

PEER REVIEW

**by Prof. Daniela Todorova Markova, PhD – Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University
with regards to the materials presented for participation in a competition for
occupation of the academic position “Associate Professor”**

in Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University
under: Higher education field 8. “Arts”

Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts” (History of Music)

Chief Assistant Antoniya Peneva Baleva, PhD from the Faculty of Pedagogy of Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University is a candidate in the competition for occupation of the position “Associate Professor”, announced in State Gazette, Issue 92 of 18.11.2022 and on the website of Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University for the needs of the Music Department at the Faculty of Pedagogy.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the candidate

By Order No P-21-74 dated 18.01.2023 of the Rector of Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, I have been appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury of a competition for occupation of the academic position “Associate Professor” at the University in Higher education field 8. “Arts”, Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts” (History of Music), announced for the needs of the Music Department at the Faculty of Pedagogy.

The set of materials on electronic media is in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the Plovdiv University and the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. It includes administrative documents; as well as documents proving the scientific research and artistic activity of the candidate; a curriculum vitae in European format; diplomas – for higher education and for the educational and scientific degree “Doctor”; list of scientific works; scientific works – copies of publications; list of citations; certificate of compliance with the minimum national and additional faculty requirements; annotations of the materials; self-assessment of contributions; declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents; certificate of work experience; and documents for academic work. The application is secured with the hours of lectures and exercises required by law, which can be seen from the reference for the academic work – auditory and extracurricular activities. A large part of the disciplines are within the scope of scientific field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts” and respectively 1.3 “Pedagogy of Music Education”. In the specialty “Music”, A. Baleva teaches lecture courses in “History of Music”, “Musical Aesthetics”, “Musical Analysis” and “Integration of Music with Other Arts”. In other specialties – “Pedagogy of Music Education”, “Music”, “Jazz and Pop Performance Arts”, “Elementary School Pedagogy”, “Primary School Pedagogy and Foreign Language”, “Fine Art Pedagogy”, “Graphic Design with Advertising”, “Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy”, and “Social Activities”, she leads lectures,

seminars, and practical exercises in optional and faculty disciplines.

For participation in the competition, 43 scientific papers developed and published after the occupation of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” are presented. There are 3 monographs – a habilitation thesis, a published monograph in the relevant scientific field “Music and Time. Philosophical, Aesthetic and Historical Fragments”, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, Plovdiv, 2019, 199 p.; “Aspects of Musical Culture XVII-XVIII Century”, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, Plovdiv, 2012, 152 p.; and “Musical Perception. Historical and Theoretical Aspects”, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, Plovdiv, 2010, 127 p.

The list of the scientific works of Chief Assistant Antoniya Baleva, PhD includes 37 articles – 1 article published in a scientific publication, referenced and indexed in Web of Science (Pedagogical Journal); 36 articles and reports published in specialized publications in the field of arts, of which 33 in Bulgarian, 2 – in English, and 2 – in Russian; 3 published university textbooks (chrestomathies) – “Musical Culture in the Second Half of the 18th and the Beginning of the 19th Century. The Revolution in Music”, Chrestomathy, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, Plovdiv, 2011, 162 p.; “Musical Culture in the Second Half of the 18th and the Beginning of the 19th Century. Ideas. Styles. Creators”, Chrestomathy, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, Plovdiv, 2011, 148 p. (co-authored); “Musical Culture 1600-1750. Baroque Music”, Chrestomathy, Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, Plovdiv, 2010, 136 p. (co-authored).

2. General characteristics of the activity of the candidate

The autobiography of Chief Assistant Antoniya Balevaq PhD shows extensive experience in the field of the announced competition. She has 36 years of total teaching experience, of which 27 years as a Chief Assistant. She was appointed to work as an Assistant in Musical Literature and Musical Analysis at the Aesthetic Education Department (subsequently, the Music Department). In 2002, she obtained the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” (Pedagogy of Music Education).

The study programs developed by Chief Assistant Antoniya Baleva, PhD are present in the curricula of almost all specialties in the Faculty of Pedagogy at the Plovdiv University. Her activity in terms of educational and administrative activities is impressive. It should be noted that she has participated in committees for the preparation of accreditation documents, has worked as a coordinator of the specialty “Music” and has coordinated artistic activities at the University. All this is a confirmation of her academic commitment and professional attitude to work, organizational skills, and competencies.

Despite the academic workload, which can be seen from the reference for academic work, A. Baleva follows and develops her research ideas and goals, which are closely related to her teaching activity. Her scientific interests coincide with the field of the competition. The quantitative dimensions of the scientific output for the considered period from the

acquisition of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” to her current candidacy in the competition for “Associate Professor” meet the relevant administrative requirements for participation in the competition. The number of scientific works published after the materials used in the defense of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” is significant. The research activity of Chief Assistant A. Baleva, PhD for this long period exceeds the minimum national requirements. 43 scientific papers are presented: 3 monographs, one of which is a habilitation thesis, 37 scientific articles, of which 33 are in Bulgarian, 2 in English, 2 in Russian, as well as 3 study aids for students. The citations of works are 12 – 10 in monographs and collective volumes and 2 in non-refereed journals.

Theoretical and practical developments in the main monographic and other works provided for consideration are directly oriented to scientific and educational work. They have indisputable value and convincingly defend her contribution in the professional field. The candidate’s works contain original scientific and applied contributions.

I particularly like the monograph “Music and Time. Philosophical, Aesthetic and Historical Fragments”, which sheds light on the complex problem of the relationship between art and time. I plan to enjoy the text with a more relaxed and careful reading later. The problems of musical culture and musical perception are also thoroughly examined in the remaining two monographs, written in accessible and at the same time rich language.

My personal impressions of A. Baleva are related to many years of joint work, and I would like to note her accuracy in the relations with colleagues and work, as well as the broad culture of a person who is deep in the art of music and devoted to her work. The positive opinions of the students in a recent survey (in connection with certification) and their high assessment of her work are impressive. More often restrained, here the students’ answers were concluded to: “amazing”, “wonderful lecturer”, “unique person and lecturer”, “exceptional teaching methods”... The conclusion of the presence of a very good educator is clearly drawn.

The artistic and creative activity of the candidate also confirms the presence of the musician in the life of the University and beyond – participation in various forums of choral art, concert appearances, organization and implementation of student concert performances, as well as concert-lectures with joint participation of students and lecturers from the Music Department.

I have no critical remarks and recommendations. I am extremely glad that A. Baleva’s work and contribution to music and art education will receive well-deserved recognition.

CONCLUSION

The scientific, artistic creative and educational qualifications of Chief Assistant Antoniya Peneva Baleva PhD are unquestionable. The materials submitted for review **meet the requirements** of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of

Bulgaria, the Regulations for the Implementation of the Act and the relevant Regulations of Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific works presented in the competition, and analyzing their significance and scientific and scientific-applied contributions contained therein, I find it fully justified **to give my positive assessment and recommend the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Pedagogy for the election of Chief Assistant Antoniya Peneva Baleva, PhD at the academic position of “Associate Professor” at Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University under Professional field 8.3 “Music and Dance Arts” (History of Music).**

10.02.2023

Prepared by:

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