

Functions of professional competencies training of the students at higher technical universities

Historically, the system of formation of professional competency is thought to possess integrating and informing roles: *e.g.* deepening, updating, and replenishing the knowledge of the students of technical universities in specific scientific and professional areas of their future activity. The majority of researchers tend to believe that the personal approach means not just taking into account person's individual qualities in the professional activity, but also researching into the ways of person's development as a professional.

The key functions of formation of professional competencies of the students and specialists in a certain field are as follows:

- *the cognitive function* which provides for satisfaction of intellectual, professional, and information needs of the students in their future profession;
- *the compensatory function* which consists in eliminating any gaps in the education related, *e.g.*, to insufficient knowledge, need for a more in-depth, individually realized mastering of the subject matter as well as professional knowledge and skills;
- *the diagnostic function*, the importance of which consists in identifying the students' inclinations and preferences, determining their qualifications level, level of individual psychological properties and directions of the personality development;
- *the design-prognostic function* which allows identifying students' abilities and preparedness for their professional activity, their future creative potential;
- *the adaptive function* which consists in the development of information culture, basics of professional management, ability to project and design professional technologies and systems. The scope of information a student needs to become a professional is rapidly growing today and only a radical change in the teaching technologies would allow satisfying the needs of state and private institutions which require a high quality of professional training.