

STATEMENT

from Associate Professor Petar Raikov Petrov, retired - Varna

For the materials presented to participate in a competition to take the academic position “Professor” in the University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski” in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences; professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Theory of education and didactics). In the competition for “professor” announced in State newspaper, number 40 from 14.05.2021 and in the internet page of University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski” as a candidate is participating Associate Professor Nina Dimitrova Gerdjikova from Branch- city of Smolyan.

I. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

The set of materials which is necessary for participation in the announced competition for “professor” is precisely formed. They are presented according to the minimal requirements from article 5, paragraphs 2 and 3, and the additional requirements from article 5 of ZRASRB. With her approved scientific and teaching status through the years, the candidate Associate Professor Nina Gerdjikova has formed her own territory of professional interests and attitudes which develop thanks to her professional-pedagogical, research-applicable and informational culture in the field of pedagogy and education. Her fruitful and purposeful activity is a proof for the authoritative representativeness in the pedagogical community of the University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski” (Branch- Smolyan). The orientation to a next stage of scientific growth is the defended science degree “doctor of science” in which procedure we have a personal participation as an author of an opinion. The topic is directly corresponding to an important methodological problem in the contemporary pedagogy: the organization and management of social communication. The overall vision of the activity of the candidate is completed by participation in projects and guidance of doctoral students, membership in international science organizations, outsourced lectures in foreign universities, activity as a head of department of pedagogy, etc.

From the reference for the fulfillment of the minimal national requirements we are even more convinced in the scientific productivity of Associate Professor Nina Gerdjikova (reference № 8).

II. Comprehensive characteristic of the activity of the candidate

During the last few decades the methodological problems in pedagogy are constantly attracting the attention of the specialized scientific community and the representatives of the educational practice. The above statement is an important instrument and a proof for the orientation of Associate Professor Nina Gerdjikova to undeveloped and important problematic areas in the contemporary pedagogical science. Of course we have to admit her “sense” for topicality and importance of the problems, which are consistent with innovative decisions, with law changes in the field of secondary and higher education, with the contemporary training of the teachers, with the education of the students. We have also to add that in the field of view of the candidate other current problems of the educational process are also present: teaching and learning in electronic environment, the competencies of the teacher, approaches and technologies in the language education etc. The professional profile of a certain candidate for a scientific title has to be evaluated mainly by the presented monographs. In the focus of attention is of course the main monograph with an interesting title: *“The school as a pedagogical area of anxiety. The emotional experience and the effectiveness of management and organization”*. In the monograph there is a successful attempt for “expansion” of the differentiation in pedagogy on the basis of the emotional conditions of the individuals participating in the pedagogical process. As a methodological construction in the contents of the monograph are the emotions which manifest in the organization of school life- the joy, the surprise, the hope and the boredom. Models are presented for improving of the organization and management of the school according to the existential condition of man. Therefore there is an “open door” to a specific area from the perspective of emotions- “pedagogy of anxiety”. In the monograph *“Teaching and diagnostics of education in the classroom”* (as the candidate successfully and precisely

specifies) has been made an attempt for an “empirical-informational” synthesis of classical didactic categories. At this representativeness of didactic knowledge certain ideas of the theory of constructivism are launched. The monograph “*The theory of multicultural education*” is characterized with outstanding importance of the pedagogic knowledge. This is a scientific work in which is present an attempt for a creation of a systematic theory of multicultural education, unfolded in the field of pedagogy and culturology. From such a conceptional point are revealed in a broader plan also the categories education and teaching. To the group of monographs we can add also the participation of the candidate in developed chapters in the collective work “*The reform in the chain of schools in contemporary society*”. We can see in it a comparative characteristic of secondary education in our country and England and Germany; important subjects form the career development of the teacher are also revealed. The scientific representativeness of Associate Professor Gerdjikova is also completed by many articles which are grouped thematically and in a quantitative plan in the following expressiveness: for the description of the emotional experience of pupils (13 pieces); for current didactic and pedagogical problems (24 pieces); for multicultural education (11 pieces plus 1 study and 1 textbook); for the reform in educational politics and practices (3 pieces); for health education (5 empirical and 2 theoretical studies).

III. Scientific contributions

The scientific contributions have their authoritative representativeness among the colleagues in the pedagogical community which are engaged in the system of higher education. This is our common conclusion based on the educational activity and publications of the candidate. In a broader perspective the scientific contributions of the candidate are in the field of common and school didactic, in the theory and management of education, in multicultural education, in health education. We have to pay special attention to the orientation to a problem in pedagogy which is not developed- school as a pedagogical area of anxiety where the role of the emotional experience of the pupil is analyzed. The scientific contributions as we can see from the publication activity outline the rich spectrum of representativeness , guaranteed by the scientific views and professional activity

of the candidate. From another perspective the *quotes* are also an important indicator for the validation of the scientific status of a certain candidate. There have been pointed out 6 quotes.

Important conclusions before the general conclusion: The candidate Associate Professor Gerdjikova has fulfilled the minimal national requirements for the adjudging of the academic title “professor”. 2. We have no doubts for plagiarism in the presented scientific works and publications.

IV. Proposals and recommendations

Usually the proposals have a character of recommendation, they are connected with the teaching engagements and the current scientific views in the professional self-affirmation. We do not doubt the “scientific sensitiveness“ of Associate Professor Gerdjikova towards the methodological problems in contemporary pedagogy. And this is a potential creative resource in development of theories and concepts, of outlining of individual views and practical decisions in the field of secondary and higher education.

General conclusion: As volume and thematic focus, theoretical and scientifically applicable contributions, the scientific production of Associate Professor Gerdjikova totally abide by the ZRAS for the adjudging of the scientific title “professor”. This gives me enough ground to propose to the esteemed jury the candidate to be elected for the announced scientific title “professor” in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Theory of education and didactic)

Varna

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