

STATEMENT

from Assoc. Prof. Marina Nikolaeva Nedkova, PhD
Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

of the materials submitted for participation in a contest
for awarding the academic position of **"Associate Professor"**
at the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski"

By: Field of High Education. 1. Pedagogical Sciences

Professional field *1.3. Pedagogy of ... (Theory and Methodology of Physical Education in Kindergarten)*

In the contest for "Associate Professor", announced in the State Gazette, issue 32 from 09.04.2024 and on the website of Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski" for the needs of the Department of Theory and Methodology of Physical Education and Sports at the Faculty of Biology, Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD from the Department of Theory and Methodology of Physical Education and Sports participated as a candidate.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the applicant

By Order No. PD-21-1182 of 07.06.2024 of the Rector of the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" (PU), I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of a contest for the academic position of **"Associate Professor" at the University of Plovdiv** in the field of high education 1. Pedagogical Sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of education in ... (Theory and Methodology of Physical Education in Kindergarten), **announced for the needs of the Department of Theory and Methodology of Physical Education and Sports at the Faculty of Biology.**

Only one candidate has submitted the required documents for participation in the announced contest:

Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD Plovdiv University "Paisii Hilendarski", Department of Theory and Methodology of Physical Education and Sports.

The presented by Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD electronic set of materials follows the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the University of Plovdiv, and includes the following documents:

1. A letter of sample to the Rector for admission to participate in the contest;
2. Curriculum vitae in EU format;
3. Diploma for education with acquired education and qualification degree "Master" with an attachment - copy;
4. Diploma for education and scientific degree " PhD " - copy;
5. List of scientific papers;
6. Scientific papers (copies of scientific papers - Appendix A);
7. List of citations;
8. Citations (copies of citations - Appendix C);
9. Reference for compliance with the minimum national requirements;
10. Reference for compliance with the additional faculty requirements;
11. Annotations of the materials under Art. 65. of Regulations for the implementation of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria (in Bulgarian and English);
12. Self-assessment of the contributions (in Bulgarian and English);
13. Declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents;
14. Certificate of work experience;
15. Documents for academic work;
16. Documents for research work;
17. Documents with the additional requirements of the respective faculty;

The candidate Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD has attached **44** scientific papers, **2** author's monographs, **17** textbooks, and a list of **25** research papers. **27** scientific papers that have not been used to acquire the degree of PhD and the academic position of Assist. Prof., **17** textbooks, and **3** research projects are accepted for review. **6** scientific papers on the dissertation are not reviewed. The citations established by the candidate are **14**. She fulfils all additional faculty requirements of the Faculty of Biology for the development of the academic staff.

The scientific papers are distributed as follows:

- 2 monographs;
- 1 article published in a scientific journal, referenced and indexed in a world-renowned database of scientific information;
- 14 scientific publications in non-referenced journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes;

- 10 scientific publications in proceedings of scientific conferences with scientific review;
- 2 teaching aids co-authored for training students at the university;
- 15 co-authored manuals on the practice of preschool physical education;

The presented scientific production exceeds the minimum requirements. under Art. 2 b, para. 2 and 3 of the Law on Associate Professor in the field of High Education 1. Pedagogical Sciences. A total of **641.7** points have been achieved in terms of indicators – with a minimum requirement of **400** points.

Brief biographical details of the candidate

In 1988 the candidate Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD acquired two master's degrees at the University of Plovdiv - "Preschool Pedagogy", Children's Teacher and "Pedagogy of Early Childhood", from which is visible her interest in psychology, pedagogy, and methodology of work in nursery groups, as well as the method of preschool education and training. In 2014 she obtained a PhD degree in "Theory and Methodology of Physical Education and Sports Training" (incl. Methodology of Therapeutic Exercise)".

Immediately after graduating in 1989, she began working in a kindergarten as a teacher and was responsible for planning and conducting activities with preschool children. In the same year and to the present day, she holds the position of Assistant Professor at the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski" and her main activities are lecturing, seminar and practical exercises, management of hospitalization and pedagogical practices, participation in entry exams, and organization of the educational process.

Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD is fluent in Russian, and knowledgeable in English and German. Her computer skills are also very good. She is a lecturer with extensive practical and theoretical experience, and communication skills acquired in many years of work with daily lectures and methodological work with students.

2. General characteristics of the applicant's activity

Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD participated in the contest with 44 works.

The peer-reviewed monograph "General Developmental Physical Exercises in Kindergarten" (127 pages) is useful with the recommended technological models for structuring various general development exercises and building complexes. Many exercises for different age groups within the preschool period, as well as developing models for pedagogical situations and morning gymnastics.

This can support all educators working with children in fostering an educational setting that promotes the development of children's motor, functional, and cognitive skills.

The published monograph "Influence of Outdoor Games on the Psycho-Motor Abilities of Preschool Children" (239 pages) presents theoretical and applied aspects in the study of outdoor games as a means for the development of some motor and mental abilities in children ages 3 to 7 years. The effect of movable games on the awareness of essential characteristics of motor actions has been proven.

An article published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information is also presented.

The remaining 24 scientific papers are papers published in non-referenced journals with scientific peer review or published in edited collective volumes.

The author's share in the scientific works is as follows: 17 independent and 7 co-authored. Of these, 23 are in Bulgarian language, 1 in English.

The presented scientific production has a theoretical and applied effect, divided into several thematic areas split into two main areas: preschool physical education and training of students at the university. The following are innovatively developed and described in detail:

1. pedagogical technologies for motor development and functional improvement in children ages 3 to 7 the means, methods and algorithms for developing their motor abilities;
2. the influence of outdoor games on the development of some motor and mental abilities of preschool children;
3. the peculiarities in the development of the motor function of preschool children, as well as their coordination and conditioning abilities;
4. the impact of the factors of the socio-economic environment on the functional, morphological, and health development of the child's body;
5. the different pedagogical activities of the university lecturer - teaching, testing, and evaluation, as well as a different approach to the organization of sports activities of students from different educational majors;
6. studies of the results of the individual components of the complex practical exam of the candidates.

The candidate presented 17 additional materials to the educational activity, where she is a co-author of two textbooks on the theory and methodology of physical education, developed by

the curricula for training students in bachelor's and master's degree programs in the Professional field 1.2. Pedagogy and 1.3. Methodology of training in physical education... at the University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski". 15 teaching aids and a book for the teacher for preschool education in the first, second, and third age groups and the preschool group of the kindergarten

Scientific production contains the necessary scientific contributions. The research was carried out with reliable and informative methods.

3. Critical remarks and recommendations

I have no critical remarks about the scientific works and activities of the candidate, the sets of materials, as well as for the future use of the scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the candidate.

CONCLUSION

The candidate in the contest Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation. She has the professional capabilities and skills of a research scientist in her field, with proven scientific and practical contributions to the academic position of Associate Professor. The minimum national requirements under Art. 2b of the Law on Scientific Field 1. Pedagogy, 1.3. Pedagogy of ... (Theory and Methodology of Physical Education in Kindergarten).

With absolute conviction, I propose to the Honorable Jury to award Assist. Prof. Rositsa Hristeva Shtereva, PhD the academic title "Associate Professor" in the professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of ... (Theory and Methodology of Physical Education in Children's Education) градина) for the needs of the Department of Theory and Methodology of Physical Education and Sports at the Faculty of Biology.

01.08.2024 г.

Prepared by:

(signed)

Assoc. Prof. Marina Nikolaeva Nedkova, PhD