

**UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN  
"BISHOP KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKI"**

**TO THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY  
FOR THE COMPETITION FOR THE ACADEMIC POST OF  
"ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR"  
AT TR.U - STARA ZAGORA**

**OPINION  
ON SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION  
TO ASSISTANT DONKA DINCHEVA ZHELEVA-TERZIEVA, DOCTOR  
IN THEORY OF EDUCATION AND DIDACTIC, LECTURER AT TR.U -  
PF, FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION FOR THE  
ACADEMIC POST OF "ASSOCIANT PROFESSOR"**

**AUTHOR: PROF. DR. HABIL. MALCHO MALCHEV - HONORARY  
LECTURER AT "BISHOP KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKI" UNIVERSITI**

In the competition for "associate professor", announced in the State Gazette, no. 38 of 28.04.2023 and on the website of the University of Applied Sciences for the appointment of an academic position "associate professor" in "Methodology of training in physical education (Sports animation)", in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.3 Pedagogy of training in... for the needs of the "Preschool and primary school pedagogy" department at the PF, assistant professor Donka Dincheva Zheleva - Terzieva - the only candidate.

**1. General presentation of the received materials**

By order No. 2348 of 29.06.2023 of the Rector of the University of Applied Sciences (on the basis of Art. 4, Para. 5, Item 4 of the ZRASRB and Art. 5, Para. (14) and (15) of PRASTr. U and the Dean of the PF), I have been designated as a member of the scientific jury for the competition for the academic position of "associate professor" - area of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.3. Pedagogy of training in ... ("Methodology of training in physical education (Sports animation)"), announced for the needs of the "Preschool and primary school pedagogy" department at the PF.

To participate in the competition announced above, the candidate Donka Dincheva Zheleva-Terzieva, PhD, submitted the necessary set of documents and materials on paper and electronic media in accordance with PRASTr.U, on the basis of which she was admitted to participate in the competition . The candidate

UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN  
"BISHOP KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKI"

has signed a declaration of authenticity of the presented materials and the information therein.

***Conclusion on item 1. - I have not found any violations of the competition procedure.***

**2. Brief biographical data about the candidate**

The candidate for associate professor, Dr. Donka Zheleva-Terzieva, was born on September 2, 1972. He received his higher education at the "Vasil Levski" National Academy of Sciences for the period 1992-1996, "Bachelor" at the Academy of Arts. He acquired the qualification "Football coach and physical education teacher". Later, in the same institution, he acquired the qualification "Physical education and sports at the secondary school level" in the OCS "master".

The candidate's professional development is in the educational institutions in the sphere of CO in Stara Zagora as a sports pedagogue - a teacher of Physical Education and Sports. He is also involved in football coaching.

From May 11, 2015 until now, Donka Zheleva-Terzieva works as an assistant in TMFVST (incl. exercise training methodology) at the PF of Tr.U. On April 4, 2021, he defended his dissertation on the topic: *"Formation of professional-pedagogical competence for sports-animation activity"* and acquired a diploma for the National Academy of Sciences *"doctor"* in *Theory of education and didactics*.

The main activities and responsibilities in the academic career of the candidate in Tr.U are in accordance with the job description for a teacher. Leads lectures and exercises on: *Physical education and sports; Sports animation in the educational environment; Disputed Games in NEO; Biological regularities and social functions of motor activity; Methodical aspects of physical education; Competency approach and innovations in physical education education*; quite a wide range of the methods of different sports (mainly handball and football) and very specific sports activities, such as tourism, mountaineering and orienteering; *Sports and leisure recreation; Sports-preparatory activity in DG* and others.

Assistant Professor Donka Zheleva's organizational skills acquired as a participant and organizer of a number of regional and national projects, seminars, courses and children's events can be characterized as very good. She also has the necessary communication and interpersonal skills, especially when it comes to her activity in the field of animation.

The language skills declared by assistant professor Donka Zheleva-Terzieva are: Native language: Bulgarian. Other languages: English - level B2 and Russian - level B1. To the above, we should add that assistant professor Dr. Terzieva is also distinguished by valuable professional skills that are

UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN  
"BISHOP KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKI"

predetermined by the acquired digital competences: working with Microsoft Office, Word, Excel, PowerPoint.

**3. General characteristics of the candidate's scientific activity**

The analysis of adj. 8.4. from the documentation of assistant professor Donka Zheleva for the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements and the additional requirements set by PRASTr.U - Stara Zagora proves that the author has generated **545 points** from the indicators in sections "A" to "D" against the required 400 points and **145 points** from the additional university indicators "E" (*Participation in a national scientific or educational project*) and "G" (*Developed curricula / led study disciplines in educational and qualification forms and Participation with reports in international scientific forums abroad*).

For the competition, assistant professor Donka Zheleva-Terzieva presented a list of her scientific production of a total of 26 titles. In terms of scope, significance, nature and applicability, the candidate's production submitted for review consists of: a dissertation for the ONS "doctor", which is not subject to review and evaluation; habilitation thesis - monograph - 1 pc.; published book based on a protected dissertation work - qualified by the candidate in the competition as a monograph - 1 piece; 22 articles and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes and 1 no. published chapter in collective monograph.

*My familiarity with the presented production over time gives me reason to characterize the sustainable and multidirectional development of the author's scientific interests, which is predetermined by her multifaceted academic commitment.*

The competition is provided with the necessary schedule of academic workload.

**4. Evaluation of the candidate's scientific, scientific-applied and project activities**

Most of the publications of Assistant Professor Donka Zheleva-Terzieva are devoted to general educational aspects and specific scientific questions related to the nature of sports animation in today's times and priority the modern trends and approaches of sports and animation activities in an educational environment - mainly SU (theory and practice). Another part of the publications is devoted to the formation of the sports and animation competence of the pedagogues in the process of sports education in VU. To this main group I refer first of all the book "Sports-animation competence of the pedagogue" and those with numbers from 7.1. until

UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN  
"BISHOP KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKI"

7.9., 7.13 and 7.16. In the mentioned publications, the subject of research gravitates mainly around the sports-animation competence and activity of educators when working with children of preschool age and students from the initial stage of education and upper school grades.

Another group of publications is devoted to topics related to physical education and sports in SU - list numbers 7.17, 7.18, 7.19, 7.20, 7.21 and 7.22.

Undoubtedly, the public anxieties that we experienced around the Covid pandemic have not remained aside from the scientific interests of Associate Dr. Terzieva. In the publications numbered 7.10, 7.11 and 7.12, she illuminates the specific problems in the implementation of distance learning in the discipline "Physical education and sports" and motor activity in extracurricular activities.

My general conclusion under point 4 of this opinion is that Assistant Professor Donka Zheleva-Terzieva has grown in a scientific sense during the time from the defense of her dissertation work to the present moment. She knows the methodological essence and philosophy of research in the niche of modern pedagogical research and naturally - I cannot help but note - also in the field of exponentially developing sports.

**5. Basic scientific and scientific-applied contributions.**

The reference for the scientific and scientific-applied contributions of assistant professor Donka Zheleva-Terzieva reflects in too much detail (unnecessarily in some areas) the candidate's assessments of the main moments and contributions in the scientific and scientific-applied production presented by her. I accept contributions with signature 1.1 as basic. and 1.2. from the direction "*Sports and animation competence of the teacher*" and contribution 2.1. from the direction "*Current highlights in the field of physical culture practice*".

No grounds can be found for the developed curricula for the various educational and qualification forms be protected as scientific contributions, since in terms of content they are a multiplication of the contributions mentioned above 1.1. and 1.2.

The same applies to the management of the academic disciplines mentioned by assistant professor Dr. Terzieva, which is a professional didactic duty of every teacher.

In conclusion under point 5, I will add that citations (provided they are positive) are recognition of other authors for contributions to a colleague from the academic guild. Therefore, they should not be explained in the category **Basic scientific and scientific-applied contributions.**

**6. Critical notes and recommendations**

UNIVERSITY OF SHUMEN  
"BISHOP KONSTANTIN PRES LAVSKI"

Against the background of my overall extremely positive attitude towards the candidacy for associate professor, I will also make the following recommendation to the candidate's realized and future publication activity - to refer to the history of physical culture the archaic concept of physical culture and its derivatives, physical culture practice, etc. similar.

Additionally, I would like to point out that I have no joint publications with the associate professor candidate. I have not encountered traces and evidence of improper use of scientific developments and results of other authors.

**Conclusion**

The realized scientific-research and teaching-teaching activity of the candidate for associate professor gives me confidence and reason to state that she is a built researcher with the necessary theoretical and applied-methodological training and potential of a proven university teacher. On the basis of all this, as well as the thematic focus of the announced competition, I find the conviction to give my positive assessment and to recommend to the scientific jury to elect Assistant Professor Donka Dincheva Zheleva-Terzieva to the academic position of "**associate professor**" at Tr.U - field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.3. Pedagogy of training in ... ("Methodology of training in physical education (Sports animation)"), announced for the needs of the department of "Preschool and primary school pedagogy" at PF.

Prepared the opinion: Prof. Malcho Malchev, DH

27.08.2023

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