



Tempus



Report on the Public Lecture in Grassroots Leadership

The public lecture in the field of grassroots leadership was held on 16th May at Volodymyr Dahl East Ukrainian National University (EUNU). The lecture gathered 36 attendees from students and university staff with different background and specialties. This event was dedicated to the topic of leadership and diverse practical approaches on how to develop and enhance leadership capacity.

Olesya Gladushyna was the speaker and she stated that building leadership skills is a process that is cultivated by the surrounding conditions: family, academic environment, personal and professional experiences. She added that the university recognizes the importance of the student's or teacher's participation in the development of his or her leadership skills. Olesya emphasized that leadership ability cannot be acquired by reading a textbook or listening to a lecture. But the focus should be made on interactive and challenging activities that allow students to develop qualities such as determination, decisiveness, time management, social confidence and self-discipline. These are the crucial and principle characteristics of developing leadership skills. That is the reason why Olesya presented a variety of programmes and opportunities that would inspire students to get involved and grow into the leaders of tomorrow.

The first slide of the presentation showed different Internet web-sites that offer a lot of information concerning opportunities for students and staff to go abroad for studies, internship or in order to participate in summer schools, workshops and conferences. As Olesya noted that these sites also contain such units as libraries where all visitors can find useful resources for preparation for the international language examinations or materials on cultural life in other countries.

Various international programmes and projects were presented. Olesya described in details such scholarships as Fulbright, Erasmus Mundus, DAAD, COPERNIC, Study tours to Poland, grants from Korean Government Scholarship Programme, fellowships from the Global Undergraduate Exchange Programme. The required package of documents as well as the selection procedure of each programme were examined and discussed with attendees of the lecture. Olesya mentioned that the advantage of these projects and scholarship is that a person can get in touch with foreign best practices in his or her specific area of work and to implement them into Ukrainian reality. Also people can perfect themselves in personal and professional trends through participating in these competitions as they are obliged to develop and to demonstrate such traits as self confidence, authenticity, critical and creative thinking, enthusiasm, flexibility and adaptability.

The second part of the presentation was dedication to the tips how to write a successful motivation letter and to prepare other documents for the competition. Olesya outlined the main requirements for such types of documents and she gave examples of bad and good motivation letters. In such letters she recommended to provide quality evidence of the achievements, to focus on strong points, to clearly explain the motivation and to talk about professional objectives. Also she analyzed the structure of the curriculum vitae, the rules of writing resumes and she gave the web-site where students can find the samples for creating their personal CV.

Olesya talked about international cooperation between Volodymyr Dahl East Ukrainian National University and other foreign institutions, about double degree diplomas and opportunity to study at the University of

information technology and management in Rzeszow (Poland) and at the University of Braganca (Portugal). She presented also the institutional contest for students within Tempus project La MANCHE to participate in the Academy for Young Leaders that will be held in September in Dobrich (Bulgaria). Olesya explained the aims of this academy and she encouraged students, who are active in university life and who endeavour to become real leaders, to apply for this fellowship.

After the lecture, feedback forms were distributed and according to the results of these questionnaires, all attendees highly evaluated the lecture as they found it to be inspirational, informative and thought provoking.