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Editorial

Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University: serving people, community, society

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Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University is the only higher education institution owned by the territorial community of Kyiv.

The institutional history of Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University dates back to 28 September 1903, when it was founded as the Kyiv Church-Teacher's School, which later underwent a number of reorganizations, but was first transformed into the Kyiv Ukrainian Teachers' Seminary, which was named after Borys Grinchenko.

The mission of Borys Grinchenko University is to serve people, community and society. The vision of the University is a metropolitan university with a developed corporate culture, high standards of education and scientific research, space for self-realization of each individual, whose activities are aimed at responsible service to the person, the territorial community of Kyiv and Ukraine. The University's motto is "Striving for Excellence!"

The university offers an excellent combination of long-standing educational traditions and a modern innovative approach in training competitive specialists according to international standards.

The University has 13 faculties: the Faculty of Economics and Management, the Faculty of Journalism, the Faculty of Health, Physical Education and Sports, the Faculty of Information Technologies and Mathematics, the Faculty of Music and Choreography, the Faculty of Fine Arts and Design, the Faculty of Pedagogical Education, the Faculty of Law and International relations, the Faculty of Psychology, Social Work and Special Education, the Faculty of Romano-Germanic Philology, the Faculty of Social and Humanities, the Faculty of Oriental Languages, the Faculty of Ukrainian Philology, Culture and Art), the Institute of Postgraduate Education, the Professional College "Universum", the Doctoral School.

The University has a well-developed infrastructure: it has 5 academic buildings, a



modern library with branches in the buildings, sports complexes with a swimming pool, gyms and sports halls, a sports ground on the roof of the academic building, more than 90 SMART classrooms, Digital Hub of Innovative Solutions, Cyber Training Ground, Wi-Fi zones, concert, choreographic and conference halls, dormitories, TV and radio studios, press centre, competence centres, laboratories and workshops, publishing house, resource centre for students with disabilities. The University creates a safe and inclusive environment for all participants in the educational process, which meets the latest challenges of the time - the pandemic, and later the military aggression. In particular, the University's Digital Campus operates, which, among other things, includes an extensive e-learning environment where modern interactive educational activities can be carried out, providing, if necessary, distance learning. All academic buildings have a barrier-free educational environment and modern shelters with classroom facilities and the necessary technical equipment.

In 2017, Grinchenko University introduced a new educational strategy - practice-oriented education. Students study in practical centers, the concept of which was developed by the University team in order to improve the quality of training of graduates and the compliance of the acquired competencies with stakeholder requests, modern challenges, and market requirements. The peculiarities of the educational process are the reduction of time spent on traditional lectures and theoretical seminars, the transition to interactive technologies with extensive use of the latest equipment.

The academic community of the University has defined strategic priorities for 2023-2027, which provide for the training of competitive professionals according to modern educational programs; conducting actual scientific research; responsible service to the community to promote the post-war development of the country on the basis of sustainable development and European integration of Ukraine.

The main principles of the University's development are cooperation and partnership; compliance with social needs and the labor market; compliance with world and national quality standards of education and scientific research; efficiency, effectiveness and economic feasibility; innovativeness and orientation towards the achievements of modern science and technology; constancy; predictability; openness;

purposefulness; meeting the needs of future generations.

The university is a space of free individuals united by common corporate values and a culture of leadership-service. All members of the team - from students to professors, technicians - adhere to the values of the University, on which the corporate culture of the institution is based - a person; Ukrainian and European civic identity; community; freedom; trust; spirituality; responsibility; virtue; professionalism; service leadership; variety; time.

High attention is paid to personnel development: the University has a strong personnel potential, provides conditions for effective work and professional development of employees. The University encourages employees to professional and personal development, creates appropriate conditions for this purpose. In particular, advanced training programs are constantly being developed and high-level classes are held for University employees with the aim of developing research, didactic, digital, leadership competencies, media education, for the adaptation of new employees, trainings to support and preserve mental health, etc. For example, in order to prepare the teaching staff for the effective use of modern technologies in the educational process, training was held to master the peculiarities of working with artificial intelligence, provide knowledge and skills for its successful integration into educational activities, and understand the opportunities and limitations.

One of the priorities of the University is student-centredness - the institution promotes the development of students as conscious and responsible citizens, holistic and cultural individuals, professionals and leaders. The student-centred approach is manifested in the design and implementation of educational programs, creating conditions for students to fully master them, promoting the activities of student self-government bodies, participation of representatives of the student community in management processes, and ensuring the protection of students' rights.

Due to the listed approaches and goals, the University ensures high quality of education, trains specialists according to current educational programs needed by society, which meet the demands of stakeholders and international partners; has an effective internal system for ensuring the quality of higher education.

The University effectively conducts relevant scientific research, provides appropriate conditions for this and observes the principles of academic integrity in conducting scientific research, promotes the creation of scientific products that are useful and important for society.

Another important feature is that the University is a socially responsible partner of the metropolitan community, as it belongs to the communal property of the territorial community of Kyiv: it cooperates with civil society institutions and mass media, with the metropolitan community, and promotes the search for solutions to the social problems it faces. And most importantly, the University provides the capital with qualified specialists.

Innovation and digitalization, internationalization of the educational process are also important priorities of the University's development. Thus, the University ensures the development of innovations in education and science, the implementation of innovative projects and ideas, stimulates the creation of digital products and their implementation, has a modern digital library, and the Digital University is actively functioning.

The University is included in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, which reflects the work of universities to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

In the TOP-200 Ukraine ranking in 2023, Borys Grinchenko University ranks the 57th, and in the Consolidated ranking it occupies the 43rd position.

In the ranking of the best higher education institutions in the capital of Ukraine in 2023, Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University took 12-14 places among 63 higher education institutions in Kyiv. It also remains one of the most popular universities in Ukraine among applicants by the number of applications submitted.

Today, Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University is actively developing, it is among the top 5 universities in Kyiv, has a progressive education system and a modern European approach to the educational process, and a highly qualified team of professionals.

There are still many useful tasks and achievements ahead for the benefit of the people, the community, and society!