



STATEMENT

From: Prof. Svetlana Yordanova Georgieva, Department of Genetics, Breeding and Reproduction, Faculty of Agriculture at Trakia University - Stara Zagora, Scientific specialty "Genetics".

Subject: Competition for a PROFESSOR in the scientific specialty "Special branches (Industrial game)" in the field of Higher Education 6. Agricultural sciences and veterinary medicine, professional field 6.3 Animal husbandry, announced by Trakia University-Stara Zagora.

1. Information about the competition

The competition was announced for the needs of the Department of Animal Husbandry - Non-ruminants and other animals, Faculty of Agriculture of Trakia University, in the State Gazette issue 22 of 16.03.2021.

I participate in the composition of the scientific jury of the competition according to Order № 1173 of 25.05.2021 of the Rector of Trakia University.

2. Brief information about the candidates in the competition

The only candidate in the competition for professor is Assoc. Prof. EVGENIY GEORGIEV RAYCHEV from the Department of Animal Husbandry - Non-ruminants and other animals, Faculty of Agriculture, Trakia University.

Assoc. prof. EVGENIY GEORGIEV RAYCHEV was born on May 21, 1964 in the city of Varna. In 1989 he completed his higher education at the Faculty of Zooengineering of Higher Institute of Zootechnics and Veterinary Medicine, Stara Zagora. He acquired PhD in the specialty "Special branches (industrial game)" in 2003, defending a dissertation on the topic "Nutritional spectrum, morphological features and parasitological status of *Vulpes vulpes* L., *Canis aureus* L., *Felis silvestris* Schr. and protein *Martes foina* Erxl. in the regions of Central Stara Planina and Sarnena Sredna Gora". In 2004 he was elected an assistant in the section "Rabbit and game breeding" at the Department of "Animal Husbandry - Non-ruminants and other animals". He won a competition for associate professor in 2015.

3. Fulfilment of the requirements for holding the academic position

From the submitted reference-declaration for fulfilment of the minimal national requirements for holding the academic position PROFESSOR, it is evident that Assoc. Prof. EVGENIY GEORGIEV RAYCHEV exceeds the requirements set in the regulations for scientific activity of ZRASRB, as well as those set in Annex 8.1. of

PRAS in Trakia University - Stara Zagora.

4. Evaluation of the teaching activity

Assoc. Prof. Evgeniy Georgiev Raichev has over 22 years of teaching experience. He teaches students of AF in 5 disciplines, including 2 electives. In the current competition for professor, Assoc. Prof. Raichev presents 1 textbook in Ornithology (short course) and two curricula: in "Theriology" and "Ornithology". He is the supervisor of 11 defended graduates and 1 PhD student.

5. Brief description of the presented scientific papers / publications

The candidate participates in the competition with 1 Habilitation thesis - monograph - on the topic "The Jackal *Canis aureus*". Alpha Vision, Stara Zagora, 116 pp. ISBN: 978-619-7595-11-6, 25 articles published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information and only one published in a non-refereed journal with scientific review.

The research activity of Assoc. Prof. Evgeniy Georgiev Raichev is directed in several main areas:

- Genetic studies with phylogenetic and taxonomic status in the wild species: badger, marbled polecat, weasel and brown bear.
- Ethological and ecological aspects of the vital activity of local medium-sized predators.
- Research related to the resolution of the conflict "Human -Wild animal ", etc.

Most of the scientific articles of Assoc. Prof. Raichev have been published in renowned international journals with Impact Factor and / or Quarter. The detailed analysis of the scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Raichev gives me reason to claim that serious genetic research has been carried out in order to trace the evolutionary development of various representatives of the wild fauna.

The significance of the scientific works is confirmed by the large number (over 100) citations in Scopus and Web of Science.

Assoc. Prof. Raichev has participated in 1 scientific forum abroad and 4 in Bulgaria. He is a member of the editorial board of 2 scientific journals (AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, TRAKIA JOURNAL OF SCIENCES).

The project activity of the candidate is expressed in participation in the development and implementation of 5 research projects, in 3 of which Assoc. Prof. Raichev was the head.

I highly appreciate the international activity of Assoc. Prof. Raichev and in particular his connections with established scientists from Universities in Japan. This cooperation has an impact not only on his scientific development, but also on the development of the young researchers at the department.

6. Synthesized assessment of the main scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the candidates

I accept the contributions submitted for participation in the competition and appreciate their high scientific and applied value. As more important I would list the following:

- Genetic studies in species: badger, marbled polecat, weasel and brown bear, including the use of genes on the Y chromosome and mitochondrial DNA sequences to reveal the phylogenetic status of the variegated ferret; The study of the genetic diversity of the β -chain in the main histological compatibility complex related to the body's immune response; Weasel research from Europe and Asia through analysis of mitochondrial DNA and cytochrome b to elucidate the origins of modern populations; Studies related to the evolution of the major histological compatibility complex, et al.
- The detailed study of the phylogeny of the brown bear (*Ursus arctos*) in Bulgaria and its relationship with populations from neighbouring regions of Europe and Asia.
- Conducted research related to the resolution of the conflict "Wild animal - Human"

7. Conclusion

As a result of the analysis of the presented information, documents and references by Assoc. Prof. Evgeni Raichev for his teaching, research, publication and project activities, I believe that it fully meets the requirements of ZRASRB and PRAS of Trakia University - Stara. Zagora to hold the academic position PROFESSOR. The presented materials are proof of his competence in the field of the announced competition and that he is an established scientist and lecturer with a future in AF, Trakia University.

Based on the above, as well as my personal impressions of the candidate, I give my positive assessment and recommend to the respected members of the scientific jury to evaluate properly and propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Agriculture, Trakia University, to elect Evgeni Raichev for "Professor" of "Special Industries (Industrial Game)" in the field of Higher Education 6. Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, professional field 6.3 Animal Husbandry.

02.08.2021
Stara Zagora

Signature:

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