and only a document with information on the occupied academic positions Assistant Professors is presented.

In the CV of the Assistant Professor Svetlin Georgiev other activities are also mentioned such as editor and reviewer of international journals and publishing houses, organizer of scientific conferences.

CANDIDATE has so many papers, article and books, but surprisingly he limited himself to participate in the competition with only one book (a monograph), distributed by a publishing house that does not provide Peer Review process. He proposed also only one paper with a co-author for the competition. But since this is allowed by the Law and the minimal requirements, I will limit my review for relevance to the topic of the competition of these two publications only.

2. Information for the CANDIDATE

Brief professional and biographical details of the applicant

I don't know personally the CANDIDATE. I get information about him from the unsigned CV, presented only in English, dated 2019. He graduated in 1997 with honors from the University of Veliko Tarnovo "St. St. Cyril and Methodius". In 2002, he defended his thesis on the specialty "Differential Equations" (according to the classification of VAK). From 2002, he worked as an assistant and from 2011 until now as a Assistant Professor at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". He is Bulgarian-French citizen, which should mean that he has Bulgarian and French citizenship. Almost all of the CANDIDATE's works are presented in the CV. For many years he has been included in international scientific classifications (Who's Who in the Science and Engineering, Who's Who in the World and a number of others).

The information presented in the monograph is interesting. The CANDIDATE indicates that he is a professor at Sorbonne University, Paris, France. In many other publications and conference he is also announced that is from Sorbonne University, without any other details - departments, institutes.... No proofs for this fact.

On February 12, 2023, information appeared on the Internet platform PR.com (<https://www.pr.com/press-release/878748>) that the CANDIDATE is an "honorary professor" at Sorbonne University, being given contact to Simon Silverman and Bulgarian phone 00359889356030. Currently, the registration on this platform is free.

On March 19, in the Internet 24-7PressRelease platform, Simon Silverman published (but already a phone number in France – 334512314986) information that the CANDIDATE is "honorary professor" at Sorbonne University. The Simon Silverman is also listed as being from Sorbonne University.

What is the real situation? The candidate was a professor, and after 4 years became honorary professor at the Sorbonne. Impressive! After checking, neither for the CANDIDATE nor Simon Silverman has any affiliation information with Sorbonne University. The PR.com and 24-7PressRelease.com platforms are available for registration and posts are paid with fees ranging from \$30 to \$300 on PR.com and \$29 to \$419 on 24-7PressRelease.com.

In addition, Who's Who publishing platforms include a large number of Internet-searchable scientists in their arrays, profiting from the sale of plaques. The cheapest wooden ones before 20 years ago were for \$200.

3. General characteristics of the scientific works and achievements of the CANDIDATE

The scientific works presented meet the MINIMUM national requirements (according to Art. 2b, Para. 2 and 3 of ZRASRB, and the additional requirements of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski") for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific field and professional direction of the competition. It is surprising to me why with such high quantity and quality of published works, the CANDIDATE has chosen to participate in the competition with a monograph from a publishing house of minor rank. However, the minimum criteria are met.

The scientific papers presented by the candidate do not repeat those from previous procedures, as they were published after they were conducted.

I have no way to check for plagiarism, and am relying on the fact that there are no signs of plagiarism. I don't know for any evidence of plagiarism in the scientific works submitted for the competition.

4. Characteristics and assessment of the candidate's teaching activity

I cannot give such an assessment since no document has been submitted. The "Human Resources" department of the Sofia University has issued an official document that the CANDIDATE has been consecutively and without interruption assistant professor. But since he occupied such positions, he certainly has a teaching activity.

5. Detailed analysis of the applicant's scientific and applied achievements in the materials for participation in the competition

THE CANDIDATE has submitted publications that fulfill the criteria under the Law and regulations. For participation according to the subject of the competition he submitted, as mentioned above, a monograph and a publication. Therefore, only these two works will be analyzed.

The monograph "Variational Calculus on Time Scales" is not peer-reviewed by the publisher LAP, but if there is any, it is provided by the CANDIDATE. Reputable publishers provide so-called "Peer Review". The book is of 8 chapters, and only chapter 4 (Linear Hamiltonian Dynamic System) is related to the theme of the competition.

The paper “Noncompact-type Krasnoselskii fixed-point theorems and their applications” (co-authored) is published in the respected journal “Mathematical Methods in the Applied Science” and it is indexed by SCOPUS.

The requirements for a STATEMENT clearly state that an assessment of contributions must be made. It is my opinion that in the book and the paper presented, the only possible contribution related to the topic of the competition is ENRICHMENT OF EXISTING KNOWLEDGE, and I will make the following comment. IT IS THE AUTHOR'S DUTY TO PRESENT HIS CONTRIBUTIONS AS HE UNDERSTENT THEM, APPLYING THE RELEVANT JUSTIFICATIONS AND EVIDENCE.

I won't copy here the single contribution attached to the documentation, but text like "... a new way of research" and "... new developments in the field of functional analysis ..." without any details and references to the relevant publications is superficial. I must point out that it is the CANDIDATE's duty to provide brief justification and evidence. It sounds disparaging to me for him to use the text "... As proof of my scientific contributions, my published scientific articles and monographs can serve".

However, there is translated part of the abstract of chapter 4 (in red text) of the monograph. I assume that this could be proof of the contributions. This chapter is the only one that has any relation to the subject of the competition. It is structured as content of lectures with application to exercises. Numerous theorems and mathematical and matrix transformations are presented, some of which can be found in the publications cited by the author. That is why I would accept (with great reservations) possible contribution of the kind ENRICHMENT OF EXISTING KNOWLEDGE.

Regarding the co-authored paper, I don't think it's relevant to the contest topic. Even more, there is no text highlighted in red that could be taken as a justification for the contributions. However, I should note that "difference equations" are not "differential equations". THE CANDIDATE has not indicated his contribution to this article, and there are no cited publications with his participation in it.

6. Critical notes and recommendations

My main criticism is that the CANDIDATE was superficial and dismissive about the competition. The monograph and the article published have little relevance to the competition. Contributions to the topic are invisible and not proven. The documents submitted for the competition have been compromised and I cannot accept that the application is according to the regulations.

7. Personal impressions of the candidate

I do not know the CANDIDATE and I have no personal impressions. But the unsigned documents, the presentation of the personal data, make me think that there is something wrong about this application. Obviously the CANDIDATE is an excellent mathematician with many valuable publications, but his attitude to the competition is dismissive.

8. Conclusion on the application

After having familiarized myself with the materials presented for the competition (the monograph and the paper), I accept that the MINIMUM requirements are fulfilled for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor". Based on the analysis of their significance about the scientific and scientific-applied contributions, I doubt that the achievements fulfill the requirements for the CANDIDATE to occupy the academic position of "associate professor" in the scientific field and professional direction of the competition. In particular, the candidate satisfies the MINIMUM national requirements, but only in terms of quantity and evaluation of points. Taking into account the CANDIDATE's attitude to the submitted documents (discussed above.), I give my negative assessment of the application.

II. GENERAL CONCLUSION

According to the stated above, I do not recommend to the Scientific Jury to propose for the Scientific Committee of the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" to elect the Assistant Professor Svetlin Georgiev Georgiev to occupy the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional direction 4.5. Mathematics (Ordinary differential equations, Hamiltonian systems and applications).

This statement was submitted in two copies on paper with my signature, as well as their electronic copy, and, I certify its identity. Any deviation of the electronic document from the paper version makes the electronic version invalid.

Sofia, October 27, 2023

Signature:

Prof. Evtim Zahariev, D.Sc.