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The Current Situation in the System of Higher Education in the Far East of Russia

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Abstract—At present the higher educational institutions (HEI) of Russia unite approximately 6,000,000 teachers, researchers, students, and postgraduates altogether . They include over 1000 universities, institutes, and other educational institutions. It is not a secret anymore that traditionally very strong, Russian educational systems are struggling with a very severe crisis now. The situation was such that in the 1990s, especially in the far East, that government funding was unreliable. Thus reality has forced the HEI to search for second and third sources of funds. We should mention this peculiarity of the current Russian provincial HEI: there are not so many private institutions because people prefer to send their children to study in state institutions, even if they have to pay for that. In the new and difficult situation of the 1990s the Scientific Councils and the authorities of the HEI used the obtained freedom to find their own ways to remedy the situation. One typical way to improve their rating in the lists of HEI is to take a new name (university, academy, and institute) and reorganize the structure of the institution. Sakhalin State University, which was founded in 1949 as result of a decision by the Federation government as a teacher's institute, is very typical in that sense for the Far East of Russia as it is a young and dynamically developing university. Now, there are more than 4500 students and post-graduate students. A typical academy in the Far East is the Khabarovsk State Academy of Economics and Law which has almost 9,000 full-time and part time students and more than 300 teachers. The author reviews the other universities, academies, and institute and cast light on the current situation in the research sphere.

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1. Foreword.

1.1 Higher education in modern Russia. Current situation.1990s.

Higher education in Russia was established in 1725 by Peter.. Since that time it has gone through different periods and many changes. Today it is in one of the most difficult stages, but the traditions of the glorious past help us to overcome the current troubles. At present the higher educational institutions (HEI) of Russia unite approximately 6,000,000 teachers, researchers, students and postgraduates. They include over 1000 universities, institutes and other educational institutions.[1] The system of higher education comprises nearly 800 research establishments, experimental design offices, experimental manufacturing enterprises, etc[2].

There are two systems of property and financing of the HEI in Russia- the state and the non-state: i.e., private, share property, etc. Among the 1065 institutions reported exist in Russia in 1999, 731institutions belong to the state and 334 are private, or of different non-state status[3] (see **Table 1**). There are 24 Ministers and Government Committees responsible for the different branches of higher education in Russia[4]. Thus, the system is quite complicated, but there is a good choice for the field of study and scientific activity within the free market reality in Russia of the 1990s.

HEI teach in the following academic programs, which conform to the national standards worked out on the basis

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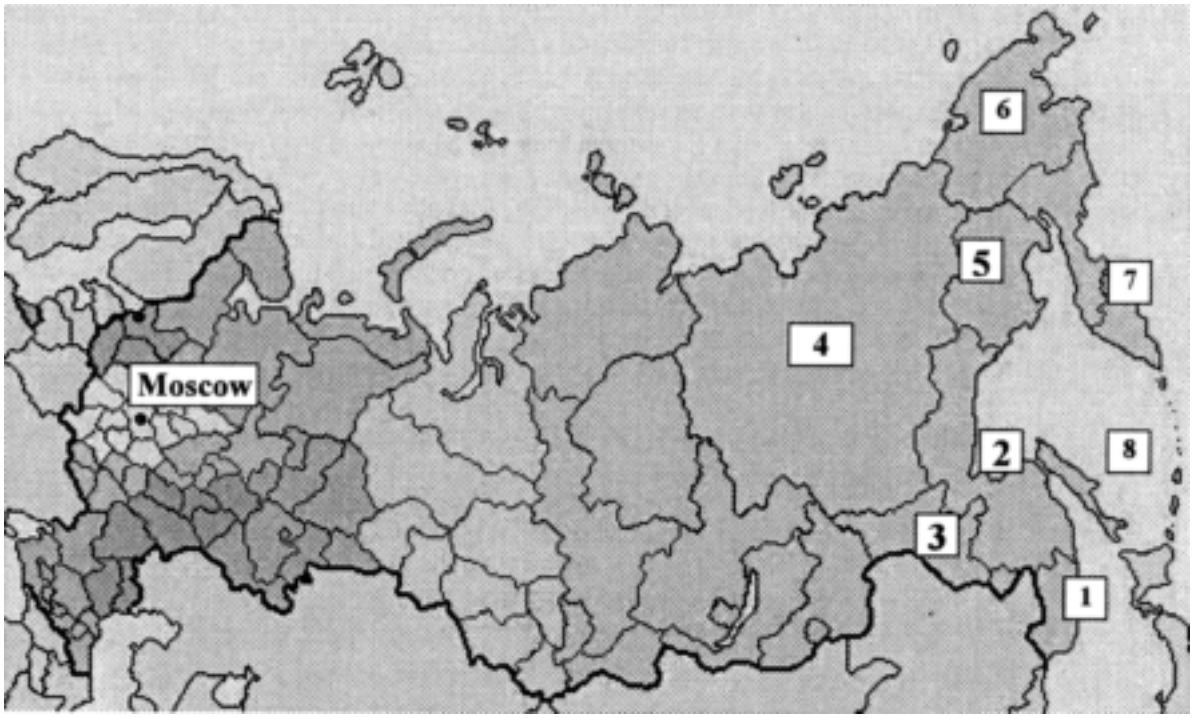
of the Federation Law On Education. Since the 1960s higher education has become a very natural stage of study after 10 or 11 years at school. Now there is an 11-year school system consisted of primary, secondary and high schools[5]. Extending from 11 to 12 years study at school is currently being considered. There are four-year programs after which the graduate is awarded a Bachelor's degree and five-year programs to win qualifications as various specialists - engineers, teachers, agronomists, economists, etc. Six-year programs include those leading to a Bachelor's degree in the chosen field of study and a two-year specialized course of training and practice, which suggests further research-educational and scientific activities of the graduate to be awarded a Master's degree.

The graduates with a bent for research work may pursue their education as postgraduates. There are postgraduate courses offered by the most prestigious universities. After this one have the opportunity to obtain the Kandidate of Science (a degree equivalent to PhD). There is one more scientific degree, the Doctor of Science, the highest in Russia, which is usually awarded to renowned scientists for their great contributions to science[6].

It is not a secret that the traditionally very strong system of education of Russia now is struggling with a very severe crisis. Some of its problems will be mentioned below as concerning to the Far Eastern branch of the system. But, as this report does not especially target the problems of Russian education, I suggest that those interested look through the literature mentioned below[7].

1.2 Far East of Russia today.

In this report the author will give a brief description of the system of higher education in the Far East of Russia. This gigantic region now consists of two territories- Primorie and Khabarovsk, three regions- Sakhalinskaya, Kamchatskaya and Magadanskaya, the autonomous area of



1. Primorski Territory (Vladivostok)
2. Khabarovsk Territory (Khabarovsk)
   including Jewish Autonomous Republic (Birobidjan)
3. Amurski Territory (Blagoveshensk)
4. Republic of Sakha-Yakutia (Yakutsk)
5. Magadan Oblast (Magadan)
6. Chukot Autonomous Area (Anadyr)
7. Kamchatka Region (Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski)
   including Koryak Auton. Terr. (Palana)
8. Sakhalin Region (Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk)

Figure 1. The Far East Region of Russia.

Tables and diagrams

Table1 "Higher education in modern Russia."

(after the combined official information of the Research Institute for Higher Education of Russia[20] and other)

Subject	years					
	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998
Population of Russia*(mln.people)*	143,8	148,0	148,3	148,0	147,5	147,1
Students of state higher educational institutions /SHEI/ (thousands people)	2966	2824	2642	2802	3046	3347
Students of SHEI for 10 000 people All over Russia (average)	**206**	**191**	**178**	**189**	**207**	**228**
Students of SHEI for 10 000 people in the Far East			**155**			
Students who study in the SHEI for state budget (thous. people)			2414	2476	2572	2581
Students who study in the non-state HEI /NSHEI/(thous people)			135	162	202	251
The number of students of different property HEI (thous. people)	2966	2824	2777	2964	3248	3598
Students of different property HEI for 10 000 people	**206**	**191**	**187**	**200**	**220**	**245**
The number of students of colleges (thous. people)	2478	2270	1923	1976	2011	2052
The total number of students of colleges and different HEI (thous. people)	5444	5094	4700	4940	5259	5650
students of colleges and different HEI for 10 000 people	378	344	328	334	357	384

[20] Magister.- *newsletter of the Institute for the Higher Eeducation of Russia.-* # *9(50)September- October 1999. (http//www.informika.ru)*

Chukotka, and the Republic of Sakha- Yakutia. The Koryak autonomous area (Kamchatka) and the Jewish autonomous Republic (Khabarovsk) are also included. People of more then 100 nationalities inhabit this very vast and mostly uninhabited region. The area of the the Russian Far East is about 6,216,000 square km. This is almost two-thirds the size of the USA. However the population in 1998 was only 7,463,000 people, compared to the all-Russia population of almost 147,100,000 people. The cities in which higher educational institutions are concentrated are Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Yakutsk, Yuzhno- Sakhalinsk, Blagoveshensk, Petropavlovsk- Kamchatski, Komsomolsk, Magadan, Birobidjan, and Ussuriisk. People are migrating out of the region at a very high rate, reflecting a relatively low level of expectation that life in the region will become better, and the level of life expectancy there is slightly below the low all-Russian average. There are 155 students per each 10.000 inhabitants, compared to the 178 average for all of Russia[8]. At the same time, many Russian-speaking people from the former republics of the Soviet Union migrate into the region in search of a better, and safer life. There were 62 HEI in 1998 in the Far East. A description and brief analysis of the current situation in Higher Education System of the Russian Far East appears below.

2. System of Higher Education in the Far East of Russia. Current situation.

2.1 **History.**

Higher education was established in the Far East of Russia only in 1899 when the Oriental Institute in Vladivostok was founded. In 1920 the Far Eastern National University was established on the basis of this Institute. It had 3 faculties: Oriental Studies, History and Philology, and Social Sciences. The number of students was 349. In 1923, the Vladivostok Educational and Polytechnical Institutes and the Chita National University were joined to the Far Eastern University. The number of faculties therefore increased. The greatest development of the HE system took place after World War II. From the 1960s to 1990s there were about 25 state HEI. The basic institutions of this system were the Far Eastern University, Higher Marine School, three polytechnic institutes, three medical and seven educational institutes. The main centers of higher education since that time have been Vladivostok, Khabarovsk and Yakutsk.

2.2 **System Information.**

Now (1999) there are 62 HEI in the Far East of Russia[9]. Among them there are 16 universities, 8 academies, 10 institutes, and 28 HEI are branches of central and regional universities and institutions[10]. Within the list of the branches, there are 5 local branches of instituitions located in Moscow, 2 from St. Petersburg, 19 of Far Eastern (mostly from Vladivostok and Khabarovsk) institutions and 2 of Siberian HEI (see **Table 2**).

2.3 **Property, budget and related problems.**

State HEI are the predominant form in the higher educational sphere, especially within those institutions that go through the process of state assessment. As for private higher educational institutions, they are not so numerous, accounting for only 8 of the above mentioned 62, or 12,9%. This is higher than the average in Russia (7,5 %- 1998), but lower than in the capital of Russia. For comparison: in Moscow in 1998 there were 139 state HEI and 117 of non-state higher education institutions (see **Table 3**). It is interesting to note that at the same time in Sakhalin, almost one-third of students studied in private institution.

There has been a problem, which is almost solved now, concerning the status of non-state institutions and local branches of different HEI. Most of them were arranged as small enterprises, the main target of which was to earn money in the province. This form was mostly popular in the early mid-1990s, when government funds were reduced. It was the time of the spontaneous formation of the free market. Thus, there was a place for some questionable projects, when some not-very-honest businessmen used people's desire to give their children higher education to improve their personal well-being. This problem has now been almost completely resolved due to two factors: state interference, mainly in the form of obligatory accreditation and annual control of all forms of the HEI, and the self-regulation of the free market.

The budget of the modern state HEI consists of three main sources:

1. Federal or regional government funds, mainly for study activity and less for fundamental reseach;
2. Money coming from the students in the form of payment for study (from those students who pay for the whole course, or some special courses);
3. Funds, obtained from non-state sources for applied research: some public, social or educational projects, private donations, etc.

2.4 **Main problems due to budget reductions**.

The situation was such that in the 1990s, especially in the Far East, that government funding was very unreliable. Thus reality has forced the HEI to search for second and third sources of funds. We should mention this peculiarity of the current Russian provincial HEI- there are not so many private institutions because people prefer to send their children to study in state institutions, even if they have to pay for that. Thus, there is a tendency for there to be two categories of students in such institutions: those who obtained good marks and study for free, and those who pay for their study. There is also a category, which pays for certain

Table2
"Higher Educational Institutions. Far East of Russia."
(on the combined official information of the Research Institute for Higher Education of Russia and other web data[20])

TOWN	HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION (HEI)	FIELD OF STUDY	CONTACT
1	2	3	4
1. Artem	Branch of the Far Eastern Technical University	Engineering	
2. Artem	Branch of the Far Eastern University	University	
3. Blagoveshensk	Amur State University	University	rektor@amgu.amur.su
4. Blagoveshensk	Blagoveshensk state Educational University	Education and Culture	bgpi@on-line.jar.ru
5. Blagoveshensk	Far Eastern State Agricultural University	Agriculture	Fax: (4162) - 423179
6. Bolshoi Kamen'	Branch of the Far Eastern State Engineering University	Engineering	
7. Vladivostok	Vladivostok State Medical University	Health and Physical Culture	Fax: (4232) - 251719
8. Vladivostok	Vladivostok State University of Economy and Service	Economy and Service	www.vvsu.ru
9. Vladivostok	Far Eastern State Academy of Economy and Management	Economy and Business	dvki3@vldv.rosmail.com
10. Vladivostok	Far Eastern State Marine Academy	Shipping	Fax: (4232) - 219223
11. Vladivostok	Far Eastern State Technical Fisheries University	Nutrition products	www.marine.su/FESTFU

[20] Only Higher Educational Institutions. No colleges are included into the list.

12. Vladivostok	Far Eastern State Institute of Arts	Arts	Fax: (4232) - 264922,264488
13. Vladivostok	Far Eastern State Technical University	Engineering	www.festu.ru
14. Vladivostok	Far Eastern State University	University	www.dvgu.ru
15. Vladivostok	Far Eastern Branch of the S-Petersburg Humanitarian University of the Trade-Unions (non-state)	Education and Culture	constant@online.marine.su
16. Vladivostok	Institute of management and business of the Far Eastern State University	University	admin@ccimb.dvgu.ru ostanin@ccimb.dvgu.r
17. Vladivostok	Branch of the Komsomolsk on Amur Educational Institute in Vladivostok	Education and Culture	
18. Vladivostok	Branch of the Russian Customs Academy	Economy	rincom@online.ru
19. Vladivostok	Branch of the S-Petersburg State Engineering and Economical Academy	Economy	Fax: (4232) - 462505
20. Dalnegorsk	Branch of the Far Eastern State Technical University	Engineering	Phone:(42373) - 92538
21. Dalnerechensk	Branch of the Far Eastern State Technical University	Engineering	
22. Komsomol'sk-on-Amur	Komsomol'sk-on-Amur State Educational Institute	Education and Culture	kgpi@kgpi.kms.ru
23. Komsomol'sk-on-Amur	Komsomol'sk-on-Amur State Technical University	Engineering	root@knapi.khabarovsk.su
24. Magadan	Northern International University	University	admin@ipu.magadan.su
25. Magadan	Branch of the Moscow State Academy of Law	Law	Fax: (41322) - 97187
26. Myrnyi	Branch of the Yakutsk State University	University	ygumir@yacc.yakutia.su
27. Nakhodka	Institute of Technology and Business (private)	Economy	itib@online.Nakhodka.ru
28. Nakhodka	Branch of the Vladivostok	Economy	Phone: (42366) - 27295

	State University of Economy and Service		
29. Nakhodka	Branch of the Far Eastern State Technical University	Engineering	niei@relay.nakhodka.ru
30. Nakhodka	Branch of the Far Eastern State University	University	Phone: (42366) - 24185
31. Nakhodka	Branch of the Far Eastern State Academy of Economy and Management	Economy	
32. Nerungri	Branch of the Yakutsk State University	University	Fax: (41147) - 44983
33. Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski	Far Eastern Academy of Management, Business and Law (private)	Economy	grig@svyaz.kamchatka.su
34. Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski	Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of the Foreighn Trade	Economy	grig@svyaz.kamchatka.su
35. Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski	Kamchatka State Fish-Marine Academy	Fish-Marine	rektor@marine.kamchatka.su
36. Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski	Kamchatka State Educational Institute	Education and Culture	Phone: (41522) - 26822
37. Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski	Branch of the Far Eastern State Technical University	Engineering	Phone: (41522) - 28531
38. Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski	Branch of the Far Eastern State University	University	Phone: (41522) - 27961
39. Ussuriisk	The Maritime State Agricultural Academy	Agriculture	Fax: (42341) - 28303
40. Ussuriisk	Ussuriisk State Educational Institute	Education and Culture	rector@dionis.vladivostok.ru
41. Ussuriisk	Branch of the Far Eastern State Academy of Economy and Management	Economy	
42. Khabarovsk	Far Eastern Academy of the State Service	State Service	rector@main.drags.khv.ru
43. Khabarovsk	Far Eastern State Medical University	Health	Fax: (4212) - 227208
44. Khabarovsk	Far Eastern State University of Transport Communication	Transport Communication	root@habiigt.khv.ru

45. Khabarovsk	The Far Eastern Department of the Moscow University of the Consumer Coop Trade (non-state)	Economy	Phone: (4212) - 215553
46. Khabarovsk	Khabarovsk State Academy of Economy and Law	Economy	rector@ael.khstu.ru www.ael.khstu.ru
47. Khabarovsk	Khabarovsk State Institute of Culture and Arts	Education and Culture	Fax: (4212) - 225677
48. Khabarovsk	Khabarovsk State Institute of Physical Culture	Health and Physical Culture	Fax: (4212) - 225677
49. Khabarovsk	Khabarovsk State Educational University	Education and Culture	khspu@dv.khv.ru
50. Khabarovsk	Khabarovsk State Technical University	Engineering	www.khstu.khabarovsk.su/
51. Khabarovsk	Branch of the Siberian State Academy of Telecommunication and Informatics.	Communication	neis@neis.khabarovsk.su
52. Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk	Sakhalin State University	University	www.sakhgu.sakhalin.ru
53. Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk	Yuzhno- Sakhalinsk Institute of Commerce of Moscow State University of Commerce	Economy	root@mskcom.sakhalin.su
54. Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk	Yuzhno- Sakhalinsk Institute of Economy, Law and Informatics (private)	Economy	http://sakhiepi.kriljonservice.ru/
55.	Institute Sam Yuk (private)	Languages, religion	
56. Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk	Branch of Khabarovsk State Academy of Economy and Law	Economy	Phone: (42422) - 796232
57. Yakutsk	Yakutsk State Agricultural Academy	Agriculturel	Fax: (4112) - 264949
58. Yakutsk	Yakutsk State University	University	http://somunix.uafsom.alaska.edu/~yakutsk/
59. Yakutsk	Yakutsk branch of the Academy of Labour and Social Relations	Economy	Phone: (4112) - 250612
60. Yakutsk	Department of the Eastern Siberia State Academy of Culture and Arts	Education and Culture	
61. Yakutsk	Branch of the S-Petersburg	Education и Culture	Phone: (4112) - 61159

	Humanitarian University of the Trade-Unions		
62. Yakutsk	Branch of the School- Studio of MHAT	Arts	Fax: (4112) - 450348

Table 3
"Forms of property of Higher Educational Institutions in Moscow and Far East of Russia."

(on the combined official information of different sources)

Type of HEI	State HEI			Private HEI		
	Moscow	All Far East	Sakhalin	Moscow	Far East	Sakhalin
Universities of all types (Comprehensive, Technical, Educational, Financial, etc.)	65	16	1	21	-	-
Academies (Law, Management, Transport, Commerce, etc.)	32	7	-	16	1	-
Institutes (different fields)	33	7	1	71	3	2
Conservatories (music)	1	-	-			
Higher Schools (Arts, Culture, Tourism)	6	-	-	7	-	-
Branches of all types of HEI	2	24	1	2	4	-
Total	**139**	**54**		**117**	**8**	

courses[11]. One should understand that in a situation where the budget is unreliable, the administrators tries to enlarge the remunerative groups. Thus, some talented graduates from provincial schools who cannot pay for their studies have no chance. Contrariwise, some poor students who are children of those who can pay, can enter the institutions.

The antiquated scientific apparatus and equipment, absence of funds for research, lack of books and fresh scientific literature, low and irregular salaries of teachers and lack of scholarships for students and post-graduates- all of these problems stem from the reduced budget of the state for higher education. To solve them through the commercialization of higher education seems not to be right.

There is a danger because of the existence of the generation gap among the older and the young educational staff members. The term "generation gap" here does not mean any misunderstanding between generations. It only means that one generation of HEI teachers, at least in our university was lost during the early and mid-1990s. For example, in the college where I am working, there are 3 professors and teachers aged 60 years, 10 are from 41-45, only two teachers aged 32, and 8 are 21-27 years of age. There are none between the ages of 32-40 and of 45-60. We can distinguish two gaps consisting of those who were students in middle of the 1960s and the 1980s. The first gap could be a specific feature of our college, but the latter is a direct consequence of the crash of the system of finance for higher education and of other shocks of the 1980s and 1990s. It is the state that should be responsible for the resolution of the above-mentioned problems. Because those still working in the system of higher education are ready to respond to a rapid and fair solution within the new parameters, the traditions of higher education are still preserved.

2.5 **Types of Institutions, Structure.**

In the new and difficult situation of the 1990s the Scientific Councils and the authorities of the HEI used the obtained freedom to find their own ways to remedy the situation. One typical way to attempt to improve their rating in the lists of HEI, was to take a new name (university, academy, institutie) and reorganize the structure of the institution. Thus new institutions with different structures but under the same names, for instance, "university", or "academy", appeared.

Hereafter we describe the three main types of HEI in the Far East of Russia: the university, academy and institute.

2.5.1 Universities.

As for universities, two types can be distinguished now, the comprehensive and the special (medical, technical, educational). In my opinion, in 1999 there are only two comprehensive universities in the region of the Russian Far East-the Far Eastern State University (Vladivostok) and the Sakha (Yakut) State University. According to the decision of the Eurasian association of Universities (1995) both of them were included in the list of the 43 comprehensive universities of the Russian Federation. Their targets and structure, fields of study, scientific and human's resources correspond well to the content of the concept "comprehensive." In the last ten years the universities have been also going through structural changes.

2.5.1.1 **Far Eastern State University (FESU).**

The university has an enrollment 7500 students (4500 full-time and 3000 in the evening and extra-mural departments). There are 634 instructors on the staff of the University, among them 45 Doctors of Sciences, Professors and 380 Candidates of Science[12], Associate Professors, 1 Associate Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, 2 Academicians and 3 Associate Academicians of the Russian Trade Academies. Now FESU includes 2 colleges (for Russians and for foreigners), three departments (Educational, Physical Education and Sports, Foreign Languages), 9 schools (including 51 departments), and 11 institutes (including 19 faculties and 52 departments).

Students are trained in 21 specialties: mathematics, applied mathematics, physics, astronomy, physics and technology of electronic equipment materials and components; biology; agricultural chemistry and soil science; chemistry, geography, meteorology, hydrology of land, oceanology, theory of social and political relations, history, law, international economic relations, oriental studies, journalism, Russian language and literature, and computers and automated systems software.

Over 50 students do their postgraduate courses at the University. There are specialized councils for defending doctoral and candidate's dissertations on the following scientific directions: solid body physics, theoretical physics, criminal law, organic chemistry, and the chemistry of elementary organic compounds. The University has agreements and international contacts with 20 universities and scientific centers in the USA, Japan, South Korea, and China, among others.[13]

2.5.1.2 **Sakhalin State University (SakhSU).**

This is very typical for the Far East of Russia as it is a young and dynamically developing university. It was founded in 1949 as a result of a decision by the government of the Russian Federation as a teacher's institute (college level). In 1954 it was transformed into an educational institute. From that period during many years it remained one of the major centers of science, education and culture of the Sakhalin region: among the graduates there are many journalists, politicians, writers, teachers, and directors of state organizations. On the basis of the decision of the Government of the Russian Federation of May 27, 1998?, by order of the Ministry of General and Vocational Education of Russia, the Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk State Educational Insti-

tute (Ministry of Education of Russia), Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk and Alexandrovsk-Sakhalinsk Pedagogical Colleges and the College of Arts (Administration of the Sakhalin region), were merged and the Sakhalin State University was created.

Now in SakhSU there are more than 4500 students and post-graduate students. The graduates of the university who show a propensity for research work can become postgraduates in SakhSU or study in some other institutions in Russia. There are 290 regular teachers. Among them there are more than 100 candidates and doctors of science (professors and associate professors) and some academicians of different Russian and foreign trade academies. It consists of 3 colleges, 6 educational and 2 scientific self-supporting scientific institutes[14], a general education faculty (special educational branch of the Petroleum and Gas Institute of Technology)[15], a department of pre-entrance training, 3 special university chairs, and also has a scientific library, publishing house, information center , some self-supporting educational divisions, and 2 scientific off town campuses. One who can see some kind of inconsistency in this structure should take into account the young age of most of such new universities and academies.

The need to change from an educational institute to a state university was motivated the strong needs of the Sakhalin Region for a multifunctional higher educational institution in the form of a university.[16] The reasons were: the need to develop of the oil industry, the rapid shift of the economical structure and lifestyle to the free-market, the lack of new market professions; the poverty of most families in the island, who could not send their children to study on the continent as they used to, and so on. But there is one more need which is usually not spoken of in the press. This need is a very common one, and is currently one of the most important in the educational sphere in Russia. As we now have competition in the field of education, which was impossible before, to obtain a better budget one should win new position in the regional and the country markets of higher education. The example of the Sakhalin State University is one of the most typical for present day Russia.

One more type of university is the technical one. Before perestroika all of the existing Far Eastern Technical Universities were Polytechnic Institutes. We should note that those institutions have obtained more freedom, increased the number of teaching specialties, and won more students. Their activity sometimes crosses the borders of the technical sciences. For example, in the Far Eastern State Technical University (FESTU) there are not only technical, but also social specialties.[17]To understand this change, I suppose, we need more time, since it is a very new phenomenon.

2.5.2 **Academy.**

A typical academy in the Far East is the Khabarovsk State Academy of Economics and Law (Ministry of General and Vocational Education of the Russian Federation). In this academy there are almost 9,000 full-time and part time students and more than 300 teachers. Among the staff there are about 35 doctors-professors, 120 candidates of science-associate professors, and more then 150 lecturers and assistants[18]. They provide the three main levels of education in this academy:

1. Preparatory training - preparing for future entrance and study in the academy;

2. Undergraduate education, including faculties of "Accounting and Auditing", "Commerce", "Finance", "International Economic Relations", "Law" and "Management"[19].

3. Graduate Education-post-graduate study (3-4 years), doctorate courses (2-3 years), study in the "Auditors and Accountants training and retraining" Center, in the Center of training arbitration and bankruptcy managers and assessors of enterprises' property, in the "Marketing Services" Center.

For example, the "Accounting and Auditing" faculty trains economists majoring in "Accounting and Auditing" and "Statistics." In the framework of the "Accounting and Auditing" major, the faculty aims at teaching students the following specializations: accounting and auditing in industry; accounting in foreign economic activity; accounting and auditing in credit institutions.The departments "Accounting and Control"," Auditing and Economic Analysis and Statistics" train specialists at the faculty. The staff includes 2 professors- doctors; 23 candidates of science-associate professors, and 20 lecturers and assistants. In this Academy specialists from the Economic Research Institute of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Science and teachers from the leading HEI of the country, including heads of different departments, are invited to read lectures and hold seminars. This feature is very typical now-to bring the professor from Moscow to the student in the Far East is easier than to take all of the students to study in the capital.

The students majoring in "Accounting in Industry" study the following subjects extensively: accounting theory, enterprise accounting, the accountant's computer-aided workplace, and enterprise auditing. Training in "Accounting and Auditing of Foreign Economic Activity" implies the study of such disciplines as accounting of foreign economic activity, international accounting and international standards, funds, stocks and securities, enterprise accounting, as well as intensive English study.

So as we can learn from the published facts, in the Far East the Academy is special, a big HEI in which students are trained in closely related professions. For example, in the Khabarovsk State Academy of Economics and Law they train lawyers, managers in different spheres, economists, businessman, etc. In the Kamchatka State Fish-Marine Academy, students study various marine professions. One

more feature of the academy is the high set of standards of teaching and study, comparable to those of comprehensive universities.

2.5.3 **Institute.**

There are 10 institutes in the present Far East of Russia, ten run by the state and three privately. Before the Russian Revolution of 1917, institute was a special name for a private high school. After 1917, this name was used for the higher educational and scientific research institutions. The rank and the power of the institutions usually were lower than those of the universities, even though the graduates obtained a diploma of higher education. Institutes usually provide knowledge in one special field- education, medicine, technology of machine manufacturing, radio electronics, and so on.

2.5.3.1 **The Far Eastern Commercial Institute** (Russian Federation National Committee for Higher Education) in Vladivostok

This is a very typical one. The Institute was founded in December 1963 as a branch of the Moscow Institute of National Economy. In April 1968, it was reorganized into the Far-Eastern Institute of Soviet Trade and in January 1991, it changed its name to the Far-Eastern Commercial Institute.

The Institute has 7 faculties: economy, accounting, commerce, business in the sphere of services, a specialized faculty (international economic relations), and an extra-mural faculty. In total there are over 4500 students (2300 full-time and 2300 extra-mural students).The Institute structure includes a scientific-production center called "Ocean", a computer center, a library, an editorial and publishing department and a department of quick printing. The branches of the Institute's departments were opened on the basis of industrial enterprises and some other organizations. There are 260 teachers and lecturers at the Institute, among them 4 Professors, Doctors of Sciences and 122 Associate Professors, Kandidates of Science.

Students are trained in 7 specialties: economy and management in trade and public catering, control and analysis of industrial activities, commodity research of industrial goods, commodity research of food production, economic activity in the sphere of goods and services, technology of public catering products, and international economic relations. The Institute's research program corresponds to the specialists' training orientation.

2.5.3.2 **The Yuzhno- Sakhalinsk Institute of Economy Law and Information Technology**

This is also one of the most typical far eastern private institutions. It has 6 faculties with an accredited Liceum of economy and law, 9 chairs, 4 research laboratories and a Center of Information Technologies.They provide three-levels of study: 2, 4, and 5 years. Students can finish their training after 2 years of study and receive a diploma for incomplete maximum vocational training if they have no possibility to continue education. After 4-year's training they give the graduates a state diploma of higher education with assignment of the qualifying degree "bachelor" in a distinct speciality. After 5-year's training the diploma of the expert with maximum qualification is given to the graduates. The training in the institute is carried out according to the requirements of the state educational standard. In the institute, almost 60% of the students come from peripheral areas of the Sakhalin region. All education in the Institute must be paid for.

3. **Conclusion.**

In this article we certainly did not manage to present all of the current problems of higher education of the Far East of Russia, but in general we have tried to cast light on the current situation in the research sphere.

Remarks

1. There are number-1065 institutions, excluding military higher schools and colleges (only universities, institutions and different civil higher schools) listed in the official web-site of the Ministry of Education of Russia in 1999(http://db.informika.ru/VR)

2. Chairman of the Russian Federation National Committee for Higher Education, Professor V. Kinelyov foreword in the Internet site of the Ministry of Education (http://www.informika.ru).

3. Zernov V.A. The modern situation and the tendencies of the development of the non-state Higher Educational Institutions/ Magistr.-RIHE Newsletter.- #5-6 (46-47) May-June 1999. (http/www.informika.ru).

4. Among them are: Academy of Arts, Ministries of the General and Vocational Education, of Foreign Affairs, of Health, Defense, of Agriculture, of Law, etc. (total- 24).

5. There are different types of secondary schools in modern Russia: gymnasia, lyceums, high school, college, etc. After the 9-th form there is quite a choice for the school graduates as to where to go.

6. (http://www.informika.ru)

7. Dronishinets N.P. The problems in Higher education in Russia .- International Higher Education Research.- Vol.III.- Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan, 1999.-edited by Masanao Takeda.- PP.65-74.

Korsunov V.I. The actual problems of conducting the multilevel system of higher education in Russia.- International Higher Education Research.- Vol.III.- PP.75-81. (Rus-

sian) "Higher education in the Far East and within the countries of the Asiatic- Pacific Region in the doorways of the XXI century" - Materials of the international conference.- Parts 1 and 2.-Sakhalin State University.-Yuzhno- Sakhalinsk, Russia, 1999.

8. http://www.cspp.strath.ac.uk/SC4-Students-in-Higher-Ed-1.html

9. Colleges are not included.

10. Only those HEI which were included in the list by the State Institute of Information Technologies and Telecommunication of the Ministriy of Education and Ministriy of Science of Russian Government are included. Thus, this information is of official character. See: http://www.informika.ru/text/database/

11. For example, my daughter is a 4th year student of the Japanese department of the Institute of Oriental Studies. Her marks in the entrance examinations were all "excellent." Her study is free, but we pay a small sum of money for her second specialty- for English lessons. It is a very flexible situation. Another situation is to pay money for all courses of study if you can not manage to pass entrance exams.

12. In Russian higher schools the Candidate of Science is the first scientific degree, compared to the PhD of some other countries. Usually Candidates of Science obtain the title of associate professor. Doctor of Science is the second scientific degree in our country. In general, Doctors of Science obtain the title of professor.

13. http://www.dvgu.ru/eng/

14. Institutes of natural sciences, of oriental studies and economy, of philology, of education, of history, sociology and municipal management, of technology, the Scientific Research Institute of Man and Scientific Research Institute of Physics of the Earth and Biosphere.

15. This Faculty is soon to become the Department of Petroleum and Gas for engineering study.

16. Misikov B.R. The explanatory Note "The design offers a reform of the system of higher education in the Sakhalin region".- International Higher Education Research.- Vol. III.- PP.21-22. (Russian)

17. In FESTU students are trained in the following specialities: applied mathematics; social work; management with an additional specialization - economics and production management; geological survey, search and prospecting; geophysical methods of search and prospecting; underground exploitation of mineral deposits; open-cut mining; electrical power stations; electrical supply; thermoelectric power stations; machine-building technology; machinery and technology of welding production; ship-building; power-plants on ships; cranes, building, road construction machinery and equipment; mining machinery and equipment; electrical equipment and computer-aided systems on ships; physical methods and devices of introscopy; automation of technological and production processes; electrical drive and automation of industrial units and technological complexes; computers, computer complexes, systems and networks; computer-aided information processing and management information systems; design and technology of radio electronic devices; architecture; artistic design of architectural urban, rural and garden ensembles; industrial and civil engineering; heat and water supply, air protection; water supply, sewerage, and rational utilization and protection of water resources.

18. Counted according to the website information of the Khabarovsk State Academy of Economics and Law site http//www.ael.khst.ru

19. The departments of the Academy are: Criminal Law, Criminal Process and Criminology, Economics and Labor Sociology, Economics and Trade Enterprises Management, Economic-Mathematical Modeling, Enterprise Economy and Management Economic, Theory Finance, Foreign Economic Relations, Foreign Languages, General Economic Subjects, History and Theory of State and Law, Humanities, Information Technologies Insurance Labor and Property Law, Law Marketing, Military Training, Physical Training and Sports Product Study, Social Humanities, State and Administrative Law, and State and Municipal Management Statistics.

20. Magister.- newsletter of the Institute for the Higher Eeducation of Russia.- # 9(50)September- October 1999. (http//www.informika.ru)