

БЪЛГАРСКА АКАДЕМИЯ НА НАУКИТЕ
И-Т ПО ЕКСПЕРИМЕНТАЛНА МОРФОЛОГИЯ,
ПАТОЛОГИЯ И АНТРОПОЛОГИЯ С МУЗЕЙ

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STATEMENT

By Assoc. Prof. Katya Georgieva, PhD

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on the documents in the competition procedure for occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor in the field of "Parasitology and Invasive Diseases of Animals and Humans" in Institute of Experimental Morphology, Pathology and Anthropology with Museum, BAS, Department of Experimental Parasitology.

In the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor", announced in the State Gazette (No. 10/05.02.2021), as an applicant participates Dr. Veselin Nanev from the Department of Experimental Parasitology, Institute of Experimental Morphology, Pathology and Anthropology with Museum, BAS.

The applicant has submitted all the necessary documents, references, lists in the accordance with the requirements of the legal framework and the Regulations on the conditions and procedures for acquiring scientific degrees and for occupying academic positions at the Institute of Experimental Morphology, Pathology and Anthropology with Museum, BAS. The list of scientific papers included 77 publications, of which 49 are in journals, referenced and indexed in world databases with scientific information, published after the acquisition of PhD degree in 2014. This demonstrates an impressive productivity, co-authored with Bulgarian and foreign specialists.

I have known Dr. Veselin Nanev since he started working as a Research Associate in 2001 in the former IEPP-BAS, later transformed as IEMPAM-BAS. He is one of the members of the section on "Experimental Parasitology", with the help of which the parasitological research was gradually brought to a qualitatively new level. In the beginning, Dr. Nanev's interests were focused mainly on research on helminths and helminthiasis in domestic and wild animals. Gradually, his interests expanded and a series of studies in various fields of parasitology and invasive diseases of animals and humans were successfully implemented, which led to significant results and contributions. The excellent methodological training of the candidate, his experience to combine morphological and biochemical research with molecular-biological, as well as the use of experimental methods, are the solid basis for upgrading with research in various aspects.

Thematically, the main part of Dr. Nanev's scientific activity can be united in the following interrelated areas: (1) research (diagnostic, morphological, genetic and therapeutic) of

helminths and helminthiasis in domestic and wild animals; (2) study of the microelement status of the helminth-host system and experimental testing of the effect of new metal compounds, sources of nutrients / manganese, copper and zinc / in order to normalize the homeostasis, antioxidant and mineral balance of the host; (3) studies of the oxidative-antioxidant status of hosts with parasites of different taxonomic affiliation; (4) testing the effect of complex application of two stress factors in small mammals; (5) application of the parasite-host system as a bioindicator for heavy metal pollution of the environment; (6) Development of an original complex approach of biochemical, morphological, hematological and elementological studies in vivo model in rabbits and rats for testing of new compounds as bone substitutes with application in medicine and dentistry.

In each of the presented areas Dr. Nanev has clear and well-defined scientific contributions. The study of the pathogenetic mechanisms of the parasite-host interaction through comparative biochemical and elementological studies, as well as the detection of trace elements in infected animals is an important contribution to elucidating the pathogenetic mechanisms of the invasion in the host organism. The contribution is significant for veterinary medicine and practice.

The identification of antiparasitic agents and appropriate microelements for control of parasitic invasions and the development of a model for their complex application in order to restore homeostasis in the infected organism is an original contribution with scientific and practical application.

The identification of significant biochemical markers for oxidative stress to be successfully applied in different experimental models of animals with different parasitosis is an original contribution with fundamental and practical application for control of parasitic diseases through targeted supplementation with antioxidants.

The bioaccumulation index of heavy metals in helminths has been determined by successfully applied mathematical methods, which proves the selective accumulation of toxic elements (lead, cadmium, zinc, manganese, copper) mainly in endohelminths in compared to their hosts. The contribution is original and important for parasitology, biogeochemistry and ecology.

For the first time, a comprehensive approach has been developed to monitor the development of the biological response when implanting bone substitutes with a combination of hematological, histological, chemical and biochemical parameters to obtain a comprehensive assessment of osseointegration processes, which is important for human and dental medicine.

The outlined groups of contributions fully correspond to the subject matter of the competition. I accept the presented reference on the scientific contributions of Dr. Nanev which are in the field of parasitology, biochemistry, ecology and elementology.

An essential part of Dr. Nanev's research activity is the regular participation in scientific forums (a total of 45, 20 of which were held abroad), which contributes to the timely and effective presentation of the results. I have attended his participations and I can definitely say that the reports he gives are always interesting and provoke discussion.

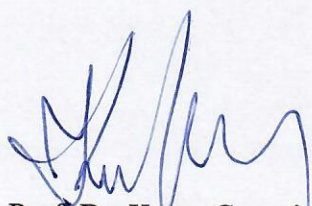
Dr. Nanev has an intensive activity as a manager and participant in a total of 13 projects, of which 6 are with FSI, 3 with other sources and 4 with Equivalent exchange programs. I know very well the participation of Dr. Nanev in several of these projects and I definitely think that without his dedication and competence from writing the projects to the direct implementation of the planned activities and publishing the results, these projects would hardly be so successful.

The overall activity of Dr. Nanev has contributed exclusively to the accumulation of research experience and professional growth. The received awards are in support of this. Dr. Nanev's production clearly outlines his profile as a specialist in the field of parasitology and invasive diseases of animals and humans, aimed at revealing various aspects of the complex relationships in parasite-host systems.

Given the scientific contributions achieved by the candidate, as well as my personal impressions, I consider Dr. Nanev a promising, well-trained and recognized scientist with significant scientific contributions. The area in which he works is important and promising for the development of IEMPAM - BAS and for the whole parasitological community.

In conclusion, as a member of the Scientific Jury, determined by the order of Director of IEMPAM-BAS (No. RD-09-9/10.03.2021) I strongly recommend to the Scientific Jury to give the highest evaluation for the scientific contributions of Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Veselin Nanev and to approve his election for occupying academic position "Associate Professor in the field of "Parasitology and Invasive Diseases of Animals and Humans " at the Institute of Experimental Morphology, Pathology and Anthropology with Museum, BAS.

May 28, 2021



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Katya Georgieva