NETWORK EVENT AS A TOOL FOR SHAPING THE READINESS FOR PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY OF A MUSIC TEACHER

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Abstract: The paper discusses contemporary trends of development of the educational system. The key particularities of managing the educational process and organizing the educational space are identified. Innovative methods of educational process design are described, including those of applying network technologies in the process of learning. The standpoints of scholars that deal with educational systems management are represented. Alongside with relying on scientific provisions, the paper also finds out the regulatory bases for putting into practice the educational technologies in the network form. Various scholars' points of view are discussed as for treating the definition of the "network interaction" notion. In the research, a model of a network event within organizing the music students' academic activity is described.

Keywords: network interaction, network event, current trends, professional readiness, professional activity, music student.

1 Introduction

Dynamic change of the present-day life and implementation of innovation forms and methods of performing the professional activity that are based on high-hume (nano) technologies determine the trends of social and economic development of the Russian society. In this situation, education is the vector of social development as it creates the material, technical and cultural basis for social relations, generates the country's brainpower and reproduces the personnel potential (Medvedeva & Marik, 2016). Social and economic change is a prerequisite for tailoring the innovation forms of the educational process execution. Developing the contemporary forms of learning has to take into account the competency-based approach which as of today is the basis for carrying out the academic process and it also has to correspond to the potential employers' demand for solving professional problems. The contemporary scientists define the competence of a specialist as a system of readiness for the specialist's future professional activity, i.e. mastering the knowledge, abilities and skills as well as the ways of applying these in the practical activity and professional communication. The objective of the competency-based model is shaping and developing the capacity for solving numerous professional problems in various situations (Khutorskoy, 2013).

Relevance of the research consists in the necessity of using the contemporary technologies of education for organizing the educational space under the current development trends of the society and education.

The transformations characterizing today's life determine the new approaches to organization of learning that would be up to the social requirements of both the labor market and the educational services consumers. The current stage of development of the society urge professionals not only to have knowledge and skills in the relevant area of work but, more importantly, to be able to use theory in direct practice and to be prepared for creative application of their knowledge and experience under the dynamically changing conditions of the professional activity.

The outlined trends determine using the contemporary technologies of education, introducing innovation forms and methods of organization of learning and designing the educational space as the key focus area in educational process management. Thus, putting into practice the new forms of educational activity is possible on the basis of implementing the innovations, including the use of network technologies in the process of learning.

At the current stage, network organization of joint activity is deemed to be the most relevant, appropriate and efficient form of achieving the objectives of activity in any professional area, the educational one included. Network interaction implies interrelations of network partners based on equal rights and mutual interest in each other and the joint decision-making.
However, so far there has been no clear-cut understanding of what network interaction is and how this joint activity is organized, formalized and performed.

2 Literature Review

The content of the notion "network interaction" is defined in the works of G. V. Gradoselskaya (2014). According to her treatment, the essence of the phenomenon under study is determined by the fact that "network interaction is a way of joint activity the basis for emergence of which is a certain problem, with all subjects joining the network being interested in it". In this understanding, subjects of the interaction have autonomy in performing their main activity and they interact exclusively in solving the problem joining their own resources for that.

Network interaction in education is studied by a group of scientists under the guidance of A. I. Adamskiy (1996). From their standpoint, network interaction is a "system of horizontal and vertical links ensuring the accessibility of high-quality education for all categories of citizens, the variability of education, openness of educational organizations, and enhancement of teachers' professional competence (including the use of IC technologies)".

The basis of the notion "network interaction" is the term "network" as a particular kind of joint activity of people (organizations). The content of the notion "network" analyzed by the leading researchers in the domain determines the following understanding:

By a "network", a total of institutions can be meant that have:

- shared objectives,
- resources for achieving them, and
- a united management center.

A network can also be defined:

- as a combination of three constituents: the total of items; relations between the items, and the flows of resources (Batyghin & Gradoselskaya, 2001);
- as an association of independent individuals, social groups and/or organizations acting in a coordinated manner on a longstanding basis for achieving the agreed objectives and having the shared corporate image and corporate infrastructure (Chuchkevich, 1999).

3 Research Methodological Framework

The objective of the research is studying, analyzing and systemizing the information about the experience of network interaction carried out in conditions of designing the learning creative events and activities.

Tasks:

- to study and systemize the scientific literature and regulatory documents in the area of the topic declared;
- to find out and analyze the contemporary trends in the area of educational space development, by using network technologies.

Within the research, the general scientific methods are applied: analysis and synthesis of pedagogical, didactic literature, as well as the regulatory and legal framework in the sphere of organization of educational activity.

4 Results and Discussion

It should be noted that under network interaction the participants keep their independence and there remain incentives for development for each of them, too, because their activity continues to be of a unique nature. Developing and putting into practice the network activity organization mean generating the opportunities for the network partners, their exclusive resources in order to bring into life a certain project which cannot be fulfilled by each of the network participants separately. Thus, creating a network in execution of some activity is able to ensure mutual compensation of drawbacks and enhancement of advantages. This also holds true for the field of managing the general, special professional, and further education which is undergoing a difficult transformation as of today (Sizova et al., 2018a).

Readiness for professional activity incorporates practical and theoretical foundations. The ways of interaction and mutual permeation of theory and practice lead to the major objective of the process of learning – the high-quality training of future specialists that are prepared to face challenges of today's profession. It is hard to overestimate the importance of practical learning, given the situation. Problems arising during practical activity are difficult to "cram" or master in theory – it is here that the necessity of actual professional experience stems from.

In the current conditions, employers set high requirements for higher education institutions as for the graduates' professional training in the sphere of their practical readiness for solving professional problems. However, the employers themselves are rarely committed to interaction in training the personnel and uniting the efforts for achieving the objective – the specialists' high-quality training. This is certainly associated with the cooperation process being a versatile and multi-aspect one and featuring the content-related and organizational constituents. Meanwhile, the students learning outside the context of the future professional activity frequently lack the interest in actively gaining knowledge and abilities and shaping the competencies – they just passively receive the knowledge offered (Popova, 2016). So, interaction with employers is a necessary process, although a complicated one. The work on attracting the employers to the future specialists' training process contains a number of stages that differ in the content and interaction organization methods.

The regulatory and legal framework for organizing the process of network interaction in conditions of educational activity is governed by Federal Law No. 273-FZ "The law on education in the RF" (chapter 2, article 15) (2012(. Researcher I. N. Popova (2016) treats the text of the document as follows: "The network interaction form is viewed as a condition for fulfillment of the educational program. It is understood as building the relations of an educational organization with other educational organizations, foreign ones included, the essence of activity of which consists in using the resources of organizations of science, culture, sports and others by means of developing and bringing into life joint educational programs and curricula". The authors of this research believe that within organizing the activities using the toolkit of the field of culture, a vocal and choral activity in the network form can be held. Alongside with that, the contemporary approaches to organizing the process of training specialists are aimed at developing creative personality in a

graduate who is able to solve professional problems (Sizova et al., 2018b).

The authors realize that the task of shaping the future specialists' readiness for their professional activity in any domain cannot be accomplished without employer partners. So, in order to develop the practical competence of teaching musicians whose main sphere is further education, they have included into the curriculum a learning event organized under network cooperation with the Governorate College of Nizhny Novgorod as a festival-contest "Minin vocal and choral workshops "Gubernskie golosa" (lit. Voices of the governorate). The activity unites resources of two organizations – their personnel, creative, material and technical ones and others. This learning event involves shaping and applying the practical professional competencies in order to bridge the gap between the theoretical aspect and that expected from graduates in practice, for the future teachers to have no difficulties in organizing vocal and choral activity. This kind of organization of learning is innovative and it creates unique practice-oriented conditions for training of teaching musicians.

The objective of the learning event consists in launching a vocal and choral activity that is held in certain time periods and contributes to reviving the choral singing traditions. It meets the young people's needs of being included in art and the national culture, too. The event is aimed at participating in the social life, and it makes up conditions for individuals to express themselves in a creative process. Carrying out this approach to the design of learning will allow cultivating the young people's way of using their spare time, in terms of psychology and culturology, under the rapid pace of life and flow of information. It will also contribute to tailoring their esthetic taste and needs and developing their social initiative and creative potential.

In the present-day culture, there has emerged a trend of arranging young people's leisure in the form of entertainments. The rise of audiovisual arts results in pushing the spectators and listeners out of close involvement in the real action. And the audience consuming the artistic products without thinking and being reluctant to participate in artistic creativity can only be won with music and show that bring out the most primitive instincts, feelings and drives.

The rapid transformations in development of the society determine versatility and diversity of the contemporary human life. Anyway, however important for the present times the political, economic, social and environmental problems may be, the prospects of development of the society are but determined by consolidation of spiritual foundations of the rising generation's culture. The particularities of the modern society's spiritual life are the pursuit of the universal human values and the penchant for integrating cultural traditions and re-uniting them internally.

5 Conclusion

With regard to this, the relevance of designing such activities is associated with recognizing the necessity to restore the continuity of cultural traditions while taking into account the best achievements. Engaging the youth from various educational institutions of different level has been motivated by the today's young people being keen on versatile performing phenomena, in particular, the vocal and choral ones.

The phenomenon of choir has an immense importance in the Russian culture, being one of the paramount expressions of its innermost spiritual content. Choral singing is one of the strongest and most popularly loved traditions. B. V. Asafyev (1980) considers it to be the characteristic feature of the Russians: "The relevant choral, originally valuable and rich in opportunities… use of music which for ages has been manifested in the people in an unabated inclination to singing together – with a family, a crew…". Being a collective art, vocal and choral art expresses the nature of culture in the most relevant way and hence it occupies quite a special place within its space. Choral

activity has a syncretic spiritual and practical nature. It is an engaged, practical and active attitude to the world which goes to the foreground in it, which attributes to the choir a special value within the system of arts.

The main tasks of the learning event:

- developing the vocal and choral traditions, promoting choral and vocal art;
- forming the continuity of generations; consolidating and developing the movement of singers;
- extending the creative and professional links.

The tasks are fulfilled by means of:

- shaping a favorable environment for organizing the joint creative effort on the basis of vocal and choral activity and collective success;
- creating optimum conditions for organizing presentation and concert work of a vocal and choral ensemble;
- the vocal and choral ensemble's participating in contests and festivals for sharing its achievements.

This network event is aimed at a large-scale vocal and choral movement, and it will allow attracting a wide range of young people to collective performing. Vocal and choral activity has to become an important event in shaping the youth's esthetic preferences; it will allow creating an efficient system of developing the culture of music in conditions of higher education institutions that are the moral and cultural foundations of the society, tailoring not only the country's brainpower but also its spiritual elite.

"In general, network interaction as a characteristic feature of the contemporary organizational culture within the educational environment is aimed at fulfilling the principle of social justice as for ensuring equal rights to learners, including those from socially vulnerable groups of population, and at mastering variable educational programs of all levels, types and kinds" (Popova, 2016).

The authors believe that having such an experience of practical learning during the professional training, their students will be able to secure a decent entry for configuring their future professional life.

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