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DESCRIPTION OF THE CONCEPT FIELD OF RESEARCH OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY OF DEPARTMENTS OF PRESCHOOL PEDAGOGICS IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS OF UKRAINE (1991–2010)

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The foundation of Ukraine as a democratic state and entry to the European educational space has led to an active progressive search and development of new approaches of future specialists in various fields, in particular from preschool education.

In the transition period, which is accompanied by a simultaneous change of sociopolitical and economical structures, disruption process of reflection of scientific and technical stuff, decrease in the social status of their activities, outflow of young people from the fields of science and technology, education and culture, increases the social role of higher education and science institutions.

The main task (the basis of scientific and pedagogical activity) in the institution of higher education of the department as a unit of education and upbringing of young people is: acquisition of higher education and qualification in the chosen field of professional activity; meeting the needs of society for qualified specialists with higher education and scientific and pedagogical staff of higher qualification, organizing and conducting basic

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research and applied research on the problems of preschool education, retraining and advanced training of teachers and specialists.

Today the need of modernization the content and directions of scientific activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy is growing, as stated in the legislative documents «On scientific and scientific-technical activity», the National Strategy for the Development of Education in Ukraine until 2021, etc. Exploring the achievements of the past, preserving and enhancing the work of previous generations of scientists, should prevent mistakes and determine the prospects for research in the present.

The issues of professional training and personality formation of specialists of preschool profile were considered in the works of O. Abdulina, E. Ablav, A. Bogush, R. Bure, N. Gavrish, N. Gramy, K. Durai-Novakova, O. Kononenko, N. Lysenko, T. Ponymanskaya, G. Pidkurgannaya, S. Sayapina, T. Tanko and others. O. Boginich, Z. Borisova, Y. Kosenko, I. Larina, K. Lysyak, T. Slobodyanyuk, I. Ulyukaeva, O. Funtikova, K. Shcherbakova have made significant contributions to the development of preschool education training. The theoretical and methodological principles of the activity of the department as a structural subdivision of a higher educational establishment are disclosed in the publications of K. Astakhova, S. Druzhilov, M. Kathanova, I. Prokopenko and others. The forms of organization of the research work of the department are presented in the works of A. Aleksyuk, M. Yevtukh, O. Mykytyuk, B. Stuparyk, M. Chepil, etc., the content of the teaching staff is characterized in the works of V. Vykrushch, L. Prokopenko, I. Regale.

Scientific interest is the period 1991-2010, which is characterized by intensive development of modern pedagogical science, the search for new models of higher educational institutions, transformation of the unification of the higher educational institutions network, the establishment of departments in the structure of higher educational institutions, the formation of content and areas of their scientific and pedagogical activities. The expediency of the request is exacerbated by the need to overcome a number of contradictions that are objectively present in the higher education system in view of the violation of this problem.

The purpose of the research is to summarize and systematize the theoretical foundations, experience and prospects of the development of activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy in the structure of institutions of higher pedagogical education of Ukraine (1991-2010).

According to the purpose the following tasks are defined:

1. To find out the prerequisites for the formation and development of scientific and pedagogical activity of the departments of preschool education in the structure of higher educational institutions.

2. To substantiate the historical periods of scientific activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy.

3. To reveal the basic laws, contradictions and leading tendencies and directions of scientific activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy in the structure of higher educational institutions.

4. To summarize the results of scientific research and determine strategic directions of development of modern scientific and pedagogical activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy in Ukraine.

Object of the research – activity of departments of preschool pedagogy in the structure of institutions of higher pedagogical education of Ukraine (1991-2010).

The subject of the research is the theory and practice of scientific activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy in the institutions of higher education of Ukraine in the specified period.

Research methods. At various stages of scientific search, a set of methods will be used: search-heuristic (detection, accumulation, systematization, classification of source materials); historical and pedagogical (because it will allow to analyze the development of the departments of preschool pedagogy in the Defense of Ukraine, to justify the periods of development and to study the substantive changes in the scientific activity of the department); prognostic (which makes it possible to outline perspective directions for the development of scientific activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy in the Higher Education of Ukraine); historiographic (definition of the dynamics, tendencies, regularities of the process of accumulation of pedagogical and diverse literature on the development of higher pedagogical education); sample analysis and comparative-analytical (comparison and critical-constructive analysis of the process).

Expected scientific novelty and theoretical significance:

– the issues of scientific activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy in the structure of the higher educational institutions in 1991-2010 with full account of modern conditions are fully covered, researched and generalized;

– the basic laws, contradictions and leading tendencies and directions of scientific activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy in the structure of higher educational institutions are revealed;

– strategic directions of development of modern scientific activity of the departments of preschool pedagogy in Ukraine are defined; the various scientific literature on the development of higher pedagogical education in modern and domestic studies has been analyzed; issues related to the educational and research activities of the departments of preschool pedagogy, creation of conditions for personal growth of leaders, ensuring strategic

character of effective management of the department of preschool pedagogy of Ukraine of this period.

The practical significance of the work is that the materials of the dissertation can contribute to the objective interpretation of the scientific activity of the Department of Preschool Pedagogy in the Defense Institute of Ukraine (1991-2010).

The chronological boundaries of the study cover the period 1991-2010.

The lower boundary – 1991 – was caused by radical changes in the socio-political life of the state, the beginning of the development of the national education system.

The upper limit – 2010 is due to the adoption by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the Law «On Amendments to the Legislative Acts on General Secondary Education and Preschool Education» (May 20, 2010), the State Targeted Program for the Development of Education by 2017, the first All-Ukrainian Congress of Preschool Education Workers (November 5, 2010), which exacerbated the need to move from hypothetical theories to the creation of new concepts of early childhood education.

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TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN MULTILEVEL GROUPS

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The globalisation process sets new requirements for the foreign language teaching in higher educational institutions as a foreign language becomes a

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