

Приложение 3 към Наредба за развитието на академичния състав на НБУ
Appendix No 3 to the Ordinance for the development of the academic staff at NBU

OPINION

from

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External member of the Scientific Jury, according to Order No. 3-ПК-234/29.05.2024 of the Rector of the NBU and on the basis of the Decision of the AC 9/21.05.2024.

Subject: Competition for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sport", professional direction 7.4. "Public Health" on 1/8 staff, Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of "Health and Social Work", announced in SG No. 28/02.04.2024. The opinion was prepared in accordance with the RSASR, the Regulations for its implementation and the Ordinance for the development of the academic staff at the NBU.

I. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University

The competition for "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sport", professional direction 7.4. "Public Health" was announced according to the established legal order for the needs of the Department of "Health and Social Work" at the New Bulgarian University. The only candidate in the competition is Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rositsa Nikolova Doinovska.

The certificate submitted by the candidate for the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University proves that the volume and quality of the scientific and teaching activity fully meet the requirements for occupying the academic position "Professor", according to the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its application, as well as the Ordinance for the development of the academic staff at the NBU.

Analysis of the candidate's career profile.

Assoc. prof. dr. Rositsa Doinovska graduated with honors from higher education with the educational qualification "master" degree in three specialities: in the speciality "Health Care" in 2006. at the MU - Pleven with a certificate for the graduate's honors; in the speciality "Health Management" in 2004 at MU-Varna with a diploma for honors of the graduation and in the speciality "Administrative and Health Management" with a second speciality "Social Activities" in 1998 in VTU "St. St. Cyril and Methodius". She has a bachelor's degree from the Sofia University with the professional qualification "health care manager and lecturer in a medical college" and basic education "nurse - general profile", which gives her competence in developing the issues in health care and medical education.

She defended her doctoral dissertation on the topic: "Challenges to the management of medical personnel in the Bulgarian Army and directions for their resolution" in 2012 and obtained the degree "Doctor".



From 15.10.2015 to the present, R. Doinovska has successively held the positions of assistant and associate professor in the "Health Care" department at the "Neofit Rilski" SSU.

The evidentiary material for participation in the competition presented by Associate Professor Dr. Rositsa Doinovska shows a consistent, purposeful and upward career development in the field of the announced competition. She is an established teacher and authority in her field, which is a prerequisite for career growth.

II. Research (creative) activity and results

A total of 37 scientific papers, which do not repeat the ones analyzed during the defense of educational and scientific degree "Doctor" and academic position "Associate Professor", were submitted for review, distributed as follows:

- 1 independent monograph;
- publications in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases - 5 items;
- publications in non-refereed editions and edited collective volumes with a scientific review – 28, of which 3 in foreign editions;
- participation in textbooks and study guides - 3.

1. Evaluation of the monographic work

The presented monographic work on the topic "Profession of a nurse" is dedicated to an extremely significant and topical problem in our time. Against the background of increasing needs for professional nursing care, a significant outflow from the "Nursing" profession is observed not only in our country, but also on a global scale. The monograph is structured in eight chapters, arranged in a logical and meaningful sequence. The author manages to outline the uniqueness of the "Nurse" profession with a balanced presentation of the necessary professional and personal qualities and a thorough analysis of the development and progress of the profession. In each of the presented aspects, she skillfully expresses her attitude to the problems of the nursing profession in Bulgaria.

The regulatory framework for acquiring legal capacity for the profession, strategies for postgraduate and continuing education, professional careers as health care managers, the conditions for acquiring a specialty and the specific knowledge, skills and competences that are necessary to exercise the profession of nursing are analyzed. An analysis of stressogenic factors in the profession was made. The role of the professional organization of health care professionals is clarified. The functions performed by the modern nurse are correctly presented. The analysis of professional orientation and motivation for choosing the profession of "Nurse" among 220 students from the "N. Rilski" - Blagoevgrad for the period 2018-2023, presenting the demographic characteristics of the students and the leading reasons for choosing the profession.

2. Evaluation of the contributions in the other attached publications:

In an overall chronological view of the presented scientific publications of the candidate, the upgrading and deepening of research questions in the various directions of medical education and the role of medical specialists in protecting individual and public health is impressive.

The works of Assoc. Prof. Doinovska contain certain scientific contributions to the medical theory and practice. An objective and correct reference is presented to the scientific contributions in



several leading directions of scientific research activity, which I fully accept. They can be summarized in the following **three main directions**:

● **Medical education and pedagogy** - the specifics of the education and professional training of students with medical specialties from the "Health care" professional direction are thoroughly and analytically presented; own studies have been conducted and findings have been drawn; approaches have been implemented to increase the quality of training by applying clinical simulations to create a safe learning environment for students in mastering the principles of nursing and midwifery care by increasing their general and practical competence for the development of safe nursing practice; the scientific research activity of the students from the "Health care" professional direction was studied and analyzed (publications in the group of indicators B 3, E 20 and E 21, G 7 - with No. 5; G 8 - with No. 3, 4, 6).

● **Public health, health promotion and disease prevention** - data from own studies on forming habits for a healthy lifestyle, proving preventable risk factors in terms of nutrition, physical activity, work environment for the health of the population, professional - ethical, behavioral and psychological issues affecting the quality of life of people with various health problems; self-assessment of healthcare professionals for preparedness with incidents related to the prevention of injuries and illnesses of large population groups; the knowledge and skills of future medical professionals for the prevention and control of nosocomial infections, as criteria for safe health care, were studied. (publications in indicator group G 7 - with No. 1, 2, 3, 4; G 8 - with No. 1, 2, 5, 7, 9). Theoretical studies and laboratory studies were conducted and interrelationships were established between various biological and natural factors that positively or negatively affect treatment and health (indicator G 7 - with No. 1, 2, 3, 4, indicator G 8 - with No. 1, 7). Contributory results in this direction are of an applied nature. They are a scientific basis for an up-to-date scientifically-argued approach to a modern health policy for the prevention of socially significant diseases, the risks of health behavior and health promotion.

● **Health care for the elderly** - This direction includes original empirical research conducted with the aim of optimizing health care for the elderly population, as well as improving the quality of life of the elderly; planning effective nursing strategies for prevention, need for home care for various diseases as an essential element of palliative care. A multifactorial analysis was made to identify the risk of falling in elderly and old people, users of long-term health care in Blagoevgrad district. A fall risk assessment tool developed based on the American Medical Association Standards for Nursing Diagnosis "Fall Risk" has a high predictive value and has been implemented within one year among social service users and their family members (publications in indicator group G 8 - with No. 8, 10).

3. Quoting from other authors.

A total of 110 actual citations are presented in the citation reference, excluding self-citations and citations verified in the NACID for academic position "Associate Professor". The citations are in publications referenced in world-famous databases with scientific information - 33 (Scopus - 9, Web of Science - 9, other foreign freely available online sources - 15); in monographs and collective volumes and in non-refereed peer-reviewed publications. Five of the citations are in refereed and indexed publications with an impact factor. It can be seen that the interest in the scientific works of the candidate in the competition is from both Bulgarian and foreign researchers.



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

Associate Professor R. Doinovska presents a certificate of participation in two educational projects: Project "Student practices - "phase 1 and phase 2" BG05M2OP001-2.013-0001, financed by OP NOIR (academic mentor), 2016. – 2018; 2020 - 2023 and Project BG05M90P001-2.028 "Patronage care for the elderly and persons with disabilities - Component 1" Municipality of Sandanski (trainer), 2019 In addition to these participations, she is the leader of 4 research projects and a team member of an infrastructure project. The topics of the projects are in the field of health promotion and clinical training of students from the "Health Care" professional field.

With her expertise, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rositsa Doinovska was an external reviewer of two scientific research projects from the "Scientific Research" fund and two intra-university projects - of Thrace University - Stara Zagora and RU "Angel Kanchev" - Ruse.

The candidate in the competition actively participates with reports in international and national conferences and congresses on the problems of health care and medical education. She has participated in 73 scientific forums, of which 58 are national and 15 abroad, which guarantees the promotion of her scientific output.

III. Learning and teaching activity

Assoc. Prof. Doinovska has many years of teaching experience. Conducts theoretical and practical classes in multiple disciplines for students studying at the Bachelor's and Master's Colleges at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities at the N. Rilski University – the town of Blagoevgrad.

She is the chairperson and member of examination committees for conducting semester and state exams for the specialties "Nurse" and "Midwife" of the degree "Bachelor" and for the speciality "Health Care Management, degree "Master" - YSU "N. Rilski" (from 2021).

The candidate in the competition has conducted two teaching mobility under the Erasmus+ Program - in Rome - Italy and at Universiteti i Elbasanit "Aleksandër Xhuvani", Elbasan - Albania and one administrative mobility under the Erasmus+ Program, University of Niš - Serbia in 2022 .

Two public lectures were also held at the NBU:

- Mentoring in the practical training of specialties from the regulated professions "Nurse" and "Midwife" - 2023.
- Health education – 2024

IV. Administrative and public activity

Assoc. Prof. Doinovska is a member of prestigious national organizations such as: National Association of Preventive Medicine; Bulgarian Association for Public Health and Union of Scientists in Bulgaria. She is a member of the editorial board of the magazine "Health care" and of the publishing board of the "N. Rilski" for the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.5. Health care.

She received a certificate for first place in the National Student Competition "Learning to Help" - team "Nurses" - SUU "N. Rilski" - 2024, as the head of the team.



V. Personal impressions of the candidate (if any)

I would like to express my excellent impressions of Assoc. Prof. Doinovska, with whom I have maintained professional contacts in recent years. She is an erudite teacher, valued partner and ethical colleague. Her academic career to date is a natural result of her overall scientific and teaching activities.

VI. Opinions, recommendations and notes on the activity and achievements of the candidate

I have no notes and recommendations regarding the activities and achievements of the candidate in the competition. I wish her successful development in the scientific directions to which she has directed her research interest.

Conclusion

After having familiarized myself with the presented materials and scientific works certifying significant professional experience as a teacher and on the basis of the complex assessment of the fulfillment of the mandatory quantitative and qualitative criteria for scientific activity and educational activity, I consider that the candidate in the competition Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rositsa Doinovska fully meets the requirements for occupying the academic position "Professor".

On the basis of the above, I confidently vote in favor and recommend the members of the Scientific Jury to support and propose to the NBU Academic Council to elect Associate Professor Dr. Rositsa Nikolova Doinovska to occupy the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sport, professional direction 7.4. Public Health on 1/8 staff, for the needs of BF, Department of "Health and Social Work" at the NBU.

Date: 22/07/2024