

## **POSITION**

**by Professor Rositsa Alexandrova Penkova, Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski "**

**for the materials submitted for participation in competition published in State Gazette, issue. 62 / 06.08.2019, for occupying the academic position "professor" from assoc. prof. Dr. Elena Grozeva Zheleva in the field of higher education: 1. "Pedagogical Sciences", professional field 1.3. "Pedagogy of Education in ...", specialty "Pedagogy of Education in Health Care"**

In the competition for "Professor" announced for the needs of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna Branch - Sliven, participates Assistant Professor Elena Grozeva Zheleva, Doctor of Pedagogy

1. By Order No. R-109-324 / 07.10.2019 of the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, I have been appointed as a member of the scientific jury of the competition for the occupation of the academic position "Professor "in the field of higher education 1." Pedagogical Sciences ", professional field 1.3. "Pedagogy of Education in ...", specialty "Pedagogy of Education in Health Care".

For the participation in the announced competition, only one candidate has submitted documents: Assoc. Prof. Elena Grozeva Zheleva, Lecturer at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, Branch - Sliven, Department of "Health Care".

The set of paper and electronic materials presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elena Zheleva is in accordance with the Rules on the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Occupation of Academic Positions at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna.

The candidate submitted a list of a total of 85 scientific papers, 15 of which were included in the reference to cover the minimum scientometric requirements. 74 scientific publications are accepted for review, which have been printed after occupying the academic position of Assistant Professor. One monographic paper, 3 individual textbooks and 70 articles in Bulgarian and foreign languages in scientific editions are presented.

The materials are precisely systematized and presented for participation in the competition for the occupation of the academic position of "professor". In the scientific papers presented for review, Assoc. Prof. Elena Grozeva Zheleva is an independent author.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elena Zheleva is a Lecturer at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, Branch - Sliven. The candidate has provided the necessary reference for her employment. Under her leadership, six PhD students successfully defended their work. Assoc. Prof. Zheleva has registered 62 participation in scientific forums (24 in Bulgaria and 38 abroad: Moscow, Tula, Minsk, Slovakia, Poland), as well as leadership of 4 national research projects.

2. The preparation of the candidate for the position of "Professor" is confirmed by her serious professional commitment to over-standard teaching employment and her competent attitude to work with students, as well as by the three self-produced textbooks on theoretical and practical aspects of the problem of special nursing care. Her research work on national projects is also a confirmation of the professional capacity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zheleva, PhD in relation to the scientific field and professional direction of the competition.

My high appreciation of the candidate's scientific and scientific-applied activity is the result of the analysis of the scientific works and the established contributions in theoretical and practical plan.

A valuable work on the pedagogy of health care education is the monograph "**Methods of Health Care Education**", with ISBN 978-954-490-647-4, "ECS-PRESS" - Gabrovo; 2019, 336 pages. The author proves that at the present stage in the education on health care of students from the regulated specialties - nurse, midwife, rehabilitator, etc., there is no longer a need for purposeful accumulation of knowledge, but the application of new educational forms that develop the abilities of the trainees for active and successful participation in practical situations. This tendency also determines the relevance of the interpreted problems in the monograph of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zheleva.

Based on theoretical understanding of the specifics of the students' preparation for their upcoming independent professional activity, the author substantiates those pedagogical factors that will positively influence the acquisition of professional knowledge, skills and competences by the trainee healthcare professionals. Emphasis is placed on the offered lectures, practical classes, clinical practice and pre-graduate internships conducted in

accordance with the methodology of training in health care at the higher education institution..

In the first chapter of the monograph, the author lays out the scientific foundations of the proposed teaching methodology. She analyzes the subjects of the health care training.

With contributions in the second chapter is the proposed methodology for training in health care, which outlines the forms and methods of training in the professional field "Health care", as well as the conditions for the optimal implementation of the methodology of training in health care.

Particularly striking is the practical value of the proposed methodology in Chapter Three. The attention is directed to the developed pedagogical technology, which stimulates the active position of students and helps to increase their cognitive and professional interests; supports the formation of intellectual self-problem solving skills and motivates students' self-improvement.

The results of the testing of the technology prove that a qualitatively new organization of the educational process was carried out, held in the higher school, which prepares future health professionals. It is particularly important that this technology can be used in pedagogical practice by other higher education institutions that train nurses, midwives and other healthcare professionals.

**3. The research presented in the scientific articles and reports can be divided into several thematic blocks:**

**a) Opportunities for the methodology of health care training.** This thematic block highlights the formative function of the health care education methodology (No 1, No 44); activation of the cognitive activity of students in higher education (№ 8); the formation of professional competences in future healthcare professionals (No 12, No 14); optimal organization and management of the learning process (No 15). The author argues in the articles that the proposed methodology improves the quality of health care education in the higher education institution (No 5, No 30); opportunities for creativity and innovation in the implementation of pedagogical interaction are provided (No 47, No 50); professional partnership and interaction between health care educators and students is enhanced (No 2, No 7). The methodology also contributes to the provision of quality healthcare for patients in need (No 21, No 27); contributes to minimizing the risk to the patient (No 24), to alleviating changes associated with an increase in chronic morbidity (No 20).

b) **The pedagogical environment in higher education.** The articles (№10, № 42, № 52, № 56) focus on the pedagogical environment as a condition and factor for the personal motivation of the teacher in the learning process, for the realization of mutual cognitive and emotional activity with students and patients.

c) **Modern didactic technologies with emphasis on the problem of preparation** (№ 17, № 31, № 40, № 63, №67). The author emphasizes the role and place of modern didactic technologies for organizing and managing students' independent work, for their ability to solve problem situations.

d) **Specificity of training for working with children and adults with special needs** (№ 3, (№ 6, (№ 9, № 11, № 13(№ 22, № 34.№ 60). Prof. Zheleva pays special attention to the methodology of training in the conditions of interaction between medical specialists and children and adults with special needs, for the provision of nursing care for children and adults with physical disabilities.

e) **Humanizing of the training of healthcare professionals** is another major problem in publications (No 58, No 66, No 69). The author also focuses on the psycho-didactic characteristics of the mental work of the future healthcare professional in the context of university education (No 32).

f) **Personal and professional development of the teacher and the future health care specialist** (№ 19, № 23, № 28, № 38, № 45, № 46).

g) **Physical education and sports and healthy lifestyles** (№ 16, № 25, № 29, № 39, № 64, № 65). The author views sport as a need and motivation for a healthy lifestyle for future health professionals. Emphasis is also placed on the prevention of health promotion and preservation, as well as on the medical and pedagogical aspects of a healthy lifestyle.

h) **Practical training of future healthcare professionals and their adaptation in the hospital,** The author analyzes the role, functions and effectiveness of clinical practice for optimal vocational training (No 54, No 57, No 61). The idea is that the adaptation of students to the conditions in the hospital is leading in the planning, organizing, conducting, coordinating, controlling the care for the needy person (No 26, No 35, No 37, No 41, No 43, No 49, No 51, No. 53, No. 55, No. 59, No. 68). Emphasis is also placed on the problems in the vocational training of healthcare professionals (No 36).

i) **The methodology of scientific and applied research** is another

issue of interest to the author in publications (No 33, No 70).

## CONCLUSION

The documents and materials, presented by Assoc. Prof. Elena Grozeva Zheleva, meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) and the Rules for the Implementation of the LDASRB.

The candidate in the competition has submitted a sufficient number of scientific papers published after occupying the academic position of "Assistant Professor". The publications have original scientific and applied contributions, some of which have been published in journals and scientific journals published abroad. Theoretical developments are of practical relevance as they are directly oriented towards the pedagogy of health care education.

The results achieved in the teaching and research activities of Assoc. Prof. Elena Grozeva Zheleva are **in full compliance** with the requirements for occupation of the academic position of "Professor".

After getting acquainted with the scientific works presented in the competition and analyzing the significance and the scientific and applied contributions contained therein, I am convinced of my **positive assessment** and recommend to the Honorable Scientific Jury to prepare a report-proposal for the selection of **assoc. prof. Elena Grozeva Zheleva, PhD**, to the academic position of "Professor" in the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna in the field of higher education 1." Pedagogical Sciences ", professional field 1.3. "Pedagogy of Education in ...", specialty "Pedagogy of Education in Health Care".

05.11.2019  
Sofia

Drafted the Position:



/Professor, Rositsa Penkova, DSc /