

# ISU

IRKUTSK STATE UNIVERSITY

1918-2018



IRKUTSK STATE UNIVERSITY  
100th ANNIVERSARY



Irkutsk State  
University  
2018

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**The oldest university  
in Eastern Siberia was founded  
on 27 October 1918**

Irkutsk State University is a classical university combining its rich heritage and modern technologies. ISU conducts educational scientific and research activities in a variety of profound and promising perspectives which are in high demand in Russia and abroad. ISU is consistently ranked in Russian and international academic rankings, thus proving its popularity in the sphere of education and science.

**Key milestones in the development  
of Irkutsk State University**

**27 October 1918**

Irkutsk State University was opened

**1918** Faculty of History and Philology was opened

**1918** Faculty of Law was opened.  
In 1998 it became Law Institute of ISU

**1919** Faculty of Physics and Mathematics was opened

**1923** Institute of Biology and Geography was established

**1930** Faculty of Medicine  
(now Irkutsk State Medical University) was opened

**1930** Institute of Economics and Finance became  
an autonomous institution (now Baikal State University)

**1930** Teacher Training Institute became an autonomous  
institution

**1933** Faculty of Biology was opened

**1933** Faculty of Chemistry was opened

**1933** Faculty of Geology, Geography and Soil Science was opened

**1948** Faculty of Geography was opened

**1949** Faculty of Geology was opened

**1964** Research Institute of Oil and Coal Chemical  
Synthesis was opened

**1965** Faculty of Mathematics was opened. In 1999 it was  
transformed into Institute of Mathematics, Economics,  
and Informatics

**1965** Faculty of Physics was opened

**1966** Pre-university courses for foreign citizens were opened

**1969** Research Institute of Applied Physics was opened

**1991** Siberian-American Faculty of Management was opened.  
Later it was transformed into Baikal International  
Business School

**1993** International Faculty was opened. In 2007 it was  
transformed into International Institute of Economics  
and Linguistics

**1994** Faculty of Psychology was opened

**1997** Faculty of Service and Advertising was opened

**1998** Faculty of Social Sciences was opened. In 1994 it was  
transformed into Institute of Social Sciences

**2014** Eastern Siberian State Academy of Education  
(now Teacher Training Institute) was integrated into ISU

**2016** Institute of Philology, Foreign Languages and Media  
Communication was established, with Faculty of Philology  
and Journalism of ISU and educational subdivisions  
of the former Irkutsk branch of Moscow State Linguistic  
University being integrated there

# ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

## 2017-2018 ISU in Russia and worldwide

QS BRICS Rankings  
46<sup>th</sup> place in Russia

QS EECA University Rankings  
38<sup>th</sup> place in Russia

Webometrics Ranking of World Universities  
31<sup>st</sup> place in Russia

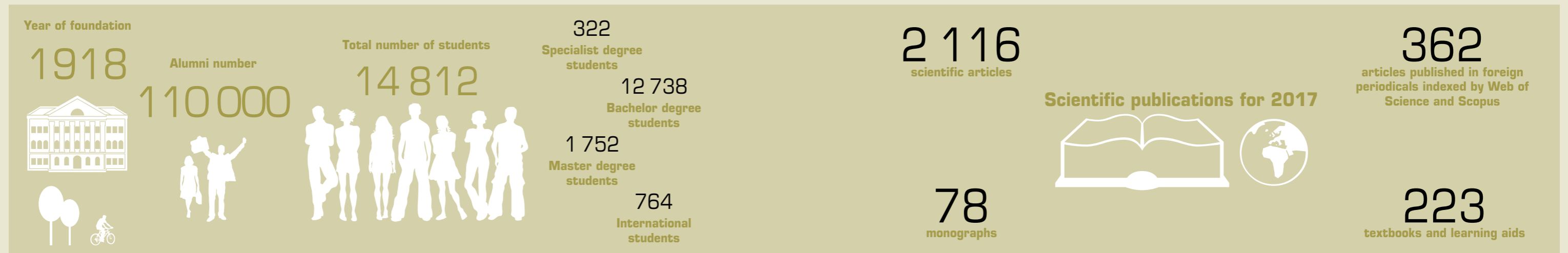
Round University Ranking  
32<sup>nd</sup> place in Russia

National Ranking of Universities  
42<sup>nd</sup> place in Russia

Russian university rankings  
for graduate employability  
24<sup>th</sup> place in Russia



## ISU in brief



## International activities

## THE MAP OF INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS

20  
COUNTRIES

113  
PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

13  
DOUBLE-DEGREE PROGRAMS



## Science & Research

# SCIENCE &



# DEVELOPMENT

**Scientific and research activities in ISU are the crucial requirement for training professionals**

## **The centre of fundamental research**

A wide range of scientific activities distinguishes Irkutsk State University from other educational institutions of the region. Academic personnel trained in ISU formed the basis of Irkutsk Scientific Centre of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Today the university is a reputable centre of fundamental research. ISU is the leading university in the region in the number of publications and citations in international systems Web of Science and Scopus.

## **Scientific research institutes**

The ISU structure comprises three scientific research institutes which have gained worldwide recognition for the quality of their work: Research Institute of Biology, Research Institute of Oil and Coal Chemical Synthesis, Research Institute of Applied Physics. Each of them conducts scientific and research work in fundamental and applied perspectives and provides the basis for teaching undergraduate and postgraduate ISU students to apply modern methods of research.

## **Science grants**

ISU today is the region's only university receiving 5 research grants from Russian Science Foundation, over 30 research grants from Russian Foundation for Basic Research, and two unique mega-grants from the Russian government for research in gamma-ray astronomy and archaeology. The level of competence of scientists and academic staff, students and postgraduates of ISU enables the university to successfully compete for grant support provided by Russian and international science foundations.

## **Technology Transfer Centre**

Technology Transfer Centre successfully operating at Irkutsk State University deals with analyzing the university's scientific research potential, provides innovative product developers with organizational, consulting, educational, and technical assistance, facilitates in raising budgetary and private funds for university projects. The Centre actively participates in group work on improving the innovative infrastructure of the city under the guidance of Irkutsk city administration.



# UNIQUENESS &



## **Mega-grant**

One of the unique scientific research projects implemented in ISU is the “Gamma-ray astronomy of multi-TeV energy and origin of galaxy and cosmic rays”, within the framework of which the largest gamma-ray observatory in the world is being built in Tunka Astrophysics Common-Use Centre. The goal of the project is to enable the search for and investigation of galactic accelerators at the unprecedented level of sensitivity.

## **International collaboration**

In spring 2017, the second cluster of the deep underwater neutrino telescope Baikal-GVD was deployed at Lake Baikal. The project is implemented by the international collaboration, with ISU Research Institute of Applied Physics being the key participant of the project. The telescope is designed for detecting light flashes produced by neutrinos from cosmic ray showers as a result of their interactions with water. Data analysis is crucial for understanding the fundamental laws of physics and the structure of the Universe.

## **Monitoring Baikal**

The project “Point No.1” implemented by Research Institute of Biology was registered in the Russian Book of Records as the longest-running ecological monitoring project in the history of science. Sample

collection at Lake Baikal started on January 25, 1946. As a part of monitoring procedure, weekly measurements are made to obtain key indicators of water quality in the pelagic zone, phyto- and zooplankton sampling is done. The data obtained allow researchers to make conclusions relevant to the changes the ecosystem of Lake Baikal has undergone.

## **Research in humanities**

To implement the largest international project “Siberia in Russia and the world: challenging development strategies”, Interregional Institute for Social Sciences was established in ISU. In the framework of the project Russian scientists are engaged in interdisciplinary research of unique characteristics of Siberian development, and in forecasting social, political, and economic processes determined by globalization and dynamic development of adjacent countries of the Asia-Pacific region.

## **Summer schools**

Researchers from all over the world are attracted by the unique Baikal area and Lake Baikal, thus enabling ISU to be the basis for research work and exchange of experience. One of the most successful forms of maintaining cooperation is through summer schools, which are highly acclaimed in Russia and abroad.

# GLOBALIZATION

**Baikal is the perfect place for maintaining interdisciplinary cooperation in science and research**



# ATMOSPHERE &

# ENVIRONMENT

## Wildlife museum

The Botanic Garden of ISU Faculty of Biology and Soil Science is a unique 30-hectare natural location within the city area. It was founded in 1940. The ISU Botanic Garden is the only one in the region registered in the International Agenda of Botanic Gardens in Conservation (BGCI), it is a member of many Russian and international organizations working in the field of nature conservation. As an open-air wildlife museum, the Botanic garden is a significant educational platform for university students, school students, tourists and local people.

## A richest collection of plants

ISU Botanic Garden takes pride in having a richest (and the largest throughout the area from Novosibirsk to Vladivostok) and diverse collection of plants brought from all over the world, which comprises about 5000 species of woody and shrub plants, herbaceous plants growing in greenhouses and open-air locations. Indigenous plants representing flora of the Baikal

region, the Far East, the European part of Russia, Central Asia, and North America grow in the arboretum and other display locations.

Aptekarsky ogorod (Medicinal vegetable garden), a new display location created in 2016, has become another highlight of the Botanic Garden, in addition to the existing ecological path, the ethnic-botanical centre, the Japanese garden including plants grown from seeds obtained from Japan thanks to "Green Legacy Hiroshima" project, a tropical water garden, a heather garden, and an open pergola designed for conducting summer classes and events.

In 2017 there was opened a Korean garden, symbolizing Oriental spirituality and traditions. The Garden's collection includes Far-Eastern flora plants able to withstand Siberian winters. What distinguishes a Korean Garden is the inclusion of particular plants and elements of architecture design, wooden constructions made in traditional Korean style, such as a small tea house, a bridge, gates and fences.

**Biodiversity and accessibility for visitors in ISU Botanic Garden facilitate combining research and educational activities**



# INTERNATIONALIZATION &



# COOPERATION

## International cooperation

Irkutsk State University is an active participant of a number of international university associations, in particular, Eurasian Universities Association, Northeast Asian Forum of University Presidents (NAFUP). ISU is a partner of World Bank Institute, a member of Russian Association of Business Education, of UNINET network (Eurasian Pacific University Association), of Russian Association of Universities offering Korean Studies programs (RAUK) backed by Korea Foundation under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Republic of Korea. In 2018 ISU joined the Association of Higher Education Institutions of the Russian Federation and Japan.

The university systematically develops educational and research connections with both European and Asian partners. The multi-vector nature is a hallmark of the university's international activities today. Over 110 cooperation agreements have been concluded, in the framework of which in ISU joint educational programs and double degree programs are realized, research projects are implemented, academic mobility programs offering exchange of students, postgraduate and doctoral students, teachers and scientists operate, and summer schools and conferences are conducted.

## Centres for international education

Entering the international educational and scientific research networks is facilitated by activities undertaken by departments and centres established at ISU: the UNESCO Chair in Water Resources in the framework of UNITWIN project, the centre for Chinese language studies "Confucius Institute", the centre for Polish language studies, the centre for French language studies, the centre for German language studies, the centre for Korean language studies "Window to Korea" at the Institute of Philology, Foreign Languages and Media Communication, and the centre for Korean language studies at the International Institute of Economics and Linguistics.

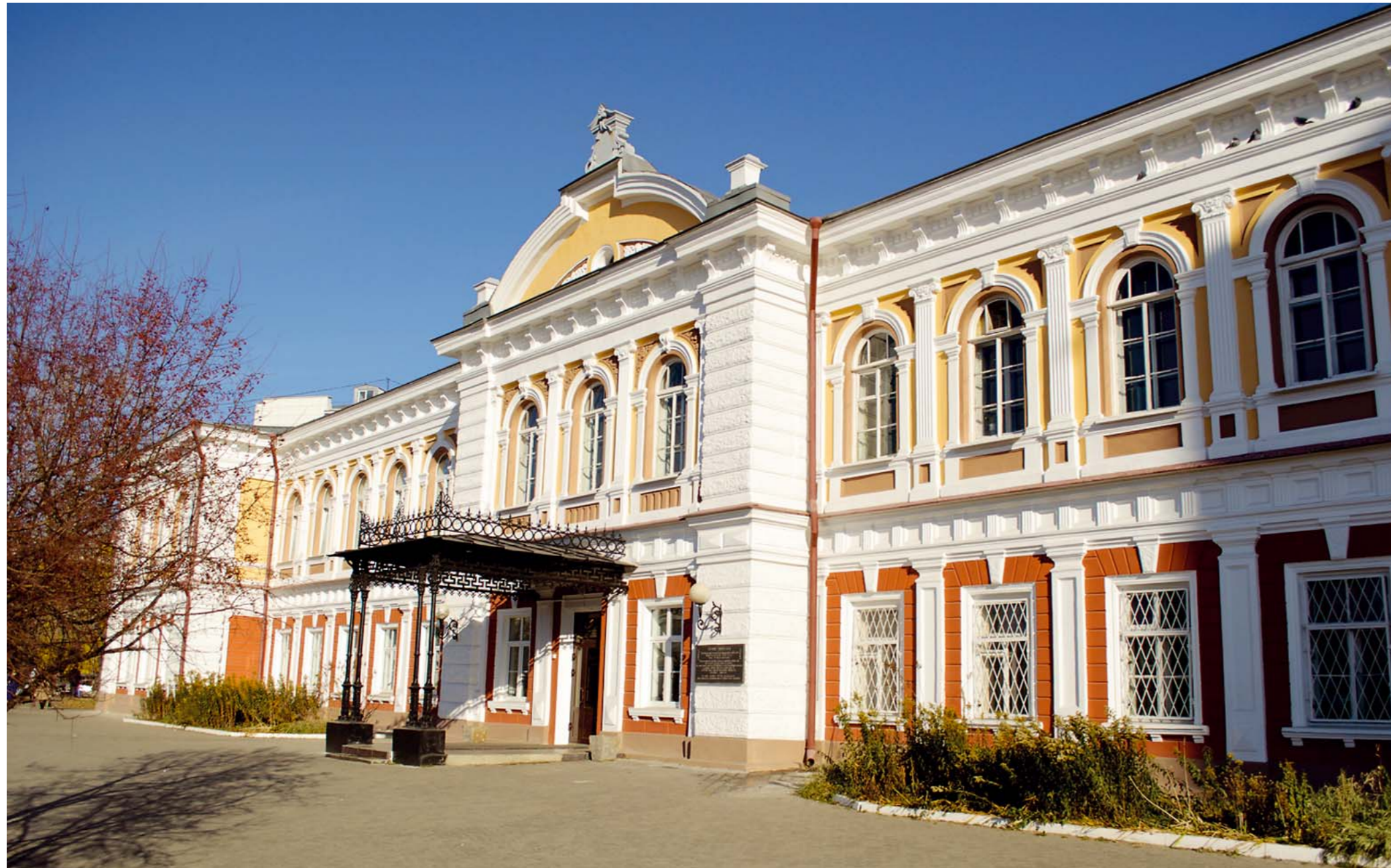
## Top rank in the number of foreign students

The university has profound experience in teaching foreign students. The number of foreign students is growing annually. For example, in 2017-2018 ISU admitted 764 students from 39 foreign countries to study in major and supplementary education programs. Foreign students arriving without sufficient knowledge of Russian language enter the pre-university courses, which by March 2017 had been conducted for 50 years. Today the university staff includes 10 foreign teachers. Besides that, leading professionals in teaching and science from partner universities deliver open lectures at the university.

**Integrating the university into the international educational and scientific research networks**



# ISU CAMPUS



Irkutsk State University campus is located on both sides of the river Angara. The campus includes not only modern buildings but also those whose history dates back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

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## Institutes

### **Baikal International Business School (Institute)**

Siberian–American School of Management  
School of Business and Management

### **Institute of Philology, Foreign Languages and Media Communication**

Faculty of Foreign Languages  
Faculty of Philology and Journalism

### **Supplementary Education Institute**

### **Institute of Mathematics, Economics, and Informatics**

### **Institute of Social Sciences**

Faculty of Social Sciences  
Faculty of Supplementary Education

### **International Institute of Economics and Linguistics**

### **Teacher Training Institute**

### **Law Institute**

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## Faculties

### **Faculty of Biology and Soil Science**

### **Faculty of Geography**

### **Faculty of Geology**

### **Faculty of History**

Department of Philosophy and Theology

### **Faculty of Psychology**

### **Faculty of Service and Advertising**

### **Faculty of Physics**

### **Faculty of Chemistry**

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## Research Institutes & Departments

Research Institute of Biology

Research Institute of Oil and Coal  
Chemical Synthesis

Research Institute of Applied Physics

Astronomy Observatory

Botanic Garden

Engineering center for technogenic raw  
materials recycling

Scientific Research Centre “Baikal region”

Interregional Institute for Social Sciences

Tunka Astrophysical Common–Use Centre

Quantum Chemistry Laboratory

Historical and Political Demography  
Laboratory

Sociological Laboratory for Studying  
Regional Problems and Innovations