

PREFACE

The first issue of “Vestnik of Saint Petersburg University. Psychology” is traditionally dedicated to the topic of the conference of the Faculty of Psychology of St. Petersburg State University “Ananyev Readings”, held in October 2024. This year’s conference was dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the Department of General Psychology. It was from this department that the formation of the Faculty of Psychology began, its first head was Boris Gerasimovich Ananyev, the founder of the Faculty of Psychology of our university. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the history of the Department of General Psychology is the history of the entire faculty. We congratulate our colleagues on the glorious anniversary and wish further success to the Department of General Psychology!

The issue of the journal opens with an article dedicated to the anniversary “Psychological science at St. Petersburg University: On the 80th anniversary of the Department of General Psychology”, prepared by A. E. Lovyagina, acting head of the department. This publication will allow readers to get acquainted with the history of how the department was created, its activities within the Department of the Faculty of Philosophy, the emergence of various directions in the work of the Department of General Psychology, which gave rise to the creation of a number of new departments at the Faculty of Psychology opened at the university, to get acquainted with the history of our entire faculty.

The thematic part of the issue presents articles by teachers and staff of the department, its graduates and postgraduates and allows to get a vision of the scientific work of the department. It opens with an article by the famous scientist M. A. Kholodnaya, a graduate of the first graduate of the Faculty of Psychology of Leningrad — St. Petersburg University, “On the splitting effect of cognitive styles poles: twenty years later”. For many years, her work has been related to the topic of cognitive styles. This publication by the author is devoted to the review and analysis of the research results of the last two decades in the field of cognitive styles. The article by M. A. Kholodnaya is of undoubted interest to those who work on the problems of cognitive psychology.

The next publication is a collective article by A. K. Kulieva, T. A. Berezner, A. Shishunova and D. Malysheva “Cognitive theories of time perception”. Among its authors is A. K. Kulieva, also a graduate of the Department of General Psychology, but already belonging to the last generations of graduates. Their work is devoted to the classic theme of psychological science — the problem of time perception, which in recent decades has become the subject of active development within the framework of cognitive psychology. The article presents an overview of cognitive approaches to the topic of time perception — cognitive theories and models developed by foreign scientists in recent years. This publication makes up for the lack of ideas of Russian psychology about this area of cognitive psychology research, which is of undoubted practical importance. The content

of the article will be interesting not only for those who involved in cognitive psychology, but also for a wide range of specialists.

The category of empirical and experimental research opens with the article by V.M. Allakhverdov and K.M. Andryunin "Attribution of a metacognitive signal about an unconscious problem solution". Among the authors of this article is also a graduate of the first generation of graduates of the Faculty of Psychology, now Professor V.M. Allakhverdov, known for his work on the psychology of consciousness and cognitive psychology. The publication describes an experimental study devoted to testing the original hypothesis about the possibility of transferring a metacognitive signal about the unconscious solution of one task to another task. This work is in line with Allakhverdov's long-term research and continues the experimental verification of his conceptual assumptions.

Cognitive psychology is one of the main research areas of the Department of General Psychology of St. Petersburg State University. The topic of cognitive research is also presented in the collective article by N.V. Andriyanova, K. A. Borodina, A. V. Chukanov, R. V. Lovtsov, A. D. Odintsova, T.M. Mamina "The role of the number of meanings in solving problems of recalling ambiguous information" describes the results of an experimental study that studied the features of processing multivalued information with several semantic meanings compared with processing unambiguous information. In particular, it was found that the type of mental operation used is a more accurate predictor of the result of cognitive processing of information than the nature of this information.

The following two publications present the subject of image perception.

The article by S. V. Morozova "A model for predicting affective characteristics of color palette images" is devoted to the possibilities of predicting human emotional reactions based on an assessment of the emotional valence of images with certain color characteristics. In the collective work of A. V. Sladkoshtieva, A. S. Starodubtsev and A. V. Petrakova "Classification of facial expressions of emotional faces by people and a neural network based on an ecologically valid image database", the effectiveness of people and a neural network in recognizing emotions was compared. The results obtained do not allow us to conclude about the advantages of a neural network in solving the tasks set, its limitations are discussed in the article.

The following three publications reflect the diversity of research interests of representatives of the Department of General Psychology.

The article by I. A. Mironenko and A. Yu. Kolkhonen "Representations of good and evil in people with high and low self-actualization" describes the results of an empirical study of the peculiarities of representations of good and evil in connection with the level of self-actualization. In their work, the authors proceed from the fact that people's ethical ideas are related to their personal characteristics. The results of the study confirmed the authors' hypothesis, in particular, they managed to show that at a low level of self-actualization, the categories of good and evil are considered mutually exclusive, whereas persons with a high level of self-actualization tend to have a dialectical view of the relationship between good and evil. Thus, the authors indirectly confirm A. Maslow's judgments about the dichotomous thinking inherent in a lower level of personal development.

The next publication, an article by R. V. Pozdnyakov, I. A. Gorbunov and T. B. Pozdnyakova "Criteria Based Content Analysis (CBCA) as a tool for decision-making on message credibility: the diagnostic and practical value of the method", is devoted to discussing the possibilities of using the procedure for content analysis of a speech message based on

the developed criteria system. Despite the obvious practical significance that this method could have, its use remains questionable, the existing experience of using this procedure in research and real-world situations does not provide an unambiguous answer regarding its capabilities.

The final article of the issue is the work of E. V. Shindrikova “Satisfaction with body image in girls aged 18–23 years with various experiences of physical activity”. The importance of research in this area is due to the obvious connection between the degree of satisfaction of women with their appearance, in particular their body images, and their psychological well-being. The results of an empirical study presented in the article revealed links between girls’ satisfaction with their body image and their self-esteem, while physical activity and sports are not directly related to increased satisfaction with body image, although girls who professionally engage in sports are more motivated to change their body image.

The publications of the thematic issue of the Department of General Psychology, of course, do not fully reflect the directions of its research activities, which are much broader than those presented in this issue. There are new topics and new research ahead! Congratulating the department on its glorious anniversary, we wish new development, new successes and further prosperity!

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