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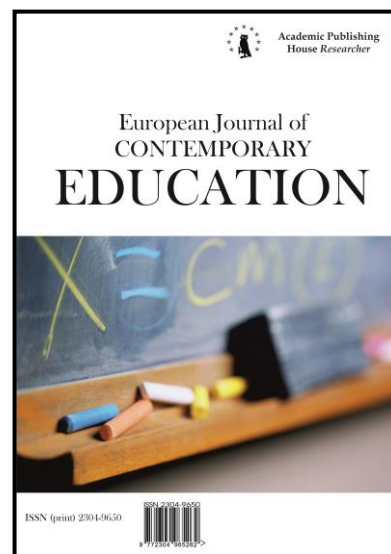
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Students' Humanitarian Science Club Activity in 2006–2012

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Abstract

The article deals with the experience of establishing of the students' humanitarian science club and its' activity in a classic university. The authors pay attention to regulations, structure, duties, daily activities, as well as the publications of the scientific club.

The authors come to the conclusion that a quite large variety of methodological practices and approaches in the organization of students' science activities, aiming at improving the quality of students' scientific researches can be applied. The algorithm of organization and activity of the student scientific club proposed in the article demonstrated effectiveness and, in the opinion of the authors, can be used in organizing students' science research in other higher educational institutions.

Keywords: students' scientific club, humanitarian science, structure, activity.

1. Introduction

Students' research activity is the main part of the learning process at the university. The specialist's future professional suitability as well as obtaining necessary competencies depends on the effectiveness of this work's organization. In this article, we would like to share the experience of establishing and operating a student scientific club.

2. Discussion

The principles of the establishing of students' scientific clubs and their functioning have been reflected in numerous publications. Typically, these publications are divided into two main types: reporting (Baranov et al, 2010; Novopashina, Mudrov, 2017; Panasenko, 2013; Shastny et al., 2017; Brukhovskikh, Folieva, 2007; Stromov et al., 2017) and methodical publications (Primchuk, 2010;

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Yanutsh, 2011; Tyumentseva, Shtabnova, 2016, Kompaniets, 2016). In reporting publications, the main emphasis is on demonstrating the effectiveness of students' science activity in an educational institution. In methodological publications, more attention is paid to methodological techniques and mechanisms for managing the scientific process of the students' activities.

3. Results

It is commonly known that there are some students interested in thorough study of the subject in every department. These students are the core of the students' scientific club.

3.1. Regulations

The activity of the student scientific club in the university is governed by Regulations. Usually, it is the "Regulations on the students' scientific club". The Regulations is typical and, as a rule, consists of: 1) general information, 2) aims and goals of the club, 3) membership, 4) the organizational structure, 5) the basis for the interaction of the club with the university administration, 6) the final regulations. In its majority, the student scientific club is subordinated to the pro-rector for scientific work.

3.2. Structure

In many Russian universities, the best students are appointed the Leaders of the scientific club. We did the contrary – students' scientific club was leadered by Leader of the Department, at the moment of its establishment – a Candidate of science and a few years later – a Doctor of Science. Thus, a scientist became the Leader of the scientific club. The club also enlisted the prefect and the club members (the most active member of the club was appointed the prefect). The position of a prefect was not limited in time for a student and, as a rule, he resigned on completing his education at the university.

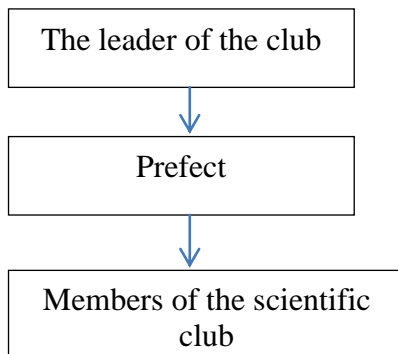


Fig. 1. The structure of the scientific club

3.3. Duties

Every member of the scientific club has his own duties. The leader of the club conducted students' research work, provided scientific advice, corrected students' reports.

The club prefect carried out the organization and interaction between the leader and the members of the club, was a reserve speaker during the meetings of the society, in the absence of a scheduled speaker. The prefect served as a role model for the other members of the club.

The members of the club are the active students from the 1st to the 5th year of full-time and part-time forms of education, conducting scientific research, attending the club meetings. Members of the club were also divided into two categories: 1) new members and 2) old members. These differences were manifested only at the conferences. Thus, the old members did not have the right to claim prize-winning places at the university's internal conferences, the only prizes available to them were in other universities. We must note that they often got them.

The number of members of the scientific club reached from 15 to 20 people. The club also included students from schools that were interested in this professional career. These schoolchildren were selected by the leader of the club at city school competitions and conferences (for example, the annual conference "The First Steps in Science"). The most effective

club admission was in 2008, when three winners of school competitions (city, regional and national level) entered the department.

3.4. Activity

The main activities of the club were in monthly meetings. At the meeting, the leader of the club and its 3 members (including the prefect) made a report. The meetings were held on the 20th of each month. One academic session was allocated for one meeting (1.5 hours). In order to attract more people to the meeting, the club leader held a meeting during one of the academic sessions of the educational process. Not only it increased the number of people who attended the meeting, but also the scientific work among the students was promoted. During the meetings, the speaker was asked questions, which made it possible to improve the report and expand the understanding of the material, and also made it possible to get recommendations. In addition, the speaker got used to the audience and to the process of speaking, which reduced the anxiety during his speech.

For first year students, the acquaintance with a scientific club began on the first lesson. Before the beginning of the first introductory lecture, the students were visited by the leader and the prefect of the club, who marked the themes of their scientific work, told about the activities of the club and invited the students to join. As a rule, after the first lecture, students entered the club by applying.

The club was established on February 24, 2006 and this date became the official day of the beginning of the club's work. Annually on this day, the so-called anniversary readings (extended meetings) were held. During the anniversary readings, four lecturers (including the leader of the scientific club) delivered speeches. After the meeting, all the students and schoolchildren who made reports throughout the year were rewarded by the rector.

The activities of the club were carried out according to the work schedule (Table 1).

Table 1. Annual schedule of the scientific club activities

No	Month	Event
1	September	Meeting
2	October	Meeting
3	November	Meeting
4	December	Meeting
5	January	Meeting
6	February	Anniversary meeting
7	March	Meeting
8	April	Conference presentation
9	May	Conference presentation
10	June	Meeting

Table 1 shows the annual distribution of meetings of the scientific club. It is important to note that every year in April and May the students' scientific-practical university, city and regional conferences were held. As a result, students performed at those conferences and thus no meetings were held. The reports already presented at the club meetings were presented later at the conferences and usually won prizes. The reason for this is very trivial: students, who were not engaged in the club activities, began their scientific activities in the last two years of education mandatorily as an approbation of a thesis. For them, for the most part, speaking at the conference was something completely new, unusual and unexpected. For the club members, even for the first-year students, delivering speeches was a common activity, their reports were already approved, so performing and answering questions was not a difficult matter for them.

In addition to meetings and conferences, the members of the club took part in discussions on the regional history problems, as well as in 1-10-day field trips. During field trips the students crossed rugged terrain; their route was built considering the latest theories on the particular area history. Such field activities had a strong pedagogical impact and tightened the bonds between the members of the scientific community.

After each meeting the prefect of the scientific club prepared the meeting protocol. It listed the speakers at the meeting, as well as the topics of their reports. The protocol was signed by the leader and the prefect of the club. Every year the protocols were included in the annual report of the scientific club activities.

3.5. Publication activity

The range of scientific research was wide. It included questions of historiography, new and pre-revolutionary history. Students worked in the local, regional and central archives of the Russian Federation, collected personal materials and held interviews. The research materials were published in the conference proceedings, as well as in scientific journals. Among the journals were the historical periodical "Bilye gody" ("The Past Years") and the multi-topic journal "Vestnik Sochinskogo Gosudarstvennogo universiteta turizma i kurortnogo dela" ("The Bulletin of the Sochi State University for Tourism and Recreation"). Complete studies were published as separate brochures. The most important works of the club were the following (Cherkasov, 2006; Cherkasov, 2011; Cherkasov et al., 2011; Gargolina, Cherkasov, 2009; Ermachkov, Cherkasov, 2007; Karataev, Cherkasov, 2006; Karataev, Cherkasov, 2007; Markelova, Cherkasov, 2008; Merkulova, Cherkasov, 2008; Merkulova, Cherkasov, 2010; Polyakova, Cherkasov, 2006; Rozhko, Cherkasov, 2007).

In conclusion, the effectiveness of the students' scientific club should be mentioned. In 2006-2012 students repeatedly became the holders of the Government of the Russian Federation scholarship, the administration of the Krasnodar region scholarship holders, laureates of the "Olympus Kuban" competition, they also got the title "A student of the year". They also received higher university scholarships and took part in funded research projects.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, we would like to note that a quite large variety of methodological practices and approaches in the organization of students' science activities, aiming at improving the quality of students' scientific researches can be applied. The algorithm of organization and activity of the student scientific club proposed in the article demonstrated effectiveness and, in the opinion of the authors, can be used in organizing students' science activity in other higher educational institutions.

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