

Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"

OPINION

by Prof. **Natalia Ivanova Vitanova-Marinova**, DSc, member of a scientific jury in a competition for the academic position of "professor", announced by Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in SG. no. 21 of 13.03.2020

Candidate: Radka Emilova Vasileva

I. Summary data on the scientific production and the activity of the candidate

The scientific production, with which Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radka Vasileva participates in the announced competition, corresponds to the scientific specialty and its specifics. It covers a total of 14 publications, of which 2 monographs; 1 textbook, 11 articles - 2 of which in referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information (Web of Science), 1 is in a foreign language. These publications meet the minimum national requirements and the national scientometric indicators for holding the academic position of "professor". They are an indicator of the activity and interests of the candidate.

With the exception of the textbook and 4 articles (Strategies for organizing differentiated learning; Theory and pedagogical practice; Moral education of children in the context of social action; New accents in the Bulgarian educational system) other publications are concentrated in the field of animation approach. This thematic concentration is both positive and negative. It is positive because it protects the author from fragmentation and divergence in his research and is a guarantee of completeness and depth in presenting the author's theses and arguments. For that reason the author's insights are characterized by a visible focus and depth. It is negative because it limits the research perimeter. The following facts can also be pointed out as positive: 1. the articles submitted for review do not repeat the content of the monographs; 2. a reasonable balance between language accessibility and scientific style has been found in all publications.

The monograph "Art animation in education. Teachers and students in dramatic interaction" is the main habilitation work. The presented monographic work is a complete author's concept, in which the concepts and views related to the considered issues are sought and presented with arguments. The presented views on art animation in education are refracted through the prism of all dimensions in this context. To substantiate and argue the theses, a rich information fund from different fields of science was used - philosophy, psychology, history, sociology, literature, etc.

This is proof of the depth and multidimensional view, in the context of art animation, of the author of the monograph. The text is both strictly scientific and easy to read. The performed and commented productions sharpen the view and perceptions of some modern failures in education, which can become a foundation in the search for opportunities to overcome them. The practical examples referred to in the monograph, which are also operationalized, are arguments in favor of the fact that art animation is one of the possibilities for overcoming some of the problems in modern education.

The practical significance of the monograph is great, and education will be increasingly associated with this issue, because in terms of civilization, our civilization is a "civilization of the spectacle", as very precisely Mario-Vargas Llosa defines our era. The fact is, and that the younger generation (Z and Alpha) is visual, with well-developed hearing skills, accustomed to receiving the necessary information quickly, and it should be colorful, digital and multimedia, everything should be bright, spectacular and sensory.

The literature contains 185 sources, 104 of them in Cyrillic, 81 in Latin. This is a prerequisite for the author to substantiate, argue and defend his theses well enough.

The monograph "Model of school educational drama" is directly related to the practical application of educational drama in school education. It is at a high professional level and shows detailed knowledge of the various aspects of the issue. The theoretical statements in this monograph are operationalized, which makes it possible to clearly see in which moments of the lesson the educational drama can be used and how exactly it can be applied in the conditions of school education.

Both monographs are well structured. They present modern and current issues for education, analyze significant trends. The intersections between them, their integrative character and contribution value should be emphasized here.

In general, the scientific production (monographs, articles, reports) of Radka Vasileva is characterized by a high degree of thematic concentration, content relevance and professional depth. They demonstrate scientific competence, precision, good faith.

The scientific works with which Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radka Vasileva participates in the competition are her personal research and achievements. The content analysis of theories and practices made in them, especially in the field of art animation in education, their characterization and comparison reveals and proves the possibilities for positive change in this field. My assessment of the scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radka Vasileva is **positive**.

The citations related to the publications of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radka Vasileva are 82 (traditionally reported). They are from persons outside the author's teams, in which Radka Vasileva participates and are in the period 2010-2020.

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

I accept the scientific contributions made through the self-assessment of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radka Vasileva. They are adequate and objective.

III. Critical remarks and recommendations

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radka Vasileva has significant experience in teaching in the field of university education (34 years) and extensive knowledge in the field of pedagogical science in general and in particular in the field of animation approach (in particular art animation) and its application in the field of education, so it is advisable in its future work to expand its research perimeter.

IV. Conclusion

I believe that the candidate meets the terms and conditions for holding the academic position of "professor" under the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. To these I will add the satisfaction of the following criteria:

- extensive experience in teaching;
- concentration of scientific interests;
- important qualities of the candidate - competence, initiative, communication, innovation.

The analysis of the teaching, research and scientific activity, as well as the presented reference for compliance with the scientometric indicators for holding the academic position "professor", present Radka Emilova Vasileva as a good a professional, purposeful and conscientious researcher with sustainable scientific interests. The candidate in the competition fulfills the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of "professor". I have no doubt of plagiarism in scientific work and publications. The ideas developed in the presented publications, the author's contributions in the field of education, academic and research activities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Radka Vasileva give me reason to give my positive conclusion and recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty Council. The Faculty of Pedagogy for the election of Assoc. Prof. Dr. **Radka Emilova Vasileva** to the academic position "Professor" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Pedagogy, animation and education).

Date: 10.08.2020

Jury member:
(Prof. Natalia Vitanova, DSc)