



ATTITUDE

by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Milena Milanova, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"** about the scientific publications of Dr. Biliana Andreeva Yavrukova presented at the competition for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor" in field of higher education 3. Social Science, Economic Science and Law, professional field 3.5. Public Communication and Information Science (Organization and Management of Information Resources), announced in SG, issue 21/15.03.2022 for the needs of the University Library of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

General characteristics:

The presented by the only candidate Dr. Biliana Andreeva Yavrukova documentations and evidence for the fulfillment of the minimum scientific-metric national requirements under *Article 2b, §2, §3 from Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria* and the requirements for occupying the position under Article 105, § 1 and Article 107, §1, 12-14 from the *Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"* meet the required quantitative indicators (total 423.33 points): 1 monograph (indicator B - 100 points), published book based on a defense dissertation - 1 (indicator D -5 - 75 points), an article published in a scientific journal referenced and indexed in WoS (indicator G-6 - 10 points), 14 articles published in non-refereed publications with scientific review (indicator G-7 - 128.33), 4 citations in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in WoS (indicator D-11 - 60 points).

The candidate is a well-known researcher, practitioner, and lecturer in the field of library science and bibliography. Biliana Yavrukova acquired her higher education in the Department of Library Science, Scientific Information and Cultural Policy at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" (2004). She developed her research interests in the doctoral thesis "Bibliographic control in the process of retrospective conversion and digitalization of funds", successfully defended in 2016.

Dr. Yavrukova's lasting research interests are related to the problems of acquisition of funds, standardization and construction of library catalogs and databases, which is clear from her professional activities, teaching and publishing.

She is an author of 29 publications, 4 professional translations, 10 translations of standards, author of interviews, reviews, and popular science publications (7). She participates as an editor of bibliographies (1), translations (2), and is a member of the editorial board of the journal "BBIA online". Also B. Yavrukova participated in 15 conferences participations with papers or presentations, and in 3 research projects.

Dr. Yavrukova holds consequently the positions of a librarian in the Interlibrary Loan Department (2001-2004), a head of the Book Exchange Department (2004-2008) and a deputy director of the University Library "St. Kliment Ohridski" (since 2008). During this period, she was an individual member of the Bulgarian Library and Information Association (BLIA), in the period 2015-2018 she was a member of the Board of the BLIA, and 2012-2015 she was a chairman of the Section of Scientific Libraries. She was an expert (2012-2015) from Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in TC 16 "Archive, librarianship and information activity" at the Bulgarian Institute of Standardization. Since 2016 she has been a representative of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in TC 16 and actively participating in the creation, adaptation, and translation of standards in the field of archival, library and information activities in Bulgaria. She was also an expert from Bulgaria in the work of ISO/TC46/SC on international standards: International Library Statistics (2020), Performance Indicators in Libraries (2020), Methods and Procedures for Assessing the Impact of Libraries (2020).

B. Yavrukova has not only reach practical, but also teaching experience. She is part of the team in the discipline "Library Science and Bibliography" for undergraduate students from specialty "Archival and Documentary Studies" at the Faculty of History of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", where her work with students undoubtedly leads them to a deep understanding of the subjects and they also receiving of the necessary knowledge and skills. Dr. Yavrukova also works very actively and thoroughly with undergraduate students majoring in Library and Information Sciences during practical classes. She is playing a role of an active link between young colleagues and the profession they are studying. Her work supports the learning process and allows real interaction between employer and education, which is extremely valuable in the learning process and often leads to the successful realization of graduates in the profession they have chosen.

B. Yavrukova is also the winner of the Young Librarian of the Year award for 2010. She was also awarded by the Faculty of Philosophy, Sofia University with a diploma for fruitful cooperation and contribution to the introduction of young librarians in the professional environment in 2013.

Scientific results and contributions:

The research activity, as well as the results and contributions of Dr. Biliana Yavrukova are a reflection of consistent and in-depth professional, pedagogical and practical activities of the candidate.

The monograph (*Development of the Bulgarian tools for building library and information systems: Building the catalog system of the University Library "St. Kliment Ohridski"*) traces thoroughly and comprehensively the stages, methods and processes of building catalogs in libraries in Bulgaria. The author sought comparability in the approach to research on the topic, as well as in the analysis of the environment and results, which allows to trace in detail and in context the individual processes and to clarify the prerequisites and reasons for the current state of the catalog system of Bulgarian libraries. There are comprehensively considered some activities of descriptive and subject cataloguing and standardization of these processes, the aim of which is harmonization and compatibility of bibliographic systems. The example of the University Library "St. Kliment Ohridski" is extremely important and indicative. The reason for this is not only its role and place as a leading scientific library in the country, but also related to the specific practical work on the design, implementation, and construction of the catalog system in the library, the selection and introduction of appropriate integrated library and information system, the successful digitization of its catalogs through the use and application of modern tools and solutions. It is proved that Bulgarian libraries are ready and have the potential to successfully follow the path of updating and implementing standards, rules, and principles of cataloging in accordance with global requirements, thus it is possible to implement a national unified resource with bibliographic data and information on the documentary resources of our country. The model presented by the author following the example of the University Library, as well as the tools for the implementation of vital and high-quality library information systems can successfully assist Bulgarian libraries in planning, adapting and gradually preparing their systems for transition to the next generation library catalogs.

The topic of bibliographic control is discussed in the publication *Bibliographic control in the process of retrospective conversion and digitalization of library collections*, realized as publication based on a successfully defended dissertation. The topic is central to the adaptation of modern principles of cataloging and the implementation of the functions of library catalogs, which in a global digital environment have a critical point for the discovery, identification, selection, access, navigation, and research of bibliographic and authority data.

Through the articles presented by the candidate can be followed her reflections and problematization of various issues on topics related to library catalogs and standardization in library activities, acquisition in libraries, building digital collections, providing access and training users to work with them, evaluation of researchers' scientific publications and the place of libraries in this process.

I would also like to point out that I fully agree with *Appendix №14 Reference to Original Scientific Contributions*. There are studied and presented the tools for creating library catalogs, cooperative cataloguing, standards, conceptual models, library information systems; the implementation of library automatizations, the planning and successful implementation of retrospective conversion, maintenance of digital collections; building an institutional repository; maintaining library collections through new approaches and initiatives; analyzed are the place of the library in support of the open access movement and in creating a national database for citation and evaluation of Bulgarian scientists and researchers.

Impressive is the consistency in the scientific interests of Dr. Yavrukova and the very clear and distinct connection between her practical, pedagogical and research activities. All this gives me reason to consider the candidate extremely prepared and appropriate on the topic of the announced competition.

Comments and questions:

I have the following question for the candidate: According to data from the "Study of the state of public libraries in the country" of the Global Libraries Foundation - Bulgaria Foundation's (2017) „*libraries in Bulgaria do not maintain catalogs on a large scale - 70% have no traditional or electronic catalog*“. What do you think should be the actions of the library community to show better performance?

Conclusion:

Based on the presented documents, the acquaintance with the pedagogical preparation and activity, as well as with the scientific publications and the contributions of Dr. Biliانا Andreeva Yavrukova and according to the requirements of *the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, and the Regulation of its, and Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski"* I declare that the candidate meets the requirements for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor" in field of higher education 3. Social Science, Economic Science and Law, professional field 3.5. Public Communication and Information Science (Organization and Management of Information Resources), announced in SG, issue 21/15.03.2022 for the needs of the University Library of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

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