

REPORT

of Dr. Daniela Todorova Yordanova,

Professor at VTU „St. St. Cyril and Methodius“

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 a 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 as the only candidate.

The set of electronic documents and materials presented by Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Georgieva Cherneva 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: a habilitation thesis published as a monography, a book published on the basis of a defended dissertation for the educational and scientific degree „Doctor“, 3 articles in textbooks and teaching aids for students, 1 article in a refereed journal, 20 articles in non-refereed journals.

The teaching and research biography of Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva are evidential for her career growth and development in the field of teaching: in 1986 she graduates at the Higher Pedagogical Institute in Blagoevgrad and acquires the qualification „primary teacher“; in 1992 she graduates with a master's degree in primary school pedagogy and specialization in Methodology of teaching primary school pedagogy at PU „Paisii Hilendarski“; in 2000 she defends her doctorate in pedagogy at Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski“; in the period between 01.09.1986 and 30.05.2016 she is a head primary teacher at primary school „Vasil Petleshkov“ in Plovdiv; from 03.2016 onwards Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva is a lecturer in Methodology of mastering the Bulgarian language in the kindergarten at the Faculty of Pedagogy of PU, Department of „Preschool Pedagogy“.

2. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

In relation to the scientific field and the professional direction of the competition, Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva lectures on „Methods of mastering the Bulgarian language in the kindergarten“ and „Educational games in Bulgarian language teaching in the kindergarten“, bachelor's degree, specialty „Preschool pedagogy and foreign language“ (PPFL), and regarding „Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy“ (PPSP) conducts exercises in the discipline „Continuity between kindergarten and primary school in Bulgarian language teaching.“ She also leads a lecture course on „Methods of mastering the Bulgarian language in kindergarten“ for the educational qualification degree „Master“, specialty PPSP, non-specialists.

Since 2017 Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva actively participates in training courses for qualification of pedagogical specialists at the Department for qualification and professional development of pedagogical specialists at PU „Paisii Hilendarski“.

The scientific papers presented by the candidate have application in scientific and pedagogical practice. They can be used in future research projects and as good practices in qualification activities of pedagogical specialists.

The monography entitled „Educational model for the formation of fine motor skills of the child” offers a working model for establishing and forming fine motor skills of children in kindergarten and during the preparatory stage of the initial literacy process of students in first grade, analysing the necessary theoretical foundations of the researched issues. The research is relevant and applicable in pedagogical practice considering the conducting of a systematic methodical work to master writing, taking into account the psychophysiological characteristics of children. Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva demonstrates her research abilities with the self-created test for the study of fine motor skills, the proposed alternative options for getting acquainted with the letters in preschool age and the methodical solutions supporting the formation of fine motor skills of first grade students.

The problem of educating value orientation in children of primary school age, developed by Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva in the book „Pedagogical aspects of the value orientation of the child at primary school age“ is significant. The tested pedagogical technology and the applied diagnostic procedures prove that the child at primary school age can build an attitude and a skill for faster orientation in new conditions, dynamism, intuition and openness towards the changes in the process of interpersonal interaction.

The articles in the textbooks and teaching aids, intended for the education of students of pedagogical specialties, present basic issues related to the language and literary education in the initial educational stage.

The 20 scientific articles, two of them co-authored and 5 in English, have been published in prestigious scientific journals. All of them reflect the scientific and applied activity of the candidate after obtaining the educational and scientific degree „Doctor“, aimed at research and promotion of modern views, concepts and opportunities for: formation and development of sound culture, readiness for literacy and education in Bulgarian, development and enrichment of children's vocabulary, children's speech development, application of interactive technologies in education, early reading training.

In the scientific production of Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva the following stands out in general:

- the presented publications are in the field of the professional direction of the competition;

- current problems from the theory and practice of teaching Bulgarian language and literature at preschool and primary education stage are analysed and examined;
- specific research has been carried out. Based on it, innovative educational models and techniques for the improvement of teaching Bulgarian language and literature in the kindergarten and in the primary school are proposed;
- the scientific output is enough in quantity and has a high practical applicability.

The attached reference regarding the citations indicates that they are 14, which is a good identification indicator of Chief Assistant Dr. Ekaterina Cherneva in the scientific community.

I have no critical remarks and recommendations to the candidate.

3. Conclusion

After a careful acquaintance and an analysis of the materials and scientific production submitted by the candidate for participation in the competition, as well as taking into account their importance and scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions to the teaching of Bulgarian language and literature at preschool and primary education stage, I give my positive assessment and strongly 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 Cherneva for the academic position of „Associate Professor“ at PU „P. Hilendarski“ by field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching...(Methodology of mastering the Bulgarian language in kindergarten).

30.10. 2020 г.

Report by:

Prof. Dr. Daniela Yordanova