УНИВЕРСИТЕТ „ПРОФ. Д-Р АСЕН ЗЛАТАРОВ"

Катедра „Педагогика и методика на обучението"

OPINION

Competition for the Academic Position of „Associate Professor"
Field of Higher Education: 1. Pedagogical Sciences
Professional Area: 1.2. Pedagogy (Art Pedagogy – Visual Arts and Constructive-Technological Activities in Kindergartens and Elementary Schools)
Candidate: PhD Gergana Angelova Avramova-Todorova
Opinion Author: Assoc. Prof. PhD Doncho Stoyanov Donev, Burgas Free University
(Decree No. RD-238 dated July 15, 2024, by the Rector of University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov").

1. Description of the Competition Procedure

In the announced competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Art Pedagogy – visual arts and constructive-technological activities in preschool and primary school), for the needs of the Department of Pedagogy and Teaching Methodology', as published in the "State Gazette" issue 43 from May 17, 2024, there is one candidate: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Angelova Avramova-Todorova. The documents submitted by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Avramova-Todorova for participation in the competition comply with the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in Bulgaria and the Regulation for its implementation, as well as meeting the requirements of the Regulation on the conditions and procedures for obtaining scientific degrees and occupying academic positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" – Burgas.

2. Scientific Metrics

According to the Regulations on the Conditions and Procedures for Obtaining Academic Degrees and Occupying Academic Positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" in Burgas, the bibliometric indicators for the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Avramova-Todorova, applying for the position of "Associate Professor," are as follows:

- Group „А" Indicator: 50 points fulfilled.
- Group „Б" Indicator: Not required for this position.
- Group „В" Indicator (monograph presented as a habilitation work): 100 points fulfilled.
- Total points for Group „Г" Indicator: 438, with a requirement of 400 points.
- Total points for Group „Д" Indicator: 210, with a requirement of 100 points.
- Total points for Group „Е" Indicator: 100, with a requirement of 50 points.

The submitted scientific output by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Avramova-Todorova aligns with the bibliometric criteria outlined in the Regulations for obtaining academic degrees and occupying academic positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" in Burgas.

Main directions in the candidate's research work and most important scientific contributions.

The scientific interest of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Avramova-Todorova in the field of art pedagogy can be traced throughout her scientific work presented in the current competition. The

sustainability of this interest is evidenced by the fact that the topic is central in the book based on her dissertation work.

Although the materials presented involve in-depth and consistent theoretical analyses of contemporary concepts, their high practical significance is particularly impressive. The proposed variants for applying art therapy techniques in a digital environment define an innovative area in the candidate's research.

Another part of the articles and reports, as well as a section of the monograph, showcase Assoc. Prof. Dr. Avramova-Todorova's skills and readiness to design, test, and explore art pedagogical tools. A significant portion of the scientific output presents a series of original art pedagogical techniques, options, and models aimed at shaping and developing psychological-pedagogical constructs such as happiness, emotional intelligence, tolerance, and aesthetic perception. Almost all the presented studies cover preschool and early school-age children. All of this provides a basis for the conclusion that Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Avramova-Todorova's materials fully correspond to the scientific field and specialty for which the competition is announced.

Through the application of art pedagogical techniques in teaching visual arts and constructive-technological activities, the candidate has successfully expanded the field of art pedagogy. Additionally, evidence is presented for the successful integration of the educational and upbringing processes, even though this contribution is not specifically highlighted in the research work.

The presented scientific output features original authorial studies with significant contributions. No evidence of plagiarism has been found

3. Critical notes, recommendations, questions.

Defining a clear and specific center would contribute to the systemic and analytical nature of the candidate's future research.

4. Conclusion

Based on the materials submitted for the competition, I believe that candidate Dr. Gergana Angelova Avramova-Todorova meets the criteria for the academic position of "Associate Professor" as defined by the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and its implementing regulations, as well as the Regulations on the Conditions and Procedures for Acquiring Scientific Degrees and Holding Academic Positions at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov," Burgas. I recommend that the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury vote positively and propose to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov," Burgas, to appoint Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gergana Angelova Avramova-Todorova to the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Art Pedagogy – Visual Arts and Constructive-Technological Activities in Kindergartens and Elementary Schools).

20.08.2024 г.   **Member of the Scientific Jury**

Burgas   *(assoc. prof. Doncho Lunev PhD)*