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TRENDS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The main problem of higher education is that graduates cannot reach their full potential in the labor market. This problem directly affects university students and society as a whole, because it cannot develop adequately without a qualified workforce.

The quality of higher education does not fully meet the expectations of employers, students and society. The funding and management system do not offer incentives for high quality teachers.

In Ukraine, there is not enough dynamic data on the assessment by employers and students of the quality of higher education and the compliance of curricula with the needs of the labor market. Employment of graduates is not tracked [2].

Society and economy in the context of globalization are becoming more and more complex. Experts admit that current models of economic growth are able to function with low employment, which leads to higher unemployment and employment insecurity. Analysis of large-scale trends is necessary for decision-making that will ensure the construction of a sustainable and ready for the future educational environment. In its 2019 annual report organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) mentioned three megatrends affecting the future of education: globalization; digitalization; population aging [3].

Rapid changes taking place in society, technology, knowledge, require from future specialists the ability to adapt, master new skills and professions, creativity. In the future the acquisition of universal qualities such as the ability to learn, process information, quickly master new technologies, the ability to critical thinking and a creative approach to tasks will be the most relevant.

The skills of systems thinking, programming, interdisciplinary communication, the ability to work in conditions of uncertainty, multiculturalism and knowledge of several languages, environmental friendliness of thinking, multifunctionality are also gaining relevance. The high complexity of future tasks requires specialists to be able to concentrate, manage their own emotions, maintain mental and physical performance, and plan stress. Thus, universities are facing many challenges, including the widespread and rapid move to distance learning, the reorganisation of evaluation processes and the remote support of students, and at the same time providing them with specialized knowledge and skills within the framework of the chosen profession.

In the future, this will contribute to the continuous education of the next generations. In terms of the content of educational programs, the global trend of the future will be their interdisciplinarity, which gives professionals the opportunity to comprehensively, holistically and more deeply explore the object, develops critical thinking skills. In addition, the freedom and responsibility of the student in the formation of an individual educational trajectory becomes more important [1].

In teaching methods, changes also occur, primarily associated with a change in focus from teaching (transfer of knowledge) to active participation of the student in the process. The teacher's function in the future is mainly to create a learning environment and manage student's progress. At the same time, teachers have to keep their knowledge and skills up to date. Blended learning will prevail with widespread use of digital technologies.

REFERENCES

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