

REPORT

of Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences Romyana Dimitrova Tankova - Professor

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regarding the materials submitted for participation in a competition for the academic position of
„Associate Professor“ at Plovdiv University „Paisii Hilendarski“

by field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences

professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching...(Methodology of mastering the Bulgarian language in
kindergarten)

In the competition for „Associate Professor“, announced in the State newspaper, issue 57, dating from 26.06.2020, and on the website of Plovdiv University „Paisii Hilendarski“ for the needs of the Department of „Preschool Pedagogy“ at the Faculty of Pedagogy, Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Georgieva Cherneva from the same faculty is applying as the only candidate.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

By order № P33-4710 of the Rector of the Plovdiv University „Paisii Hilendarski“ (PU), dating from 25.09.2020, I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a competition for the academic position of „Associate Professor“ at PU by field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching...(Methodology of mastering the Bulgarian language in kindergarten), announced for the needs of the Department of „Preschool Pedagogy“ at the Faculty of Pedagogy.

For participation in the announced competition, Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Georgieva Cherneva from Plovdiv University „Paisii Hilendarski“ has submitted documents. A complete set of materials in accordance to the requirements of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for implementation of LDASRB, the regulations of PU „Paisii Hilendarski” regarding the Development of the Academic Staff (DAF), as well as the additional requirements of the Faculty of Pedagogy, has been presented on time. The procedural requirements from the announcement of the competition in a state newspaper to the composition of the scientific jury have been met.

Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Georgieva Cherneva graduates at the Higher Pedagogical Institute in Blagoevgrad, where she receives her bachelor's degree. In 1992 Dr. Cherneva graduates as a Master at PU „Paisii Hilendarski“. In 2000 she is awarded a doctoral degree in pedagogy at Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski“. In 2016 Dr. Cherneva participates in a competition published in State newspaper, issue 88, dating from 13.11.2015, for the academic position of „Chief Assistant“ by field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences; professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching Methodology of mastering the Bulgarian language in kindergarten.

Since 07.03.2016 Dr. Cherneva is a Chief Assistant in the Department of Preschool Pedagogy at the Faculty of Pedagogy of PU „Paisii Hilendarski“.

Currently Dr. Cherneva has 34 years of teaching experience. During this period, she has established herself as a successful and highly valued teacher by colleagues, constantly seeking innovation in pedagogical science, with a relentless pursuit of professional development. The listed qualities are the reason for her to be elected as a representative of the non-habilitated staff of the Faculty of Pedagogy in the last general meeting of the University for election of Rector in 2019.

2. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

In accordance with the specifics of the current competition, Dr. Cherneva participates with 1 monography and 1 book, published on the basis of a defended dissertation, 1 article in a refereed journal, 3 articles in textbooks and teaching aids for students and 20 scientific articles and reports, 2 of which are co-authored. A list of 3 independent publications for awarding the educational and scientific degree „Doctor“ is presented, which are not the subject of this analysis, but provide an opportunity to follow the scientific development of the candidate in thematic terms. The scientific production, with which Dr. Cherneva participates in the competition, covers the minimum scientometric indicators for holding the academic position of „Associate Professor“.

The monography entitled **„Educational model for the formation of fine motor skills of the child“ (2020)** presents a study that establishes the degree of formation of fine motor skills of the child entering the first grade. The obtained results are a starting point for the development of an educational model for the preparation of the child's hand for writing, both for the kindergarten (Chapter Three) and for the primary school (Chapter Four). The monography offers a system of exercises that form fine motor skills from an early age and support the acquisition of a basic literacy process, such as writing.

Thematically, the other publications (articles and reports) address a wide range of Bulgarian language competencies both in preschool and in the initial stage of primary education and offer methodical options for their formation via game and interactive methods, which are applicable in

various aspects of education: inclusive, intercultural, with the goal of optimizing the process of mastering the literary Bulgarian language.

The participation of the candidate in projects of the Ministry of Education and Science and the Fund „Scientific Research“ at PU „Paisii Hilendarski“ as a member of research teams should be addressed as well.

The teaching activity of Dr. Cherneva is covered with more than 700 hours of classroom employment, realized by lecture courses on „Methods of mastering the Bulgarian language and literature in kindergarten“ and seminar exercises in the same discipline, which directly corresponds to the subject of this competition. The lecture courses, with which Dr. Cherneva participates in the master's programs, also make a very good impression. Not insignificant is the qualification activity that she performs for pedagogical specialists and the feedback for her as a lecturer.

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

I advise Dr. Cherneva to expand her publishing activities by preparing a textbook on Methods of mastering the Bulgarian language in kindergarten for students of bachelor's and master's programs, as well as a methodical manual for teachers in kindergarten related to the preparation of the child for literacy.

CONCLUSION

Given the materials submitted for the competition, it is to be concluded that the candidate has the necessary educational qualifications, doctorate, work and teaching experience, employment, and meets the minimum national requirements for the academic position of „Associate Professor“. I appreciate the moments of contribution. For me this is a reason to consider the candidacy of Dr. Cherneva to hold the academic **position of „Associate Professor“ at Plovdiv University „Paisii Hilendarski“** by field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching...(Methodology of mastering the Bulgarian language in kindergarten) as convincing, which is why I give my **positive conclusion**.

03.11. 2020 г.

Report by:
(Prof. Rumyana Tankova Dps)