

Statement

from

Prof. Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Gutzov, FHF - SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" Department of "Physical chemistry"

Regarding: competition for associate professor in the professional direction 4.2. Chemical Sciences (Inorganic Chemistry), SG no. 21 of 15.03. 2022; Order of the Rector of the SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" RD - 38 - 175 / 01. 04. 2022 and decision of FC - FHF, protocol N 22 / 28.03.2022

Participant: one candidate participated in the competition, chief assistant Dr. Nina Veselinova Kaneva - Dobrevska, lecturer in the "Inorganic Chemistry" department, FHF - SU "St. Kliment Ohridski".

1. Biographical data and documents

Chief Assistant Dr. Nina Veselinova Kaneva - Dobrevska (34) is a Bachelor of Computational Chemistry and a Teacher of Chemistry and Environmental Protection (2011) and a Master of Chemistry - Medicinal Chemistry (2012), SU "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy (FHC). In 2016, he became a doctor in the professional field of Chemistry - 4.2. Chemical Sciences (Inorganic Chemistry), SU "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy. The dissertation of Dr. Nina Veselinova Kaneva - Dobrevska is on the topic: "Synthesis and characterization of pure and modified nano-sized ZnO for photocatalytic applications", it was prepared in the department of "Inorganic Chemistry" - FHF.

Dr. Nina Veselinova Kaneva-Dobrevska has been a lecturer in the Department of Inorganic Chemistry since 2015. In addition, she worked as a chemistry teacher (2015 - 2021) and was a chemist at the Institute of Molecular Biology, BAS in 2011- 2012. It can be seen that the educational qualifications of the candidate, combined with an experience in teaching chemistry and successful scientific work, are very suitable for occupying the position of "associate professor" in professional direction 4.2. Chemical Sciences (Inorganic Chemistry) at Sofia University.

The candidate's documents for participation in the competition meet the requirements of the Regulations of the SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" and of the law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB) and are precisely prepared. Dr. Nina Kaneva - Dobrevska has correctly filled data in the system of SU "St. Kliment Ohridski" THE AUTHORS. From the presented reference-declaration, it can be seen that the scientific achievements and publication activity of Dr. Nina Kaneva - Dobrevska significantly exceed the mandatory minimum state requirements and the internal university requirements for participation in a competition for the academic position of "docent" in direction 4.2 Chemical sciences (Inorganic chemistry).

2. Scientific, teaching and project activity

Dr. Nina Kaneva - Dobrevska is a co-author of a total of 74 scientific publications, of which 37 are visible in the SCOPUS system with h-index=14, Kaneva, Nina V., ID 26435301500. The candidate's publications in the same database have been cited 625 times (July 2022). The articles are in prestigious journals with an impact factor in the fields of catalytic photoactivity, zinc oxide, sensors and nanomaterials. It is about a high and promising publication activity, which led to a number of awards for scientific achievements for

young scientists of the candidate in 2009 - 2017, awarded by various institutions: BAS, HTMU-Sofia, SU "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Dr. Nina Kaneva - Dobrevska is a co-author of a total of 74 scientific publications, of which 37 are visible in the SCOPUS system with h-index=14, Kaneva, Nina V., ID 26435301500. The candidate's publications in the same database have been cited 625 times (July 2022). The articles are in prestigious journals with an impact factor in the fields of *catalytic photoactivity, zinc oxide, sensors and nanomaterials*. It is about a high and promising publication activity, which led to a number of awards for scientific achievements for young scientists of the candidate in 2009 - 2017, awarded by various institutions: BAS, HTMU-Sofia, SU "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Dr. Nina Kaneva - Dobrevska participated in the current competition with 18 publications in prestigious journals such as *Alloys and Compounds* (IF=5.3), *Archives of Pharmacal Research* (IF=4.9), *Colloids and Surfaces* (IF = 4.54), *Materials Science - Semiconductor processing* (IF = 3.93) and others. The results of these studies have been reported at numerous conferences and project meetings and have been well received by the scientific community. The publications of Dr. Nina Kaneva - Dobrevska, related to the PhD work (2016), are not included in the current competition - in this way, the requirements of the law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria have been met.

The scientific contributions of the candidate in the publications with which she participates in the current competition are in the areas of: heterogeneous photocatalysis, synthesis and properties of ZnO and nanoparticles based on this, doped oxides, composites containing gold nanoparticles and rare earth elements, thin layers with photocatalytic properties of ZnO and semiconductor quantum dots. These are results of a high scientific level, which have led to hundreds of citations in the specialized literature in a relatively short time.

The habilitation work of Dr. Nina Kaneva - Dobrevska is also dedicated to the photocatalytic properties of zinc oxide. The candidate focused on the physicochemical properties of zinc oxide as a student, under the scientific guidance of the late associate professor Tsetso Dushkin, in the Laboratory of Science and Technology of Nanoparticles founded by him. In my opinion, she is currently one of the leading specialists in this field in our country. It is about long-term experimental research in an interdisciplinary field of science between solid-state chemistry, physical chemistry and inorganic chemistry, which requires extensive theoretical training and experimental skills.

Dr. Nina Kaneva - Dobrevska has the necessary project and teaching activity to occupy the academic position of "associate professor" at the FHF of "St. Kliment Ohridski", which is evident from the reference submitted by the candidate. I know Dr. Nina Veselinova Kaneva - Dobrevska as a respected and competent teacher in the Faculty of Science and Technology at the University of St. Kliment Ohridski". Her long list of successful scientific collaborations with various institutions and scientists is impressive, which is an indicator of the future associate professor's cooperativeness and teamwork. I have no joint scientific research or participation in projects with the candidate in the current competition.

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, I am convinced that Dr. Nina Veselinova Kaneva - Dobrevska meets all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on the Terms and Conditions for Acquiring the Academic Position "Associate Professor" in the Department of

"Inorganic chemistry", FHF at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski". The election of Dr. Nina Veselinova Kaneva - Dobrevska as an associate professor is beneficial both for the scientific unit in which the candidate works, and for herself, as it will give her the opportunity to create and lead a research group and achieve even more significant scientific results.

Based on my familiarity with the presented scientific works and the results in them, which significantly exceed the requirements of the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring the academic position of "professor" in the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski", I recommend chief assistant Dr. Nina Veselinova Kaneva - Dobrevska to take the academic position of "associate professor" in professional direction 4.2. Chemical Sciences (Inorganic Chemistry).

Sofia, 29/06/2022

Prof. Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Gutsov