



EXPERT OPINION

BY Prof. DrSn Kalina Grozeva Lukova, lecturer at Burgas Free University

member of the scientific jury appointed to conduct a competition for the academic position of an “Associate Professor” on the grounds of Order № PD-432/28. 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)

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)

Apart from the dissertation papers, chief assistant d-r Dubarova has submitted a significant number of additional scientific works: 1 monography (dissertation), 1 published book based on defended dissertation work; 3 scientific publications in refereed magazines with the scientific review or edited collective volumes, from which 24 are independent and 1 is co-authored; 2 studies, published in redacted collective volumes; 1 published chapter of a collective monograph in English; 1 teaching material.

The dissertation acknowledges 11 articles and 1 study.

16 citations in refereed and refereed magazines have been noted.

Chief assistant d-r Elitsa Dubarova has participated in 3 national scientific projects and 1 international.

Elitsa Dubarova holds a Master's Degree in Bulgarian Philology, “Paisii of Hilendar” Plovdiv University, 1999. Between 1999 and 2003, the applicant 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.

The candidate possesses the mandatory teaching, scientific, and professional experience.

General overview of the candidate's professional 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.

I. Monograph

D-r Dubarova's dissertation paper "Metanarrative Techniques in the Novel "A Man Without Qualities" by Robert Musil is an accomplished endeavor in revealing intellectual secrets in one of the author's most challenging works. The candidate prioritizes the theoretical, terminological, and cultural information, which is substantiated by the impressive foreign language bibliography.

In a well-thought concept and clearly defined research goals, the author unambiguously proves the thesis that irony and its realization through 'essayism and citation' prompt metanarrative approach, which exposes the pseudo validity of significant scientific paradigms"2 p). D-r Dubarova elevates the idea of ironically motivated meta-aesthetic relativism in the novel beyond the well-known critical corpus, whereas the narrative essay-like techniques and citation surpass the individually-creative structures of Musil and function on their own, in their over-textual and over-functional context. The author meticulously explores the thesis (paraphrase of Benjamin), that Musil is far too ironic to create a novel in the genre meaning.

The contributions of the research towards the limited Bulgarian critic context are undisputable and are carried out in synchronic symbiosis of the narrational, philosophical, and artistic, to define Musil's radical modernity.

An emblematic fragment in the dissertation appears to be "Kakania and the Parallel action- the bird metaphor" and the ironic construction of the "kakanian discourse" in its emotional ambivalence, interpreting approach, linguistic precision, and pun effects.

D-r Dubarova brilliantly delves into detailed research of the conceptual, modernistic, and problematic dome in Musil's novel: the citation strategy, dilapidating language structure, the parodic imitation of scientific and ideological theories, the aesthetics of the narrative, the controversial paradigms of utopia and dystopia.

The relevant scientific contribution of d-r Dubarova's dissertation is based on the long-term profound and responsible research of Musil's work in its actual context- historical, cultural, biographical, and creative meaning.

I fully accept the correct self-evaluation concerning the contribution of the dissertation work as integral, systematic, and revolutionary research of Musil's novel "A Man Without Qualities".

II. Related articles

The related dissertation articles analyze the main research issues- the comparative excerpts for displaying additional meaning being the main contribution effect of the dissertation: "Techniques of awakening. Reasoning on the narrative and theoretical dimensions of optics in the works of Hoffman and Musil ("The Corner Window" and "Trieder"); "Techniques for onomatopoeic presentation in two cultural salons"("War and Peace" and "The man Without Qualities"). The candidate is a co-author in the articles "Totality and Dissociation", "Looking for Entity", "Similarities between "The Marvelous Story of Peter Schlemihl" and "A Man Without Qualities", "The Other Conditions", "Utopic or Clinical Context of the Morbid in Musil and Čapek's works".

III. Textbooks and Workbooks

D-r Dubarova has written the textbook "Outlines of Some Issues of Ancient and West European Literature", which presents the aesthetics of literary epochs, styles, directions, and authors.

Conclusion

The candidate in the competition chief assistant d-r Elitsa Dubarova- Petkova has submitted a significant number of scientific papers, published after defending her doctoral degree. The scientific contributions of the candidate in using modern theoretical and methodological paradigms in the process of productive research of contemporary and unexplored Bulgarian literature criticism of literary problems in the novel "A Man Without Qualities" by Musil are undisputable

She is also a dedicated and active lecturer.

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.**

15.03.2024 г.

Professor DrSn Kalina Lukova