

## OPINION

for the selection of an associate professor in the professional direction: 1.2 Pedagogy (Theory of education), announced for the needs of SU "St. Kl. Ohridski"

Author of the opinion: Prof., DSc, Klavdia Sapundjieva, SU

Only one candidate took part in the competition - Ch. Assistant Dr. Alexander Ivanov Ranev. The competition was announced in SG No. 24/17. 03. 2023. According to the procedure, there are no violations, and the presented set of documents complies with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the SU.

### **1. Biographical data and teaching status**

Alexander Ranev was born on September 13, 1973. He graduated from the "Pedagogy" specialty at "St. Kl. Ohridski" University and has a master's degree in pedagogy - educational management. He defended his doctoral dissertation and has been a doctor of pedagogy since 2010. The topic of his dissertation is: "The teacher as a class manager".

Alexander Ranev has been a teacher at the Faculty of Education Sciences and Arts since 2011. His teaching activity is in the direction of the competition and covers the main fields of the Theory of Education, Social and Pedagogical Work at School, Class Management, etc. He is the head of the practice of students from the "Social Pedagogy" specialty. The competition is provided with the necessary hours in the announced scientific direction, and the professional description presents the candidate as an active and responsible teacher and colleague. Proof of this is his participation in the various activities and committees of the faculty and in various scientific projects - 14. He is a member of the Faculty Council. The candidate fully meets the minimum national requirements for the various indicators.

## 2. Scientific creativity

Alexander Ranev is the author of a total of 15 scientific works from different scientific genres. They present him as an author in the field of pedagogy, socio-pedagogical work and non-formal education. In the contest ch. assistant professor Alexander Ranev participated with 14 publications - 1 monograph/habilitation thesis, 1 other monograph, 4 refereed publications, 4 publications in non-refereed editions, 3 studies in Annuals, and 1 chapter in a collective monograph. The main books of the competition are 2 papers (the first two in the list) which present the following contributions:

- Research (independent monograph, 2022) of working with children with challenging behavior and emotional difficulties. A comprehensive approach to behavioral support and education based on the theory and practice of positive education is analyzed and presented, and this is *a real contribution* to pedagogical theory and practice. The substantiation of the understanding of support not only as behavioral, but also as comprehensive educational support expands the field of socio-pedagogical work and the possibilities for its practical implementation. Many examples from practice are included and concrete toolkits for practical work are presented, which is also *a contribution* that reflects not only the theoretical pursuits of the author, but also his experience of working with children and young people.
- Research (independent monograph, 2017) of Petar Danov's pedagogical ideas. The *main contribution* is in the fact of their systematization and analysis in the context of both other alternative theories and from a contemporary point of view, and also in posing some controversial and understudied questions and problems. A specific pedagogical system is justified and presented, which has a resource for future research.

The remaining publications present more research areas and innovative, in the sense of little studied and significant, scientific orientations:

- The practical implementation of school education: the main problems of class management (1-G6, etc.), the practical dimensions of informal learning and education in the Solar pedagogy (1-G7; 2-G9, etc.), management of the symbolic environment in the classroom - (2-G6).
- Social-pedagogical work and positive approaches for physical intervention when working with children with challenging behavior, with an orientation towards modern

practices and approaches - mediation, physical intervention, informal education in the social service "supervised housing", etc.: (3- D6; 4-D7; 3-D7, 1-D10, etc.).

These publications provide the basis for delineating *a real contribution* that provides both concrete guidelines for classroom work and alternative approaches and ideas in the context of non-formal education and socio-pedagogical work. Posts are on the topic of the contest. References are correct. The overall summary of the achievements of the candidate for docent is reflected in the contributions, which correctly reflect what was achieved within the framework of the works on the competition. A list of citations and indexings, which are sufficient and according to the relevant indicators, is also presented. No plagiarism data.

### **3. Critical notes and recommendations**

I recommend a future orientation towards a comprehensive and global research problem in the field of theory and history of traditional and alternative ideas and approaches to education or socio-pedagogical knowledge. I also recommend future even more prominent and versatile creative activity.

### **3. Summary:**

Ch. Assistant Professor Alexander Ranev, Ph.D., is a researcher who demonstrates his enduring interests in the field of educational theory and social pedagogy. He is a teacher with a resource and for future active research work. My personal impressions are of a committed, recognizable and sought-after teacher, a fair colleague and a responsible person.

### **Conclusion:**

Based on the indicated scientific achievements, the candidate's position among the pedagogical community, his overall teaching activity, as well as my personal impressions, I suggest to the members of the esteemed jury *to vote positively* and that Alexander Ranev be elected to the academic position of "associate professor" in SU by professional direction: 1. 2 Pedagogy (Theory of education).

15. 06. 2023

Reviewer:

/prof. DSc Klavdia Sapundjieva/