

OPINION

assoc. prof. Doncho Stoyanov Donev, PhD
Burgas Free University,
member of a scientific jury, according to Order No. 3288/28.09.2023 of the
Rector of Thrace University in a competition for the academic position
"Associate Professor" in professional direction 3.2. Psychology, on the scientific
specialty "Pedagogical and age psychology (Adlerian approach)", promulgated
in Darzhaven vestnik no. 60/14.07.2023.

Contest details

One candidate participated in the competition - Assistant Professor
Nedelina Zdravkova Koleva.

In the presented documents, no inconsistencies with the requirements for
participation in the competition were found. The requirements of ZRASRB and
the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at Thrace University -
Stara Zagora have been met. All data related to the candidate's compliance with
the requirements for the position, his biography, his teaching activity and research
activity are taken from the documents provided by the candidate himself for the
competition.

Biographical data for the candidate

In 2002, Assistant Professor Nedelina Koleva successfully completed her
studies in the Bachelor's program in Special Pedagogy at the Faculty of Pedagogy
- University of Thrace. Six years later, he obtained a master's degree from Veliko
Tarnovo University "St. St. Cyril and Methodius" majoring in "Psychology".
Develops and builds professional competencies in the field of psychology in
courses and postgraduate qualifications.

Since 2008, he has been an assistant at the Faculty of Education of Thrace
University - Stara Zagora. He obtained the educational and scientific degree of
Doctor in 2019 with the scientific specialty "Pedagogical and Age Psychology".
Leads lectures and seminar exercises with students of psychological disciplines.

He is a regular member of the Bulgarian Society for Individual Psychology
"Alfred Adler" - Stara Zagora and the Union of the Hearing - Satara Zagora.

Scientific production

Habilitation thesis entitled "Lifestyle and social interest in preschool age",
published in 2023. The monograph presents an original study of the relationship
between levels of social interest and lifestyle in preschool children. The
measurement of social interest was carried out through an author's questionnaire,
which was filled out by teachers based on their personal observations of children's
behavior. As a criterion - defining the lifestyle - the ethnic origin of two
researched groups was applied. The results establish differences in the levels of

social interest, which the author relates to the ethno-cultural differences of the two ethnic groups.

A monography, not presented as a major habilitation thesis published in 2023 with the title "Social responsibility and social interest - predictors of teachers' professional suitability". In the monograph, a detailed analysis of the psychological requirements for the teacher was carried out, clearly stating the need for professionalism. After clarifying the constructs of 'social responsibility' and 'social interest', they are presented in the context of their interrelationship within the teaching profession. An empirical study was conducted with 50 teachers. Correlation analysis (Pearson's coefficient) was used to verify the relationship between the two variables. Thus, it was found that the strength of the relationship between the levels of social responsibility and social interest depends on the age of the students with whom the teachers work.

A book based on a defended dissertation, published in 2023 with the title "Social interest and educational environment". In it, a detailed analysis of the social interest is made, which is postulated as determining the socialization of the person. An empirical study was conducted to establish the levels of social interest in children raised in family and non-family environments. On this basis, a model for the development of social interest in preschool children raised outside the family is proposed.

Articles and studies

Attached to the candidate's documents for the current competition are seven articles and one study, all with one author - Assistant Professor Nedelina Koleva. The materials were published in non-refereed editions with scientific review in the period from 2004 to 2023. They correspond thematically and content to the professional field and scientific specialty specified in the competition announcement. The articles do not repeat the materials used by Assistant Professor Nedelina Koleva to acquire the scientific and educational degree Doctor.

Quoted

A list of the required evidentiary material for the scholarly citation and impact of the candidate's work is attached. A total of 9 citations are noted and indicated. Of these, 2 are in articles published in scientific journals referenced in SCOPUS and WOS. Another 5 are in articles in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals. Two citations in monographs are also indicated.

Contributions

I fully accept the scientific contributions proposed by Assistant Professor Nedelina Koleva based on the two monographs with which she participated in the competition.

Teaching activity

From the information in the applicant's CV, it is clear that Assistant Professor Nedelina Koleva is engaged in lectures and seminars on Social Psychology, Prevention of addictions, Psychological counseling and personal development of children with special educational needs. Leads seminars on General and age psychology, Educational psychology, Psychology of individual differences, Pedagogical and psychological characteristics of early childhood. He supervises the study practice and the pre-graduate internship of students from the "Social Pedagogy" specialty.

Conclusion

A list of the required evidentiary material for the scholarly citation and impact of the candidate's work is attached. Conclusion

The formal requirements for participation in the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in a professional direction 3.2. "Psychology", with a scientific specialty "Pedagogical and age psychology (Adlerian approach)" are observed. The scientific research activity of the candidate is in accordance with the declared direction and scientific specialty. No evidence of plagiarism was found during the examination of the scientific production.

I believe that with her overall teaching and research activities, Assistant Professor Nedelina Koleva proves that she has the necessary qualities and skills to occupy the academic position of "Associate Professor".

I propose to the esteemed scientific jury that the candidacy be approved and I vote positively for Assistant Professor Nedelina Koleva to be proposed to the Faculty Council for the appointment of the academic position "Associate Professor".

02.12.2023

Assoc. Dr. Doncho Donev.....

/member of the scientific jury/