

Материалы III Всероссийского научно-методологического семинара-конференции «Профессиональная подготовка студентов технического вуза на иностранном языке: методическая готовность преподавателей»

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## **RUSSIAN LANGUAGE AS A KEY FACTOR IN AIDING THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

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**Key words:** *Russian as a foreign language, modular training, professional field, integration.*

**Objectives:** to highlight the continuous effort of The National Research Tomsk Polytechnic University (TPU) in the implementation of Russian language courses for international students. This is done in order to improve the students' involvement and integration at the university. The internationalisation of the university, particularly the education that we provide for foreign citizens, is one of our priorities and helps us to further better our institution.

**Brief description of the case:** In 2002 TPU opened the specialised Russian as a Foreign Language (RFL) faculty with the aim of bringing the quality of teaching for foreign students up to date. It now boasts more than forty Russian language courses.

The main tasks of the department include the creation of effective teaching methods of Russian as a foreign language, the creation of modern educational resources, carrying out sought-after training programmes, as well as offering optimal immersion in the language. In order to perform these tasks successfully, the faculty takes it upon itself to offer step-by-step language programmes. These include the preparatory, intermediate, and advanced stages. («RFL: General fluency» module & «RFL: Use in a professional environment» module). The faculty also focuses on the development of modern teaching materials and the usage of electronic resources in aiding learning.

There are now also advanced tutorials and dedicated communication platforms, such as the Moodle platform. In addition to this, we run a Russian language club, the «Firebird» («Жар-птица»), as well as an Examination Centre.

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**Evgeniya Alekseevna Sherina** is a Member of the Philology Faculty and Head of Department of Russian as a Foreign Language at TPU. She has more than ten years of experience in improving the methods of teaching Russian as a foreign language and the integration of foreign students. Her specialties include testing and determining the level of proficiency of foreign students in Russian in accordance with international standards. Evgeniya Alekseevna is a certified examiner at RFL and an author of textbooks for international students. She also leads a programme devoted to further improving the teaching methods at RFL.