

Review

by Prof. DSc. Maria Vutova Petkova

in the competition for the occupation of the scientific position „Professor” in the field of higher education 3. Social, business and legal sciences, in the professional field 3.5. Public Communications and Information Sciences (Book Science, Librarianship, Bibliography - Digitization of Cultural Heritage, Regional Information Systems), published in SG N93/26.11.2019 for the needs of the Department of Library Studies, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy at Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski”, Faculty of Philosophy and according to Order RD38-38 / 17.01.2020 of the Rector of Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, **with the only candidate Assoc. Prof. DSc Tsvetanka Hristova Pancheva.**

1. Fulfillment of the requirements for occupation of the academic position.

The presented by Pancheva documentations and materials proved the fulfillment of the minimum scientific-metric national requirements under Article 2b from Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the requirements for occupying the Academic Positions „Professor” at Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski”. The documents presented are comprehensive and provide the necessary multilateral information to form my assessment as a member of the jury.

Assoc. Prof. DSc Tsvetanka Pancheva meets the basic requirements for occupying the position of „Professor”. She is a doctor (1994) and a doctor of sciences (2018), senior associate professor (associate professor) with a decision of the Higher Attestation Committee (1999) and for the second time has acquired the scientific title of „associate professor” at Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski” (2014). I will also emphasize that the candidate Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva has covered all the requirements for the academic position of Assistant Professor and for the scientific title of Doctor of Science and is entered in the Register of Academic Staff, supervised and maintained by NACID.

A monograph work other than the monograph was provided for her participation on the basis of her second doctorate. Submitted publications for participation in this competition have not been used to participate in other scientific procedures. They confirm compliance with the minimum requirements for occupying the academic position of „Professor” in publication

indicator. The data provided in the citation report covers its requirements in Indicator D, which, according to the reference from the Authors system, is 87 in total. The indicator is also documented by the Certificate of the Library and Information Services Department of the University Library. The requirements of indicator E are also fulfilled correctly. At a minimum of 550 points required, Pancheva covered all scientometric indicators as the report shows a total of 837.5 points.

2. General characteristics of the applicant's activity (work experience, teaching, participation in research teams, etc.)

Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva holds a Master's Degree in Library Science and Bibliography (1981). In 1994 he defended his dissertation „The Current State and Problems of the Organization of Local Librarian-Bibliographic Activity” and became a „doctor” (PhD) ; In 1999, with the habilitation work „Trends in the development of scientific support bibliography”, she was selected by the Higher Education Commission for Associate professor; in 2018, she defended her DSc on „Local History in Bulgaria: Bibliographic and Bibliological Approaches” and was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science.

The CV attached to the documentation shows that Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva has 38 years of work experience, of which she devotes almost 30 years to the National Library “St.St. Cyril and Methodius”. She worked as a Methodist, Research Fellow (1981-1983); Head of the Center for National Bibliography (1988-1994); Head of the Retrospective Bibliography Department (1996-2009). From 2009 to 2014, she was the head of the newly created Digital Library Department, which initiated the digitalisation of the information resources of the institution.

She has been Scientific Secretary of the Scientific Council of National Library for more than 10 years. Throughout all these years she has accumulated a wealth of experience as a researcher with solid knowledge in the theory of bibliography, establishing herself as an authoritative scientist and one of the pillars of the National Library management team. Her professional capacity was noted and in 1995 she was invited as a part-time lecturer by the then leadership of the Department of Library Studies, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy at Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski”, where she has been reading copyright courses in Local History Bibliography for 20 years and then in Digitalization and Digitization. The Master's degree program creates a new modern discipline - Regional Cultural Policy and Libraries. Since 2014, she has been a full-time lecturer at the same university department

where she quickly becomes a valuable and desirable student teacher, and they are respected not only by her teaching skills but also by her general culture.

In addition to the commitments noted above, Assoc. Prof. Pancheva is a part-time lecturer at SVUBIT and UniBIT (2004-2018) in the Departments of Library Sciences and Library Management; and at the Master's Degree in Local Lore Electronic Resources. Besides in the field of the taught disciplines, Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva shows in-depth knowledge on a wide range of topical topics, including: Digitalization and Digitization in libraries; Digitization of cultural heritage; Digitization of library documents and standards for information disclosure of digitized sources; International digital libraries and portals; Local History and local electronic information; Local History Bibliography; Retrospective national bibliography; Personal bibliography. As you can see, the majority of them correspond directly with the subject of the announced competition.

It is well known that Assoc. Prof. Pancheva also has a solid capacity for organizational competencies in the management and evaluation of scientific activity. He shows these qualities as an active participant in the teams of 13 research projects, some of which are international. In them, she has held a number of responsible positions, demonstrating the qualities of an excellent organizer, coordinator, manager and lead researcher.

Associate Professor Pancheva has also held a number of leadership positions in the research activities of the National Library - head of the scientific section on library science, scientific secretary, deputy chairman of the General Assembly of Scientists in National library, scientific secretary of the Specialized Scientific Council on Librarianship, Bibliography and Bibliology in the Higher Attestation Commission (until 2010).

I would also not like to miss the numerous presentations and presentations in a number of scientific conferences which, due to their current topics, have always been received with the attention and approval of the participants. In the period 2010-2018 alone, she has participated in 20 scientific conferences, and in the period from 1983-2018 has participated in reports in over 80 scientific forums on a wide range of professional topics. Together with her various activities, Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva manages to prepare and publish over 130 scientific and applied texts (books, studios, articles, reviews), apart from being a skilled bibliographic editor of over 10 bibliographic works.

3. Characteristics and evaluation of the publications submitted for participation in the announced competition for professor

For participation in the announced competition for professor Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva presented 26 publications of which: 3 monographs (№ 1,2,3); 4 studies (№ 4,5,6,7) and 19 articles, 4 of which are reviews (№ 11,12,16,22), one of which is in English. Of the publications presented, five are in Russian (№ 13,20,20,23,26) and have been printed in prestigious professional publications published in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Five of the submitted publications are co-authored (№ 5,18,20,21,26).

The candidate for the Professor's Contest has participated in it with publications of 1526 pp., which have not been subject to evaluation and review so far.

Seven of the publications are papers presented at scientific conferences in Bulgaria (№ 7,8,15,20,21,22) and one in Russia (№ 20). Three of the publications have been published in Jubilee Collections dedicated to Prof. B. Hristova (№ 9), Assoc. N. Shumanova (№ 14) and Prof. S. Nedkov (№ 6).

In her monograph for participation in the competition – „Bibliographical and digital dimensions of the Bulgarian local studies” (2019, 200 pp.). The author sets herself a leading goal - to explore an important topic that has not been the subject of scientific research so far - to study local literary - a documentary heritage, stored in the Bulgarian public libraries, through its bibliographic model. It is original that her heritage is considered in the context of the interconnectedness of its three essential components: local written sources, then regional bibliography (which represents the informational image of older written sources) and finally, digital copies of these written sources, access to which is granted by the data of the regional bibliography.

Such research has not been done in our country so far. The monograph is structured in an Introduction, Four Chapters, Conclusion, Bibliography, Author's Index and English Summary.

In Chapter 1. „The Terminological Limits of the Concept of local history bibliography” (pp. 9-24), the author stands out, based on a wide range of sources, scope and peculiarities in different countries, as well as the foreign influences that the term suffers in Bulgaria during the different periods of the development of the local librarian activity itself. Here, the researcher has shown excellent awareness of the topic, which is also traced to her references to a number of sources, mostly foreign ones, quoted correctly during the course of the

exhibition. It is clear that she is well aware of the theoretical notions of the notion of „local history bibliography” in both foreign literature and the views of well-known Bulgarian specialists from the recent past, and substantiates her personal position on the subject.

Chapter 2. „Specific structure of local history bibliography in Bulgaria” examines the grounds on which the model of local history bibliography is based. It details the criteria for its internal division. At the same time, a very comprehensive description of its different subspecies is made, and the researcher, by creating a theoretical model of local history bibliography, strives to stay close to the conditions for its practical realization in the Bulgarian regional libraries and to find confirmation of its sustainability, referring to many real existing ones local history bibliographic directories.

In Chapter 3. “State of local history bibliography in Bulgaria. Bibliographic-Statistical Analysis” has consistently examined its manifestations in four fundamentally different historical periods, which are also stages in the division of our national bibliography on which the research is based: 1923-1944; 1944-1969; 1970-1991; 1992-2019. As a methodological basis for this study, as in its previous monograph, the author used and analyzed the information contained in the retrospective and current national bibliography, assessing it as a credible and internationally recognized information source.

Tsv. Pancheva has considered the development of local history bibliography in Bulgaria (as a successively built in time and gradually developing information base of local studies) not only in theoretical aspect, but also through the specific and subspecific modeling of the system of pointers. It has also used statistical and bibliographic analysis of bibliographic publications over a large period of time - from the beginning of the twentieth century to 2019, to that end it has summarized a serious amount of information and analyzed the results. Through the in-depth analysis, the author has demonstrated clearly (through available statistical and bibliographic data): the impressive scale of this activity in the Bulgarian regional libraries; its metamorphoses in different historical periods; its importance as a unique system of bibliographic information for every region in terms of rich local history. For the first time, through such a serious empirical study, Assoc. Prof. Pancheva was able to prove the importance of the local bibliographic information created in different periods of our country's development as an information model of the local studies, on the one hand, and as an information basis for building metadata to the digitalized local history documents - on the

other. The increasing role of this type of information as a guarantee for preserving local identity in the context of globalization is also justified.

Particularly contributing to the research is Chapter 4. „Transformations in the local bibliography of Bulgaria in the 21st century”. It models the system of local bibliographic information in an electronic environment and outlines the processes of digitalisation of the local written heritage as an important factor for its functioning. The author's original approach is to present these transformations into a trinity - creation of digital resources; building information structures to access them; as well as the most up-to-date aspect in the European context - services to engage citizens with digital information.

In her monograph, Assoc. Prof. Pancheva gives an affirmative and convincing answer to the general question that she posed in her introduction to the research: is the local bibliography capable of transforming into an effective information resource of local studies in the electronic environment. The researcher also answered another very important question in a positive way: can the huge local bibliographic resource from the past be used in the contemporary processes of digital conversion of the local written heritage (which in its totality is of national importance, especially in the context of globalization); it has good reason to believe that local bibliographic information will find its place as a secure channel for accessing digital content; and that public libraries will be able to actively use it in the future to offer new digital products and services. The contributions of the study are also in the aforementioned ways of accomplishing the intended transformations.

The convincing analysis of the development of the local bibliography for the period from 1923 to 2019, as well as the formulated conclusions outline the great opportunities for using the rich local lore resources in the modern conditions of their increased digital conversion in the country.

The considerable number of citations, as well as the annexed bibliography at the end of the monograph, testify to the researcher's serious awareness of the topic and the comparability of her own research with similar issues studied in other countries.

The second monograph by which Assoc. Prof. Pancheva participates in the competition is „Book projections of the local or Bulgarian local history from the Renaissance to the present day”, (Sofia: St. Kliment Ohridski University Publishing House, 2019, 352 p.), created on the basis of the protected her doctorate. The study is a fundamental scientific work in which it has

examined the local history literature in an extensive chronological range of 180 years, which has made it possible to analyze it from a larger historical perspective. The author has succeeded in discovering and highlighting those national ideas and doctrines to which local lore attaches to her quests and large-scale results, realizing that it is they who are making it a sustainable scientific and practical field that has kept its current issues from the Renaissance to the present.

The contemporary aspects of local history related to the preservation of cultural memory of settlements and regions, the use of local information in addressing issues of local identity in the context of globalization, and the formation of a future innovative information resource in the process of technological transformation of local works. I would like to emphasize that the book has already been highly praised by the scientific and professional community, and Tsv. Pancheva once again proved her skills as a researcher and a skilled analyzer of the vast amount of empirical facts.

The next study brought to the jury's attention is: Stamboliiski, Alexander. Journalism 1900 - 1923. In 3 volumes. (Composition. Milena Stamboliyska, Radka Trendafilova, Tsvetanka Pancheva. Sofia: Partner BG, 2016. Book 1. 1900 - 1909. 2016. 669 p.). I do not mention item 2 and item 3 because other researchers have worked on them, which is also evident from the separation protocol annexed to the documentation. Assoc. Prof. Pancheva is the author of item 1. and the introductory article „Alexander Stamboliiski's Journalism - An attempt to historically reconstruct his ideas and positions” (№ 17). The article is a comprehensive introduction to the large-scale project related to the search, identification and presentation in three volumes, with a total of over 1800 pages, of the full texts of his journalistic works, published in periodicals, mainly on the pages of the „Agricultural Flag”. The wide bibliographic and documentary base on which the publication is based is impressive. Obviously, a tremendous amount of work has been done to track down and compare the aliases, initials, signatures, and anonymous articles attributed to Al. Stamboliiski in earlier studies. The publication is provided with a solid reference apparatus - a name index, a dictionary of foreign, rare, outdated and dialect words, a list of the author's pseudonyms, as well as numerous notes from the compilers and specialist historian at the end of volume 3 explaining the historical context of specific publications. The publication is only in completeness of Stamboliiski's publications, published in Bulgaria. It is helpful in clarifying the ideas, views and positions of the famous politician, statesman and political leader, because he refers to his authentic texts.

Assoc. Prof. Pancheva also offers four studios (№ 4, 5, 6 and 7). The first, „Digital Archival Collections and their Use in Research and Amateur Creativity in Local History and Family History” (№ 4), looks with impressive competence at the major stages in digitalization and the more active use of archival collections stored in various institutions in Bulgaria, which can successfully be used for a variety of studies relating to local history and genealogy. The digital collections of Archives State Agency, including its regional archival structures, as well as the National Library “St.St. Cyril and Methodius”, which is a unique archive center of documents from the Bulgarian Renaissance, of the regional libraries, of the NALIS foundation as a unifier of the academic network, were analyzed in full. Special attention is to given to the access to these collections, to the possibilities of libraries for incorporating digital resources in different information systems - Bulgarian and foreign, to the wider involvement of citizens in projects related to the enhancement and promotion of digital information related to to the local and family history.

I would like to pay special attention to the unique research of Assoc. Prof. Pancheva and Lyudmila Dimitrova, dedicated to „The Personal Library of Petar Dunov, the Master – a study of bibliographic identification and reconstruction” (№ 5), which is about 70 pages in volume. The results of the analysis of the personal library of the phenomenon Petar Deunov - the Master are preserved to this day. The authors have made a precise bibliographic identification of more than 300 books (editions of the second half of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, most of them foreign, some of them with deliberately torn covers and cover pages, which necessitates comparison with digital copies from foreign libraries for the purpose of accurate identification) by analyzing their data in chronological, linguistic and thematic terms. They examined extensively the most significant Bulgarian and foreign authors and their works in the context of the interests and creative activities of the Master. Gift certificates and autographs, left on individual copies, have been studied in great detail. The study is the first attempt to present in full, with complete bibliographic data, the personal library of Peter Dunov, examining even the scarce historical accounts of its transformations, as a result of the persecution, confiscation of books and repression of the followers and followers of his teaching, who have followers in the whole world.

The studios “Politicality and Interdisciplinarity of Local Studies in Bulgaria after the Liberation (According to the publications in the „Periodical Magazine” of the Bulgarian Book Society, today Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) (№ 6) analyzed about 168 entirely local studies articles and other 58 containing additional local information. The study highlights the

names of dozens of elite Bulgarian scientists, whose publications are grouped and reviewed according to their typological features. The analysis made shows that the journal has played a very important role in the creation of significant scientific works that become the foundation of serious future local studies. The study provides solid evidence to support the thesis that: „The local lore has successfully served as the basis for the emergence and development of a number of sciences in post-war Bulgaria, and this is a trend that persists until the end of World War II”. The studies are a significant contribution not only to the history of Bulgarian local studies, but also to the history of many other sciences, whose representatives show a lasting interest in geography, history, language, folklore and more topics in relation to a wide range of cities, villages, localities and regions.

One study (№7) and six articles (№ 8, 15, 18, 20, 21, 26) are also reports from scientific conferences held in our country and in Russia. The report presented at the Scientific Conference in Lovech (№ 7) „Current Trends in the Issue of Local History Books in Bulgaria: The Lovech’s Contribution 1990 – 2018” contains a summary of the results of a bibliographic-book analysis of the local history literature published throughout the country during the period of democratic change and by the same methodology the study was repeated specifically for the local history book published for Lovech and the region, the data being analyzed in a comparative plan - by types of publications, by their geographical affiliation (by area, by individual settlements, for physico-geographical sites), according to genealogical studies and according to the subject matter of the publications.

A report from the scientific conference is also publication (№ 8) „Digital Collections of the National Library St. St. Cyril and Methodius” in support of research and the learning process”. Here, Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva analyzes important documents and recommendations regarding the protection and provision of broad access to the European cultural heritage. The idea of a „new revival of Europe”, which is linked not only to improving access to heritage through enhanced digitalisation processes, but also to its more optimal use in the educational process, in research and in development, is discussed in detail new economic activities and innovative services. The guidelines for the development of digitalisation of the cultural heritage, stored in National Library St. St. Cyril and Methodius, which the author knows in detail, are presented in the context of the cited European requirements, as well as on the basis of their reflection in Bulgarian strategic documents, in the creation of which the author participates actively and has a personal contribution to their modern and well thought out content. Papers from scientific conferences are also publications

with № 15, 18, 20, 21 and 26. Their topic is as follows: „Unique donation library collections. The Library as a Virtual Museum”(№ 15); „Interesting and curious about wine - in digital texts and images from the world and Bulgaria” (№ 18); „Digitization of cultural heritage” in the context of modern library and information science education. Ideas and Practices at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski ”(№ 21); „Problems of digitization of cultural heritage in the regional libraries of Bulgaria. Survey results” (№ 26); “Special collections of public libraries in Bulgaria - modern aspects of storage, cataloging, providing wide access to them (on the example of Archimandrite Zinoviy's Fund at the Kyustendil Regional Library)” (№ 20). A review of the topics of the reports presented indicates that they are all topical issues of interest to our professional community, which explains the high interest they have in the college.

Five of the author's articles have been published in Russian (№ 13, 20, 23, 25 and 26). They are dedicated to topical topics, including „Digitization of unique collections of Bulgarian libraries - an opportunity for a new revival of the national written cultural heritage” (№ 13); „Transformations of Local Bibliography in Bulgaria and Its Role in Information Support for Historical Studies” (№ 23). What makes this impression is that these publications have been printed in some of the most respected Russian professional publications in Moscow and St. Petersburg - a fact that speaks to the respect that Russian researchers have for the development of Assoc. Prof. Pancheva.

I would also like to mention the article „The National Library „St. St. Cyril and Methodius” „in the Digital Renaissance of Europe” (№ 9), which explains the processes of digitalisation in the institution through its participation in a number of international projects and initiatives. The article has two very important aspects that are thoroughly analyzed. The first concerns the uniqueness of the collections with which it contributes to the new digital revival of Europe's cultural heritage. The second is to think about activities to ensure the technological compatibility of metadata for our digital objects when they are included in Europeana.

This topic may also be covered by the article „Building an Information Culture - A Factor for Raising the Public Library's prestige” (№ 19), because the increase in information literacy and the efforts of Bulgarian libraries in this direction are highly dependent on digital technologies in them.

With significant contributions are two articles-personalities, written on the basis of newly discovered archival and documentary evidence: „Notes on the portrait of the bibliographer Dr.

Dimitar Ivanchev” (№ 14) and „Creative ties I. B. Gudovshchikova with outstanding Bulgarian bibliographers” (№ 25), printed in the most authoritative Russian edition - „Bibliography”, (Moscow), 2019, № 1, pp. 113 - 123.

Five book reviews and bibliographies (№ 11, 12, 16, 24 and 22) submitted for participation in the professor competition, the last of which has been printed in both Bulgarian and English. Assoc. Prof. Pancheva has long established herself as a demanding reviewer who not only outlines the merits of peer-reviewed publications, but also addresses some weaknesses and provides useful ideas for overcoming them in future research.

I would also not like to miss the fact that Assoc. Prof. Pancheva is the preferred scientific and bibliographical editor of a series of personal bibliographies and anniversary collections, among which stand out: Avramova, Vanya. Maria Mladenova (2015); Mladenova, Maria. Nestor Markov (2016); Milanova, Milena. Boryana Hristova (2018); Mechanistic, Hope. Georgi K. Spasov (2019) and others.

The interest in its publications can be judged by the fact that in the period 2014-2019 alone they have been cited 25 times in the scientific literature.

4. Achievements and scientific contributions

- A significant contribution is the monographic study „Bibliographical and digital dimensions of the Bulgarian local studies” (№ 1) because of the modern interpretation of local/regional bibliography as an information model of local studies, with unique opportunities for converting it into reliable metadata for identification and access to digital local resources in the electronic environment;

- The monographic study „Book projections of the local or Bulgarian local history from the Renaissance to the present day” (№ 2) as a fundamental work based on its own bibliographic-book approach. The main contributions to the work are: the complex nature of the study; the huge chronological boundaries spanning 180 years; the thorough book-based statistical analysis, based on a reliable bibliographic base; outlining the problems and tendencies in the Bulgarian local history on the background of the political, economic and cultural life of the country; the development of theoretical thought in the field of local history has been studied on the basis of a wide range of publications and the evolution of its paradigm on a national, regional and global scale has been clarified;

- Digitization of the written cultural heritage - achievements, problems and perspectives - is a scientific field in which the author has 10 valuable publications, which not only contain a series of respectable contributions, but also with which she has established herself among the leading Bulgarian scholars - theorists and practitioners - in this modern and promising scientific field. There are several contributions to the topics related to digitalisation: exploring different models of digitalisation in Bulgarian libraries, highlighting problems, including in line with European standards; researching „Unique Donor Library Collections” and offering this foundation a vision for the library and as a virtual museum. Here is a noteworthy study of 148 separate personal library collections of scientists and creators located in libraries, archives, museums, universities, which are an important part of the literary national wealth of the country, showing various models for their digital promotion; developing ideas and practices (based on the Department of Library Studies, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy at Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski”) for the teaching of disciplines related to the digitization of cultural heritage, as well as for greater opportunities for its information discovery and effective use in education, which is especially relevant in the crisis the situation in which Bulgaria and the world are today;

- Bibliographic and book research on the Personal Library of Petar Dunov - the Master, for the internationally recognized bibliographers Dimitar Ivanchev, Irina Gudovshchikova, and for politician and publicist (with over 1000 articles in periodicals) Alexander Stamboliyski have significant contributions to the field of Bulgarian bibliography, library science, archival science and history, because they contain unknown knowledge about them that would be of interest to our scientific community and the general public;

- For an important contribution I find the created own research method, used in our country for the first time (to use the data from the national bibliography of Bulgaria as the basis of book research), which can be applied by researchers in other sciences - at home and abroad;

- A significant part of the obtained results are applied by Assoc. Pancheva in the disciplines she teaches is appreciated by our professional community and by attending her courses related to the continuing education of library information specialists, as well as by engaging her as an expert in various library projects and programs.

CONCLUSION

The characteristics of the works presented by Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva for participation in the announced competition for professor, as well as the significant scientific achievements and contributions I have already made, are clear evidence that the candidate has accumulated solid research experience, has long established itself as a renowned scholar, distinguished lecturer and leading expert in digitalization and regional information resources. She also has all the personal and teaching qualities to be awarded the scientific title of „Professor” in the professional field 3.5. Public communications and information sciences (Bibliology, librarianship, bibliography - Digitization of cultural heritage, regional information systems). For this reason, I will absolutely vote for the election of Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva as „Professor” and I recommend that the other members of the Scientific Jury also vote in favor of her.

29.03. 2020

Prof. Dr. Maria Vutova Petkova