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Scientific Staff Attestation in Pedagogic and Psychological Disciplines

Abstract. The paper is devoted to the quality issue of the research conducted by the candidates for a scientific degree in pedagogy and psychology. The author – Chairman of the Expert Council in Pedagogy and Psychology of the Higher Attestation Commission and Vice President of the Russian Academy of Education – points out once again that awarding the scientific degree involves both the assessment of the research work and validation of the candidate's contribution to the scientific society: publications, conference and symposium presentations, participation in discussions, etc.

The paper exemplifies and analyzes the shortcomings of the thesis research: methodological illiteracy, incorrect wording, irrelevant and narrow themes and hypotheses, obvious borrowing of ideas, lack of novelty. The author lays the blame for the undue level of theses on the candidates for a degree, as well as the expert society – the department and laboratory staff, scientific and dissertation councils, scientific advisors, opponents and consultants, and experts of the Higher Attestation Commission. The paper suggests the correcting ways to improve the current situation in theses preparation, its defense and approval.

Keywords: scientific staff attestation, research thesis, pedagogy and psychology, expert scientific society.