

OPINION

By prof. Dr. Stanislava Yordanova Stoyanova, Department of Psychology, SWU "Neofit Rilski"

on the scientific papers for participation in a competition for the academic position of Associate Professor, professional field 3.2. Psychology, announced in the State Gazette 5/16.01.2024, with the only candidate Chief assistant Evgeniya Dimitrova Hristova, PhD.

I. Assessment of compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of New Bulgarian University

Evgeniya Hristova complies with the minimum national requirements and the requirements of New Bulgarian University for acquiring the academic position of Associate Professor, since:

1. Evgeniya Hristova holds the educational and scientific degree PhD in the professional field of Psychology and the scientific specialty General Psychology.
2. Evgeniya Hristova is the author of the monography "Life vs. Life: Moral Dilemmas in the Allocation of Limited Medical Resources" (COBISS. BG-ID - 60964360), of 212 pages, with two reviewers and one scientific editor, in which the third part presents the results of own studies on the subject of the monographic work.
3. Evgeniya Hristova is the co-author of 15 scientific articles and reports published in the databases of Scopus and / or Web of Science, with which she participates in the announced competition – 5 are on moral judgments, two on judging nonverbal behavior and identifying emotions, one on social roles in a dilemma, one on social relationships in a dilemma, one on eye movements when perceiving works of art, one on decision in a dilemma, one on way of thinking in a dilemma, one on reading eye movements of dyslexic children, one on analysis of emotions based on physiological indicators, one on attitudes towards the use of computers and learning styles in computer-assisted learning.
4. Evgeniya Hristova is the co-author of 7 more articles and reports published in journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes – one on moral dilemmas related to the monographic work; one on moral judgments of artificial intelligence; one concerning the predominance of emotion or rationality in moral judgments; one concerning moral judgment in firemen; one concerning eye movements in the perception of works of art; two on eye movements in decision-making in dilemmas.
5. Evgeniya Hristova is the co-author of one scientific studia, published in the bases of Scopus and / or Web of Science, with which she participated in the announced competition – on modeling cooperation in the prison dilemma.
6. Evgeniya Hristova is the co-author of 2 scientific studias published in journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes – one on tracking eye movements when using electronic training systems and satisfaction with electronic training systems; one on a proposed diagnostic procedure for assessing the effectiveness of electronic training systems, according to the opinions of employers and employees, based on questionnaires, interviews, diaries, achievement tests, observations on knowledge, skills, good practices, attitudes towards computer use, learning styles, satisfaction.
7. Evgeniya Hristova participates in the competition with 22 citations of her scientific works in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes.

In addition to this mandatory compliance with the minimum national requirements for acquiring the academic position of Associate Professor, Evgeniya Hristova points out 3 additional co-authored scientific publications published in journals with scientific review or unreferenced edited collective volumes – on assessing the effectiveness of electronic training systems, according to the opinions of employers and employees on the basis of questionnaires, interviews, performance tests, observations; on controlling the gaze in case of speech disorders and disorders related to the fine motor skills; concerning the attribution of mind and consciousness to humans, animals, artificial creatures, and supernatural entities; on the cross-cultural study of thinking in solving riddles.

Evgeniya Hristova points out 3 more scientific articles and co-authored reports, published in the bases of Scopus and / or Web of Science – a cross-cultural study of aesthetic judgments; a cross-cultural study of moral responsibility; a cross-cultural study of judging emotions.

II. Research (creative) activity and results

1. Evaluation of monographic work, creative expressions or other publications corresponding in volume and integrity to monographic work, including evaluation of the scientific and applied contributions of the author.

Evgeniya Hristova's monographic work "Life vs. Life: Moral Dilemmas in the Allocation of Limited Medical Resources" meets the national requirements for monographic work. The scientific contributions of this monographic habilitation work consist in summarizing theories of ethical and moral values and judgments, refining their application in medicine and enriching the scientific literature with the results of own research on the allocation of resources in moral dilemmas in medicine.

2. Evaluation of the contributions in the other attached publications (creative events) made after the appointment of the academic position "Chief Assistant" or the academic position of "Associate Professor" (for candidates for professor). It also includes an assessment of the requirement for review of publications.

All scientific publications of chief assistant Evgeniya Hristova, PhD, are in peer-reviewed scientific editions. The scientific contributions of Evgeniya Hristova in the other attached scientific publications refer to the enrichment of the scientific literature with the results of her own research on moral judgments in people of different professions and in artificial intelligence; judging emotions; establishing the influence of social roles and social relationships in decision-making in dilemmas; eye movements in the perception of works of art, in reading, in speech disorders and disorders related to fine motor skills, in decision-making in dilemmas, in the use of electronic training systems.

3. Citation from other authors.

Evgeniya Hristova participates in the competition with 22 citations of her scientific works in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-famous databases of scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes.

4. Evaluation of the results of participation in research and creative projects and application of the results obtained in practice.

In some scientific publications of Evgeniya Hristova in co-authorship, it is proposed a diagnostic procedure for assessing the effectiveness of electronic training systems, according to the opinions of employers and employees on the basis of questionnaires, interviews, diaries, achievement tests, observations on knowledge, skills, good practices, attitudes to computer use, learning styles, satisfaction.

Evgeniya Hristova has participated in some applied projects related to usability testing of websites and electronic systems assigned by the National Revenue Agency, UniCredit Bulbank, Address, etc., applying eye-tracking equipment.

Evgeniya Hristova explores the cognitive factors that influence cooperation in situations of moral dilemmas and in the perception of information. In these studies, she used behavioral data, data from eye-tracking equipment and equipment for recording bio-indicators.

III. Educational and teaching activities

1. Curricular and extracurricular activities, work in the electronic training module "MOODLE – NBU", provision of student internships, work with students and PhD students.

Evgeniya Hristova has developed some courses for the Bachelor's degree programme in Psychology (in Bulgarian and English), for the Master's programme in Cognitive Science, including courses in Experimental Psychology and courses on the use of the eye-tracking method.

There is no evidence for uploaded in the electronic system "Moodle NBU" author's materials for courses. Some screenshots of a web-page of a training course could be provided.

Evgeniya Hristova has been a scientific supervisor of graduates in bachelor's and master's degrees, as well as a reviewer of diploma theses.

Evgeniya Hristova has participated together with students and PhD students in some scientific forums. She has worked together with undergraduates and PhD students on projects, and she has several joint publications with undergraduates and PhD students.

2. Work with Erasmus students.

Evgeniya Hristova teaches some courses in English in the Bachelor's program in Psychology and in the Master's program in Cognitive Science. She did not provide information on whether she taught Erasmus students.

3. Students' surveys scores.

The average score from the students' surveys for chief assistant Evgeniya Hristova, PhD is very good 4.36 out of a maximum score of 5.00.

IV. Administrative and public activities

1. Participation in collective management bodies of NBU.

Evgeniya Hristova was the Director of the Master's Program in Cognitive Science from 2006 to 2012, Program Director of Master's Programs at the Department of Psychology for the academic year 2013/2014, Director of the Laboratory of Neurosciences from 2008 to 2015, Director of the Decision and Behaviour Research Laboratory (Decision Lab) from 2021 up to present.

Evgeniya Hristova participated in the Accreditation Commission at the Faculty of Basic Education (2018/19 - 2021/2022).

2. Public activity.

Evgeniya Hristova has delivered several public lectures at NBU and abroad (Vienna and Nis).

She is a member of the Cognitive Science Society.

Evgeniya Hristova was the organizer of the Annual Conference of the Department of Cognitive Science and Psychology and the Winter School of Cognitive Science, 2017.

3. Attracting students to the program.

As a program director and organizer of scientific forums, Evgeniya Hristova had the opportunity to attract students to study in the programs of New Bulgarian University.

V. Personal impressions of the candidate (if any)

I have had positive impressions of Evgeniya Hristova since the defense of her doctoral dissertation in which I participated in the scientific jury.

VI. Opinions, recommendations and notes on the activities and achievements of the candidate

I recommend the preparation by Evgeniya Hristova of her independent scientific articles whose only author she is.

In conclusion, I express my positive evaluation of the academic and scientific activity of the candidate Evgeniya Hristova and I propose she to be appointed to the academic position of "Associate Professor".

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Signature
Prof. St. Stoyanova, PhD