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FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

## To the true benefit and glory of the Fatherland

*On the 120th anniversary  
of the M.V. Lomonosov Institute of Fine Chemical Technologies*

The simple words of the great Russian scientist, Mikhail V. Lomonosov, in the title appropriately describe the 120-year history of the M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State Institute of Fine Chemical Technology (MITHT in Russian abbreviation). The anniversary date, the award of the Order of the Red Banner of Labor for achievements in training specialists (1970), and the name of M.V. Lomonosov given to MITHT and Moscow State University by a single decree in 1940 are glorious milestones in the life of our wonderful University.

Just as the whole world is reflected in a drop of water, the past years form an amazing mosaic of the history of MITHT. Remembering all those with whom fate brought me together for almost 50 years of study and work here, I would like to share what the Institute means to me with kind words.

Going down the memory lane, I recall the directors and rectors of Moscow Higher Women's Courses, 2nd MSU, MITHT—V.I. Guerrier, S.A. Chaplygin, S.S. Nametkin, A.P. Pinkevich, S.Ya. Plotkin, G.D. Vovchenko, P.I. Zubov, N.A. Myshko, K.A. Bolshakov, V.I. Ksenzenko, S.S. Kiparisov, and V.S. Timofeev. When I entered MITHT in 1971, could I have imagined that I would belong to this outstanding cohort? I am proud of it!

Outstanding scientists and teachers who were the pride of Soviet, Russian, and worldwide science have worked at MITHT, among whom I would like to mention, V.I. Vernadsky, N.D. Zelinsky, A.N. Nesmeyanov, V.M. Rodionov, G.G. Urazov, S.S. Medvedev, I.P. Alimarin, I.N. Nazarov, Ya.K. Syrkin, K.A. Andrianov, I.L. Knunyants, I.V. Tananaev, N.P. Fedorenko, N.N. Nekrasov, V.I. Goldansky, K.A. Bolshakov, A.N. Bashkirov, O.N. Tsuberbiller, N.A. Preobrazhensky, A.N. Pravednikov, S.S. Voyutsky, N.I. Gelperin, B.V. Unkovsky, S.V. Lvov, R.P. Evstigneeva, V.I. Shvets, V.S. Timofeev, and L.A. Serafimov. Madlen Grigor'evna Shirmazan, who worked as the Scientific Secretary of the Institute for many years, is remembered especially with love and gratitude.

Graduates of MITHT are a great army of engineers, masters, candidates, and doctors of science who have successfully worked and are currently working for the development of Russia in academic and industrial institutions, large firms and engineering companies, and industrial enterprises in the fields of organic and inorganic technologies, biotechnology, materials science, polymer synthesis and processing, economics, standardization, technosphere security, and information technology. Among them, I would like to recall graduates with an unusual professional fate, Ekaterina A. Furtseva, a party and statesman; Doctor of Science, Professor Varvara Chichagova-Chernaya known as Mother Serafima, the abbess of the Novodevichy Monastery; and composer Vladimir Dashkevich.

Of the many different events—joyful and difficult—that we have experienced together in our Fatherland, we must remember the Great Patriotic War. In 1942, MITHT announced recruitment for the first year and continued to work. Scientists of the Institute received seven Stalin prizes for scientific developments in the subjects of defense and civil. I would also like to mention Nison Ilyich Gelperin, who created a powerful air bomb (NG-5); and a graduate of MITHT, the skier Lyubov' Korotaeva, who was the only woman in the team that hoisted the Soviet flag on Elbrus again.

In the postwar years, MITHT continued to train specialists for the expedited restoration of the national economy and the country's chemization. In 1956, MITHT was awarded the medal, "For the Development of Virgin Lands," and in 1970, an award of the Order of the Red Banner of Labor was received. The movement of student construction teams was widely developed; MITHT was famous for its tourist section, submariners' club, and "kapustniki" (in Russian).

In the 1960s and 1970s, industry laboratories played a significant role in the development of research and the simultaneous transformation of MITHT into an educational and research institute. Since then, the unity between education and science remains our priority for improving the quality of training.

Expanding the educational, scientific, and technical base is an integral part of the development of MITHT. Among the main achievements, I will list the following: the building of the Physical and Chemical Department of the Moscow Higher Women's Courses at Malaya Pirogovskaya, designed by A.A. Eichenwald (1908), with the famous "hole" ("dyrka" in Russian); the construction of a dormitory at Vernadsky Prospect, where the judges of the Olympic Games lived in 1980; an academic-scientific building in the southwest (phase 1, 1985, and the commissioning of the whole complex in 2004); a sports complex with a climbing wall; and participation in investment projects for the construction of dwelling houses, which provided housing for many faculty and staff.

MITHT is a leader among Russian universities in the field of multilevel training, which constantly adapts to the requirements of the economy and employers and the changeable educational needs of students. For their contribution to the development of a multilevel education system, three author teams in MITHT received Russian Federation Presidential awards. Since 1997, the training of personnel at MITHT has been fully conducted according to the bachelor/master (specialist) level system. Training has been conducted in 23 master's programs. The share of masters in the annual commencement of young specialists from MITHT was about 40%. According to the results of state attestations, MITHT received the status of an Academy in 1993, University in 2011, and the name M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University of Fine Chemical Technologies, from which the short name MITHT has been preserved. Since November 2015, MITHT has been part of the MIREA – Russian Technological University (RTU MIREA) as the M.V. Lomonosov Institute of Fine Chemical Technologies (ITHT in Russian abbreviation). In its new capacity, ITHT remains faithful to its history, honoring and developing University traditions. The teaching staff of ITHT is noticeably younger. This stems from special support programs for young doctoral students and postgraduates who are preparing for teaching at the University. The contribution of ITHT scientists to the indicators of scientific activity of RTU MIREA is high; teams win prestigious grants on a competitive basis; research results are published in Russian and international journals with a high impact factor; dissertation councils work successfully on a regular basis. Student science, cultural initiatives, and competitions have a significant support from the University management. Much has been done to recreate the historical appearance of the large A-61 and A-63 auditoriums at Malaya Pirogovskaya. At the campus at Vernadsky Prospect, build. 86, classrooms, departments, and student chemical laboratories have been renovated and decorated; the instrument park has been updated; and computer classes have been equipped. Specialized mega laboratories and training and research centers equipped with modern equipment as well as the Altair Technopark have been created.

Today, I want to remember many anniversaries: the 100th, 110th, 115th anniversary of MITHT, the 300th anniversary of M.V. Lomonosov, the 100th anniversary of the 2nd MSU, the 110th anniversary of the MITHT scientific library (1909), and 15 years of the MITHT Museum and Chamber Choir—a winner of many Russian and international competitions. The 20th anniversary of the MITHT scientific journal (Scientific Proceedings of MITHT, Vestnik MITHT, Fine Chemical Technologies) holds a special place among these memories. The celebration of such events unites the team, causes pride in our University, and builds a careful attitude toward the traditions and memory of our predecessors.

I would like to extend to the teachers and staff, students and postgraduates, and veterans and graduates of M.V. Lomonosov MITHT, the most sincere and kind wishes of success, health, wellbeing, preservation, and multiplication of our achievements.

*Alla K. Frolkova*