Odessa State Environmental University, a unique, Ukraine's only institution of higher education of such specialization has made a significant contribution to the development of hydrometeorological and environmental science and practice in the former Soviet Union and other countries, has over the years trained and prepared many famous, worldwide acclaimed specialists in Conservation and Monitoring of the Environment, Hydrology, Meteorology, Agrometeorology, Climatology, Oceanography, Hydrography, etc. The high international level of training is confirmed by our students - citizens of dozens of countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America who successfully solve the problem of monitoring and protecting the environment, providing industries with high-quality information, including forecast of the state of the environment for life effective human activity. This is supported by hundreds of awards at international competitions, a high place in various Ukraine's university activities rankings, active international cooperation with dozens of universities, educational and research organizations from dozens of countries.

Inscribed in the history of our institution are many famous names of its teachers and alumni. The University has good traditions and, with the years, acquired its unique appearance with the established well-known research schools, ample material resources, well-trained and professionally active teaching staff and researchers, whom any higher education institution in Ukraine could be proud of!

All these achievements are the result of the dedicated work of generations of lecturers, the staff and the alumni, which is why the words of thanks are to be said to all the generations of the past and everyone who works today! Bow and gratitude are for the life, the knowledge and the skills that are devoted to this University, the hard work and patient overcoming the difficulties that befell the Institution in its history!

Today's transformations of the society and higher education bring about new requirements and challenges for the University. It is due to the call of the time that there emerged specialties related to modern computer technology, management of environmental protection, environmental audit, water bioresources etc. This higher educational establishment is proud of being able to create an effective training for the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

An integrated approach that presumes particular attention to the fundamental and the applied research, development of methodological complexes aimed at improvement of quality of the educational process and efficiency of the educational work gives fruitful results. Our graduates arc competitive at the labour market not only in Ukraine but also in other countries and the specialties are claimed and relevant in terms of transformations in Ukraine's economy, which will bring it closer to the EU standards.

I am confident that the University staff will continue to be a national educational and research centre in the areas of Meteorology, Environmental Monitoring and Protection, the high mission of which is to work hard to change the outlook of our society in favour of one of the ecocentric nature and preserve the nature in which it is comfortable to live for the generations to come.

Odessa State Environmental University was founded on 1 May 1932 in Kharkiv as Kharkiv Engineering Hydrometeorological Institute. Since July 1944 the institution was moved to Odessa and renamed Odessa Hydrometeorological Institute (OHMI).

Comprehensive development of higher education, continuous improvement of educational and scientific processes and development of infrastructure was the basis for the Government of Ukraine to transform Odessa Hydrometeorological Institute into a University. On 9 August 2001 the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine created Odessa State Environmental University on the basis of OHMI.

Within the more than 85-year period of history of the University there developed two specific areas of training and research. On the one hand, historically, there developed a unique direction for Ukraine, related to training of engineering and research personnel in the field of Hydrometeorology and Monitoring of the Natural Environment. On the other hand, specific meteorological field of study provided for development of potent human resources, methodical and research basis for establishment of a University of Higher Environmental Education.

Presently, Odessa State Environmental University is a unique higher education institution of the fourth, the highest, level of accreditation for provision of higher education in the field of Meteorology, Environmental Monitoring and Environmental Protection, Organization of Environmental Protection, Environmental Law and Environmental Audit, Sustainable Tourism, Water Biological Resources and Aquaculture, Protection, Restoration and Sustainable Use of Hydrobioresources, Economics and Management of Natural Resources, Automated Monitoring Systems of Environmental Control, Geographic Information Systems and Technologies.

In the 85 years, Odessa State Environmental University has provided education for about 40,000 graduates, including about 2000 engineers researchers, trainees, candidates and doctors for the 80 countries of the world, who have been trained since 1953. Over 300 stall officers, the OSENU graduates, serve in the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Among the graduates there are many prominent scientists, researchers, environmental managers in the environmental and meteorological subdivisions of Ukraine, the CIS countries and many countries all around the world. Two of OSENU graduates, members of IPCC, Alioune Ndiaye and Oleg Sirotenko were among the awarded the Nobel Peace Prize (2007).

Up till now the structural units OSENU include: Kherson and Kharkiv Technical Colleges of Hydrometeorology, Odessa College of Computer Technologies, Education and Research Hydrometeorological Institute, three faculties (the Nature Protection Faculty, the Faculty of Computer Science, Management and Administration; and the Faculty of Master Training), the Department of Post-Graduate and Doctoral Training, the Training and Consultancy Centre of Distance Learning, the Centre for Continuing Education, the Preparatory Department, the Dean’s Office for the Work with Foreign Students, the Department of Foreign Relations etc.

To support the study process, research and recreation of students there created good conditions such as modern educational, scientific and social infrastructure (canteen, sports hall and dormitories) of the University in the territory of a single campus in the resort district of Odessa. Since 2007, the University has put into operation a modern sports complex with a swimming pool, numerous game rooms, sports fields and pitches, a shooting range and tennis courts.

Training, including the second higher education, full-time and distance learning is provided in ten specialties of higher education at the levels of Bachelor, Master and PhD:

**051. Economics**

**073. Management**

**081. Law**

**101. Environmental Science**

**103. Earth Sciences**

**122. Computer Sciences and Information Technology**

**183. Environmental Protection Technologies**

**207. Water Bioresources and Aquiculture**

**242. Tourism**

**281. Public Management and Administration**

Since 1992 Odessa State Environmental University has trained regular hydrometeorology officers, who provide the military units of the Air Force, the Army, the Missile Troops, the Artillery and Navy of Ukraine with meteorological and geophysical data.

In the field of ‘Hydrometeorology', specializations (Curricula) of which are included in the specialty 103 'Earth Sciences', OSENU has been training specialists for the World Meteorological Organization, a specialized agency of the UNO, for more than 70 years.

At Odessa State Environmental University, there provided Doctorate and Post-Graduate studies, and there operate three specialized Academic Councils for defence of doctoral and PhD theses in five research areas.

Currently, about 200 research and teaching staff are employed at 21 departments of the University. More than 2/3 of them hold a PhD or a DSc degree, 15 OSENU Professors and researchers are Academicians and Corresponding Members of various academies of Ukraine, the CIS countries, the European Union and the United States.

Nowadays, undergraduate, Master, PhD and doctoral students from 15 countries are enrolled at OSENU. The University actively cooperates with the specialized UN agency, the World Meteorological Organization, in the framework of voluntary assistance programme (PDS WMO), many universities of the CIS countries, Europe, North America and other regions.

In recent years the OSENU staff was repeatedly rewarded diplomas and awards of the Government, including Honorary Diplomas of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Ukraine, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine, the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine, other ministries and departments. The University staff became the winner of the Contest 'Golden Trade Marks' (2009), the International Academic Rating 'Golden Fortune' (2010), the Contest in 'Ecology, Environment and Natural Resources in Ukraine' (2011), the 'Quality of Scientific Publications' contest (2014). OSENU is declared a leader of the national system of university rating (certificate of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine (2012),

'The Leader of Scientific and Technical Activity' (2013), 'The Leader of International Activity' (2016, 2017, 2018), awarded the Grand Prix at the international contests in Education (2010-2013 and 2015-2018), the Silver Medal '10 Years of Independence of Ukraine' and the 'Public Acclaim' insignia.