

OPINION

By: *Nikolina Slavcheva Burneva, Professor Doctor*

Regarding: The application of DIANA STANTCHEVA
for a competition for the academic position of **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**
in Area of Higher Education 2. *Humanities*
in Professional Field 2.1 *Philology*
at the American University in Bulgaria

The procedure has been announced in the State Gazette issue 73 dated 8 September 2017.

Candidate: *Diana Stantcheva*

I present the following evaluation in my capacity as a member of the Academic Jury for the procedure indicated above. This evaluation is based on the *Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act*, the Rules for its implementation, the internal AUBG rules, regulations, and policies, including the *Habilitation Procedure* and the advertisement on the AUBG website regarding the procedure.

Evaluation of the Candidate

I. Basis for Evaluation

This evaluation is based on the following documents submitted by the candidate:

- Professional Curriculum Vitae;
- Documents with student evaluations of teaching and faculty evaluation results;
- List of publications of the candidate;
- Abstracts of the enclosed publications;
- List of citations;
- Self-assessment of the candidate;
- Description of teaching;
- Peer reviews.

II. Eligibility

Please fill it out the enclosed **AUBG Academic Position Requirements** (**Enclosure 1**) and state your opinion with regard to the Candidate's eligibility.

See Enclosure 1 to this document.

III. Areas of Scholarly Interests of the Candidate. Evaluation of the Contributions of the Candidate.

1. Please describe the principal areas of the Candidate's research and include a focused evaluation of the Candidate's major theoretical and applied results and contributions based on the documents and publications submitted for the procedure.

The documents and the publications submitted for the procedure give grounds for the following conclusions:

- Diana Stantcheva is a germanist linguist with a recognized authority;
- She possesses the qualities of a researcher with a specific profile (lexicology and phraseology of the German language in a comparative perspective), but also with a wide range of the researched corpora of language materials.
- The methodical approaches in some publications indicate a very good knowledge of the contemporary linguistic concepts.
- The composition of the articles evidences her orderly logical thought as well as her ability to write intelligible in a scholarly style.
- The good command of two foreign languages is also indicative.
- In the list of publications a published monograph is missing, but at least two groups of publications can be distinguished (phraseology related: 2006a, 2007, 2012a, 2012b, 2014, 2015c; related to lexicology with terminology: 2006a, 2008, 2014b, 2014c, 2015a, 2015b) [which] have the qualities of two individual books with selected studies of specific linguistic problems.
- A positive feature of the publications is their scholarly orientation, evidenced also by the presence of distinguished linguists in the context of the candidate's publications (some of the edited volumes also partly are materials from specialized scholarly fora).
- Diana Stantcheva has published in both Bulgarian and international media (the most recent publication 2017, for instance, is from the World Congress of the International Association of Germanic Studies in Shanghai).

All of the above provides grounds to the conclusion that Diana Stantcheva is an established scholar with high authority among the academic community in Bulgaria.

2. Please fill out the enclosed **Additional Requirements** (Enclosure 2) and include your opinion as to whether the Candidate's areas of research correspond to the specific requirements of the current procedure.

See Enclosure 1 to this document.

IV. Evaluation of the Candidate's teaching

1. Please include short evaluation according to the Additional Indicators related to teaching, with emphasis on teaching in recognized liberal arts institutions and student-centered approach.

The documents enclosed, but also the general impressions based on opinions of colleagues – German linguists, who have shared them with me, are definitely positive. As the Chairperson of the Association of the Germanists in Bulgaria I can state that Diana Stantcheva is an active participant in the meetings of the germanists, and always impresses with her convincing works.

2. Please indicate your opinion with regard to the correspondence between the overall teaching experience of the Candidate and the requirements of the current procedure.

Diana Stantcheva has a long enough, in terms of duration, as well as specialized enough, teaching experience. Her participation in the current procedure is a logical continuation of her professional carrier so far.

V. Major critical notes and recommendations

Even though in the Anglo-Saxon academic tradition, apparently, shorter scholarly-applied works are tolerated, it would be good to honor the European tradition of solid theoretical monographs with fundamental contributions to the relative scholarly area as well.

I am convinced that this is going to be a next stage in the career of Diana Stantcheva, which she could use to approach her next academic rank – that of full Professor. She surely has the potential to do it.

VI. Conclusion:

1. Appropriateness to the specific requirements of the American University in Bulgaria

The application of Diana Stantcheva unequivocally corresponds to the specific requirements of AUBG for the current procedure.

2. Recommendation “for” or “against” granting the academic rank.

I RECOMMEND THAT DIANA STANTCHEVA BE GRANTED THE ACADEMIC RANK ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR in the Area of Higher Education 2.Humanities in Professional Field 2.1 Philology at the American University in Bulgaria.

Signature and date:

By signing here I also declare that writing this review does not represent conflict of interest.