

R E P O R T

By Prof. Anely Metodieva Nedelcheva, PhD

Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

Member of the academic board of examiners, appointed by Order 38-454/21.09.2021 by the Rector of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

About the competition for filling the academic post of “**Associate Professor**”

in the area of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional area 7.3 Pharmacy, scientific specialty “Technology of drug dosage forms” in Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” (SG, № 63/30.07.2021)

The documents submitted by Zahari Penkov Vinarov, Senior Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Engineering, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” are presented at the announced competition. The submitted materials for participation in the competition are completed document files with provided access to the electronic platform Moodle and are according to the necessary documents for the occupation of the academic post of “Associate Professor”.

According to the analysis of the submitted materials, as well as the self-assessment report, Zahari Vinarov fulfils the national minimum scientometric requirements according to the Regulations for the Application of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Zahari Vinarov graduated from the Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University of Sofia with “Master” degree and qualification of “Pharmacist” (2009). He awarded academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy, PhD in two scientific specialties, respectively 4.2 Chemical Sciences (Theoretical Chemistry and macrokinetic)(2014) and 7.3 Pharmacy (Technology of drug dosage forms and biopharmacy)(2021), both of them in Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski.

Zahari Vinarov is a member of the academic community of Sofia University, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy as a senior assistant since 2008, successively as a chemist, assistant and senior assistant professor in a Department of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Engineering. During the period 2019-2021 he was a post-doctoral student in the research group „Drug Delivery and Disposition“ in Department of Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Sciences, KU Leuven, Belgium, where he participated in the development of robotic methods for biopharmaceutical research, together with the pharmaceutical company Janssen Pharmaceutica.

The candidate presents data on expert activity in international organizations, which is within the scope of the scientific specialty of the competition: Group of Experts №13H (Fatty oils and derivatives, polymers) - European Pharmacopoeia (EDQM), European Federation for Pharmaceutical Sciences (EUFEPS), American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS),

as well as a member of the editorial board of authoritative scientific journals: *Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology*, *Molecules*, *Frontiers in Drug Delivery* and *Pharmaceutics*. It is worth noting his participation in the operational management (core-group) and co-chair of Working Group 3 - Advanced formulations in international project COST CA16205.

The candidate submitted a list of total scientific research output of 24 titles (2 books, 20 publications and 2 popular science articles) for the period 2012-2021. Three of the publications are marked for the acquisition of PhD in 4.2 Chemical Sciences. Zahari Vinarov presented for participation in the competition 1 monograph (book) "Solubilization: fundamental principles and biopharmaceutical applications" (in press), 1 book "Mechanisms of solubilization of hydrophobic drugs from surfactants" (in press) - based on a defended PhD thesis and 17 scientific publications, of which 2 publications for the acquisition of PhD in 7.3 Pharmacy. All publications are in journals, referenced and indexed in Web Sci and Scopus, IF/Q: *Pharmaceutics* (6.3/Q1), *Adv. Drug. Deliv. Rev.* (15.5/Q1), *Eur. J. Pharm. Sci.* (4.4/Q2), *Mol. Pharm.* (4.9/Q2), *Drug. Dev. Ind. Pharm.* (3.2/Q3), *Nature Comm.* (14.9/Q1), *Ind. J. Pharm. Sci.* (1.0/Q4), *J. Drug. Deliv. Sci. Technol.* (4.0/Q2), *Food Hydrocolloids* (9.2/Q2), *Food & Function* (5.4/Q1); personal impact factor 18. The candidate is a lead author (first and / or correspondent author) in 11 of the publications, and a single author of the presented monograph and book. The candidate submits a report of a total of 319 observed citations and an *h-index* of 10. The response time in more than 75% of citations is up to one year. The candidate has participated in 40 scientific forums and 19 scientific projects. The topic of the scientific production falls entirely within the scientific specialty of the competition. The above shows Zahari Vinarov as an independent scientist, recognizable in the scientific community, with proven teamwork skills and scientific interests and achievements in current issues in the field of technology of dosage forms and biopharmacy: oral delivery of low-soluble drugs; digestion of lipids and in vitro models of the digestive tract; surfactants and surface phenomena; emulsions.

I accept the author's report on the contribution of scientific production, which is in the field of developing new biopharmaceutical models for research of drug excipients and bioactive compounds after oral administration, presented in 3 main areas and supported by a list of relevant publications.

The information provided shows significant experience in the organizational process and teaching work in core lectures for Pharmacy, MSc and the PhD program "Technology of Dosage Forms and Biopharmacy", as well as successes in working with students, such as joint scientific publications in publications with impact factor (7), scientific guidance of MSc theses (5), including foreign students, in the organization of international conferences and schools, as well as activities to promote science.

In conclusion, I believe that research and teaching activity of Senior Assist. Prof. Zahari Vinarov respond to the announced scientific specialty of competition, fulfills the recommendations of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and to the

Regulations for the Application of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and fulfill the criteria of the Regulation on the Terms and Conditions for Awarding of Academic Degrees and holding an Academic Posts at Sofia University.

As a result of the above, I give a positive assessment and recommend to the honorable Academic board of examiners to propose to the Faculty Council of Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, **Senior Assist. Prof. Zahari Penkov Vinarov, PhD, MSc Pharm.** to be elected on the **academic post “Associate Professor” of Technology of drug dosage forms** in the area of higher education **7. Healthcare and Sports**, professional area **7.3 Pharmacy**.

24th November 2021
Sofia

Signature:
/Prof. Anely Nedelcheva/