

## **OPINION**

of Prof. Ph.D. Tanya Ivanova Borisova,

member of a scientific jury, according to Order No. 4381/06.12.2023 of the Rector of Thrace University in a competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in "Literature for Children"

in the field of higher education 1. "Pedagogical Sciences"; Professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy, announced by Thrace University Stara Zagora in State Gazette No. 88/20.10.2023

### **1. Legality of the procedure**

One candidate took part in the announced competition - Ch. assistant Dr. Plamen Penev Penev. All submitted documents are in accordance with the requirements of the RASRB and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff of Thrace University. The attached reference for the individual scientometric indicators shows that the minimum national requirements for acquiring the academic position "docent" have been met, as follows:

In group A, the candidate has 50 points if 50 points are required;

in group B - 100 items if 100 items are required;

in group D- 670 items with a requirement for 200 items /more than three times/;

in group D - 85 accumulated points, with a requirement for 50 points.

I have not found any plagiarism during the check of the submitted publications.

### **2. Biographical data about the candidate**

Ch. Dr. Plamen Penev Penev graduated from VTU "St. Cyril and Methodius" with the qualification "Master of Bulgarian language and history and secondary school teacher".

In 2008, VAK awarded him the educational and scientific degree "doctor" in the scientific specialty 05.04.02 "Bulgarian literature", with a dissertation on the topic "The poetry of Ivan Tsanev in the context of modern Bulgarian literature".

In 2020, after winning a competition, he held the academic position of "principal assistant" at the "Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy" department at the Faculty of Education at Thrace University.

He is a member of the Union of Bulgarian Writers.

### **3. Scientific production**

In the competition, 4 monographs, one abstract and 61 publications in specialized publications, as well as developed curricula for training students and specialists, were submitted for review.

The monograph "The child and children's. The evolution of I-a child in Bulgarian poetry. Between children's literature and other literature (50s - 90s of the 20th century. In it, the author seeks in Bulgarian literature essential features of the pan-European humanitarianism with their basic high artistic-creative, ideological and ethical horizons, in the context of the new Bulgarian poetry for children, from the second half of the 20th century to the present day. The

ideological territories in which the other and children's poetry are located, their relations to the socio-political field and to the person, as a central, ideological-ethical and ideological, meaning-generating symbol are skillfully outlined . It shows the author's ability to collect, process and analyze an incredible amount of data, making sense of it and giving it his own signature. Of course, his style is distinguished by flowing sentences and "running" thought, but it is individual and very well related to the scientific style .

The second monograph, in two separate parts of more than 250 pages, "Critical Chronicle" focuses on essential, analytical-scientific touches and cuts, portraying important names from our recent literary history, touching on the present. By looking at the creative worlds of famous authors from the 90s of the 20th century, we are looking for an entry in the "classical" and tradition, the principles determining this intersection and processes of diffusion, the philosophy of the literary/lyrical essence.

The next monograph "Notes. Begining. Literary-Historical Etudes" follows the author's logic and desire to delve ever deeper into the creative paths of well-known and not so well-known names, making up the colorful picture and diverse chronicle in the modern literary life of the Bulgarian cultural reality such as P. Alipiev, Iv . Tsanev, L. Levchev, Hr. Trendafilov, Ant. Alipieva, Semo Rusev, Vl. Popov and others. Common literary-historical and ideological-philosophical intersections between the phenomena of life and verbal art, in their processuality, as well as their confirmation in the literary tradition, were sought.

I will not comment on the books "Two volumes about Ivan Tsanev", on the basis of a dissertation work. They clearly show the dedication of Dr. Penev to Ivan Tsanev as an artist who continuously and constructively relates both to the modern Bulgarian canon of the first two or three decades of the 20th century, renewed and restored it, and to the global breakthroughs in general modernity.

### **Articles:**

61 articles are attached to the candidate's documents for the current competition, all with one author - Plamen Penev. The materials have been published in non-refereed editions with scientific review until 2023. They correspond thematically and content to the professional direction and scientific specialty specified in the competition announcement.

### **Citations:**

A list of the required evidentiary material for the scholarly citation and impact of the candidate's work is attached. They are in articles published in peer-reviewed journals. Citations in monographs are also indicated.

### **Contributions:**

In detail, the author has brought them out and grouped them in two directions. I accept his classification, noting only the more important ones:

#### *1. Scientific research*

1.1. In detail, in-depth and in good faith, analytical cuts have been made between operative criticism and the scientific-analytical field, especially in the direction of "the child and the children's" in the evolution of the AZ in the articulation of important ideological and textological angles from our most recent literary history, from the second half of the 20th

century to the present day. And in this way these new judgments fit into the great, timeless cultural and literary pantheon, asserting themselves in the modernist literary tradition.

1.2. A number of research dimensions of literary works, new valuable samples of the important names from the modern native literary chronology are presented.

1.3. The etymological first basis of the creative, in its unadulterated language, emotionality, creative laboratories, figurative-metaphorical creations, synonymous with tradition and timeliness, have been traced and gathered into a single whole.

1.4. A model of author's interpretation of artistic reality is presented.

2. The scientific and applied contributions can for now be sought in the application of Dr. Penev's research ideas in the author's training programs for student teachers. The programs on "Bulgarian literature for children", "World/European literature for children", "Artistic reality and tropes in children's literature", "Creative writing..." (in which the problem of scientific creativity) are a natural extension of scientific research, of the vision of scientific creativity and of verbal art in a unified whole with the contact and transmission of the audience with the levels of birth, creation, with the creative laboratory of the verbal arts, and through the great names and their examples

#### **Recommendations:**

An urgent task for Dr. Penev is to systematize and publish studies for the education of students in the "Literature for Children" discipline, in which to outline the self of the child in the context of the mandatory texts in the reading books 1-4 grades.

#### **Conclusion:**

I know Ch. Plamen Penev, Ph.D., both as a teacher, as a colleague, and as a scientist. He is a writer, a poet, and a scientist, but above all a man. Uses authority among colleagues. Able to communicate with students. His scientific and pedagogical activities satisfy the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Belarus and the Rules of its application.

Giving my positive assessment of the candidate's educational and teaching activities, the scientific significance of the publications and the citations resulting from them, I confidently propose to the scientific jury and the FS of the PF to choose the academic position of "associate professor" in "Literature for children" in the field of higher education 1. "Pedagogical sciences"; Professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy, ch. assistant Dr. Plamen Penev Penev.

30.01.2024

Prof. Dr. Tanya Ivanova Borisova, Ph.D.