

OPINION

**by Prof. Temenuzhka Atanasova Yovcheva, PhD,
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regarding the materials submitted for participating in the competition for occupying the academic position 'Professor' in University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski”,
in: Area of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences;
professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Training in ... (Methodology of Physics Education)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zhelyazka Dimitrova Raykova from University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski” participates as the only candidate in the "Professor" competition proclaimed both in State Ga-zette no. 31, dated 12 April 2019 and in the University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski” website.

1. General Overview of the procedure and the candidate

The set of materials presented by Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Raykova (in electronic form) is in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Development of Academic Staff Regulation in the University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski” and includes all necessary documents for participating in the competition.

The candidate Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Raykova has applied 55 scientific works in the competition, which were not used in the competition for associate professor. One of them is a monograph, 17 are articles in journals, 2 are articles in proceedings of scientific forums, 4 are study aids and 4 are books related to research results. Assoc. Prof. Raykova is the first author in 37 scientific works and the only author in 13.

Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Raykova has been an Associate Professor at University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski” for 10 years.

The scientific activities presented by Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Raykova fully comply with the national minimum requirements for professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Training in ...

For criterion A (min. 50 p.) - 50 points

In 2001 she defended her doctoral dissertation on "Research on the possibility of upgrading the knowledge of electromagnetic phenomena from the compulsory minimum in secondary school" in scientific speciality “Methodology of Education”.

For criterion B (min. 100 p.) - 100 points

A monograph is presented.

For criterion Γ (min. 200 p.) – 331,6 points

Four of the scientific papers presented in indicator 6 refer to indicator 7. One of the articles did not go out of print. With the corrections made, the total number of points is 331,6.

For criterion Д (min. 100 p.) – 105 points

Eight of the submitted citations are self-citations and they are not counted. Some of the citations in indicators 11 and 12 refer to indicator 13. With the corrections made, the total number of points is 105.

For criterion E (min. 100 p.) – 310 point

There are no activities in indicator 20. 6 study aids were dropped out of indicator 21 because they were used in the competition for the academic position of 'Associate Professor'. With the corrections made, the total number of points is 310.

2. General characteristics of the activity of candidate

Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Raykova has very active and varied activities both in the research and in the education of students and PhD students.

Scientific and applied activities

The main scientific and applied activities of Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Raykova are devoted to important problems in the field of physics education in secondary school.

The scientific contributions of the Methodology of Physics training have theoretical and practical characteristics and they are distinguished in several directions:

I. Modern Trends in School Physics Education - constructivist theory and its place in physics education; scientific literacy and physics education; the Inquiry Approach in Physics Education; Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in physics education

II. Efficiency of physics education - studies the educational documentation and contribution to its creation; methodology of studying individual subjects from the school course in physics and astronomy.

III. Training of Future Teachers in Physics.

I do not find the presence of plagiarism in the applicant's scientific works.

Teaching and participation in funded contracts

Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Raykova has 31 years of experience as a teacher at the Faculty of Physics, been restructured as a Faculty of Physics and Technology at the University of Plovdiv

for two years. She has developed 16 lecture courses for Bachelor and Master's programs and 3 for Teacher Education at the Department of Qualification and Professional Development of Pedagogical Specialists at Plovdiv University. She participates in the competition with 5 textbooks and manuals. She has developed curricula for 3 bachelor's and 4 master's specialties. Since 2009, she has been the scientific advisor of 7 graduate students and 4 PhD students, 3 of whom successfully defended. She is the head of the AVITO lab. at Faculty of Physics and Technology of University of Plovdiv since 2009. She was a member of the Scientific and Organizational Committee of 5 National Conferences on Physics Training in 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019. She participates in 12 scientific projects, having been the leader and coordinator of 3 international projects and 3 scientific projects funded by University of Plovdiv.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Dimitrova Raykova, PhD, meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the Specific additional requirements of the University of Plovdiv as publications and scientific activities exceeding the minimum national requirements for occupying the academic position "Professor". The candidate's works contain original scientific and applied contributions that have received international recognition through their publication in journals and scientific publications published by international academic publishers. Undoubtedly, the very active teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Raykova should be added. On the basis of all this, I wholeheartedly support the candidacy of Assoc. Prof. Zhelyazka Dimitrova Raykova, PhD, for the academic position "Professor" at the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski".

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Opinion issued by:

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