OPINION

in a competition for the academic position of "professor" by professional field 5.3. Communication and computer equipment, discipline "Computer Networks", announced in SG, issue 110 of 24.12.2021 with candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Veneta Panayotova Aleksieva Member of the scientific jury: Prof. Dr. Eng. Rozalina Stefanova Dimova

1. General characteristics of the research and applied research activities of the candidate

Candidate in the competition for the academic position "Professor" for the needs of the Department of Computer Science and Technology, Faculty of Computer Science and Automation, Technical University of Varna, is Dr. Eng. Veneta Panayotova Aleksieva, Associate Professor in the same department. She participated in the competition with 53 scientific papers. Presented to group "B" of the minimum requirements for the academic position of "professor" are 16 publications equivalent to a monography on "Approaches to improving the Quality of Services (QoS) in networks based on wireless technology." The formed points on this indicator are 300 with minimum requirements of 100.

Publications submitted to group "G" are two of the group's indicators. According to indicator G7, there are 11 publications presented in SCOPUS, forming 179 points. According to G8 indicator, 24 scientific publications with scientific review are presented, two of which are presented abroad, which form 229 points. The total amount of indicators of group "G" is 408 points, with a minimum requirement of 200 points. 24 of the publications are written in English and 13 are in Bulgarian. There are two standalone publications.

According to indicator D12, 34 citations are presented in SCOPUS of 15 publications of the candidate (D12–340 points. 28 citations of 14 publications in scientific peer-reviewed publications are presented (D13 - 84 points).

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Veneta Aleksieva has supervised three doctoral students, two of whom have successfully defended in 2020 and 2021 and one will be defended soon. She has participated in 19 research projects, one of which is international, and two are funded by the National Research Fund. She has managed 5 projects and raised funds for them. He has published by the publishing house of TU-Varna 13 textbooks on the disciplines he teaches. The total number of points per group of indicators "E" is 500 with a minimum requirement of 150 points.

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

For the academic position "professor" for which the application is made, the ability to work with students is extremely important, which is evidenced by the additional professional qualifications of the candidate, one of which is "teacher". Based on the provided materials, it is evident that for the last three years Assoc. Prof. Dr. Veneta Aleksieva has led 12 lecture courses for students in Bachelor's and Master's degrees, four of which are in English. She has developed 15 curricula (6 for bachelor, 8 for master, 1 ONS - doctor) and has participated in co-authorship in the development of 16 curricula. The requirements of group "J" are met, and the sum of the applicant's points ("J", indicator 29) is 2130.

3. Main scientific and applied contributions

The work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Veneta Aleksieva exceeds the minimum national requirements for scientific activity to hold the academic position of "professor". The significance of the candidate's scientific activity is determined by the fact that it has received publicity, and the publications are cited. Undoubtedly, it is the personal and leading beginning of the candidate in scientific publications. I accept the candidate's contributions to the submitted scientific papers and define them as scientific and applied in

the areas of: quality of service in wireless networks, research in the field of computer systems and cloud services, security of computer networks and research in the field of blockchain technology in business.

Equivalent to the monograph, "Approaches to Improving Quality of Services (QoS) in Wireless Networks" presents approaches to improving QoS for LTE, LoRaWAN networks and wireless sensor networks based on LiFi, ZigBee, 6loWPAN technologies. etc., as well as applied realizations.

As an expert at the European Commission, Assoc. Prof. Veneta Aleksieva evaluated the project proposals for funding from the European Commission in 12 calls for projects. High appreciation for the scientific activity of the candidate is that he is a member of the scientific committee of the journal and has been a member of the program and organizational committees of 6 international conferences and a reviewer of 11 papers. She has participated in 11 scientific juries for academic positions.

4. Significance of contributions to science and practice

The contributions in the works of the candidate are used in practice, in research, as well as in the educational process of the Department of CST at TU-Varna and other universities and colleges to support training in a number of disciplines. Assoc. Prof. Aleksieva has full design qualification at KIIP and has prepared 25 projects of sites, part "electrical". The fact that he is Deputy Chairman of the Electronics, Automation and Communication Engineering Section of the Chamber of Engineers in Investment Design, Varna section also speaks of the assessment of the candidate's qualities in practice.

Assoc. Prof. Veneta Aleksieva is a certified instructor at CISCO Academy and actively participates in the activities of CISCO Academy at TU-Varna. There are over 50 successfully defended graduates and 10 completed ERASMUS + mobility. The above proves that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Veneta Aleksieva successfully implements her knowledge and skills in practice, passing them on to future generations of professionals.

The contributions and citations of the scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Veneta Aleksieva are proof of the recognition as a scientist among the scientific circles at home and abroad.

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

The candidate's works are written in good scientific language and with high competence. The materials provided show that the quantitative indicators of the criteria for holding the academic position of "professor" have been met and I have no critical remarks on the merits. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Veneta Aleksieva is responsible, with an active position and a professional attitude to work. My recommendation is in my scientific development to continue the research in the chosen directions, as the works should be presented in international specialized editions with Impact Factor in order to gain more publicity.

CONCLUSION

Having in mind the above, my assessment of the scientific and pedagogical activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Veneta Aleksieva is high. The materials proposed for my opinion are sufficient in volume and content. The candidate's scientific output has sufficient contributions and is promoted abroad. The national requirements of ZRASRB and PURZAD of Technical University - Varna are met.

Based on the acquaintance with the presented scientific papers, their significance, the scientific and applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to propose Assoc. Prof. Dr. Veneta Panayotova Aleksieva to take the academic position of "professor" in the professional field 5.3. Communication and computer technology, specialty "Computer Networks".

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