

PEER REVIEW

by

Yavor Svetozarov Konov,

Dr., Doctor of Sciences, Professor of Polyphony

(Professional field 8.3. "Music and Dance Arts")

workplace: Music Department, New Bulgarian University – Sofia,

under

the competition for occupation of the academic position "Professor"

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

specialty "Methodology of Music Education"

(State Gazette, Issue 35/10.05.2022)

With only one candidate participating in the competition –

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsvetanka Kostadinova Kolovska

According to the documentation provided to me electronically, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsvetanka Kolovska was born in Plovdiv in 1970. In 1989 she graduated from Dobrin Petkov National School of Music and Dance – Plovdiv, majoring in "Piano" (with a gold medal), and in 1993, also with excellent success, she completed her Master's degree in "Music Pedagogy" (Qualification "Music teacher in preschool, primary, secondary and higher education courses, teacher of piano, solfeggio, aesthetics"). She has also acquired a number of teaching qualifications, and attends seminars, master classes, various other professional trainings in music and teaching.

Tsvetanka Kolovska uses Russian, French and English languages. Her Bulgarian is extremely literate.

In 2007, as a doctoral student of independent training at the Music Department with Paisii Hilendarski Plovdiv University, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska defended a dissertation on the topic *"The Role of Musical Education for the Socialization of Students"* (with supervisor Prof. Dr. Penka Mincheva): defense under Higher Attestation Commission, to point out anyway (I, who do everything the Higher Attestation Commission way). She subsequently published a book based on her dissertation. A university textbook and 2 methodological manuals have been published and used in practice.

Associate Professor Dr. Kolovska has 28+ years of work experience in the specialty: she has taught at all educational levels (in preschool, elementary, junior high and high school, including at the National School of Music and Dance – piano and solfeggio, Plovdiv University – musical methodology education and solfeggio, basic /senior/ music

teacher at St. Constantine Cyril the Philosopher Secondary School – Plovdiv, etc.). She is a very prepared and very experienced educator in all educational levels and with different characteristics, requirements and practices.

Since 2012, she has been employed at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv as an Associate Professor of Methodology of Music Education: she has taught and continues to teach a large number of disciplines, including 1) the bachelor's degrees “Methodology of Music Education in Secondary School”, “Methodology of Music Education in Kindergarten”, “Competence Approach and Innovations in Education”, “Observation in Kindergarten” – lectures and exercises, “Classroom Observation”, “Pedagogical Practice in Class”, “Pedagogical Practice in Kindergarten” – exercises, 2) the Master's degrees “Modern Trends in Music Pedagogy”, “History of Music Education”, “Music Pedagogy and Music Therapy”, “Innovations and Creativity in the Educational Process in the Arts” – lectures and exercises/consultations, “Pedagogical Practice in the Classroom”, “Pedagogical Practice in Kindergarten” – exercises, and 3) the doctoral degrees “Arts in the Education of Children with Special Educational Needs” – lectures and consultations, “Observation and Innovative Teaching Methods” – exercises.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska was the supervisor of 65 bachelor's and master's diploma theses in the specialty “Pedagogy of Music Education”, as well as a reviewer of 21 similar diploma theses.

There are two doctoral students from the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv who have already defended their dissertations, and Dr. Kolovska is currently the supervisor of as many as 8 doctoral students: 5 are Bulgarian citizens and 3 are Chinese.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska heads or participates in a large number of working groups, committees, faculty council, etc. – with the activity of preparing curricula, plans, organizing seminars, administration, various work with teachers, etc. She is a reviewer of 4 professional music books. Kolovska has participated in more than 10 scientific juries for habilitations and doctoral studies. She is also a two-time recipient of the Rector's Award at the Academy for high activity in the educational process and achievements in research activity (2013, 2021). She has participated in more than 30 scientific forums in Bulgaria and abroad.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska also accumulates a lot of experience (and shares responsibility!) in “Education, Accreditation and Rating System” at the Academy, as she has recently been appointed the Deputy Rector of the Department, after being the Head of the Music Pedagogy and Conducting Department.

She has also participated in 5 national educational projects (in the years 2013-2015) and in 1 international one (2021-2023). Separately, Dr. Kolovska was the head of another 7 national educational projects that took place over a decade (2012-2021).

In this competition for the occupation of the academic position “Professor” at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in the field of Methodology of Music Education, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska participated with 30 publications after being appointed as Associate Professor:

I. Her monographic work *“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.

II. With 2 articles in refereed and indexed journals, and with 27 articles and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes.

She also included 85 citations.

It is evident that for her participation in this competition for the occupation of the academic position “Professor”, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska not only meets the national scientometric requirements, but significantly exceeds them.

The main direction and activity (scientific and practical) with a significant contribution of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kolovska is in the field of music pedagogy: traditions and innovations (including her own) in the various educational levels with their specifics of teacher training (and their personality) and working with students.

IN CONCLUSION: Based on the above, I vote positively for Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tsvetanka Kolovska to be appointed to the academic position “Professor” of Methodology of Music Education at Prof. Asen Diamandiev Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts – Plovdiv. I believe that this will also be the decision of the other colleagues from the respected scientific jury for this competition.

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(Prof. Yavor Konov, Dr., Doctor of Sciences)