

MEDICAL EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY

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გამოცემა მოგვითხრობს საქართველოში უმაღლესი სამედიცინო განათლების დაარსების ისტორიას და გვაცნობს ივანე ჯავახიშვილის სახელობის თბილისის სახელმწიფო უნივერსიტეტის მედიცინის ფაკულტეტის დღევანდელ მიღწევებსა და გამოწვევებს.

წიგნი ყველა თაობისა და პროფესიის მკითხველს დააინტერესებს.

The book is devoted to the history of foundati on of higher medical educati on in Georgia and acquaints us with the recent achievements and challenges of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University Faculty of Medicine.

It is intended for the reader of every age and profession.

კონცეფციის ავტორი მთარგმნელი

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In Lieu of a Foreword

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University is the first Georgian university and the first national university in the Caucasus. While working on establishing the Georgian University, the founders of alma mater were guided by two basic principles: restoring centuries-old Georgian educational traditions and introducing a modern European university model. As for the national educational roots, they go back hundreds of years, when a famous rhetoric school of Kolkheti Academy existed on the territory of Georgia in the 3rd-4th centuries AD. It is known that medicine was taught in Gelati and Ikalto academies (XII c.). Like the oldest Bologna University, the curriculum of Gelati Academy envisaged teaching the trivium and quadrivium subjects.

At the beginning of the 20th century, Ivane Javakhishvili took the lead for the establishment of Georgian University. Ivane Javakhishvili, Professor of Friedrich Wilhelm University (Berlin), arrived in Georgia in the spring of 1917 and headed the foundation of the Georgian University. The University was solemnly opened on 8 February 1918 (26 January, according to the Julian calendar). The establishment of medical education in Georgia traces its roots from that period as well. The issue of opening a Faculty of Medicine was discussed at the meetings of the Board of Professors on 27 February and 17 June of 1918; and upon decision of the Board of Professors dated by 9 April 1919, the Faculty of Medicine was established as an independent faculty. Creation of the Faculty of Medicine at the University laid the foundation not only for the higher medical education, but also for the development of theoretical and clinical fields of medicine in Georgia.

Presently, up to 22,000 students are studying at the seven faculties of Tbilisi State University. At the Faculty of Medicine teaching is conducted in the following directions: Medicine, Dentistry, Public Health. English language programs operate along with the programs in Georgian. About 1,400 students are studying at



the Faculty of Medicine, including 600 international students from different countries of the world. The academic staff is actively involved in various national and international projects. Teaching, bilateral mobility of students and academic staff, as well as joint research activities, are accomplished within the framework of the mentioned projects.

The University is proud of its recent achievements as well, including the gained national and international grants, issued international publications, as well as its position among the 2% of the world's best universities, ranking № 359 (The U.S. News&World Report – Best Global Universities Ranking 2017), and many others.

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, together with other state higher education institutions and scientific centres created within it, developed the famous Georgian medical science of the 20th century and entered its second century with far-reaching goals and high hopes.

I am honoured to congratulate the students, graduates and professors of TSU Faculty of Medicine on the anniversary of establishment of higher medical education in Georgia.

George Sharvashidze

Rector of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University 18 December 2018, Tbilisi

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