

## OPINION

By Associate Professor Ivelin Angelov Vladov, Doctor Institute of Experimental Morphology, Pathology and Anthropology with Museum - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IEMPAM - BAS) according to an order of the Director of IEMPAM - BAS № RD-15-55/01.11.2024 for the staff of the Scientific Jury and protocol of its first meeting on 12.12.2024.

In connection with a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the specialty "Parasitology and Invasive Diseases of Animals and Humans" announced in the State Gazette, issue 85/08.10.2024 for the needs of the section "Experimental Parasitology" at IEMPAM-BAS.

The only candidate participating in the announced competition is Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Delka Salkova Salkova.

The procedure for announcing the competition was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. The candidate has attached all the necessary documents for the competition.

Dr. Delka Salkova graduated in veterinary medicine from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the Thracian University, St. Zagora in 2000. She started working by winning a competition in 2001 and was accepted as a full-time doctoral student. She defended her dissertation in 2005 before the SNS in "Zoology and Ecology" at the VAK dissertation on the topic "Influence of  $\text{NH}_4\text{VO}_3$  on the development of the nematode *Meloidogyne arenaria* (Neal, 1889) Chitwood, 1949 and host tomato" under the code "Parasitology and Helminthology". He is currently a senior assistant in the "Experimental Parasitology" section at IEPPAM-BAS.

Dr. Salkova has 85 publications, of which she participated in the announced competition with 56 publications, 9 of which have an impact factor and 8 have quartiles Q1 and Q2. It makes a good impression that there are 96 citations in Bulgarian and international publications, which is a certificate of the relevance of her work. She participated in 57 scientific forums in Bulgaria and abroad with 83 reports.

Dr. Salkova has participated in 8 scientific projects, as a supervisor in 3, and as a participant in 5. For the current competition, she has collected 516.90 points, which exceeds the required 400 points for Associate Professor.

The main aspects of the candidate's scientific activity can be divided into six main areas:

- Influence of Vanadium, various glycosides and radiation exposure on the development of galls nematodes;
- Spread, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of current parasitosis in wild and domestic animals;
- Molecular-phylogenetic and genetic studies of local animal breeds;
- Spread, diagnosis and prevention of parasitic, viral, bacterial and fungal diseases pathogens in the honey bee *Apis mellifera* ;
- Molecular identification and monitoring of current bee diseases;
- Research of a scientific and applied nature

In her research, she uses many modern methodologies in his experimental work.

Dr. Salkova's main contributions are 21 in total and are divided into 6 groups, 11 of which are original and 10 are confirmatory scientific contributions. They are significant and contribute to the development of science in general.

My personal impressions of Dr. Salkova are that she skillfully fits in and works in teams. She is an eroded, purposeful and promising scientist with an affinity for learning and using modern scientific research methods.

**Conclusion:**

The overall scientific activity, the significance of the scientific contributions and publications show that Dr. Salkova is an established scientist and fully meets the requirements for the position of "Associate Professor".

This gives me reason to convincingly recommend to the members of the scientific jury to elect Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Delka Salkova. Salkova as "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Parasitology and Invasive Diseases of Animals and Humans", code: 04.03.07 at the "Experimental Parasitology" section at IEMPAM - BAS.

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Signature: .....  
/Assoc. Prof. I. Vladov/