

South-West University "Neofit Rilski"

**OPINION**

**of Prof. Dobrinka Lukova Todorina, DSc**

member of a scientific jury in a competition for the academic position PROFESSOR in the professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Pedagogy, Animation and Education), announced by Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in the State Gazette no 21 of 13.03.2020.

*Subject: the scientific, scientific-applied and professional-academic activity and production, presented by the only participant in the competition Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radka Vasileva, who has fulfilled the minimum national requirements regarding her readiness to hold the academic position of "professor".*

**I. Summarized data on the scientific production and the activity of the candidate**

*Summarized quantitative and qualitative data on the research and pedagogical activity of the candidate.*

The only candidate in the competition for the academic position of "professor" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" is Assoc. Prof. Radka Emilova Vasileva, PhD, who has a total of 22 publications after acquiring the academic position of "Associate Professor". According to the announced competition, the publications are distributed by the author as follows: 1) monographs - 2 issues (1 habilitation thesis); 2) articles and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 4 copies; 3) articles and reports published in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or published in collective volumes - 11 issues, 2 of which in English); 4) published university manual or textbook used in the school network (1 issue); 5) reports in conference proceedings (4 issues).

The author has presented data for 82 citations in a number of publications, presented differently: a) citations in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes (18 copies); b) citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review (14 issues); c) citations or reviews in non-peer-reviewed

journals with scientific review (50 issues). The large number of citations shows that the author is popular and recognizable among the scientific community.

Under the guidance of Assoc. Prof. Radka Vasileva, PhD, they defended 2 doctoral students who already work in the Faculty of Philology. He is currently supervising 3 more doctoral students. There are 14 graduates from the specialties at the Faculty of Pedagogy and from other faculties of Sofia University.

From the presented CV it is clear that Assoc. Prof. Radka Vasileva, PhD has an active and competent participation as a leader of 2 scientific / educational projects and as a team member in 7 research / educational projects.

Participates in scientific conferences with 4 section papers.

The teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Radka Vasileva, PhD is at a high professional level and includes the development and conduct of a number of lecture courses in bachelor's programs in compulsory and elective courses: Animation and education; Drama, theater and animation in education; Models of adult education; in master's programs: Resolve conflicts; Management training; Design of training programs (lectures for postgraduate qualification).

A reference has also been made for the indicators under Art. 122, para 2: Related to the educational activity: 1. Sharing experience in: Art and drama teaching methods with primary teachers; 2. Supervision and advising primary school teachers to conduct lessons through various formats of educational drama. Conducting training with an international team in Educational Drama on an original author's concept; Related to research and creative work: Creating followers in the new scientific field of Art Animation, Educational Drama and Educational Theater for the needs of higher education.

Assoc. Prof. Radka Vasileva, PhD enjoys great authority among teachers, due to the position of Manager and creative director of Educational Theater - Ltd. and Theater "Fun Science" - Ltd., which works every school year with about 200 teachers and has for the past Since its inception, a multi-thousand audience of students of primary school age. She is a member of the board of editors of Education Magazine, USA. Lecturer / Teach Assoc. Dr. Radka Vasileva enjoys great authority among teachers, due to the position of Manager and Creative Director of Educational Theater - Ltd. and Theater "Fun Science" - Ltd., which works every school year with about 200 teachers and has passed since its inception. its period a large audience of students of primary school age. She is a member of the board of editors of Education Magazine, USA. Lecturer / trainer of newly appointed school principals; of mayors, deputy mayors, municipal and district employees in a series of short-term professional qualification courses; of teachers, principals and experts in professional qualification courses in Civic Education; to adapt the educational program of "Together in class" for Bulgaria; to young teachers in the basic discipline "Teaching" through the American system "Teach as a leader"; of young teachers in drama and art animated instruments by

original, author's methodology; He is a consultant in art and drama teaching methods for teachers in “Training under the Convention on the Rights of the Child through art and drama techniques; in drama teacher training methods by an international project team. He is a member of the Management Board of the Academy for Children at Sofia University “St. Kl. Ohridski ”. is the wire of newly appointed school principals; of mayors, deputy mayors, municipal and district employees in a series of short-term professional qualification courses; of teachers, principals and experts in professional qualification courses in Civic Education; to adapt the educational program of "Together in class" for Bulgaria; to young teachers in the basic discipline "Teaching" through the American system "Teach as a leader"; of young teachers in drama and art animated instruments by original, author's methodology; He is a consultant in art and drama teaching methods for teachers in “Training under the Convention on the Rights of the Child through art and drama techniques; in drama teacher training methods by an international project team. He is a member of the Management Board of the Academy for Children at Sofia University “St. Kl. Ohridski ”.

## **II. Evaluation of the scientific and practical results and contributions of the creative production submitted for participation in the competition**

From the presented evidence, summaries of her scientific works and the author's self-assessment of his own scientific contributions, it is extremely clear that the developed scientific production by Assoc. Prof. Radka Vasileva, PhD is characterized by relevance and significance, innovation and applicability in the national educational space. It is evident that the presented publications are sufficient in number, fully comply with the issues of the announced competition and prove the author's capabilities for creative research and optimal practical solutions. The many citations are a good testament to the importance, effectiveness and applicability of the author's creative production in the publications and activities of fellow lecturers, teachers and PhD students.

The contributions in the scientific production are formulated very precisely and clearly by the author himself, which I accept. The most outstanding and significant are the following scientific results and contributions of the candidate for professor:

1. An original author's Art animation approach in education has been created, which functions in many aspects and is characterized by the animation of the components of the educational activity in terms of content and procedure, with an atmosphere of openness. Emphasis is placed on the imaginary plan of studying the educational content, assessing the phenomena and experiences as similar to the real ones, based on the combination of rational thinking and playful attitude to the studied concepts, statements, images and values and in the presence of

shared interpretations, reflexivity and self-reflexivity. As a result, the culture of students and their creative pursuits are enriched.

2. Original applied formats of the Art animation approach for the purposes of school and non-formal education have been created, based on the role behavior, the pictorial, photo and graphic images and the events presented in an entertaining form. They are defined by the author as: Stage, role-behavioral reflexive format; picture, visual-sensitive, multi-format and event-entertainment format in an open formative environment. Each of them involves students and teachers in interactions, which is useful for mastering the set high goals.

3. A functioning constructivist and research model of Educational Theater, called "Fun Science", has been developed, which works successfully in the educational system for students and teachers and is related to the goals of teaching and education, solving social problems and interpersonal conflicts. The plays presented in the conditions of interaction with the audience and reflection at the end of the performances provide an opportunity to solve problems, conflicts and to make a choice of behavioral strategies for the characters and the development of the action. This contributes to making analogies with the actual events and processes, as well as the decisions about them.

4. An author's theoretical-applied school model of educational drama (School educational drama) has been created, which creates conditions for the development of the student's personality in the context of group and individual experiences. It is designed and implemented on a substantive, procedural and behavioral level. The functioning of the educational drama in the classroom is presented through 3 projects with the participation of the teacher, the students, their interaction, including with the audience, using different drama techniques and tools. Author's scenarios of educational performances are also offered, which can be used in the pedagogical practice as ready resources, but also as preparation of the teachers and students for independent creation of scenarios for training according to the proposed model.

### **III. Critical remarks and recommendations**

Pay attention to the definition of primary school students as "primary school students"; in some places, the teachers themselves of these students are incorrectly defined as "teachers from the Primary school teachers".

### **IV. Conclusion**

Based on the clearly highlighted significant contributing moments in the research and teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Radka Emilova Vasileva, PhD, the high quality and originality of her creative production, **I give with conviction**

**a positive opinion about her taking the academic position of "professor" in the professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Pedagogy, Animation and Education).**

Date

10.09.2020

Jury member:

Prof. Dobrinka Todorina, DSc

*(Signature)*