



STATEMENT

by

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External member of Scientific Committee, under Order No. 1334/19.04.2023 of the Rector of *Trakia University* – Stara Zagora

Regarding: Procedure for appointment to academic position "Associate Professor" in Health Care Management, main specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician*, field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.4. Public Health for the need of specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician* at Medical College at *Trakia University* – Stara Zagora, announced in SG, issue 26/21.03.2023, with only one candidate, senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD;

The documents submitted by the candidate for participation in the competition meet the requirements of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and the Regulations for its application at *Trakia University* – Stara Zagora.

I. Professional biography and development of the candidate

Pavlina Teneva completed her higher education with educational qualification degree "Specialist" at Medical College at *Trakia University* in Sliven in 2000, with specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician*.

She acquired a Bachelor's Degree in specialty Social Activities in 2003 at the Veliko Tarnovo University *St. St. Cyril and Methodius*. In 2009 she graduated with a Master's Degree in Health Care management from the Medical University – Varna.

In 2023 at MU - Varna, Branch Sliven, Healthcare Department she successfully defended PhD thesis with topic *Practical training of medical laboratory workers for the forming of professional skills and competencies* and acquired a Doctoral educational and scientific degree in Health Care Management, professional direction 7.4 Public Health.

In 2023, she published a monograph *The pre-analytical stage - a guarantee of the reliability of the laboratory result*.

The beginning of Pavlina Teneva's working career was in 2001 at University Multi-Profile Hospital for Active Treatment Stara Zagora Central Clinical Laboratory, as Medical Laboratory Technician.

In 2009 she started working at the Medical College at *Trakia University* – Stara Zagora as a lecturer and Head of specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician*, and since 2016 to present, she holds the position of senior lecturer at the college. In January 2020, she was elected Deputy Director of the Medical College and currently holds this managerial position.

The activity of the candidate in terms of improving the professional and qualification and knowledge in the field of health care through the participation in numerous specialised courses for postgraduate training organised by the Bulgarian Association of Healthcare Professionals and others, certified by relevant documents, makes an excellent impression.

Pavlina Teneva has conducted several teaching mobilities under the **Erasmus Programme** in universities in the Republic of North Macedonia, in Latvia and Austria.

The candidate is fluent in written and spoken English.

II. Requirements related to educational - teaching activity

The submitted reference from the Medical College at *Trakia University – Stara Zagora*, certifies that in recent years senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD has had a classroom schedule of over 600 hours per academic year in the disciplines Clinical Laboratory - Exercises and Clinical Practice of the specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician* at Medical College – Stara Zagora.

III. Requirements related to scientific research activity

The scientific output of the candidate in the competition is sufficient in volume and with a wide thematic spectrum. In the current competition for "Associate Professor", senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD, participates with a total of 25 scientific works, of which one monograph with the value of a habilitation thesis.

The list of publications is described correctly and the necessary supporting material is attached. The papers are presented as follows:

- Monograph *The pre-analytical stage – a guarantee of the reliability of the laboratory result*, Publishing house Kota, 2023. ISBN 978-954-305-640-8
- Publications in scientific journals referred in SCOPUS and Web of Science /Journal of Hygienic Engineering and Design; KNOWLEDGE – International Journal; "Science and technologies" on-line journal; *Trakia Journal of Sciences*; *Varna Medical Forum* /– 24 pieces,
- Participation in scientific congresses and conferences – 22 pcs.;

Senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD has been awarded **certificates and diplomas** for significant contribution to the publication activity and rating of *Trakia University* and for contribution to the activity and development of the Medical College – *Trakia University Stara Zagora*.

Citation of publications

A reference is presented with 12 citations in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific information databases SCOPUS and Web of science.

Participation in scientific projects

In the period 2011-2016, senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD participated in 4 research projects, and in the period 2016-2023 in 7 intra-university research projects, which were implemented in the Medical College, *Trakia University – Stara Zagora*.

The research interests and contributions from the studies conducted by senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD have scientific theoretical and practical-applied significance and are divided into the following main directions:

- The scientific and research contributions in the field of medical education in the professional direction Health care, specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician* in Medical College - organisation and quality of training, motivation and professional realisation.
- Scientific research contributions in the field of public health.
- Scientific research contributions in the field of clinical laboratory and multidisciplinary scientific studies.

Synthesised assessment and highlights of some of the merits of the scientific research activity of senior lecturer Pavlína Teneva, PhD

The monograph of senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD *The pre-analytical stage – a guarantee for the reliability of the laboratory result*, can be accepted as a habilitation thesis that corresponds to the announced competition, with a contribution of practical and applied significance. In the monographic work, all elements of the pre-analytical stage of laboratory research are analysed in detail and in depth. Modern standards and techniques are presented for the precise execution of all procedures in clinical-laboratory research, the observance of which would guarantee quality and reliable results.

The analysis of the presented scientific works defines senior lecturer Pavlína Teneva, PhD as a specialist with scientific interests oriented mainly in the field of medical education in the professional direction Health care, in terms of organisation and conduct of theoretical and practical training in the specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician*. Modern medicine provides the diagnosis, follows the course of the disease, treatment and prognosis, based on various laboratory tests. The Medical Laboratory Technician is the main performer of a wide range of activities in the laboratory complexes of health institutions. In response to modern challenges, with a view to the formation of skills for quality performance of the future professional activity of the students of the *Medical Laboratory Technician* specialty, in-depth studies were carried out on their satisfaction with the quality of education and teaching methods, motivation and professional realisation.

On the basis of carried out scientific research and competent analyses of the real requirements of the profession and the corresponding training of the specialists, allowing them to meet the ever-increasing requirements for their professional competence, guidelines for updating the clinical practice curricula of the specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician* at MC – Stara Zagora have been justified and defined.

Another important topic in the scientific work of the candidate, senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD, is related to the participation in studies of some preventive aspects of public health care on socio-medical problems with a strong applied practical orientation:

- Study of the awareness of the population of the Stara Zagora region about the harm caused by the excessive use of antibiotics;
- Studies on the promotional role of the Medical Laboratory Technician in modelling behavioural risk factors in his capacity as a medical specialist;
- Studies on the attitude of students towards the use of narcotic drugs;
- Studies on awareness regarding the occurrence, spread and prevention of some infectious diseases, vaccine prophylaxis, etc.

The publications presenting research data related to changes in clinical laboratory indicators in a number of pathological processes and socially significant diseases are of high research value.

The compliance of the scientometric indicators of senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD, with the minimum national requirements for professional direction 7.4 Public Health and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at *Trakia University I* present in tabular form:

Group of indicators	Content	Requirements for academic position Associate Professor	Candidate senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD
A	Indicator 1	50 p.	50 p.
B	Indicator 2	---	---
C	Indicator 3 or 4	100 p.	Monograph 100 p.
D	Sum of indicators from 5 to 9	200 p.	266 p.
E	Sum of indicators from 10 to 12	50 p.	60 p.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I can summarise that the overall teaching and research commitment of senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD, defines her as a promising scientific staff and a valuable academic teacher. The scientific metrics and indicators fulfil the national requirements for the academic position "Associate Professor" and meet the criteria laid down in the Regulations for the conditions and procedures for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions at *Trakia University – Stara Zagora*.

The analysis of the submitted competition materials, scientific works and their significance and contribution achievements, the applicant's participation in research projects and the rich and professional and pedagogical experience in the field of health care management give me the reason to express my **positive opinion** and recommend to the esteemed members of the Scientific Committee to vote in favour of awarding **senior lecturer Pavlina Teneva, PhD** the academic position "**Associate Professor**" in Health Care Management, main specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician*, field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.4. Public Health, for the needs of specialty *Medical Laboratory Technician* at Medical College, *Trakia University – Stara Zagora*.

07.06.2023

The City of Sofia



Prof. Maya Vizeva, PhD