

Afterword by the Chief Editor

The very first issue of RACU's yearbook entitled "Dialog" features articles of our faculty members who are teaching a variety of courses for students of all academic years. In addition to teaching, each of them is involved in scientific research related to areas of their professional expertise. The wide spectrum of scientific disciplines represented in the journal reflects a variety of scientific interests of our instructors. First of all these interests are connected with the nature of the university's academic departments: Economics, Social Work and Philology. This is why in the first issue of the yearbook we have placed such headings as: economics, sociology and social work, literature criticism and linguistics.

In order to stay in line with the concept of the Christian liberal arts education adhered to at RACU, through teaching all required courses in the university we are attempting to equip students not only with professional knowledge, but also to give them an encompassing view of this world. This is why a reader of the Dialog will see such columns as "Natural Science", "Mathematics", "Political Science", "Philosophy" and "Arts Criticism".

Since RACU employs programs and methods of teaching that are innovative for the Russian system of education, the heading "Pedagogy" plays an important role in the journal. Moreover, many articles in the Dialog may be not only of a scientific but also methodological value which can be explained by RACU's practice of integrating our teachers' scientific research into their teaching experiences.

The first issue of the Dialog could embrace only a part of RACU's faculty and the headings of the journal are far from representing the whole spectrum of scientific explorations done by our teachers. The subsequent issues of the journal will feature many new names because the journal will be published annually.

At a first glance, this issue can appear to be an eclectic compilation of articles which are not very well tied together. However, as a matter of fact what unites Dialog's articles is the fact that all of them were written by the Christian scientists. Thus, our readers have a unique opportunity for today's Russia to look into different areas of human knowledge laid out from the perspective of Christian worldview. This issue of the scientific journal is an attempt to portray the big picture of modern science in its main avenues - the humanities, exact and natural sciences, as well as to paint a harmonious picture of the world using many scientific approaches. The basis of such synthesis lies in the unity of all contributing authors in the person of Christ.

The aforementioned unity can be traced in the works of both: Russian and American authors. One can observe that the partnership of domestic and foreign scientists is not a rare phenomenon these days; nevertheless the centrality of this very principle in our publication, without any doubts, makes it stand out.