

REVIEW

of the overall scientific oeuvre of **Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, Doctor of Pedagogy**, participant in a competition, announced in the State Gazette, issue 62 of 6 August 2019, for holding the academic position of *Professor* in the field of higher education 1.2 Pedagogical Sciences, professional area 1.2 Pedagogy, scientific specialty "Theory of Pedagogy and Didactics (Training of Medical Specialists)" at the Medical University, Varna, Faculty of Public Health, Department of Health Care.

Biographical information:

Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva, PhD, graduated from St. Cyril and St Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo University, majoring in Bulgarian Philology and second major in History. In the period 1998 – 2015, she gained 12 qualifications related to her professional development. In 1996, she completed a one-year specialization in social pedagogy at the Central Institute for the Advancement of Teachers at St Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia. She defended a dissertation entitled "Humanization of the Relations in Modern School" in 2001 and received the educational and scientific degree "Doctor of Pedagogy" in scientific specialty 05.07.01

The professional career of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva, PhD, began as a teacher (1974-1997). Then she worked as an inspector at the Ministry of Education and Science, Sofia; assistant head teacher in a primary school, Varna; head teacher of a primary school, Varna; chief specialist in a youth centre, Varna Municipality; director of a municipal children's complex, Varna; head of Youth Activities Department, Varna Municipality. In 2006, she held the academic rank of *Associate Professor* in the professional area of Theory of Pedagogy and Didactics at the Technical University, Varna, and since 2008 the same academic position in the professional area of 1.2 Pedagogy - Theory of Pedagogy and Didactics at the Medical University, Varna.

Scientific creative work analysis:

In the period 2001 – 2019, Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva, PhD has developed 3 monographs with a total volume of 781 pages, four books and textbooks with a total volume of 887 pages, 3 study aids with a total volume of 675 pages, 3 studies with a total volume of 108 pages, thirty-five articles totaling 286 pages, 67 reports totaling 691pages. Ten of the publications are in a foreign language.

In the competition for the academic position of *Professor*, Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva applies with habilitation work entitled "Conceptual Modelling of the Pedagogical and Andragogical Preparation in Higher Medical School", as well as with 3 independent study aids, 4 co-authored study aids, 5 independent publications in Bulgarian in scientific journals, 16 co-authored publications in scientific journals, 2 independent publications in scientific journals in a

foreign language, 11 co-authored publications in scientific journals in a foreign language, 43 publications in conference proceedings and one co-authored study.

In the joint publications, the author's share of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva is outlined in a fair and detailed fashion.

The general impression that is created is the sizeable research activity of the author, as well as her fruitful cooperation with various Bulgarian and foreign researchers in the study of significant pedagogical problematics. At the same time there is a well-marked own research area related to the two scientific fields: *Pedagogy* (general, medical, social, pedagogy of early childhood) and *Andragogy* in the summarized thematic areas: "application of the andragogical approach in the academic and clinical environment, and andragogical preparation of students, faculty at the higher medical school, the medical college and medical specialists from non-university clinical bases, centres and structures."

"Training" occupies a central place in the information orientation of the publications of Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD. It is envisioned in deep connection with the real demands of the pedagogical reality more generally (school, kindergarten, extracurricular activities) and in the direction of professional training and the prospect for the future professional realization of students in terms of combining pedagogical and andragogical approaches. Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD, dedicates a great deal of research to these problems, in their multilayeredness and value-based rationalization, which are comprised in a well-systematized information wholeness.

The habilitation work entitled "Conceptual Modelling of Pedagogical and Andragogical Preparation in the Higher Medical School" claims high scientific value and innovation in the field of university medical education as a whole. It is fair to note that this issue is elaborated in detail on the basis of the personal experience of Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD, and also for the first time in the circles of our pedagogical scientific community. The modern paradigm and guidelines for pedagogical and andragogical preparation in the medical school were outlined in detail and the methodological grounds, methodological content, final results and their value meaningfulness are clearly stated. The specifics of the teaching activity as well as the functional and role profile of the lecturer are clearly stated. Special attention is paid to the normative and informational - methodological provision in the course of pedagogical and andragogical preparation of students. Some deficits are alluded in this plan. The pedagogical dependencies and relations in the preparation of "potential lecturers" (students studying in the specialties of the regulated professions) and the pedagogical and medical specialists, on a contract of employment at a medical university and specialists outside the field of medical education are well-outlined. All of this is presented in a well-parameterized logical wholeness.

The research insights achieved during the studies of Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD, have given her the confidence to present and approbate several author's models as the main tools in the pedagogical and andragogical preparation of students. The first model reflects the complete development of the functional and role profile of the modern lecturer in the higher medical school. The second and third models reveal the mechanisms for meeting the needs of pedagogical and andragogical preparation for a wider range of users in an academic and extra-

academic environment, such as: "Model of a centre for integrated pedagogical and andragogical preparation and model of a course for distance learning of lecturers in the same direction." The three models have good conceptual representation and can be applied in other higher medical schools in the country.

All publications by Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD, related to the scientific specialty "Theory of Pedagogy and Didactics" are focused on current pedagogical problems, which in general are oriented towards the democratization and humanization of the educational space in the secondary school and the high education settings for training of medical specialists. In particular, these are the author's innovative proposals for organizing personality-oriented training, highlighting the responsibilities of the modern family for the fruitful growth of children, outlining the parameters of adolescent health, moral and spiritual growth, the role of extracurricular activities directed to the adaptation of young people to social life, overcoming aggression, analysis of the current profile of the medical specialist, work in the nursery, the need for pedagogical qualifications of lecturers – medical specialists. The main focus, rediscovered in most of the publications presented at national and international forums, is the strength of the humanistic approach – in its substantive axiological parameters and its real application in the pedagogical space, as well as its building force for the growth of not only well-prepared medical professionals, but also for the growth of future lecturers with high morality. Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD outlines the mechanisms of applicability of the humanistic approach as a methodological basis and as a tool for the implementation of personal orientation in the construction of pedagogical interaction in different educational situations, stimulating the independence, creativity and responsibility of the trainees. The projections of the humanistic approach on the nature of teaching are being rediscovered in the author's studies relating to the qualifications of teachers in secondary schools and medical specialists in nurseries. Typical weaknesses, fruit of unsatisfactory fundamental preparation and subjective causes are examined in detail. Constructive technological solutions are proposed based on the competence approach. Emphasis is placed on the broader range of the interactions family: institutions.

In their wholeness, the scientific achievements of Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD present her as an erudite lecturer with extremely good research skills, aimed at updating pedagogical theory and practice.

Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva, PhD has actively participated in publications in more than 60 scientific national and international conferences. And as an expert - researcher and educator in two representative European scientific projects: at the Kazan Federal University and at the Medical University of Varna.

Scientific (theoretical and practical applied) contributions:

I accept the scientific contributions related to her research and teaching activities, formulated by Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD. I will summarize them in this way:

1. The theoretical and practical applied aspects of pedagogy and andragogy are highlighted and adapted to the specifics of the professional training of students at the medical university.

2. The first comprehensive study of the state of pedagogical preparation of students who acquire the professional qualifications of "teacher of practice" and of lecturers – medical specialists has been carried out.
3. The normative basis and an author's functional – role model of the modern lecturer was created.
4. An author's conceptual model for complex pedagogical and andragogical preparation of students, doctoral students, postdoctoral students, lecturers – medical and non – medical specialists at the Medical University of Varna, as well as of medical specialists outside the university centers was developed. The pilot study carried out proved the viability of the model.
5. Methodological, methodical and technological guidelines were developed to modernize higher education and improve its quality, in line with the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and the Reference Framework of Key Competences.
6. A theoretical study on the grounds, specifics and implementation of distance learning in higher medical education was implemented; an author's model was approbated.
7. Two models were developed for planning, organizing and conducting the practical activities of the students in the professional area of "Health Care".
8. The problems of early childhood and child development in the independent nursery were theoretically researched and systematized. Innovative technological solutions were proposed to ensure that typical difficulties can be overcome and successful socialization of children implemented.
9. The pedagogical qualifications of working medical specialists in a nursery were investigated. The deficits were analyzed and guidelines for additional qualification were outlined in line with the processes of democratization and humanization of the relationships: medical specialists – child and medical specialists – parent.
10. Specific variants of extracurricular educational activities aimed at socializing the child's personality in the context of interaction between extracurricular centers and non-governmental organizations have been researched, developed and tested.
11. The link between health education, health culture and healthy lifestyles of the children in the kindergarten has been researched and proven.

Teaching activities:

Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva, PhD holds lecture courses in Pedagogy, Andragogy, Children's Pedagogy, Principles and Methodology of Teaching, Medical Pedagogy, Methods of training in practice of students in the professional area of Health Care. For this academic year, the candidate's academic load is 477 hours. The lecture courses of Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD are provided with textbooks and study aids. This is a serious guarantee for the good preparation of the students – future medical specialists.

The creative team activities of Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva, PhD with students reflected in common publications can be considered as a positive fact.

Research supervision of graduating students and doctoral students:

Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva has guided 12 graduating students and three doctoral students (2008 - 2019), all of whom successfully defended their theses and dissertation research. More than 80 citations of her publications were found, which is a guarantee of the author's recognition among the scientific pedagogical community.

Awards and accolades:

For her scientific contribution of public importance, Assoc. Prof. M. Grudeva has been awarded by various organizations: Varna Municipality - for her contribution to the development of youth policy and extra – curricular activities; by the Bulgarian Red Cross for assistance and contribution to the development of the Varna Red Cross Organization.

Conclusion:

The volume and content of the entire creative work and scientific contribution of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva, PhD fully meet the "minimum requirements for holding the academic rank of *Professor* according to the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff – 2018.

The research representativeness and innovativeness of the scientific publications, as well as the teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva, PhD give me reason and conviction to give her a high positive assessment and to offer to the honourable members of the Scientific Jury to support her application for holding the academic rank of *Professor* in the field of higher education 1.2 Pedagogical sciences, professional area 1.2 Pedagogy, scientific specialty "Theory of Pedagogy and Didactics (Training of Medical Specialists)" for the needs of the Medical University, city of Varna, Faculty of Public Health, Department of Health Care.

2 December 2019

Reviewer:
/Prof. Emilia Vasileva, PhD /

