

STATEMENT

of Prof. Yordanka Stoyanova Peycheva, PhD

member of the scientific jury in the competition for the academic position of "Professor" in: field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching... (Methodology of teaching music), announced by the "Konstantin Preslavsky" University of Shumen in the State Gazette, issue. 94 / 12.11.2021

I. Contest data

The competition for the academic position of "Professor" at the "Konstantin Preslavsky" University of Shumen in: field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching in... (Methodology of teaching in music), published in the State Gazette, issue 94 / 12.11.2021 is in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations of the "Konstantin Preslavsky" University of Shumen for the acquisition of scientific degrees and holding academic positions.

Only one candidate participates in the competition - **Assoc. Prof. Yanna Pavlova Ruskova, PhD.**

II. Candidate details

Assoc. Prof. Yanna Pavlova Ruskova, PhD graduated from the Higher Institute of Music Pedagogy in Plovdiv (AMTII) in 1984, majoring in Music Pedagogy – qualified as a music teacher, accordion and solfeggio teacher.

In the period 1984-2002 she worked as: teacher and teacher-lecturer in music and accordion at the "Nancho Popovich" High School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, was a teacher-lecturer in accordion and electronic instruments at the "Sava Dobroplodni" High School, and a teacher-lecturer in music and electronic instruments at "Dobri Voynikov" private school in Shumen.

Since 1989 she has been working at "Konstantin Preslavsky" University of Shumen.

In 2013 she was awarded the educational and scientific degree of "Doctor" in Methodology of Music Education, and in 2015 she held the academic position of "Associate Professor" in Methodology of Music Education.

In addition to teaching, Assoc. Prof. Ruskova is also engaged in professional and artistic activities: in 1987 she was a choir accompanist at the Ministry of Interior in Shumen; since 1999 she has been the artistic director and accompanist of the Vocal Studio "Dominanta" in Novi Pazar. She has had numerous solo concerts and has participated in festivals as a group leader.

She improved her artistic and creative skills and competencies by attending accordion qualifications at the International Summer School in Varna and the International Summer Seminar in Burgas.

The presented set of materials includes all documents required under Art. 2 b, para. 2 and 3 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of "Konstantin Preslavsky" University of Shumen.

In order to participate in the competition, the candidate for the academic position of "professor" has applied: 2 monographs, 18 articles, of which 15 independent and 3 co-authored, 20 textbooks co-authored, 19 teaching aids co-authored. The articles have been published in authoritative journals and thematic collections, and have been included in the national reference list of contemporary international and Bulgarian scientific journals with scientific review.

III. The teaching activity of Assoc. Prof. Ruskova includes lecture courses and exercises in the following majors: "Pedagogy of music education", "Preschool and primary school pedagogy", "Primary school pedagogy with a foreign language" and "Preschool pedagogy with a foreign language" in Bachelor's degree and Master's degree. The disciplines taught are mainly in the field of music teaching methodology in schools and kindergartens, but there are also those related to practical training and artistic and creative activities needed by future music teachers – accordion and piano playing, electronic musical instruments. She is the author of the respective curricula in the indicated majors.

Assoc. Prof. Ruskova is an established competent and authoritative teacher who applies modern methods and teaching aids, which contribute to building the image and competencies of the modern music pedagogue. Apart from the training of future teachers, her expert activity includes conducting qualification courses and webinars for teachers by using current curricula - 14 in number.

As a highly qualified lecturer and researcher with the ability to carry out and lead research activities, she has been entrusted with the scientific guidance of four doctoral students, one of whom successfully defended his dissertation in 2020.

As a leading music teacher in the state, from 2002 to 2021 she was a member of the organizing committee and the jury of the National Accordion Competition "Dancing Keys" in Novi Pazar.

She has participated in 1 national and 7 university projects, of which she is the leader of 4 of them.

IV. Scientific activity

Monographic works

The monograph "Contemporary music pedagogy. Theoretical and analytical aspects" is the main habilitation thesis presented by the candidate. The main topic is the pedagogical guidelines, determining the characteristics of modern music pedagogy and its corresponding professional training of music teachers.

The work successfully fills a niche in contemporary music pedagogy by uniting traditions, modernity and perspectives in the development of music education.

The research methodology is based on a multifaceted consideration of the problem - in philosophical, theoretical, practical-applied and pedagogical aspect. The in-depth presentation of the theoretical and analytical aspects of music art in relation to its functions in the context of philosophy and modern education, give the author a reason to derive an innovative, competency model of the music teacher, which combines key, professional and basic competencies.

Chapter III presents the main didactic aspects that must be consistent with the model of the music lesson, arising from current trends in education and current educational documentation.

Assoc. Prof. Ruskova's long experience as a university lecturer and author of music textbooks and manuals for all grades is not only a basis for creating specific guidelines for methodological implementation of music content, but also justifies her critical remarks on the application of incorrect methodological approaches in some of the new textbooks.

The monograph "Professional and personal development of students - future music teachers. Professional Self-Determination" is a published book based on a defended dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor".

The essence of the research consists in testing and deriving an original functional model for professional self-determination of future music teachers.

The special attention of the author to the problem of self-knowledge and motivation for professional and personal self-determination of students is focused not only on their effective basic training, but also on their overall professional and personal development.

The empirical research is based on an innovative approach, as a result of which a qualitative characteristic of the object is reached - the students - music pedagogues in the field of cognitive, motivational-value and operational spheres.

The tested methodology is universal and applicable for research of students from other specialties, which expands the tools of pedagogical diagnostics in terms of general didactics.

The work is a testament to the author's contribution in the field of music pedagogy and psychology, which are enriched in both theoretical and practical-applied aspects in terms of professional and personal development and formation of the future music pedagogue.

The proposed pedagogical technology contributes to improving the quality of work of the university lecturer and increasing the efficiency of the educational process of future music teachers.

Articles

The main research interest of Assoc. Prof. Ruskova in various aspects of music education in secondary schools and the construction of a modern image of the music teacher, is expressed in the peer-reviewed articles. The publications are of high scientific value, contain innovative, proven concepts of theoretical and practical nature, are specific and precise, which makes them valuable and applicable in consumer practice.

The following problem areas in the field of music pedagogy are thoroughly and comprehensively studied:

- As a result of the author's efforts to find innovative solutions for the formation of professional competencies and qualities of **the modern music teacher**, the prerequisites for forming a competency model of the future music teacher are derived, his professional portrait is built by defining its main functions and activities in the teaching of the subject;
- **The methodology of music education** is enriched by implementing modern requirements, various technologies, forms, methods and approaches in education; essence and vision of the modern music lesson;
- The theoretical foundations of **music psychology** are enriched in terms of: performing activities, communicative competence, communication,

emotionality, intellectuality, control and self-control, in order to reveal effective ways to improve the quality of music performance; a model of the musical performance is displayed;

- The specifics of **the musical-performing activity with electronic musical instruments** are presented.

Textbooks and teaching aids

The creation of modern music textbooks and teaching aids for high schools is the result of current knowledge, skills and competencies of theoretical and practical nature of an extremely diverse range of contemporary musicology, music pedagogy, music performance, digital music technology and more.

The candidate for the academic position of "professor" shows her pedagogical competence and creativity by applying her innovative educational strategies in the Bulgarian high school and taking into account the relevant levels of training of the subject in education. This is evident from her scientific production with applied character - a complete set of music textbooks and teaching aids from 1st to 10th grade.

The analysis of the overall scientific output of Assoc. Prof. Ruskova supports my personal opinion about the high degree of professional competence, erudition and high research culture, which she undoubtedly possesses. The scientific publications are of high value to science, they enrich the theory and practice of contemporary music education in the Bulgarian school and the students – future music teachers.

The high value of the scientific production of the candidate is eloquently indicated by the attached reference with registered citations - a total of 58, of which 13 are in collective volumes with scientific reviews, and 2 are in monographs.

The scientific and scientific-applied activity of Assoc. Prof. Ruskova fully meets and even significantly exceeds the minimum national requirements under Art. 2 b, para. 2 and 3 of LDASRB.

V. Conclusion:

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that the scientific contributions in the field of music education methodology, as well as the professionalism and ethics in the academic activity of the candidate are indisputable. This gives me reason to confidently give my positive assessment and recommend the esteemed scientific jury to prepare a report with a proposal to the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Pedagogy at the University of Shumen for Assoc. Prof. Yanna

Pavlova Ruskova, PhD to be elected to the academic position of "Professor" in :
field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3.
Pedagogy of teaching in: (Methodology of music education) for the needs of the
"Konstantin Preslavsky" University of Shumen.

07.03.2022

Statement by:



/Prof. Jordanka Peicheva, PhD/