



Opinion

Competition for the academic degree "Sociate professor"

By professional direction 5.13 "General engineering"

Study discipline: "Technological entrepreneurship"

Announced in SG 31/19/04/2022

Candidate: chief assistant Dr. Sibel Ilkhanova Ahmedova

Member of the scientific jury: Prof. Dr. Eng. Yordanka Stamenkova Angelova

Pursuant to Order No. 416/16.06.2022 of the Rector of TU - Varna

1. General characteristics of scientific research and applied scientific activity

Only one candidate participated in the announced competition, Dr. Sibel Ilkhanova Ahmedova, full-time lecturer at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Department of Industrial Management. In 2017, he defended a dissertation on the topic: "Research of the impact of program support on the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises (on the example of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Turkey)".

The candidate submits the following evidentiary material for the fulfillment of the minimum requirements for his participation in the competition for docent from area 5: Technical Sciences, PN 5.13 "General Engineering":

Group of indicators	Content by metrics	Minimum requirements for acquisition of JSC "Docent"	Candidate Points
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 2	-	-
C	Indicators 3 и 4	100	100
D	Sum of indicators 5 to 11	200	390
E	Sum of indicators 12 to 15	50	100
F	Sum of indicators 16 to 28	-	80
G	Indicator 29	30	121
	Total	430	841

Group A: Min. 50 points - Fulfilled: 50 points -Awarded the scientific and educational degree "doctor". Defense thesis on scientific specialty 05.02.21 "Organization and management of production (Industry)".

Group B: Min. 100 points - Completed: 100 points - Habilitation work - monograph, personal author's work on the topic: "Regional competitiveness as a factor for the development of the northeastern region", Varna, 2020;

Group C: Min. 200 items - Implemented: 390 items, of which: D7 - 220 items, including Scientific publications in referenced and indexed databases - 6 items. (including Scopus 5 and Web of Science – 1 item); D8 170 items - Scientific publications in non-refereed journals with scientific review or edited collective volumes - 9 nos.

Group D: Min. 50 items - Completed: 100 items - Presented citations in refereed and indexed world-renowned databases, in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review, as well as citations in non-refereed journals with scientific review.

Group E: Min. 30 pts - Completed: 121 pts according to the submitted Reference for lecture courses conducted in the last three years. From the detailed reference made, it can be concluded that the candidate meets the minimum requirements for scientometric indicators. Dr. Sibel Ahmedova's publications are in the professional direction and scientific specialty of the competition and are in the field of technological entrepreneurship and innovation, competitiveness and financial management. 14 publications are independent, incl. The monograph and in 4 nos. is a co-author. The total number of publications with which Dr. Ahmedova participated in the competition is 18. Almost all publications are in English except for the monograph, textbook and manual.

As a conclusion, it can be noted that Dr. Akhmedova exceeds twice the minimum scientometric indicators for participation in the "docent" competition.

2 Evaluation of the pedagogical preparation and activity of the candidate

From the employment contracts that the candidate presents, it is clear that she began her teaching practice at TU-Varna as an assistant in 2013. She defended her dissertation work in stages and from December 2020 until now is the main assistant in the department of "Industrial management".

From the references presented, it can also be concluded that Dr. Akhmedova has almost 10 years of teaching experience and is constantly upgrading her pedagogical training and practice by participating in the creation of new curricula, giving lectures at foreign universities, preparing textbooks and aids that can be a source for the disciplines she teaches.

3 Basic scientific and scientific-applied contributions

From the applicant's submitted reference, it can be seen that a sufficient number of contributions are available. My opinion is that they are mainly scientific and applied in nature and are mainly oriented in the field of regional competitiveness, technological entrepreneurship and innovation. I accept the following scientific and scientific-applied contributions: Learned: Based on a theoretical analysis of the essence and characteristics, a new definition of the concept of "regional competitiveness" is proposed.

The following can be reflected as main scientific and applied directions:

- **In the field of competitiveness;**
- **In the field of technological entrepreneurship;**
- **In the field of innovation.**

- A model for increasing regional competitiveness was studied, as a result of which guidelines were proposed for increasing the competitiveness of the North-East region (B.3);

- An analysis of the sources of financing technological entrepreneurship and innovation for Bulgarian enterprises was carried out, as a result of which recommendations were summarized for the creation and maintenance of a flexible innovation system at the national level (D.8.4);

- The importance of technology transfer, clusters, risk capital and research and development as a tool for increasing the growth and competitiveness of enterprises in Bulgaria has been analyzed (G.7.1, G.8.1, G.8.5, G.8.6., G. .8.7);

- Guidelines have been formulated for increasing the innovation activity of enterprises from the food industry (D.7.1);

- Measures to reduce the effects of COVID-19 on the economy of the Northeast region are summarized (D.8.3);

- Recommendations are made for increasing the inflow of foreign investments in Bulgaria (D.7.6)

- Recommendations and guidelines for promoting family business in Bulgaria have been systematized (D.8.9)

Applied input

- A model was developed for increasing the regional competitiveness of the North-East region, R. Bulgaria (B.3)

4. Significance of contributions for science and practice

It is my opinion that the candidate's contributions are directly applicable in the scientific and applied field to increase competitiveness, innovation and technological entrepreneurship. The candidate very concretely and clearly substantiates his views on increasing the innovation activity of some industrial enterprises. The contributions are well argued and are oriented towards the scientific field of the competition.

5. Opinion, recommendations and notes

With the claimed publication activity, the candidate demonstrates competence and in-depth knowledge of the practice, as well as skills to synthesize and analyze a wealth of empirical material. I would recommend that he deepen his work as a researcher and continue to publish his findings in refereed and indexed scientific

journals. I also recommend increased collective participation in future scientific developments. I believe that as a person with extensive practical experience, he should increase his participation in research projects with Bulgarian and international participation.

Conclusion

I believe that the materials presented in the competition, such as the volume and quality of the candidate's teaching and research activities, fulfill the requirements of the ZRASRB, the Regulations for the application of the ZRASRB and the Regulations for the terms and conditions for holding academic positions in TU-Varna. The quantitative requirements for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor" have been met with a sufficient number of scientific and applied contributions presented.

Based on my familiarity with the presented scientific works and their significance, I find it reasonable to propose to the respected scientific jury, that Sibel Ilkhanova Ahmedova, PhD entrepreneurship' be appointed to take the academic position "**Associate professor** " in the professional direction 5.13 General engineering, study discipline "Technological entrepreneurship".

16.08.2022
Sofia

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MEMBER OF THE JURY

/Prof. Dr. Eng. Юлиянка Ангелова/