

OPINION

on the materials for participation in the competition for the occupation of the academic position "Professor", field of higher education 3. Social, economic and legal sciences, professional direction 3.7 Administration and Management, scientific specialty "Application of Computing in Economics", in the discipline "Information Technologies", announced by the University of Forestry, SG. 101 / 27.12.2019, Procedure Code ABM-P-1119-27

The candidate for the competition is: Associate Professor Marina Petrova Mladenova

Prepared the opinion: Prof. DSc. Mladen Stefanov Veleв, Technical University - Sofia, professional direction 3.7 Administration and Management, scientific specialties "Economics and Management" and "Organization and Management of Production",

1. Brief CVs of the applicant.

Assoc. Prof. Marina Petrova Mladenova was born on 06.06.1967. She graduated in 1991 from the Technical University of Sofia with a Master's Degree in Electronics and Microelectronics, qualification "Electronics and Automation Engineer". She has further qualifications as a system administrator for the Blackboard Learn e-learning platform and a Blackboard Learn e-learning platform trainer. She holds a PhD in science, specialty 05.02.21 "Organization and Management of Production" since 2009. Her dissertation theme is "Research and results from the use of information technologies in the furniture industry management".

In the period 1990 to 1993 assoc. Prof. Marina Petrova Mladenova worked as a constructor at the Development and Implementation Base of the Electron, and since 1996 has been a full-time lecturer in the Department of Computer Systems and Informatics at the Faculty Business Management of the University of Forestry - Sofia. She holds the positions of assistant, senior assistant and chief assistant. Since 2011 he has been an academic associate professor. She is an active participant in the educational, scientific and administrative activities of the Department of Computer Systems and Informatics.

Associate Professor Mladenova is fluent in English and Russian. Has excellent computer skills.

Assoc. Prof. Mladenova has a large number of scientific publications in the field of the application of computer technology and information technologies in the economy. She has been the leader of 2 research projects and has taken an active part in 10 more

2. Conformity of the submitted documents and materials of the applicant with the required ones in accordance with the Rules for RAC at VTU:

The documents and materials submitted by the applicant are in full compliance with the requirements of the Rules for the Development of Academic Staff at the University of Forestry.

3. Assessment of the applicant's educational activity

Assoc. Prof. Mladenova is an experienced university lecturer. Since 1996 she has been a full-time lecturer at the Department of Computer Systems and Informatics at the Faculty of Business Management at the University of Forestry - Sofia. She gives lectures in the subjects in the field of competition - "Information Technologies - Part I", "Informatics", "Computer Design - CAD / CAM Systems" and others. She was the research supervisor of one successfully defended PhD student as well as a graduate student.

2. As a result of the research and analysis done, the necessary soft skills are being outlined, which are becoming more and more sought after today, even sometimes over technical skills, for new jobs. (No. B3-1)

3. An infographic has been created to summarize the historical evolution of the concept of digital competence and related terms, as a result of in-depth theoretical study, analysis and systematization of the development of digital competence. (№ D5-1)

4. The strengths and weaknesses of rating systems and Alumni organizations of the universities are outlined. The tools and procedures for building a system for monitoring, and the indicators of the higher education rating system, developed and maintained by the Ministry of Education and Science, of the University of Forestry, have been developed and implemented. (№ G7-1, G8-2, G8-6, G8-14, G9-2, E16-4)

5. A survey "Working with the system" (in the Blackboard Learn platform of the University of Forestry) was developed and implemented, for feedback from the trainees, to evaluate the impact of the learner-interface in web-based learning on the achieved result. (№ G7-2, G8-3, G8-5, G8-12, G8-16)

6. A balanced scorecard for economizing and evaluating the effectiveness of the activities inherent in the University of Forestry - Sofia has been developed and tested. (No. G8-9, E16-4).

II. SCIENTIFIC-APPLIED CONTRIBUTIONS.

1. The most promising jobs in the future and what is the right education for them are highlighted. The current state of the labor market related to the new jobs created as a result of the rapid development of ICT in our country, in the EU and globally is reviewed and analyzed. (No. B3-1)

2. Bulgaria's position in the context of the development of digital competences, economy and market vis-à-vis other countries in the EU and worldwide is presented and analyzed. (№ G5-1, G8-7)

3. A methodological toolkit was developed and scientific research was carried out, through a questionnaire, for monitoring, maintaining and sustainable development of the indicators from the rating system for the higher education institutions in Bulgaria using the Alumni System of the University of Forestry. Measures and initiatives are proposed to ensure sustainability and improve the results of VET. (№ G7-1, G8-2, G8-6, G8-14, G9-2, E16-4)

4. The characteristics, current status, prospects, opportunities, risks, advantages and disadvantages of using cloud computing have been analyzed and systematized from the perspective of the management paradigm for the trinity of economic, social and environmental aspects. (No. D9-1)

5. The results and impact of the use of the Blackboard Learn online platform on the quality of the educational process at the University of Forestry were evaluated. (№ G8-13, G8-15, G8-17)

6. A virtual laboratory for mathematical modeling and computer simulations in research and training in biological resources, product modeling, interior space and exterior environment has been established and developed. (№ G8-1, G8-4, G8-8, G8-10, G8-11, E16-2, E18-1, E18-2)

III. APPLIED CONTRIBUTIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEACHING

1. Developed and implemented training courses are available online, via the Blackboard Learn platform at LTU, with interactive textbooks, tutorials and e-courses using the capabilities of modern information and communication technologies. (No E20-1, E20-2, E20-3, E21 -1, E21-2, E21-3, E21-4, E21-5, E16-1, E16-3, E16-5, E16-6, E16-7, E18-2)

2. An online survey "Quality of Learning Resources" (on the Blackboard Learn platform of the University of Forestry) was developed to provide feedback to the trainees. This ensures the provision of quality teaching resources that meet current educational trends and current demand in the specific subject area. (No. E20-1, E20-2, E20-3, E21-1, E21-4, E21-5).

3. A methodology for complex evaluation of the trainees in each course was developed, with the introduction of weight coefficients for each of the assigned tasks (№ E20-1, E20-2, E20-3, E21-1, E21-4, E21-5)

4. Developed and implemented in the training is a unified structure for online courses implemented in the Blackboard Learn platform at LTU. (No. E20-1, E20-2, E20-3, E21-1, E21-4, E21-5)

5. Assessment of the applicant's personal contribution.

The contributions are a personal matter of Assoc. Prof. Mladenova. I am convinced that they are of great importance for science and practice.

6. Critical notes and recommendations.

The careful study of the scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Mladenova gives me reason to summarize that there are no significant omissions, inaccuracies or contradictions in them. At the same time, I have some critical remarks that do not affect my final positive assessment and could rather be taken as recommendations for the future work of the author. The more important ones are:

- more scientific argumentation of the author's ideas is needed in places;
- Some of the candidate's publications are dedicated to the achievements related to the adaptation of concepts, approaches and methodologies known in the world literature and practice for their application in the specific conditions in Bulgaria. I recommend that in her future scientific research she should focus more on problems of scientific value not only for our country but also for world practice.

7. Personal impressions

Unfortunately, I do not know the candidate well and have no direct personal impressions of her work.

8. Conclusion

Assoc. Prof. Mladenova is an accredited lecturer at the University of Forestry - Sofia with teaching and pedagogical activity, which fully meets the requirements for obtaining the academic position of "Professor". Her scientific works contain scientific, scientific-applied, applied and educational contributions of importance for science and practice. She fully fulfills the criteria for obtaining the requested academic position in accordance with the Rules for the Development of Academic Staff at the University of Forestry.

In connection with the aforementioned, I PROPOSE the candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marina Petrova Mladenova to take the academic position of "Professor" in the discipline "Information Technologies" of the professional direction 3.7 Administration and Management.

Prepared the opinion: 

Opinion delivered on: 4/13/2020