

PEER REVIEW

by

Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Borisov Petkov

Dean of the Faculty of Music Pedagogy

at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv,

appointed member of a scientific jury

with Rector's Order No PД-27-051/07.07.2022

for

competition for the occupation of the academic position "PROFESSOR"

Higher education field 1. "**Pedagogical Sciences**"

Professional field 1.3. "**Pedagogy of Training in ...**"

specialty "Methodology of Music Education"

to the Music Pedagogy and Conducting Department

at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv,

promulgated in State Gazette, Issue 35/10.05.2022,

pursuant to Art.29, para.1 of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the

Republic of Bulgaria, and in accordance with

the requirements of the Regulations for its implementation

with only one candidate in the competition

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsvetanka Kostadinova Kolovska

1. Educational and biographical synopsis

Tsvetanka Kolovska was born in the City of Plovdiv, where she continued to develop her professional activity for more than 28 years. She is an Associate Professor in the specialty "Methodology of Music Education" (Certificate No 001/27.01.2012) and a Doctor in the scientific specialty "05.07.03 Methodology of Music Education" (Diploma No 32172/21.02.2008). Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska graduated from high school with a gold medal, majoring in "Piano" at Dobrin Petkov National School of Music and Dance – Plovdiv, and higher education with full honors from the state exams at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts.

She also worked as a basic music teacher in a kindergarten and in a middle school in the primary, junior high and high school stages of education. She taught "Methods of Musical Education" and "Solfeggio" at Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University and "Piano and Solfeggio" at Dobrin Petkov National School of Music and Dance – Plovdiv.

In the period 2020-2022, she was the Head of the Musical Pedagogy and Conducting Department at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts, and from February 2022 she is the Deputy Rector for "Education, Accreditation and Rating System" at the Academy. **In this activity, of which I am a direct witness, Associate Professor Dr. Kolovska demonstrated and proved that she undoubtedly possesses the qualities of a stable professional with a high scientific criterion, with responsibility for set deadlines and with a recognizable identity in the administrative, scientific and educational process. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska is a subject of undoubted organizational skills and competences, and her rich experience and constant**

enriching of her horizons, as well as modern approach to current problems, is satisfactorily shared by lecturers, researchers and students.

The candidate's personal competences include the use of Russian, French and English, as well as the additional specialties: piano teacher, solfeggio teacher and aesthetic teacher.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska supervised the thesis defense of 65 graduates (Educational and Qualification Degrees Bachelor and Master). She is the scientific supervisor of a large number of doctoral students – Bulgarian and foreign citizens. Dr. Kolovska also actively participates in working groups, expert commissions (as chairman), leads a team of teachers in developing justified opinions in relation to the requirements of the Ministry of Education and Culture, develops new programs and lecture courses, implements new training courses to increase the qualification of pedagogical specialists, etc. As an author and moderator of annual seminars, she participates in numerous scientific forums in Bulgaria and abroad.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska is the head of seven national educational projects; apart from that she also participates in five such projects, as well as in one international one.

The professional aspects of the biographical path of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska are marked by great creative and scientific intensity. They complexly build the image of a solid foundation, constantly upgraded and developed efficiently in an upward direction, diverse in the manifestations of its activity.

2. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements

The main scientific work with which the candidate presents herself is the monograph *“New Methods of Musical Education and Upbringing and Their Integration in the Training of Bulgarian Music Teachers”*, Plovdiv: M&BM Ltd., 2022, ISBN 978-619-7682-06-9, 163 pages. It explores in detail the methods of music education and upbringing, the transformations of the music-pedagogical paradigm and its perspectives, the need for development of a competency model of the training of future music teachers and the objective need for the integration of new methods of music education and upbringing. All this is entrusted to requirements arising from the European and national qualification frameworks, presented and understood in the spirit of the practical expression of the competence approach in education.

The theoretical and applied plan of the scientific work are in balance, which guarantees not missing methodological aspects of tools and approaches. The defense of the need for new methods and practices adequate to the educational needs is interpreted in the light of the direct connection with the current meaning of the qualification “music teacher”. The results of the changes in the educational environment in the language of communication and in the values and technologies integrated in the pedagogical process contribute to the professional preparation and efficiency of the music teacher in terms of an increasingly quality-related result of the educational process. **In short – I think that the monograph of Associate Professor Dr. Kolovska is a valuable achievement in pedagogical literature and really helps the efficiency of the preparation of future teachers as the most significant factor in the educational cycle.**

Articles and reports

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska has presented 2 articles in refereed and indexed editions and 27 articles and reports published in non-refereed editions with scientific review or collective volumes.

The evidentiary information presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska is a clearly noticeable overcoming of the purely formal level according to these criteria. The high degree of expertise in the approach to key issues for music pedagogy, such as models of preparation in pedagogical practice, problems of music education today, possibilities for applying information and communication technologies, the artistic repertoire in the educational content of music, etc., is impressive. The topic of the acutely relevant distance learning and related trends, policies and corresponding practices has not been overlooked.

In addition to the purely theoretical aspects of the subject matter, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska emphasizes the practical and pragmatic side in music pedagogy related to the planning of the music lesson, the initial difficulties in some of the aspects of the singing activity and the early introduction of children to opera that is very interesting as an object of research.

The field of scientific interests of the candidate includes both Bulgarian dance folklore and children's folk instruments through the topic of Bulgarian folk music. In the articles of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska, the dynamics of educational processes are outlined, known practically and with excellent awareness of their implicit and explicit properties. With culturally presented didactics, the competences in the areas of music and play are refreshed in the initial stage of education. Recently entered hybrid majors and programs concerning music and visual arts pedagogy are competently analyzed with their challenges and benefits as part of a new and enriched methodological cycle.

One of the most valuable achievements in the activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska is the focus on electronic learning of students and interactive educational technologies and innovations in the field of arts.

Citations

The number of citations (85) is impressive, which unequivocally shows the degree of interest in the scientific activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska. The overall direction and presentation of the candidate's activity is largely determined by and related to the current competition.

3. Presentation of the scientific contributions of the candidate

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska researches important problems in music education and methods of teaching and upbringing in the context of the educational trends of the 21st century.

- Presents an author's theoretical concept of the meaning and results of the application of new methods of music education and upbringing in the professional training of music students.
- Deeply explores the dominant factors, their hierarchy and dynamics for acquiring the professional qualification "music teacher".

- Outlines and brings out the main emphases affecting key competences that contribute to concrete results in personal development, social integration and the full realization of successful students.
- When applying the competence model, new methods of work are derived.
- Creates a proven model for stimulating the creativity and creative imagination of students – future music teachers.
- Researches and outlines substantive and procedural aspects that increase the effectiveness and quality of the educational process.

CONCLUSION

Based on the presented and carefully researched materials, I believe that the scientific contributions, activities and achievements of the candidate are convincingly defended at a high content academic level, trace and develop important problems in music pedagogy and fully meet the standards set in the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Therefore, I strongly recommend to the respected scientific jury to award the scientific title “**PROFESSOR**” in the specialty “Methodology of Music Education” to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsvetanka Kostadinova Kolovska.

30.08.2022
Plovdiv

Respectfully,
Prof. Dr. Lyudmil Petkov

