

## STANDPOINT

By Assoc. Prof. Arch. Gichka Kutova – Kamenova (PhD),

Architectural faculty, University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy (UASG)  
competition for the academic position “associate professor” at UASG,  
field in higher education 5. Technical sciences,  
professional direction 5.7. Architecture, civil engineering and geodesy

The standpoint was prepared on the basis of scientific papers and materials submitted for participation in a competition for the academic position of “associate professor” in professional direction 5.7. Architecture, civil engineering and geodesy (technology of architecture), announced in the State Gazette, no. 65/12.08.2022. and on the website of New Bulgarian University (NBU) for the needs of the Master’s Faculty, Department of “Architecture” at the NBU. The only candidate in the competition is Assistant professor Arch. Plamen Mihailov Rilsky (PhD) – lecturer in the “Architecture” Department of the NBU Master’s Faculty.

The preparation of the opinion is based on Order №3-RK-21/ 05.10.2022. of the Rector of the NBU - Prof. Plamen Doinov, Ph.D. for the appointment of a Scientific Jury on the basis of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB) and the Regulations for the Implementation of the ZRASRB and decision of the first meeting of the Scientific Jury – Protocol No. 1 of 05.10.2022.

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

The candidate Assis. prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) submits for the participation in the competition the following materials in accordance with the minimum requirements by groups of indicators for occupying the academic position of “associate professor”:

1. Habilitation work – 1 piece of a monographic work on the topic: “Architecture for people of the third age” publishing house of New Bulgarian University, November 2017, ISBN: 978-954-535-991-0.
2. Scientific publication in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information – 1 piece – “Finishing materials in homes for people of the third age”, Collection of scientific publications of the Department of “Architecture” 6/2019, pp. 73-87.
3. Scientific publication in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or in edited collective volumes – 1 piece – “Conscious and Unconscious Principles in the Architecture of Classical Modernism”, Collection of reports from the international scientific conference “100 years of Bauhaus”, NBU 2019 (in press).
4. Realized author’s projects in the field of architecture and design – the following author’s objects are indicated in the table attached to Appendix 2: 2 single-family residential buildings, 6 multi-family residential buildings, 2 public buildings – Grigor Vachkov Museum and Shops and Restaurant, 2 number of reconstructions with interior and 3

number of interiors.

5. Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review – 2 pieces cited by Dr. Kliment Ivanov in the monographic work “High space in the living room at the houses” ISBN:9786192331511, pages 163 and 165.
6. Review of released author’s products in specialized publications in the field of architecture and design – 5 pieces – all of them in different issues of “Bravacasa” magazine ISSN 1312-5974 from 2005 to 2016.

The presented scientific production was realized after the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” in 2013.

According to the minimum requirements for the scientific, teaching and/or artistic-creative activity of the candidates for the occupation of the academic positions in professional fields, in accordance with the REGULATIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF ACADEMIC STAFF IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA ACT and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University, the candidate Assis. prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) satisfies the minimum values in all indicators for occupying the academic position “associate professor”. With minimum required points by indicator groups of 570, a total of 806 points have been reached, according to the self-assessment report submitted by the candidate. (file – reference – NACID – Ass. prof. Plamen Rilsky (PhD)).

## **II. Research (creative) activity and results.**

The materials submitted by the candidate for the competition comprehensively and categorically reflect the scientific-research, teaching, professional-creative and applied activities of the candidate.

### **1. Evaluation of the monographic work, including evaluation of the scientific and scientific-applied contributions of the author.**

After the defense of a dissertation work on the topic “Problems of social homes for sick and old people” (240 pages), with supervisor Assoc. Prof. arch. Nedyalko Bonchev (PhD) in 2013, the scientific interests of the Assis. prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) continue to deepen in the direction of improving the scientific approach in the design of buildings and facilities for people of the third age through the analysis of examples from the world practice of social homes for old and sick people, which he summarizes in a three-volume work, the first part of which was published by the publishing house of NBU.

The monographic work “Architecture for people of third age”, published by the New Bulgarian University, November 2017, ISBN: 978-954-535-991-0, submitted for participation in the competition for the academic position of “associate professor”, actually represents scientific development and enrichment of a scientific approach in the design of such buildings, reaching the problems of living comfort. The paper structures and analyzes the main problems related to the conceptualization, siting, overall design, new construction (or reconstruction) and exploitation of places of residence by people over 65 years.

The author brings out principles of designing buildings for the accommodation of people of the third age, referring to all stages in the design of such type of buildings – from the situation decision

and vertical planning through architectural composition of the building volumes and spaces reflecting the functional characteristics and interrelationships to offering of specific building installation solutions with the relevant final devices and mechanisms and reaching details concerning the comfort of living – natural and artificial lightning, finishing materials and furniture.

In this way, the author defends the thesis of the need for flexibility in solving the various aspects in the architecture of buildings for people of the third age, adaptability to the dynamically changing social and individual realities and needs of the inhabitants, in order to provide an opportunity to achieve of conditions for leading a quality life with the aim of long-term integration of these people into society.

The presented monographic work is an indisputable contribution to the systematization of the problems of the architecture of buildings for people of the third age and successfully complements not only scientific but also professional design knowledge in this area.

## **2. Evaluation of the contributions in the other attached publications (creative performances) made after the appointment of the academic position “principal assistant”.**

The candidate Assis. prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) has published 1 scientific publication on the subject of the presented monographic work – “Finishing materials in homes for people of the third age”, in the Collection of scientific publications of the Department of Architecture 6/2019-2020. His scientific publication entitled “Conscious and Unconscious Principles in the Architecture of Classical Modernism” in the Collection of reports from the International Scientific Conference “100 years of Bauhaus” NBU 2019, which refers to the edited collective volumes, is under print.

## **3. Quoting from other authors.**

The citations presented by the candidate are 2 in a monographic work “High space in the living room at the houses” authored by phd. Kliment Ivanov.

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

The applicant’s practical design work is presented in detail in a total of 9 author’s architectural projects of realized objects for residential (5), public (1) buildings, reconstructions (2) and interiors (1), some of which have been published reviews (5) in various issues of “Bravacasa” magazine from 2005 to 2016. The scientific-applied and design activity of Assis. prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) corresponds to his upward scientific-research, teaching-pedagogical and creative growth.

## **III. Learning and teaching activity.**

Arch. Plamen Rilsky is the chief assistant at the Master’s Faculty of NBU since 2016 until now, having previously worked as a part-time lecturer in the same faculty since 2010 until 2015. His teaching experience began in 2003 and until 2011 worked as a part-time teacher at the Department

of “Residential Buildings”, Faculty of Architecture of UACG, and then as a full-time assistant in the same department in the period from 2011 until 2014.

### **1. Auditory and non-auditory employment, work in the electronic training module “MOODLE – NBU”, provision of student practices and internships, work with students.**

As a chief assistant and teacher at the Master’s Faculty of the NBU, Assis. prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) participates in the teaching and updating of the following lecture and training courses from the curriculum for the master’s program in Architecture:

- Update of the lecture and training courses on “Building Construction” 1-st part (ARCM272, ARCM160) and 2-nd part (ARCM274, ARCM167).;
- Update of lecture and training courses “Architectural structures” 1-st part (ARCM021, ARCM164, ARCM321) and 2-nd part (ARCM221, ARCM171, ARCM421).;
- Participated in the creation of a training course on “Specialized Zones – Business Park” ARCM059.;
- Develops authored materials and uploaded them to NBU Moodle for the courses “Building Construction” 1-st part (ARCM272), “Building Construction” 2-nd part (ARCM274) and “Architectural constructions” 1-st part (ARCM021) and “Architectural constructions” 2-nd part (ARCM221).

His joint work with NBU students also includes preparing a team of students to participate in an international Student Competition for a museum building in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Internship was provided to 3 Architecture students in the design bureau “Archibau” Ltd, created by the candidate arch. Plamen Rilsky in 2003.

Assistant prof. arch. Rilsky (PhD) is a reviewer of diploma projects of 5 number of students from the Master’s Program in Architecture.

### **2. Student survey scores.**

The average score from the surveys of student satisfaction with the course and teacher for Assis. prof. arch Plamen Rilsky (PhD), is over 4,00.

The educational and teaching activities of the Assis. prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) complements his research activity in the field of Architectural Technologies and thanks to his professional design and supervision practice, he manages to complement his scientific interests with the most modern design and construction trends. The general assessment of the educational and teaching activity of the Ass. prof. arch Plamen Rilsky (PhD) is that he fully meets the criteria of occupying the academic position of “associate professor” (dozent).

## **IV. Administrative and public activity.**

Assis. prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) regularly participates in the meetings of the department and program councils of the “Architecture” department. He participates as a learner and trainer in the teacher training program and Moodle.

Regular member of the Chamber of Architects in Bulgaria (CAB) and has full planning license. He is founder of the design bureau “Archibau” Ltd., since 2003 with many completed projects and participation in competitions.

#### **V. Personal impressions of the candidate.**

The research work of the Assis.prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) is mainly focused on the architecture of buildings for people of the third age and is influenced by his personal experience and his long-term interests in this field. I have no personal impressions of the candidate, but I highly appreciate the significant not only specific, but also social contribution of the presented monograph in an up-to-date and not particularly well-studied area of architectural knowledge and design in our country.

#### **VI. Opinions, recommendations and notes on the activity and achievements of the candidate.**

The scientific research and teaching activities, as well as the professional experience of Assis. prof.arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) show a deep and lasting interest in the problems of architecture for people in the third age, laid down as a development in his dissertation and monographic works. After familiarizing myself with the presented materials, I recommend the continuation of the research, publication and design activity reached so far. The achieved result of the studies of this issue are a significant contribution to the scientific systematization of the architecture of buildings for people in the third age.

#### **VII. Conclusion.**

In the competition, the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB) and the Rules for it have been observed in terms of both its announcement and the submitted materials. Bearing in mind the above, I propose the Assis.prof. arch. Plamen Rilsky (PhD) to be allowed to be elected by the Academic Council for the academic position of “associate professor” in professional field 5.7. Architecture, civil engineering and geodesy for the needs of the Department of Architecture, Master’s Faculty, New Bulgarian University.

November 2022г.

Member of scientific jury .....