

STATEMENT

from by professor Dora Levterova – Gadjalova, DSc
University of Plovdiv “Paisii Hilendarski”

of the materials submitted for participation in the competition

for the academic position of "professor"

at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski ”

at the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences

professional field 1.2. Education (Special education)

In the competition for "professor", announced in the State Gazette, issue: 49, of May 29, 2020. The only candidate in the competition is Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emilia Evgenieva from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski ” with 1 habilitation thesis 3 published chapters from collective monographs; 2 articles published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, one of which in English in co-authorship; 15 articles and reports published in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes. The monograph and the articles have full text content and are with certified publication.

The overall scientific production of the candidate includes 2 monographs, four independent chapters of collective monographs, 5 articles and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases, 40 articles and reports 40 articles and reports published in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes; compiler of 2 collections with scientific production; 4 co-authored dictionaries in the field of special pedagogy; 15 conference papers; 4 posters of reports at international conferences; 4 book reviews in the field of special pedagogy; 4 presentations of new books.

In connection with the minimum requirements for the academic position of "professor" the following is established for the applicant:

Indicators in group A 50 points

Indicators in group V 100 points

Indicators in group D 220 points

Indicators in group G 150 points

Indicators in group E 505 points

It is evident that the scientific output of the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emilia Evgenieva on indicators G, D and E exceeds the minimum requirements for the academic position "Professor", and according to indicators A and V the minimum requirements are met.

From all of the publications submitted by the candidate, Assoc. Prof. PhD Emilia Evgenieva, all are accepted for statement except the chapters published in collective monographs, as no separation protocols have been submitted for them. The distribution of scientific papers by headings: language of publishing and publications in the country and abroad, is as follows, 16 of the articles are published in Bulgarian scientific journals and 1 in an English-language scientific edition in Web of science, Scopus.

1. Brief biographical data of the candidate

The candidate has a Bachelor's degree in Bulgarian Philology; Master's degree in "Special pedagogy - pedagogy of"; educational and scientific degree "PhD" in "Special Pedagogy", since 2007 the candidate is an assoc. prof. in "Special Pedagogy" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

2. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

The academic employment of Assoc. Prof. Evgenieva in the last five years exceeds the required and varies for the individual academic years from 1816 hours to 3030 hours.

The scientific and applied activity of the candidate could be specified in several main scientific areas:

- interpretation and models for reorganization of the educational content for the needs of students with problems in language development;
- detailed interpretations of learning environment factors for students with special educational needs;
- identification of the specific role of the management of the learning process in building fragments from the environment of inclusion
- Improving the quality of education of students in the professional field "Pedagogy".

Assoc. Prof. Evgenieva has participated as an expert in two international projects, one under the Horizon 2020 program and the other under the EU Structural Funds; she has participated as an academic mentor in the project "Student Internships - Phase 1" under SESG OP. She has participated in 3 projects at NIS - Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

She was a consultant in the second stage of the competition for directors "Innovative practices in management" in the thematic area "Innovative approaches in management for the development of civic and social competencies in students" for the implementation of Activity 4.2. from the National Qualification Program for 2012. She has developed terms of reference for conducting a procurement for the selection of a contractor under the project "Qualification of pedagogical specialists" under OP HRD; for the framework of a draft state educational standard for the status of pedagogical specialists and directors of educational institutions. She has participated in commissions for conducting a competition "Innovations in Management" under the

National Program "Qualification" of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science and has evaluated the developments.

She has developed curricula, including "Methods of teaching Bulgarian language and literature for students with SEN", "Specifics of language learning", "Dysontogenesis of language and speech" and others.

Assoc. Prof. PhD Evgenieva is the head of the master's program in "Special Education" for graduates of other pedagogical specialties for the period 2012-2014, 2015-2018 for Bulgarian and foreign students.

She works successfully and effectively with PhD students, as she has been the research supervisor of 11 successfully defended doctoral studies - PhD, 7 of whom have defended their dissertations in English.

The publications of Assoc. Prof. PhD Evgenieva are known to the scientific community and their citation is as follows:

- citations or reviews in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in the world-famous databases with scientific information, monographs or collective volumes - 1 citation;

- citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review - 12 citations;

- citations or reviews in unrefereed journals with scientific review - 4 citations.

3. Scientific and applied contributions

The main research interests, scientific and applied achievements of Assoc. Prof. Evgenieva can be divided into several scientific areas:

- the innovations and paradoxes of inclusive education, reflected in the habilitation thesis "Inclusive education - innovations and paradoxes". In the habilitation work the axiological and axiomatic approaches are intertwined in different research stages for interpretation of inclusive education. The pedagogical,

sociological, administrative, personal, national and international positions on the content of education and the meaning of inclusive education are interpreted in an impressionistic style.

- *reorganization of the curriculum for the needs of students with language development problems.* The models for reduction of the learning content in the education of children and students with special educational needs are proven in a new way. Prerequisites in the language structure are substantiated, which are grounds for content reduction of the educational content. Innovative principles of organization of the learning process, which support reorganized learning content, are substantiated. The possibility of the reorganized language content to serve as a core of individualized education of students with special educational needs is motivated.

- *New factors of the learning environment have been identified, which increase the effectiveness of the integration of students with special educational needs.* The influence of cultural factors on the learning process in an integrated environment is described. The interaction between the environment and its organization for the needs of creating an accepting environment is analyzed. A study and description of the need to analyze the state of the inclusion process through the characteristics of generations, digital competence and non-formal education has been made.

- *the specific role of the management of the learning process in the construction of fragments from the environment of inclusion is motivated.* The need to use new factors for evaluation and analysis of the inclusive environment in the digital learning environment has been proven. The system of changes in the general environment is described, which lead to changes in the environment for inclusion and the need to overcome the lesson-centric approach. An innovation for sustainable development and effective use of the individual approach in teaching in the conditions of inclusion of the different students is proposed. A fragment has been developed for the integration of art therapy approaches when working with different groups of disorders. An opportunity to expand the public presence of the school institution through the school website has been modeled.

- Improving the quality of education of students in the professional field "Pedagogy". Criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the professional practical training of students are proposed. A system for anti-plagiarism in distance learning in bachelor's and master's degree programs has been introduced. A structure has been developed for raising the qualification of the pedagogical specialists, who occupy a new position for the education system. Consulting and developing projects for innovative approaches for development of civic and social competencies.

4. Assessment of the personal contribution of the candidate

The personal contribution of Assoc. Prof. PhD. Emilia Evgenieva for the development of special pedagogical knowledge in the theoretical and practical aspects is indisputable. The formulated contributions and the obtained results are her personal merit.

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

In the publications of Assoc. Prof. Evgenieva there are clearly identified innovative aspects related to the positive inclusive environment for students with special educational needs, which can be developed continuously with successful scientific, theoretical and practical applicability.

CONCLUSION

The documents and materials presented by Assoc. Prof. PhD. Emilia Evgenieva meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

The candidate in the competition has submitted a sufficient number of scientific papers published after the materials used in the defense of PhD and "Doctor of Science". In the candidates work there are original scientific and applied contributions, which have received international recognition, as well as a part of them had been published in journals and scientific journals published by international academic publishers. Her theoretical developments have practical applicability, as

some of them are directly oriented to the educational work. The scientific and teaching qualification of Assoc. Prof. PhD. Emilia Evgenieva is undoubtful.

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific papers presented in the competition, as well as analysing their significance and the contained in them scientific, scientific-applied and applied contributions, I find it reasonable to give my positive assessment and recommend to the Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal to the Faculty. Council of the Faculty of Educational Sciences and the Arts at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski "for the election of Assoc. Prof. PhD. Emilia Evgenieva at the academic position "Professor" at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski "in professional field 1.2. Education (Special education).

11.09. 2020

Reviewer:

(prof. Dora Levterova – Gadjalova, DSc)