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Shmatko O. N.

**THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY LIVES IN ITS MUSEUMS
(FOR EXAMPLE, THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF STAVROPOL STATE AGRARIAN UNIVERSITY)**

The History Museum of the Stavropol State Agrarian University is the guardian of the history and historical memory of the university. Here you can get acquainted with the cultural and historical heritage of the university applicants, students, and its guests. Employees come here to share interesting material or, on the contrary, to get the information they need. After all, the history of the agrarian university is not only the history of buildings, classrooms, academic buildings, it is, first of all, the history of the formation of the teaching staff, the development of scientific schools. That is why the museum of the history of the university is a unique place for storing the rich history of the university and its traditions, a place for introducing students to this priceless heritage.

The protection of historical and cultural values began more than 145 years ago, since 1875, when the Caucasian Diocesan Women's School was located in the current administrative building of the Stavropol State Agrarian University. The buildings themselves – the academic buildings – breathe history. Here, in a small space, all the stages of the university's formation are reflected – from the North Caucasus Zootechnical Institute of the early twentieth century to the present day.

The History Museum of the Stavropol State Agrarian University has more than 45 years of history. In 1975, the Museum of Military and Labor Glory was opened in the Stavropol Agricultural Institute. It was located in one room and had about 500 exhibits. Materials on the main stages of the university's development were presented here. Much attention was paid to military subjects, participants of the Great Patriotic War and the post-war restoration of the Institute. The first head of the museum was Colonel of the reserve V. N. Golovin, who tirelessly collected materials recreating the history of the university.

From the first days of its existence, the museum attracted the attention of students, teachers and guests of the institute, becoming a place of traditional meetings of graduates of different years, one of the centers for the education of student youth and retaining this status to the present day [1, p. 14–63].

In 1977, the museum was headed by a senior lecturer of the Department of History, a participant of the Great Patriotic War, lieutenant colonel of the reserve Yefim Severyanovich Shevchenko. He made a great contribution to the design of the museum and was a real enthusiast in the study of the history of our university. Yefim Severyanovich fought on the Leningrad front, was awarded two Orders of the Patriotic War, two Orders of the Red Star and 16 medals.

In 2002, at the initiative of the rector of SSAU, Professor V. I. Trukhachev, work began on the reorganization of the museum. An area of about 300 m² has been allocated for the exhibition hall and the storage facility. A new profile of the museum was also chosen – the history of the university.

A lot of time was now devoted to archival work to clarify the available materials and establish new facts, search expeditions were organized to the regions of the Stavropol Territory in order to meet with former employees of the university. The result of this work has significantly expanded the Museum's collection as the picking process involved all the teachers and staff SSAU, great assistance to veterans who contributed their personal belongings, photos, and documents from the family archive.

Veterans of the Great Patriotic War, home front workers, employees and students of the Agrarian University were invited to the opening of the new museum in 2004, dedicated to the Victory Day. The guests expressed their gratitude in the Book of Reviews to the rector V. I. Trukhachev for respect for the memory of past years and attention to the veterans of the Great Patriotic War and labor.

Currently, the museum hall has 30 display cases, where more than five thousand exhibits are presented. The main exposition of the University History Museum is built according to the chronological principle. It consists of three sections: «History of the University», «History of faculties» and «University today».

The museum exposition is based on the principles of comprehensibility and universality, i. e. it takes into account the peculiarities of perception and the interest of various groups of visitors, which determines its social value.

Today, the university museum plays a great role in educating students and introducing them to the traditions of the university. The appeal of students to museum relics allows them to look at the events of the past from a new perspective, previously known to them only from history textbooks. The Museum of the history of the university allows you to study the real life of students and teachers who studied and worked at the university during its formation, formation and development. In the Museum is «link of times», is a kind of dialogue of generations, when the young would like to try on events and things of the past in order to learn how to live today [2, p. 649–652].

The museum forms students' civic position, a sense of patriotism and readiness to participate in the socio-political life of the country, contributes to the formation and development of students' historical consciousness. The museum accumulates the experience of civil and patriotic education.

Almost all the materials of the exposition of the historical hall of the museum, covering the history of the university since its foundation, arouse a sincere interest in the history of the university among students and employees. It presents the results of museum research on the history of the university's faculties, the university's activities during the Great Patriotic War, the lives of students and teachers who went to the front, the construction of new modern academic buildings and dormitories, and extracurricular work, which arouses sincere interest among students, teachers, staff and guests of the university.

The museum is the custodian of an invaluable fund of historical and cultural heritage. Of particular interest to employees and students are the personal funds of leading scientists and graduates of the university, which are actively in demand in the educational, scientific and educational work of the university. The almost complete set of the newspaper «For Agricultural Cadres» stored in the university museum provides inexhaustible material for many sections of the modern student press.

The exposition «Stavropol Agricultural Institute during the Great Patriotic War», dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War, designed and placed in the first section of the museum, forms respect for the historical past, the activities of previous generations [3, p. 104–106]. Every year, all first-year students visit the museum, and together with their curators come to the exhibitions. This not only introduces students to the history of the university, but also facilitates their adaptation to the learning process.

A special place in the museum's activities is occupied by exhibitions dedicated to anniversaries and memorable dates associated with the names of outstanding graduates, teachers and employees, whose biography in different years was closely associated with the Stavropol State Agrarian University [4, p. 3–29].

The subject of students' research interest is the modern history of the university and its symbols: the university anthem, coat of arms and flag, flags of faculties, badges of various university programs, as well as museum expositions dedicated to the sports traditions of the university. The historical exposition of the museum reflects the traditional Torch Relay, which forms the traditions of sports patriotism. The museum also keeps samples of high culture of amateur artistic creativity of students: videos and CDs with recordings of performances of university vocal and dance studios, the orchestra of folk instruments not only on the university stage, but also at various competitions and festivals of the city, regional, All-Russian and international level.

One of the specific tasks of the University History Museum is to educate students about museum culture. The museum strives to evoke respect for historical and cultural monuments, for the work of the person who created them, for the preservation of military and cultural traditions for future generations. The acquaintance of first-year students with the university begins with the museum, and on the first day, the «Day of Knowledge», on the excursion, students do not just study the history of the university, moving from section to section, they seem to leaf through the book of time and write themselves into new pages [5, p. 46].

Thus, the museum of the history of the university contributes to the formation of conditions for the spiritual, moral and patriotic education of students, intellectual, creative and physical development of students, the realization of their creative potential. Visits to the museum, museum tours and conversations contribute to the formation of students' historical consciousness, introducing them to the spiritual values and cultural traditions of Russia, contribute to the awareness of a person as a social being connected with the moral and cultural tradition of the country.

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