

ZAPORIZHZHIA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY – PAST AND PRESENT

Zaporizhzhia National University is a public higher educational establishment with almost 90-year long history. Since 1940's it has been one of the leading educational institutions of Ukraine that trains professionals in different spheres.

On August 11, 1930, the Government of Ukraine endorsed Zaporizhzhia Institute of Public Education as a higher educational establishment. The next year the Institute of Public Education was renamed Pedagogical Institute of Vocational Education, and in 1933 it was officially registered as Zaporizhzhia State Pedagogical Institute. In 1985 Zaporizhzhia State University was founded on the basis of Zaporizhzhia State Pedagogical Institute.

On December 24, 2004, Zaporizhzhia State University was granted the status of National University by the Decree of President of Ukraine, thus it became Zaporizhzhia National University. Since 2008 a number of colleges have been affiliated to the university, namely, College of Commerce and College of Economics and Law. Zaporizhzhia National University (ZNU) was granted the highest level of accreditation by the decision of State Accreditation Commission. Today ZNU is a well-known and prestigious higher educational institution of Ukraine, with the best educational traditions related to the glorious past of Zaporizhzhia region and its rich history.

In 1999 Zaporizhzhia State University became a member of the European University Association, in 2003 it joined the International Association of Sociology and Administration and a year later the University became a member of the Ukrainian Association of Educational Management.

The University is organized into 13 constituent faculties (departments): Mathematics, Physics, Economy, Philology, Foreign Philology, Biology, History, Law, Journalism, Social Sciences and Administration, Management, Social Pedagogy and Psychology, Physical Education with a number of affiliated institutions in different cities of Ukraine.

In addition to traditional departments, specialized academic and research centres proliferated, especially those enabling profound language acquisition and interdisciplinary research projects that could not be handled at the department level. Such university institutions as Centre for Postgraduate Education with Business Education Department, Foreign Languages Intensive Study Centre, French Linguistic Centre, German Language Centre, Ukrainian-Swiss Centre «English for Kids», etc. are empowered to bridge the gap.

The University and its colleges provide training of high skilled professionals on different degree programmes, namely, «Junior specialist's» (14 programmes), Bachelor's (55 programmes) and Master's (54 programmes), PhD (36 programmes).

The university was licensed to train professionals in 23 special fields up to PhD. Seven specialized Boards are accredited to grant the highest degrees (PhD, Doctor of Science) in History, Jurisprudence, Pedagogics, Physics and Mathematics, Economy, Philology and Philosophical Sciences.

The University publishes a number of nationally and internationally recognized learned journals in Philology and Foreign Philology, History, Cultural Studies, Psychology, Pedagogical Sciences, Economic Sciences, Physical Education and Sport, Biological sciences and Ecology, Chemistry, Physical and Mathematical sciences, Legal Sciences.

Zaporizhzhia National University has established close international relations with a range of academic and educational institutions outside Ukraine, such as, Anhui Pedagogical University (The People's Republic of China), Narva College of the University of Tartu (The Republic of Estonia), University of Pitesti (Romania), Kahramanmara University (Turkey), State Higher Professional School in Novy-Sonch (Poland). The students have an opportunity to participate in the international training and research programmes such as Erasmus +, Mevlana, Fulbright Program and study in higher educational institutions in France, Italy, the Czech Republic, Poland, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Bulgaria, Romania, the Republic of Turkey and others. Zaporizhzhia National University contributes to the integration of educational European space through the double degree programmes.

The special focus is put on academic excellence, student success and on the involvement of undergraduates into research work through the Scientific Society of Students. The next stage is also available to them as they can enrol in postgraduate and PhD programmes offered by ZNU.

Both the Student Council and the Centre of Culture of ZNU work hard to provide students with the safe academic environment, advocate their rights and needs. They involve students to participate in a range of both social and academic events.

Zaporizhzhia National University is updating its technical and material base, upgrading its laboratories and equipment, developing infrastructure to provide comfortable studying, living and leisure of students. Its facilities include eight academic buildings, a modern sports complex, four residence halls, traditional and electronic libraries, centres of research and production, research laboratories, department of pre-university training, vocational guidance counselling, project planning and management department, publishing house, history museums of local zoology and ethnography, PR-office, Internet radio «University», local TV network «Universe-TV», web portal «Porohy», health

and recreation facilities on the Sea of Azov and on the island of Khortytsia.

Zaporizhzhia National University is trying to accommodate its facilities to give disabled people an opportunity to study and do research. Thus, all the university premises are equipped with specialized access ramps for people with disabilities.

ZNU has developed and implemented «Energy Efficient University» programme, aimed at energy saving and efficient use of fuel and energy resources.

To give the opportunity for the undergraduates to be trained at educational and industrial organizations, ZNU has created an information database with a list of enterprises, institutions and organizations of various forms of ownership in Zaporizhzhia region and outside the city. More than 500 agreements have been concluded with employers on the internship of students of various specialties. Such public institutions and organizations as Zaporizhzhia Regional State Administration, district state administrations, Executive Committee of Zaporizhzhia City Council, Department of Labour and Social Protection of the population of Zaporizhzhia Regional State Administration and Zaporizhzhia City Council, National Police Department in Zaporizhzhia region, Zaporizhzhia city centre of social services for children, families and youth offers for students of ZNU to undertake trainings, as well as facilitate graduates' employment. Students of pedagogical specialties undertake training in the best colleges and schools of different types. Leading enterprises of Zaporizhzhia, which effectively use modern technology in the manufacturing process, such as, JSC «Zaporizhstal», PJSC «Motor Sich», JSC «Zaporizhtransformator», PJSC «ElementConverter», Zaporizhzhia State Aircraft Repair Plant «MiGremont», PJSC «Dniprospeksstal», Zaporizhzhia Titanium Magnesium Combine Ltd., offer internships and employment for graduates majoring in different fields.

The achievements and accomplishments of Zaporizhzhia National University are presented at international expositions. Thus, according to the results of the exhibition «Education and Career 2011», the University became the winner and received the gold medal in the nomination «Development of student scientific research activities». The University was also awarded the honorary title «The Leader of National Education».

In 2012, ZNU received a gold medal and credentials in the nomination «Development of material and technical base of university» on the results of the exhibition «Education and Career 2012». In 2013, the University received Grand Prix and a corresponding certificate in the nominations «International cooperation in the field of education and science» and «The best design of the official website of the higher educational institution»; in 2014 – Grand Prix and a diploma in the category «Competency-based approach in the educational activities of high school» and in 2015 – Grand Prix and a diploma in the category «Innovative development of education and modern educational technology». The University has also received the honorary title «The leader of higher education of Ukraine».

In October 2015, ZNU took part in the XVII International Forum «Innovation in modern education». The University received the laureate diploma of the first degree in nomination «Innovations in the creation and functioning of the educational and informational environment of the educational institution». ZNU was also awarded a diploma for the active introduction of innovative technologies in the process of education.

Mykola Frolov, the President of Zaporizhzhia National University, was awarded acknowledgement notes for his organizational activity in the modernization of the national education and for scientific and pedagogical activity and his significant contribution to the development of education and science of Ukraine.

In 2016, Zaporizhzhia National University received Grand Prix of the XIX International Specialized Exhibition «Education and Career 2016» and Exhibition of Foreign Educational Institutions «Education Abroad» and a corresponding diploma in the nomination «Implementation of information technologies in the educational process at a higher educational institution». The University has also received the honorary title «The Leader of Higher Education of Ukraine».

In November 2016, ZNU received Grand Prix of the XXX International Specialized Exhibition «Education and Career – Student's Day – 2016» and a corresponding diploma in the nomination «Modernization of the educational process in a higher educational institution».

In 2017, as to the results of the XXIX International Specialized Exhibition «Education and Career 2017», ZNU received Grand Prix and a corresponding diploma in the nomination «Development of university material and technical base», and also was granted the honorary title «The Leader of the higher education of Ukraine» for the second time.

In the autumn of 2017, the University received a gold medal and a diploma in the nomination «Application of modern information and communication technologies for creation and functioning the information-educational environment for forming the information and digital competence of participants of the educational process», by participating in the Ninth International Exhibition «Innovation in modern education». Active innovative activity in improving the quality of the educational process in ZNU was also rewarded with a corresponding diploma.

The academic efficiency of ZNU is marked by high ratings. According to the rating of the Analytical Centre «CEDOS», which analysed the transparency of information policy of 168 higher educational institutions, ZNU was rated 25th. In 2016, according to the results of the spring rating of Ukrainian universities made by the magazine «Money», ZNU was ranked 10th for Humanities, 15th for Economics, and 13th for Legal Sciences.

In 2017, according to «Webometrics Ranking of World's Universities» international ranking, the University was ranked 13th among 331 Ukrainian institutions and 3377th in the overall ranking of 26,695 universities in the world.

In July 2017, Zaporizhzhia National University was ranked 25th in «Top 50 Ukrainian Universities» according to employers' ranking.