



8 თებერვალი, 2018

საიურილი ნომერი (№ 2216)

თუ 100 წლის იუბილეს UNESCO-ს ეგილით აღნიშნავს



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

გაერთიანებული
ერების განათლების,
მეცნიერებისა და
კულტურის ორგანიზაცია

ივანე ჯავახიშვილის სახელობის თბილისის სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტის 100 წლის იუბილე 2018 წელს იუნესკოს (UNESCO) ეგიდით იმართება — ეს გადაწყვეტილება გაერთიანებული ერების განათლების, მეცნიერებისა და კულტურის ორგანიზაციამ პარიზში გენერალური კონფერენციის 39-ე სესიაზე მეცნიერების ქვეყნების მსარდაჭერით მიიღო.

1956 წლიდან იუნესკო აქტიურად მონაწილეობს ორგანიზაციის წევრ ქვეყნებში ისტორიული მოვლენების აღნიშვნის, რაც, თავის მხრივ, ამ მოვლენებს მსოფლიო მნიშვნელობას ანიჭებს.

უნივერსიტეტის 100 წლის იუბილესადმი მიძღვნილ ღონისძიებების მთე-

ლი ქვეყნის მასშტაბითა და საერთაშორისო დონეზე დაგეგმვისა და ორგანიზებისთვის შექმნილია სპეციალური სამთავრობო კომისია, რომლის თავმჯდომარეა საქართველოს პრემიერ-მინისტრი გიორგი კვირიკაშვილი. კომისიის შემადგენლობაში ასევე შედიან მინისტრთა კაბინეტის, პარლამენტის, საქართველოს სამოციქულო ავტოკეფალურის მართლმადიდებელი ეკლესიასა და მეცნიერებათა ეროვნული აკადემიის წევრები. თბილისის სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტის იუბილესადმი მიძღვნილი ღონისძიები 2017 წლის დეკემბერში დაიწყო და 2018 წლის განმავლობაში გაგრძელდება.

უნივერსიტეტის 100 წლის იუბილეს გულიფავ არა მხოლოდ უნივერსიტეტებს, არამედ სრულიად საქართველოს. უნივერსიტეტის დაარსება არ გახდავთ ლოკალური მნიშვნელობის მივლენა, რასაც ადასტურებს ის ფაქტი, რომ ჩვენი 100 წლოვნი იუბილე იუნესკოს ეგიდით აღინიშნება. ამდენად, ეს არის საზღამა იმისა, რომ ჩვენს იუბილეს საერთაშორისო მასშტაბით დამსახურებულად ვიზუალურად გამოიყენებთ ამ საზემო განცყობას და ამ კონტაქტებს, რათა გალრმავდეს ურთიერთობები ჩვენს პარტნიორებთან.

გიორგი შარვაშიძე
თსუ-ის რექტორი



თბილისის სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტის დაარსებისას, 1918 წლს, მხოლოდ ერთი — სიპრეზისმაჲველების ფასისნა, რომელზეც 369 სტუდენტი ირიცხოვოდა და 7 პროფესიონი, 5 პროფესიონის მოაღილე, 2 მეცნიერ-ხელმძღვანელი და 3 ლექტორი მოდვანეობდა.



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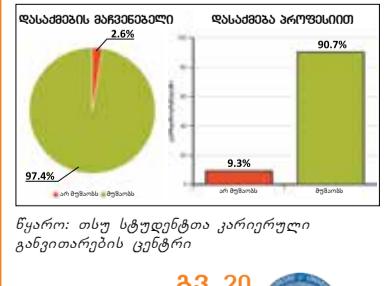
თსუ მსოფლიოს საუკეთესო უნივერსიტეტების 2%-ში მოხვდა



The U.S. News & World Report (Clarivate Analytics)-ის 2017 წლის მსოფლიოს საუკეთესო უნივერსიტეტების რაჟირებაში ივანე ჯავახიშვილის სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტის 359-ე აღილებული დაიკავა, ანუ ის მსოფლიოს საუკეთესო უნივერსიტეტების 2%-ში მოხვდა.

- თსუ-ის კურსდამთავრებულთა დასაქმების მაჩვენებელი

გამოიცილება თსუ-ის დოკტორატიული კურსების 2014-2017 წლების კურსდამთავრებულთა, რომელიც უნივერსიტეტის სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტის დასაქმების მაჩვენებელის დამოუკიდებელი განვითარების ასახვას უზრუნველყოფილი და ასევე მასშტაბით დაგენერირდა.





8 February, 2018



Anniversary Issue (№ 2216)

THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF TSU IS HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF UNESCO



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

გაერთიანებული ერების განათლების, მეცნიერებისა და კულტურის ორგანიზაცია

22 000

students pursue their studies at the university nowadays, including 600 international students. Currently, 705 academic personnel are employed at Tbilisi State University – 158 Professors, 371 Associate Professors and 176 Assistant-Professors.

The 100th Anniversary of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University will be held under the auspices of UNESCO – this decision was made by the United Nations for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at the 39th session of the General Conference in Paris with support of friendly states.

Since 1956 UNESCO has actively participated in commemorating historic events in member states, which in its turn attaches global significance to them.

A special governmental commission led by Prime Minister Giorgi Kvirkashvili has been set up to plan and organize events on the national and international level. The Committee includes members of the Cabinet of Ministers, Parliament, Georgian Apostolic Autocephalous Orthodox Church and National Academy of Sciences of Georgia.

The celebratory events dedicated to the centenary of the university started in December 2017 (TSU regulations were approved in December 1917) and will last during the year of 1918.

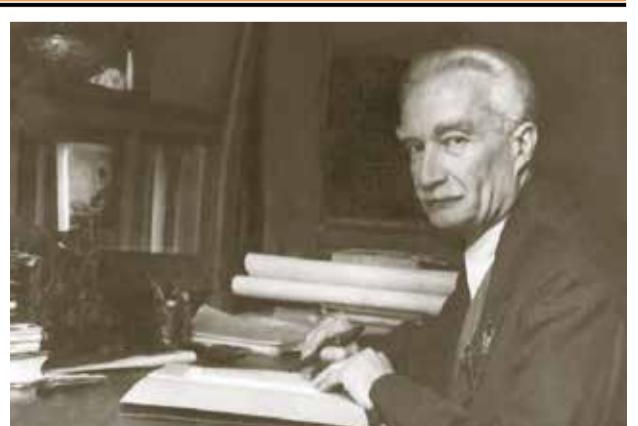
– On the occasion of the centenary jubilee of the university, I convey my congratulations not only to her graduates, but to all of Georgia. The foundation of the university is not an event of a local importance, this century old date is now being celebrated under the auspices of UNESCO. Hence, it highlights that we are deservedly celebrating our jubilee on the international level. We will fully enjoy our disposition and employ the international contacts established under the patronage of UNESCO that should enhance the relationships with our partners.

GIORGİ SHARVASHIDZE
Rector of the University



By the time of the establishment of Tbilisi State University only the faculty of Rhetoric was opened in 1918. The faculty had 369 students, 7 Professors, 5 Deputy Professors, 2 supervisor-scientists and 3 lecturers.

"Along with scientific research institution, Georgian university should be higher education institution, where studying the science and learning and applying the methods of scientific work will successfully cooperate. The professors and leaders of the university should be not only the teachers delivering the lectures. Rather than that, they should be scientists and researchers first of all, contributing to scientific progress and success with their work. They should be a vivid example for the coming generations" – this is the extract from the speech of the university founder, Ivane Javakhishvili, given at the meeting convened for founding the society of Georgian Free University on May 12, 1917. This idea laid the foundation for the charter of Tbilisi State University, the first university in Caucasus region, approved on December 2, 1917.



CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate the whole Georgia on the 100th anniversary of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

The restoration of the Georgian Apostolic Orthodox Church Autocephaly, declaration of independence of Georgia and foundation of the university occurred almost at the same period. These events are the most important dates in our history, this coincidence couldn't have been accidental.

But the widespread delight did not last long; Soon after an atheistic regime overburdened our country and the church.

It was entirely Tbilisi State University which played the most significant role in the period of calamity. It became not only a prominent centre of scientific researches but a good example of education, spirituality and morality for the whole nation.

In those days, despite the great obstacles, Tbilisi State University was the only place where the national awareness and the way of thinking were thriving and developing which lead Georgia out of a stormy life with dignity.

The cathedral was functioning under the dome on the third floor of the university. Then it was altered into a library but its virtue still remains within university walls. Therefore, at the period of raging atheism, among professors, there always were those who taught their students covertly or overtly God's faith and belief.

Consequently, being always supported by the church, the confrontation against ominously deep-rooted Communist ideology was always initiated in the University.

Looking back over the past, we may firmly admit that this was the century of the common commitment and self-sacrificing merit. The responsibilities of present professors and teachers are not less important even today since the future of Georgia greatly depends on the youth, brought up at the university.

We once more whole-heartedly congratulate on the 100th anniversary to all, especially to University rector, members of academic council, professors and teachers, rector's office, all staff, students and graduates.

You are the present day of our eminent history and inheritors of Great Ivane Javakhishvili, Konstantine Apkhazi, Grigol Gvelesiani, St. Eqvtime Takaishvili, Giorgi Akhvlediani, Shalva Nutsubidze, Dimitri Uznadze, Grigol Tsereteli, Pavle Ingorokva, Simon Kaukhchishvili, Akaki Shanidze, Andria Razmadze, Ioseb Kipshidze, Korneli Kekelidze, Petre Melikishvili, Simon Janashia, Arnold Chikobava and other outstanding scientists.

What a great and demanding your mission is!

I pray to Lord to reward our hearts with wisdom, so that we live and act to glorify God and our country.

ILIA II

Catholics-Patriarch of all Georgia

2018 is the most important anniversary year for our country – a 100 years ago the Independence of Georgia was declared and Tbilisi State University was founded. Those two facts were the historical milestones in Georgia from the national and political points of view.

Our glorious ancestors, founders of the University and their like-minded leaders built a solid foundation to shape the University not only as the main center of education but also as the pillar for the national values and culture in Georgia.

Today we are proud of having a higher school of education with the long-established traditions. Its walls remember a lot of prominent scholars and teachers. It has raised many worthy figures of our country. Fortunately, these traditions still continue and the first Georgian University has its honorable position among the top universities in the World. I believe, Tbilisi State University, named after the great scholar, Ivane Javakhishvli, will remain the main centre of higher education and culture which will raise a great many generations in our country we should be proud of.

I would like to congratulate you all, also alumni and the whole Georgia on the 100th anniversary of our University.

GIORGİ KVIRIKASHVILI
Prime Minister of Georgia



I congratulate the first University of Georgia, which has become an exceptional and prominent center of knowledge, liberty and patriotic spirit, on its 100th anniversary.

A 100 years ago, our ancestors, the founders of the university, established a new centre of education based on European values and progressive ideas.

This year, just like the Georgian University, the first Republic of Georgia celebrates its centenary.

Speaking about the merits of the founders of the first Republic of Georgia, we always remember the greatest emotional and patriotic contribution the university has made to the formation of our statehood.

Since the establishment of the first Republic of Georgia till the present day, it was the first Georgian University which fulfilled its exceptional function dealing with numerous challenges facing the Georgian statehood, and thus strengthened the patriotic spirit crowned with the creation of new Georgian state 70 years later.

I once again congratulate everyone - students, professors, teachers and the Georgian nation - for whom it is of the utmost importance that Georgia is a co-creator of modern civilization.



GIORGİ MARGVELASHVILI
President of Georgia



I would like to congratulate Tbilisi State University with the 100th anniversary! I congratulate the whole Georgia with this jubilee, as the University has played the most important role in the recent history of our country. I also would like to send my compliments to the professors and teachers, alumni and especially the students of the University, now acquiring their education within the historical premises. This is the date of particular importance for me personally, as for the alumni and the professor of Tbilisi State University. The role and the significance of Tbilisi State University has always been and will remain immense forever. The University is the guarantee for maintaining our national identity and reaching the European future of the country. The University, professors and students, in the gravest moments of our recent history, always stood as watchdogs of the national interests of Georgia.



Tbilisi State University, being the temple of knowledge, continues its activity commenced 100 years ago and we all bear the duty to facilitate the fulfillment of its paramount mission. We shall always remember that Tbilisi State University is indeed fundamental milestone for the progress and the development of Georgia.

IRAKLI KOBAKHIDZE
Speaker of Parliament of Georgia





CONGRATULATIONS



As well as having tremendous influence, Science and Education are at the same time the key preconditions for other public benefits such as freedom, welfare and development. This was well known to Ivane Javakhishvili, Petre Melikishvili, Konstantine Abkhazi, Ekvtime Takaishvili, Dimitri Uznadze and other key prominent figures of our country whose main goal was the foundation of a University. Accomplishment of this goal made it possible for the University to become a centre of science, culture and thinking, a strong pillar of the social life

which is equally precious to every Georgian.

While still part of the Russian Empire, after the long-term oppression of our national values - the language, culture and traditions – the foundation of the University, along with the church gaining its autocephaly, has played a pivotal role on the way to our freedom which finally resulted in the Declaration of Independence of Georgia in 1918. These historic events have become the three central pillars for our independence and aspiration for freedom and development.

Even today, while thinking about a better future for Georgia, our country which has an ancient and unique culture, we deem the University to be one of the main pillars on which to build the future.

This year, under the auspices of UNESCO, together with the international community, we are celebrating the centenary of the first Georgian University,

At this solemn moment we would like to commemorate with gratitude those who have dedicated their lives to this Alma Mater.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to the professors and scholars who share their best knowledge and practice with the young people who shape the future of the country. As well as this, I thank you, our students, who by enriching their knowledge in the laboratories, libraries and research centers build not only their life with dignity but also the future of Georgia as a country of educated and free people. I would like to thank all staff members of the University who proudly and diligently contribute to its development.

As the Minister of Education and Science I promise to support your endeavors as I deeply believe they will lead to new achievements in science. The latter is a precondition of the development of our country.

Along with you I would like to congratulate the whole of society on the centenary of the University and wish it, the first Georgian University, many more achievements in future.

MIKHEIL CHKHENKELI
Minister of Education and Science of Georgia



I would like to congratulate the first national University in the Caucasus on its foundation centenary. Education is freedom, one of the vivid examples of which is certainly Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. It was founded at a time when Georgia gained its independence – the most important period in the History of Georgia. An idea of founding the University is a brainchild of free people who strived to contribute to the development of the country as freedom does not exist without education, and vice versa.

Today, having gone through hard and full of twists and turns 100 years, Tbilisi State University is associated not only with freedom and independence but also with a fight over the national goals, development, unity and above all, with a better future.

Tbilisi State University not only has managed to raise the highly-qualified specialists in different areas but also has inspired each student with the national values. Due to this great mission, it is an outstanding University. I am happy that the centenary events are held under the auspices of the UNESCO. I hope, through the efforts of the University Management the first Georgian University will reach its highest level in the nearest future and it will become outstanding not only in the region but in Europe, as well. Once again, congratulations and I wish you a successful centenary year.

KAKHA KALADZE, Mayor of Tbilisi



On the occasion of the centenary jubilee of the university, I convey my congratulations not only to her graduates, but to all of Georgia. The foundation of the university is not an event of a local importance, this century old date is now being celebrated under the auspices of UNESCO. Hence, it highlights that we are deservedly celebrating our jubilee on the international level. We will fully enjoy our disposition and employ the international contacts established under the patronage of UNESCO that should enhance the relationships with our partners.

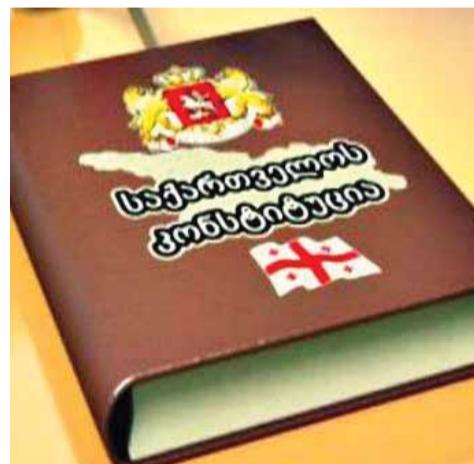
I would like to extend my immense gratitude to those who honourably participated in the anniversary events, have rendered support to the university assisting in financing our infrastructure – repair works are planned for Building II; the university has been already handed over a new hostel in Lake Lisi district in line with international standards; The National Bank of Georgia (NBG) issued a collector silver coin in denomination of 5 Lari to mark the 100th anniversary of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU); The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia handed over Tbilisi Centre of Anatomical Pathology to TSU, where the students of the faculty of Medicine practice. The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia announced a competition on the design of a stamp dedicated to the centenary of TSU; In the nearest future, the issue of building a huge hostel will be resolved since the Ministry of Science and Education expressed its interest in its building. This project will finally solve the problem of hostels not only for TSU students but other universities.

We are proud that the first Georgian university is still a leader, and maintains its leading position in the region in the sphere of researches, publications in impact factor journals, and also is among 2% of world top universities.

I would like to congratulate first of all students, professors and teachers, scientists, and alumni (as there are more than 300 000 of us) on the occasion of the TSU centenary.

GIORGII SHARVASHIDZE
Rector of the University

THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION SHALL EVENTUALLY STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY PRINCIPLES



According to the minutes (minute № 12, 1917-1926), the supreme organ of the university self-management, the professor's board had a special discussion with the government concerning the status of the university. The board stated that after the university had become state run, it 'should acquire a complete autonomy'; only leaving to government the issues such as budget control and approval.

If the Georgian culture and science history is looked through, it will be clear that the time between 1918-1921 was quite rich in advancement and productivity due to the government's national progress. The state did not meddle with either teaching or scientific processes which further enhanced their advancement.

Much to Georgia's chagrin, the newly won independence was aborted by Russia's military campaign against Georgia in 1921. The battles for freedom took the lives of many Georgian students too.

The issue of the autonomy of the university is extremely actual today. The rector of TSU makes noteworthy empathises.

Giorgi Sharvashidze,
Rector, Tbilisi State University:

Once it was founded, the autonomy principles of the university had been determined. Paragraph 3 of its ordinance of 1917, which interestingly looks quite modern, reads that our university must be fully autonomous. Having founded the university, our forefathers revered the idea of its independence and therefore it is but symbolic that a hundred years later, Georgian Parliament adopted the project of parliamentary amendments in its second hearing (Article 27) initiated by TSU. These amendments will finally reinforce the two main principles – university autonomy and academic freedom. We assume that the current stage of our development gives the university the actual possibility to transform into a public institution. I expect that the government and legislators will support this initiative, as well.



MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY TODAY

Rector of Tbilisi State University Mr.Giorgi Sharvashidze conversing with us

– In the XX century, Georgia had been through a couple of evolutionary stages among which most significant fell upon the Church in 1917 repossessing its autocephaly soon to be followed by the foundation of a university on February the 8th, 2018 and the declaration of Georgia as a sovereign democratic republic on May the 26th, 1918.

The foundation of the university was the logical crowning of the movement commenced in the XIX century and advanced alternately by the generations of fathers and sons, headed by Ilia Chavchavadze, and the Society of Disseminating Literacy, and by setting up of the Society of Georgian University.

From the day the university was founded, it fulfilled several functions. Kirion II, the Patriarch Catholicos, in his first appeal to the society on the day when the university was set up, voiced that the Georgian traditions had appeared as a good soil for a European university to be born, finding for itself a truly comfortable niche. Also, it was symbolic that the university was opened on the name day of the Holy King Davit the Builder, especially that the university founding fathers deemed the opening of the university was in firm connection to the Gelati university, to whose academic traditions the newly opened seat of education would faithfully adhere.

In general, Georgia's being faithful to the European education

establishments was clearly implied by the fact that, unlike Russian universities, it introduced Doctor's Degree in the fashion of universities in Germany.

That Georgia had been drawing upon its national sources whilst observing the European traditions lies in the fact that teaching and the enlightenment processes were rendered there in the Georgian language. This set an example to the entire region - how one ought to deter to one's own native tongue and struggle to introduce it as a means by which to teach. Ivane Javakhishvili applied the best of his efforts to cater for the terminology to be carried out in all directions of education. This, in its turn, enhanced and enriched the Georgian language. To date, that we are enabled to study, teach and learn in perfection in our native language, must be due to the services of the university and the idea vested in its foundation.

The other function which the university bore soon materialised in its ability to integrate the country. Should the university's opening history be looked through, it would be vivid that among donators of the time were not only Georgians, Abkhazians and Ossetians but also Armenians, Azeries, Poles and Jews living in Georgia...

The fact that the university founders were concerned about the further development and study of the Abkhazian and Ossetian

languages is undoubtedly of essence. This undertaking was to be brought to life, in compliance with the decision of Ivane Javakhishvili, by Giorgi Akhvlediani. Further on, the university assumed the burden of responsibility to become a cultural and education centre for the whole Caucasus. In course of time, the university furnished education to many students from the Northern Caucasus having maintained the contacts until present. This fact served as an impetus for the establishment of education seats eventually to appear in the Northern Caucasus.

It should be mentioned that the university has been seen when and wherever a Georgian cause was involved. One could remember Maro Makashvili, the national hero, 19 years old student of the Faculty of Natural Sciences of TSU, who in 1921 volunteered to war, joined the Red Cross as a charity sister and died at the approaches of Tbilisi; Also, Ekvtime Takaishvili, the treasurer of Georgia, who after the annex of Georgia in 1921, saved historically the most valuable part of the national treasure and managed to return it to Georgia. One could instance the year of 1978 and the broad scale movement for the defence of the Georgian language, when the leadership of the university partook in the national movement. The university still happily bears the weight of this function, being ceaselessly on the alert



The present Rector of TSU Giorgi Sharvashidze was elected by the Academic Council of the university on September 23, 2016. In 2013-2016 he was a deputy minister of the Ministry of Science and Education of Georgia. Giorgi Sharvashidze is a member of Academia Europaea.

as regards national interests and their defence.

The upbringing of a citizen in the university named after Ivane Javakhishvili appears amongst other functions to have been of utmost care and concern imparted to it by its past, present and future. This mission has been imposed upon the university since its foundation and we maintain this tradition ever since. The thesis, which implies that the main function of the university is merely to equip

students with skills for only their employment perspective sounds as erroneous as the thesis that nobody except for families, schools and preschool establishments ought to shape youngsters as future citizens. In my opinion, next to the relevant education every youth must be granted the skills of critical thinking, a sense of responsibility and academic interest in order to develop them towards the right citizenship, showing a proper civil stance.

HISTORIC DECISION – THE REVIVAL OF THE UNIVERSITY SOCIETY SETS UP A GOAL TO CARE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Georgian University Society predetermined the establishment of the first university in the Caucasus in 1917, seeking for finances and recruits able to provide for academic processes in different directions.

The membership integrated a number of people. The archive materials enlist the names of participants having donated 300 Roubles as their first membership fee and 25 Roubles already per annum.

To be precise, after a hundred years, on December the 15th, 2017, due to Mr. Giorgi Sharvashidze's initiative, it was managed to restore the Georgian University Society whose ultimate goal is to care for the development of the university and to unify its undergraduates and supporters. The Society will unfold activities under the supervision of Mr. Giorgi Kolbaia, Professor of Lund university (Sweden).

Giorgi Sharvashidze,
Rector, Tbilisi State University:

– The alumni of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University have always had a desire to make a personal contribution to the development of the university. Due to this we endeavoured to revive 'the Society of Georgian University', hoping to consolidate the alumni and engaging them in decision making on urgent issues, thus restoring their links with their Alma Mater.

Our goal is to render support to the brightest and most successful students by means of scholarships and other incen-



Present Head Zaal Kokaia and other members of the University Society

tives. We could think of bettering the university infrastructure, research and lecture room spaces by refurbishing them. Yet, what this idea suggests to be the main aim is to assemble around as many graduates as is possible in order to do Georgian business and that implies taking care of the university. Our country is not rich in either oil or gas; however, it is strong in terms of its intellect being always potent. This and only this must be properly used, which is urgent. Correspondingly, we deem that the society and its goals are the only right way to follow. To participate in the university life simply excludes passivity. I would gladly involve the university graduates in structural alteration processes of university, allowing them to have their word even in its running, since it seems that the advancement and welfare of the university is the mission of every citizen. Further on, another important function of the Society is to establish close ties with employers and businessmen, who, on their part, will guarantee a successful resolve of our future problems. This, I trust, is our tomorrow.

**The material was prepared
by Nino Kakulia**

WITH THE SUPPORT OF BIDZINA IVANISHVILI AND "CARTU GROUP" THE UNIVERSITY REGAINED ITS HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL APPEARANCE



"A coldhearted person will never be able to accomplish great deeds; he should love his people, should love science, should feel responsibility to commit himself to science and his people", - with these words Ivane Javakhishvili paid tribute to dedication of those people who made great contribution to the establishment of the first Georgian university.

100 years have passed since then. These walls carried both

pain and joy of Georgian nation; its strive for independence and free thought. Today Tbilisi State University faces new challenges. Its goal is to become a worthy member of common European educational space. In accomplishing this aim it is supported by those who have ardent love of their country and its people; for whom university is a symbol of spirituality, of raising a sound future generation

and of the development of the country.

For Tbilisi State University its graduate and a prominent Georgian Bidzina Ivanishvili, who in his rare newspaper interviews always remembers the years spent at university with great warmth, appeared to be precisely this kind of philanthropist.

Upon Bidzina Ivanishvili's good will and his initiative, and with the support of "Cartu

Group" renovation of the first building of the university was completely finished in 2012. It should be noted, that the university was only once renovated in the 70s of the previous century. As a result, the original architecture of the building was damaged. However, with the support of Bidzina Ivanishvili and "Cartu Group" the university regained its historic architectural appearance.

UNIVERSITY – 2018

By the time of the establishment of Tbilisi State University only the faculty of philosophy was opened in 1918. The faculty had 369 students, 7 Professors, 5 Deputy Professors, 2 supervisor-scientists and 3 lecturers.

Nowadays, 100 years later, Tbilisi State University is a top ranked institution among the 2% of the top universities of the world (The U.S. News & World Report) and it owns 13 educational buildings (two of them have the status of historical heritage).

Presently 67 undergraduate, 95 postgraduate and 51 Doctoral Degree Programs are implemented at 7 faculties of TSU (Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences, Faculty of Economics and Business, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Faculty of Medicine). Besides, 19 vocational and 3 one-step educational programs are offered (at the Faculty of Medicine). In addition, the university provides training program for teachers as well as Georgian language preparation educational program for ethnic Azeri, Armenian and Abkhazian students.

In total, 22 000 students pursue their studies at the university nowadays, including 600 international students. Currently, 705 academic personnel are employed at Tbilisi State University – 158 Professors, 371 Associate Professors and 176 Assistant-Professors.

More than 500 TSU students have participated in the exchange programs during the last three years. 75 Professors have delivered lectures and conducted researches at foreign universities.

The number of Tbilisi State University alumni has exceeded 300 000 during the last 100 years.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The university offers 21 foreign educational programs, including 13 educational programs where the language of instruction is English; 6 joint international educational programs issue double academic degree upon the completion.

Students of San Diego State University – Georgia English undergraduate Programs in Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Sciences and Chemistry-Biochemistry are given such kind of opportunity (the university provides high level laboratories at these directions). Georgian students have been given this chance since 2015. San Diego State University (SDSU), which has been selected within the framework of Millennium Challenge Account (MCA Georgia), is offering a high quality and internationally accredited (ABET, CSA, WASC) Bachelor's Programs in STEM. The above mentioned programs will facilitate the development of natural sciences and technologies field in Georgia and preparation of high qualified employees.

The university also offers international foreign graduate programs in Eurasian and Caucasian Studies, Economics, Eu-

ropean Studies (Interdisciplinary Program about EU); European Literature (joint Doctoral Degree Program, language of instruction French); Computer Sciences (language of instruction French, undergraduate program); in addition, a joint interdisciplinary post-graduate program in "Public Management" offered by TSU and German University of Administrative Sciences (Speyer) and postgraduate program in "Master of Law" provided by University of Cologne (Germany).

RESEARCH SCOPE

The research scope has also been widened alongside the educational aspect. Tbilisi State University includes 16 Scientific Research Institutes. Andrea Razmadze Mathematical Institute, Elevter Andronikashvili Institute of Physics, Arnold Chikobava Institute of Linguistics, Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature, etc. are worth mentioning; they have gained international acknowledgement for a long time.

Alexandre Natishvili Institute of Morphology should be distinguished among the scientific-research institutes functioning

at Tbilisi State University. It is a leader organization best known for connecting fundamental and applied researches in Bio-Medicine and mastering the field specialists. The institute has been constantly studying significant problems of experimental and clinical pathology, and researching the issues of Gerontology and social demography based on its Department of Gerontology and Palliative Medicine. Currently, the institute works on two projects, one of them is the use of artificial blood circulation pump if heart suddenly stops and in case of unsuccessful resuscitation, to maintain the artificial blood circulation. The second project – "Living with Dignity till the Very End" – focuses on identifying social, medical and ethical problems facing the elderly population and providing recommendations for Georgian National Program of Palliative Care.

In addition, High Energy Physics Science-Research Institute of TSU is worth mentioning. Its scientific topics are mainly implemented within the framework of international collaboration with such scientific centers as Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (Dubna, Russia) European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN, Geneva,

Switzerland) and Julich Research Centre (Julich, Germany).

The scientific-research institutes are closely collaborating with TSU Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences and are engaged in postgraduate as well as doctoral programs.

LABORATORIES EQUIPPED WITH MODERN TECHNOLOGIES

85 supplementary educational-scientific structural units are located at Tbilisi State University, including smart/lab; Bloomberg laboratory, laboratory of Physics and chemistry modernized by San-Diego State University, Multimedia Centre, university clinic, the base for archeological researches at Graklani Hill, Fine Arts Studio, etc.

A number of laboratories equipped with modern technologies have been opened recently as a result of international collaboration. SMART AtmoSim laboratory of International Standards for Atmospheric Studies should be distinguished. It was based on the cooperation between the Institute of Energy and Climate Research-Troposphere (FZJ IEK-8) and TSU Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences. The laboratory specializes in atmospheric researches which includes a chemical analysis of the atmosphere as well as mathematical simulations and creation of mathematical model of atmospheric condition. BA, MA and PhD students work at the laboratory, and they are directly involved in taking air samples, in composition of analysis and mathematical simulations.

Approximately half a million foreign scientific literature has been purchased to enrich the fund during recent years.

Academic personnel and students are offered access to TSU library (the second biggest library in Georgia) and National Scientific Library of Tbilisi State University. Their book collection includes 8 million and a half books and journals and more than 20 million patents. Each faculty is provided by its library. There are 3 reading halls: Simon Kaukhchishvili Reading Hall, Shota Rustaveli Reading Hall and Grigol Tsereteli Reading Hall.

Tbilisi State University Library also provides electronic database meeting the modern standards and requirements and has started the process of digitalization. TSU academic personnel and young researchers can access databases of payable publications and free databases, including EBSO Publishing, EconLit, HINARI, Cambridge University Journals, Royal Society Journals Collection, BioOne, New England Journal of Medicine, OECD – iLibrary, OXFORD MEDICINE ONLINE, JSTOR, Scopus, Sciedirect, etc.

Nowadays, the university also possesses student hostels. Recently, the university received a new hostel accommodating 320 students and built in accordance with European standards located in the vicinity of Lisi Lake.



Modern Laboratories in TSU



Restoration Laboratory of TSU Library

RECTOR'S VISION – WHAT HAS BEEN DONE AND WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

Giorgi Sharashidze,
Rector, Tbilisi State University:

– For years the confrontation between different student groups or movements were caused by the fact that the privilege of certain student unions was really distinct, and to a great extent, only the projects presented by these circles were largely funded. Nowadays this approach has changed, the sense of being privileged does not exist any longer, as all students have a chance to get funding for the implementation of their innovative projects according to the parity achieved

on competition principles. This approach was successfully implemented in 2017 and since then a lot of innovative student projects have been funded.

For the nearest future, we are planning theses maintenance procedures to be made more stringent so that the dissertations maintained at the university be of higher quality.

Besides, we tend to observe modern principles in terms of restocking the professorship vacancies and the works in this line are coming to a close. The academic council will be working to

arrive at the decision as regards the selection criteria of professors. Further on, in compliance with a new rule introduced, professors' lectures shall soon be assessed by their fellow colleagues and students.

Along with this, it is of no doubt, that the salary policy needs to be revised; upon this we are currently working along with the Ministry of Science and Education. The university budgeting system ought to be altered completely and, as we expect, the university is going to be the first education establishment having

started not only reflecting upon the ways of changing the budgeting system but also applying practical efforts to it. We expect this to allow us to better develop and strengthen many things – such as stocks, laboratories, buildings, etc. It is imperative that students are motivated to become good scientists.

In the end, we have become ready to commence an authorization process in 2018. With this in view, foreign experts have already assessed a couple of directions, including several doctoral programmes in order to single

out strong and weak sides and, I feel gratified to note, – the strong sides occurred to be prevalent. Also, I would say that the university academic programmes at international level number already 22 and are fully functional. Now, we are trying to do away with all the vulnerable sides in order to be accredited. In 2019, the university shall have several programmes accredited by the Agency of Programmed Accreditation Technologies (ABET), which is good news.

**The material was prepared
by Nino Kakulia**



SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Maia Toradze

WHEN DID FOREIGN PROFESSORS BEGIN TO READ LECTURES AT TSU?

On the centenary of its founding, Tbilisi State University can take pride in keeping its founders' legacy alive and continuing their deeds – it is still the leading university in Caucasus region in terms of the quantity and quality of scientific research papers. It is a native university for a number of world-famous scientists who started their career at Tbilisi State University. Physicist Gia Dvali, Director of Max Planck Institute (Germany), considers Tbilisi State University as his Alma Mater, and Zaal Kokaia, Professor of Lund University (Sweden) has recently become a head of University Society which intends to contribute to the development of the University.

TOP PERFORMANCE REFLECTED IN STATISTICS

Currently, more than 200 (national and international) research projects are being implemented in fundamental and applied disciplines of Tbilisi State University (most

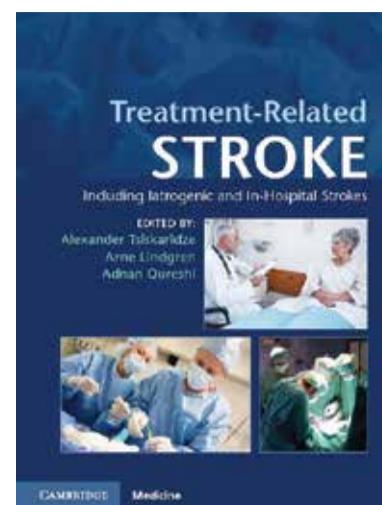
of the grants funded by Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia), providing vital support for developing science and technology.

Since 2017, Tbilisi State University has had impressive results in state scientific grant competition for fundamental research funded by Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia: out of 86 funded projects, 45% was from Tbilisi State University.

Traditionally, young researchers of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University continue to be distinguished leaders in different competitions. Only in 2017, Tbilisi State University MA students authored 15 (50% of winning projects) out of 30 projects winning the Education Research Scholarship Competition of Master students, funded by Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia.

Tbilisi State University maintains a leading position according to the results of Education Research Scholarship Competition of PhD students, as well - out of 40 projects funded, 14 were from Tbilisi State University (35% of the funded projects).

The same applies to funding the young scholars' grant programs. Young scholars of Tbilisi State University authored most of 23 projects winning the competition (26% of the funded projects).



A book published by Cambridge University Press, co-editor Alexander Tsiskaridze

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Particular emphasis should also be placed on scientific research contracted by Tbilisi State University, as it is an obvious indicator for making contribution to integration of research and economics: 163 contracted works were implemented in

2015; the number of such works was 177 in 2016 and reached 200 in 2017. Besides, as Scopus reports, Tbilisi State University has published up to 100 publications in cooperation with industry.

Per Scopus data again, the publications from Tbilisi State University, issued in highly ranked periodicals, is increasing. From 2011 to 2017 3 204 publications were issued on behalf of Tbilisi State University. Research activities of Tbilisi State University, in terms of publications as well as implemented projects, are tightly linked to top universities and scientific centers in the world (as Scopus reports, joint publications are published together with more than 150 international collaborators; besides, up to 3000 foreign scientists are involved in the joint researches).

It is also worth mentioning that Tbilisi State University professors increasingly publish monographs and textbooks abroad. For instance, Treatment-Related Stroke by Alexander Tsiskaridze, Vice-Rector of Tbilisi State University, Professor of Department of Neurology and Neurosurgery, was published by Cambridge University Press (Great Britain) (co-authors of the book are Arne Lindgren, Professor of Lund University (Sweden) and Adnan I. Qureshi, Professor of Minnesota University (USA)).

INTERVIEW

AN INCREASING SCIENTIFIC POTENTIAL OF TSU

What are the scientific-research prospects of Tbilisi State University and what may its role be in the world scientific community. Professor Alexander Tsiskaridze, Vice-Rector for Science, comments:

– Mr. Tsikaridze, do you believe that Tbilisi State University maintains the course of European education laid in the foundation of University by its founders?

– The university founders, educated in Europe themselves, are actually our contemporaries as far as their views on university development were largely beyond the local thinking. They were aware that science is global and therefore, considered the need for the science and research-based teaching as essential component in the university charter.

Foresights of University founders have already come true – a modern university which claims to be globally acknowledged, must definitely be a research institution. A lot has been done on this direction during the recent years. First and foremost, it is essential that we have appeared in the most prestigious international ranking system – Times Higher Education, according to which, we are among the top one thousand universities around the world. This indicator is not bad, really, and the scientific work conducted at the university has a big share in it.

– Which spheres of research would you single out to be of international quality at university?

– All the disciplines have the projects like this, but the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences is distinguished. The studies

conducted at the faculty are increasingly acknowledged by international scientific community. Compared to previous years, a number of articles published in international scientific impact factor journals has considerably increased. This is quite a good indicator.

For this purpose, incorporating of scientific-research units with Tbilisi State University is of great importance, as well. Having very high potential for research they are staffed with high level scientists, whose activities on behalf of University makes the prospects even better.

In addition, we should focus on our scientists being prestigious among international scientific and academic circles. They have an impressive indicator of scientific activity. Even the famous and top universities would be proud of such indicators. We should specially distinguish the scientists working in European Organization for Nuclear Research, and involved in several experiments (ATLAS; CMS).

The main point is that the scientists of Tbilisi State University are largely involved in international collaboration and projects, and their share is increasing. Currently up to 3000 foreign scientists work together with the researchers of Tbilisi State University.

– The quality of scientific research paper is often determined by the significance of the journal itself. How big is the chance for the scientists of Tbilisi State University to publish their papers in top level journals issued by Tbilisi State University? Does the university edit such journals?

– We have some though the number is not impressive.



Alexander Tsiskaridze

The TSU periodicals indicate the level of support and productivity of scientific research indexed by Scopus or ERIH PLUS. In particular, two journals of I. Vekua Institute of Applied Mathematics of Tbilisi State University (Bulletin of TICMI and Lecture Notes of TICMI) as well as Memoirs on Differential Equations and Mathematical Physics - journal of A. Razmadze Mathematical institute are Scopus indexed journals; on the other hand, Sjani (Thoughts) – journal of Shota Rustaveli Institute of Georgian Literature, the Economist – journal of Paata Gugushvili Institute of Economics are ERIH PLUS indexed. As for Transactions of A. Razmadze Mathematical Institute – journal of A. Razmadze Mathematical institute, it is contained in Science Direct platform of Elsevier.

– Which scientific discovery and research has attracted the attention of world scientific community recently?

– There are many of them, but the most distinguished one is the archeological excavation of Grakiani Hill in Kaspi re-

gion of Georgia. The matter is that two different writings were found in a small temple site of the tenth century BC. This date is very early in terms of writing and correspondingly, it raised lots of questions and a number of historical issues were set forth. This fact and the discovered materials may change the historical narratives about eastern Georgia, in particular the narratives about Kartli.

It should be noted that some of our scientists have been nominated as the best scientists of Georgia for the last two years. In 2016 it was Bezhan Chankvetadze. In 2017 Levan Tielidze, a young scholar of Tbilisi State University Institute of Geography was nominated as the best scientist in Georgian studies. A team of Georgian physicists of Tbilisi State University including Ramaz Lomsadze, Makhaz Gochitashvili, Roman Kezerashvili and Nugzar Molishvili, was acknowledged as the best scientific research team of 2017.

Recent trends observed at Tbilisi State University evidence that we have even more potential to reach higher pinnacles of science. We should never be satisfied with what we have already achieved. Local scientific traditions and schools are important and they should be maintained at all costs. However, limiting ourselves only to these achievements will surely lead to stagnation. We should seek new directions in scientific research, as well as potential foreign partners (as far as the modern science is multinational and it goes beyond any borders) and the joint research studies must be planned in cooperation with them. This is the way for the development of advanced science that Tbilisi State University should follow.



THE POSITIONS OF TSU ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT SYSTEMS OF RANKINGS OF WORLD TOP UNIVERSITIES

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University was ranked the 359th position in the U.S. News& World Report (Clarivate Analytics) rankings of the world top universities in 2017, i.e., it was included in 2 % of the world top universities.

According to the data of 2017, Tbilisi State University joined the top 500 universities of the world in ShanghaiRanking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects, and the field of Physics at TSU gained N 151-200 position in ShanghaiRanking's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects.

As stated by the information provided by Times Higher Education World University Rankings of the previous year (2016), 980 top universities were selected where TSU was ranked number 801+ position.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND ASPECTS OF COOPERATION WITH PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

Tamar Dadiani

WHEN DID FOREIGN PROFESSORS BEGIN TO READ LECTURES AT TSU?

From the first years of establishment of the Tbilisi State University the founders of the university tried to gain support from the International University Community and gain its place on the world arena.

The well-known European high institutions also invited TSU delegations at the jubilee or scientific events. Yet in 1924, Professor Grigol Tsereteli was invited and attended the 700th anniversary of the University of Naples. He, in the name of the Tbilisi University handed congratulation message prepared by Painter I. Sharleman to their Italian colleagues.

In the first years of its existence, the founders of the University decided to invite European scientists to Tbilisi State University. In 1919, the Council of Professors unanimously approved the request of the Faculty of Rhetoric – to invite an American orientalist, specialist in Georgian studies, deputy professor R.P. Blake to the Department of Byzantine history. Blake, who had expressed willingness to serve in the newly established Georgian university. For a short time he delivered lectures in the History of Byzantium and in the Greek language.

In 1920, at the TSU Professors' Council meeting the issue was brought up to invite the well-known professors from European leading universities, including: Professor Jean L. Jero; from Clermont University; Doctors: Alexander Nathanson, E. Oethel, Gustav Hase, Max Müller; Professors from Tübingen University: Richard Fogel, Prell and others. Besides Blake, who studied with Niko Mari and Ivane Javakhishvili. No foreigners could come.

Under the agreement the invited professors took on obligation to deliver lectures in a foreign language (with assistance of translator) at Tbilisi State University for 2 years. But after two years, at the request of Rector Ivane Javakhishvili, they were obliged to read a lecture in the state language, in Georgian language.

SCIENTIFIC CONTACTS WITH FOREIGNERS

The scientific contacts of Tbilisi State University with foreigners became especially active since the 60s of the 20th century. In 1968 the Department of Scientific and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries was founded at the University, which in 2005 was established as a separate administrative unit – TSU department of Foreign Relations. The priority of its activities is to make close contacts between TSU and the world universities, scientific-research and educational centers, which, mostly are implemented through joint projects and exchange programs of students, young scientists, professors. Accordingly, the Department is a mediator, through which the university is linked to the outside world, which is vital for any high educational institutions in the age of globalization.

Tea Gergedava, Head of TSU Department of Foreign Relations is talking about the partnership with international educational and scientific institutions.

"The first international partner of the University is the Friedrich Schiller University Jena (Germany), with which the Memorandum of Cooperation was signed 52 years ago. Since then, TSU constantly tries to attract international partners and by today, we have signed a bilateral cooperation agreement with 180 higher education institutions of 50 countries. These countries are: Austria, Azerbaijan, Albania, Argentina, USA, Belarus, Germany, Russia, Spain, Estonia, Turkey, Japan, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Cyprus, Colombia, South Korea, Latvia, Lithuania,

Luxembourg, Moldova, Macedonia, Malaysia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Greece, South Africa, France, Syria, Armenia, Ukraine, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Qatar, Sweden, Switzerland, Czech Republic, China, and Holland.

It's difficult to distinguish one or two especially active partners from such a large group of friends; for example, I can list the universities we have a permanent cooperation with: Jena, Saarland, Tartu, Vilnius, Porto, Corona and Paris 8. The cooperation area includes both double degree programs, as well as mobility programs of students, professors and staff, support for institutional development projects, joint research grants, efficient support in sharing the best practice of university management, etc."

It should be noted that Tbilisi State University is a member of the following networks: Association of European Universities, International Association of Universities; Black Sea Universities Network Francophone Universities Agency and European Association of Erasmus Coordinators.

In October 2012 based on the mutual agreement of Tbilisi State University and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Portugal the Agreement on establishment Portugal Language Centre at Tbilisi State University was signed. The Center provides TSU employees and students as well as wide community to learn about the culture, literature and language of Portuguese speaking countries. At present, the Center with the TSU Foreign Relations Department works on the project "Erasmus+" program in Portugal.

THE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS OPERATING WITHIN THE BILATERAL COOPERATION SCOPES

Today it has become a tendency that the education acquired in foreign universities will definitely become a guarantee of success in Georgia, which of course reflects the truth. Such a possibility is given by the Tbilisi State University and the "Erasmus+" which is funded by European Commission or bilateral exchange programs that have been operating in the university since 2007 and are aimed at modernization of education, and increase of knowledge and employment levels. The main point is to have a motivation and desire to learn and gain the foreign experience.

The bilateral exchanges in TSU have been carried out since the 60s of the last century. As for the Erasmus+ exchange

mobility programs financed by the European Commission with the participation of Tbilisi State University since 2015 has funded 121 projects, which is the best result not only in Georgia but in the region, as well.

Tea Gergedava: "The exchange programs have always taken a prominent place among TSU priorities; however, the Bologna process has given absolutely different shape and scale to these activities.

During the last 10 years 1226 students continued their studies in partner European and Asian universities with full or partial financing. As for the exchange programs funded by the European Commission, since 2007 we have been able to offer fully funded mobility for the students of all levels, researchers and academic and administrative personnel within the framework of "Erasmus Mundus" program.

Since 2015, new "Erasmus+" international credit-mobility program has been launched in TSU. The number of the contracts of Erasmus+ international credit-mobility exceeded 120.

The increasing interest of students and staff towards exchange programs is confirmed by the fact that 1024 students have registered for institutional tests of foreign languages organized for mobility in spring semester of the current academic year and autumn semester of 2018/2019 academic year. Finally, we received applications of about 400 students, among them 111 students received a scholarship from partner European Universities for mobility in spring semester of 2017/2018 academic year or autumn semester of 2018/2019 academic year.

Here we can say that this is not a complete data. At this stage only applications for scholarship on Erasmus+ International credit-mobility program have been completed. The exchange programs operating within bilateral cooperation will be announced later and approximately 40 partially funded scholarships for Bachelor's and Master's educational program students will be granted.

In the coming months we plan to apply for financing of 2018-2020 years in up to 80 universities. Consequently, we expect to have an opportunity to offer more than 100 new scholarships to students of all three levels and personnel of TSU within "Erasmus+" program. If we take into account the programs within the framework of bilateral cooperation, we get approximate 150 scholarships for the 2018/2019 academic year in total.

It should also be noted that in the last 6 years the number of funded mobility for all categories of beneficiaries (student, professor, administration) of TSU has been increased four times. During the last three academic years, up to 200 mobility scholarships have been awarded to professors. At the same time, TSU hosted 122 foreign professors and researchers. We also work intensively with our European colleagues to submit applications for the current competition of mobility and institutional development projects".

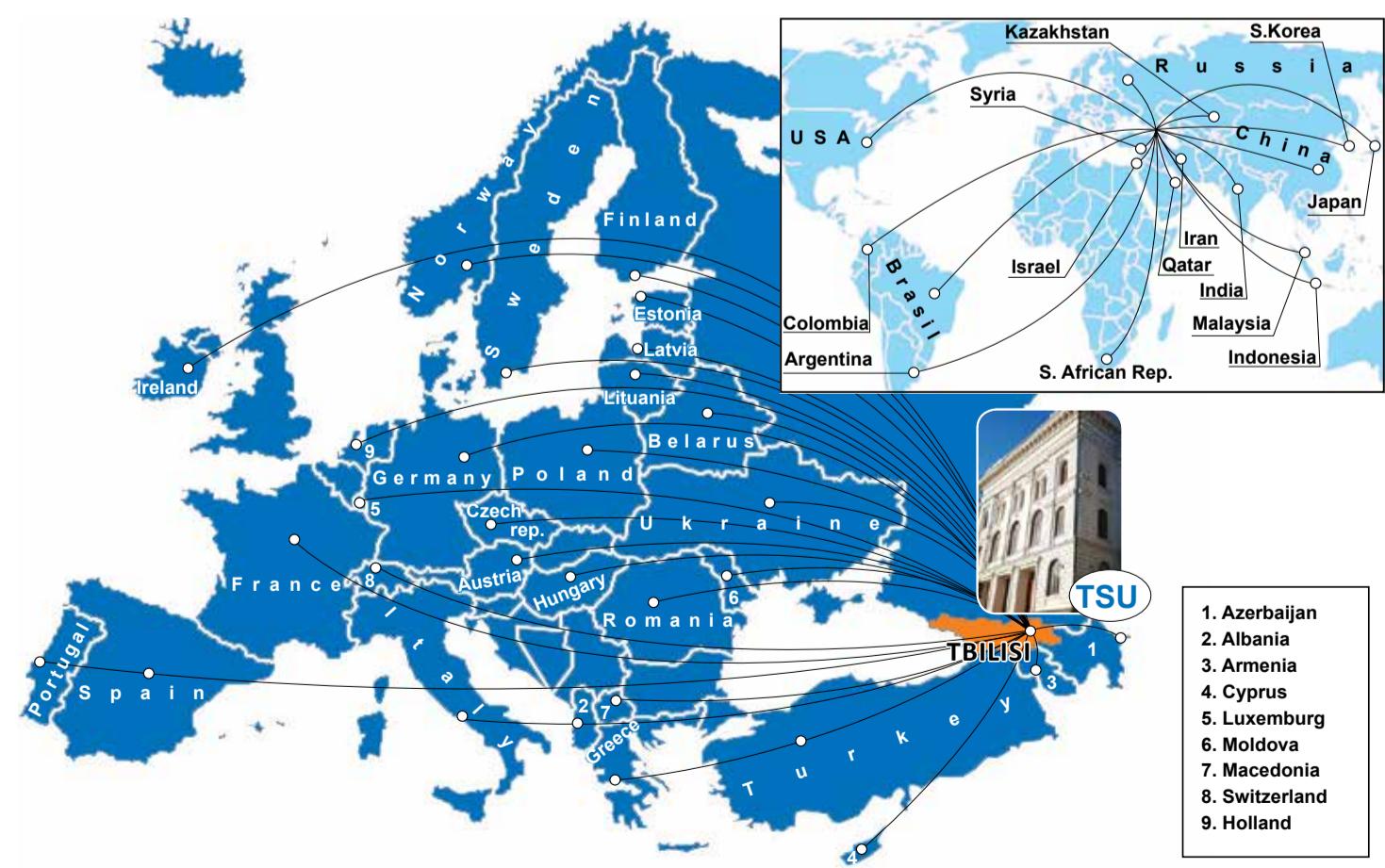
FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS OF THE UNIVERSITY

The foreign language programs of Tbilisi State University support Georgian students to be integrated in the European educational space and to get European education; the mentioned language programs have three levels. The Bachelor's students have the opportunity to learn French-speaking Bachelor Program - Informatics; Master's students – the following foreign programs: Eurasia and Caucasus Studies; Economics; European Studies (Interdisciplinary Program on the European Union); TSU and the German University of Administrative Sciences (Speyer), the joint interdisciplinary program of "Public Administration" and Cologne Master's program "Master of Law". For PhD students, TSU has a joint French-language Doctoral Program "European Literature". These programs allow Georgian students to get high quality education.

Foreign partners are also encouraging the integration of Tbilisi State University in European educational space. The interest in partnership relationship of the prestigious universities of foreign countries with TSU is increasing day-to-day.

Tea Gergedava: "We have a lot of suggestions on the partnership in institutional development and international credit-mobility programs, as well as joint Master's and Cotutelle doctoral programs; the negotiations on the establishment of one of the prestigious European Research Unions Hub at TSU are under way. It is a remarkable fact that our application on membership in UNICA network is on the final stage of its discussion; in parallel we are also working on the application of membership of another influential union of universities.

More partners! More Deep and Comprehensive Collaboration Forms! – These are important priorities for our work!"



THE SUCCESSFUL COMING GENERATION



Giorgi Kachlishvili



Alexander Saatashvili



Mariam Rogava



Salome Shubladze, Revaz Tkemaladze and David Javakhishvili

Nato Oboladze

Tbilisi State University has more than 300 000 alumni. Many of them have made major contributions to the development of scientific fields and virtually important spheres in Georgia and beyond. One part of TSU graduates currently run important state offices and carry out highly responsible work. Therefore, we may say that Tbilisi State University brings up people who define the pace of development of governmental, non-governmental, civil or scientific sectors. It points out to the fact that it is the first university of the country that "trains" the successful army of the country. History constantly repeats itself, and even now new faces emerge whose names will probably resound in the future. Tbilisi State University has never experienced a lack of successful students and today we want to single out those young people who fill the 100 years' old university with pride.

The fact that TSU is number one choice for the students with the best scores at the Unified National Exams of Georgia has become a tradition. In 2017 Mariam Rogava got the highest scores at the entrance examinations and now she is the first-year student at the Department of Physics, Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences. Now Mariam studies at the department of Physics but she had won success back at school.

This is what she said when we asked her why she chose Tbilisi State University: "I chose Tbilisi State University, because on the one hand it is prestigious, and on the other hand, it was my teachers' advice. Before making this choice I got acquainted with the curriculum and liked it. I know that TSU has numerous international student exchange programs, which is a great advantage compared to other higher education institutions.

TSU Rector's tradition of selecting scholarship holders is carried on and scholarships are granted to students distinguished by several virtues: in 2017-2018 the Rector's scholarship was awarded to Aleksandre Saatashvili, who won a prize at the International Olympiad in Mathematics. He too, is the first year student at the Department of Physics of the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences. Aleksandre is not planning to continue his studies abroad yet, though he intends to participate in students' international exchange programs. Neither has he made any precise plans for the future, however, he thinks he won't be able to fully realize his abilities only in Georgia. As regards the Rector's scholarship, he says, Tbilisi State University welcomed him with an unexpected and pleasant surprise.

Tbilisi State University team of three students – Salome Shubladze, Revaz Tkemaladze and David Javakhishvili – won the All-European International Humanitarian and Refugee Law Moot Court Competition.

It was the first case of Georgian students' participation in this competition and winning the first prize was of great importance. In addition to winning the competition in a team, Revaz Tkemaladze won the Best Speaker of the Competition Award in the final round. Other participants of the contest were Law schools from Athens, Warsaw, Budapest and other European universities. The preparatory stage of TSU students took 2 months. They were coached by Saba Pipia – TSU PhD and Assistant of International Law Institute of the TSU Faculty of Law, as well as TSU professors and PhD students, namely, Professor Ketevan Khutshvili, lecturers – Natia Kalandarishvili and the Institute's PhD Onisime Tskhmelidze. The Academician Levan Aleksiadze provided transportation of the team to the contest. Team members are deeply grateful to the Faculty of Law at TSU International Law Institute, as the knowledge acquired in different fields of Law was of great support, which even surprised some members of the jury.

At present, in parallel with university studies, Salome Shubladze and Revaz Tkemaladze are sent out on placement for training to the Georgian Ministry of Justice. As regards their future plans, David Javakhishvili and Salome Shubladze will participate in Jean-Pictet International Competition; Revaz Tkemaladze will join the competition of the International Criminal Court Imitated Court Processes (ICC).

NASA Engineering Fellow Rob Manning, who intends to travel to Mars got inter-

ested with Giorgi Kachlishvili's project – Innovative Air Cosmic Technologies. Giorgi is a four year student at the Department of Physics of the Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences.

"We invented a special space vehicle – Mars rover and orbital accelerator system. With them it will be possible not only to deliver solid cargo to the Mars but to repeatedly return to the earth, as well. The orbital accelerators are disposed on the orbits of the earth and Mars. On the orbital accelerators the space vehicles will accelerate and slow down with the solar energy at the necessary moment. As a result, 70% of the fuel to complete the cycle of reaching Mars and getting back to the earth falls to the share of solar energy. About 24-27 months later, when the space vehicle gets back to the earth, the orbital accelerators will return to the initial orbit," said the project leader, Giorgi Kachlishvili.

Currently the young innovator is in correspondence with the NASA Engineering Fellow discussing the prospects of his future cooperation with the NASA. At the same time, Giorgi is cooperating with a German company. "One of the directions we are working on is the engine which will be applicable both for motorcars and various types of power stations," said G. Kachlishvili.

P.S. The number of successful students in terms of education and research work is far more than mentioned above. Based on the recent data, there are 215 students at TSU whose average GPA is 4.0.

TSU GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY INDICATOR OF 2014-2017 YEARS

Tamar Dadiani

It's vital for TSU to facilitate employability for students and graduates. In January 2018, in order to study and estimate the employment indicator, TSU Student Career Services surveyed TSU doctorate students who graduated from different faculties in 2014/2015, 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 years. In 2014-2017 a total of 115 students took the doctoral degrees; however, only 77 postgraduates (67%) participated in the survey.

According to the results of the survey, 97.4 %, (i.e. 75 graduates) have been employed; 2.6 %, (2 students) have not been employed. 90.7% (i.e. 68 graduates) work in their professional field, and 9.3% (7 graduates) got jobs in a different field.

Another purpose of the survey was to reveal the statistics of the doctoral graduates

who work in their professional field. According to Khatuna Tskhadadze, the head of TSU Career Development Center, the results of the study of 2014-2017 years have been distributed among the faculties in the following way.

A total of 52 graduates took different Doctoral programs at the faculty of Humanities, out of which 31 have been surveyed. (Unfortunately, the rest of the graduates were unavailable for the survey).

Question – Are you employed? was answered by 30 graduates (96.8%) positively and by 1 (3.2%) - negatively. 24 (80%) of the employed work in their professional and 6 (20%) – in a different field.

A total of 18 graduates took doctoral programs at the faculty of Social and Political Sciences, out of which 12 have been surveyed.

The question – Are you employed? was answered positively by 11 (91.6%) graduates

positively and by 1 (8.3%) graduate- negatively. All of the 11 post graduates work in their professional fields.

A total of 16 graduates took doctoral programs at the faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, out of which 14 have been surveyed.

The question – Are you employed? was answered positively by the all 14 graduates (100%). 13 graduates (93%) work in their professional and 1 (7%) – in a different field.

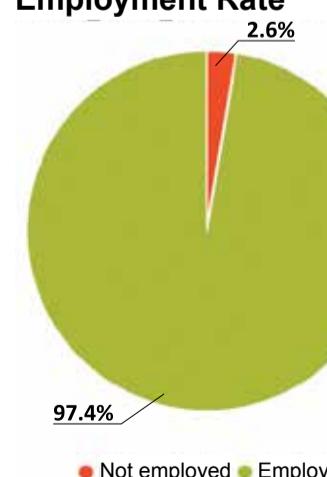
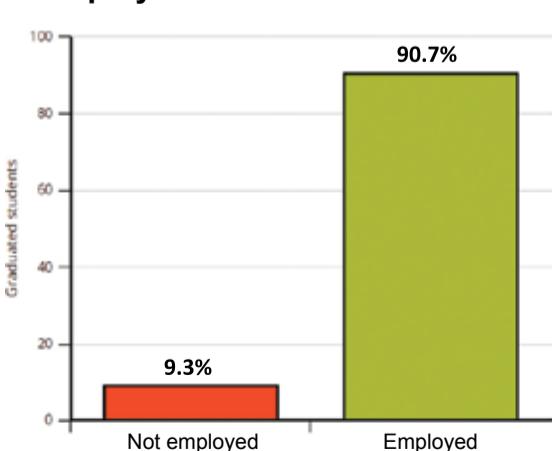
A total of 29 graduates took doctoral programs at the faculty of Economics and Business, out of which 20 were surveyed.

The question – Are you employed? was answered positively by the all 20 graduates

(100%), and all of them (100%) work by their profession.

As the above-mentioned data demonstrated, the highest employability indicator (100%) in the professional field was achieved by the graduates from the faculties of Economics and Business, and Social and Political Sciences. They are followed by the post-graduates from the faculties of Psychology and Educational Sciences and Humanities.

Therefore, the holders of the doctoral degrees offered/issued by TSU are highly demanded and competitive professionals on the labour market which is ensured by the academic process focused on high standards and preparation of highly qualified specialists.

Employment Rate**Employment in Professional Field**

SOURCE: TSU Student Career Development Centre



Employment forum in TSU

