

UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD TEACHERS' TRAINING FACULTY IN SOMBOR

Next year we shall meet the 225th anniversary of "Norma" (Normal School), the first teacher education school on the Slavic South, whose enlightening mission has been carried out by the Teachers' Training Faculty in Sombor since its foundation.

The great jubilee of this unique national and educational institute will be in the spirit of its renewal into a modern, European education centre, according to the standards in the Bologna Declaration.

The Anniversary Board of 225 years of teacher education in Serbia includes 84 representatives from scientific, cultural, and educational institutions, as well as distinguished people from economy, culture, science, politics and social life. The Prime Minister of the Serbian government, Dr. Zoran Djindjic has been appointed the president of the Board.

The oldest Serbian teacher training school, named "Norma", was founded on May 1st, 1778 in the town of Sombor, which distinguished itself from other towns in the Josephine period of enlightenment by its cultural and educational tradition. Founded by Avram Mrazovic, "Norma" was one of the embryos of the modern epoch in Serbian education, and "a unique institution for training the conscience Serbian intelligence". Important and distinguished people from Serbian cultural history by the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century taught or were taught there. The school is inevitably connected with the cultural history of the Serbs. As early as in the 18th century in Hungary, the Serbs develop their civil, middle-class culture, which was not only inspired by the Europe, but influenced it by its own spirit. The fact that Serbian writers and educators contributed to the synthesis of the Serbian spirit and the spirit of western civilization in the 18th century is of great importance.

Educating generations and generations of Serbian teachers both in national and European spirit, during its history of 225 years, "Norma" gradually became a modern school of higher education and a scientific institution - Teachers' Training Faculty.

Continuing its tradition of the oldest "Serbian pedagogy school", the Teachers' Training Faculty in Sombor offers undergraduate studies for class teachers - lower grades of primary school professors, following the educational and cultural standards of a classical teacher, such as professional responsibility, the ear for and the spirit of cultural heritage...

This remarkable jubilee, 225 years of continual education tradition and ten years of Teachers' Training Faculty, will be marked by a series of manifestations during 2003. Various programs will try to present an analytical and synthetic survey of the history, contemporary moment and the future of educational sciences. In addition, we plan to organize a scientific meeting on contemporary teacher profile. The Teachers' Training Faculty kindly invites all interested scientific and education institutions and individuals, scientists and researchers to deliver their projects, ideas and suggestions and to participate in the organization of the scientific meeting and to encourage the spiritual renewal of the oldest teacher education institution for the benefit of generations of the XXI century.