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Condensed Matter and Interphases

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Department of General and Inorganic Chemistry of Voronezh State University celebrates its 90th anniversary

The Department of General and Inorganic Chemistry was founded in 1932. It was headed by Associate Professor A.P. Buntin, who later became the rector of Tomsk State University. From 1932 to 1964, Professor A.P. Palkin headed the department, he was a student of the outstanding Russian scientist academician N. S. Kurnakov, the creator of physical and chemical analysis and founder of the largest school of inorganic chemists in the USSR.

The peaceful activity of the department was interrupted by the war. Many employees and students joined the army. The scientific and educational work was reorganized. Within their capacities, the remaining team started assistance to the front. A great responsibility fell on the shoulders of the associate professor of the department N. I. Glistenko, who headed the university (Rector of VSU from 1941 to 1945), and the head of the department, Professor A. P. Palkin, who in 1939 became dean of the Faculty of Chemistry.

Since 1962, the department has been repeatedly reorganized. On its basis, the country's first Department of Semiconductor Chemistry was created, headed by Associate Professor Ya. A. Ugai (later – Professor, Doctor of Chemical Sciences, Honoured Scientist of the Russian

Federation, USSR National Prize in Science laureate, Distinguished Citizen of Voronezh). In 1964, after the death of A. N. Palkin for a short period, the department was headed by the former rector of VSU N. I. Glistenko. In 1966, in accordance with the decision of the Faculty's Academic Council, the Departments of Inorganic Chemistry and Semiconductor Chemistry were merged into one – the Department of Inorganic Chemistry, headed by Professor Ya. A. Ugai. In 1970, this department was reorganized into the Department of General and Inorganic Chemistry. Its main scientific direction is semiconductor materials science, which is inextricably linked with microelectronics.

Recently, the training of specialists at the Department of General and Inorganic Chemistry was led by the Honoured Worker of Higher Education, Professor E. G. Goncharov (a fellow of the Faculty of Chemistry of the Voronezh State University. He will turn 90 on April 17, 2023), Honorary Workers of Higher Professional Education of the Russian Federation Professor I. Ya. Mittova and V. N. Semenov. It should be noted that Professor of the Department of General and Inorganic Chemistry, Honoured Worker of Higher School Yu. P. Afinogenov was the dean of the Faculty of Chemistry for 33 years.

The editorial board of "Condensed Matter and Interphases" Translated by Valentina Mittova

