

OPINION

By Prof. Dr. Milena Nikolaeva Nikolova, National Academy of Arts, scientific direction 8.2. "Fine art" on scientific works and artistic-creative production for participation in a competition for occupying the academic position of "Associate professor", by professional direction 8.2. "Fine art" (Interior and product design), announced in SG No. 87/17.10.2023 with candidate

Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Svetoslav Todorov Anev

Only one candidate appeared at the announced competition, namely Ch. Assistant Professor Dr. Svetoslav Todorov Anev. He graduated as a BA from the National Academy of Arts in 2003, and in 2005 he completed a MA in the same place. Since 2010, he has been teaching at the New Bulgarian University, first as a part-time lecturer, and since 2011 as a full-time assistant in the Design Department. He is currently a Chief assistant professor in the same department of the university.

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

The candidate Svetoslav Anev presents an evidentiary table with minimum requirements for scientific, teaching and artistic-creative activities for the occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor", in accordance with the PPZRASRB and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University. From the presented table it is clear that according to the first indicator the candidate has a defended dissertation and collects the required 50 points.

According to the third indicator "B" (realized author's product in the field of arts), the candidate has six author's realizations, with which he collects 335 points, exceeding the required 100 points.

According to indicator "G", Svetoslav Anev indicates three articles in specialized publications in the field of arts, as well as six realized author's products, which brings him a total of 225 points, instead of the required 120.

According to the indicator "D" in the point "Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review", Anev presents 6 citations, which collects the necessary 40 points.

According to indicator "E", the candidate indicates that he was the head of a total of five scientific events, including seminars, workshops, scientific projects. Here he collects 100 points instead of the required 50.

This is followed by indicator "F", in which the author indicates his membership in a professional organization (10 points), 3 scientific publications other than those presented at the completion of the doctoral studies, creates a new program - "Product Design for Interior", improves the "Interior Design" program, and leads various courses. The total number of points for this indicator is 75, with 50 points required.

The average score from the surveys for student satisfaction with the course and the teacher is 4.34, on a five-point scale (indicator "H"). In the same indicator, the author indicates author's study materials for eight courses in "Moodle NBU"; four collaborative works with students in creative projects, produces reviews, has graduate management. He ensured the participation of

students in creative performances outside NBU with an exhibition. According to this indicator, the candidate collects 150 points against the requirement for 70 points.

According to indicator "I" "Participation as a student in the training program for the teaching and administrative staff of the NBU", "Performance of academic duties", participation in the academic administration of the NBU" the candidate receives 75 points out of the required 50.

According to indicator "J", the candidate has presented an extended summary of independent creative performances and collects 40 points.

In conclusion of this analysis, it must be said that Anev, in many of the indicators, exceeds the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University for an "Associate professor" and has presented the necessary evidence for this.

II. Creative activity and results

1. Evaluation of the habilitation work.

The presented habilitation work consists of:

- development for a furniture group for a workplace in a residential environment consisting of a work area and a storage area;
- light fixture "Sound in Light";
- lighting fixture "Balance";
- lighting fixture "Chaos";
- solo exhibition "Vienna 2017 - design highlights".

The presented work consists of 37 pages of text and 31 pages of illustrative material.

The individual elements of the habilitation thesis will be examined sequentially.

The furniture group for a workplace in a residential environment consists of two parts. The lower part consists of a writing and working area, as well as a storage area below. The storage area contains a volume capable of embedding a computer body as well as a printer. In the lower part there is a volume for storing stationery. The writing and working area is also voluminously designed with a thickness that allows storage of small-sized materials, with the possibility of placing a scanner if needed.

The upper part consists of shelves and small cabinets that can be used to store books and printed materials.

The whole furniture group is developed in two colors in white color and details of solid natural wood (oak).

In his summary, the author specifies that the furniture group is non-standard, bearing an individual character. This thesis of the author motivates him not to look for modularity in the elements that make up the structure, which is characteristic of developments subject to industrial production. With the development of this project and the possibility of its implementation in industrial production, the development can develop in the direction of modular coordination of the elements.

In this project, the author adopts a more abbreviated design methodology - exploratory part, design concept, prototype, test, presentation, implementation. This is characteristic of proven creatives in the field of design, who do not need to go through the entire methodical path of design design, as well as the lack of need for this project to be an object of industrial production.

The three presented lighting fixtures are more sought after as decorative plastic elements, where light is a form-forming element, and not so much a source with functional significance. The three bodies have a geometric shape, natural materials are used, and the analogies are mainly noticeable in the first two bodies, which have strictly geometric shapes.

In the light fixture "Sound in Light" the author seeks an association with music, in this case the organ. The three elements of the body are made of wood with integrated lighting, located at different heights.

The "Balance" light fixture is built by searching for balance along its vertical axis. The lighting is behind the vertical aperture and the body itself is placed to balance on one edge of the wooden parallelepiped. The body is designed for the interior, it can accentuate certain areas of the space.

The "Chaos" lighting fixture is built on the principle of the contrast between the spherical shape of the luminous part and the chaotically arranged dimming elements in the spherical luminous element. And this lamp has a pedestal made of wood, which, as a concept of a combination of wood and a light part, brings it together with the rest of the lamps.

The author's products presented by the candidate Svetoslav Anev are not intended for implementation in mass production, but in the development of the projects they could be modified for this purpose.

The last part of the habilitation thesis presents the solo exhibition of the author "Vienna 2017 - design highlights". This exhibition took place in the period from 06.03 - 20.03.2018 at the New Bulgarian University. Its purpose was to reflect the results of the design week in Vienna. The exhibition presents author's photos illustrating the development of design, by demonstrating the role of modern product and interior design. The photos are selected by color, theme and functionality.

The presented developments are the product of an in-depth research based on compositional means and show the connection between arts and design.

The following contributions can be noted in the work developed by the candidate:

- In the works presented in the habilitation thesis, compositions were created based on basic principles adopted in the study, and experimental research and verification in practice were carried out.

- The creative process in building the presented works is based on a scientific basis.

- The work will be of interest in the education of the NBU students in the field of composition and form in design.

- The research done by the author will increase the quality of education in the field that he teaches.

- The work can be used by both students and professionals working in the field of design.

2. Evaluation of the remaining attached materials after the appointment of the position of "chief assistant", citation by other authors, evaluation of the results of participation in research and creative projects.

In the period 2014-2024, the year after the election of Anev as chief assistant, he has 3 scientific publications in the annual collection of scientific publications of the "Design" department, also he has realized 6 author's products in the field of arts. He organized a solo exhibition.

The candidate has been cited by other authors (6 items), which speaks of the high quality of his publications. His participation in a number of academic projects allows him to increase his qualifications as well as the level of his teaching activity. These indicators are discussed in the previous point and are evaluated according to the requirements.

III. Educational and teaching activities

Svetoslav Anev has extensive teaching experience. In 2010-2011, he worked as a part-time teacher in the "Design and Architecture" department at NBU, from 2011 to 2012 he was a teacher at "Delta" professional college, since 2011 he was an assistant in the "Design" department at NBU. From 2014, he became the chief assistant professor, academic coordinator of the Erasmus+ program, technical coordinator and head of the specialized design studio at NBU.

Anev develops 6 teaching materials in the "Moodle NBU" electronic system. The candidate supervised 28 successfully defended graduates, regularly participates in committees for state exams, entrance exams, diploma defenses.

Its student poll rating is 4.34. Anev directs creative performances of students outside the NBU.

IV. Administrative and public activity

Svetoslav Anev participated in the open days of the NBU. He is a program consultant of the Department of "Design" for the bachelor's program "Interior Design" and the master's program "Spatial Design" for the period 01.03 2022 - 31.09 2022. He participates in the committees and meetings of the library board of NBU as a representative of the Department of "Design". The candidate organized four traveling educational and training seminars in the Netherlands, Prague and two in Vienna. Anev fulfills his academic duties by regularly participating in the meetings of the departmental council, regularly conducting the study activities.

V. Opinions, recommendations and notes on the activity and achievements of the candidate.

The recommendations regarding the habilitation work are mainly in the direction of the search for modular coordination of the elements of the multifunctional furniture group, with a view to the implementation of the project in mass production, which is the main focus of the design. This recommendation in no way detracts from the qualities of the presented product, but rather refers to the future development of the project.

Conclusion:

After a thorough review of the materials provided for review by the candidate, chief assistant Dr. Svetoslav Anev, as well as the indisputable qualities of the habilitation work, I give a positive assessment of his academic activity and strongly suggest that he be admitted to selection and elected as "Associate Professor" by the Academic Council for an announced competition in a scientific field 8.2. "Fine Art" (Interior and Product design).

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Signature:

Prof. Dr. Milena Nikolova