

Foreword

IZMAIL STATE UNIVERSITY: STAGES OF FORMATION

During the years of its existence, Izmail State University of Humanities has gone through a lot: difficult formation and a tragic break in its work during World War II, moving to Izmail and adaptation to a new place, difficulties in forming the professor and teaching staff and facilities, construction of new buildings, establishing of international scientific cooperation and much more. After 80 years of its existence, the university has become not only the face of the Ukrainian Danube region; it has clearly demonstrated its readiness to be constantly updated, in order to respond to the challenges of time. The main wealth of IDGU is its lecturers, professors and students. Thousands of graduates who have left Izmail and are working throughout the country and abroad proudly and warmly refer to the Izmail State University of Humanities as "alma mater."

In August 1940, the Ackerman region was formed on the territory of the former Ackerman and Izmail counties of Bessarabia. On August 13, the Government of Ukraine adopted a resolution on the opening of a Teacher's Institute in the city of Ackerman (now Belgorod-Dniestrovsky) with three faculties: of history, of physics and mathematics, and of language and literature. Andriy Snisar was appointed the Rector. On October 1, 250 boys and girls became students of a newly established Institute. The war prevented the students to finish the academic year; the educational establishment did not work for more than three years. In November 1944, after the liberation of the Danubian territories, it was decided to resume the work of the Teachers' Institute.

Since 1944, the pedagogical staff under the Rector Viktor Semashko worked under difficult conditions of the postwar devastation, the famine of 1946-1947, and Stalinist repressions. There was constant lack of textbooks, paper, visual aids and auditorium fund. There was only one candidate of sciences among the 12 members of the teaching staff. In 1945, 11 students were graded as teachers for the first time. The institute library became an integral part of the Institute's functioning. The book fund was being formed in accordance with the requests of the faculties and included publications of socio-economic, historical, philosophical, linguistic, natural sciences,

literary, artistic literature, as well as fiction, newspapers and magazines. Thus, in 1945 alone, the library received 6,148 books.

The reforming of pedagogical education in Ukraine in early 1951 led to the transfer of the Institute to the regional center of Izmail. In 1952, the educational establishment received the name of Izmail State Pedagogical Institute. From 1951 to 1958, Dmitry Lober was its rector.

The events related to the liquidation of the Izmail region hindered the further development of the educational institution, as a result of which the Faculty of Language and Literature was transferred to Odessa State University in 1956 and in 1959 the Faculty of Physics and Mathematics was transferred to Odessa Pedagogical Institute. All these events provoked protests from the public of the region, so in July 1956 by the order of the Ministry of Education a new Faculty of training primary school teachers was started at the Izmail Pedagogical Institute. The educational base was being created again the composition of the teaching staff was being formed with great difficulties.

From 1958 to 1962, Ivan Saenko was the Rector of the institute. At the end of June 1960, the first group of students graduated from the Faculty of Primary Education. Sixty-seven students received higher pedagogical education. The demand for school specialists was rather high. This is evidenced by the contingent of students: in the years of 1960-1961 more than 520 day-time students studied at Izmail Pedagogical Institute in more than 500 studied at the correspondence department.

In 1963, thanks to the efforts of Vasily Nefedov who was the Rector, the Faculty of Foreign Languages with two departments: of English and French languages began to operate in the educational institution. Life raged: education, clubs, sports training and competitions, social events, Komsomol meetings filled the student years. There were meetings with famous poets, writers and teachers. The sixties should be considered a period of stable development of the Institute, its positive achievements in educational and scientific-methodical work.

Former rectors Ivan Nikiforchuk (1965 - 1975) and Anatolij Tychyna (1976 - 1986) made the significant contribution to the development of the educational establishment. In 1972 a student dormitory for 520 places was put into operation, in 1974 there was built a new educational building, and in 1986 - the second student dormitory. At that time, the departments of the Russian language and literature, and the Ukrainian language and literature, which were soon merged into the Faculty of Philology started at the Institute. In 1989, the Faculty of Ukrainian Philology and

History was established. Laboratories of technical means of training, lingual, educational and methodical offices began to function at that time.

We should also note the high training level of the further specialists. The Izmail Pedagogical Institute was the only state institution in the region that trained highly qualified personnel not only for the region and the republic, but also for other republics. The graduates worked fruitfully in the educational establishments in the Baltic countries, the Far East territories, in Uzbekistan, and Moldova. Teachers and the best students were invited to work in the foreign countries of Somalia, Algeria, and India. The teaching staff was trained in England and France.

From 1987 to the mid-1990s, Izmail State Pedagogical Institute was headed by the rectors: Anatolij Kavalero, Volodymyr Melnyk, and Valery Seredenko. During this period, despite the economic difficulties, the Institute did not lose its capacity: there was opened a postgraduate school in five specialties, the "Scientific Bulletin of Izmail State Pedagogical Institute" was established, and in 1995 the Faculty of Engineering and Pedagogy was started. Izmail Pedagogical Institute, even in difficult times of stagnation and no less difficult period of perestroika, remained the leading educational institution and the center of science and culture in the region.

Since 1996 to October 2013, the post of Rector was held by Oleksander Lebedenko. This was a new stage in the history of higher pedagogical education in Bessarabia. Two new faculties began to function – the Faculties of pre-university training and of postgraduate education (1999), the Faculty of history (2001), qualitatively improved its staff, the postgraduate school expanded the range of specialties, there started doctoral studies in "Theory and Methods of Professional Education". "Comparative Literature Study". The material and technical base of the institute was significantly strengthened, there appeared computer classes, laboratories, the Center of Information and Communication Technologies with a local network and Internet access.

The highest achievement of the pedagogical staff of the educational institution was the reorganization of Izmail State Pedagogical Institute into Izmail State University of Humanities in accordance with the order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of March 1, 2002 (№ 95-r). The change of the status is an important factor in strengthening of Izmail State University of Humanities as an educational, scientific and cultural center of the Ukrainian Danube region. For significant contribution and for the preparation of highly qualified personnel for the public education, Izmail State University of Humanities was awarded the Silver Medal "Independence of Ukraine" and a diploma of the International Academic Rating of "Golden Fortune".

At the present stage, Izmail State University of Humanities is concentrated on the teaching of a new generation of professionals capable of working in the context of Ukraine's integration into the European space and competing in the world labor market.

The university trains specialists at the educational and qualification levels of "bachelor" and "master" degrees. Almost 2,000 students study to receive more than 35 specialties at four faculties: of the Ukrainian language and literature; of Foreign languages and literature (English, German, French, Russian, Romanian, Bulgarian); in philology (Germanic, Romance, Slavic languages); history; library and archival business; history and archeology; public administration; document science; law; social work; pre-school education; primary education; art; musical art; psychology; physical education and sports; labor training and technology; entrepreneurship; trade and exchange activities; tourism; Informatics; management; accounting and taxation; special education; Applied Mathematics; biology; natural Sciences; math; economy, etc.

At the University there is the Center for Continuing Education, the main task of which is to ensure high-quality preparation of students for successful external independent testing.

Since 2015, the university is headed by Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences, Professor Yaroslav Kichuk. Today the university is the only higher state educational institution in the Ukrainian Danube region. The educational-methodical and upbringing work is aimed at the effective implementation of the educational process in accordance with the provisions of the Bologna Declaration. It presupposes the development and improvement of credit-modular system of knowledge assessment, organization of independent and individual work of students, implementation of the latest educational technologies (application of computer equipment, local information networks, Internet, audiovisual teaching aids, electronic educational complexes, etc.).

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