

OPINION

from

assoc. prof. Polina Mihova Mihova - Pavlova, Ph.D
Professional field 7.4. Public Health

on

chief. assist. prof. Svetlozar Metodiev Vassilev, MD, Ph.D.

candidate in an announced competition for the academic position "associate professor" in the Field of Higher Education 7. Health care and sports, professional field 7.4. Public Health, published in the National official gazette N50/ 09.06.2023.

In the competition announced by the New Bulgarian University for a full-time "associate professor" in professional field 7.4. Public health, published in the National official gazette N50/ 09.06.2023 there is one candidate who participated - chief. assist. prof. Svetlozar Metodiev Vassilev, MD, Ph.D.

This Opinion has been developed in accordance with the requirements for candidates set out in the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LAD) and the rules for its implementation, as well as in accordance with the Ordinance on the Development of the Academic Staff of the National Bank of Bulgaria.

Based on the report presented by Dr Svetlozar Vasilev, a reference according to the requirements of the National Centre for Information and Documentation /NACID/ showed that she meets the minimum national requirements under the Regulations for the implementation of the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, Appendix 2. Minimum national requirements and requirements of the NBU.

I. Education and qualifications

Dr. Svetlozar Vasilev graduated in medicine in 1994. He specialized in psychiatry at Sofia Medical University and worked at Aleksandrovska Hospital until 1998. Assistant in psychoanalytic therapy at New Bulgarian University since 1995. He graduated as a psychoanalyst in 2008, after which he specialized in the Netherlands (2 years) and Great Britain (6 years). Direct member of the International Psychoanalytic Association. Participates in applied and research projects in the field of clinical psychoanalysis, supervision and training.

Dr Vassilev is the co-founder and manager of the "Analitika" centre since 1998 with diverse experience in the treatment of emotional and psychiatric disorders. His dissertation is in the field of epidemiology of common mental disorders.

Dr. Vassilev is the co-founder and current chairman of the Bulgarian Psychoanalytic Society, as well as the head of the Committee for New Groups in Eastern Europe of the International Psychoanalytic Association.

II. Research (creative) activity and results

The monograph "Mirror of Imagination. The Psychoanalysis of the Cinematic Experience", as well as the subsequent collections "Contemporary Kleinian Psychoanalysis", 2021 (with insert, editing and foreword) and "Family Phantoms" by Clavier, S. (2022), where Dr. Vassilev is scientific editor and author of the foreword, demonstrate the modernity and intensity of his scholarly interests and in-depth analyses.

The monograph "Mirror of Imagination. The Psychoanalysis of the Cinematic Experience" is innovative in its conception and implementation, as a natural continuation of the general education

courses for freshmen at the New Bulgarian University: OOOK048 Ideas and Practices in Psychoanalysis and OOKY187 Cinema, Imagination and Psychoanalysis.

Regarding his scientific publications, it can be noted that his citation rate is exceptionally high, with his citations exceeding 3100. The fundamental article Kessler, RC, McLaughlin, KA, Green, JG, Gruber, MJ, Sampson, NA, Zaslavsky, AM, Aguilar-Gaxiola, S., Alhamzawi, AO, Alonso, J., Angermeyer, M., Benjet, C., Bromet, E., Chatterji, S., de Girolamo, G., Demyttenaere, K., Fayyad, J., Florescu, S., Gal, G., Gureje, O., Haro, JM, *Vasilev, S.*, ... Williams, DR (2010). *Childhood adversities and adult psychopathology in the WHO World Mental Health Surveys*. The British journal of psychiatry: the journal of mental science, 197(5), 378–385. <https://doi.org/10.1192/bjp.bp.110.080499>, where he is a co-author has over 2,500 citations worldwide, of which over 1,600 are indexed in SCOPUS.

Over the years, he has been a coordinator and expert in a number of projects, some of which are: research project "Early detection and prevention of psychosis in adolescents" (2000-2001), NBU; "Early Interventions in Mental Disorders" (2001-2003), funded by the "Geneva Initiative in Psychiatry"; international project "Child and adolescent mental health in an expanding Europe: revision of policies and practices" (2007-2010), funded by the European Commission and Researcher for the project "Psychoanalytic training in different settings: The Path, the Experience, The Outcome" (2011-2017), funded by the European Psychoanalytic Federation (EPF).

III. Learning and teaching activity

Dr Svetlozar Vasilev fulfils the required minimum of classroom and training hours as a full-time teacher at the BIOH Institute and the programs at the Department of Health Care and Social Work, striving to be included in courses that are not entirely within his expertise. Student satisfaction is very good and his rating of currently taught courses is an average of 5.50.

The candidate assists with training in practical skills, clinical placement and supervision for students in the Master of Clinical Social Work and Bachelor of Social Work programs.

IV . Administrative and public activity

Since 2020, Dr Vassilev has been a member of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Basic Education. Dr. Vasilev was also a trainer at the Teachers' Cafe, taking part in training at the Center for Career Development and the Center for Students with Special Educational Needs.

After studying the publications and works provided for the competition, I believe that the statements formulated in the Statement of Contributions and Scientific Achievements are to a large extent contained in the submitted materials. They present Dr Svetlozar Metodiev Vasilev as a competent and reliable scientific researcher in the field of psychoanalysis.

CONCLUSION:

The educational activity and practices, conducted in a real clinical environment, as well as the scientific production presented for participation in the competition from ch. assist. prof. Svetlozar Metodiev Vassilev, MD, PhD gives me reasons to believe that all the requirements of Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria have been met for occupying the academic position "associate professor" in professional field 7.4. Public Health.

I am fully convinced that I give a positive opinion and I confidently recommend to the respected scientific jury the candidacy of Dr. Svetlozar Vasilev for the academic position of "associate professor" according to the competition announced by the New Bulgarian University.

Sofia
21.09.2023

Prepared the opinion:
Assoc.

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