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Training of higher education applicants through internet usage with the specialization in "Christian Pedagogy"

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Szkolenie kandydatów na studia wyższe na specjalności "pedagogika chrześcijańska" z wykorzystaniem internetu

Abstract

The article foreground the problem of the Internet usage for information exchange, the search for new knowledge and free access to educational services in the process of obtaining higher education in order to ensure lifelong learning of the individual. The names of domestic scholars having developed the issues of specialists training in higher educational institutions are given as well as the usage of computer technologies in the educational process and the content of training within the educational and professional program "Christian Pedagogy in Higher Education". The content of the article analyzes the level of elaboration and feasibility of the united system of computer networks for theinformation exchange between scientific and pedagogical workers involved in the educational process and applicants for higher education; research methodology and its objectis determined. The results of given scientific work contain task assignment for future teachers training in Christian pedagogy, the general content of the relevant educational and professional program, the existing informational and educational environment, Internet communication channels. The article represents the essence and gives examples of mobile learning of students using the communication channel- Viber.

Keywords: Internet communications; educational and professional program, information; online designers; training of higher education applicants; mobile messengers; mobile learning.

Streszczenie

W artykule przedstawiono problematykę użytkowania Internetu w celu wymiany informacji, poszukiwania wiedzy i wolnego dostępu do usług edukacyjnych w procesie zdobywania wyższego wykształcenia w ramach realizacji nauki przez całe życie. Podano nazwiska krajowych naukowców, którzy rozwinęli problematykę szkoleń specjalistów w instytucjach edukacji wyższej. Zaprezentowano także sposób użytkowania technologii komputerowych w procesie edukacyjnym i opisano przebieg szkolenia w ramach edukacyjno-zawodowego programu *Pedagogika chrześcijańska w edukacji wyższej*. W artykule przeanalizowano stopień opracowania i zastosowania zintegrowanego systemu

sieci komputerowej do wymiany informacji pomiędzy naukowcami i pracownikami naukowymi zaangażowanymi w proces edukacyjny oraz kandydatami na studia wyższe; określono metodologię badań i jej przedmiot. Wyniki przedstawionej pracy naukowej zawieraja liste zadań dla przyszłych nauczycieli szkolących w zakresie pedagogiki chrześcijańskiej, zasadniczą treść programu edukacyjno-zawodowego, opis istniejącego środowiska informacyjnego i edukacyjnego oraz programów komunikacji internetowej. Artykuł przedstawia istotę i podaje przykłady mobilnej nauki studentów z użyciem komunikatora Viber.

Słowa kluczowe: komunikacja internetowa, program edukacyjno-zawodowy, twórcy internetowi, szkolenie kandydatów na studia wyższe, mobilne komunikatory, mobilne nauczanie.

Introduction

Target settin. The main features of function and development of the higher educational system are the intense entry of Ukraine into the European educational space, the rapid changes in the socio-economic sphere, and the thorough, innovative reform of the educational sector. A set of principles grounds the reform from the State policy on higher education among which the primary one is to promote sustainable development of society through the preparation of a competitive human capital and the creation of conditions for lifelong learning¹. That is, the formation of the individual needs within the continuity of education lays down the order as priority as well as constant acquiring of knowledge, skills, development of professional competence. The above-mentioned determines the necessity to search and use of such training organization models could provide free access to educational services at any time and from any place of residence of higher education applicants and ensure prompt support for students in education. That will exactly facilitate the development of personality and the formation of education as a social value. One model among those is grounded on the Internet usage to organize the information exchange and render counseling services to participants of the educational process. Taking into account round-the-clock access to information and consultation the Internet network is namely the optimal environment for providing educational services by higher educational institutions. At the same time the use of Internet resources remains to be explored for the integration of elements of secular and theological sciences into the educational process of training of higher education applicants through the creation of integrated training sessions.

Actual scientific researches and issues analysis. The theoretical and practical aspects of the training of specialists in higher educational institutions have been significantly developed as a priority direction of the state educational potential formation in the writings of Borova T., Halus O., Hladush V., Drach I., Yevtushenko G., Yelnikova G., Kremin V., Kratt O., Kutsenko V., Luhova V., Makhynia T., Moroz A., Oliinyk V., Prikhodkina N., Rashkevych Y., Ryabova Z., Sidanich I., Sliepkan S., Tymoshko H.,

¹ Zakon Ukrayiny "Pro vyshchu osvitu": URL: http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua (in Ukrainian).

Shevchenko G., Yahupov V. and others. The use of computer technologies in the educational process particularly in the higher educational institution is disclosed in the works of Bykov V., Bukharkina M., Hurevych R., Zhuk Y., Kademii M., Kasian S., Lytvynova S., Liakhotska L., Oliinyk V., Polat Y., Ponomarenko V., Spirin O. and others. Essential characteristics of the training contents under the educational and professional program "Christian Pedagogy in Higher Education" are based on the works of such scholars as Bekh I., Hryneva M., Yevtukh M., Zhukovskyi V., Kyslashko O., Rohov O., Sidanich I., etc.

An analysis of this issue status suggests from scientific sources that the training of specialists is only beginning to be developed within Christian pedagogy in higher education, the urgent point is the definition of the conceptual foundations for the formation of the training content, the search for mechanisms of optimal integration of innovative teaching technologies into the training system of higher education applicants, the determination of effective management mechanisms for the quality of providing educational services in this area, etc. The priority particularly appears to justify the need of Internet usage as a communication platform for the interaction of participants in the educational process which can ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of training. According to the requirements of modern age grounding the need of free access to educational content by higher educational institutions an information environment is being actively built up that is formed in the virtual space of the Internet. The aforesaid is fixed by the legislative documents, therefore each person is stated by the Law of Ukraine "On education", Article 3 "The right to education" to have the rightto access to public educational, scientific and information resources including resources on the Internet, electronic textbooks and other multimedia learning resources in an order according to legislation². It should be noted that the concept of "Internet" known as a world-wide voluntary united system of computer networks is increasingly being interpreted as a web-systemand information accessible through it rather than physical network by itself³. The domain statistics is interesting which reflects constant dynamics of amount of UA domains. Updating domains indicates a constant updating of the content but there with Internet communication channels are also developing⁴. Internet communication channels will be taken to mean the web-platforms of the global system of computer networks within our research, the main purpose of which is the information exchange between two or more number of people during the course of the educational process in a higher educational institution.

The object of the article is to describe the ways of the Internet usage in the process of training of applicants for the second (master's) level of higher education with the specialization in "Christian pedagogy".

² Zakon Ukrayiny "Proosvitu": URL: http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua (in Ukrainian).

³ Zagalni vidomosti pro Internet: URL: http://viki.kspu.kr.ua/index.php/ Ponyattya_pro_internet. Poshukovi katalogy. Indeksni poshukovi systemy (in Ukrainian).

⁴ Statystyka za lystopad 2017: URL: https://hostmaster.ua/UAstat/2017/?201711 (in Ukrainian).

Research methodology

A survey was conducted and its results were analyzed in the process of studying the subject of research and achieving assigned targets. The mentioned included a certain set of general methods of scientific knowledge used both on the empirical and theoretical levels of research. Certain analysis of training status of higher education applicants, synthesis of the interpretation results and other were accomplished as a part of the study.

Results finding

The training of future teachers is carried out in accordance with the current normative framework in Christian pedagogy in higher education and aims to train new generation of specialists capable to generate ideas of innovative activity, to work in conditions of uncertainty and conduct research work. Beyond that the main task is the formation and development of the skills pursuing professional activities on Christian values for the acquisition of higher education from Christian pedagogy for the establishment of their Christian and civil competencies among applicants for higher education in Christian pedagogy⁵. It should be pointed out that the training is carried out at the second (master's) level of higher education within relevant educational and professional program⁶ the content of which is oriented to the eighth level of the National Qualification Framework. Integral competence⁷ being also expected outcome of learning during training is an acquisition of the ability to solve complex problems, effective work in a situation of uncertainty and production of innovations. The current law (the Law of Ukraine "On Higher Education") states the second (master's) level of higher education to involve gaining by a person in-depth theoretical and/or practical knowledge, skills in the chosen specialty (or specialization), general principles of the methodology of scientific and/ or professional activity, other competences sufficient for the effective performance of tasks of an innovative nature on the appropriate level of professional activity. For example the National Qualification Framework represents such interpretation of the concept of "competence/competences" as the ability to perform a particular activity expressed through knowledge, comprehension, skills, values, and other personal qualities by a person⁸. Along side this a structural unit is usedby means

⁵ Ofitsiynyy sayt DVNZ, Universytet menedzhmentu osvity" NAPN Ukrayiny: URL: http://umo. edu.ua/institutes/imp/struktura-institutu/kaf-upravl-navch-zaklad/o-kafedhi (in Ukrainian).

⁷ Postanova KMU "Pro zatverdzhennya Nacionalnoyi ramky kvalifikatsii": URL: http://zakon2. rada.gov.ua/lavs/shov/ 1341-2011-p. (in Ukrainian).

⁸ Ibid

of communication while describing qualification levels. The interpretation of this definition is given both in the National Qualification Framework and in the works of scientists. Yes, communication is the exchange of information, coordination and accommodation during the interaction of subjects of the joint activities9. Based on the above-mentioned and the recommendations for the construction of educational programs (works by Y. Rashkevych, etc.) the educational and professional program has a description of program competencies consisting of integral competence, general competences and professional competences of the specialty. General competences include communicative competence in the form of knowledge of the basic ways and means of interpersonal communication, speech styles, practical experience of communication in different languages in the field of special education; ability to constant enrichment of own speech, to establish professional pedagogical communication, apply IT in professional and scientific activities. Certain methods of communicative interaction are used between participants in the educational process by means of the Internet for its successful formation of masters' training in the educational process.

Ensuring the quality of the educational process entirely depends on the existing information and educational environment for higher education applicants at the higher educational institution, which provides for the creation of certain educational portals where various educational information, information materials for conducting training sessions, an electronic library should be contained. In addition it is necessary to have information about the status of its flow for the current tracing and adjustment of the process, that is, it is critical to have a certain operational connection between those who teach and those who study. That's what communication channels of the Internet are useful and necessary. Let's consider their usage while the training of higher education applicants with specialization in "Christian Pedagogy in Higher Education".

It is common knowledge that for successful performance, particularly in the field of education, it is necessary to explore and to actively influence on the status of organization of the educational process in the institution, tracethe level of satisfaction with the educational needs among participants in the educational process, resulting character of studies and the state of formation of professional competence among future specialists¹⁰. Let's review the process of marketing research practice to meet the educational needs among higher education applicants in Christian pedagogy in higher education.

Determination of goals in the educational system is carried out on the basis of the requests of the state, society, person, its achievement is ensured through the

⁹ O. Tsurul, *Menedzhment u derzhavnyh organizatsiyah*: Navch. posibnyk. – K.: KNEU, 2002. – 142 s. (in Ukrainian).

¹⁰ Z. Ryabova, *Naukovi osnovy marketyngovogo upravlinnya v osviti:* monografiya – K.: Pedagogichna dumka, 2013. – 268 s. (in Ukrainian).

interaction of certain social institutions (stakeholders) particularly participants of the educational process. The above-mentioned interaction is achieved through certain communicative processes, notably through objective informing of interaction subjects providing open education system. Such information distribution is achieved on the basis of receiving certain information. However it is necessary to focus on the information characteristics as urgency, relevance, accuracy, completeness and others. There is an algorithm for obtaining information as clarifying the needs in its collection, defining the purpose, analyzing the available data, formulating the targets for obtaining information, justifying a certain concept of information compiling and determining the mechanisms for its implementation, seeking (secondary and primary) information, data analyzing and its interpretation, presentation of results, creation (seeding) of banks (databases) of data and its usage for decision approval. Let's emphasize that receiving and processing is the one among factors ensuring the quality of the interaction between all subjects of the educational process in higher education. The applicant for a certain level of education is the key subject of the educational process. The quality of the providing educational services depends on the satisfaction of their educational needs and requests. Different methods are appropriate to determine this status from questioning to factor-criterion modeling. Let's note that nowadays any technique using in researches is carried out on the Internet network as a consequence of extension limits of computer technology and distribution of worldwide web influence on modern life.

For example any survey determining the status of the educational process of training among higher education applicants should be conducted by dint of online designers such as WEB anketa; eQuestionnaire; Virtual ExS, Google Forms, etc. These designers facilitate to reach the target audience at a convenient timefor them, provide quick access to information, assist in the export of data or Excel spreadsheet editor, either in a text file or into other analytical packages, have information processing capabilities and automatically build charts. Recently Google Forms have been actively used to determine the status of the educational process in order to receive feedback from applicants. The advantage of this designer is that it allows creating free surveys, questionnaires, tests and other. Beyond that responses can be analyzed because it is displayed in Google Sheets. The advantage of this designer is the sharing of several users to create a survey, questionnaire, tests and analyze its results. Thus the survey in Google Formsis being developed determining the status of satisfaction with educational needs among higher education applicants in Christian pedagogy in a higher education by the scientific and pedagogical staff of the Department of Pedagogy, Management and Administration at the University of Educational Management. The use of Google Forms specifically facilitates the automation of answering questions. Let's consider the characteristics of the survey: questionnaire, online, written. The questionnaire includes the introductory and main parts, has a passport. Questions are open and closed, direct and indirect (Fig. 1).

The results are automatically issued in the form of a diagram. An example of such a diagram is shown in the figure (Fig. 2). The substantiation of such a survey is confirmed by the attained results of the status self-assessment of the discipline mastering. As a result the status of its teaching was improved: the introduction of practical orientation tasks, etc.

Determine your level of knowledge in the process of content modeling Christian pedagogy in higher education*

- o initial
- o medium
- o sufficient
- advanced
- o other

Fig. 1. An example of aquery created in GoogleForms

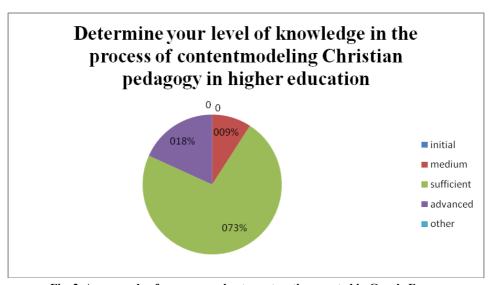


Fig. 2. An example of a response chart constructing created in Google Forms

The conducted survey among students and analysis of its results contributed to the updating of the contents of the disciplines and the introduction of integrated sessions in the process of training among higher education applicants with the specialization in "Christian pedagogy".

One way to receive information through Internet communication channels is to monitor consumer content. It is a tracking of information that consumers leave in feedbacks on the Internet. The emotional essence of the visitor messages is analyzed about their positive or negative attitude to the quality of providing educational services. The advantage of monitoring consumer content is the prompt response to feedbacks and the opportunity "to hear" the consumer of educational services for the higher educational institution, to find out own advantages and disadvantages, to understand the inquiries and needs of both existing and potential consumers, to explore the level of quality of educational services and what image of the institution is formed in the minds of consumers. So Sidanich I. created a public group "Christian Pedagogy" in the social network Facebook¹¹. The group was founded with the purpose of guidance of future teachers in Christian pedagogy and teaching subjects of spiritual and moral orientation in educational institutions, theoretical and methodological development of content on the basis of the Holy Scripture, activation of the development of Christian education, the protection of rights and freedoms, the satisfaction of spiritual, historical, cultural, patriotic, political, economic, social and other interests of Christians in Ukraine, assistance to the revival of the spirituality of Ukrainian citizens on Christian principles and the formation of Christian world view. The group includes 1019 participants: it is scientific and pedagogical workers, applicants for higher education with specialization in Christian pedagogy in higher education, ex-applicants, potential entrants, etc. The analysis of the messages content left by the group members gives grounds for conclusions about the emotional state of the process of training among higher education applicants which promotes updating of the content of this process.

It should be noted that followers of different religions receive higher education with the specialization in "Christian Pedagogy". The content of the training contains the academic discipline "Fundamentals of Christian Pedagogy". Various arguments were represented during the classes and in the subsequent Internet discussion between future high school teachers about the attitude of Christianity to science. The discussion was conducted with the aid of Viber Mobile Messenger. A number of certain conclusions were drawn down the line that, teachers of Christian pedagogy should use in their professional activities the latest achievements of pedagogical, psychological and theological science, have the skills of using information technology in particular the Internet communication channels for the adaptation and life success in the fast-moving events of the environment. The Internet namely can create the conditions for a constructive dialogue between science and religion thanks to the full presentation of arguments and the use of the business writing culture and can be a mean of forming universal human values of the person including those based on

¹¹ Grupa "Khrystyyanska pedagogika" v sotsianiy merezhi Facebook: URL: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1626167814353416/ (in Ukrainian).

the spiritual and moral principles. That is, received information, its emotional color exactly prompts the update of the content of training for higher education applicants and promotes the quality of the educational services providing by the higher educational institution. In general the usage of cloud technologies is the most promising in the educational process of educational institutions in a contemporary context¹². For example usage of cloud-based Internet service with software Microsoft Office 365.

Generally accepted Internet communication channels are regarded e-mail, chat communication (Internet Relay Chat), audio and video conferencing (for example using Skype). An intensive increase happensin the number of Internet communication channels in the conditions of rapid development of technologies¹³. Hence mobile messengers likewise WhatsApp, Viber, Telegram, Facebook Messenger and others were intensively taped to ensure the quality of educational services in the educational process. The term m-learning was denizened in the educational space, we believe a future isfor mobile learning since the use of these instant messengers allows us promptly to provide and receive information, express wishes, conduct a survey, and so on. So the curator of the training group created a group in the Viber mobile messenger while organizing the educational process of higher education applicants from Christian pedagogy at a higher education, where consultations are provided, important issues are discussed regarding mastering the content of academic disciplines, etc.

Let's consider mastering this discipline as "Fundamentals of Christian Pedagogy" (5 academic credits) applicants for the second level of higher education studying two semesters. The main tasks for mastering this discipline are: Christian spirituality and theology gives grounds for the formation of the ethical and moral qualities of future teachers in Christian pedagogy in higher education; formation and development of certain competences in the field of Christian pedagogy by studying the theoretical foundations and passing the assistant practice; acquaintance the current conditions of the humanitarian sphere in Ukraine, normative documents on the functioning of the educational system in general and teaching subjects of spiritual and moral orientation in particular in educational institutions. The primary targets of this discipline are: the formation of sensual life values and models of personality lifein society; the formation of skills to use techniques and technologies for teaching spiritual and moral subjects and conducting events involving parents, educators, the public and other stakeholders, the development of methods of innovative cooperation between subjects of creative activity. The solution of these tasks will contribute to the revival of universal and national values in the context of the development of a market economy and will provide an understanding by the future teachers in higher education pedagogy the essence of

¹² V. Bykov, *Tehnologiyi hmarnyh obchyslen, IKT-autsortsing ta novi funktsiyi IKT-pidrozdiliv navchalnyh zakladiv i naukovyh ustanov:* URL: http://lib.iitta.gov.ua/1151/1/251.pdf (in Ukrainian).

¹³ Komunikatsiyni kanaly Internet: URL: https://uk.vikipedia.org/viki/ Internet-komunikatsiya (in Ukrainian).

the Christian tradition, the peculiarities of Christian education taking into account the spiritual and moral problems of Ukrainian society and the differences in ethical principles in other religious teachings¹⁴. Let's emphasize that as a result of the accomplished tasks the planned learning outcomes are being reached which areby its essence a set of knowledge, skills and competencies acquired by the student having mastered a certain educational program. The integral competence, general competencies and special (professional, subject) competencies are underlined to be formed at the end of the training (during 1,5 years of study) among the applicants for the second (master's) level in Christian pedagogy. The content of the training is based on the combination of three subject fields namely: Christian pedagogy, Christian psychology and biblical and theological sciences. The measurement of the formation status of the professional competence is carried out for the future teacher in Christian pedagogy in a higher educational institution with the help of an appropriate qualimetric model which is executed in Excel spreadsheet editor and available on the Internet network.

Expected learning outcomes, in our opinion, of the second-level applicants should bein Christian pedagogy in the higher education as follows: profound knowledge of the theological foundations of Christian pedagogy; realization the meaning of Christian values in the modern world and the orientation of an educational process buildingon the grounds of Ukrainian Christian historical traditions; positive dynamics of knowledge development in Christian pedagogy and acquired skills of teaching Christian ethics, spirituality, morality in educational institutions; the formation of the internal need to be bearers of Christian morals in society among future teachers of higher educational institutions, to carry out just moral actions, to teach to do good deeds; skills to create conditions for students' acquaintance with the history of Christian culture and attraction them to the spiritual and moral values of the Christian traditions; positive dynamics in growth of spiritual and moral qualities of magistrates and formation of their critical attitude towards destructive cults and sects.

The mastery of the content of this discipline involves the compilation of a terminology dictionary. The applicants are given a task generally accepted in pedagogy to describe the terms on a biblical basis. The applicants along with the teacher discuss possible options and evaluate the best options for executing this task in the Viber group. That is, the use of mobile learning contributes to the cooperation between higher education applicants, offers new opportunities for prolonged continuing education both within and outside the university facilitating more thorough understanding of certain categories and the formation of persistent knowledge through their online discussion. Continuity of learning is provided through the motivation of the process

¹⁴ I. Sidanich, Upravlinny a pidgotovkovu maybutnih vykladachiv khrystyvanskovi pedagogiky u vyshchiy shkoli: URL: http://umo.edu.ua/katalog/882-electronic-journal-the-theory-and-methods-of-educational-management-edition-16-2015 (in Ukrainian).

of cognition. Also it is necessary to notice about changing the role of the teacher: he moves from the information translator to the facilitator organizing and supporting students and assisting in the collective resolution of educational problems in groups. The teacher provides successful group Internet communication between students.

Conclusions and perspectives for further research

So summing up the above-mentioned it should be noted that the usage of Internet communication channels just started its formation and lies at the testing stage in the training of higher education applicants with the specialization in "Christian Pedagogy in Higher Education" at the SHEI of "University of Educational Management" of the NAES of Ukraine. At the same time the research emphasizes the urgency and necessity of large-scale introduction of this activity because it provides a positive motivation for the learning process. A priority direction is the deepening of constructive dialogue and the development of new scientific areas of cooperation between the representatives of theological and secular science could be conducted in social networks and while training sessions on the Internet. Beyond that an urgent need is the introduction of special projects for the development and preparation of electronic textbooks and instructional guides which would take into account on one hand the Christian tradition and on the other hand modern trends in science and contribute to the development of professional competence of the modern teacher in Christian pedagogy in highereducation. The study the evaluation of e-technology learning is emphasized extremely important among higher education applicants as well as the status of professional competence formation with further interpretation of the results and recommendations for improvement the status of this process automatically. Developing methods of the Internet communication channels usage will promote to find new ways of learning the Truth, finding the keys to the hearts and minds as by young students and by society as a whole.

The development of a national system of higher education on the integration of Christian values and modern information technologies will ensure the success of the sacred mission of modern education concerning the formation of intellectual potential through the comprehensive development of an individual as a personality and the highest value of society.

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