

STATEMENT

for candidates main assistant **Petar Odazhiev, Ph.D.** and **Krasimira Ivanova, Ph.D.**,
submitted the required set of documents for holding the academic position "**assoc.professor**"

HE field: 8 Arts

Professional direction: 8.4 Theater and film art

Scientific specialty: Acting for drama theater

Department: Aesthetic education

Faculty of Pedagogy

Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv

According to the announcement in the State Gazette, No. 39 of 02.05.2023, contest for the academic position of "**associate professor**" in the field of higher education 8. ARTS, professional direction 8.4. THEATER AND FILM ARTS (ACTING FOR DRAMA THEATER) two candidates (in order of submission) submitted the required set of documents and materials within the specified period:

1. Ch. Assistant Professor Petar Zapryanov Odazhiev, PhD, born in 1962, 61 years old,
2. Krasimira Tsvetanova Ivanova, PhD, born in 1977, 46 years old.

The document acceptance committee has found full administrative compliance with the required conditions and both sets have been handed over to the members of the Scientific Jury (SJ), who familiarize themselves with the candidates and prepare their reviews or opinions, according to the decision made at a meeting of the Department of Aesthetic Education , held on 13.07.2023.

This statement is prepared on the basis of three evaluations:

- Quantitative,
- Quality,
- Predictive.

QUANTITATIVE EVALUATION

Examining the documents and materials on the competition, provided by the first candidate – main assistant Petar Zapryanov Odazhiev, Ph.D., **3.6 (three whole and six) times more** scientometric data are reported for the groups of indicators A, B, C, D, D and E. The total sum of the candidate's points is **1300 with required 360**. A **lack of data** was identified in the last requirement: "*Auditor and non-auditor employment. Preparation of curricula*" probably due to the fact that the candidate has suspended his

three-year academic teaching activity at AMDVA Plovdiv. Secondly, the candidate has completed two master's degrees in the field of 8.4, one in the field of Art Management and defended two dissertations. For his more than 40 years of professional creative biography from opera singer, through opera director, film director and art manager, the candidate has professionally realized many musicals, operas and film productions. He has led workshops, master classes and seminars in Europe and America. He has participated in festivals and several international awards.

The second candidate - Krasimira Tsvetanova Ivanova, PhD, exceeds the required scientometric data by a total of **3.8 (three whole and eight) times**. In indicators A, B, C, D, D and E, the candidate collects **1170 points**, but in the required direction "Auditor and non-auditor employment. Curriculum Development" she presents evidence worth **205 additional points**. Thus, the total of the candidate amounts to **1375, instead of the minimum required 360**. The candidate has completed two master's degrees in the field 8.4 after two higher educations. She has a doctorate in the same field of higher education. It is important to know that she is currently, in parallel with her teaching work at NATFA, the head of the "International Relations" department at the Theater Academy and is the main part of the project activity of NATFA. The candidate has realized her own productions, the majority of which are on professional, and others on amateur stages, television and film screens. She has led several workshops, master classes and seminars, most of them with international participation on European projects. She has participated in festivals with his production, as well as several prestigious national awards.

QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

The first candidate – main assistant Petar Zapryanov Odazhiev, Ph.D., has mainly realized professional independent creative products. His monographs are **2 (two)** in number, and his publications proposed in the scientometric table are **8 (eight)**. His latest monograph directly concerns dramatic art, and his first is dedicated to the musical as a specific music-dramatic-dance and music-dance-screen form, a contemporary genre of classical *drama per musica*. Both monographs concern not particularly elaborated problems of theater theory and practice in our country. The contributions of the candidate's monographs, scientific and popular science publications are indisputable and mainly concern **the art of cinema**. The only work devoted to the stage, which has a direct application to the candidate's future pedagogical activity, is his last monograph, exploring the action in two opposite, but mutually complementary, theater systems - Stanislavski's and Grotowski's. The citations of the candidate's published scientific and popular science publications, which are mainly in the field of screen arts, are sufficiently solid. The ascertained lack of participation in the required appendix "Auditor and non-auditor employment. Curriculum development" does not allow for a qualitative assessment of his teaching commitment, his teaching methods, as well as the success rate of his students in the learning and creative process.

The second candidate - Krasimira Tsvetanova Ivanova PhD, has only **1 (one) published monograph**, which, as we understand from the documents, is "*under press*". The work is devoted to the musical on the stage and on the screen. As already explained above, all publications on this topic are innovative for our country, since the scarce literature in the Bulgarian language until 10 years ago was only in translation. The articles proposed by the candidate are **6 (six)**, and all six are directly related to performing arts. Two are dedicated to dramaturgy, as a fundamental component of dramatic art, two others draw parallels between theater and screen dramaturgy, the third pair considers psychodrama as a complementary method in the training of theater students. While in the field of dramaturgy Bulgarian theater science and criticism has many solid studies, the other two topics: the dramaturgical axis "stage-screen" and the methods of psychodrama in stage pedagogy have real contributions and are innovative for our theater science. As a participant in several accreditation processes, main expert

in the "International Relations" department at the Theater Academy and main expert on the project activity of NATFA, the candidate presents a large number of contributions to academic life - classes held, curricula created, projects won and implemented, signed and active agreements with elite theater and film academies around the world during her tenure in these posts.

PREDICTION ASSESSMENT

The first candidate - chap. Petar Zapryanov Odazhiev, PhD, is **61 years old**. According to Bulgarian labor legislation, he has not so many years until retirement. In this aspect, his opportunity for scientific and career growth is limited by the short period in which such a goal can be realized. At best, he could be the artistic director of only two classes/graduations/, the second of which would require his employment contract to be renewed each year until the students graduate. The candidate's teaching experience is mainly related to musicals and opera. These two stage genres have their own special convention, their own stylistic feature, subordinated mainly to the musical score and its effective reading on stage. The specialty accredited at the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv is "Acting for Drama Theater". It has a very different specificity from the genres listed above. Solo and choral singing, dancing, and mass plastic and choreographic combinations specific to musicals and operas are too far from the pedagogical program intended for dramatic actors. The candidate's second specialization is in cinema. The lack of a relevant material and technical base - studio, cameras, lighting, specialized wardrobe, pavilions, etc. do not allow and practically exclude such activities with the students, who according to the accredited curriculum have only three freely selectable and optional disciplines affecting these knowledge and skills. The candidate has almost no experience teaching drama students. One can only guess whether with his specialization - opera, cinema and musical - he will be able to lead a class "Acting for dramatic theater" with specifics very different from his professional pedagogical and creative biography. It is unlikely that medical education would entrust the training of orthopedists to an ENT specialist. The candidate's creative achievements are bribery, but his area of expertise can hardly guarantee his pedagogical legitimacy in the field of dramatic art.

The second candidate is **46 years old**. She has 20 years left until the watershed of retirement age, a sufficient period for scientific, creative, pedagogical and academic development. To this indisputable fact, we can note that despite the difference of 15 years in the active age of the two candidates, Krasimira Tsvetanova Ivanova, PhD, has comparable creative, pedagogical, scientific and academic results. This logically gives confidence that the candidate has the opportunity to expand her qualification. She has enough time and space for scientific research and publications, a field for creative activity and proven success in project activity for the benefit of the specialty, the department, the faculty and the university. The candidate's contacts with numerous educational institutions in Bulgaria and abroad are a valuable added value to her opportunities. Her skills to prepare, win and manage projects at different levels and on different programs are proven. It would also be profitable for Plovdiv University. The candidate has already worked for our university for one semester, and in this short time, as an assistant in Drama Theatre Acting, she has managed to successfully fit into the curriculum and make a spectacle with the students, which has been performed several times on the PU stage. In the eyes of the professional guild, her work **in the field of amateur theater** may bring certain negatives, but on the other hand, there is almost no well-known theater artist in our country who does not train his future graduates in amateur troupes. Seen from this angle, pedagogic work with amateurs increases the flow of prospective students to our relatively boutique major. The teaching activity of the candidate at NATFA covers both faculties - Stage and Screen. Since within the Theater Academy artistic directors choose their own teams, she is preferred by most teams to teach the disciplines related to her expertise.

I believe that SJ is faced with a difficult choice. It is difficult to draw a conclusion unambiguously and completely convincingly. Both candidates are solid, experienced and have - each their own qualities in academic, scientometric, creative and pedagogical terms. With both of them, there are noticeable lacks and inconsistencies not so much in quantitative terms, but more in terms of quality. The specificity of pedagogical work with students of the "Acting for Drama Theater" major has always required the participation of future class leaders as assistants in teams of eminent artistic directors. Our candidates have almost no such experience. If I may again use an example from medicine, only a person who has excellently assisted in many similar interventions can be appointed as the chief surgeon in a complex operation.

However, a decision must be made. My opinion is that the candidate Krasimira Tsvetanova Ivanova PhD, has a greater perspective for development - academic, pedagogical, career and creative. Her achievements are inferior to those of her competitor, but he is as many as 15 creative years ahead of her, and this is completely logical.

Therefore, I propose that the academic position of "**associate professor**" under the current competition be entrusted to **Krasimira Tsvetanova Ivanova, PhD**.

Prof. Alexander Lyubenov Iliev, PhD,

28.08.2023

Plovdiv