

REVIEWER'S OPINION

by **Prof. Dr. Rositsa Dimitrova Davidova-Madzharova**,

Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen, Faculty of Natural Sciences, member of the scientific jury, appointed by Order No. RD-16-239 / 31.10.2025, issued by the Rector of Shumen University

Regarding: the teaching and research of **Chief Assistant Dr. Klaida Vladislavova Doychinova**, candidate in the competition (announced in the State Gazette, issue 63/01.08.2025) for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the area of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching ...
(Methods in teaching Biology and Health Education)

There is only one candidate in the announced competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" for the needs of Shumen University - **Dr. Klaida Vladislavova Doychinova**, who is a Chief Assistant at the Department of Biology at the Faculty of Natural Sciences in Shumen University. The submitted documents are in precise order, competently prepared and compiled in accordance with the requirements of the Law for the development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, and the regulations for the development of academic staff at Shumen University.

The scientific research submitted by Dr. Klaida Vladislavova Doychinova corresponds to the profile of the competition and the minimum national requirements of ZRASRB for the academic position of associate professor. The distribution of the candidate's points according to the indicators is as follows:

- **Group of indicators A:** Dissertation for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" titled "**A Model for Content and Technological Integration in Environmental Education**" - **50 points.**

- **Group of indicators B:** Monograph - **100 points.**

- **Group of indicators C:** A published monograph which is not the same as the main habilitation paper - 1; Articles published in journals that are peer-reviewed and indexed in

internationally recognized scientific databases - 5. **Total number of points for Group C: 250** out of the required minimum of 200 points.

- **Indicator D:** Citations in non-refereed publications - 12. **The total number of points for indicator D is 60**, with a required minimum number of 50.

The total number of candidate's points is 460, with a minimum of required point 400.

The main focus of the research activity is related to the application of various approaches and methods aimed at providing environmental education to pupils and students – future teachers of Biology and Health Education.

In the monograph “**Environmental Competence and Its Role in Formal and Non-formal Education (Practical and Applied Aspects)**”, which is presented as the main habilitation thesis, key concepts related to the formation of environmental competence are examined, as well as the interaction between environmental knowledge and environmental behavior in the learning process, and project-based learning in the context of the effectiveness of students' activities for the development of environmental competence. Various aspects of environmental competence and its relationship with sustainable development, interdisciplinary integration, skills, and intelligence are analyzed. The interaction between formal and non-formal education, their content, tasks, and objectives is examined in the context of the regulatory framework and the state educational standards in Bulgaria. At the end of the monograph, the conducted experimental study applying the project method is presented: “Formation of Environmental Competence of Students at the Intersection of Formal and Non-formal Education.”

The monograph “**Debate as an Opportunity for the Development of Critical Thinking in Biology and Health Education**” examines debate as part of effective interactive strategies, combining opportunities for logical and critical thinking, comparison of different viewpoints, tolerance, and empathy. Debate scenarios applicable to biology education are proposed.


The analysis carried out shows that Dr. Doychinova applies contemporary research methods and possesses the necessary scientific background and professional competencies.

In her teaching activities, Dr. Doychinova develops lecture courses and/or seminars for Bachelor's and Master's degree programs in the following disciplines: Methodology and Techniques of the School Biology Experiment, Cell Biology, Cellular Structure of Organisms, Cytology, Technologies for Solid Waste Treatment, Pedagogy, Methodology of Teaching Biology, Methodology of Teaching "Man and Nature" (Biological Module), Biology and Health Education, Teaching Practice in Biology, Ongoing Pedagogical Practice in Biology, Internship Practice in Biology, Interactive Methods in Biology Education, Health and Environmental Education, Critical Thinking and Emotional Intelligence, Forms and Methods of Environmental Education in Biology Teaching, Health Education of Students in Biology Education, Competency-Based Approach and Innovations in Education, Learning Theories, and many others.

She has supervised seven undergraduate thesis students.

Conclusion: The analysis and the evaluation of the teaching and research conducted by Chief Assistant Dr. Klaida Vladislavova Doychinova have led me to the following conclusion: I give a **positive opinion** of the candidate's work and suggest that the Faculty council of the Faculty of Natural Sciences at Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen **vote for Chief Assistant Dr. Klaida Vladislavova Doychinova to become an associate professor** in the area of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of teaching ... (Methods in teaching Biology and Health Education).

18.12.2025
Shumen

Member of the Jury: 
(Prof. Dr. Rositsa Davidova)