OPINION

given by Tsveta Hristova Luizova-Horeva, Associate Professor, PhD
University of Food Technology, Plovdiv

on the dissertation presented for award of a **PhD** degree
in higher education area 2. Humanities
professional field 2.1. Philology,
doctoral programme: General and Comparative Linguistics (Comparative Analysis of English and Russian Medical Terminology)

Author: **Svetlana Yordanova Taneva**

Topic: "Main Tendencies in the Terminological Systems of Dental Medicine and Craniomaxillofacial Surgery (on English and Russian materials)"

Dissertation supervisor: **Assoc. Prof. Aleksandra Bozhidarova Bagasheva**, PhD, Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski".

1. General description of the procedure and PhD student

Pursuant to Order № RD38-465 of 27 Sept. 2021 of the Rector of Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski" (SU), I have been appointed member of the scientific jury in the procedure for the defence of a dissertation entitled "Main Tendencies in the Terminological Systems of Dental Medicine and Craniomaxillofacial Surgery (on English and Russian materials)" towards the award of a PhD degree in higher education area 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology, doctoral programme: General and Comparative Linguistics (Comparative Analysis of English and Russian Medical Terminology). The dissertation has been written by Svetlana Yordanova Taneva, PhD student on an independent study basis at the Department of English and American Studies, with Assoc. Prof. Aleksandra Bagasheva, PhD, from SU as her dissertation supervisor.

The set of materials submitted by Svetlana Yordanova Taneva is in compliance with art. 67 (5) of SU's Regulations on the Conditions and Order for Scientific Degree Award and Appointment to Academic Positions and includes the following documents: a European format CV, the dissertation, a dissertation summary in Bulgarian and English, a list of the author's scientific publications related to the dissertation topic, copies of these publications and a statement of compliance with the minimum national requirements for PhD degree award.

The PhD student has enclosed 5 publications in English related to the dissertation topic.

Svetlana Taneva graduated from the Master's degree programmes in Russian Philology, English Philology and Journalism of Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski". Since 1990, she has been teaching English and Russian in various schools and language centres and in two universities, i.e. New Bulgarian University and the Medical University in Sofia. Her interest in specialised language, medical terminology in particular, originated in the course of her work with students in the Dental and Medical Faculties and the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Medical University in Sofia, where she has been working as a lecturer at the Department of Language Training, Medical Pedagogy and Sport. She has participated in eight scientific conferences and one international congress, in seminars and webinars of Oxford Centre and National Geographic Learning. She knows English and Russian.

2. Topicality of the research

Svetlana Taneva's dissertation is focused on a highly topical subject, the main trends in the development of the terminological apparatus of dental medicine and craniomaxillofacial surgery, with the aim of studying the models and mechanisms of term formation in the respective areas. The current significance of these problems arises out of the exceptional dynamics in the development of the medical science, which creates a need for prompt generation and subsequent regulation and standardisation of terms for the naming of new objects and phenomena. The interpretation of these trends through the prism of the anthropocentrism that is typical of cognitive linguistics highlights the process of development of the language users' conceptual and verbal systems and the specificities of the construction of a linguistic picture of the world. In the context of internationalised communication, it is of utmost importance to direct research towards the inter-language parallels in the terminological systems of certain subject areas with a view to enhancing the professional and linguistic competence of the respective specialists.

3. Knowledge of the problem

The author has demonstrated impressive knowledge of some major English, Bulgarian, Russian and other sources. Tracing the development of the nomination theory and onomasiology and the points of intersection between terminological nomination and cognitive science and the conceptual metaphor and conceptual integration theories, she is confident in the informed statement she makes of her own position regarding the problems studied. Thus, she has provided convincing evidence that the construction of a cognitive map of a science is a prerequisite for the study of the linguistic apparatus this science applies.

4. Methodology of the research

The construction of the methodological apparatus demonstrates Svetlana Taneva's vast erudition in linguistics. In the literature review part, she has made a critical overview of a wide range of theoretical frameworks and methodologies, providing reasons for their integration into the dissertation. This approach has enabled her to develop her own analytical model. The terminological systems of the areas examined have been subjected to analysis from three different perspectives: structural semantic, cognitive linguistic and functional, through a systematic approach including a combination of methods: definition analysis, componential analysis, cognitive analysis, an etymological method, a survey research method and a statistical method. The complex methodology chosen has been successfully applied to the attainment of the formulated objectives.

5. Description and evaluation of the dissertation and its contributions

The dissertation consists of a text (introduction, three chapters and a conclusion) on 224 pages, four annexes (pp. 233-298), references and excerpted sources (specialised literature, dictionaries and reference books (pp. 299-315). A corpus of 1012 English terms randomly excerpted from terminological monolingual dictionaries and other specialised literature was compiled for the purposes of the research. The main theses have been illustrated through 33 figures, 11 tables, and 5 diagrams. The introductory part explains the choice of the topic, presents the object, subject, aims and objectives of the research, formulates the research hypothesis, describes the manner of collecting the material subjected to analysis, the structure of the text and the research methods applied. On the basis of predominantly Russian literature, the first chapter reviews the

development of onomasiology and the nomination theory, with emphasis on the cognitive trend in them. Appropriate space has been allotted to the available studies on Bulgarian anatomical terminology and the works of prominent Bulgarian terminologists. The basic notions in the theories reviewed have been defined and the role of the cognitive paradigm in linguistics has been emphasised with a review of the main ideas in the works of G. Lakoff and M. Johnson, R. Langacker, Ch. Fillmore, E. Kubryakova, M. Pencheva, etc. Special attention has been paid to M. Turner and G. Fauconnier's conceptual integration theory due to its application to the analysis of the cognitive processes underlying the functioning of metaphors in medical scientific discourse. The original diagrams created by the author and used further for illustration of the analytical models developed by her first appear in the literature review chapter.

The second chapter presents a review of the conceptual metaphor theory, with interesting parallels between the different views of metaphor since antiquity and a bridge between the works of its researchers in English and Russian language literature. The metaphorical cognitive model of term formation has been examined. The versatility and complexity of metaphor justify the use of a complex methodology for the analysis of metaphor projection in the English terminological systems studied. Providing examples from various languages, including German and French, the author traces the effect of Greek and Latin mainly, and of some other languages, in the formation of the English terms. With regard to this wide basis of the literature used and the language material analysed, the small inaccuracies in the translation of some quotations (e.g. the translation of the phrase *in terms of* as „*в термини на*" on p. 64 and p. 75) or the lack of translation of others ("*cup*/букв. чашка **в значении** кратер/кратер; *floor*/букв. **пол в значении** „дно"/дъно" on p. 146 – *bold type mine*) seem irrelevant.

The third chapter is devoted to the analysis and modelling of the English terms, with a stress on their gradual establishment as a common terminological foundation of medical terminology in other languages as well, especially in the new areas of medicine. The variety and originality of the figures and diagrams used for the visualisation of the main relations, models and classifications in this and the preceding chapters and in the four annexes are impressive. Graphical representation is an approach that finds increasingly wide application in modern linguistic literature. One of the indisputable contributions of the dissertation is the field study presented in detail with its theoretical frame, working hypothesis, aim, objectives, materials and methods, and discussion of the results.

In spite of the slight inaccuracies of a rather technical nature, the dissertation has been set on a solid theoretical basis and written in refined scientific style. It is very well structured and demonstrates an excellent theoretical background, critical analytical skills and dynamic combination of different aspects of the theory, or theories. An extensive English metaphorical corpus has been analysed, with reference to the respective Russian and Bulgarian terms. The study contributes to the creation of precise models of metaphorical terms in various aspects: metaphorisation, structural syntactic characteristics, etymological variety, synonymy, allowing for the results to be used for improvement of the methodology for the analysis of the terminological systems of individual subject areas, for the regulation and standardisation of medical lexis, for the foreign language training of experts in these areas and for the writing of medical textbooks and teaching and learning materials.

6. Evaluation of the PhD student's publications and personal contribution

Svetlana Taneva has published 12 single-authored papers in scientific journals, five of which have been submitted for the current procedure. She has also co-authored a monograph. Thus, she has considerably exceeded the minimum national requirements for the award of a PhD degree.

7. Dissertation summary

The summary is 46 pages in length, including 39 pages of text, a statement of the scientific contributions, the literature review sources, and a list of the publications related to the dissertation topic. It is fully compliant with the dissertation content, and the contributions formulated by the author are in accordance with the results achieved.

8. Recommendations on the future use of the dissertation contributions and results

On the basis of the research potential demonstrated by Svetlana Taneva, I would recommend that she continue her work on the topics included within the scope of her scientific interests and make their results visible on a wider international plane.

CONCLUSION

The dissertation contains scientific and applied science results which represent an original contribution to science and are in conformity with all requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria (ASDARB), the Regulations on the Implementation of ASDARB and the respective regulations of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

The dissertation proves that its author, Svetlana Taneva, has extensive theoretical background and professional skills in scientific area "General and Comparative Linguistics", professional field 2.1. Philology, and demonstrates the qualities and expertise needed for independent research work.

In view of the aforesaid, I have no doubt in expressing my **positive evaluation** of the research conducted and presented in the dissertation, dissertation summary, results achieved and contributions that have been the subject hereof, and I recommend that the honourable members of the scientific jury **award a PhD degree** to Svetlana Yordanova Taneva in higher education area 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology, doctoral programme: General and Comparative Linguistics (Comparative Analysis of English and Russian Medical Terminology).

06 December 2021

Opinion prepared by: .....

(Assoc. Prof. Tsveta Luizova-Horeva, PhD)