

• REVIEW

By Prof. Lachezar Dimitrov, Ph.D. – member of the Scientific Jury for conducting a competition for Professor in the professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of training in... (Physical Education and Sports-Football), announced in State Gazette № 21 / March 13, 2020 for the needs of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, decision of the Departmental Scientific Council of the Department of Sports, Department of Information and Teacher Training, language Training Department, protocol 17 / March 17, 2020.

In the announced competition for the academic position Professor participates the only candidate Assoc. Prof. Georgi Vladimirov Ignatov, Ph.D. The procedure complies with all the requirements of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the regulations of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski for conducting competitions for acquiring academic titles and scientific degrees.

Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov was born on June 26, 1973. In the period 1995-2001 is a student at NSA Vasil Levski, acquires a Bachelor's degree, first specialty in physical education with a professional qualification Physical Education Teacher and a second specialty in sports with a professional qualification Football Coach, also holds a B-UEFA license from the Bulgarian Coaching School at the Bulgarian Football Union, as well as Educational and Scientific Degree Master in sports with a specialization in Sports at school and in leisure time.

From 1999 to 2000 is a physical education teacher at 121 Georgi Izmirliiev High School – Sofia, and from 2000 to 2008 is a teacher of physical education and coach of the representative football team of Sofia Vocational School of Tourism.

Since 2008 Until now he has been a full-time lecturer in the Department of Sports at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski.

- ✓ March 19, 2008 – assistant
- ✓ December 04, 2012 – Chief Assistant
- ✓ May 23, 2012 – successfully defended his dissertation at NSA Vasil Levski on the topic: Experimental justification of the methodology for training young football referees and received Ph.D. in the scientific specialty 05.07.05 Theory and methodology of physical education and sports training (incl. MTE)
- ✓ From October 06, 2014 after a competition he received the academic position of Associate Professor under 1.3. Pedagogy of training in physical education and sports (football) with a decision of the Faculty Council of Faculty of Primary and Preschool Pedagogy, protocol №8 from September 23, 2014.

Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov in the period 1984-1998 is an active football player in professional and amateur teams in the system of the Bulgarian Football Union. He has an impressive career as a Football referee in the First and Second Football Leagues of Bulgaria, as well as in amateur football in the period 1997-2016. With a total of 2238 football matches.

Assoc. Prof. G. Ignatov manages and participates in a significant number of socially useful activities and initiatives such as:

- ✓ Chairman of the sports club of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski
- ✓ Head of the Section Games and Mountain Sports at the Department of Sports
- ✓ Chairman of the Student Football in the Republic of Bulgaria
- ✓ Member of the Management Board of University Sports Association Academic
- ✓ Chairman of the Referee Commission at the Zonal Council of the Bulgarian Football Union – Sofia and member of the National Referee Commission and referee observer in professional football.

It should be noted that the candidate for Professor in 2005 was awarded the prize Best Physical Education Teacher, and in 2010 and 2019 was named coach of the year at Sofia

University St. Kliment Ohridski. In 2020 as a head coach of the team of Sofia University for the first time in the history of the University won the title of State Student Champion in football.

The candidate is the author of 96 scientific papers in the field of physical education and sports. Assoc. Prof. Ignatov participated in the competition with a total of 38 works, which were published after his habilitation. They include 1 piece monograph, 1 piece studio, 4 pieces articles in yearbooks, 15 pieces articles in scientific journals, 17 pieces articles and reports in collections of scientific forums with international participation. The presented scientific papers have a total volume of 683 printed pages.

The author's share as a participation of Georgi Ignatov is the following:

- ✓ Sole author – 13 pieces
- ✓ First author – 13 pieces
- ✓ Second author – 9 pieces
- ✓ Third and next author – 3 pieces

29 papers have been published in Bulgarian and 9 papers in English.

The review of the literary production establishes that the candidate is largely an independent and leading author – in 26 publications. For the rest (12 publications) it should be pointed out that a number of studied problems require a wider team of authors for their full implementation and he is part of it. The participation of G. Ignatov as a researcher, implementer and interpreter is clearly outlined in all the works.

Thematically, the presented works are related to research in the field of physical education and sports in higher education, student football, football refereeing, and conditionally they can be systematized in the following areas:

1. Research related to students majoring in Physical Education and Sports at the Faculty of Education and Arts at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski.

Learning as a two-way process of pedagogical interaction is studied. The opinion of the students about the vision of the modern teacher is taken. For the role of the academic motivation of the students participating in the process as equal partners. Papers № 21, 25, 27, 35, 38.

2. Research with students from Bulgaria and abroad related to the activities they perform in their free time, sports activities and the role of higher education institutions as a factor for the organization of students' free time.

Different points of view for students' leisure activities are analyzed. Evaluation and comparison of their physical activity by related faculties from different countries. Surveys of students' opinion about the role of the University as a factor in organizing their free time. Papers № 12, 18, 26, 30, 31.

3. Research related to students studying in the activities of „Sports” and „Sports-football” as an optional form of education at Sofia University and other universities. Specifics and optimization of football education in higher education.

Interesting researches and researches have been made for historical facts about women's football at Sofia University, about the problems and development of women's football in higher schools, anthropometric complex researches of female football players about the degree of changes in body and limb proportions in the direction of harmonious and healthy development as a result, an experimental model of football training was applied. Questionnaires and analyzes were conducted on the development of futsal and beach soccer, the attitude of students to the subject Physical Education and Sports, the relationship between cognitive styles and decision-making styles in students from different universities. Papers № 3, 4, 5, 24, 33, 36, 37.

4. Research with students who have chosen to improve in „Sports-football“ at Sofia University and other universities, included in the representative football teams of various universities in Sofia.

Large-scale studies have been conducted on major problems in 6 universities in Sofia related to the training and competition process such as:

- ✓ Quality of the training process
- ✓ Organizational difficulties in conducting the process of sports training
- ✓ The material and technical support of the training and competition process, etc.

To control and assess the level of training of the football students from the representative teams of Sofia University and the National Sports Academy, and juniors U19 of PFC Beroe, a complex test for General Physical Training was conducted. An experiment was conducted with the teams of Sofia University and NSA through a training session with a circular method to increase the level of Special Physical Training.

Assoc. Prof. G. Ignatov also conducted observations and analyzes in the tactical performance of the players in official meetings such as:

- ✓ Use different tactical schemes of the game
- ✓ On the role and effect of pressing actions in a competitive environment, etc. Papers № 10, 11, 13, 20, 23, 28, 29, 34.

5. Characteristics of the state of sports and student football at the university.

In this direction the state of the University sport as a whole and the work of the Association for University Sports Academic in the six National Student Universiades 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 were studied.

There is a place for student football in the State University Championship and beach soccer and futsal tournaments for male and female students. An analysis and conclusions were made about the work of the Technical Commission on Football at the Association for University Academic for four academic years (2013-2017). Papers № 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 22, 32.

6. Research in the field related to the optimization of football refereeing.

The specialized analysis of the literary sources, the author's own competitive, judging, pedagogical and scientific experience to a large extent enable him to substantiate the topicality and significance of the researched topic.

Analysis and conclusions are made on the basis of a survey, examination of the functional load through pulsometry, sports and technical actions and physical work performed through graphical measurement, the results of anthropometric and psychological research and others. Papers № 1, 2, 6.

The general review of the scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov shows his high competence and comprehensive knowledge and authoritative presence in a wide range of problems of physical education and sports in higher education and especially in Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, for the role of sports in the free time of students, for student football, futsal and beach football, for the complex training of football referees and optimization of football refereeing, etc. This is the reason for repeated citations (77) by other authors.

Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov has participated in scientific conferences a total of 43 times (30 in Bulgaria and 13 times abroad).

On issues of physical education and sports he has participated in 14 round tables, in 22 projects and a significant number of participations as a member of scientific juries.

He is a reviewer of a number of books and scientific-methodical manuals. Member of the editorial board of the scientific-methodical magazine Sport and Science, as well as the collection published by international scientific conferences and the Yearbooks of the Department of Sports at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski.

From 2019 is a lecturer at the Bulgarian Football Coaching School, which has a full license from UEFA to train coaches.

Supervisor of successfully defended three doctoral students and one in procedure.

The teaching work of G. Ignatov shows a large and comprehensive classroom theoretical and practical work with bachelors and masters in all 16 faculties and especially in the Faculty of Science, Education and Arts of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski. The candidate leads classes in 5 subjects with a total number of hours – 580 hours, of which 105 hours of lectures in compulsory subjects, presented in the competition documents.

He is extremely active in 17 other activities related to the Department of Sports and the Faculty of Education and Arts (former Faculty of Primary and Preschool Education).

The reference for fulfillment of the minimum national requirements under art. 2b of the Law for development of the scientific staff in the Republic of Bulgaria for scientific field 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of training in... (Physical Education and Sports – Football) by Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov, participant in a competition for the academic position of Professor shows that the indicators A – 50 points, B – 100 points, D – 243, 6 points, D – 145 points and E – 195 points or a total of 733.6 points is significantly above the minimum norm.

Based on the presented publications, scientific summaries, evidence, conclusions and the overall activity of Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov, we allow ourselves to systematize the main scientific contributions as follows:

1. To increase the quality and efficiency of the educational process in the specialty Physical Education and Sports at the Faculty of Science, Education and Arts at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski a detailed study of his condition was made.
2. The theory of the activities in „Sports-football” has been expanded, as an optional form of education in higher education and the perspective for the development of futsal, beach football and women's football. The student's opinion about the learning process in this direction has been studied.
3. Improving the process of sports training with the representative football teams of the University through the activities of „Sports-football – sports improvement”, with recommendations and guidelines to sports departments and coaches-teachers in order to increase the level of student football.
4. For control and evaluation of the General physical training, the Special physical training and the tactical abilities of the football students, current and operative control has been carried out through the tested and specialized methodological-practical classes using specific special-preparatory means.
5. The possibilities for rational use of free time in four Balkan countries are indicated. The facts about their motor fitness and their participation in sports activities, as well as the role of the Universities are indicated. Rational proposals have been formulated to dynamize and optimize the process.
6. An extensive survey of the work of the Association for University Sports Academic as an organization, results and rankings of the National Universiade from 2014 to 2019. With a high degree of assessment and competence was made professional expertise on the state of student football in R. Bulgaria. Facts about the work of the Technical Commission on Football at AUS Academic, the organization, results and rankings of universities in the National Championship and tournaments in beach soccer and futsal and prospects for development are presented.
7. On the basis of a significant number of innovative approaches and methodologies, the system for training football referees has been expanded and improved.

A specific methodology has been created, such as structure and content within 17 mesocycles with 3 microcycles each. A plan-program has been created for stabilizing the

muscles of football referees, as well as one for warming up before football matches. As a first attempt, a study was conducted during official meetings on the functional workload of football referees. The decision-making styles of elite football referees have been studied and identified. The psychological aspects and challenges for football referees before, during and after football matches are formulated. To graphically quantify the refereeing work performed in official meetings by young and international football referees, the method of graphical measurement was used. The analyzes and conclusions made are in favor of increasing the competencies of the football referees.

No attempted plagiarism was found.

CONCLUSION:


Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov in his overall more than 20 years of pedagogical, scientific and organizational activities in Sofia schools and Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski has shown dedication, diligence and professional competencies to work in accordance with modern educational trends.

Based on the evaluations of scientific works, personal and professional positive qualities as a teacher, researcher and public figure, we believe that Assoc. Prof. Georgi Ignatov is a fully worthy candidate for the academic position of Professor.

Without reservations and we convincingly propose to the Distinguished Scientific Jury to award the academic position Professor in the professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of training in... (Physical Education and Sports – Football) for the needs of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Department of Sports, Section Games and Mountain Sports by Assoc. Prof. Georgi Vladimirov Ignatov.

21 August 2020

Reviewer:


/Assoc. Prof. Lachezar Dimitrov, PhD/