

OPINION

by competition for the academic position 'Associate Professor'
by Professional direction **1.3. 'Pedagogy of training in...'**,
scientific specialty '**Teaching Methodology in Mathematics and Informatics**',
to the section '**Language training and continuing qualification**'
at the Department of '**Language, Continuing Education and Sports**'

announced in the State Newspaper, issue №38 /28.04.2023,
with **candidate** Elena Koleva Kovacheva, PhD.

Member of the scientific jury: Evgenia Deneva Goranova, PhD, engineer, Associate Professor -
Rousse University 'Angel Kanchev'

1. General characteristics of the candidate's scientific research and applied scientific activity.

Elena Koleva Kovacheva, PhD is a part-time lecturer at the Department of Language, Continuing Education and Sports at TU - Varna.

She participated in the competition with: 1 monograph; 32 scientific publications, of which 2 under indicator Г.6. - referenced by Web of Science, and 32 by indicator Г.7.; 14 studies, of which 12 teaching aids, books for the teacher and collections of information technology tasks. Of the 32 publications presented, Elena Koleva is the first author of 15 of them.

14 citations are presented, of which 2 under indicator D.12. and 12 according to indicator D.13. The applicant's profile shows that her Google Scholar h-index is 2.

The scientific and applied activity of the candidate is confirmed by participation in 15 international and national programs and projects carried out in the period 2015-2022.

The contribution of Elena Koleva, PhD to the development of the university's research base in the furnishing of a multimedia hall worth BGN 30,000 is presented. Deductions for TU from teacher qualification activities worth BGN 10,000 have also been presented.

Information on mobility and participation in international scientific forums is presented.

The research and applied scientific activity of Elena Koleva, PhD fully correspond to the scientific specialty for which the competition has been announced.

From the presented Report on the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for holding the position of 'Associate Professor', it can be seen that the requirements are significantly exceeded. Indicators from group Г. of 200 minimum points are fulfilled 282, 65. Indicators from group D. of 50 minimum points are fulfilled 80.

2. Assessment of the candidate's pedagogical training and activity.

Elena Koleva Kovacheva, PhD has 8 years of teaching experience as an assistant, senior assistant and chief assistant at 'Ep. Konstantin Preslavski' University of Shumen, Department of Information, Qualification and Continuing Education (DIKPO) - city of Varna. She also has 5 years of teaching experience as a part-time lecturer at the Technical University - Varna, Department of

Social and Legal Sciences, Department of Communication Techniques and Technologies, Center for Continuing Education, Department of Language, Continuing Education and Sports
She has conducting training at the TU - Varna in the discipline of General and Social Pedagogy. She has conducted training at the Center for Continuing Education in various long-term and short-term forms in the disciplines - Information and communication technologies in learning and working in a digital environment, Basics of algorithms, Visual programming in a block environment, School course in computer modeling, Teaching methodology in computer modeling, Current pedagogical practice, Internship practice, Modern IT as a didactic tool, Modern IT as a management tool, Competency approach and innovation in education, Python programming, etc. Information is presented to the candidate about her participation in the development of study programs in the aforementioned disciplines.

The submitted references (22-2-1) show that in the last three years, Elena Koleva has conducted a total of 434 hours of lectures and, according to the Rules of TU - Varna, fully satisfied the requirements under indicator "Ж".

I believe that the pedagogical training and various pedagogical activities of Elena Koleva, PhD meet the requirements for occupying the academic position 'Associate Professor'.

3. Basic scientific and scientific-applied contributions.

Elena Koleva, PhD indicates 2 scientific contributions that can be attributed to group B.3.1. Elena Koleva's monograph presents an experimental model for training teachers in Computer Modeling for 3rd and 4th grades in various forms of training and the related rationale for the introduction of the Computer Modeling subject in general education.

There are also 5 scientific and applied contributions that can be referred to groups Г.7, Г.8. and Г.9. Part of these contributions could also be formulated as methodological, since Elena Koleva's publications are related to teaching teachers and students in mathematics, computer modeling and information technology.

Of the citations that are from groups D.12. and D.13, it can be seen that the candidate's scientific research has found an echo in monographs, collective volumes and non-refereed journals with scientific review in Bulgarian editions.

I have no doubts about the applicant's personal contribution in the said contributions.

4. Significance of contributions for science and practice.

The scientific achievements of Elena Koleva, PhD have contributed to the introduction of training in the subject "Computer Modeling" in the primary levels of education - 3rd and 4th grades and to the training of teachers for its teaching.

Elena Koleva, PhD has introduced innovative approaches to the training of mathematics and information technology teachers. Her participation in the author's collectives of numerous teaching aids for the secondary school make her recognizable in the scientific and teaching circles in our country.

I give a high assessment of the significance of the contributions to science and practice, and I consider that the quantitative indicators of the criteria for holding the academic position 'Associate Professor' have been fulfilled.

5. Critical notes and recommendations.

I have no significant criticisms of the candidate, but I recommend Elena Koleva, PhD to publish the results of her scientific research in English in refereed publications. Thus, the international scientific community will have access to them and be able to reflect on them.

CONCLUSION

From the presented materials, it follows that the normative requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, of the Rules for the Terms and Procedures for the Occupancy of Academic Positions at TU-Varna for the occupation of the academic position 'Associate Professor' have been met.

Based on familiarization with the presented scientific works, their importance, the scientific and scientific-applied contributions contained in them, I find it reasonable to propose Elena Koleva Kovacheva, PhD to occupy the academic position 'Associate Professor' in the professional direction 1.3. 'Pedagogy of training in...' in the 'Pedagogy of training in mathematics and informatics'.

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Member of the
/Assoc. Prof. Evgenia Goranova, PhD /