

**P O S I T I O N**  
**by Professor Elena Pavlovska, PhD, ULSIT (UNIBIT),**

Member of the Scientific Jury, determined by order of the Rector of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski No. RD 38/38 of 17/01/2020 for a competition for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, business and legal sciences, professional field 3.5. Public communications and information sciences (Bibliology, librarianship, bibliography - Digitization of cultural heritage, regional information systems) for the needs of the Department of Library Science, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Philosophy, announced in State Gazette No. 93 of 11.26.2019 with sole candidate:

**Associate Professor Tsvetanka Hristova Pancheva, D.Sc.**

**Competition information**

The competition for the occupation of the academic position of "professor" in the field of higher education 3. Social, business and legal sciences, professional field 3.5. Public communications and information sciences (Bibliology, librarianship, bibliography - Digitization of cultural heritage, regional information systems) for the needs of the Department "Library science, scientific information and cultural policy" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Philosophy was announced in State Gazette no. 93 of 26.11.2019. According to the announced competition, the only candidate is Associate Professor Tsvetanka Pancheva, D.Sc.

All documentation related to the procedure is fully complying with the requirements of Art. (4) and (29) of the Law for the development of academic staff (LDAS), the Regulation for its implementation, Art.118, paragraph (1) and (3) of the Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

Review of the submitted papers for the competition and acquaintance with the scientific papers proposed for review showed that the candidate meets the basic requirements for occupying the position of "professor". She is a Doctor (1994) and Doctor of Science (2018), Associate Professor (2014), and is listed in the Register of Academic staff of the NACID. A monograph work other than the monograph was provided in the application for the competition, based on her second doctorate, and the publications submitted for participation in this competition were not used for participation in other scientific procedures. The minimum national requirements for the occupation of the academic position of "Professor" in accordance with LDAS and the Regulation for its implementation have been fully fulfilled. The points collected are 837.5, with some of the indicators being significantly higher (for example, group D - 282.5 points, group D - 245 points, group E - 160 points).

### **General characteristics of the applicant's activities**

a) Ass. Prof. Tsvetanka Pancheva, D.Sc. completed her higher education at the State Institute of Culture (St. Petersburg, Russia) in 1981 and the same year began work at the National Library "St. St. Cyril and Methodius "(NLCM), where over the years she has held various positions from a research assistant to the head of "Digital Library" (2009-2014). In 1994 the candidate defended her doctoral dissertation on the topic "The current state and problems of the organization of local librarian and bibliographic activity", and in 1999 she was habilitated with her work "Trends in the development of scientific support bibliography". Since 2014, after a competition, she has been an assistant professor in the Department "Library Science, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy" at the Faculty of Philosophy at Sofia University "Kliment Ohridski". In 2018, she obtained a D.Sc. in the professional field 3.5 Public Communication and Information Sciences, defending a Dissertation on a topic "Local history in Bulgaria – bibliographic and bibliological approaches".

b) Assoc. Pancheva has extensive teaching experience. As a part-time lecturer at Sofia University since 1995, she has developed a number of lecture courses and for many years has taught courses in Local Bibliography, Digitalisation and Digitization, Regional Cultural Policy and Libraries, which are an essential part of Bachelor's and Master's degrees. programs of the Department. As a part-time lecturer at UNIBIT (2004 - 2018) – she taught courses in Local History and Local History Databases and Local Electronic Resources. She is a dedicated, consistent, disciplined and highly educated teacher, highly respected by students. Under her scientific direction, the Department has defended 15 Bachelor's Degrees and 18 Master's Degrees. Currently she has four PhD students, two of whom will be defending their dissertations this year.

The information on the teaching and teaching employment of Assoc. Prof. Pancheva, presented in the competition documentation, shows that the candidate's annual auditorial employment for the last five years has been moving within the limits far exceeding those required by the Regulations and is between 465 and 600 hours (mainly achieved of compulsory subjects) in both bachelor's and master's degrees.

c) Expertise. The submitted documentation includes a list of international and national projects under the National Science Foundation of Sofia University, the NLCM, the Ministry of Culture, etc., developed with the participation of Assoc. Prof. Tz. Pancheva in the period 2009 - 2020 and related to the preservation, digitalisation and access to the literary cultural heritage of Bulgaria and the introduction of new technologies in libraries. The projects were successfully completed. She is the leader in three of them, a member of a research team in 10 of them. The

documents show that she has extensive experience in managing and coordinating international and national projects and programs, as well as many years of professional and administrative experience as a leader in international activities of NLCM and Sofia University. Currently Assoc. Prof. Pancheva participates in the international project "Building and Development of the Center of Excellence "Heritage BG" under the Operational Program "Science and Education for Intelligent Growth" as a member of the scientific team.

The high quality of teaching and research activities of Assoc. Prof. Tz. Pancheva during the last five years, as well as the student opinion about her teaching, are confirmed by the Attestation sheet of the Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski "from 01/09/2019.

On a personal level, I consider her as a highly educated, intelligent, and very responsive colleague. She is a diligent and accurate person, with modern views and personal opinions, which she expresses without reservation.

#### **Applicant's scientific and applied activities**

The complete list of publications by Assoc. Pancheva contains 103 titles and 20 more collections and bibliographies, in which she is either an author or editor, or author of prefaces. Of them, for the participation "professor" competition, she submitted 26 scientific papers and four bibliographies, of which she is a scientific editor, which can be grouped as follows:

- Monographs	- 2
- Books	- 1
- Studios	- 4
- Articles in scientific journals, annuals and anniversaries	-13
- Papers in Proceedings of scientific conferences	- 6
- Scientific revision of the bibliography	- 4
<b>TOTAL submitted for review</b>	<b>- 30</b>

Of these publications, seven titles are in foreign languages and two are published in Bulgarian and (with additions) in foreign language.

Submitted publications for participation in this competition have not been used to participate in other scientific procedures. They are original and comply with the rules of academic ethics.

Citation of the publications submitted for the competition, according to the provided by the University Library at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski "Certificate of Indexed and Cited Publications" was noted in the Central and Eastern European Online Library (CEEOL) seven citations and two reviews, at RISC eLibrary.ru - one citation, in Google Science and Google Books - 25 citations. One of candidate's publication is indexed in CEEOL and five in

eLibrary.ru. Assoc. Prof. Pancheva's reference to the quotations from the system of "Authors" of Sofia University contains 87 quotes and reviews of her works. Most of the works are listed in major Bulgarian library catalogs: the NLCM (77 publications), the University Library "St. Kl. Ohridski" (54 publications), in the NALIS Foundation Consolidated Catalog (over 50 publications), etc. The scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Pancheva are also included in international catalogs: SKK LIBNET (one publication); WorldCat OCLC (nine publications); Karlsruher Virtueller Katalog (10 publications); Library of Congress (six publications). As the Head of "Index" Information Center, have been involved in providing European and American Libraries for more than 10 years, (e.g. the Library of Congress of the United States of America), with Bulgarian scientific literature (periodicals and books) and I am particularly pleased to say that the most significant scientific publications of my colleagues from the BNIKP Department of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", including Assoc. Prof. Tz. Pancheva, are visible to scientists from all over the world.

Research work of Assoc. Pancheva is mainly in the following areas:

*1. Local history - history, theory, contemporary dimensions.*

In this area the candidate cites three scientific papers, first of which is the monograph "Book projections of local or Bulgarian local studies from the National Revival until today" (No.2 from the list of publications submitted for the competition). The other two studies are: "Polymatics and interdisciplinarity of local studies in Bulgaria after the Liberation (According to the publications in the "Periodical Magazine of the Bulgarian Book Society") (No.6) and "Current Trends in the Publishing of Local History Books in Bulgaria: The Lovech Contribution. 1990-2018" (No.7), which presents the candidate's multidimensional study of the development of local history in Bulgaria from its first manifestations during the Bulgarian Revival to the end of 2017 through the analysis of the published literature and databases of the retrospective and current national bibliography of Bulgaria and modern approaches to the preservation of the cultural memory of the regions have been proposed through the creation of new information resources on the basis of digitalized local lore.

*2. Local bibliography*

This section includes: the monograph "Bibliographic and Digital Dimensions of the Bulgarian Local History" (No.1), in which, based on the bibliographic-statistical analysis of the state of local bibliography in different time periods from 1923 to 2019, its development in the Bulgarian regional libraries, the changes of the local bibliography as a system for bibliographic information regarding local lore and reveals its connection with contemporary organization of access to local digital resources. The article "Transformations of Local Bibliography in Bulgaria and its Role in Information Support for Historical Research" (No.23) is, due to its importance,

included in the series published in the framework of the project “The role of museum-library-archives in information support of historical science” from leading Russian libraries, academic institutes and museums.

### *3. Digitization of cultural and historical heritage*

The presented works in this section explore the problems associated with the processes of digitization of unique collections in Bulgarian libraries, archives and museums as an opportunity to preserve and promote the national literary heritage and to access them in regional libraries and other memory institutions (No.13, No.15), emphasizes the need for bibliographic coverage of special donation collections in electronic catalogs and libraries (No.26, No.20), analyzes the main stages of digitalization and presents the digital collections of the State Agency "Archives", at the National Library, participation in international projects and programs (No.4, No.8, No.9), as well as various aspects of the presence of Bulgaria in the World Digital Library (WDL). The publication (No.21) presents the forms of education on digitalisation of cultural heritage in the context of European higher education policies, and (No.19) deals with the development of the information culture of library specialists in Bulgaria by improving the educational process and the forms of their professional qualifications, mainly in the field of digital technology.

### *4. Bibliographic and book research for individuals.*

This group brings together the candidate's research related to the search, reading and analysis of a large volume of archival and bibliographical sources for celebrities, most often even unknown to the professional community (No.5, No.14, No.17). I would especially like to mention the article "Creative Relations of Irina Gudovshchikova with outstanding Bulgarian Bibliographers" (No.25), published in the reputable journal “Bibliography”, which presents Russian-Bulgarian links in the field of bibliography related to the name of the famous Russian Bibliographic scientist and bibliographer, specialist in the field of history, theory and methodology of bibliography Professor D.Sc. Irina Gudovshchikova, who had a huge influence on the development of the Bulgarian bibliography. The article analyzes reviews of I. Gudovshchikova's works in publications by Bulgarian authors, citations of her works by Bulgarian scholars and professors such as Kr. Zotova, P. Mitrani, D. Pravdomirova; her professional connections and personal contacts with famous Bulgarian bibliographers such as Hristo Trenkov, Maria Kainarova and others; her reviews and opinions of Bulgarian bibliographic works; and the "presence" of her books and textbooks in Bulgarian libraries (by displaying them in electronic catalogs).

### *5. Reviews of bibliographical directories and books and scientific editing of individual books bibliographic directories*

This group includes five publications dedicated on bibliographic directories and books of contributors from regional libraries, mainly on local subjects (No.16, No.22, No.12, No.11, No.24). The conclusions and recommendations that the author makes as a result of the analysis are a good methodological basis for future bibliographic researchers.

For the attention of the members of the scientific jury, a list of four bibliographical works was suggested in the documentation, for which Assoc. Prof. Tz. Pancheva is a scientific editor - biographies of the prominent Bulgarian writers or scholars Maria Mladenova, Nestor Markov, Boryana Hristova and Georgi Spasov. The bibliographic directories she edited illustrate the scientific and professional knowledge and skills, as well as the extensive experience of Assoc. Prof. Pancheva.

### **Achievements and original scientific and applied contributions**

I fully accept the applicant's formulated contributions, summarizing them as follows:

*1. A comprehensive approach applied in her research.* The main idea developed by the candidate and presented in the two monographic studies in the field of Local History and Local Bibliography, is that the literary and documentary heritage, stored in the Bulgarian public libraries, is considered and understood through mutual connectivity of the three components: local Literary; local Bibliography and digital copies of this Literary, for which access is precisely the data from local bibliography. Such an approach makes it possible, on the one hand, to examine the historical roots and prerequisites for the development of local history and local bibliography in different historical periods (connection with national causes during the Bulgarian Revival and in the Post-Liberation Bulgaria, with the development of certain scientific fields that "recognize "their own research field, ideological influences, etc.) and, on the other, to track and analyze their transformations into a powerful electronic information resource related to local memory and knowledge. in the global world.

*2. Creation of own information model of the local bibliography,* with the help of which the local information accumulated in the regional libraries becomes a convertible and actively usable resource (from bibliographic data and fulltext electronic documents), defining the new "face" of the memory institutions - libraries, archives, museums.

*3. Applying the original methodology of the two studies.* The use of the data from the National Bibliography (current and retrospective) as a reliable basis for bibliographic-book analysis of local literary, allows to define its parameters by many indicators and for a large chronological period of time. Such a methodology has not been used by our scientific collegium so far, but I would like to emphasize that it is universal and could be successfully applied in

other, especially in related scientific fields. In addition to the analyzes made, the summaries of statistics in a number of tables and charts are also a contribution.

**4. *The digitization of cultural heritage documents*** held by memory institutions is analyzed in several modern (European) aspects: with an emphasis on preserving, accessing and promoting them as important landmarks for identity, historical and cultural memory, traditions, folklore and Orthodox faith; as a technological opportunity for the inclusion of specific Bulgarian literary monuments in the European and world digital heritage; as an opportunity to use digitized resources in the education process and for future research; to involve citizens in digital information and enrich it with sources provided by them (personal and family libraries and archives).

**5. *Contributions to enriching information about prominent figures*** by introducing into the scientific circulation of unknown facts about them - new archival and documentary evidence for Dr. Dimitar Ivanchev, Irina Vasilevna Gudovshikova, Peter Danov and others have been searched and analyzed.

## **Conclusion**

Assoc. Prof. Tsvetanka Hristova Pancheva is a renowned researcher, expert and academic lecturer with an established profile in the field of library information sciences. She is fully qualified for the academic position of Professor. The stated qualities of her research activity, the scientific and applied contributions, the credible results, her extensive administrative and pedagogical experience and the personal impressions that I have, all give me reason to give a positive assessment and propose the election of Assistant Professor Tsvetanka Hristova Pancheva, D.Sc. for the academic position “Professor” in the Department “Library Science, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy” at the Faculty of Philosophy at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”.

04/07/2020

Prof. Dr. Elena Pavlovska