

OPINION

by Professor Iren Yordanova Peltekova, PhD

member of a scientific jury (Rector's Decree - ZP №1833/22.12.2020) in competition for the academic position "Professor", announced by National Sports Academy "Vasil Levski" - Sofia in SP, issue 97/13.11.2020 in the field of higher education 7. Health and sports, professional field 7.6. Sports, specialty "Sports (Basketball)"

Subject: *scientific, scientific-applied and professional-academic activity and production presented by the participant in the competition.*

For participation in the announced competition after the expiration of the legal term, one candidate has submitted documents meeting the requirements for LDACRB: **Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Angelov Tsankov, PhD from NSA "Vasil Levski"**

I. Summary data on the scientific production and the activity of the candidate

Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov, PhD presents for participation in the competition 28 scientific publications - 1 dissertation, 2 monographs (one independent and one co-authored), 1 textbook for students from NSA in co-authorship, 1 textbook also for students from NSA in co-authorship, 1 textbook in co-authorship and 22 articles and reports in Bulgarian and foreign scientific publications and scientific forums. Of these articles, 4 have been published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in a world-famous database.

The main habilitation work is independent with the title "Long-term training of female basketball players" and has a volume of 160 pages. The monograph was reviewed by two reviewers. The paper deals with issues related to modern theories for maintaining high sports results, achieved on the basis of well-established and structured sports training of female basketball players.

The collective monograph, in which the candidate is a co-author "Almanac of the Department of Basketball, Volleyball, Handball" is a historical almanac about the most memorable moments and teachers of the 45-year history of the department.

Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov is in the author's team in two significant works - university textbook (Basketball textbook) and management (Basketball and mini-basketball rules for NSA students). The works are the basis for the successful preparation of students from the three faculties in NSA. These developments reflect the scientific interests and teaching experience of the candidate. Leading importance in them is quality coverage of the training of future sports professionals.

The presented manual "Curricula for training in sports training in sports schools" is a developed curriculum in basketball for students from V–XI class and is aimed at the methodological sequence of training in the training activities of students who are preparing for high sports achievements.

The other 22 scientific papers presented by Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov for participation in the competition have a theme that fully covers the field of the competition.

The reference to the citations attached to the documents for participation in the competition allows to make a reasonable conclusion that the scientific activity of the candidate is recognizable and has a contribution to the sports-pedagogical research and more closely to the basketball training at all levels.

Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov, PhD is a lecturer with 32 years of work experience in the specialty at NSA "Vasil Levski". Logically, the impressive work experience of the candidate builds step by step his academic growth - assistant in 1988, in 2004 he defended his doctoral dissertation and in 2007 acquired the scientific title of "associate professor".

The academic employment of Assoc. Prof. Tsankov for the last five years as a full-time lecturer is 3501 academic hours, of which classroom employment - 2296 hours and additional employment - 1205 hours, in the discipline "Basketball" at the Department of Basketball, Volleyball, Handball.

Assoc. Prof. Tsankov is a member of several editorial boards in Bulgaria and abroad.

Along with his main workload, Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov is engaged in conducting lectures, exercises, consultations and exams in academic subjects included in the curricula of courses studied at the Center for Postgraduate Qualification, as well as provides scientific guidance, reviews and participates in State Examinations. Associate Professor Tsankov works with students in Bachelor's and Master's degrees.

The candidate is a research supervisor of two doctoral students and one student from the Master's Degree, all of whom have successfully defended their works. He has participated in five national research and educational projects.

This is an indisputable proof of the rich experience and dedicated commitment of Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov in teaching and coaching, as well as in research and project activities.

Assoc. Prof. Tsankov performs an impressive managerial activity in the NSA "Vasil Levski", expressed in several areas: head of the department "Basketball, Volleyball, Handball" 2010-2016 and 2016-2020; Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Teacher Education with a term of office 2016-2020; member of the Academic Council since 2016 and two terms chairman of the General Assembly of the Faculty of Law. Assoc. Prof. Tsankov is the President of the Basketball Club at NSA and a member of the Board of Directors of the Multi-Sports Club of NSA "Vasil Levski".

Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov, PhD shows public empathy and commitment outside the structural of his workplace, but related to his basketball and managerial competencies. These empathy and commitment is expressed as: Chairman of the Licensing Commission of BF Basketball - since 2016; member of the commission for school and student sports in BOC; member of the coaching commission at BF Basketball - 2013-2016 and from 2018 to the present, as well as chief coordinator of the methodological association of basketball at AUS "Academic".

Among the basketball community, Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov has established himself as a successful basketball coach of a number of national teams for cadets, girls and women under 20, the student teams - men and women and the men's teams of NSA and Academic-Sofia, participating in the State championship over the years. In the children's school

at the Basketball Club at NSA run by him since 2000, many quality basketball players have been trained and built, who become main players for the national teams for different ages, and a number of them continue their basketball careers outside Bulgaria.

The awards, medals and successes achieved by the teams led by him are numerous and there is no opportunity to list them is a summary opinion.

The impressions that Assoc. Prof. Tsankov leaves in me are that he works very hard, knows how to coordinate many duties, creates a prerequisite for communication, willingly listens to other opinions, works well in a team, takes responsibility for his decisions and is creative in his work.

II. Information for Minimum National Requirement (MNR), evaluation of the scientific and practical results and contributions of the creative production presented for participation in the competition

The reference I made to cover the minimum required points by a group of indicators for acquiring the academic position "Professor" at NSA "Vasil Levski" shows that the point application submitted by Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov, Dr. many times exceeds the MNR for the academic position "Professor" at NSA "Vasil Levski". The applicant has attached the following information and the relevant supporting documentation to it:

Group of indicators	Contents	Professor	Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov, Ph.D
A	Indicator 1	50	50
C	Indicator 3	100	100
D	Sum of indicators from 5 to 9	200	485.3
E	Sum of indicators from 10 to 12	100	290
F	Sum of indicators from 13 to 25	180	281
		630	1206.3

According to the presented results, it is evident that the candidate Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov, PhD, participates in the competition for the academic position "Professor" with an impressive 1206.3 points, which exceeds many times the minimum requirements set in LDACRB and additional strict conditions provided by NSA "Vasil Levski".

The contributions of the candidate Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov are on several levels: theoretical, methodological and practical-applied level.

In theoretical and methodological terms, he improves the content of the training process in adolescent basketball players, which increases both the preparation of athletes and the effectiveness of coaching. With his scientific research, Assoc. Prof. Tsankov updated the programming of basketball sports training, using tricyclic periodization. Along with this, speed and force complexes have been developed and tested in practice, which in terms of content, volume and intensity meet the goals and objectives of the respective periods. Of great importance for the methodology of basketball training are the developed individual models for periodization of sports training and individual training activities, as part of these models.

Assoc. Prof. Tsankov's scientific research reveals the main directions and opportunities for the development of Bulgarian women's basketball by updating sports fitness, mental

resilience, physical and technical-tactical skills, specific performance and game efficiency of both club and national players in adolescents and student basketball teams.

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The basketball curriculum for students from sports schools and the content of the individual training plan for training basketball players at the age of 16 have been developed with great practical and applied emphasis. The created anthropometric and anaerobic profile of elite basketball players from the national team of women under 20 is an excellent basis on which each coaching team can make a quality selection of athletes and precise training.

III. Critical remarks and recommendations

I do not have critical remarks and recommendations to the submitted works for review. I recommend to Assoc. Prof. Tsanko Tsankov, PhD to continue with his research and with even greater enthusiasm to teach his rich teaching and coaching experience to thirsty for knowledge students and young basketball players looking for realization.

IV. Conclusion

After getting acquainted with the materials and scientific papers presented in the competition and based on the analysis of their significance and the scientific contributions contained in them, I confirm that the scientific achievements meet the requirements of LDACRB and give my positive assessment of the application.

In conclusion, I make a proposal to the esteemed scientific jury to decide on the award of the academic position "Professor" of Tsanko Angelov Tsankov in professional field 7.6. Sports, specialty "Sports (Basketball)".

16.02.2021

Jury member:

Prof. Iren Peltekova, PhD