



UKRAINIAN NATIONAL FORESTRY UNIVERSITY

Ukrainian National Forestry University (UNFU) is the only higher educational forestry and environmentally oriented institution in Ukraine which trains professionals for forest sector as well as related fields of Ukraine's economy. The predecessor of the University was the Higher Regional Forest School founded in Lviv in 1874; then it was Lviv Institute of Forestry and Woodworking Technologies (the 1945–1993 period) that was reorganized into Ukrainian State University of Forestry and Woodworking Technologies in 1993. By the Decree of the President of Ukraine the University was assigned a status of «National» and on May 16, 2005 changed its name to Ukrainian National Forestry University.

The University provides training of professionals in a wide range of specialties for forest sector, as well as conducts fundamental and applied scientific research on topical sectoral and complex interdisciplinary problems of the social, ecological and economic development of Ukraine.

Students from all over Ukraine study at the University.

A distinguishing characteristic of its operation is environmentally-oriented educational programmes and research work.

As of now, the University's enrollment is around 6,000 students. 427 persons of highly qualified academic staff work at its 33 departments, in particular, a member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 52 PhD (professors) and 240 associate professors. Among them are honoured activists of sciences and engineering of Ukraine, laureates of State Prize of Ukraine and the Prize of the International Union of Forestry Research Organization (IUFRO).

By numbers of highly qualified personnel, the University ranks high among higher educational institutions of Ukraine.

Starting in 1997, the Forestry Education training complex functions here, which comprises I-II accreditation levels forestry educational institutions from different regions of Ukraine: 6 colleges, 3 vocational training

schools, a lyceum, and a boarding school-gymnasium. The complex provides continuous stepwise training under integrated academic curricula with a shortened training time.

There are 4 institutes operating within the structure of the University: the Forestry and Park-and-Garden Management Institute; the Institute of Mechanical Engineering, Automation and Digital Technologies; the Institute of Woodworking Technologies and Design; the Institute of Ecological Economy and Management. The University also includes the Pre-university training and Continued education Centre, the Science and Research Department, the Research Library, the Junior Forest Academy, Lviv Technological and Transcarpathian Forestry colleges, Botanic Garden of nationwide standing, the Roztochia Nature Reserve, the Stradchiv job training forestry centre, the Polissia research and educational forest ecology laboratory, 3 research and educational forest ecology stations, recreation camp on the Black Sea coast and a number of other subdivisions.

The University offers academic programmes leading to Bachelor and Master degrees for forestry and related sectors of the economy in 13 areas and 16 specialties. In addition to traditional forest-based specialties, the University provides training in Art, Ecology, Architecture, Automation and Digital Technologies, Computer Sciences. Such range of professional training corresponds in structure to European universities and complies with the requirements of the Bologna Process.

The academic staff of the University addresses crucial tasks of improving teaching methods and the students' knowledge

assessment system which is to be not as just a set of concepts and terminology, skills and abilities in separate subjects, but also as a body of integrated and specialized competencies. This task is being solved by means of close collaboration of the academic personnel, students and employers.

In 1994, UNFU was recognized by the Ministry of Education



and Science of Ukraine as a base higher educational institution to develop sectoral standards in higher education for training professionals of forestry profile. Operating at the University are three scientific methodical committees on higher education of the Scientific and Methodical Board of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, and working groups on designing higher education standards of a new generation in the areas of «Forestry and Park-and-Garden Management», «Logging», and «Woodworking Technology».

At present, over 20 Ukrainian higher educational institutions make use of the scientific and methodological support base designed at the University for professional training in the following specialties: «Forestry», «Park-and-Garden Management», «Woodworking Technology», «Wood Products Manufacturing Technologies», «Forestry Machinery».

An environmentally-oriented educational programme has been drawn up and is being implemented in teaching science disciplines and vocational subjects. This programme is aimed at encouraging teaching processes in the higher education system of Ukraine on the basis of environmentally-oriented curricula as integral part of modern didactics. The implementation of such programme will conform to the requirements of the UNO for training professionals in the context of sustainable development.

Over a period of years the University has been engaged in scientific research on the issues of development of the World Environmental Constitution — the global economic and legislative act of ecological safety of the planet and sustainable development. Based on the fundamental research, the idea of creating the Environmental Constitution, which was officially enunciated by the presidents of Ukraine in 1997, 2000, 2009, and 2011, has been substantiated.

UNFU offers postgraduate studies in 8 programmes and doctoral studies in 4 programmes. There are four specialized academic boards of the Higher Attestation Commission (HAC) of Ukraine on postgraduate and doctorate thesis defense.

The research activity at the University is conducted by the scientific schools, well known in Ukraine and abroad, dealing with the following research areas: forestry, environmentally clean technologies of forest industry production, abrasive wood processing, durability improvement of woodcutting tools, wood drying and wood protection techniques, environmental and economic principles of nature use and environment protection, urban ecology and phytomelioration.

Due to its scientific achievements, the University contributes considerably to shaping the national forest policy and influences notably the development of forest and wood-working industries. The University's scientists work hard on the issues of increasing forest cover of the country as well as afforestation of the radiation-affected zone of alienation of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, preservation and rational use of forest resources.

Today, the University celebrates its 140th anniversary. The academic staff of the educational institution is to deal with a difficult task: to educate a professional who will be able to constantly take care of the environmental safety of the planet, who will strongly resist any anti-environment activity, and who will try his hardest to facilitate the formation of environmental economy and preserve the biodiversity and life itself on the Earth, who will ensure a sustainable development of humankind. This task is not an easy one. But we feel confident in the way we have chosen since we are successors of those who selflessly laid down their knowledge, work and even life on the altar of Forestry science in different historical epochs.

