

## **REPORT**

of Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences, Doctor of Philology

Margarita Todorova Terzieva – Professor at the University

„Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov“ – Burgas

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.

### **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. The set of materials presented by the candidate is in accordance with the Regulations for development of the academic staff of PU.

Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva has applied a total of 26 scientific papers: 1 monograph, 1 published book based on a defended dissertation, 24 scientific articles, 3 of them – in a textbook for students. The distribution of the scientific papers by corresponding headings in the country and abroad is 20 to 6 respectively.

### **Brief biographical data of the candidate**

Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva is born in Plovdiv in 1964. She graduates Primary School Pedagogy at the Higher Pedagogical Institute in Blagoevgrad. 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“. Since 2016 Dr. Cherneva is a Chief Assistant at PU „Paisii Hilendarski“.

Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva has 34 years of experience, 30 of which – as a teacher. She has developed a number of curricula and lectures both bachelor's and master's degrees. Dr. Cherneva speaks English and Russian. She is the Coordinator of Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy at Plovdiv University.

### **General characteristics of the candidate's activity**

Among the presented scientific works the monography entitled „Educational model for the formation of fine motor skills of the child“ (2020) stands out. With a volume of 196 pages it aims at offering alternatives for the formation of fine motor skills in the kindergarten and in the preparatory stage in first grade. The most significant contribution to the exhibition is the third chapter, which introduces a system of methodological techniques for the preparation of the child's hand for writing, presented in the form of games, grouped by age and difficulty degree. The author is of the opinion that fine motor skills need a wider reception in preschool situations aimed at mastering writing skills.

The publication activity related to the scientific periodical includes 24 titles, which can be grouped as follows:

- selection of an edition for publication – 9 – in magazines and 15 – in collections;
- by language – 18 articles in Bulgarian and 6 in English;
- by authorship - 22 independent and 2 co-authored.

Some of the articles written in Bulgarian have been published in scientific collections of PU „P. Hilendarski“.

The candidate's contributions can be divided into three groups:

- scientific - a theoretical overview of the problem of fine motor skills is made; a comparative analysis of the early foreign and Bulgarian reading instruction is carried out; alternatives for morphological and syntactic development of the child's speech are explored;

- scientific-applied - an analysis of test variants for school readiness is performed; the main elements of the diagnostic procedure in Bulgarian are defined;

- applied – study on the stimulation of speech development of the preschool child via information technologies; use of mind maps in mastering connected speech at pre-school age.

The aforementioned contributions outline Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva as a scientist with specialized methodical interests in the field of theory and methodology of teaching Bulgarian language at preschool and primary school age.

### **Critical remarks and recommendations**

I advise the Associate Professor candidate to focus on publishing articles in journals with a high impact factor and impact rank, to participate in international conferences, which leads to greater citation and recognition.

### **CONCLUSION**

The documents and materials submitted by Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Georgieva Cherneva meet all the requirements of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for implementation of LDASRB and the respective Regulations of PU „Paisii Hilendarski“.

The candidate in the competition has submitted a sufficient number of scientific papers, published after the materials used in the defense of the educational and scientific degree „Doctor“. The scientific contributions are oriented towards the pedagogical practice in the kindergarten and the primary school, as well as the methodical preparation of the students from the pedagogical academic field.

The achieved results in the educational and research activity correspond to the specific requirements of the Faculty of Pedagogy, valid in relation to the Regulations of PU for application of LDASRB.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific papers presented in the competition, the analysis of their significance and the scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions which they contain, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and to advise the Scientific jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Pedagogy regarding the nomination of Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Georgieva Cherneva for the academic position of ‘Associate Professor’ at PU „P. Hilendarski“ by professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching...(Methodology of mastering the Bulgarian language in kindergarten).

24.10. 2020 г.

**Report by:** .....

(Prof. Margarita Terzieva Dps)