

REVIEW

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(official title, degree, name, institution)

Competition to occupy the academic position “Professor” in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic, and legal sciences, professional direction 3.5. Public Communications and Information Sciences (Book science, Library science, Bibliography – Digitization of National Cultural Heritage, Regional Information Systems), announced in SG № 93 of 26.11.2019 and Order № 38-38/17.01.2020 of the Rector of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

INFORMATION ON THE COMPETITION (grounds for admission of candidates to the competition)

The competition is to occupy the **academic position “Professor”** in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic, and legal sciences, professional direction 3.5. Public Communications and Information Sciences (Book science, Library science, Bibliography – Digitization of National Cultural Heritage, Regional Information Systems), announced in SG № 93 from 26.11.2019, and Order № 38-38/17.01.2020 of the Rector of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” for the designation of a scientific jury.

The competition is for the needs of the Department of Library Science, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy at the Faculty of Philosophy / Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

For participation in the competition documents have submitted only **one candidate** – Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Hristova Pancheva. The documents for participation are in full range. The documentation related to the procedure is fully aligned with the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria, its rules of application and the regulations for the acquisition of scientific degrees and the occupation of academic positions at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. **The documents presented are exhaustive and provide the necessary information** to form my assessment as a member of the scientific jury.

Following the review of the documents submitted and contained in the publications, I found that the minimum national requirements were fully implemented. Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva collects a **total of 837.5 points**; in groups they are as follows: group A – 50 points; Group B – not assessed by a “Professor” contest; group C – 100 points; group D – 282.5 points; group E – 245 points; group F – 160 points.

Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva meets the basic requirements for the position “Professor”. She acquired an educational and scientific degree PhD in 1994. She acquired the degree “Doctor of Sciences” (DrSci) in 2018. In 2014, she was elected for Associate Professor at the Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”. She is registered in the National Register of Academic Staff. The grounds for the candidate's admission to the competition are: (1) enough lecture-employment and experience in teaching activities; (2) enough and high-quality publications and scientific developments; (3) Full satisfaction of the minimum national requirements. All this gives me reason to agree with the admission of Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva to the competition.

Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva has graduated library studies and bibliography in St. Petersburg (Russia; 1981). The same year she started work in the National Library “St. St. Cyril and Methodius”: in the 1981–1983 period she was a methodist in the Scientific and Methodological Center; since 1983 she is already a researcher in the Scientific and Methodological Center. As a library specialist and researcher, she has held various positions in the National Library and the Metropolitan Library. The positions occupied are directly related to the digitalization of cultural heritage. For example, in the 2009–2014 period she was a head of the Digital Library Department of the National Library and started the e-collections in this library; she has been deputy director of Sofia City Library. Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva has held managerial positions requiring organization of complex workflows, teamwork, coordination of activities between the structures of a large library and between different libraries. In the 2005–2014 period Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva was a scientific secretary of the Specialized Scientific Council on Librarianship, Bibliography and Bibliology in the Higher Attestation Commission and in the 2004–2014 period she was a scientific secretary of the National Library. In the 2004–2014 period she was a scientific secretary of the National Library.

Since September 2014, Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva is a full-time lecturer in the Department of Library Studies, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy (Faculty of Philosophy, Sofia University). The lecture courses correspond to the field of higher education and the professional direction for this competition. The teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva is a long-standing. She is also a director of the master’s program “Library and Information Science and Cultural Policy” (Faculty of Philosophy, Sofia University). As a lecturer, however, she has been a leading lecturer in undergraduate and postgraduate programs at Sofia University. In the period 1986–1994 she was lecturer in the courses for acquiring of library aptitude, organized by the National Library on issues of reference information, business activity and national bibliography of Bulgaria. Since 1983 she has been a lecturer in various regional seminars on issues of information and bibliographic work of libraries, specificities on the development, digitalization of literary heritage in libraries.

Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva is the author of **two theses**: (1) to acquire an educational and scientific degree PhD (1994) on the topic “Contemporary state and problems in the organization of local history library and bibliographic activities”; (2) to acquire the degree “Doctor of Sciences” (2018) on the topic “Local studies in Bulgaria – bibliographic and local literature approach”.

Since 2009 she has participated in **13 research projects**, in some of them has been a leader. Among them I will make a special mention of her participation in the international projects: “Digitization and preservation of the written heritage of Bulgaria” (under the financial mechanism of the EEA); IMPACT (Improving Access to Text; funded by the European Commission); One of the sub-projects of the larger project “Creation and Development of “Heritage BG” Centre of Excellence” (Operational program “Science and Education for Smart Growth”).

Since 1983 she has participated in more than **80 national and regional scientific forums** in the fields of local history, digitization and bibliography.

Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva is a **member** of the International Association of Bulgarian Studies (from 2014 to present), the Bulgarian Library and Information Association (from 1991 to present), the Union of the craters in Bulgaria (Member-founder from 1990 to present). In the 2012 – 2014 period (until its closure) she was a member of the National Council on Digitization of Cultural Heritage.

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES OF THE CANDIDATE (evaluation of the publications submitted for participation in the competition)

Currently Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva is a researcher and scientist on the issues of: (1) Digitization of cultural heritage, technologies for digitization in libraries and standards for informational disclosure of digitized objects; (2) Local history and Regional bibliography; (3) Bibliographic and bibliological approaches.

Dozens are scientific and applied publications of the candidate for the digitisation of literary heritage and the processing of regional information resources, the local history and regional bibliography of libraries, retrospective bibliography, etc. She is an author or co-author of 9 books, and 103 studies and articles. Compiler or editor is on 5 editions. He is a scientific editor of 12 bibliographies.

To participate in the competition Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva has **submitted a total of 26 publications**, of which: two monographs; one documentary study in three volumes (co-authorship, with a separation protocol attached); four studies (one co-authoring); nineteen articles and reviews (four co-authoring). From the scientific articles seven are in a foreign language.

According to the **topic** they are distributed as follows: (1) Local studies – history, development of its theoretical platform, modern dimensions; (2) A Regional bibliography – traditions and transformations; (3) Digitization of a written cultural heritage – achievements, problems, perspectives; (4) Bibliographic studies for individuals.

Part of the works that are co-authored demonstrate **the ability of the candidate to work in a team**, to collaborate with colleagues, to support the activity of his PhD students, to participate in the exchange of knowledge and information.

As part of the documentation are available references for **indexed and cited publications** of Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva. From them it is evident that the work of the candidate is recognized and participate in the scientific communication in Bulgaria and abroad.

All entries for the competition have not been presented for evaluation/review in other competitions. The authorship of Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva is undisputed.

After the thorough review of the scientific and academic application achievements of the candidate I reached the conclusion that the scientific research of Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva and the results of them go beyond the minimum national requirements.

As mentioned above, a total of 26 publications were submitted for participation in the competition. Most of them highlight significant contributions, especially with a scientifically applied character. Original scientific contributions stand out in several thematic areas:

- Theory, history, modern meaning and dimension, as well as transformations of the important and dynamically changing area of activity of the regional memory institutions – libraries, archives, museums (e.g. monograph № 2/2019); Research projections for the development of the local identity as part of the national, in a globalised environment.
- Traditional and new technologies in the Regional bibliography [monograph № 1/2019] and the bibliography as an identifying element (metadata) in the processes of digitization of local cultural heritage.
- Digitization of a written cultural heritage (achievements, problems, perspectives) (e.g. publications № 4/2015, № 8/ 2012, № 10/2013, № 13/2016, № 23/2018, № 26/2019).
- Identify interesting and poorly-developed aspects of the topic such as: coordination and co-operation of digital resources in the regional, national and international aspect and the problems of compatibility of data providing access to them; Aspects of digitisation in support of education and research; Teaching disciplines related to digital literacy and the preparation of specialists for the creation of digital resources and information structures to access them – in the institutions of memory.
- Bibliography and bibliological research of different persons; in studying the multitude of local media where she finds and uses for analysis unknown documents and information [e.g. publications № 11/2015, №№ 14, 16, 17/2016, № 22/2017].

As contributions related to the thematic area on traditional and new technologies in the European bibliography, I will point out the following:

- Clarification of the terminological boundaries of the concept of local bibliography; Development and presentation of a species structure (modelling of the system).
- Examining the bibliography by interpreting a complex of problems, especially those related to its technological metamorphosis and to building an effective model of its functioning in an electronic environment.
- Identification of basic problems concerning the digitisation of documents.
- Disclosure of the impact of the digitisation projects on the system of the Regional bibliography in Bulgaria.
- A description of new services, developing the modern recently (internationally) aspect of the topic related to the inclusion of citizens in the use of digital resources and their inclusion (through personal archival, etc. documents) in the process of Creating unique digital collections in cultural institutions.

A thematic area related to digitization of a written cultural heritage presents nine articles and one studio with the following contributions:

- Identification and clear description of problems in digitization of library collections and their possible solutions (following the example of the National Library).

- Identification and formulation of problems in digitization of the collections as part of the local literary heritage.

Significant contributions are related to the thematic area of theory, history, contemporary significance and dimensions of local history:

- Clarification of the local history as a research area. In this regard, the object, the topography, the research scope, the time range are highlighted in an original way. The context of development in the national and European dimension has been outlined.
- Adaptation of the complex approach (operationalised) over a large chronological period.
- Systematization of the changes in the approaches applied over the years to the research historical periods and clarification of the reasons which gave rise to them.
- Realization of an innovative study of the literature based on the processing of data from the National Bibliography of Bulgaria (current, retrospective) and implementation of bibliographic analysis and statistical analysis on the collected data.
- A description of the bibliographic and statistical picture of the periodicals, in which the articles of publication are published-topographic scope, thematic, species diversity, cited data for significant publications, authors, publishers.

A particularly significant contribution to science and to the memory of society is related to local bibliography research of different persons known in their time (Prof. Aleksandar Theodorov-Balan, Dr. Manyo Stoyanov, Dr. Dimitar Ivanchev, Tsenko Tsvetanov, Petar Deunov, Nestor Markov, Aleksandar Stamboliyski, etc.). In a series of publications are identified the authors, published anonymously or under aliases and initials. The same is undeniable bibliographic achievement reached by comparing texts, data in digital libraries, identification of initials, aliases, etc. In these developments Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva reveals unknown facts that can serve various stakeholders and groups (researchers, trainers, learners, local communities, etc.).

In the field of academic education in library and information sciences and its methodological and informational assurance the achievements of Assoc. Prof. It is also significant. They are related to the developed by it academic courses based on the original methodology for teaching in issues such as: “Digitization”, “Local Bibliography”, “Local Electronic Resources”, etc.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the achievements of Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva, her experience and expertise, especially on the digitalisation of cultural heritage, recommend more active promotion of the results of its scientific and applied research, especially in international scientific exchange.

CONCLUSION (on the results of the candidate, its scientific contribution, originality of the works presented and the authenticity of the scientific data presented)

The procedure and documents submitted by the candidate are in accordance with the requirements of the Law for development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and its rules of application.

The review of the scientific, creative, and applied activities of Assoc. Prof. DrSci Tsvetanka Hristova Pancheva gives me reason to conclude that her candidacy for a professor in the field of higher education 3. Social, economic, and legal sciences, professional direction 3.5. Public Communications and Information Sciences (Book science, Library science, Bibliography – Digitization of National Cultural Heritage, Regional Information Systems) **is proven convincing.**

I strongly recommend Assoc. Prof. DrSci Tsvetanka Hristova Pancheva **to be selected** for the academic position of “Professor” for the needs of the Department of Library Science, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy at the Faculty of Philosophy / Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

29.03.2020

Reviewer:

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