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**THE ROLE OF MUSEUMS OF HIGHER EDUCATIONAL  
ESTABLISHMENTS OF WESTERN UKRAINE IN ILLUSTRATING  
THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE**

**Summary**

The article is an attempt to analyze the role of museums of the history of higher educational establishments as illustrators of their past. The empirical base of research is the material accumulated during 2013–2017, mainly by interviewing the staff of such museums. The author notes that, despite the overall unifying name, the museums of this group differs from each other by area, funds, activities. This fact is mostly caused by the perceptions about the museum in the eyes of the authorities of HEE. They belong not to the educational and research collections, beginnings of the history of museum affairs in higher schools, but to collections of so-called «second generation». The main purpose of ones was presenting the university history and the science, via equipment, which was used in the research process actively in the past, but ceased to fully or partially performing its function. Unlike the museums of the "first generation" had issued their status after a long period of accumulation of funds, the selection of exhibits for collections of «second generation», incl. museums of the history of HEE, was happening artificially. It was usually after making a decision of a creating a museum, often associated with a particular event. Thus, the collection

hadn't been growing into a museum. But the existing only as an idea museum demanded the presence of a collection. In this case, ways of replenishment of funds were more trivial ones. They were related to the transmission of memorial things by alumnus, scientific and pedagogical workers, collecting work in the university environment, connected with the search for things that have exhausted their potential, etc. Such units make up  $\frac{1}{4}$  networks of museums of HEE of Western Ukraine. They make a separate contribution to the presentation of history of science, including methods of biography, in view of the absence of museums of the such category in the region. It takes place within the framework of both educational and educational work. Since the resources of such museums are traditionally involved in educating students in the spirit of love for alma mater through the presentation of pages of its history, biographies of the most famous graduates, innovations introduced by scientific and pedagogical workers, diplomas, etc.

***Key words:*** *museum, higher educational establishment, history of science, exhibit.*