



EXPERT OPINION

By Prof. d-r Diana Atanasova Radoinova

member of the scientific jury appointed to conduct a competition for the academic position of an "Associate Professor" on the grounds of Order № PD-433/28. 12. 2023 by the Rector of "Prof. d-r Assen Zlatarov" University- Burgas about papers, submitted for competition for achieving the academic position of associate professor field- Higher Education 2. Humanities, Professional direction 2.1 Philology (West European Literature),
declared in State Journal, issue 97/21.11.2023

I. Data about the competition

In the competition for the position of 'Associate Professor', field-higher education 2. Humanities, professional direction 2.1 Philology (West European Literature) announced by State Journal, issue 97/21.11.2023 and the internet site of "Assen Zlatarov" University" Burgas, for the needs of the department of 'Bulgarian Language and Literature'" at the Faculty of Social Science at 'Prof. d-r Asen Zlatarov' University, Burgas, chief assistant d-r Elitsa Staikova Dubarova-Petkova – a lecturer at 'Prof. d-r Asen Zlatarov' University is the sole candidate. The submitted papers are according to the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Regulations. The candidate covers and even exceeds the scientific-metric ratio requirements (recorded 770 points compared to 400 minimum according to ASDLRB and respectively 700 required by the University Regulations).

No plagiarism has been detected in the papers.

II. Biographical data

The sole candidate in the competition d-r Dubarova finished "Vassil Levski" Foreign Language School in Burgas in 1994, where she studied German and Russian languages. Elitsa Dubarova holds a Master's Degree in Bulgarian Philology, graduating "Paisii of Hilendar" Plovdiv University in 1999. Between 1999 and 2003, the candidate worked as a part-time lecturer at Burgas Free University. In 2009 she defended her doctoral thesis on speciality 05.04. 06 (Literature of the peoples of Europe, America, Africa, and Australia) and obtained PhD degree. Since 2009 she has been holding the academic position of "chief assistant" in the "Bulgarian Language and Literature" Department, at the Faculty of Social Science at "Prof. d-r Assen Zlatarov" University.

III. Scientific output

1. Monograph

A/ Dissertation work

D-r Dubarova's dissertation paper "Metanarrative Techniques in the novel **"A Man Without Qualities"** by **Robert Musil**, published by LIBRA SCORP in 2023(228p) ISBN 978-954-471-992-0 focuses on her main scientific interests- Contemporary German language West European literature. The very fact that the candidate has chosen this extraordinary, eccentric, and hard-to-read and analyze author, is a testimony of her demanding professionalism and creative spirit. Another yet compelling challenge is the interpretive analysis of the meta-narrative techniques, rather than the narrative itself – citation and essay-like style, which ironically criticizes philosophical and literary concepts, considered axiomatic. The paper explores beyond the aesthetic techniques typical of Musil: discrediting the mental skepticism of a civilized future and experimenting with extra-literary devices for attaining a positive spiritual construction that positions the Man in the center of the universe, open to new potential. The author brilliantly and deftly proves her initial provocative point of view, which defines the non-utopic load of Musil's novel, defying the conventional literary axiological interpretation, and still accepting its positive philosophical and conceptual significance.

B/ Published monograph.

In 2023 d- r Dubarova published a monograph, based on her defended doctoral dissertation titled "Poetics of Accomplishment in the novel "Heinrich von Ofterdingen" by Novalis- aspects of continuity and distancing from the didactic traditions. Burgas, Libra Scorp 2023 (216,) ISBN 978954471993 7. This paper ascertains d-r Dubarova as a unique literary text analyst, rejecting conventional interpretation in favor of innovative concepts. Whereas most literary critics interpret Novalis, and his novel "Heinrich von Ofterdingen" as a narrative placed within the chronological frame of early romanticism, with all its prerequisites and predispositions, d-r Dubarova traces several modernistic features, which, to a certain extent oppose the formula of the didactic novel from the end of the 18th c. According to the author, the poetics of the accomplishment unfolds both in Novalis's artistic world and in the readers experiencing discourse, mentally revealing a potentially accessible world of harmony, love, and romantic sophistication.

2. Articles :

The candidate has submitted 28 scientific articles and 2 studies. Three of them have been published in scientific editions, refereed, and indexed in a recognized scientific information database as follows: “Petja Dubarova- phenomenal and phenomenological life story (2016), “Serapion Trace in Hoffman’s last short story- “The Corner window of my cousin (2022) and “Techniques of awakening. Reasoning on the narrative and theoretical dimensions of optics in the works of Hoffman and Musil („The Corner Window” and “Trieder”) (in print)

She has also submitted 2 studies and 25 articles, published in unrefereed magazines with scientific reviews or published in edited collective volumes. Some of them present detailed theoretical reviews of contemporary concepts in literature studies, partially based on empirical material: (“The Critic as a Writer”-2009, “About Things of Life”-2010, “From Language Frivolity to Language Relevance”-2016, “The Other Conditions”- 2017, “The Literature Museum- a zone of participation”-2018 “Can social networks create literature?”-2018.

D-r Dubarova’s other works focus on contemporary Bulgarian poetry research in a relatively restricted frame (“Petia Dubarova as an interpreter”(2013), “Subtitle and subtlety in “ A Fine Booklet” by Ekaterina Yosifova”(2014), “Petia Dubarova- a phenomenal and phenomenological life story”(2016), “The Dedication- from endocept to concept” (2022).

Following the author’s maturing and scientific development, however, her interest gradually shifts to the German language prose of two emblematic, yet very hard-to-comprehend writers- Novalis and Musil. Her articles “Totality and Dissociation”, “ Searching for Entity”, “ Similarities between “The Odd Story of Peter Schlemil and “A Man without Qualities”(2012), “Petia Dubarova and Novalis, the Day and the Night- a romantic synergy”(2012), “ The Semantic Potential of the Occasionalism “ Kakania” in Musil’s “A Man without Qualities”(2015), “Between the partial and entire life story of the man without qualities in Musil’s book(2015), “Clinical and Utopic meaning of the incest in Musil’s “A Man Without Qualities”(2016), “The Dystopian Language in Musil’s “A Man without Qualities”(2018), “The Irony as a Healing Remedy of Mankind in Musil’s “A Man without Qualities(2016), “The Essayism in the Novel “A Man without Qualities” as a Metanarrative Strategy,,(2023) display a comprehensive understanding and profound

analysis of these authors, avoiding the conventional literary study and implementing the discursive practices of metaliterary and concept circles.

What makes d-r Dubarova's scientific contribution innovative and admirable is her mental and emotionally reflective endeavors within the almost invisible boundaries between the classical literary study and its surrounding (in a sense penetrating it) problematic spheres of psycho-analysis, cultural anthropology, mythological poetry, and transcendental philosophy. Her unconventional approach has created a scientific bulk of texts, characterized by avant-garde interdisciplinary devices, innovative analyst techniques, and impressive unconventional vision.

The production of the candidate submitted for the competition for acquiring the academic position of "associate professor" is a categorical and undeniable scientific contribution.

IV. Other scientific achievements

1. Citations

The dissertation acknowledges 11 articles and 1 study.

16 citations in refereed and unrefereed magazines have been noted. Two of her papers have been published and refereed in the recognized world-known database, 8 have been published in monographs and collective volumes- scientifically refereed, 6 have been published in unrefereed magazines with scientific reference. Citations are relevant and positively evaluated.

2. Participation in scientific projects.

The candidate has participated in 4 scientific and research projects: one national where she is a coordinator of the project; one European and two university projects.

3. Teaching activity

D-r Dubarova boasts a highly successful professional career. Her teaching experience involves lectures and courses on Introduction to Literary Theory, Psychoanalytical Criticism, and Literature in various majors, as well as a master course in Romantic Symbolics in 20th c. literature.

Chief assistant d-r Elitsa Dubarova was a supervisor to 6 graduating students, all of whom had successfully defended their thesis. She is a member of the Bulgarian

Language and Literature National Olympiad Committee. The enclosed documents certify the various teaching courses and programs.

She is also the author of a teaching material “Outlines of Some Issues of Ancient and West European Literature”. Publishing House Libra Scorp. ISBN: 978-954-471-209-9.

V. Conclusion

The submitted papers follow the National Requirements of the Academic Staff Development Law in the Republic of Bulgaria, its Regulations for Application, as well as the scientific research and teaching activity inner requirements of “Prof. d-r Assen Zlatarov” University – Burgas.

Based on **all the above**, I can fully claim that the submitted scientific publications and the scientific and practical experience of the candidate give me full grounds to advise the members of the esteemed Scientific Jury to propose to the Department Council of the Faculty of Social Sciences at ‘Prof. d-r Asen Zlatarov’ University to **elect chief assistant Ph.D. Elitsa Dubarova as an associate professor in professional direction 2.1 Philology(West European Literature) at ‘Prof. d-r Asen Zlatarov’ University.**

27.02.2024

Prof. d-r Diana Radoinova