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Биологически факултет

Книга 2 – Ботаника

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Faculty of Biology

Book 2 – Botany

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## ADDRESS OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO PROF. DRSC PETYA YANEVA ON THE OCCASION OF HER 60<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY



Photo: A. Kremenska

Prof. DrSc PETYA YANEVA was born on 10th November, 1957 in Dolna Mitropoliya (a town in District of Pleven, North Bulgaria), which is the administrative center of the municipality of Dolna Mitropoliya. The fact that this prominent Bulgarian scientist took her first breath in the town with name translated as “Lower Bishopric” is quite symbolic - many of her scientific contributions reflect both language investigations and spiritual development.

Prof. YANEVA graduated from Sofia University in 1981 as a Master of Arts in Classical Philology with specialization in Modern Greek and Greek literature, followed by a number of specializations in Greece, Russia and Hungary. In 1983 she started teaching Ancient Greek at the department of Classical and Modern Philology, further developing from Assistant Professor to her current position of Professor and Doctor Habilitatus. She is a renowned lecturer of Greek Historical Grammar and Ancient Greek Syntax, Ancient Greek for students in Classical Philology and PhD candidates in Bulgarian Studies, Slavonic Studies and History, as well as Master’s Degree courses in Textual Studies, Critical Text Analysis and Editing Techniques, among others. She has delivered lectures at Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, New Bulgarian University, American Research Center in

Sofia and in the SS. Cyril and Methodius National Library.

Prof. YANEVA's scientific interests are in the field of medieval and paleoslavonic studies, which can be traced in her numerous publications and presentations in prestigious scientific forums on problems concerning the Greek language at the various stages of its historical development. In 2000 she defended her work on Textual and Linguistic Characteristics of the Greek Collections - Sources for the Simeon's Collection (according to the Svetoslav's copy from 1073). This work analyzed the Medieval Greek texts directly connected with the Simeon's collection. The logic of the study followed the logic of the creation and behavior of the text and combined different approaches - palaeographic, codicological, textual, linguistic, historical, and cultural. This broad methodological base allowed to clearly outline the relationship between the macro level (content and structure) and the micro level (graphical appearance and linguistic peculiarities), which made the text a complete symbolic system. It allowed tracing the history of the Greek text and its Old Bulgarian translation. This work is the foundation of the three volumes of the Simeon's Collection, a fundamental research cited more than 180 times worldwide. In addition, she is a translator and editor of a number of works and collections, among which are her brilliant translations of the works of ancient Greek and Byzantine authors.

PETYA YANEVA's academic and lecturing development has been in parallel with her involvement in administrative and project work in the Faculty of Classical Philology, where she was elected as a respectful Dean (2003-2011). We would like to highlight specifically her unfailing efforts in supporting the idea and realization of a new direction of joint Bachelor's and Master's Degree education between the faculties of Biology and Classical and Modern Philology. This innovative thinking led to the creation of new binary specialties, such as *Biology and English Language*, through which a new generation of school teachers is created, empowering them with much higher employability. It is out of the scope of this tribute to describe the history of the establishment of this new line and to mention personally all its supporters among the visionary university lecturers. However, it must be stressed that this program, established six years ago, proved to be extremely successful and attracts more and more supporters among both academia and students.

Undoubtedly, Prof. YANEVA's contribution to science, education and innovation at Sofia University is significant. Yet, we would like to stress on her invaluable role in facilitating the training in foreign languages, innovative methodology and introducing technology in teaching, provided for young assistants and scientists from different faculties of Sofia University, including those from the Faculty of Biology. This was achieved through one of the projects she initiated: BG051PO001-3.3.06-0045 *Developing the capacity of specializing, postdoctoral and young scientist for teaching academic courses in and on a foreign language using current methodologies and ICT*, funded by the EC OP Human Resources Development. During the 27 month duration of the project, more than 42 assistant

professors and post-doctoral researchers (four of them from the Faculty of Biology) were trained in English and German languages, and were given the opportunity to increase and develop their knowledge in these languages via qualification courses at the University or abroad. Moreover, this project offered personalized tuition in applying state of art methodology and e-learning techniques in academic context, thus opening a totally new horizon of their teaching activities and academic careers. Upon the end of the project in 2015, for the Faculty of Biology alone, more than 26 electronic courses were designed in the University E-Learning System. Moreover, these have been administrated by one of the trainees, who is one of the authors of this tribute (B.U.). Last but not least, the project beneficiaries from the Faculty of Biology received additional funding for their impact factor publications.

In recognition of her dedicated teaching, influential research and effective and innovative administrative activities, Prof. PETYA YANEVA was awarded the prestigious Sofia University Grand Award for Science and Research and Sofia University Honorary Blue Ribbon Insignia. We are honored to add our humble voice in warmest cordial and highly respectful recognition of her merits and great personality by this address of acknowledgement for her 60<sup>th</sup> jubilee.

Vive, valeque, Prof. YANEVA! Ad multos annos!

Prof. DrSc Maya P. Stoyneva-Gärtner,  
Assoc. Prof. Dr Blagoy A. Uzunov &  
Assoc. Prof Dr Anelly I. Kremenska, Dipl. Eng.,  
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