

EVALUATION

of the application submitted in a competition for the tenure track position "Associate Professor" in the professional field: **5.3 "Communication and Computer Engineering"**

course: **"Computer Networks and the Internet"**,

announced in State Gazzete no. 65 of 06.08.2021

Candidate **Ch. Assist. Prof. Eng. Rosen Stefanov Radkov, PhD**

Member of the scientific jury: **Prof. Todor Dimitrov Ganchev, PhD**

1. General characteristics of the research activity of the candidate

Mr Rosen Radkov, PhD, participates in the competition for the tenured position "Associate Professor" with 22 scientific publications and one guide for laboratory exercises on "Internet servers and services". These publications include a monograph entitled "*Continuity of Information Security. Analysis and management approaches*", which the candidate presents in fulfilment of the requirements of indicator *B.3 Habilitation work – A Monograph*. A list of 21 publications was provided to cover the unified national requirements for the group of indicators "G". Among these are four conference papers indexed in SCOPUS, which are presented under indicator G.7. A total of 17 publications in edited collective volumes or non-indexed journals were submitted to meet the requirements of indicator G.8. Following the requirements, the applicant has also provided the list of 4 publications used for the acquisition of his PhD degree.

To fulfil the minimum national requirements for the group of indicators "D", the applicant provided a list of 15 citations for 12 publications, as follows: (i) indicator D.12 a list of 3 publications with a total of 6 citations, which are intra-institutional self-citations for TU-Varna; (ii) indicator D.13 a list of 4 publications with a total of 4 citations; (iii) indicator D.14 a list of 5 publications with a total of 5 citations are presented.

To fulfil the minimum national requirements for indicator "Zh", the candidate has provided a reference for 631 hours of lectures for the last three years.

Table 1. A summary on the implementation of the minimum national requirements for acquiring the tenure track position "Associate Professor" by groups of indicators for the scientific field "5. Technical Sciences."

Group of indicators	Contents by indicators	Minimum requirements for "Associate Professor"	Points R. Radkov, PhD
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 3 or 4	100	100
G	Sum of indicators from 5 to 11	200	436
D	Sum of indicators from 12 to 15	50	82 (from 112) *
Zh	Indicator 29	30	631

* I do not accept a total of 30 points for the reviews D12.1, D12.2 and D12.3 authored by Mr Radkov, as according to the current by-laws (Note №9, p. 43), points are assigned only for "reviews of the candidate's publications, but not reviews written by the candidate."

The analysis of the submitted materials and the comparison with the minimum national and institutional requirements for the tenure track position "Associate Professor" (cf. Table 1) show that the candidate fulfils the minimum requirements in all groups of indicators.

2. Assessment of the pedagogical preparation and activity of the candidate

The pedagogical activity of the candidate covers 30 years - from his appointment as an Assistant Professor at the Department of Computer Science at VMEI-Varna in 1990 until nowadays. According to the submitted application package, the candidate had taught 631 hours of lectures for the past three academic years. This workload covers three courses in the Bachelor's Degree and four courses in the Master's Degree, included in the curricula of specialities studied at the Faculty of Computer Science and Automation of TU-Varna. The candidate co-authored one guide for laboratory exercises as a first author. The above said is a good attestation for his work as a lecturer.

3. Main scientific and applied scientific contributions

Based on the summary of his monography and the abstracts of the 21 publications, I concluded that most of the contributions correspond to applied research. These publications are well aligned with the topic of the tenure track position. In brief, his contributions can be summarized as:

- Development of methodology and synthesis of models aiming to increase knowledge necessary for design and assessment of the reliability of the specialized data centres.
- Research aimed at obtaining new or confirmatory facts related to protecting information and personal data security in information storage and processing systems.

Based on the composition of the author team for the co-authored publications and having in mind that most of the publications are authored by Mr Radkov, I concluded that the abovementioned contributions are the result of the candidate's efforts.

4. Significance of contributions to science and practice

Regarding the significance of the contributions formulated in the monograph and publications, I can judge only indirectly based on the citations by independent authors. On the one hand, it is evident that the contributions are primarily related to important applied research problems, but on the other hand, the relatively small number of references (15), mainly in publications by three independent teams, is apparent. Furthermore, no information about patents issued was provided.

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no critical remarks. The application package is comprehensive and well structured, the provided evidence is easy to verify.

The only recommendation I would like to make to Mr Radkov is to consider devoting part of his time and efforts to gaining international recognition for his research through publications in scientific journals indexed in SCOPUS and WoS and, when appropriate, to those with an impact

factor according to Thomson Reuters and falling within quartiles Q1 and Q2. This is important both for his further career development and for the ranking of TU-Varna in the academic ratings.

CONCLUSION

An objective and multifaceted assessment of the qualification and achievements of Mr Radkov, as well as the formal comparison with the unified national requirements for the tenure track position "Associate Professor", according to the relevant laws and by-laws, show that the minimum requirements are met. The last motivated my decision to support candidate Mr Radkov for awarding the tenure track position "Associate Professor" in the current competition in the professional field "5.3 Communication and Computer Engineering" for the academic course "Computer Networks and Internet".

Date: 12.11.2021

MEMBER OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY: _____

/ Prof. Todor Ganchev, PhD /