

REVIEW

By **Professor Asen Metodiev Pisarski, PhD, Architect,**

University of Architecture, Civil Engineering, and Geodesy (UACEG), “Architecture of Buildings, Structures, Facilities, and Details”

on the scientific work for participation in a competition for attaining the academic position “Associate Professor” in professional field 5.7. Architecture, Construction, and Geodesy, announced in State Gazette No 87 of 19 October 2021,

with candidate **Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD, Architect**

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

The scientific, academic, artistic, and creative activities of the candidate complies entirely with the minimum national requirements for all indicators for the scientific, research, scholarly, academic, artistic, and creative activities of the candidate for attaining the academic position “Associate Professor” in professional field 5.7. Architecture, Construction, and Geodesy, according to the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the requirements of the New Bulgarian University, which is evident from the presented self-assessment by Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD. Fulfilling the specific mandatory requirements for NBU (groups „Ж“, „З“, „И“), the applicant exceeds the minimum requirements manifold, which is a proof of his active participation in the university’s activities: group „Ж“ – 160 points with a required minimum of 50 points; group „З“ – 210 points with a required minimum of 70 points; group „И“ – 110 points with a required minimum of 50 points.

II. Research (creative) activities and results

The monographic work “High Living Room Space in Houses” is structured in two main parts:

- historical survey – monitoring the origin and development of the high living room space in the individual residential buildings;
- theoretical part – formulation of objective conclusions and summaries in view of the potential for their application in the modern architectural practice.

The monographic research achieves significant results, among which I would distinguish the following theoretical and applied contributions:

- critical analysis of the development of the researched compositional scheme for organization of the living room space in the single-family house in historical aspect in the world architectural practice and situating the Bulgarian practice in this context;
- extensive selection of significant and well-illustrated examples from Bulgaria and the world, establishing a solid basis for the conclusions from the conducted analyses. The selected examples can also be used in other studies, including a wider range of topics beyond the scope of this research;
- demonstration of the perspectives for implementation and development of the researched spatial scheme of organization of the living room space. Creation of a theoretical basis for its application in the actual construction of housing, emphasizing the theoretical and applied orientation of the monograph.
- the results of the monographic work will undoubtedly find application in the

academic training in architecture at NBU and the other universities, enriching the academic courses in residential buildings and interior design. The monograph is also useful for professional architects in practice.

All five scientific publications of Kliment Ivanov, made after the appointment of the academic position “Chief Assistant Professor”, are autonomous, and two of them are published in editions, referenced and indexed in world-famous scientific information databases.

The citations from other authors consist almost entirely of reviews of built/produced author's products in specialized editions in the field of architecture (70 points form a total of 72 from the scientometric indicators table – with a required minimum of 50.) This is an obvious attestation for the positive response of his creative and applied work among the architectural community.

Kliment Ivanov participates as a member of the scientific team in the Scientific research project “Three-dimensional survey, virtual reconstruction, and online exhibition of prominent monuments of residential architecture in Bulgaria in support of their physical and social adaptation in the urban and natural context”, funded by the Bulgarian National Science Fund under the procedure for providing national co-financing for participation of Bulgarian teams in approved actions under the European programme for cooperation in the field of scientific research and technology COST.

Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD, has proved his professional and applied skills in the field of architectural design. His built architectural designs are directly related to his scientific interests and there is a symbiosis between scientific and practical activities. He is a member of the Chamber of Architects in Bulgaria (CAB) with Full Range of Services and since 2005 he has established his own architectural bureau “Kliment Ivanov Architects”, which has built many designs and won several competitions and awards.

III. Scholarly and academic activities

Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD, participates energetically in the academic activities of the Department – he regularly and competently conducts the courses, assigned to him, and regularly attends the meetings of the departmental and programme’s councils.

He has delivered public lectures in several foreign universities:

— University of the Basque Country, Higher Technical School of Architecture, San Sebastian, Spain – Public lectures: “Contemporary Bulgarian Residential Architecture – Houses” and “Contemporary Bulgarian Residential Architecture – Apartment Buildings”, 27-28 June 2016;

— University of Ulster, Housing Policy Programme, Belfast, UK – Public lecture: “Housing Policy in Preservation and Revitalization of Secondary Urban Centres”, 24 September 2014.

All three public appearances abroad are in the field of residential buildings, which is the focus of the entire activity of the candidate.

Kliment Ivanov has a noticeable presence in the electronic educational module “MOODLE – NBU” with his own materials for the academic courses: ARCM017 Informatics in architecture and urbanism Part I, ARCM217 Informatics in architecture and urbanism Part II, ARCM332 Architecture of buildings and estates Part II, in addition to own materials in a number of other courses.

He has been the supervisor of 11 Master’s graduates who had successfully defended their diploma projects. He has been a reviewer of 18 Master’s diploma projects.

The activity of Kliment Ivanov, related to organizing and preparing students for participation in a number of international student competitions deserves a very high praise:

International Competitions for Students of Architecture “Multi-Comfort House” with cycles of lectures:

— 2014, Gaziantep, Turkey, theme “School of the Future”, attended by 1 NBU student;
— 2015, Astana, Kazakhstan, theme “Residential Function in Cold Climate”, attended by 2 NBU students;

— 2017, Madrid, Spain, theme “Urban Regeneration of a Community in Madrid”. Following the winning of III Place at the National stage, the student Aleksandrina Aleksandrova presented Bulgaria at the International stage, held in the City Hall of Madrid, with a project, supervised by Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD.

— 2018, Dubai, UAE, theme “Community development in Dubai”. The NBU students Amer Baroudi and Alaa AlMallah, in a team, won the People Choice Award at the National stage, with a project supervised by Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD. Attended by 5 NBU students;

— 2020, Saint-Denis, Paris, France, theme “Design a Sustainable Development Park combining residential, educational, and recreational functions”, attended by two students and postponed due to the global pandemic.

International Competitions “International VELUX Award 2016 for students of architecture”:

— 2014 – attended by 1 NBU student, supervised by Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD;

— 2016 – attended by 2 NBU students, supervised by Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD.

International student competition in the students’ segment of the XV World Triennial of Architecture “Interarch 2018”, Sofia, 13-16 May 2018, participation with 2 architectural designs, supervised by Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD.

The consecutive student participations in international competitions, listed above, demonstrate that this extremely useful direction, stimulating the creative activity of students and helping to improve the quality of education, thanks to the efforts of Kliment Ivanov, is turning into a sustainable tradition.

Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD, is a demanding but a respected by the students person. The average grade from the student surveys is positive (4.51).

IV. Administrative and social activities

Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov, PhD, participates actively in the activities in NBU:

He has been a member of the Programme Council and a Programme Consultant of the Department of Architecture since 2014 till now.

He has been a member of the Accreditation Commission to the Graduate School.

He has participated in the upgrade of the Master’s Programme in Architecture according to the new requirements of the Ordinance on State requirements for acquiring higher education in “Architecture”... from 2016 of the Ministry of Education and Science.

He has participated in the external accreditation of the Master’s Programme in Architecture and external accreditation of the Doctoral Programme “Architecture of Buildings, Structures, Facilities, and Details” from the National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (NEAA).

V. Personal impressions of the candidate

I have known Kliment Ivanov ever since he was a student at UACEG. His passion for studying computer technologies was remarkable – he was one of “the permanent presence” at the computer laboratory. It is no coincidence that he is the main “engine” of their implementation and development in the curriculum of the Department of Architecture at NBU – he is the author of two and a co-author of three academic courses in the sphere of the implementation of computer-aided technologies in architecture. He applies these skills in all his activities – academic, scholarly, designer, scientific, and research, and they help him reach a higher and up-to-date level in every one of them.

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

I reckon that Kliment Ivanov has achieved a good balance and mutual connection between his scientific, research, academic, practical, and creative activities, which form a solid basis for sustainable development in all these areas.

Conclusion

The academic, scientific, research and designer activities of Kliment Ivanov meet entirely the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, it’s Rules of Procedure, and also the corresponding Rules of NBU. Based on the entirely **positive evaluation** for them, I propose **Chief Assist. Prof. Kliment Ivanov Ivanov, PhD, Architect**, to be admitted to election by the Academic Council of NBU for attaining the academic position “Associate Professor” in the professional field 5.7 Architecture, Civil Engineering, and Geodesy in the Department of Architecture at the Graduate School.

25 February 2022

Signature:

Professor Asen Pisarski, PhD, Architect