

OPINION

OBJECT: Competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in the scientific domain 2. Humanities, professional field 2.1. Philology (Latin for medical purposes), announced by Medical University – Varna “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” and published in State Gazette, issue 17/26.02.2021

CANDIDATE: Senior Lecturer Nadezhda Amudzhieva, PhD

REVIEWER: Assoc. Prof. Dragomira Valtcheva, PhD, Department of Classics, Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski; Member of the Scientific Jury (Rector’s Decree № R-109-201/26.04.2021)

The above competition meets all the requirements of the Law on the promotion of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation and the relevant Rules of Varna Medical University. Being the only candidate, Senior Lecturer Dr. Nadezhda Amudzhieva has submitted all the necessary documents, in full compliance with the relevant regulations including the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of Associate Professor.

Dr. Nadezhda Amudzhieva’s academic development is a story of constant conquering new territories. In 1993, she graduated from Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski with a master's degree in Classical Studies, which was followed, in 2010, by a master’s degree in Law at the Free University of Varna. In 2017, she successfully defended her PhD thesis on “Terminographic strategies in the teaching of clinical terminology to medical students” at the University of Veliko Tarnovo. Meanwhile, since her graduation in 1993, she has been teaching Ancient Greek and Latin for general and special purposes in several universities in Veliko Tarnovo and Varna.

Both the applicant's broad education and teaching experience are reflected in her research interests and scholarly publications. For this competition, Dr. Amudzhieva has presented two monographs (the first one based on her doctoral dissertation), as well as 16 articles covering a wide range of subfields, such as clinical terminology, didactics of classical languages, terminography, electronic education, translation theory and practice, history of medicine, Latin for legal purposes. Most of them make valuable contributions.

In what follows, I will concentrate on Dr. Amudzhieva's magnum opus, which is a habilitation monograph entitled "Image-sensory denominations of the clinical terms from Latin and Greek origin (A Look behind the curtain of the terminological denomination)", which was published by Steno Editions of Varna in 2021. The book includes an introduction (p. 15-20), four chapters (p. 21-164), a conclusion (p. 165-169), three appendices containing alphabetical indexes (p. 170-200) and a bibliography (p. 201-215).

As stated in the introduction, the aim of the study is to establish a systematic approach to the mechanisms of image-sensory term formation, thus enabling medical students and professionals to get a deeper understanding of clinical terminology, which has lost its cognitive and communicative value, since Greek and Latin are no longer part of educational curriculum. In my opinion, the book fulfils its purpose excellently.

Especially valuable and innovative are Chapter 2, dealing in depth with five different classification models related to image-sensory terms, and Chapters 3 and 4, where these classifications are applied to a corpus of 355 terminology units. The image-sensory terms based on metaphors and metonymies are addressed in Chapter 3. They are precisely classified according to structural, semantic and syntactic criteria. For example, it is claimed that the monoleptic terms *cataracta*, *sycosis*, *elephantiasis*, *incarceratio* and *erosio* correspond, respectively, to the semantic spheres of natural objects, plants, animals, human life, states and processes. Another major group of image-sensory terms, based on comparisons and formed by means of the comparators *-oid-*, *pseudo-*, *-ideus* and *-formis* (e.g. *eunuchoidismus*, *pseudoarthrosis*, *mucoideus*, *pulsus filiformis*), are

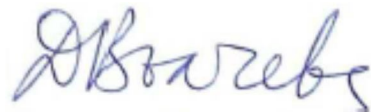
discussed in Chapter 4. Many useful tables of terms, scattered throughout these chapters, help the readers to make quick reference to them, after having familiarized themselves with the thorough and clear explanations provided in the main body of the text.

I would suggest to the author to check the passages dealing with the etymologies of *ephelides*, *hemeralopia* and *nyctalopia* (p. 100-101), as well as their definitions. The prefix ἔχο- (instead of ἔξ-) and the term ἄσκειτη (instead of ἄσκήτης) also need correction (p. 103 and 113). It should be noted, however, that these minor flaws do not diminish in any way the high scholarly quality and pedagogic value of this excellent study.

CONCLUSION

Dr. Amudzhieva's educational background, which combines Classics and Law, together with her long-standing teaching experience and research in Medical Latin, recommend her as an outstanding candidate for the applied position.

On the basis of the above-mentioned considerations, I strongly recommend that Dr. Nadezhda Amudzhieva be chosen for the position of Associate Professor in the professional field 2.1. Philology (Latin for medical purposes).



Sofia, 11 June 2021

Assoc. Prof. Dragomira Valtcheva, PhD