

Attitude of Reviewer

by Svetlana Dimitrova Simova - Professor at IOCCP-BAS, DSc
on the competition announced for appointment of academic position "associate professor"
on professional field 4.2. Chemical Sciences, scientific specialty
"Bioorganic chemistry and chemistry of natural and bioactive compounds"
for the needs of the laboratory "Chemistry of natural products"
at the Institute of Organic Chemistry with Centre of Phytochemistry
at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IOCCP-BAS)

General presentation of the procedure and the applicant

By virtue of Order № ПД-09-184 from 26.07.2019 of the Director of IOCCP - BAS, I was appointed a member of the Scientific Jury at a competition for appointment the academic position "associate professor" at IOCCP - BAS by higher education area 4.2. Chemical Sciences, scientific specialty – "Bioorganic chemistry and chemistry of natural and bioactive compounds", announced for the needs of the laboratory "Chemistry of natural products" at IOCCP - BAS.

In the competition for associate professor, published in the "State Gazette", 43 from 31.05.2019 as the only candidate involved is

Dr. Boryana Stoykova Trusheva,

assistant professor at IOCCP-BAS, scientific department " Chemistry of natural products".

She has presented a set of paper-based and electronic materials that are extensive, consistently arranged and satisfactory. They are in line with the Regulations on the Terms and Procedures for appointment of academic positions at the Institute of Organic Chemistry with Centre of Phytochemistry at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, exceeding considerably the recommended criteria for occupying the academic position "associate professor" and include the administrative and scientific documents necessary for the procedure.

Dr. **Boryana Trusheva** has presented 21 publications in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous scientific information databases, of which 8 in Q1 and 9 in Q2 publications and 3 book chapters, being the first author in 5 of them and second in 10. Reference is given to 778 citations in refereed editions and 451 in non-refereed editions, of which more than 125 in doctoral theses. Her h-index according to Scopus is 15. Dr. Trusheva participates in a considerable number of research and applied projects both nationally and internationally funded. She is a co-author of a recognized utility model in Bulgaria, which has found its way into a Bulgarian company. Dr. Trusheva also has a scientific-teaching activity as the head of one and consultant of two successfully defended graduates. She trained one intern from the Department of Fine Chemistry and Engineering of the National Institute of Applied Sciences in Saint-Etienne-de-Rouvre, France. She was invited as speaker at a conference on membrane technology in the food industry in Cetraro,

Italy. She has a strong interest in interacting with scientists from other countries, through mobility at the University of Rovira and Virgil in Tarragona, Spain as a teacher (Erasmus), and as a researcher on projects funded by the European Commission in the Food and Nutrition Sciences Department of the Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Sciences Hassan II in Rabat, Morocco and at the Chios Mastiha Growers Association in Chios, Greece. Dr. Trusheva participated as a member of the technical committee at the 2nd International Propolis Conference in Sofia. A list for participation in scientific forums with oral and poster presentations, as well as data on attracted funds is not presented.

Dr. **Boryana Trusheva's** exceedance of the minimum requirements of the Regulations on the Terms and Procedure for Appointment of Academic Positions in the Institute of Organic Chemistry with Centre of Phytochemistry at BAS is clearly visible from the table of points according to the individual groups of indicators as follows:

GROUP OF INDICATORS	C O N T E N T	Requirements IOCCP-BAS "associate professor"	Number of points in the competition
A	Doctoral Thesis for "Doctor"	50	50
Б	Doctoral Thesis for "Doctor of Sciences"	---	---
B	Scientific publications equivalent to a habilitation work	100	135
Г	Publications for the present competition	220	372
Д	Quotations after acquisition of the assistant professor position	70	1556
E	Participation in scientific projects	---	160

I know Dr. Trusheva as one of the prospective colleagues at the Institute characterized by responsibility, thoroughness, perseverance and desire to achieve credible scientific results.

General characteristic of the applicant's activity

Dr. Trusheva's professional development is carried out in the most reputable educational and scientific institutions in the country - the Faculty of Chemistry of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and IOCCP - BAS. She added to her qualification at the Faculty of Science and Mathematics of the University of St. St. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, Northern Macedonia. Systematic self-development, accumulated knowledge and experience make acquiring associate professor status a logical and natural next step in her professional development, supported by the arguments presented below:

- perspective scientific topic - clarification of the chemical composition of natural objects, traditionally used in the folk medicine and the related biological activity, as well as

the search for possibilities and ways for the application of natural objects, extracts or their biologically active components in modern medical practice.

- significant scientific output presented in terms of volume and quality has been found in the scientific literature.
- significant scientific contributions such as the isolation of new natural compounds and new data on the chemical composition of propolis from different geographical areas, largely unexplored so far.
- scientific contributions by summarizing comparative data on propolis from plant sources of propolis from different geographical and climatic regions.
- scientific contributions received from the collection and compilation of data on the content of volatile compounds in propolis from different geographical areas.
- scientific contributions to research on wood-decay mushrooms.
- contributions to the study of modern methods for extraction of biologically active substances from propolis and evaluation of their effectiveness
- successful participation in a large number of scientific and applied projects funded by various sources. The candidate's ability to team work should be noted.
- participation in teaching and consulting activities.

Assessment of the applicant's personal contribution

Dr. Boryana Trusheva's personal contribution to the topics and publications being developed is undoubted and significant. The submitted habilitation report of the scientific contributions correctly summarizes the activity performed and reflects the achieved theoretical and applied results. I could characterize Dr. Trusheva as an erudite, correct, communicative colleague with considerable intellectual capacity.

Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no critical remarks on the material presented by Dr. Trusheva in the competition for associate professor, as well as on her scientific activity. I would recommend a translation into Bulgarian of some of the materials presented only in English.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by Associate Professor Dr. Boryana Trusheva **meet all the requirements** of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, the Regulations for its Implementation and the Regulations for the Terms and Procedure for

Appointment of Academic Personnel at the Institute of Organic Chemistry with Centre of Phytochemistry at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Trusheva has presented a **significant** number of scientific papers published after the assignment to the academic position "Assistant Professor", and there are significant research and scientific-applied contributions in the field of natural product chemistry and especially propolis, which have received significant international recognition. The scientific qualification of Dr. Boryana Trusheva is **undoubtedly highly appreciated**.

The results achieved by Dr. **Boryana Stoykova Trusheva** in research and scientific-applied work **significantly exceed** the requirements of the Institute of Organic Chemistry with Centre of Phytochemistry at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for the application of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act.

After studying the materials and scientific papers presented in the competition, analyzing their significance and the scientific and applied contributions contained therein, I find it justifiable to give my **positive** assessment and **recommend** to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report - proposal to the Scientific Council of the Institute of Organic Chemistry with Centre of Phytochemistry at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for the selection of Assist. Prof. **Boryana Stoykova Trusheva**, PhD at the academic position "Associate Professor" at IOCCP - BAS in the professional field 4.2. Chemical Sciences, scientific specialty "Bioorganic chemistry and chemistry of natural and bioactive compounds"

Sofia, 10.09.2019 г.

Writing the reviewer attitude:



/Prof. Svetlana Simova, DSc/