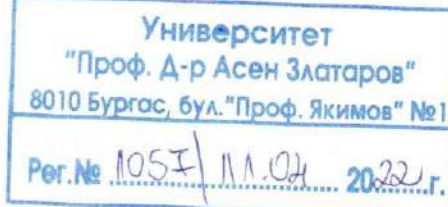


STATEMENT



by Prof. Nikolay Stoyanov Kolishev, D. Sc.

on the theoretical and practical contributions in the publications
of Chief Assistant Ph.D. Smilena Dimitrova Smilkova, a participant in a competition
for taking the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher
education

1. Pedagogical sciences, professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Methodology of teaching
music in kindergarten and primary school), announced by "Prof. Dr. Assen Zlatarov"
University, Burgas, (DV, issue 107/16.12.2021)

I. Biographical Info

Chief Assist. Ph. D. Smilena Smilkova was born on 11.04.1961. In 1984 she graduated from the Bulgarian State Conservatory "Pancho Vladigerov", Sofia majoring in "Piano". In 1996 she graduated with a postgraduate degree in management from Burgas Free University. In 2005 she defended a dissertation on the Methodology of Music Teaching at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski".

The work experience of Chief Assistant Ph. D. Smilena Smilkova began in 1984 as a teacher of piano, chamber and piano methodology at the National School of Music and Stage Arts "Prof. Pancho Vladigerov" in Burgas, where she teaches until 2016. From 2010 to 2015 she was a part-time piano teacher in the specialty Preschool and primary school pedagogy at Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov University, in the city of Burgas. In 2016 he started working as a part-time piano teacher at Private kindergarten "Veda" and Private primary school "Veda", Sofia, where she teaches until 2018.

From 2018 to 2020 she is an Assistant Professor of Music and Artpedagogy at Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov" University, Burgas, and from 2020 until now – chief assistant at the same university.

II. General characteristics of scientific production

The candidate has submitted for review scientific production in a volume of 21 publications, including 1 monographs, 1 learning aid, 1 book based on a doctoral dissertation and 18 articles and reports, 10 of which are in foreign publications and 7 in publications with impact factor.

In the candidate's habilitation work entitled "Instrumental music and its perception or "Tell me music", a didactically sound and practicable model of the

perception of instrumental musical works is presented by preschoolers, primary school students, and students.

The textbook "Creative tasks for the development of imagination through the perception of instrumental music" includes written works of students developed on tasks set by the author. The tasks are formulated successfully and possess a thought-provoking character.

The articles and reports of the applicant can be grouped into the following three thematic areas: 1) elements of musical expression; 2) development and improvement of "soft" skills in children, pupils, and students through the use of different musical activities; 3) education and training of future listeners.

As common characteristics for all presented publications, we can highlight the following: the actuality of the subject matter; logical structure; precision in the definition and use of basic concepts; competent systematization and analysis of significant literary sources; justification of productive practical ideas; highly professional language and style of exhibition.

III. Assessment of theoretical and practical-applied contributions

The theoretical and practical contributions made by the applicant in the field of music teaching methodology correspond to the content of the submitted publications and generally speak of a good level of professional reflection. As particularly important for the development of the methodology of music teaching, I would point out the following contributions:

1. A model for the reception of instrumental musical works by preschoolers, primary school students and students has been developed. It includes a variety of tasks and games for the development of musical abilities, visual imaginations, imagination and creativity, of the imaginary, logical and creative thinking of the listeners.
2. Productive practical ideas have been developed for the improvement through various musical activities of diverse skills: for listening, direction and distribution of attention; for distinguishing part and whole in musical terms; for speaking and oral expression – explanations, expression and argumentation of opinion, alternation of speech and melody; for analytical and synthetic thinking; for optimal time distribution.
3. A didactically justified sequence of tasks for the development of students' imagination based on the gradual development and understanding of the musical image in the instrumental works has been developed and includes: tasks related to verbal summaries; tasks related to written narrative, essay, fairy tale; tasks describing feelings and emotions arisen when listening to a musical work; tasks related to the general culture of students in the field of musical, literary and fine arts.

IV. Conclusion

In conclusion, I can state that the quality of the systematization of theoretical information in the presented publications on the methodology of music teaching and the productive ideas for personal development through various musical activities are at a level that fully meets the legal requirements for taking the academic position of "associate professor" in the professional field 1.2. Pedagogy (Methodology of music teaching in kindergarten and primary school).

prof. Nikolay Kolishev, D.Sc.