**STATEMENT**

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Veselin Nanev,

**Institute of Experimental Morphology, Pathology and Anthropology with Museum
(IEMPAM) at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences,
elected a member of the Scientific Jury on the basis of order № RD-09-07 / 07.02.2022,
the Director of IEMPAM - BAS, Sofia**

**SUBJECT: Competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at the
Department of Pathology of IEMPAM - BAS, in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural
Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, professional field
6.4 Veterinary medicine, scientific specialty 04.03.06 "Animal pathology".**

Analysis of the candidate's career profile.

Chief Assistant Dr. Katerina Stanimirova is the only candidate in the announced competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at the Department of Pathology, IEMPAM, BAS. For the period 1998 - 2005 she graduated from LTU - Sofia, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, where she obtained a master's degree in veterinary medicine. Since 2010 Katerina Dimitrova has been an assistant at IEMPAM. At the time of the competition, she held the academic position of "Chief Assistant" in the scientific organization (since 2016), and also holds the position of "Head of Section" of the "Pathology" Section of IEMPAM for several years.

In 2014, Katerina Dimitrova obtained the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" after successfully defending a dissertation on "Pathomorphological and immunological studies in chickens experimentally treated with fumonisin b1." The main activities of the candidate as a scientist in IEMPAM include performing pathomorphological (light and electron microscopic visualizations), and immunohistochemical screening of pathological changes in current viral, bacterial, parasitic and autoimmune diseases.

Information on the fulfillment of the minimum requirements, publishing activity and general characteristics of the scientific production.

The candidate presents a total of 53 scientific publications, of which 31 articles in publications indexed in WoS, Scopus, ERIH +, and 22 of her publications are in publications that are not indexed in WoS, Scopus, ERIH +, as well as in scientific thematic collections. The number of participations of the candidate in national and international scientific forums - 61. At the moment of the competition she knows 44 citations of her publications. They are mainly found in foreign renowned scientific journals.

The presented information on the implementation of the minimum requirements for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" according to ZRASRB and the specific requirements of IEMPAM shows a sufficient sum of points on indicators A, B, D and E - 461.5, which is above the required minimum.

According to the competition announced in the DV, issue 107 of 16.12.2021, Chief Assistant Dr. Katerina Dimitrova, PhD, presented in due time the required documents, which are in full compliance

with the minimum required by the norms of the National Assembly of IEMPAM-BAS, Sofia and ZRASRB and the Regulations for its application in competitions for academic positions.

Evaluation of scientific activity and contributions

Chief Assistant Dr. Katerina Dimitrova, PhD is an established specialist in the field of pathological and clinical aspects of diseases in humans and animals of infectious and non-infectious nature, research of biological activity and safety of newly synthesized, nanostructured materials or natural products for medical use. The main part of her work as a researcher is research in the field of cytopathology, experimental oncology and implantology (many of which are of scientific and applied importance).

The candidate's scientific contributions are divided into two groups:

- I. Contributions from the dissertation - which I will not consider.
- II. Contributions of fundamental and scientific significance related to this competition and include:
 1. Contributions obtained from the study of the biological activity of natural and synthetic products and the study of the properties of plant extracts and hemolymph products of invertebrates in vitro and in vivo.
 2. Contributions from the study of the pathological and clinical aspects of diseases in humans and animals of infectious and non-infectious nature.

The information about the candidate's scientific contributions is made clearly and precisely. My personal impressions of the candidate are that she is a contact and friendly person, successfully works in a team, organized, focused and ambitious in solving scientific problems.

Critical Notes and Recommendations


My recommendation is to note which contributions are original and confirmatory.

Overall assessment of the candidate's suitability and conclusion.

I believe that the candidacy of Ch. Assistant Professor Katerina Dimitrova, PhD in the competition announced for the academic position of "Associate Professor" fully complies with the required mandatory conditions, criteria and scientometric indicators of the relevant documents adopted by IEMPAM - BAS on the basis of ZRASRB and its Regulations.

I recommend to the respected Scientific Jury, appointed in connection with the announced competition, to accept a positive proposal to the Scientific Council of IEMPAM, Ch. Assistant Professor Katerina Dimitrova, PhD, to be elected Associate Professor in the scientific specialty "Animal Pathology" (04.03.06), in the field of higher education 6. Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine and professional field 6.4 Veterinary Medicine.

01. 04. 2022 г
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/ Associate Professor V. Nanev PhD/