

STATEMENT

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Boryana Ilieva Todorova,

Angel Kanchev University of Ruse,

member of a scientific jury

in a competition for the academic position *Associate Professor* in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3 Pedagogy of teaching in... (Methodology of Music Education),

announced in an Official Gazette, issue 98 / 17.11.2020 and on the website of the University of Shumen Bishop Konstantin Preslavski for the needs of the Department Musical Aesthetics, Music Education and Performance at the Pedagogical Faculty

on the materials submitted for participation in the competition by

Chief Assistant PhD Liuba Atanasova Zlatkova from the same department

1. Professional development of the candidate

Chief Assistant Liuba Zlatkova, PhD graduated with a master's degree in Music Pedagogy at AMTII – Plovdiv in 1985. On this basis, she developed her professional interests and achieved successful realization. She supplemented her competencies with a specialization in Rhythmics at P. Vladigerov State Academy of Music, Sofia in 1994-1995. She worked as a music teacher, piano teacher, and since 1988 as a lecturer at the University of Shumen. She successively holds the academic positions of *assistant*, *senior assistant* and *chief assistant*. In 2015 she successfully defended her dissertation on *Dance genres and their place in music education*, for which she was awarded PhD in the Methodology of Music Education in PN 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching in...

L. Zlatkova's academic engagement as a university lecturer is mainly related to disciplines such as Methodology of Music Education, Rhythmics, Music and Stage Directing for Children. Her research interests are in the field of rhythmics, plastics and integration between arts, she pays special attention to the philosophy of art and educational systems.

Liuba Zlatkova participates in teacher mobility under the Erasmus+ program: Belgium, 2005 – KATHO; Poland, 2017 – Bydgoszcz, Kazimierz the Great University; Spain, 2019 – University of Cordoba.

Her work on various projects is especially active and productive – about 20 in number, research, education, in the field of art and culture.

2. General description of the submitted materials

Scientific publications

Chief Assistant Liuba Zlatkova, PhD participates in the competition with the following materials for scientific and applied research:

- Monograph – 1;

- Articles and reports published in unreferenced journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes – 23, of which 22 individual and 1 co-authored,

These publications provide the required 100 points for habilitation work (monograph) and 225 points for other scientific publications, which exceeds the required minimum of 200 points in this group.

The listed works do not include 3 independent publications in the category Articles and reports, published in unreferenced journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes, which are presented in her PhD dissertation – 30 points.

Reflection of the candidate's scientific publications in the literature (known citations)

A reference is presented, including 7 known citations:

- citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review – 4 issues;
- citations or reviews in unreferenced journals with scientific review – 3 issues.

These citations provide a total of 55 points, which exceeds the required minimum of 50 points. In my opinion, the 3 citations referred to the second subparagraph are in fact made in collective volumes with scientific review and 10 citation points should be taken into account.

3. General characteristics of the candidate's activity

L. Zlatkova builds her pedagogical philosophy, which finds convincing expression in the materials presented for the current competition for habilitation. The materials reflect her work over a period of 9 years as a university lecturer and a research scientist.

Educational and pedagogical activity (work with students)

L. Zlatkova conducts academic work with students pursuing either a bachelor's or master's degree in Pedagogy of Music Education, as well as in the other pedagogical specialisations.

In the speciality Pedagogy of Music Education she leads lectures and seminars in the discipline Theory and Methodology of Music Education in Kindergarten, laboratory exercises in Rhythmics and Music and Stage Directing for children in bachelor's degree and Rhythmic education for teachers in master's programs. She is also in charge of conducting current and undergraduate pedagogical practice.

In the other pedagogical specialties in bachelor programs she conducts training in Theory and Methodology of Music Education in Kindergarten – lectures and exercises, exercises in Methodology of music education in primary school, four other disciplines in pedagogical practice.

Liuba Zlatkova is an author of 4 curricula and a textbook entitled *Rhythmic Education for Teachers*, which is not the subject of this competition.

This gives us reason to note the deep commitment and harmonious combination of educational work, research interests and publishing activity with the work of the candidate on educational and research projects together with students, children and youth.

Scientific and scientifically applied activity

The thematic directions in the research and publications of Liuba Zlatkova can be summarized as follows:

- Basic principles of nature and existence, reflected in culture and education.

The principles of wholeness/unity, of rhythm and opposites, of movement and change are the basis for research in a number of the candidate's publications. Aspects of the idea of integrity in culture, folk art, their historical development are considered [publications 1, 4, 12], in the educational process [publications 23, 18, 17]. The principle of rhythm is a dominant theme in the work of L. Zlatkova. She examines its manifestations in the field of art, in various musical genres, in genres in folk art, but also in the processes of education and upbringing [publications 1, 5, 9, 13, 14, 15, 19]. The connections of rhythm with change and movements, revealing semantic accents and applications in the educational process are also the subject of research [publications 16, 21, 24]. L. Zlatkova connects the idea of unity with the revelation of opposites in the whole [publications 10, 12].

- The rhythmic model in art, education and upbringing.

A number of publications are devoted to the development of specific rhythmic models representing different genres in art and in particular musical genres, genres in folk art [publications 1, 6, 7, 8]

- Music lectures and art studios – forms of training and education.

Some of the ideas developed in the above publications, L. Zlatkova applies in forms for extracurricular activities of students, in which students of pedagogical specialties are actively involved as leaders [publications 2, 3, 20, 22].

Implementation activity

The results of the scientific activity of L. Zlatkova in the field of the Methodology of music education are implemented in the educational process as innovative educational technologies. Innovative developments from project work are also implemented in the teaching practice of secondary and higher education. Of particular importance in this regard is the textbook issued by the candidate “Rhythmic education for teachers.”

Contributions (scientific, scientifically applied, applied)

Scientific contributions:

- Derivation, study and enrichment, refinement of the concept of rhythmic model.
- Derivation and definition of the rhythmic model in art on the basis of some studied folk art's elements, analysis and generalization of the symbolism in it in its functioning connection.

- Derivation of the concepts of form and content as basic for folk art and its elements in terms of understanding the symbols in it, as carriers of knowledge of historicity, belonging, nationality.
- Defining the concept of rhythmic model of dance genres as a complex of specific characteristics.

Scientific and applied contributions:

- Discovering, describing and explaining the rhythmic models in different genres of the folk art.
- Setting the characteristics of the dance genre in music – the rhythmic model, on the basis of methodical work with students – future music teachers.

Applied contributions:

- Development of an original methodological system for working with students majoring in *Pedagogy of Music Education*, related to the awareness of the primary genres in music based on rhythm and movement. System introduction in student's pedagogical practice in primary school.
- Creating an educational model for work in primary school, based on the understanding of the world as a whole – on the principle of integrity of folk art and its functioning as a single organism.
- Creation and management of an original extracurricular art work form – non-profit organisation *Art Workshop*. Developing a system for work of students-teachers with interests in various arts as leaders of *art studios* who have to discover and develop the creativity of primary school children.
- Creating, leading and conducting educational music lectures with students and primary school children which aim to increase the understanding and awareness of music genres.
- Developed rhythmic models for application in the work or in the training of professionals or students dealing with folk art.

4. Assessment of the personal contribution of the candidate

The objective analysis of the derived contributions shows that they are a personal and independent work of Dr. Liuba Zlatkova. All scientific publications are in academic style, which determines the significance and originality of scientific achievements. The authenticity of the submitted materials under the competition is supported by the respective declaration (for authenticity of the information), signed by the candidate.

5. Personal impressions

The candidate develops purposeful and in-depth research and applied research. The materials presented at the competition are well systematized and shaped, and the contributions are significant and indisputable. I highly appreciate the professional qualities of Dr. Liuba Zlatkova.

6. Questions and critical remarks

I have no critical remarks or questions to the candidate. My recommendation in the coming years is based on his rich teaching and practical experience to develop teaching aids for students and /or pupils.

7. Conclusion

Based on the above, I believe that the candidate meets the requirements of the Development of the Academic Personnel in the Republic of Bulgaria Act (DAPRBA) , applications of the DAPRBA and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the University of Shumen Bishop Konstantin Preslavski. All this gives me a reason to evaluate positively its overall activity.

I am voting in favour and I propose to the esteemed scientific jury that Chief Assistant PhD Liuba Atanasova Zlatkova be elected for the academic position of *Associate Professor* in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3 musical education and performance at the Pedagogical Faculty of University of Shumen Bishop Konstantin Preslavski.

March 4, 2021.

Member of the jury:



/Assoc. Professor Dr. B. Todorova/