

OPINION

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on the materials submitted for participation in a competition
for the occupation of the academic position “Associate Professor”
in the area of higher education - 5. Technical Sciences,
professional field - 5.1. Mechanical Engineering,
scientific specialty – “Technology of Textile Materials”

In the competition for Associate Professor, announced in the State Gazette, issue 55/27.06.2023 and on the official website of Technical University-Gabrovo for the needs of the Department of Industrial Design and Textile Engineering, at the Faculty of Mechanical and Precision Engineering, as the only candidate participated Eng. Borislav Tsonev Stoyanov, PhD - Chief Assistant Professor in the Department of Industrial Design and Textile Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical and Precision Engineering.

1. Overview of content and results in the submitted works

The candidate graduated from the Technical University of Gabrovo in 2001 with a Master's degree in "Textile Techniques and Technologies", and a specialization in "Techniques and Technology of Spinning Production" in 2001. The set of documents presented by him for participation in the competition are grouped as follows:

Group A, indicator 1 (50 for 50 points required) – a diploma for academic degree "Doctor" from the Higher Commission for Attestation was presented on 19.02.2007 in the scientific specialty "Theory of Mechanisms, Machines, and Automatic Lines", with the topic of the dissertation work "Dynamics of the running and lifting mechanism of a chain hoist".

Group C, indicator 3 - the candidate's monographic work is on "Laser marking of textile materials", of which he is the sole author. It is in the field of the announced competition, it was published in 2023 in the University Publishing House "Vasil Aprilov" - Gabrovo and meets the generally accepted criteria for a monographic work. The monograph has two reviewers - habilitated persons.

Group D (necessary 200 points) - Chief Assistant Professor Borislav Tsonev Stoyanov, PhD has attached a list of 47 publications, 10 of them according to indicator 7, and 37 according to indicator 8. All publications under indicator 7 were found in the Scopus database. Of them, there is no publication specifically in the specialty of the announced competition, but all of them are in its scientific direction. From the publications under indicator 7, there are no independent works of the candidate. In the competition documents, there are no separation protocols presented between the co-authors for their participation in the preparation of the publications, therefore I assume that the co-authors have equal participation in them.

In the report on the implementation of the minimum national requirements under indicator 8, four publications are indicated that have already been used by the candidate for the acquisition of the academic degree "Doctor" (D8.1, D8.3, D8.4, and D8.8), with a total of 43,34 points and two that appear in the references of the monograph (D8.34 and D8.35), with a total of 13.34 points. That is why I assume that the publications of the contest are 41, and the points for indicator D – **415.04**.

The candidate has divided the scientific works into six thematic areas: "Laser marking of textile materials" (monograph), "Electron Beam processing" (D7.2, D7.3, D7.4, D7.5, D7.6, D7.7, D7.8, D7.9, D7.10 and D8.37), "Technology of textile materials" (D8.20, D8.27, D8.29, D8.30, D8.32, D8.33 and D8.36), "Machines and equipment for light industry" (D.7.1, D8.10, D8.11, D8.12, D.8.13, D.8.14, D.8.15, D.8.16, D.8.17, D8.21, D.8.22, D.8.25, D.8.26, D8.28 and D8.31), "Theory of mechanisms, machines and automatic lines" (D8.2, D8.5, D8.7 and D8.8) and "Electromechanics" (D8.9, D8.18, D8.19, D8.23 and D8. 24).

Therefore, in the context of the competition, the candidate satisfies the minimum national requirements of LDACRB/2018 and the Regulations for obtaining scientific degrees and holding academic positions at the Technical University of Gabrovo. With a required score of 200, the candidate has **415.04**, which is more than twice the required score.

Group E (necessary 50 points) – in the reference for the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements, the applicant has shown citations for the fulfillment of group E with 83 points.

From the citations under indicator 12, I recognize citations E12.1 and E12.2 (which were found in the Scopus database). The remaining 5 citations (E12.3, E12.4, E12.5, E12.6, and E12.7), for which there is currently no document proving their citation in Scopus - I recognize according to indicator 13 - *citations in monographs and collective volumes with peer review*, each carrying 3 points.

All other citations were incorrectly attributed by the candidate to indicator 14. Two of them (E14.1 and E14.2) should be included in indicator 13 (3 points each), and the other seven (E14.3, E14.4, E14.5, E14.6, E14.7), E14.8 and E14.9) in indicator 14 – *citations or reviews in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals*, carrying 2 points each. Thus, the total number of points for group E becomes 55.

The candidate meets the requirements for the academic position of "Associate Professor" according to indicator E.

Summary of the minimum national requirements by groups of indicators for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in field 5. Technical sciences, professional field 5.1 Mechanical engineering and the evidence presented by the candidate is shown in the table:

Group of indicators	Minimum national requirements for borrowing AP "Associate Professor"	Points by groups of Indicators
A	50	50
B	-	-
C	100	100
D	200	415, 04
E	50	55
F	-	

2. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

2.1. Educational and pedagogical activity

The candidate, Eng. Borislav Tsonev Stoyanov, PhD, holds the position of chief assistant in the Department of "Industrial Design and Textile Technology" of the Faculty of "Mechanical Engineering and Instrumentation" of the Technical University of Gabrovo.

The disciplines on which he gave lectures are: 1. Textile materials science; 2. Textile tests; 3. Machines and processes in spinning production; 4. Modern spinning methods; 5. Computer 3D modeling; 6. Modeling and prototyping; 7. Computer tools for graphic design; 8. Computer-interior design; 9. Design of offices and commercial establishments; 10. Individual Design Research Paper.

The candidate has conducted exercises on: 1. Textile materials science; 2. Textile tests; 3. Machines and processes in spinning production; 4. Modern spinning methods; 5. Computer 3D modeling; 6. Modeling and prototyping; 7. Computer tools for graphic design; 8. Computer-interior design; 9. Design of offices and commercial establishments; 10. Individual Design Research Paper; 11. Modern textile materials and technologies. He participated in the development of 8 study programs in the disciplines he led. To ensure the educational process chief assistant professor Stoyanov, PhD, has published two textbooks and one textbook, with the titles "Testing of textile materials", 2008, ISBN 978-683-396-9; Machines and Processes in spinning production, 2011, ISBN 978-954-683-453-9; "Computer 3D Modeling", 2017, ISBN 978-954-683-568-0, all from Vasil Aprilov University Publishing House, Gabrovo.

On the basis of the above, I assess the pedagogical training of the candidate and his work as a teacher corresponding to the level of the academic position for which he is applying.

2.2. Scientific and scientific-applied activity

Chief Assistant Professor Eng. Borislav Stoyanov, PhD, was the head of three projects under the Scientific Research Fund at TU-Gabrovo and participated in another 19 research projects at TU-Gabrovo, financed by the Scientific Research Fund. He also participated in 5 national projects with European funding.

2.3. Implementation activity

For his participation in the competition, the candidate has provided a reference for one patent BG4070-U1 - System for laser cutting and welding of small-sized details and four useful models: BG3214-U1 - System for laser marking; BG3503-U1 - Automated system for fastening parts; BG3564-U1 - System for laser marking of details with complex surfaces; BG4048-U1 - Technological line for applying laser decorative inscriptions on rotary parts.

In confirmation of his implementation activity, the candidate submitted 6 service notes for implemented developments in production, 3 of which for useful models: Laser marking system; Automated system for fastening details; System for laser marking of details with complex surfaces.

3. Contributions (scientific, scientific-applied, applied). Significance of contributions to science and practice

The candidate has declared "scientific-applied" and "applied" contributions, which he has divided separately for the monographic work and for his publication activity. All entries are in the contest area.

They are formulated on the basis of what was done by the author and faithfully reflect what was achieved. I accept the contributions.

4. Assessment of the candidate's personal contribution

Of the 41 scientific articles and reports accepted for review, 12 are independent, and in 8 the candidate is the first co-author. The candidate's monographic work is independent, as well as the textbooks and teaching aids he has developed.

Bearing in mind these facts, I think that Chief Assistant Professor Borislav Tsonev Stoyanov, PhD, made a significant contribution to the scientific works submitted for review.

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no significant remarks with which to challenge the main scientific and applied contributions in the presented works of Borislav Tsonev Stoyanov, PhD.

In several of the presented publications, the text part, figures and tables have a high % match. For example, in D8.22 - a scientific paper presented at the International Scientific Conference UNITECH, November 20-21, 2009, the text part, tables 1, 2, and 3, as well as figures 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10, completely coincide with presented in a scientific paper presented at the general textile conference' 2009, September 17 - 18, 2009, Sofia. Coincidences are also noticeable in D8.15, D8.16, D8.14. In some publications, the presented graphs of the obtained results are of poor quality, which makes them difficult to read.

The critical remarks made to the presented works do not affect the significance of the contributions therein.

Conclusion

Based on the written above, I propose Chief Assistant Professor Borislav Tsonev Stoyanov, PhD, to be elected "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education - 5. Technical sciences, professional field - 5.1. Mechanical Engineering, scientific specialty – “Technology of textile materials”

08. 11. 2023

Member of the scientific jury: /signature/

/Assoc. Prof. Eng. Blagoyka Paleva-Kadiyska, PhD/