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SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY OF THE FACULTY OF SPECIAL PEDAGOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY OF THE MOSCOW STATE REGIONAL UNIVERSITY (THE PRESENT STAGE)

Abstract. The article provides information about the structure and the main directions of scientific work of three current chairs of the Faculty of Special Pedagogy and Psychology of the Moscow State Regional University: logopedics, special pedagogy and inclusive education, clinical foundations of defectology and special psychology, each of which works along its own lines connected with the problems of diagnostics, rehabilitation, and health improvement of children with developmental problems; with questions of the integrated training and inclusive education of children with disabilities; the quality management of special (defectological) education. The article contains data showing that now, on the threshold of the twentieth anniversary, the faculty is experiencing a period of rapid growth and development: implementation of grant activity, cooperation and interaction with the leading domestic and foreign scientific centers, publication of scientific and scientific-methodological works, conduct of master classes, authored seminars, round tables and conferences of various levels, including the international conferences; participation in scientific events of regional, All-Russian and international scale; organization of the only Olympiad «Special Child» in Russia. One more recently created structural division of the Faculty — «The Scientific-practical Center of Special Medico-pedagogical Technologies of Development of Children and Teenagers» — is an indicator of development of the scientific and applied potential of the Faculty.

Keywords: diagnostics, rehabilitation, improvement of health of children with developmental problems, integrated education, inclusive education, quality management of special education.

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Scientific activity of the Faculty of Special Pedagogy and Psychology of the

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Moscow State Regional University is connected with the problems of diagnostics, rehabilitation, and health improvement of children with underdevelopment; the questions of integrated training and inclusive education of children with disabilities; and the quality management of special (defectological) education.

At present, there are three departments at the Faculty: Department of Special Pedagogy and Inclusive Education, Department of Logopedics, and Department of Clinical Foundations of Defectology and Special Psychology, each of which has its own topic of investigation and works along several lines of research. One more structural division of the Faculty – “The Scientific-practical Center of Special Medico-pedagogical Technologies of Development of Children and Teenagers” – was created not long ago.

The scientific-research activity of Department of Special Pedagogy and Inclusive Education (headed by Eremina Anna Aleksandrovna) is oriented towards urgent problems of education and rehabilitation of children with disabilities of different levels and problems of training highly qualified personnel working with the children of this category. Several scientific directions are being worked out at this Department simultaneously.

The first direction is connected with the problems of quality management of education of children with disabilities at the present stage of education modernization the solution of which is primarily connected with the problem of training personnel for the system of special and inclusive education. The given direction is explored under the guidance of Faculty Dean Doctor of Pedagogy, Professor Dmitriev Aleksey Andreevich. His works deal with urgent aspects of content formation of Russian education in terms of professional training of teachers-

defectologists in the context of the current Federal State Educational Standards [1; 2; 3; 9; 18; 19], and with questions of quality assessment of education of children with disabilities [4].

The second direction embraces the sphere of education and care of children with multiple complex developmental disorders (A.A. Eremina). The scientific research field of Department also includes search of innovative technologies of work with children with developmental disorders [1; 5; 16; 17; 18].

The Department's scientific achievements include vigorous grant activity (in 2015 alone, three applications were made with the Russian Humanitarian Science Foundation), and high publication activity in the leading Russian and foreign publications. Last year, the Department faculty published two teaching aids: “Teaching Reading, Writing and Counting to Children with Disabilities” [6] and “Scientific-methodological Foundations of Organization of Integrated (Inclusive) Education of Children with Disabilities” [7] authored by Professor A.A. Dmitriev; one monograph; 14 articles in the journals from the VAK list; one article was included in the Scopus bibliographic database [26].

Department of Special Pedagogy and Inclusive Education maintains constant cooperation with rehabilitation centers and carries out active counseling; the Department faculty take part in Russian and international competitions and projects; they take real steps in the direction of creation of a regional system of psycho-pedagogical support for children with disabilities in Moscow Region.

Department of Logopedics (Head of Department – Candidate of Pedagogy, Associate Professor Shilova Elena Anatol'evna) carries out research connected with the integrated approach to the study and treatment of speech disorders in teen-

agers and adults in the process of rehabilitation and socialization.

The works of the Department faculty present authored observation programs of speech development of children with multiple developmental disorders [10], deal with problems of inclusion of children with speech disorders [11], speech development on the basis of health preserving technologies [23; 24], influence of psychological processes development on speech functions formation [12; 15], and motivation and actualization of speech development in children with various speech disorders [12; 13].

In 2015, about 40 publications were issued in the framework of the Department topic, including 2 monographs [10], 9 articles in the journal from the VAK list [11; 15; 21]; an article in a foreign journal [24]; 10 publications in journals from the RSCI database; an application was submitted for the RHSF grant "Formation of an Innovative Educational Environment as a Factor of Raising the Quality of Education and Upbringing of Persons with Speech Disabilities by the example of Moscow Region".

Department lecturers maintain fruitful cooperation and interaction with the leading faculties and departments of defectological orientation of Moscow higher education institutions: giving lectures, conduct of retraining courses, participation in scientific-practical seminars (ASOU, MSPU, etc.).

The unique property of Department of Clinical Foundations of Defectology and Special Psychology (headed by Doctor of Medicine Luk'yanova Inna Evgen'evna) consists in simultaneous realization of three interconnected scientific directions.

The first direction – psychoneurological – is reflected in the outcomes of research of functional activity of cortex brain structures associated with various

developmental disorders [20; 22].

The second direction – rehabilitation – dwells on the problems of rehabilitation of children with disabilities and medico-psychological opportunities of their inclusion in the education process [14; 25].

The third direction is connected with the study of the psychological constituent of developmental disorders and the search of ways for its improvement [8]. The research results are reflected in two monographs (I. E. Luk'yanova) and articles of different levels.

The Department has scientific ties with V. Serbsky *Federal Medical Research Centre of Psychiatry and Narcology* of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, the Russian Academy of Medical and Social Rehabilitation, the Center for Social, Professional and Psychological Expert Rehabilitation Diagnostics of FB of MSE, the Center for Psychomedico-social Support of Moscow Region; the Center "Ariadna", the Regional Public Organization of Ostomy Patients; and the National Federation of *Therapeutic Horseback Riding* and Adaptive Horsemanship

The Department faculty regularly interact with practical organizations. A variety of events are held on the basis of the Faculty which include discussions of problems and exchange of information about innovative research in various branches of defectology among specialists of different profiles.

Master-classes have become a traditional form of translating progressive pedagogical experience and demonstrating modern achievements in the field of theoretical and practical defectology: "Integrated Approach to Psycho-pedagogical Support for Children with Phonetic-phonemical and General Speech Underdevelopment" (E. A. Shilova); "Technologies of Tempo-rhythmical Speech Organization Formation" (S. V. Leonova);

“Formation and Accumulation of Reading Experience in Children with Speech Disorders” (Yu. A. Mayorova); “Joint Activity of the Logopedist and the Tutor towards Improvement of Speech Impairments in Children with Intellectual Disorders” (M. Yu. Krivorotova); and “Formation of Planning Speech in Children with GSU in the Process of Teaching Graphic Arts” (E. K. Arzhanukhina).

Authored seminars represent a perspective type of translating innovative work experience. The Faculty has extensive experience of conducting such events. In 2015, Prof. A. A. Dmitriev worked out and held an authored seminar “Innovative Technology of Teaching Children Reading, Writing and Counting by Means of “Body Language” for school teachers and kindergarten child care providers. Holding round-table discussions for pedagogues and psychologists of schools and kindergartens for children with disabilities has become a tradition: “Children with Speech Disorders in Modern Educational Space: Experience, Problems, and Solutions”, “Urgent Questions of Training Bachelors and Masters in the Field of Special Assistance for Persons with Speech Underdevelopment”, “Modern Logopedical Technologies of Studying and Rehabilitation of Speech Disorders”, “Innovative Rehabilitation Technologies in the System of Medico-pedagogical Assistance for Children with Disabilities”, etc. The events resulted in working out perspectives of improvement of psycho-medico-pedagogical support for education of children with disabilities in Moscow Region.

The students of the Faculty of Special Pedagogy take part in regional, federal and international conferences annually.

As a rule, Faculty scientific events are held with active participation of the Association of Specialists in the work with disabled children of Moscow Region

for which the Faculty has become a basic scientific organization. In partnership with Moscow State Regional University, the Association took part in organization of socially significant events of regional and international scale: The Subject Week, scientific-practical seminar “Work with Disabled Children: from Early Assistance to Professional Integration (Russian and French Experience)”, etc.

A standing scientific-methodological seminar for school headmasters of Moscow Region with the main topic “Key Competences of Administrator of Educational Institution for Children with Different Levels of Disability” (Doctor of Pedagogy, Professor A. A. Dmitriev) functions on the Faculty basis. The only Olympiad «Special Child» in Russia is held for 10th – 11th form school leavers of education institutions of Moscow Region. The Faculty was one of the organizing institutions of the I All-Russian Congress of Defectologists in October 2015.

Scientific-methodological seminars with foreign specialists have become traditional for the Faculty. In 2015, we organized and held an international conference “UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of December 13, 2006 – Requirements to Learning at Education Institutions in Russia and Germany”; a number of meetings with Prof. Wilfried Hackmann representing Emden/Leer University (Germany) were organized in February, 2016. Talks were held during which questions of scientific-practical cooperation in the form of creation of an international laboratory devoted to the study of inclusive education of children with disabilities; organization of training courses and realization of programs aimed at professional advancement and progressive experience translation were discussed.

In April, 2016 the Faculty conducted an All-Russian conference with internation-

al participation “Modernities of Rehabilitation-educational Space Creation for Children with Disabilities” attended by Russian specialists and defectologists from Belarus, Italy, Germany, Kazakhstan and Moldova. The participants discussed a wide range of theoretico-methodological, organization, management and practical questions of working with children with disabilities. The Conference adopted a Resolution containing propositions to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Education of Moscow Region, the Association of Specialists for Work with children with disabilities, and the administrations of education institutions for children with disabilities.

The activity of Faculty specialists aimed at the development of science in Moscow Region and in Russia in general was regularly awarded certificates of honor and letters of gratitude from public organizations: the Charity Fund “Downside Up”, Group of Companies “Open Dialogue” and education institutions.

In 2014, Associate Professor of Department of Logopedics S.V. Leonova, Professor of Department of Clinical Foundations of Defectology and Special Psychology I. E. Luk'yanova, and in 2015 – Professor of Department of Special Pedagogy and Inclusive Education, Faculty Dean A. A. Dmitriev were nominated winners of the completion “Scholar of the Year” for significant contribution to the development of scientific potential of Moscow State Regional University. Professor A. A. Dmitriev was also awarded a Diploma “For Loyalty to Science”. Senior Lecturer of Department of Special Pedagogy and Inclusive Education T. V. Markova won the competition in the nomination “Best Young Scholar” in 2016.

By way of conclusion we may say that the Faculty is going through a period of rapid growth and development. It is extremely popular not only among school

leavers from Moscow Region, but also from other Regions of Russia. All this demonstrates high reputation and authority of the Faculty which will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2016.

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