OPINION

by Teodor Angelov Kalushkov, PhD, Assoc. Prof. in St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo

about the materials submitted for participation in the contest for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor" in a Scientific Field: 5 Technical sciences, Professional direction: 5.3 Communication and computer technology, Specialty: Computer systems, complexes and networks

In the contest for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor", published in the State Gazette issue 54 / 25.06.2024, as well as in the official website of Technical University of Gabrovo for the needs of the Computer Systems and Technologies Department, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Electronics.

As a candidate participates: Assist. Prof. Eng. Hristo Stefanov Kilifarev, PhD

1. Overview of the content and results in the presented papers

There are a total of 33 works submitted for the contest. 16 of them are in Bulgarian and 17 in English. 7 of the publications are of the candidate, as an independent author and the remaining 26 are co-authored. There are 4 articles, one of which is referenced in the Scopus and WoS databases with an impact factor. 10 of the conference papers are indexed in Scopus, and 19 are in non-refereed publications. The candidate submits as an author one textbook and one laboratory study guide for the competition.

2. General characteristics of the applicant's activity

2.1. Educational and pedagogical activity

From the references provided for the competition, it is clear that the candidate has led lectures, seminars and laboratory exercises in more than 10 disciplines, both to bachelor and master's degree students.

The study programs, developed by Assist. Prof. Eng. Hristo Kilifarev, PhD are more than 40 - again for bachelor's and master's degrees, and the majority of them are for the specialties "Computer systems and technologies" and "Software and computer engineering".

According to the competition documentation, Assist. Prof. Eng. Hristo Kilifarev, PhD was mentor of 59 bachelor's and master's degree graduates. He also participated in thesis defense committees and was a reviewer for many trainees. He is the author of a textbook and one laboratory study guide.

From the above data, it can be concluded that Assist. Prof. Eng. Hristo Kilifarev, PhD has accumulated considerable teaching experience, takes an active role in the educational processes preparation and the practical work with the students.

2.2. Scientific and scientific-applicable activities

The articles and reports provided in the contest documentation show a long-standing and sustainable interest of Assist. Prof. Eng. Hristo Kilifarev, PhD in a certain scientific fields related to measurements data processing, research of heterogeneous materials, sorting, industrial automation, development of micro-controller devices.

It is evident from the applicant's CV that he was a team member of one international, many national and university projects. He is the head of a university project, the title of which fully covers the research he has done and published.

The submitted publications cover and exceed the required number of points for the announced contest.

2.3. Implementation activity

It is impressive that most of the presented publications are not limited to conceptual level developments and calculations, but are developed to the stage of prototyping and approbation. This makes them a good basis for further developments and integrations in production, if business companies are interested in them.

3. Contributions. Significance of contributions to science and practice

Most of the contributions in the publications provided by Assist. Prof. Eng. Hristo Kilifarev, PhD are of a scientific – applicable and applicable nature. Although few in number, the presented publications also include those with purely scientific contributions. They have developed innovative methods and approaches for the study and classification of materials.

4. Evaluation of the candidate's personal contribution

A total of 33 publications were submitted for the competition. In 7 of them the candidate is an independent author and in the rest he is co-authored with one or more colleagues. The candidate is capable of developing independent scientific activity, as well as successfully integrating into team developments.

5. Critical notes and recommendations

Some of the reports in the non-refereed editions are close in content to some of those presented in the refereed editions. In order to increase the quality of the scientific work and its better citation, I would recommend that the publication activity of the candidate be focused on publications with a high impact factor and open access.

6. Personal impressions

Most publications provided by Assist. Prof. Eng. Hristo Kilifarev, Ph.D., are in English. In his CV, he indicated that he also speaks Russian on a certain level. These facts suggest that the candidate could in the future successfully integrate into a new, international, research projects.

7. Conclusion:

According to the content above, I suggest
Assist. Prof. Eng. Hristo Kilifarev, Ph.D. to be selected to occupy
the academic position "Associate Professor" in
Field of higher education - 5. Technical sciences
Professional direction: 5.3 Communication and computer technology,
Specialty: Computer systems, complexes and networks.

Date: 23.10.2024 Member of the scientific jury:/signature/....../signature/...../Assoc. Prof. Teodor Kalushkov, PhD/