

## **STATEMENT**

**of Professor Eleonora Mihaylova Mileva, DSc, PhD,**

member of the scientific jury in the competition for the academic position of  
"Professor"

in the professional field 1.2. Pedagogy,

Specialty "Theory of education and didactics"

(Education of medical specialists)

Announced in the State Journal, issue 62 of 06/08/2019

### **Legality of the procedure**

There is only one candidate in the competition for the academic position „Professor” for the needs of the Department of Health Care at the Faculty of Public Health of the Medical University of Varna - Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, PhD.

According to the submitted documents and the described scientific data on the individual indicators, it is clear that the applicant fully meets the minimum national requirements for the professional field 1.2. Pedagogy. There are all necessary grounds for announcing the competition. No violations were found in the procedure, and all provisions of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rules for the implementation of the Law were observed.

### **Applicant biographical data**

Marinela Ivanova Grudeva graduated with a degree in Bulgarian Philology from St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo. She completed her postgraduate specialization in Social Pedagogy in 1996 at Sofia University "St.

Kl. Ohridski", as well as a number of advanced training courses, including Management Skills (2006), , "Current Trends in the Development of Higher Medical Education" (2012), "Pedagogy and Psychology of Higher Education" in Russia (2012), "Interactive Teaching Methods" (2014), A course in German Language (2015), and others. She successfully defended the second and the first professional qualification teacher's degree. In 2001, Marinela Grudeva received her PhD degree in the specialty Theory of Education and Didactics, and in 2006 she was awarded the academic position of Associate Professor in the same scientific specialty. Since 2008 Marinela Grudeva has been working as an associate professor of Pedagogy at the Medical University of Varna.

### **Research and scientific contributions**

In connection with the participation in the competition for the academic position "Professor", Associate Professor Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, PhD, presented 87 publications, which include 1 monograph, 78 scientific articles, 1 study and 7 textbooks and study manuals. 4 of the articles have been published in peer-reviewed scientific journals. All other materials are presented in reputable scientific publications in the country and abroad. In 39 of the submitted papers the candidate is a single author - 36 articles and 3 textbooks. It is noteworthy that 37 of the publications are in a foreign language, mainly in Russian. It should be emphasized that by all scientific criteria Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva exceeds significantly the minimum requirements for occupation of the academic position, according to the Law for development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria from 2018.

Of particular weight to the scientific specialty of the competition is the monograph work "Conceptual Modeling of Pedagogical and Andragogical Preparation at the Higher Medical School", published in 2019 with 170 pages (B.3). It may be considered the first in the country on this issue. The book has an

innovative character, resulting from the thorough theoretical and applied research and personal experience of the author. Based on an analysis of the existing literature, the study has formulated a clear and precise concept with specific goals, subject matter and adequate research methods. One of the highlights of the monograph is the problem of the regulation and the informational and methodological provision of pedagogical and andragogical preparation in the higher medical schools. The presented author's models aimed at building the profile of the modern teacher in the higher medical school, as well as, the Center for complex pedagogical and andragogical preparation and the course for distance learning of teachers, are a contribution to the pedagogical theory and practice.

A significant part of the scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, PhD, are related to her main pedagogical activity and are aimed at optimizing the education and the professional training of health care professionals. They address the following significant issues:

- Professional competences, pedagogical, andragogical and methodological training of health care professionals (6.4., 7.7., 7.8., 7.13., 7.14., 7.18., 7.20., 7.22., 7.24., 7.26., 7.27., 7.29., 7.35., 7.36., 7.40., 7.41., 7.43., 7.44., 7.45., 7.47., 7.48., 7.51., 7.54., 7.57., 7.58., 7.61., 7.62., 7.70.).
- Humanization and democratization of training in educational institutions and modern guidelines for the modernization and development of the higher medical education (theoretical and practical aspects) (7.3., 7.5., 7.9., 7.12., 7.15., 7.17., 7.28., 7.34, 7.35, 7.38, 7.46, 7.49, 7.50, 7.53, 7.55, 7.71, 7.60, 7.63, 7.65, 7.68).
- Motivation for the professional activity of health care professionals and satisfaction with the professional environment and activities (7.21., 7.23., 7.29., 7.30., 7.32., 7.33., 7.56., 7.59., 7.64., 7.67., 7.68.).

A considerable part of Assoc. Prof. Grudeva's publications are focused on current pedagogical problems of the adolescents:

- Education and health education of the pupils and the pedagogy of early childhood; interaction between different pedagogical institutions in the process of formation and socialization of the child personality; contemporary problems in the education of children and adolescents - manifestations of aggression and violence among students, behavioral deviations, risky behavior, etc. (6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.2, 7.4, 7.6, 7.10, 7.16, 7.19, 7.25, 7.31, 7.37, 7.39, 7.69, 7.72, 7.73 ., 7.74., 7.66., 9.1.).

Much of the scientific work of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Grudeva, PhD, has been presented at national forums with international participation - 12 and at significant international events - 50.

The publications of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, PhD, find responses in the form of 84 citations in other scientific sources, of which 50 are citations in monographs and collective volumes and 34 in publications with scientific peer-review. All this underline the importance of the scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Grudeva, as well as its innovativeness and relevance.

The main contributions to the research activity of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, PhD, are:

1. Theoretical, methodical and methodological problems of learning in the system of medical education have been developed in the context of modern strategies for the modernization and development of higher education and the European concept for lifelong learning. Her research work finds application in the professional preparation of students and faculty.

2. The theoretical and applied aspects of pedagogy and andragogy are highlighted and adapted to the specifics of the professional training of the

specialists in the higher medical school. The programs for preparation and qualification of students are analyzed in order to improve the quality of training and the level of professional competence and readiness of the future health professionals.

3. An author's model of the Center for Comprehensive Pedagogical and Andragogical Preparation of Students and Teachers at the Medical University - Varna, as well as of medical specialists was developed and applied, which provides opportunities for its application in other higher schools.

4. The connection between the processes of humanization and democratization of the educational process in the higher medical school has been researched and substantiated by analyzing their specific manifestations in the modern educational environment.

5. Theoretical and applied aspects of extracurricular educational activity have been studied and analyzed. In this connection, the problems of the modern young generation, related to the adaptation of adolescents to social life and the implementation of adequate preventive pedagogical activity, are argued.

Further proof of the creative activity of Assoc. Prof. Grudeva is her participation in project activities - 1 international research project organized by the Kazan Federal University, as well as, 1 educational project of the Medical University - Varna for career advancement of the teachers at the Medical University at the Operative Program "Human Resources Development".

### **Teaching and expert activity**

Associate Professor Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, PhD, has over 13 years of experience as a university lecturer and over 17 years of general experience in the specialty (incl. as a school headmaster and a deputy school headmaster, and a teacher,). A lot of curricula have been developed by her and implemented in the

education system. She gives lectures, participates in exercises, seminars and pedagogical practice in Pedagogy, Andragogy, Pedagogy, Principles and methodology of teaching, Medical pedagogy, Teaching methodology for practice of students in the professional field of "Health care".

Her published textbooks and teaching manuals are of high theoretical and practical value and are used successfully in the preparation of health professionals from all higher education institutions in the country (20.1., 20.2., 20.3., 20.4., 21.1., 21.2., 21.3.).

Under the scientific guidance of Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva a total of 12 graduates defended their theoretical works in the period 2008-2019. She was supervisor of 3 PhD students.

As the director of the Center for Pedagogical and Andragogical Competence of the Academic Staff of the Medical University - Varna (2012-2019) and the main teacher at the center, the candidate for professorship has conducted numerous trainings, with a total of 550 academic staff from medical universities and colleges and external users.

Associate Professor Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, PhD, performs multidimensional expert activity both at the Medical University - Varna and at other universities in the country and abroad by participating in committees and teams for the development of study documentation, procedures for accreditation of specialties and programs. She is a member of the team for the development of a catalog of educational goals and competences in the Faculty, for the assessment of diploma works, state and semester exams. She is a member of the Expert council of the scientific journal "Pedagogical Forum". She is the Head of the Master's Program in Social Medicine and Health Management in Russian at the Medical University - Varna.

Many awards and honors have been awarded to Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva for her significant teaching, expert, social and civic activity.

### **Conclusion**

The in-depth, innovative and proven in practice research output of the applicant, aimed at upgrading and enriching training in the health education system of higher schools, her active and multifaceted teaching experience in the training of health professionals, her proven multiyear expertise and training, give me sound reasons for a positive evaluation of her work, and the conviction to propose to the members of the specialized scientific jury to award Assoc. Prof. Marinela Ivanova Grudeva, PhD, the academic position of "Professor" in the area of higher education 1. Pedagogical sciences, Professional field 1.2. Pedagogy, Specialty "Theory of education and didactics" (Education of medical specialists).

Member of the Scientific Jury:



Professor Eleonora Mihaylova Mileva, DSc, PhD

December 10, 2019