

Joint research activities and cooperation with international partners

Without internalization of the research it is impossible to develop scientific-research activity at LEPL Samtskhe-Javakheti State University. Approbation of our research results and inclusion in the international space is started by cooperation with the neighbors. Turkish universities are the partners of SJSU, we have close contacts with them. Professors read reports at European universities. From this prospective the decision of the university is especially important as promotion of a professor is connected to the articles published in there referral journals. The university has its own support mechanism for participating in the international research activities.

Important part of the research internationalization is involvement of foreign and Georgian scientists who works for foreign universities in our scientific activities. Turkish scientists have reports on scientific liturgical books, they oppose for doctoral dissertation.

Foreign scientists are involved in implementation of doctoral programs, this direction becomes stronger in our university. In order to achieve objectives of a strategically plan, internalization of the scientific-research activity, it is required

- Development of joint doctoral programs together with Georgia, as well as foreign universities and research centers;
- Support and encouragement of scientific activities with foreign partner universities and research centers.
- Establish active contacts with the scientists working abroad and use their resource for internalization;

Diversification and internalization are the most important things for doctoral educational and they are highlighted as the compulsory demand for the doctoral program and dissertation board regulations, in addition support to mobility is also highlighted. According to the regulation, for internalization of a dissertation thesis evaluation it is recommended that a doctoral program student meet one of the requirements listed below:

- A doctoral program student has foreign supervisor/co-supervisor;
- A faculty dissertation board ensures international review of the abstract (30-45 pages) of the doctoral dissertation thesis published/to be published;
- Sending of the translation of the dissertation abstract (30-45 pages) into foreign language to the leading universities and scientific-research centers and the list is made by the dissertation board;
- Participation in the international conference/symposium
- Doctoral program shall define the additional requirements related to the submission of a dissertation;

Till 2014 the university published the scientific collections including many sectors, since 2014 the resources of the faculty are ultimately used, accordingly, the autonomic management and freedom of the faculties are encouraged and the adequate result was followed. The English scientific production of international level was issued. The university has the tradition to organize and hold scientific conferences. Though several of them had the special importance for popularization and internalization of the sciences. Samtskhe-Javakheti State University hold the international scientific conference three times in 2015, 2016 and 2017 on the topic "The Modern Problem of Astrophysics -I, II and III", with participation of the leading specialists from different countries of the world (Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, England, Ukraine, Russia, Thailand). It was the meeting of the astronomy after 30 years of pause in Georgia.

On the conference "the Modern Problems of Astrophysics – I" held on October 7-9, 2015 elaborated the resolution to establish English International scientific journal "Astronomy & Astrophysics", which issued on annual bases and reports the findings of the latest researches (CAUCASUS)-Samtskhe-Javakheti State University Press) at the Samtskhe-Javakheti State University. The editor of the journal and editorial board members are the well-known researchers from eight countries of the world (Georgia, Azerbaijan, Italy, Russia, Ukraine, Armenia, Kazakhstan. Thailand) whose scientific works have the high index of quoting according to the Harvard classifier which is the most prestigious in the world. Quoting of the articles published in the international scientific journal, Astronomy & Astrophysics (CAUCASUS) "actively takes place by the world leading scientific journals. Four issues are already published of this international scientific journal, the next one is preparing for publishing. The third international scientific conference "Contemporary Problems of Astrophysics" was dedicated to the 110 anniversary of the Academic Evgeni Kharadze. International conferences can bring not only scientific-research results. During meetings of the researchers the service of the respected scientists are valued more. Foreign scientists mentioned the greatest contribution of Georgians to the global science. Proposal of the participants to the President of IAU is the example regarding to the mediation to name one of the moon crater after well-known Georgian scientist, Victor Japiashvili and the response was immediate as we have received the decision of the international astronomic Union: „Thank you for your recommendation to name one of the crater of the moon after Professor Victor Japiashvili and the background information provided for it. Professor Japiashvili contribution in study of the moon meets the criteria set by the International Astronomic Union (IAU) and we are pleased to add his surname to the camp of moon names and surnames”.

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The decision is made by the astronomy union that moon crater, located between the crisis and fertility seas will be called after professor Victor Japiashvili, what is very important and pleasant fact for Georgians and professionals and it is a great stimulus for young people to work in the field of Astronomy.

On April 21-24, 2015 the international scientific seminar "Georgian-Turkish relationship-history and contemporary life" was held. The importance of the seminar was increased by the fact that one of the organizers was the Turkish history society and his president, Refic Turan also visited the university.

Professor Refic Turan leads the organization which has a good authority, has a serious financial resource and a great influence within Turkish and not only Turkish scientific communities. On the international scientific seminar five universities were presented from the Turkish side. The professors from the May 19, Sakaria, Ata Turk, Inonus, Artaan universities participated in the seminar. They were hosted by the Samtskhe-Javakheti State University and its professors from Georgian side. According to the seminar organizer one report from each side was dedicated to the specific historical period. Regardless the modest title of the scientists' meeting, The International Seminar, but by its importance and representation, it was far beyond the seminar. It was called the first joint scientific meeting of Georgian and Turkish scientists in the field of

history. The collection of the participants works were published in Georgian and Turkish with English abstracts. Issuing off bilingual scientific editions became the tradition of our university.

The news referred to the scientific journal “Gulani” which was established in 2008. 21 issues of “the Gulani” have been already issued. Since 2017 “the Gulani” continued functioning with changes, the journal became reviewable, the editorial board was enhanced and the edition became an international. Scientific meetings of “the Gulani” are held every week. On February 7, 2017 presentation of the issues journal “Gulani” (1-20) by the Samtskhe-Javakheti State University from 2008 to 2016 was held in the National Library Conference hall. In 2014-2019 the doctoral program students, academic and contracted personnel had the reports on the scientific session of “the Gulani” and in total 187 reports were presented.

The journals have open journal systems software. The thesis are prepared in APA format. The mechanism of reviewing in the university editions is introduced and supports to improvement of the quality of the scientific researches. Reviewing of the scientific work take place by OJS system, or by means of reviewing. OJS system was translated for bilingual journals in the university and currently is introducing for starting its usage.

Establishment of the Business administration faculty dissertation board (in the economics) was followed by publishing of the scientific collection. In 2014-2015 the collection by the name “The Problems of Business Management” used to issue and since 2016 the collection was issued by the title “Economics, business, management”.

Academic and contracted staff of the university participates and reports on the congress, conferences and other type meetings in difference countries. The scientific study tour to Turkey was especially important during the reporting period (in 2017), aiming to study epistolary heritage of the public figures migrated from Meskheti in the Perekoi monastery of Georgian Catholics in Istanbul, Republic of Turkey. The group of scientists brought the unique photo films (more than 1,000) and the issue is studied by means of doctoral and master theses.

The success of students is very important. Two students of master program of Kartvelian studies of the Faculty of education, humanity and social sciences participated in the international conference in Iran and presented the thesis in English. After publication of abstracts they received an offer regarding to printing of the book from the international publish=house.

International scientific expedition in dialectology was held where the students from Georgian university after St. Andrew, Ardahan university (Turkey) participated together with the students of Samtskhe-Javakheti state university. All above listed activities are step towards development of scientific activity but development at the university internalization as well and it shall be continued.

Participating of professors and students in local and international conferences organized by the LEPL Samtskhe-Javakheti State University is very important for the university. The university and its structural units support to awareness raising of the university academic personnel and researchers about research projects and participation opportunities in order to increase participation in the international and local research projects, as well as informing academic community about scientific and research achievements of the university. University personnel and students are informed about local and international scientific grants, scientific activities, concerned people are provided by consultation about fund raising. The information is published in the university newspaper “Meskheti Universiteti”, at the web-site, university Facebook page, informational board and sometimes the information is also sent to e-mails.

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In addition to the evaluation considered by the educational programs scientific-research component instructions, attention is paid to the activities having developing content. The university considers such activities as developing mechanism, when it is introducing of such activities or/and improves existing one which strengthens certain competency, like foreign language, or supports to encouragement or strengthening of young researchers and promotes their role in the research, supports to inclusion in the international academic space, ensures publishing of the university professors' articles to the international scientific popular journals, to support internationalization of the education. Support of the internationalization of the process is priority of the Samtskhe-Javakheti State University, accordingly it is one of the strategic directions as well. The activities planned and implemented in this direction shall support to quality development of research and teaching and learning, international mobility, international recognition and strengthening of reliability, approximation to the European standards, university visibility, participation in the international projects, promotion and inclusion, sharing of international resources and experience, support to attracting foreign students and professors.