

Хотя обучение в Германии бесплатное, оно требует значительных денежных затрат на свое содержание, т.к. студент все должен оплачивать сам: проживание в общежитии, медицинскую страховку, питание, учебные материалы, развлечения и т.д. Поэтому многие студенты вынуждены подрабатывать, особенно те, которые, посчитав себя уже взрослыми, оторвались от родительских гнезд, решив добиться чего-либо в жизни, рассчитывая только на свои силы.

мась с ее функционированием. То, что там идеальная чистота, я и не сомневался, но меня поразило то, что почти за каждым столом стоял компьютер класса "Pentium", который содержал удобную базу всей литературы, имеющейся в университете, а также имелся выход в компьютерную сеть "Internet". Если студенту была необходима книга, то по ключевым словам в каталоге на компьютере он искал ее местоположение, а затем, списав данные на бумажку, шел ее искать. По всей библиотеке были расположены стеллажи с литературой, поэтому найти ее проблем не возникало. Если же литература была специализированной, то искать ее необходимо было в факультетских библиотеках.

Оригинальна и система оценок. Самой лучшей, по мнению немцев, является первая оценка, т.е. единица, затем двойка, тройка и т.д. Но в пределах этих чисел имеются и промежуточные, например, 1.7, 1.4 и т.п. С моей точки зрения, такая система оценок является более правильной, и я желал бы видеть ее в нашем университете.

Огромное значение уделяется велосипедному спорту, т.к. велосипед имеет ряд очевидных преимуществ перед легковым автомобилем. В Германии даже дороги разделены полосой, чтобы велосипедисты могли передвигаться, не опасаясь быть сбитыми машиной. Кроме того, езда на велосипеде доставляет огромное удовольствие, и поэтому этим сравнительно недорогим средством передвижения пользуются и молодежь, и студенты, и взрослые.

Одним из основных вопросов для немецкого студенчества является вопрос финансирования своей учебы. Хотя обучение в Германии бесплатное, оно требует значительных денежных затрат на свое содержание, т.к. студент все должен оплачивать сам: проживание в общежитии, медицинскую страховку, питание, учебные материалы, развлечения и т.д. И цены на это несравнимы с российскими. Поэтому многие студенты вынуждены подрабатывать, особенно те, которые, посчитав себя уже взрослыми, оторвались от родительских гнезд, решив добиться чего-либо в жизни, рассчитывая только на свои силы.

Все увиденное и пережитое значительно расширило мой кругозор. Находясь постоянно в обществе чужих нам по менталитету людей, я постоянно сравнивал моральные нормы, жизненные устои немцев с нашими. Конечно, во всем этом есть и положительные и отрицательные стороны.

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Still being learnt at school, I did not think about the trips abroad, especially - about special training. But I knew exactly, that I should enter only Tomsk polytechnical university, for my father is its graduate. The father sometimes took me with him to different scientific conferences and I listened to the speeches and reports of scientists of TPU. I understood nothing yet but I had a great respect for that people, and I liked to be among them.

At school I have directed my entire mind to the study of physics and mathematics, and I was enlisted in a physic-mathematical

“Он из Германии
туманной привез учености
плоды”

class. In 11-th class I attended preparatory courses at TPU. It was really powerful preparation for me to pass the entrance examinations, and it was also a good basis of knowledge for the further study in the university.

Of course, the matriculant always has a difficult problem of a faculty choice. It is not so easy for a young schoolboy to make such a crucial step, being the first step before the entrance in the independent adult life. Fortunately, there were not problems with the advices. The good advertising of faculties was given for us in the reception commissions: there was shown a documentary film about АЭЭФ, there was carried out an excursion to АБТФ. After consulting to the parents, I have decided to file my documents to the faculty of automatics and electric power industry, because it seemed for us a very perspective and interesting direction.

Some weeks later I received the letter from the Russian-German Center (RGC) of training and scientific researches at TPU with the invitation to be trained by an original method of Goethe Institute. The study in RGC has appeared very interesting and cognitive. Only there I began to study German deeply, to learn the life, culture, traditions and customs of Germany. Everything that was new and exciting to me. After completing the first year of study I had the first language and fact-finding practice in Germany in the group of the RGC students. We visited Berlin, Bonn, Cologne and others cities. Our group went sightseeing in these cities with pleasure: in Berlin we saw Brandenburg gate and Reihstag; in Bonn we saw the house where Ludwig Van Beethoven was born and his monument, we made boat walks on Rhine. In Cologne we have visited famous Catholic

church. We lived in a common student hostel of Germany: everybody lived in a single room where there were a bed, two chairs, a table, the shelves, bookcase and wash-hand stand with a mirror. Only toilets, showers and kitchen were of the common usage. A stone's throw away, there was situated a supermarket, where it was possible to buy everything that we needed. Every morning at the Institute of language and society we trained German together with the students from Jordan, Korea, Argentina, Botswana, France and other countries. Therefore each meeting was brisk and meaningful. We asked each other about life of the people in his country. On lectures there were a light atmosphere, where each student had the right of his own opinion. After finishing the German lessons we went to have our dinner in a student restaurant, where it was possible to eat cheaply. There were always queues but they went rather fast because the distribution of dishes was put on the conveyor. Satisfied and pleased, we examined sights of Bonn with our guide: the botanical garden, Poppelsdorf castle, the town hall, the house of Ludwig Van Beethoven, a monument erected in his honor and many other things. We took part in Bonn University's practical lesson of German.

From everything that I have seen I had very strong impressions and wanted to visit this country once again, and probably to connect my future activity with Germany. During all second year of studying I learned German hardly and by the end of academic year I received the invitation to take part in the international holiday course of German language, culture and history which should be held in the summer of 1996 at Ilmenaw technical university in Turingia. It

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has appeared a very picturesque and exotic place in mountains among the woods. There I agreed with opinion of the Germans, that Turingia is a green heart of Germany. The technical university is situated in the Ilmenaw suburb and represents a kind of campus where the hostels and educational buildings are in immediate nearness to each other. All participants have got the program of the courses with the timetable of the events, a badge with the name and a room in a hostel. I was settled with a student from Taiwan who unfortunately did not speak German, but only English and Chinese. We couldn't understand each other for a long time and had to commune with gestures. After writing of the test in German language all students were allocated in the groups of complexity, and in the evening there was a party for the participants, during which they, naturally, closely got acquainted with each other and also danced. Spanish pair showed a hot dance "Makarena". The participating students had arrived from the various countries practically from all over the world and dealings with them was of great interest for me, the more so that we could speak only German. The opportunity for the closer acquaintance was given during various events, which were widely represented in the program of the courses. For us there were showed the performances and films, we learnt to sing German national songs and also to dance national dances, and it was pleasant to me most of all. I was in such a feeling that I have got to the eighteenth century. For us there were arranged numerous excursions to Ilmenaw and other cities of Turingia: Arnstadt, capital of Turingia - Erfurt, Eisenach - birthplace of J.-S. Bach, city of German classics - Weimar and concentra-

tion camp Buchenwald, Jena and its university and others. For us there was arranged a bicycle tour to Singen village including the visit to the old brewery and tasting of generous beer. And in the evenings since 22 o'clock, the participants went to the students' club, to make a friendly conversation with a tankard of beer and to learn each other better. But not only the entertainments attracted the participants, but also the trainings of German language. Each morning at 8.30 there began intensive lessons on various themes, and for anyone who wished, there were also lectures on politics and economy, which were given by the German professors. In the audiences there are always cleanliness and order, and the students listen to the lecturer attentively and sometimes ask questions. For three weeks of contacts everyone of us has improved his German so well, that there were practically no hitches in speech. By the end of the courses the management has gifted to each participant an address book with photos and addresses of all students participated in the courses. For that short period all of us became friends, and we did not want to part, and wrote warm wishes to each other in the address books with the promises to correspond. I was so pleasant with that I have seen, that I got to regret, that there were no such remarkable courses in Russia, which represented a great information channel for the foreign students and a way of the making and strengthening of friendship and mutual relation.

After finishing the third year of studying all students of АЭЭФ were obliged to do practical work at electropower enterprises. Since the subfaculty "Electropower systems and mains", where I am

trained, has the official contractual agreements on cooperation with the subfaculty of "Electrical installations and mains" of Ilmenaw Technical University, I sent a request to the chief of the subfaculty "ЭУиС" of ITU about the possibility of my practicing there. Soon I have received the affirmative answer. The practice included processing and analysis of results of measurement of electrical system parameters at a steel-melting plant with a powerful arc furnace, working on direct current. This theme was very interesting and new for me, because in Russia such plants are rather rare. I have mastered not only work with the specialized software "DigiS", but also a special technical lexicon. Besides I have spent some time in a library getting acquainted with its functioning. I even did not doubt about the ideal cleanliness there, but I was really shocked that almost on each table there was a computer of a "Pentium" class, which contained a convenient base of the literature available at the university, and also there was access to the computer network "Internet". If the book was necessary for a student, he sought it by the key words in the catalogue on the computer site, and then with the data on a piece of paper, he went to seek it. In the whole library there stood racks with the literature, hence there was no problem to find it. If the literature was specialized it was necessary to search for it in the faculty libraries. The system of the marks is also very original. As for opinion of the Germans, the best mark is 1 and then follows 2, 3 etc. But within the limits of these numbers there are also available intermediate marks, for example: 1.7, 1.4 etc. On my point of view, this system of marks is more correct than our

one and I would like to see it at our university.

The great importance is given to the bicycle sport, because the bicycle has a number of obvious advantages over the car. In Germany roads are divided by a strip, so that cyclists can ride without a risk of being knocked down by a car. Moreover, ridding a bicycle makes a great pleasure, therefore this rather inexpensive transport is widely used by youth, and students, and adults.

One of the main problems for German students is the problem of financing of the study. Though the training in Germany is free-of-charge, it requires significant material costs, because a student should pay for everything himself: residing in a hostel, medical insurance, his meals, educational materials, entertainment etc. And the local prices are incomparable with the Russian ones. Therefore many students have to earn additionally, especially those who have regarded themselves already as adults and decided to come off from the parents' nests, preferring to achieve something in life, relying on their own.

Everything that I have seen and experienced, considerably expanded my outlook. Being continuously in a society of people with a quite another mentality, I constantly compared moral norms, vital foundations, and rules of behavior of the Germans. Certainly, there are both positive and negative sides in all that.

*Andrei Shustov,
Student of TPU*

*"From misty
Germany
he brought the
fruits of erudition"*

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