

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AS A FACTOR IN ENHANCING THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OF PROSPECTIVE LECTURERS

Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences (PhD), Associate Professor Oleksandr Chernenko¹

Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences (PhD), Associate Professor Rostyslav Liashenko¹

Doctor of Philosophy (D.Sc.), Professor Roman Oleksenko¹

Doctor of Political Sciences, Professor Yurii Ostapets²

Candidate of Biological Sciences, Associate Professor Olga Pyurko³

Candidate of Biological Sciences, Associate Professor Liudmyla Arabadzh-Tipenko³

¹Volodymyr Vynnychenko Central Ukrainian State University, **Ukraine**

²Uzhhorod National University, **Ukraine**

³Bogdan Khmelnytsky Melitopol State Pedagogical University, **Ukraine**

ABSTRACT

The article is devoted to the scientific and theoretical justification of incorporating environmental education as a criterion in the accreditation of educational programs for professional training of prospective lecturers in the institutions of higher education within the quality management system. Environmental education has been considered a key element in the development of lecturers' competencies necessary for upbringing an environmentally conscious generation in the context of sustainable development and the national interests of Ukraine. The novelty of the study lies in proposing environmental education as a formal accreditation criterion, which expands traditional approaches to assessing the quality of training programs in pedagogical specialties. The research has employed methods of analogy, comparative analysis, logical-semantic and praxeological approaches, as well as interviews, testing, and surveys to assess the significance of developing environmental competence in prospective lecturers. The findings of the pedagogical experiment have confirmed the effectiveness of integrating environmental education, demonstrating an increase in the level of environmental competence of prospective lecturers, thereby justifying its incorporation into accreditation standards. Recommendations have been provided for improving training programs of institutions of higher education, introducing a course titled "Environmental Culture in Pedagogical Practice" and considering environmental education as a criterion in the accreditation of educational programs.

Keywords: environmental education, teacher, educational reforms, quality of education, educational programs.