

TO
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
SCIENTIFIC JURY,
APPOINTED BY ORDER
№ 3–RK-156/29.04.2021
OF THE RECTOR OF NBU
PROF. DOYNOV, DSc

OPINION

By Prof. Dr. Iskra Georgieva Raynova, DSc

National Center for Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (NCIPD),

Field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports,

Professional field 7.1. Medicine

ABOUT: The materials submitted for participation in a competition for the academic position of "**Associate Professor**" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports; professional field 7.4. Public Health, for the needs of the Faculty of Distance, Electronic and Upgrading Education, Department of Healthcare and Social Work at the New Bulgarian University (NBU), published in the State Gazette, issue no. 23/19.03.2021

The only candidate for the competition is Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Care and Social Work Polina Mihova Mihova-Pavlova, PhD. The opinion is in compliance with the requirements of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation, and the Ordinance for the development of the academic staff in NBU and Order of the Rector № 3-RK-156/29.04.2021 for appointment of the scientific jury for the competition.

I. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of NBU

In the competition, Chief Assistant Polina Mihova, PhD presented a dissertation, habilitation work - monograph and publications, book chapters, citations and other evidence of active teaching and social activities, which fully cover and exceed the requirements of the Law for the development of academic staff, the Regulations for its application in the professional field and the requirements of NBU.

II. Research activity and results

1. Evaluation of the monographic work

The published monograph "Applied software solutions in healthcare" is an extensive study that combines the available information resources dedicated to research and proving the hypothesis of the benefits and advantages of using IT solutions in medical practice, especially in the Republic of Bulgaria. The merit of Dr. Mihova is the analysis of the e-health programs in our country that have started over the years. The comparison of the development of IT in medicine in Bulgaria and other EU member states helps to a large extent to determine our place in this process and, accordingly, to make the necessary decisions for future development. The practical value of the monograph are the offered 3 really working software solutions, as each of them is accompanied by an Implementation Protocol and a number of publications at international forums. The suitability of the software solutions was studied on the basis of statistical methods, some of which were adapted by the author after detailed acquaintance with internationally recognized documents. In addition, the monograph includes an author's compiled dictionary and thematic publications as well as a comprehensive bibliographic reference to get acquainted with the peculiarities of the topic of software solutions in healthcare.

2. Evaluation of the contributions in the other attached publications (creative performances) made after the appointment of the academic position "Chief Assistant"

Polina Mihova has submitted publications and projects in several main areas: the introduction of telemedicine in Bulgaria, the opportunities for using various online platforms for teaching students, the role of management in medicine and healthcare, application of information and communication technologies in the field of psychology and rehabilitation. Dr. Mihova's scientific research is consistent and ahead of its time given the urgent introduction of online training in connection with the Kovid-19 pandemic situation.

3. Citation by other authors

The citations included in the reference of the candidate and approved by the attestation commission are in authoritative editions in our country and abroad. The listed citations completely covered the requirements of the Law for the development of academic staff and the Regulations for its application.

4. Evaluation of the results of participation in research and creative projects and application of the obtained results in practice

The active academic work and creative performances of Dr. Mihova are determined by the participation in 5 research projects, of which 2 national, funded by European programs and 3

international. The activities for the implementation of these projects, developed successively since 2007, help Dr. Mihova to establish herself as a scientist and researcher in the fields of e-health and pedagogy.

III. Educational and teaching activities

The teaching activity of the candidate amounts to 440 hours per year, which significantly exceeds the accepted schedule. Under her leadership, between 2017-2020, 4 new master's programs were successfully launched and each semester she participated in the adaptation and updating of existing programs. Her educational activity is not limited to direct employment with students, but under the auspices of NBU she has conducted 3 seminars and trainings abroad (Cyprus). Dr. Mihova's dedication to the training, as well as her classroom and extracurricular work was rated with excellent (5.50) by the students after conducting a survey.

Dr. Mihova is chairman and director of the program council and a member of the faculty council of the Faculty of distance, electronic and upgrading education. She actively participates in 7 national and international associations related to the main direction of her interests, namely information technology.

CONCLUSION

Chief Assistant Polina Mihova Mihova-Pavlova, PhD presents herself in the competition as an established researcher with a sufficient volume of publications, experience in scientific research, an excellent lecturer and public figure. The materials presented in the competition show that she fully meets all the requirements for the academic position of "Associate Professor" according to the Law for the development of the academic staff and the Regulations for its implementation. In connection with the above, I give my positive assessment of the election of Chief Assistant Dr. Polina Mihova - Pavlova to the academic position "Associate Professor" in higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, Professional field 7.4. "Social Sciences" for the needs of NBU.

02.07.2021

Drafted the opinion:

/Prof. I. Raynova, MD, DSc/