



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### KHARKIV MEDICAL SCHOOL IS RECOGNIZED ALL OVER THE WORLD

On November 6, the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Ukraine Dr. Hossam Eldeen Mohamed Aly, who was accompanied by the Consular Attaché Mr. Mohamed Marzuk, and the Executive Assistant to the Ambassador Mrs. Alina Gorbatyuk visited Kharkiv National Medical University.



The guests met the Authority of the University under its Rector Prof. Vladimir Lesovoy. During the visit, a wide range of issues related to the training of the Egyptian students at the University, the contingent of students from this country, as well as the prospects for the development of bilateral cooperation were discussed.



Within the framework of the visit, the guests met the Egyptian students, and discussed the issues of their stay in Ukraine and study at the University.

Dr. Hossam Eldeen Mohamed Aly expressed confidence that close cooperation and mutual efforts would promote further interest of the Egyptian citizens in obtaining medical education at KhNMU.

The parties noted the importance of further deepening the Ukrainian-Egyptian relations, particularly in the sphere of education.

## INTERNATIONAL PROJECT

### KHNMU IS A PARTICIPANT OF THE UKRAINIAN-SWISS PROJECT

On November 27, the representatives of the Ukrainian-Swiss project "Development of Medical Education" visited KhNMU.



The National Coordinator of the Project Tetyana Stepurko, the Medical Education Coordinator Olena Ignaschuk, the Coordinator of Management Education Valentina Anufrieva, and the Nursing Coordinator Irina Kuznetsova met the Authority of KhNMU headed by its Rector Prof. Vladimir Lesovoy. The representatives of the Education and Research Institutes, the International Relations Office, and the Department of General Practice – Family Medicine of KhNMU also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, a wide range of issues related to the Project, as well as the changes and support for the Medical Education Reform in Ukraine were discussed. The major aim of the Project is to strengthen the capacity of the Family Medicine in Ukraine. Mrs. Olena Ignaschuk familiarized the audience with the Project's main stages designed for four years.

Within the framework of the visit, our guests got acquainted with the available resources of the University, such as the Scientific Library, and the Museum of History of KhNMU.

In 2018 Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH), with funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and with the support of the Ministry of Health, began the project "Development of Medical Education". The project aims to improve primary health care, education of family doctors, family nurses, paediatricians, managers of primary care facilities.

Kharkiv National Medical University had applied for the participation in the competition, the application had passed the first round and the University had been selected to the list of participants.

According to the result of the competition, our University was selected as an active participant of the project with two other winners.

## TELECONFERENCE



### INITIATION OF FRIENDLY UNDERSTANDING

Within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding and on a joint friendly basis, Kharkiv National Medical University continues cooperation with foreign partners. Thus, on December 6, a teleconference with Azerbaijan Medical University took place at the Scientific Library of KhNMU.

Vice-Rector for Research and Education Prof. Ivan Letik and Acting Head of the Department of Clinical Pharmacology and Internal Medicine Prof. Iryna Knyazkova welcomed our colleagues from Baku. Museum representative, Mrs. Elena Semenko, made a presentation on the historical past of the University.

During the teleconference, participants had a chance to hear a lecture by the promising Azerbaijan doctor Assoc. Prof. Farid Aliyev.

**MEETING WITH A GERMAN SPECIALIST****KHNMU IS SHARING THE BEST WORLD PRACTICES**

On October 5, the meeting and the master class on surgical treatment of obesity with the Medical Director and the Head Physician of Klinik Sachsenhausen (Frankfurt on Main, the Federal Republic of Germany), a Specialist in the Field of Bariatric Surgery, General Surgery, Abdominal Surgery and Oncosurgery of the Gastrointestinal Tract, Dr. Plamen Staikov, were held on the basis of Kharkiv Regional Hospital. The initiators of the event were Regional Clinical Hospital and the Department of Surgery No. 2 of Kharkiv National Medical University.



During the stay in Kharkiv, the German specialist met with the representatives of Kharkiv National Medical University. Thus, the Vice-Rector for Research and Education Prof. Volodymyr Markovskiy expressed his gratitude for the visit, and emphasized the importance of expanding cooperation not only in practical medicine but also in the scientific and educational sphere, which will continue within the framework of the agreement, which will soon be signed by both parties. The Vice-Rector for Medical Research and Education Assoc. Prof. Yuriy Rezunenko in turn invited the guest to cooperate with the University Clinic of Kh-

NMU. At the end of the meeting Dr. Plamen Staikov kindly invited our surgeons and relevant specialists to visit the Klinik Sachsenhausen.

Within the framework of the visit Dr. Plamen Staikov shared his experience in the management of obesity treatment. He noted that Bariatric Surgery was not only a surgeon, it was primarily a team of different specialists, namely dieticians, endocrinologists, cardiolo-



gists, pulmonologists, plastic surgeons, etc. According to the opinion of the German expert 'We must be the only team for the sake of health and well-being of each patient'.

**NEW PARTNER – NEW HORIZONS**

From November 26 till December 3, 2018 the Leading Expert of the International Relations Office Anna Kurach visited the Sachsenhausen Clinic in Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany.



From November 26 till December 3, 2018 the Leading Expert of the International Relations Office Anna Kurach visited the Klinik Sachsenhausen in Frankfurt-on-Main, Germany.

Klinik Sachsenhausen had been opened in 1895 as the first clinic for diabetes treatment in Europe. Thereafter the hospital had began to provide treatment in other medical directions. Since 1995, Klinik Sachsenhausen has become the leading hospital in Europe specialized on bariatric surgery.

During the visit Anna Kurach met Medical Director of the Clinic Dr. Plamen Staikov, Director Dr. Uwe Kage, Manager for Foreign Patients Mrs. Lidia Spiegel and others representatives of the hospital. There was a look over round the hospital during which an expert from KhNMU had an opportunity to see the general structure, departments and wards.

The visit was initiated with aim of enhancing mutual cooperation between two institutions. During the meeting with the clinical authorities an Agreement on cooperation was signed as well as the wide range of issues was covered. The discussion was constructive and fruitful. The parties expressed confidence that close cooperation and joint efforts would greatly benefit the development of both institutions.

*Adopted from the International Relations Office*

## STUDY VISIT

# TOWARDS EUROPEAN STANDARDS

Acquaintance with modern European and German approaches and methods of developing and teaching Master's Degree Programmes in Public Health and Healthcare Management, studying the criteria for assessing the competence of public health specialists and discussing possible cooperation between universities in Germany, the UK, and Ukraine - all this was at the centre of attention during the study visit of the Ukrainian delegation to the leading universities of the Federal Republic of Germany (Berlin, Frankfurt) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (London), which was held from 7 to 15 July.



The representative of Kharkiv National Medical University, the Director of Educational and Scientific Institute for Quality of Education of the KhNMU, Prof. Igor Zavgorodnii, was invited to join the delegation.

As part of the programme, the delegates visited the Protestant University of Applied Sciences in Berlin, where they got acquainted with the features of the bachelor's degree in nursing and assistant nurses in the field of Obstetrics. The delegates also attended a seminar at the Akkon University of Human Sciences in Berlin, where they studied

areas of public health activities. In the field of public health, a substantive discussion about the possibility of bilateral exchanges continued with Kai Franke, the Head of Government Liaison Office Berlin German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

During a meeting at Medical University Berlin, headed by Prof. Tobias Kurth, the Director of the Institute of Public Health, Prof. Frank Mockenhaupt, the Deputy Director of the Institute of Tropical Medicine and International Health, and Dr. Lutz Steiner, the Head of Charité International Cooperation and Charité International Academy at Medical University Berlin, the programme participants familiarized themselves with the features of the educational process and students, the characteristics of distance learning and the organization of the preparation of flexible curricula, and the structure of the curriculum for Bachelor in Public Health.

Meeting at the Robert Koch Institute, headed by Dr. Osamah Hamouda, the Head of the Department of Infectious Disease Epidemiology, was dedicated to studying the staff assistance of current sanitary and epidemiological surveillance of treatment facilities, catering establishments, organization of anti-epidemic and quarantine measures at regional public health centres.

The visit to the Frankfurt School of Finance & Management, headed by Mrs Fatma Dirkes, the Vice-President for International Advisory Services, provided broader opportunities for getting acquainted with the practice of conducting online training modules and creating "networking". The group members received skills in teaching public health ethics and studying the requirements for the preparation and presentation of academic and research Bachelor's thesis at Fulda University of Applied Sciences, headed by the University's President, Professor Dr. Karim Khakzar.

A visit to the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Imperial College London contributed to the establishment of scientific and educational relations with the specialists of these institutions, familiarizing with the features of current and final control, in particular, using test technologies online surveys and conducting an examination conversation with students enrolled in Master in Public Health Degree Programmes.

Participation in such an event would contribute to the development of educational and scientific-methodical bases for training specialists in public health, bringing the structure and content of preparation closer to European standards.

*Adopted from the Information Support Service of KhNMU*

## USERN 2018

# AN EVENT THAT BROUGHT TOGETHER LEADING EXPERTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The representatives of our University, namely Assoc.Prof. Lyudmila Krivenko, the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Pediatric Oral Surgery and Implantology, Prof. Dmytro Butov, the Department of Phthysiology and Pulmonology, Assoc.Prof. Anton Tkachenko, the Department of Biochemistry, Senior Assistant Vladyslav Kaliuzhka, the Department of Neurosurgery, Senior Assistant Mykyta Markevych, the Department of Internal Medicine No. 3, and a student of the IInd Medical Faculty Anastasia Olkhova, took part in the USERN Congress 2018 & USERN Prize Awarding Festival, followed by Post-Congress Primary Immunodeficiency Diseases (PID) Course, which took place from 10 to 14 November in Reggio Calabria, Italy.



This significant event brought together leading experts from around the world. Within five days, there were lectures of scientists of the international level, who have been included amongst the top one percent scientists of the world, which allowed not only to gain new professional knowledge, but also provided an opportunity to communicate in the world medical community.

The main scientific directions of the USERN Congress 2018 and Post-Congress Course were epidemiology and clinical manifestation of immunodeficiency diseases, methods of diagnosis and treatment of these diseases, immunology and immunogenetics.



At the Congress, the colleagues of Kharkiv National Medical University also presented scientific reports on the results of their own research on various areas in medicine and dentistry, which corresponded to the main theme of the scientific event.

It should be recalled that last year the II USERN Congress had been held in Kharkiv, Ukraine, and its organizers had been the USERN Network and Kharkiv University Consortium, in particular, Kharkiv National Medical University.

*Assoc. Prof. Lyudmila Krivenko,  
the Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Pediatric Oral Surgery and Implantology*

## SUMMER PRACTICE ABROAD

It is impossible to master the profession of a doctor without practical skills and abilities. This year, within the framework of the academic exchange programme, 45 students of the 3rd and 4th courses of our University have passed their summer practices on the clinical bases of the partner universities of KhNMU.

The students' practice abroad is a unique opportunity to apply skills and knowledge acquired at the alma mater in practice, living for a short time in a foreign country and comprehending the science of medicine according to its rules. During the summer practice course, our foreign colleagues explained clinical diagnoses, told interesting professional cases. Students were present at the rounds of patients and, in general, had the opportunity not only to gain experience for their future medical activities but also to get acquainted with the culture and traditions of foreign country, its health care system, and to find new friends. In Wroclaw, Tehran, Tbilisi, Varna, and Istanbul students improved their communication skills in English.

Students were happy to share the details about the trip, emotions and information about their experiences.

### PRACTICE AT THE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY "PROF. DR. PARASKEV STOYANOV" – VARNA

*Our University enhances international cooperation around the world every year. And this year the choice fell on the Medical University - Varna. We, dental students of the 4-th course, were pioneers to learn all about medicine in Varna. We underwent a two-week practice on Surgical Dentistry at the University Dental Centre.*

First of all, we were pleasantly surprised by good attitudes of all medical staff towards us. Despite the language barrier, physicians and nurses have always tried to answer our questions, show the different techniques of performing operations, procedures, and just talk about the differences in medicine and culture between our countries. We went to an operating room every day, and observed the Bulgarian surgeons skilfully working with the latest technologies and appliances.

We communicated mainly in English, but older people spoke Russian, and it was very helpful in communication and explanation of different unclear points. I would also like to note foreign students, who treated us as old friends, and joined our company in walks around the city. We were very lucky, because Varna was a city in north-eastern Bulgaria, situated on the shores of the Black Sea, and in addition to medical knowledge, we also got a wonderful tan.

We were provided with a hostel situated in a 15-minute walk from the Medical Centre, so getting there was not a big deal.

The staying in a hostel was very interesting for us in comparison



with our Ukrainian dormitory number 6, but we did not see any particular differences. We would like to express our thanks to the Authorities of both Universities, KhNMU and the MU-Varna, for such a good opportunity. We hope to continue our practice at the MU-Varna next year.

*Valeriia Khomchenko, a student of the Dental Faculty*

### PRACTICE AT POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

*We underwent our monthly medical practice in the wonderful city of Poznan, the Republic of Poland.*

It was a wonderful time, for which we are very grateful to Kharkiv National Medical University and Poznan University of Medical Sciences (PUMS). During our practice, we underwent four cycles, one week per each.

The first cycle was on General Surgery. We went to an operating room every day, and watched the surgeons performing their work wonderfully. During the course, we observed several laparoscopic cholecystectomies, a colon resection, and a laparoscopic appendectomy. Accompanied by a Polish doctor, we also visited patients, put bandages etc.

The next cycle was on Obstetrics. We saw a lot of interesting and new things for us. Firstly, the Maternity Unit in the Republic of Poland looks quite differently. We also attended several caesarean sections, and assisted one of them.

The Internal Diseases and Paediatrics cycles were in hospitals where we demonstrated our practical skills and looked after sick people. We also had an excursion around the city.

So, on behalf of the whole group, I would like to say that we really enjoyed our practice, and we hope to have such an opportunity next year.

*Victoria Liha,*

*a student of the II-nd Medical Faculty*

### PRACTICE AT WROCLAW MEDICAL UNIVERSITY



*From 29 June to 27 July 2018, we, the students of the I-st and II-nd Medical Faculties, were lucky to undergo practical training abroad, namely at Wroclaw Medical University (Wroclaw, the Republic of Poland).*

We gained invaluable experience not only in the field of medicine, but also in practicing foreign language skills. The practice was at four different departments. During the surgery course, after a patient round, we've put on surgical overalls and went to an operation room, where we not only observed the clinical path, but also assisted. Words could not express our emotions when you, as a part of a team, helped save a person's life. At the Department of Internal Medicine, we measured the indicators of the objective patients' condition, analysed electronic health records, and discussed treatment plans.

Our mentors tried to show us as many rare diseases as possible. During the paediatrics course, we visited the Post-Transplantation Department, where children with blood tumour were treated. It was very interesting to see the specific care needs of such patients. We have seen how the bone marrow transplantation was done for the first time in our lives. At the Department of Obstetrics, we watched child's birth. In addition, we saw caesarean section and the neonatologists working right after birth, and learned how to do the ultrasound of pregnant women.

On top of spending time at the hospital, we travelled, learned about the culture of Poland, had excursions, and discovered something new.

*Ksenia Mungieva, a student of the II-nd Medical Faculty*

## ACADEMIC MOBILITY

## PRACTICE IN BAKU

Choosing Baku as a city for our summer practice, we did not know what to expect, worried about how the country with a completely different culture, and religion would meet us. But all doubts were dispelled just we left the airport.



**Practice.** During the surgical cycle, we were lucky to assist on a surgery as a full member of a surgical team. There were surgical interventions such as phlebectomy, cystectomy, extirpation of the uterus, perineal excision of the rectum, surgery for gas gangrene, etc. During the cycle of obstetrics, we were able to attend births, caesarean sections, operations on myomectomy.

**Living conditions.** It was comfortable enough to live there. We lived in a room for four people in a dormitory for international students. Gallery-type dormitories with a clean shower on the ground floor, hot water was available from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. during the week and 24 hours at weekend. On the ground floor there also could be found a cosy cafe, where friendly staff offered us tasty cuisine!

**Leisure time.** We had a lot of free time. The Vice-Rector for International Relations, Nadir Zeynalov, and the Coordinator of the International Relations Department, Dr. Mushfig Orujev, were constantly in contact with us, providing any assistance we needed, as well as organizing every weekend guided tours to historical places, such as Qobustan - the place of primitive people settlement, and the Baku Ateshgah often called the "Fire Temple of Baku".

We would never forget the practice in Baku which was remembered by excellent experience, new knowledge and fascination vacation.

*Victoria Aralova, a student of the I-st Medical Faculty*

## PRACTICE AT THE UNIVERSITY DENTAL CLINIC

On June 18 to 29 2018, we were fortunate to undergo our summer practice in Baku, the capital of the Azerbaijan Republic. Azerbaijan Medical University has been one of the largest state universities in the Azerbaijan Republic (Azərbaycan Tibb Universiteti), and has been considered to be one of the best.



We underwent our practice at the department of the University Dental Clinic (Azərbaycan Dövlət Tibb Universitetinin Stomatoloji Poliklinikası). This was the first Clinic of Azerbaijan Medical University (AMU), which had been established in September 2002. In addition to the training of highly specialized dentists, Clinic also provided high-quality health services for the people.

As reported by the Director of the Clinic, Alysh Safarov, all specialized departments of the Faculty of Dentistry of AMU were in this medical institution. In general, there were six departments and nine offices in the Clinic. All training and medical offices were equipped with the most up-to-date diagnostic and therapeutic equipment made in France, Germany, Japan, and Turkey. University's doctors willingly shared their knowledge and experience, explained us all their actions and discussed clinical cases.

*Elena Mikulina, a student of the Dental Faculty*

## PRACTICE AT TBILISI STATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

In July 2018 we visited the capital of Georgia - Tbilisi. We were sincerely grateful to all those who had made efforts to show us something new, helped us to obtain professional skills, and demonstrated aspects of the Georgian healthcare system.

During the month we learned how to use our theoretical knowledge in practice, gained a lot of new knowledge and skills in the fields of Surgery, Therapy, Paediatrics, Obstetrics, and Gynaecology. We did not miss the chance to get acquainted with traditions of the Georgian people, to get excursions across the capital and short trips to other cities of the country. We could confidently say that time had been simply unforgettable, and since that time we had a desire to come back again, because we had not only spent a good month in Tbilisi, but also had made a lot of new friends with whom we would keep in touch. The practice programme was extremely useful to us as for future doctors. We were sure that the acquired skills would really need us in our future profession. Therefore, we were very grateful to TSMU for hospitality, experience and new friends.

*Elizabeth Kudryavtseva, a student of the I-st Medical Faculty*

## PRACTICE AT TEHRAN UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (TUMS)

Unfortunately, our world is full of national stereotypes, and such a good country as the Islamic Republic of Iran has been trapped in prejudice. The first time traveling to this country, you can feel the beauty of Eastern life. We, six Ukrainian students, had such opportunity, and want to share our experience.



We were provided with free accommodation, partially expenses for meals - lunches in the hospitals, and airport shuttle to the hostel. Tickets to Tehran, part of the cost of meals, and leisure have already been

on our shoulders. We underwent the practice consisted of four disciplines, namely, Internal Medicine, Paediatrics, Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology for girls, and Urology for boys. Our programme was flexible, and we could discuss with our curator (whom we quickly became fond of and called our Iranian father) different nuances, made adjustments to lectures, asked for more specific manipulations and practices in any field. Thus, there were organized an entire day devoted to Otolaryngology. We visited the Department of Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Diseases, saw an unexpectedly large variety of operations in that area. On top of compulsory classes, we were allowed to have duty shifts in hospitals in our spare time. Most of all, we liked the Department of Emergency Medicine in the Surgical Hospital, a large number of different patients who gave us permission to do primary surgical debridement. By the way, we were worried most that patients would not tolerate students, and we would not be able to conduct necessary researches, but the Iranian people were distinguished for their frankness and kindness, so we did not have any problems with it.

The level of the Iranian clinics was very high, ranging from medical equipment to the doctors' professionalism. Thus, we have also been able to assist in various operations and manipulations, such as a bronchoscopy, a fiberoptic gastroduodenoscopy, an intubation of children, an open-heart surgery in newborns, different abdominal operations, catheterization of major vessels, a rhinoplasty, small urgent interventions at the Department of Emergency Medicine, a large number of patients' examinations, and small manipulations.

Whenever we had a free day, we travelled around the country. In general, the practice in Tehran is remembered by the high level of organization of classes, the doctors' professionalism, the hospitality of the Iranians, and the enormous amount of rice in the diet. Certainly, we have gained an invaluable experience and knowledge.

*Marina Silina, a student of the III-rd Medical Faculty*

**ACADEMIC MOBILITY****PRACTICE AT YEDITEPE UNIVERSITY**

We were lucky to undergo our summer medical practice in the most populous city in Turkey – Istanbul. Population of this city has reached 15 million people; it has been almost a third part of the general population of Ukraine.

The International Relations Office of KhNMU provided us with an opportunity to undergo our practice in hospitals of singular private medical faculty in Turkey, which had three medical establishments, situated in an upscale district on the Asian side of the city of Istanbul. Yeditepe University Hospital Healthcare Institutions has been in the top ten of the best hospitals in Istanbul, according to the Taksim Ultra VIP Apartments rating. We underwent our practice in two of them, Yeditepe Üniversitesi Hastanesi and Yeditepe Üniversitesi İhtisas Hastanesi. They were built in 2005 and 2018, respectively. Both of them were in a perfect condition, ready to provide a necessary medical help to the people. There was no lack of patients during doctor's consultations, taking in view great number of population of this city.



Most of the doctors spoke English in a good manner, answering to all our questions with an aim to provide the full reply, explaining everything that was unclear for us, and telling about Turkish medical system. Doctors' benevolent was very sincere; some of them invited us to enjoy Turkish coffee besides having openhearted conversations about their profession and life way. It is also important to mention, that we met some local students during our discussions on clinical cases and ways of treatment with doctors. During these conversations, it was pleasant to realize, that amount of our knowledge and quality of education can provide us with necessary background for performing a conversation on a same level with local students.

Cultural life of Istanbul required a separate presentation. We explored three completely separate parts of it: European, Asian and the Prince Islands. In this city everyone could find something for his own – from slow and pleasant life on islands to intensive bidding on Grand Bazar, from visiting majestic historical places to obtaining enjoy from modern architecture, from speaking with locals to meeting people from all over the world.

So, if you decide to visit Istanbul, get ready to cultural diversity, busy activities, and unforgettable experience!

*Dmytro Skoryi, 4th year student of the I-st Medical Faculty*

**INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME****INCREDIBLE STUDYING EXPERIENCE**

This summer, I had the opportunity to undergo a 12-week research internship of the Canada's Mitacs Globalink Research Internship Program for Ukraine.

The work was carried out at the laboratory of the Cancer Center of the Ottawa Hospital (TOH) of the University of Ottawa. Under the guidance of Prof. Michele Ardolino, I was studying the properties of a number of tumor receptors and the processes that underlie the inhibition of the antitumor immune response mediated by the action of NK cells.

This year, Ukraine was added to the list of the Mitacs Globalink partner countries for the first time, giving opportunities to fifty Ukrainian students, who have passed the competitive selection among all universities of the country, not only to work on a joint project with Canadian professors but also to receive incredible experience in studying in the country with a powerful scientific potential, and one of the largest Ukrainian diasporas in the world!

*Danilo Ippolito, a student of the II-nd Medical Faculty*

**PRACTICE AT I. HORBACHEVSKY TERNOPIL STATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY**

Thanks to the academic exchange programme, the 4th year students underwent their summer practice on the clinical base of one of the best universities of western Ukraine at I. Horbachevsky Ternopil State Medical University.

We were struck by a possibility to assist on surgical procedures at the Department of Surgery of the Ternopil City Communal Emergency Hospital headed by Prof. Alexander Shidlovsky, and in the University's Centre of Minimal Invasive Operational Technologies we worked with modern laparoscopic equipment.

Assoc. Prof. Oleksandr Franchuk, provided us with the European level of assistance to the patient with gynaecologic diseases. We had the opportunity to look after patients in the delivery room, to work in the dressing and small operating gynaecological department.

The friendly staff of the Department of Paediatric Haematology and its Curator, Emilia Burbeli, taught us to analyse the predictors of myelogram, the cytological examination of lymph nodes, to evaluate the functional activity of the immune status, and shared their experience in following-up of severe hematologic patients.

The Therapeutic Department has been remembered by doctors' professionalism, the Curator Nadiya Yarema's supporting, counselling of patients with disorders, and ischemic heart disease. We looked after patients with an artificial heart valve, driver of rhythm, started to understand descriptions of electrocardiograms better.

During our practice we had also lots of free time. The Department of Practical Training provided a city tour for us.

We would like to express our thanks to I. Horbachevsky Ternopil State Medical University for the hospitality, to the Department of Practical Training, and the International Relations Office of Kharkiv National Medical University for their supporting and providing such a great opportunity for our practice.

*Aina Lesna, a student of the II-nd Medical Faculty*

**INTERNATIONAL PROJECT****STRENGTHENING SCIENTIFIC CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN COLLEAGUES**

In the framework of the joint scientific project, a group of KhNMU students visited the Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg (Magdeburg, the Federal Republic of Germany).



The joint scientific work between the Institute of Occupational Medicine (IAM) of the Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg and departments of KhNMU, namely, the Department of Internal and Occupational Diseases, as well as the Department of Hygiene and Ecology No. 2 has been continuing under the Agreement on Cooperation for almost 7 years. Within the framework of the current agreement, the scientific project of assessing the level of the professional burnout of emergency doctors and university teachers ("Mental Health of Paramedics and Emergency Doctors") was implemented. From the Ukrainian side, the scientific advisers were Prof. Valery Kapustnik and Prof. Igor Zavorodnii, and from German side it was Prof. Irina Böckelmann.

During the visit, the 3rd year students of the I and II Medical Faculties of KhNMU who were the current members of the scientific circle functioned on the basis of the Department of Hygiene and Ecology No. 2, Miroslav Tymbo, Maksym Stitsenko, and Katerina Tretyakova gained practical skills in the processing of statistical data, mathematical modelling, and analysis of cluster systems. They also learned how to work with diagnostic equipment and analytical systems. During the stay at the university, Prof. Irina Böckelmann accompanied our students throughout their visit.

Students had a great chance to get acquainted with the cultural heritage of Germany, and had sightseeing excursions to the historical centres of Magdeburg, Hamburg and Berlin.

Having no doubt, participation in such training courses is meant to strengthening scientific contacts between our university and our foreign colleagues.

*Students of the scientific circle of the Department of Hygiene and Ecology No. 2*

## EXHIBITION OF STUDENTS' PHOTOS

### MY BEAUTIFUL MOTHERLAND

From November 9 to November 18, 2018, a new exhibition of students' photos and motanka-dolls was held in the new library hall of KhNMU. The event "My beautiful Motherland" was dedicated to the International Students' Day. The initiators of this event were the Students' Government, the Trade Union of KhNMU, and the Dean's Office for Foreign Students of the Training and Scientific Institute for the Preparation of Foreign Citizens.



During the month, English-speaking students of the 6th and 7th faculties were sending photos which they had taken during the summer holidays in their countries. From more than 650 photos, the best 110 were selected, which could be seen at the exhibition stands in the library. Nearby, on the big screen, there was video broadcasts about countries that were represented at the exhibition. The geography of photos

was very wide – from the closest neighbours of Ukraine and European countries (Georgia, Turkey, Israel, Norway, Denmark) to faraway Asian and African countries (India, Maldives, Morocco, Egypt, Ghana, Tanzania, Nigeria).

The highlight of the exhibition was handmade motanka-dolls which were created by Ukrainian and foreign students. And if all of us from childhood had been well acquainted with "knot" motanka - dolls, which were one of the oldest family charms of Ukrainians and whose roots had been created in Trypillya culture several millennia ago, the original dolls of other countries of the world were first presented at KhNMU in a similar format.

On November 12 the exhibition was opened by Letyk I.V. the Vice-rector for research and education, who was captured by the creativity of foreign participants and their reverent attitude towards the traditions of their Motherland. He noted that students who made such exhibitions were very talented and loving people. It meant that they would be great physicians in the future.

*By materials of the site of KhNMU*

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### OUR CONTRIBUTION TO UNIVERSITIES INTERNATIONALIZATION

On 25–26 October, the Deputy Director of Education and Research Institute for Training of International Citizens Alla Bondarova, and a specialist from the International Relations Office Nataliia Brezhnieva represented Kharkiv National Medical University at the MU-Varna International Partnerships Forum, which took place at the Medical University-Varna (MU-Varna) – Varna (the Republic of Bulgaria).



The main topic of this year's event was "International Partnerships Contribution to Universities Internationalization" dedicated to 25th anniversary of the specialty of healthcare management and 10th anniversary of the Faculty of Pharmacy. Representatives of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Portuguese Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Russian Federation, and Ukraine had been invited to participate in the event.

The main accent of the Forum was on universities internationalization that has become a powerful tool for the development of higher education worldwide.

The first day of the Forum dealt with the issues of universities internationalization. The presentations and discussions focused on different models of internationalization working for the partnerships of the MU-Varna.

The representatives of KhNMU met the Vice Rector for International Relations Prof. Todorka Kostadinova, and the Head of the Department of International Relations Prof. Aneta Dokova. During the meeting, many issues of further cooperation between our universities were discussed.

The participants were able to get acquainted with the culture of Bulgaria, and even Bulgarian cuisine.

The participation in the Forum and the meetings in Varna would certainly have multiple effects and follow-ups to implement the useful ideas and provisions of the Agreement on Cooperation between our universities.

*Adopted from the International Relations Office*

## BEST STUDENT

### EXPERIENCE WHICH WILL ALWAYS COME USEFUL

There are students who leave a good memory of their good deeds for a long time. A fifth-year student of the 7th Medical Faculty for International Students Magapy Veera Venkata Akhil belongs to this cohort.



Time is flying fast. It seems that he has recently spoken for the first time at a students' conference held by the Department of Philosophy. Three years have passed since then already. During this time, Akhil Magapu participated in 16 international and regional conferences. Worked on philosophy and philosophical issues of medicine, were presented at 9 of such meetings. The scientific adviser of these works was Doctor of Philosophy, Professor Kateryna Karpenko.

Akhil Magapu was also among the winners of the XII Regional Students' Contest for Gender Studies. With special piety, Akhil related to the annual Skovorodinsky readings, a permanent participant of which he had been in the past 3 years. In the field of medical science and practice, his attention was drawn to the issues of gender medicine and euthanasia. He proved his reliability in addressing these issues by initiating a visit to Kharkiv Hospice. Having some experience, he worked at a hospice in André, Pradesh, India.

There is absolutely no doubt that the practical and theoretical competences for research work that Magapy Veera Venkata Akhil gained during the study at KhNMU will be of use to him.

## INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES AND CONFERENCES

## REPRESENTATIVE OF KHNMU TOOK PART IN THE WORLD PHILOSOPHICAL CONGRESS



On August 13–20, 2018, the XXIV World Philosophical Congress was held in Beijing, China. The theme of the Congress was “Learning to be Human”. This Congress has become the largest in the history of the World Philosophical Congress since 1900: it has registered about 7,000 people from 150 countries of the world. The programme consisted of five plenary sessions, 10 symposia and five lectures of invit-

ed professors. The work was held at 99 sections on different subjects.

With the oldest philosophical traditions in human history, China has given a unique opportunity to raise fundamental questions about personality, society, nature, spirituality, traditions, and modernity. The Congress paid attention to the problems of conflict, inequality and injustice associated with the development of planetary civilization, which is scientific, technical, and multicultural.

The Acting Head of the Department of Philosophy Prof. Katerina Karpenko gave a presentation at the section on the history of philosophy. She was one of the co-chairs at the Invited Session “Women in the History of Philosophy and Science”, representing the mentioned issues in the context of the three continents: the USA, Australia, and Europe.

The work of the Congress was complemented by a number of satellite activities. On August 10–12, Beijing hosted the XVII Symposium of the International Association of Women Philosophers (IAPH). On August 20–26, participants of the Congress had the opportunity to communicate and share experiences with Chinese counterparts in Hangzhou and Shanghai.

*By materials of the site of KhNMU*

## INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

*The ways of life*

*‘The wheel of history continues to turn inexorably, changing structures and formations, by turning round an attitude, a perception, and tasks of mankind’, that is what I was thinking about during my journey around the gorgeous and huge country the Republic of India.*



My mission as the Vice-Dean of the VII Faculty for International Students of KhNMU’s Education and Research Institute for Training of International Citizens, at first glance, was simple and unpretentious. I had to get the Indian youth who were applicants of KhNMU acquainted with Kharkiv National Medical University. I answered various questions of parents and future students about the level of education at KhNMU as in one of the oldest medi-

cal schools in Eastern Europe. I spent two weeks holding seminars in the north of the country. My way ran through such cities as Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Chandigarh, Ambala, Yamunanagar, Karnal, Panipat, and Delhi. I travelled with representatives of the local educational organizations, namely, Mr. Ritesh Singh (“Bob Trade”), and Dr. Karan Sandhu (“Edu Pedia Overseas”).

I would like to note that the northern states of the Republic of India are inhabited by the Sikhs. In ancient times, people from the Black Sea region moved to the foothills of the Himalayas. They were hunters and farmers, and called the Sikhs. The main the Sikhs’ mission was to protect people. In peacetime, their occupation was agriculture, but in a moment of danger, they took up arms. The Sikhs

are deeply respected in the Republic of India. Colourful oriental turbans are an integral part of their clothes. The Sikhs profess their own religion.

During our stay in Amritsar, we visited the Golden Temple, otherwise known as the Sikhs’ Mecca. Its roof is made of pure gold, which is not less than 100 kilograms! Four doors lead to the building. They allow representatives of different religions to pray here. The Golden Temple has Sri Guru Granth Sahib – the main shrine of the Sikhs. This is the only relic in the world, written by ten prophets on their own.

On the last day, we returned to Delhi, and then went to Agra, 200 kilometres east of the capital, to see the Taj Mahal mausoleum, which is the seventh wonder of the world. This great tomb was built on the order of the Tamerlane’s descendant, Padishah Shah Jahan, in memory of his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, who died giving birth to the fourteenth child. I was impressed by the size and beauty of this building. It is a miracle that the Taj was built in 1632-1653, when there were no modern technologies.

Due to this journey, I had such a great chance to explore the Asian world, which is absolutely different from Europe and Ukraine.



**Yevgeniya Ilyina,**

*Vice-Dean of the VII Faculty for International Students  
of KhNMU Education and Research Institute  
for Foreign Nationals*

## «Medical University»

Registration certificate HK No. 2098 - 839 of 05.03.2014

Founder – Academic community of  
Kharkiv State Medical University.

Issued twice a year

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www.knnmu.kharkov.ua

Certificate of Registration №178 dated September 15, 2000

Approved for print 26.12.2018. Format 60 x 90/4.

Offset paper. Font Pragmatica. Offset printing.

Conventional print sheets 3. Publisher’s sheet 4.

Circulation 500 copies. Order №12/26.

Printed at «Kontrast» Publishing and Printing Enterprise.

Nauky Avenue 40, app. 231, Kharkiv, 61166, Ukraine

www.kontrast.kh.ua

The editorial office holds no responsibility for information accuracy. Original manuscripts are not revised or returned. The opinions expressed are those of the writers and are not

necessarily the official view of

Kharkiv National Medical University.

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