

REVIEW

by Assoc. Prof. Veselina Georgieva Ivanova, Ph.D.

Trakia University, Stara Zagora

A member of the scientific jury in connection with the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in Methodology of Physical Education (Adapted Physical Activity, Hygiene and Health Education), a field of higher education 1. Pedagogical Sciences, professional field 1.3. Pedagogy of Education in ..., announced in the State Gazette, issue 41 of 03.06.2022 by Trakia University for the needs of the Faculty of Education

The review was prepared in accordance with Order №1919 / 17.06.2022 of the Rector of Trakia University, Stara Zagora.

In the competition procedure, documents have been submitted, and one candidate has been admitted for evaluation - assistant professor PhD **Galena Todorova Terzieva**.

General presentation of the candidate

Educational activity

Asst. Prof. Dr Galena Todorova Terzieva graduated from secondary education with the qualification "Manager" at 'Knyaz Simeon Tarnovski High School of Economics, Stara Zagora.

In NSA "V. Levski", Sofia, she successively completed as follows :

- in 2002 – a Bachelor's *undergraduate academic degree in Kinesitherapy*
- in 2004 – Master's degree in Kinesitherapy in the clinical field of Kinesitherapy in neurology and psychiatry. Sports Kinesitherapy.
- in 2010 – Education Qualification degree Master with a speciality in Physical Education Teacher.

In 2018, she was awarded the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in "Theory of education and didactics" based on a defended dissertation on the topic:

"Formation of professional competence for adapted physical education in the education of students in pedagogical specialities".

Academic, teaching and scientific activity

The academic development of asst. prof. PhD Galena Terzieva started as a part-time lecturer in the academic disciplines "Physical Education and Sport" and "Motion Training and Adapted Physical Activity" in the Faculty of Medicine at Trakia University in the period 2008-2013.

Since 2013, asst. prof. Dr Terzieva has been an assistant in the speciality "Theory and methodology of physical education, sports training (incl. exercise training methodology)" at the Faculty of Education at Trakia University. Furthermore, she is a leading lecturer in the academic disciplines: "Health Education", "Motor Training and Kinesitherapy", "Motor Training and Adapted Physical Activity", "Kinesitherapy", "Anatomy, Physiology and Hygiene of the Child", "Physical Education and Sport".

The academic disciplines correspond to the scientific interests, the publications and the scientific speciality for which the competition is announced. The attached documents indicate the authorship of their curricula.

Research activity

The general research production presented for the competition by Galena Terzieva, assistant professor, includes the following:

- 1 piece of a monograph with a volume of 158 pages;
- 1 piece of a published book based on a protected dissertation work for awarding the educational and scientific degree "doctor" with a volume of 158 pages;
- 2 pcs. of articles published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information, with a total volume of 18 pages;
- 14 pcs. of articles published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in scientific volumes, with a total volume of 98 pages.

All publications meet the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria in terms of number, subject matter, volume and quality. They are by the scientific metrics reflected in Regulation No.

3 and the policy of Trakia University in the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff of the Faculty of Education at Trakia University.

The publication activity in 2014-2022 shows the candidate's activity in conducted scientific forums, predominantly in the country (10 participations) and less abroad - Czech Republic, Austria, Norway (4 participations). Nine (9) of the presented publications are in Bulgarian, and the remaining five (5) are in English.

In her scientific publications, asst. prof. Dr Terzieva seeks answers to current issues of physical, inclusive and health education of children and adolescents, their connection with the key competency of healthy lifestyle and sport, and teachers' preparation and professional competencies for effective activity in these areas. The theoretical analyses and empirical studies presented largely use the author's tools.

In terms of content, the developments and scientific work of Assistant Dr. Terzieva outline areas of scientific interest with ideologically and logically related topics: inclusive education (normative base, state in the Republic of Bulgaria, trends) in its implementation in the physical education of children and adolescents (7.3, 7.4, 7.7 and 7.12); adapted and inclusive physical education (university training of future teachers, attitudes towards inclusion, effectiveness) in physical education classes for children with special educational needs, determination of inclusive self-efficacy (6.1, 6.2, 7.5, 7.6, 7.8, 7.10, 7.11); professional-personal and methodical training of student teachers (effectiveness of practice in obesity, spinal distortions) for prevention and rehabilitation of socially significant diseases in children and adolescents (7.1 and 7.2); health and health education (children of primary school age, concept of a training program in health education), development of professional and pedagogical competences in future teachers for the formation of hygiene and health knowledge and skills for a healthy lifestyle (7.9, 7.13 and 7.14) .

In the different parts of the monograph *Health Education and Physical Education: Competence of Student Teachers*, professional competence in the field of hygiene and health education of future primary school teachers is considered in two aspects: personal and professional. The systematization and presentation of various sources, perspectives and approaches to structure and model the problem-thematic areas of this integrative process is highly impressive. Scientific development of explications that combine theoretical and methodological reflection on the problem with a demonstrated high methodological level is evident.

The most significant contributions of this monograph could be summarized in the following directions:

- scientific-theoretical - the relationship is discussed: health education - physical education - pedagogical competence - health competence;
- practical-applied - the identified deficits in the future primary teachers' knowledge in this scientific field are filled;
- problematic components of the health of students from pedagogical specialities are identified;
- the academic literature in the field of health education has been enriched with usefulness for preparing students, graduates, and teachers.

As an up-to-date interpretation of the themes and scope developed, the monograph *Adapted Physical Education: Future Infant and Primary Teachers for Inclusion* impresses with the author's achievement of completeness of the issues addressed, along with their methodological and methodological soundness.

The book discusses the deficit in the specialized training of teachers to teach physical education with the competence to include children with special educational needs in the motor learning process.

A summary of guidelines for adapting physical activity in mainstream settings and contemporary models for inclusive physical education are presented.

A significant contribution is her research presented in the monograph, conducted for the first time in Bulgaria, on the attitudes of future teachers of the speciality "**Pre-school and primary school education**" and the positive changes in their professional readiness for adapted physical education in inclusive conditions after specialized training in the academic environment.

I fully accept the scientific contributions made by Assistant Professor Doctor Galena Terzieva in the production presented in the competition for "Associate Professor", and to those shown in the review so far, I would add the following:

- the enrichment of scientific knowledge in the context of the competence approach and the expansion of the professional profile of the modern kindergarten and primary teacher;
- the training courses on "Motion training and adapted physical activity", "Motion training and kinesitherapy", and "Inclusive mobile games" developed with practical and applied significance for future kindergarten and elementary school teachers; "Anatomy, physiology and hygiene of the child";

- the in-depth study of factors allowing to predict the future professional behaviour of students of pedagogical specialities.

Asst. Prof. Dr Terzieva has presented a sufficient number of quality scientific works with original scientific and applied contributions. Therefore, the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position of Associate Professor have been met (total points - 545). I do not doubt plagiarism in the scientific publications submitted for review.

Citations

In the reference for citations, assistant doctor Terzieva indicated a total of 15 citations of her publications, of which 2 were in scientific publications, refereed and indexed in world-known databases with scientific information; 5 in peer-reviewed monographs and collective volumes and 8 in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals. All quotes are correctly described.

Conclusion

The overall and career profile of Asst. Prof. Dr Terzieva meets the conditions and requirements of the habilitation procedure for the academic position of Associate Professor.

The coherence between the texts produced and the disciplines taught shows a sound synthesis between the research, methodological and teaching work asst. prof. Dr Terzieva performs conscientiously and responsibly.

Based on the above, I declare to the respected members of the scientific jury that I give my positive vote for the awarding of the academic position of "Associate Professor" to **Galena Todorova Terzieva, PhD**, lecturer in the Faculty of Education at Trakia University on "Teaching Methodology in Physical Education (Adapted physical activity, hygiene and health education)".

25 October 2022
Stara Zagora

Signature:
Assoc. Prof. Veselina Ivanova, Ph.D.