

STANDPOINT

by Assoc. professor Zlatka Alexandrova Dimitrova, PHD
University "Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" Burgas, Faculty of Social Sciences,
Department of "Pedagogy and Teaching Methodology",
member of the scientific jury, order LS/182 of 09.09.2022
according to a competition for the academic position of "associate professor" for
the needs of Burgas Free University,
announced in SG No. 55/15.07.2022 in the field of higher education 1.
Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Pedagogical
animation in kindergarten and primary school and inclusive education)

1. Procedure

The submitted documents for participation in the competition have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on the Development of the Academic Staff at the Burgas Free University. The scientific metric requirements presented by the candidate have a total number of 430 out of the required 400.

2. Biographical data

The competition for "associate professor" in Pedagogy (Pedagogical animation in kindergarten and primary school and inclusive education) has only one candidate, Associate Professor Zornitsa Kostova Ganeva.

Zornitsa Ganeva has extensive, long-term professional experience. In 2000, she graduated from the master's College at Burgas Free University, majoring in Social Activities. In 2010, she was awarded the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", specialty Pedagogy, 07.05.03 Teaching Methodology in Physical Education. In 2016, she completed a second master's degree at Burgas Free University, majoring in Child and Adolescent Psychology. She continues her qualification activities in the Society for Positive Psychotherapy and is a certified consultant in positive psychotherapy, at the basic level. In 2016, she completed the "Introduction to Art Therapy" qualification course at Burgas Free University. Since 1999, she has been appointed to the position of teacher, and subsequently, chief assistant at Burgas Free University. In addition to her teaching activities, she is also a sailing competitor with numerous honors and holds the Nidan (Second Dan) in Aikido Aikikai.

3. Scientific output of the candidate

The total number of scientific works of Zornitsa Kostova Ganeva, which do not repeat the publications for the dissertation work and the abstract, are 27, of which 22 are independent and 5 are co-authored. From the participation with 11 reports in scientific and scientific-practical conferences - 5 nos. are in international and 6 in national conferences.

Zornitsa Kostova Ganeva has issued 10 teaching aids, methodical aids and 1 manual.

There are 2 published monographs that are peer-reviewed and meet the requirements for such a scientific work.

In the reference made, Zornitsa Ganeva indicates 10 quotations.

Scientific publications cover the period 2010 - 2022 and are concentrated in the field of physical education and sports methodology, pedagogical animation, inclusive education, social activities, motor activity and game motor activity.

The monograph "Inclusive education and pedagogical animation. Attitudes and stereotypes of the inclusive teacher" ISBN 978-619-7125-92-4, IC "Flat" in a volume of 105 pages presents the content characteristics of pedagogical animation in the context of creating an inclusive educational environment. Possibilities for applying pedagogical animation in organizing inclusive practices are outlined. The need for game and entertaining elements (application of an animated approach) in education is a problem that corresponds to the search for interdisciplinary connections, interactivity in the learning process, active learning and application of a competence approach. The animation approach supports the fight against group stereotypes, unconscious barriers and interpersonal relationships, as a key factor for the formation of an inclusive culture in educational institutions. The practical applicability of the monographic work is great. The improved results also provide guidelines for changing the training model of future teachers.

In the second monograph, a "Model for game motor activity in physical education training in kindergarten" was developed. For the realized research, a Model of social competence was used, as it is tied to the content characteristics of mobile games and game motor activity. The model of social competence is presented with a description of its main constructs, which supports a deeper understanding of the relationship between social skills and the successful personal growth of children. The developed model has theoretical and practical-applied contributions to the education of children of preschool and primary school age.

The large number of study aids and methodical aids (11 items) are practically oriented, well-structured and fully compliant with the new requirements of the Preschool and School Education Act and the regulations,

including the educational standards for the "Physical Culture" educational direction and the Inclusive Education regulation.

4. Scientific contributions of the candidate

Zornitsa Ganeva's scientific contributions are related to:

➤ theoretical and applied aspects of inclusive education, pedagogical animation and physical education and sports in kindergarten and primary school. (Posts #1, 5, 6, 14, 16)

➤ expanding the theoretical basis of adapted physical activity for children with special educational needs (Publications No. 6, 24)

➤ improvement of interpersonal relationships, development of new behavior models for interaction of children of preschool and primary school age (Publications No. 2, 5, 16, 24, 27)

➤ publications related to the potential of game motor activity, establishing regularities and connections between the game and the social development of children, revealing new content characteristics of game activity in kindergarten (Publications No. 2, 5, 16)

➤ Publications related to the holistic impact of motor activity on people from different target groups and integrative links between scientific fields (Publications No. 1, 17, 22, 27)

➤ Publications related to emotional and social competence, interpersonal relationships, personal development of children and adults, perspectives on the social growth of the personality (Publications No. 2, 5, 20, 21, 23, 26)

➤ Publications related to the optimization of the learning process and the professional development of students in humanitarian specialties (Publications No. 13, 19, 22, 2)

➤ Publications related to increasing the effects of motor activity on the overall personality, in work with children and adults in disadvantaged social situations (Publications No. 1, 5, 27)

➤ Publications related to the methodology of training in physical education, supporting the training of students to learn and apply the basic methodological requirements for conducting physical education classes, improving the methodological work of kindergarten and elementary teachers (Publications No. 3, 4, 5, 6)

The submitted publications are up-to-date and match the contest profile. They solve certain general pedagogical and particular social problems. The applicant's broad and deep interests in these areas are evident.

5. Teaching activity of the candidate

Zornitsa Ganeva leads the following lecture courses in PN 1.2. Pedagogy, Specialty "Preschool and Primary School Pedagogy", "Master's degree" and "Bachelor":

- Animation and motor activity in kindergarten and primary school
- Inclusive education
- Pedagogical technologies for mastering physical culture in kindergarten
- Methodology of physical education and sports in primary school
- Psychology, Specialty "Psychology", "Bachelor"
- Training for working with children with special educational needs
- Intra- and interpersonal communication
- Current pedagogical practice in kindergarten and primary school
- Internship in kindergarten and primary school
- Models of social competence - remote
- The electronic courses developed by the candidate in the Burgas Free University Moodle system are:
 - Animation and motor activity in kindergarten and primary school
 - Inclusive education
 - Pedagogical technologies for mastering physical culture in kindergarten
 - Methodology of physical education and sports in primary school
 - Training for working with children with special educational needs

She is also the author of study programs in the mentioned disciplines.

Zornitsa Ganeva is the thesis supervisor of 35 students and a consultant to 4 students participating in student research sessions. Actively participates in Project "Effective student practices in social work, through partnership with NGOs" No. BG051PO001-3.3.03/40.

During the mentioned period, in her capacity as an expert trainer, Zornitsa Ganeva conducted 25 trainings. Some of the topics are:

- Developing a toolkit for early identification of students at risk of prematurely leaving the education system and for a differentiated approach in determining their needs for providing individual support. Project BG05M2OP001-2.011-0001 "Support for Success"
- "Strategies and techniques for learning motivation of new generations of students", Project BG05M2OP001-2.010-0001 "Qualification for professional development of pedagogical specialists"
- Training "Specific methods for working with students with learning difficulties, emotional and other behavioral problems", Project BG05M2OP001-2.010-0001 "Qualification for professional development of pedagogical specialists"

- "European practices for project management and development of project proposals in the social sphere, music art and dance for people with specific needs"
- "Training of pedagogical specialists from kindergartens and schools to work with children and students with special educational needs"
- Training "Work in a team", Day center for working with street children, Burgas
- Training "Stress and emotional competence in the professional sphere" under the Program "Social-pedagogical trainings for working with children with special educational needs"
- I find that the teaching activity is sufficient to acquire the academic position of associate professor in the Higher Education Institution 1.2. Pedagogy.
- To this, I would like to add my personal impressions of Zornitsa Ganeva, who possesses excellent communication and organizational skills and competencies. Responsible, loyal and able to work in a team.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, I express my opinion that the submitted materials for evaluating the teaching and research activities of the candidate in the Zornitsa Kostova Ganeva competition meet the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Implementation and the Regulations for the Acquisition of Scientific Degrees and academic positions at Burgas Free University.

The academic and research activities of Zornitsa Kostova Ganeva give me the reason to express my **positive opinion** about her election as an "**associate professor**" in pedagogy in the field of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, professional direction 1.2. Pedagogy (Pedagogical animation in kindergarten and primary school and inclusive education).

27.10.2022

Author of standpoint:
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