

Statement

From: Prof. Dr. Nikolay Dobrinov Natchev, Department of Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Shumen University "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski", elected as a member of the Scientific Jury for the selection of an associate professor, in the field of Higher Education 1. Pedagogical Sciences. Professional field 1.3 Pedagogy of Education in... (Methodology of Education in Biology and Health Education) in the Department of Biology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Shumen University "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski", announced in the State Gazette No. 63 of 01.08.2025.

Subject: procedure for an associate professor, announced in the State Gazette No. 63 of 01.08.2025, in the field of Higher Education 1. Pedagogical Sciences. Professional field 1.3 Pedagogy of teaching in... (Methodology of teaching in Biology and Health Education), for the needs of the Department of Biology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Shumen University "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski"

In the announced procedure, the only candidate is Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Klaida Vladislavova Doychinova. I have reviewed the attached documents and believe that all the necessary elements required by the ZRASRB, the Regulations for the implementation of the ZRASRB, the Regulations for the terms and procedures for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Shumen University "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" are available. In my opinion, the procedure documentation is complete and presents the scientific and expert activity of Dr. Doychinova.

Candidate's biographical data and professional experience

Klaida Doychinova graduated in the specialty "Ecology and Environmental Protection" with pedagogical competence at Shumen University "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" with a "bachelor" degree. She graduated from the Veliko Tarnovo University "St. St. Cyril and Methodius" with a "Master's" degree. In 2021, she defended her dissertation in the field of 1. Pedagogical Sciences, professional field 1.2 Pedagogy at the Shumen University "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" and acquired the ONS "Doctor". After graduation, during the doctoral period and after the defense of the dissertation, the candidate conducts numerous qualification courses in the field of Pedagogy, Teaching Methodology, Educational Management, Modern Methods of Communication and Teaching, STEM Education, etc.

Kalida Doychinova has worked as a Biology teacher and educator. She was the director of an educational center with a scientific focus. At Shumen University, she started working as a lecturer in 2017 and after defending her dissertation she was appointed as a chief assistant (from 2022 to the present).

Personal impressions

I have known Klaida Doychinova personally since 2017, when I started working at the Department of Biology at the University where I am also employed. I have always associated the candidate's name with the fields of Methodology, Pedagogy and Didactics (she teaches in over 20 different disciplines). When I needed advice in these areas, my first thought was to turn to Klaida Doychinova. Her professional path and qualifications have profiled Dr. Doychinova as the "Methodist" of our work team. I have two publications in common with the candidate, one of which is submitted to the full list of publications, but is not included in the publications in the procedure. Since the article is only one of seventeen submitted in the current procedure, I believe that I have no moral dilemma in being a member of the scientific jury and participating with this opinion. My work with Klaida Doychinova allows me to have a good assessment of her professional training and qualities as a scientist and teacher. According to my professional observations, Dr. Doychinova has established herself as a profiled specialist, capable of purposeful and effective work in a pedagogical environment. I am positively impressed by the fact that she participates in the projects of the department, supports the work of other colleagues and develops scientific products with graduate and doctoral students.

Scientific activity, publications and projects

Dr. Doychinova is the author of over 20 scientific productions, two of which are monographs. Her publishing activity began in 2010, and in the last three years she has developed several scientific papers per year. The publications are implemented in a similar way and are mainly in local publications with secondary referencing. In view of the areas of work, this choice is understandable and is fully in accordance with the regulatory framework in the field. The majority of the scientific output (with the exception of the two monographs and some articles) is written in English, which contributes to the wider accessibility and greater citation of the articles. In recent years, Klaida Doychinova has been cited intensively, has published in international scientific platforms (including primary refereed ones) and has reached an H-index of 2.

Scientometric indicators of the procedure and quality of the production

The verification of the candidate's reference for compliance with the requirements of national legislation assured me that the submitted indicators correspond to the actual ones. As can be seen from all parameters, Dr. Doychinova meets the requirements. One habilitation thesis was submitted under group of indicators C and 100 credits were awarded. A monograph was submitted under point D 4.1 and 100 credits were awarded. Under point D 6, 5 articles were submitted in which the candidate is the sole author. In this way, a total of 250 credits was formed under group of indicators D. Twelve citations were presented for group D, which were awarded five points. Here I must note that the cited D 11 and D 12 seem self-serving in view of the content of the articles and the citing context. With a requirement for 400 credits under Table 2, Dr. Doychinova has collected 460 and thus meets the necessary requirements.

Contributions to the procedure

About thirty contributions have been formulated for the two monographic works presented in the procedure. Since there is no standard for formulating contributions, I would accept a similar formulation. Unlike other procedures in which I have participated, this one does not present a list of contributions from scientific publications.

Conclusion

After a detailed analysis of the documentation submitted under the procedure, I believe that the candidate meets the requirements for the award of "Associate Professor" according to the Law on the State Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and its Regulations for its implementation, as well as the Regulations on the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Bishop Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen. As a member of the Scientific Jury for the procedure, a procedure for an associate professor, announced in the State Gazette No. 63 of 01.08.2025, in the field of Higher Education 1. Pedagogical Sciences. Professional area 1.3 Pedagogy of teaching in... (Methodology of teaching in Biology and Health Education), for the needs of the Department of Biology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Shumen University "Bishop Konstantin Preslavski" I give a positive assessment and vote "For" the election of Senior Assistant Professor Dr. Klaida Vladislavova Doychinova as Associate Professor in 1. Pedagogical Sciences. Professional area 1.3 Pedagogy of teaching in... (Methodology of teaching in Biology and Health Education).

11.12.2025

Shumen

Prepared by:


(Prof. Dr. Nikolay Natchev)