



The History of the Development of Psychiatry and Its Establishment in Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv



Irina Ya. Pinchuk ^a, Marina Yu. Polyvianaia ^b

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Corresponding Author ^a



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Abstract

The paper is devoted to the study of the development of psychiatry and its establishment as a science in the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. The leading method of research was the analysis and synthesis of historical sources of the 19th-21st centuries. The historical analysis of the development of psychiatry was carried out through the study of the life and scientific path of Ivan Sikorsky, Mykhailo Lapinsky, Volodymyr Seletsky, who were the founders of psychiatry as an academic discipline in Ukraine. In 2020, 135 years have passed since the foundation of the Department of Nervous and Mental Diseases in the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. The founders of the department are well-known talented scientists, whose activities have enriched psychiatric science. But from 1920 to 2019, psychiatry as a science and a subject of teaching disappeared from the University. Psychiatry received its further development at the university in 2019, with the establishment of the Institute of Psychiatry. The practical significance of the study lies in the substantial contribution to the history of domestic medical science, in particular, mental disorder studies, as well as the possibility of using the findings in the teaching of an educational course in psychiatry.

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^a Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv, Ukraine

^b Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv, Ukraine

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1 Introduction

On April 28, 1840, a royal decree was promulgated to establish a medicine faculty at the Kyiv Imperial University of St. Vladimir, which in 1841 enrolled 21 students. First-year subjects, in addition to anatomy, were studied by medical students together with students of the Faculty of Philosophy. The first lectures on psychiatry at the university were given by S.P. Botkin's student – Vasil Trokhimovich Pokrovsky (1838-1877), who taught psychiatry based on a materialist understanding of mental illness (Vigo et al., 2016). He noted that “the ultimate goal of the existence of medical faculties is to provide society and the state with sufficiently trained doctors and our faculty does not have a pediatric, syphilitic or, importantly, a clinic for nervous and mental illnesses (Fofana et al., 2020). The importance of this department of pathology is beyond doubt” (Pokrovsky, 1968).

A similar interdisciplinary approach to the teaching of mental and neurological diseases was used by the follower of V.T. Pokrovsky, Professor Fedor Fedorovich Ergard (1828-1895), who began lecturing on psychiatry in 1855, and in addition, from 1865 to 1868 and from 1875 to 1883 was dean of the faculty of medicine. From 1854, F.F. Ergard headed the Department of State Medical Studies and worked as a consultant for the St. Cyril's charitable institutions. His studies are devoted to anatomy, forensic medicine, and forensic psychiatry (Bzdok & Meyer-Lindenberg, 2018). In 1862, after passing all the matriculation exams, Ivan Sikorsky, a graduate of the 1st Kyiv Gymnasium, was enrolled in the Faculty of Natural Sciences of St. Vladimir Imperial University.

Already at the time, I.O. Sikorsky warned his compatriots about the tragic consequences of alcohol abuse: “There used to be drunkenness, but from the 19th-century alcoholism has started with its inevitable consequences ... Alcoholisation causes a general disorder of health with a predominant damage to the higher aspects, namely: feelings, will, morality, performance”. Even single large doses of alcohol have the catastrophic consequences. According to Sikorsky's research, “Single act of violence against the brain leaves a mark, and when all the symptoms of acute alcohol poisoning disappear and the body seems completely free of it, one important change is still present – a change in the human brain” (Uglov, 1986). Accordingly, the issue of studying the history of psychiatry as a science that plays an important role in the study of the mental state of man becomes important and relevant (Tokatligil et al., 2021). The purpose of the paper is to study the establishment of psychiatry through the analysis of biographical data of scientists who have made a significant contribution to the development of mental science in Ukraine (Soderstrom et al., 2004).

2 Ivan Sikorsky is a Prominent Figure in Psychiatry

Sikorsky Ivan Oleksiyovych was born on May 26, 1842, in the family of an Orthodox priest in the village of Antonovo, Skvyra district, Kyiv governorate. According to the memoirs of his son Igor, “the family was large – six sons and six daughters, Ivan Oleksiyovych was the sixth. From their earliest childhood, he was thoughtful, serious, took little part in the games of brothers and peers. Very early, almost independently, he learned to read. At the age of nine, he entered a theological school in Kyiv. He studied a lot and well, knew more than his peers, and often surprised teachers with his knowledge (Carchi et al., 2021). After graduating cum laude from the Kyiv-Sofia Theological Seminary, he entered the Kyiv Theological Seminary. He read and translated classics freely, studied natural sciences, literature, and philosophy, and studied French and German” (Sikorsky, 2012; Amalia et al., 2020). In the last year of study at the seminary, Ivan Oleksiyovych informed his parents about his decision to prepare for admission to the university.

Ivan chose the faculty a long time ago. Most of all in nature he was attracted and interested in the human soul. But before beginning to study the human, Ivan considered it right to study the nature of plants and

animals to prepare himself, for which he previously entered the Faculty of Natural Sciences of St. Vladimir Imperial University. And only later, after listening to two courses at this faculty, did he consider himself sufficiently prepared to begin studying the humans and move to the medical faculty (Sikorsky, 2012). On October 21, 1869, Ivan Sikorsky officially graduated and received a doctor's cum laude degree. The diligent student was awarded the honorary right to remain at his home university for a few more years as a scholar to prepare for a professorship (Kurtieva et al., 2021). He soon wrote, defended, and published a dissertation "On the lymphatic vessels of the lungs", and on March 6, 1872, the University Council awarded him the degree of Doctor of Medicine. In February 1873, I.O. Sikorsky was appointed a senior-junior official in the medical department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in St. Petersburg and at the same time seconded to the clinic of mental and nervous diseases at the Imperial Military Medical (at that time - "medical-surgical") Academy, where he was until 1880.

He spent whole days in the clinic, penetrating the complex and various forms of human suffering, studying them, and learning to treat them. His insight into the recognition of diseases, a special ability to talk to the mentally ill was noted by S.P. Botkin, who in the early 1870s invited him to consultations and entrusted him with the observation of the seriously ill (Sikorsky, 2012). Among Sikorsky's patients was the future academician and patriarch of national psychiatry and neurophysiology Volodymyr Mykhailovych Bekhterev, who at the end of 1873 was admitted to a psychiatric clinic with a diagnosis of neurasthenia. The funds of the Military Medical Academy preserve Bekhterev's medical history sheet, in which a young Ivan Sikorsky is indeed listed as a student of Bekhterev's student (Bekhterev, 1994). For many years, they were linked by strong friendships, which changed in the course of the trial in the case of Mendel Beilis, where Sikorsky acted as a psychiatrist-expert (Buyanov, 1993; Widana et al., 2021).

In the following years, I.O. Sikorsky in his public statements invariably made it clear that only warm memories of the friendly team from the clinic of mental and nervous diseases at the Military Medical Academy are preserved his soul. His successful career as an employee of the Ministry of the Interior was formally completed on March 13, 1882, when he was awarded the title of private associate professor of psychiatry and nervous diseases and was appointed staff member of the Hospital of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker. Becoming the head of the women's department of this hospital, Sikorsky turned his department into an exemplary (Sikorsky, 2012).

3 Organisational and Teaching Activities of the Scientist

In 1884, a new department of "systematic and clinical teaching of nervous and mental diseases" was established at the Medical Faculty of the Kyiv Imperial University of St. Volodymyr was created, which on January 1, 1885, was headed by Doctor of Medicine, Collegiate Counsellor Ivan Oleksiyovych Sikorsky, was appointed an extraordinary professor of the department. Noteworthy is the first lecture given by Professor I.O. Sikorsky to students of the medical faculty in 1896 "The first and last day of clinical classes of the student", where he gives instructions to future doctors, which are relevant today: "The medical profession exalts a person, fosters in him the noblest moral qualities - the habit of laborious work, generosity, compassion, the ability to preserve the greatness of the spirit amid adversity. It requires special professional qualities" (Sikorsky, 1897). Immediately after coming to the department, Sikorsky presented to the medical faculty the idea of creating a clinical department of nervous and mental diseases at the Kyiv Military Hospital. However, the Minister of Public Education I.D. Delyanov, who stated that he considered the creation of such a department unnecessary because there is already one department for the mentally ill in the same hospital.

I.O. Sikorsky later took an active part in the design of a separate building for a psychiatric clinic at the Kyiv Military Hospital, but its construction was completed only in 1910 (Pasko, 2000). The building has survived to this day and is now part of the Main Military Clinical Hospital of the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine. The hospital still has a psychiatric clinic with wards for drug addicts (Boychak, 2005). Disappointed with the idea of getting an award in a military hospital, Sikorsky began lobbying for a project to create a clinic based on the Oleksandrivska Hospital, where a clinic for nervous diseases at St. Vladimir Imperial University was soon established and headed by Ivan Oleksiyovych. By the beginning of the 20th century, it was already a significant educational and practical institution: "The Clinic of Nervous Diseases of the Medical Faculty of Kyiv University was located in Oleksandrivska Hospital, occupied one stone barrack and one wooden barrack, the

number of patients reached 60 people. There was a separate wooden barrack for lectures and practical classes, which housed two laboratories" (Mankovsky, 1947; El-Said et al, 2020).

After retiring in 1903, Prof. I.O. Sikorsky became a freelance lecturer at the Department of Systematic Clinical Study of Nervous and Mental Diseases and worked at the university in this status until 1911. Ivan Oleksiyovych taught "forensic psychopathology with lectures on psychology" at the Faculty of Law. In 1911 he finally said goodbye to St. Vladimir Imperial University. Sikorsky never stopped working. Shortly before his death, he completed the "Book of Life", an original psychological textbook published in the United States (Sikorsky, 2012). The peculiarity of the textbook is that Sikorsky selected illustrations from fiction for all psychological categories.

4 Scientific Vector of Ivan Sikorsky's Activity

In 1896, I.O. Sikorsky founded the journal "Questions of Neuropsychiatric Medicine and Psychology" and worked as its editor, creating and headed the "Psychiatric Society at the Imperial University of St. Vladimir." In 1901 the monograph "The Soul of a Child" (Sikorsky, 1909) was published, which later became one of Sikorsky's most famous works. A year later, the work was published in German and, as the author wrote in the preface to the second Russian edition, was adopted in Germany "as a textbook in some schools and institutions that prepares for teaching". I.O. Sikorsky is one of the founders of child psychology and child psychopathology in Ukraine. His research is one of the first attempts at anthropological substantiation of the upbringing and education of children with developmental disabilities. He was the first in the world to use experimental psychological examination and medical pedagogy for children with disorders (Shytyk & Akimova, 2020; Fazel et al., 2005; Silver et al., 2002).

Sikorsky's studies were initially devoted to various issues of pathological anatomy, and later – to clinical psychiatry and pedagogy. His scientific achievements are extremely diverse, mainly in general and medical psychology, child psychiatry, forensic psychiatry and psychology, alcoholism, "psychopathic epidemics", psychophysiology, physiognomy, psychohygiene, and psycho prophylaxis. His main scientific works: "Education at the age of the first childhood" (1882), "About stuttering" (1889), "About successes of medicine in studying of the phenomena of the mental world" (1889), "Features from the psychology of Slavs" (1895), "Alcoholism and drinking" (1897), "On the success of medicine in the protection of higher health" (1898), "Collection of scientific and literary papers on social psychology, education and mental health" (1900), "General psychopathology with physiognomy" (1904), "Psychological foundations of upbringing" (1905), "Fundamentals of theoretical and clinical psychiatry (with a brief outline of forensic psychology)" (1910), "General psychology with a physiognomy in an illustrative exposition" (1912), "Book of life. Fragments on Psychological Learning and Living" (1931).

In 1900-1901, I.O. Sikorsky became the initiator of additional forms of education. At the request of Kyiv doctors, he opened a course of lectures on psychiatry for graduates. Lectures were given mainly at the Kyiv Military Hospital and were willingly attended not only by psychiatrists but also by doctors of other specialties (DeYoung et al., 2002; Howard et al., 2005). In 1901, a similar initiative was made by students of the 5th year of the medical faculty, who asked Sikorsky to read a course in psychiatry at the St. Cyril's Hospital. In the same year, 1901, a scientific circle was formed in the last years of the medical faculty. Under the chairmanship of Sikorsky, the members of the circle studied in depth the basic issues of "neuropsychological hygiene". The meetings of the circle were gladly attended by numerous students who had a lively and interesting exchange of views. Among the most popular topics were "psychopathic epidemics" and the problem of "maintaining chastity before marriage".

Ivan Oleksiyovych himself was distinguished by extraordinary restraint. He did not drink, did not smoke, ate the simplest dishes. "He got up in summer and winter at 6 and a half o'clock in the morning, went for a 20-minute morning walk in the garden, which was arranged according to his plan, and where many trees were planted by his own hands (by the way, Sikorsky's house on Yaroslaviv Val 15 has preserved in Kyiv until now). When he returned home, he drank coffee and read newspapers. At eight o'clock in the morning, his usual work began – lecturing, touring hospitals, public and charitable affairs. In the middle of the day, he took half an hour break for a lunch – and again business, reception of patients, meetings, and only after 8 p.m. the working day

came to an end. He read all the books in the original, and already being not quite young, learned English, which he did not know before" (Menzhulin, 2004).

Sikorsky's family had 5 children; the last son Igor (1889-1972) became a famous aircraft designer in the future. I.O. Sikorsky was an active public figure; in different years he was a member of numerous Ukrainian and foreign scientific societies. Ivan Oleksiyovych collected a huge library of scientific, artistic, reference, and other literature, and after his death, the book collection was transferred to the university library. In 1895 a systematic catalog of this collection was published, compiled by I.O. Sikorsky according to his classification scheme, and contained 3754 titles (4541 volumes). In each department of his catalog, which is now stored in the university library, Sikorsky pasted sheets with books and periodicals purchased from 1895 to 1918 (Myaskova, 2005). The fund of the scientist's library contains literature in Russian, Latin, French, German, and English in editions of the 15th-20th centuries, there are rare books of the 15th-17th centuries on the history of medicine.

The range of his scientific interests was very wide and was characterized by the desire to bring together the data of the human sciences; to create a holistic view on the course of development of the child and the functioning of the human psyche (Tsaras et al., 2018). Throughout his long career, I.O. Sikorsky acted not only as a professional doctor but also as an influential public figure, often making very resonant statements on a variety of issues, including such far from his main specialty as art or politics.

From a modern standpoint, the role played by Sikorsky in history looks extremely contradictory. He was criticized for his biased and negative assessment of the peculiarities of different races and nationalities, for the excessive expansion of the competence of forensic psychiatry, and the mixing of psychiatry and neurology. Some authors noted that I.O. Sikorsky promoted compromised physiognomy and outdated theory of degeneration. "However, even the most negative aspects of his life and work can be, if not forgiven, then at least somehow understood. Whatever I.O. Sikorsky did throughout his long life, there is a certain core in almost all his actions – he was a staunch supporter of the reign under which he was born and which he outlived for only two years" (Menzhulin, 2004). I.O. Sikorsky died in 1919 and was buried in Baikove Cemetery in Kyiv. A modest grave with a metal cross – on the far left among 6 other graves of relatives, surrounded by a low fence, a little away from the central alley.

5 Life and Scientific Activity of Mykhailo Lapinsky and Volodymyr Seletsky

In 1903, at the Department of Nervous and Mental Diseases of the University, the Minister of Education announced a competition to fill the vacant position of the head "... due to the 30-year term of the professor who held it". According to the results of the competition at the end of 1903, the department was headed by one of the best students of professor Ivan Sikorsky, doctor of medicine, private-docent Mykhailo Mykytovych Lapinsky (1862-1947) until 1918. In 1904 he was appointed extraordinary professor, and in 1908 – ordinary professor at the University of Kyiv. Mykhailo Lapinsky was born in the village of Smolyhivka, Chernihiv district, and graduated from the Chernihiv Gymnasium and the Medical Faculty of the University of Kyiv cum laude (1891). He was left at the university to prepare for a professorship. Interned at the Charité Clinic in Berlin (1895-1896), with the most famous psychiatrists and neurologists in Germany. In 1897 he defended his doctoral dissertation "On vascular disease in the suffering of primary nerve trunks or peripheral nerves." In 1899 he was admitted to lecture at the University of Kyiv as a private docent. He combined teaching with practice in the clinic of nervous and mental diseases at the university, where he was an intern and assistant. He has lectured the writer M.A. Bulgakov.

In 1901 he bought the Castle of baron Steingel on Bulvarno-Kudryavska Street, 27 (now the Institute of Orthopedics and Traumatology), where he arranged a physiotherapy sanatorium for 75 patients, where he introduced his methods of hydrotherapy and electrotherapy. According to some literary critics, Dr. Lapinsky's clinic is described in M. Bulgakov's novel "The Master and Margarita" as a refuge for the poet Bezdomny. In addition to working at the University of Kiev, he taught at the Samaritan Women's Courses and Women's Medical Courses, headed the neurological department at the city hospital of Tsarevich Alexander. Professor M.M. Lapinsky made a significant contribution to the study of neurology, the interaction of nerves and blood vessels, muscle and vascular innervation, ischemic paralysis, vascular pathology of the brain and peripheral nerves, as well as pain syndromes (pelvic syndrome – Lapinsky syndrome). During the holidays he regularly

visited Berlin and Paris on business trips (1907-1914). In 1910 he participated in the International Congress of Radiology and Electricity in Brussels (Dovbonos, 2013).

Mykhailo Mykytovych Lapinsky was a member of the Psychiatric Society at the University of Kyiv (since 1912) and chairman of the Physical and Medical Society. One of his most famous students was Prof. B.M. Mankivsky. In 1919 he and his wife emigrated first to Vienna and then to Yugoslavia, living in Zagreb. At the local university in February 1921 he organized a department and clinic of nervous and mental diseases, which he headed for 25 years. His marble bust still stands in the lobby of the University of Zagreb. In exile, he has published in the journal "Notes of the Russian Scientific Institute in Belgrade" (1918-1937) and published several scientific papers in Soviet medical journals. In total, he has published more than 150 papers on experimental and clinical neuropathology, including in French and German. In May 1928 he retired, in the late 1930s he moved to Belgrade. After World War II he left for Argentina. M.M. Lapinsky died on June 14, 1949, in the small town of Vicente Lopez near Buenos Aires (Arkhangelsky, 1996).

In 1919-1920 the department of nervous and mental diseases was headed by a student of prof. I.O. Sikorsky, doctor of medicine, professor Volodymyr Vasyliovych Seletsky (1868-1955). In 1893 he graduated from the Medical Faculty of St. Vladimir Imperial University in Kyiv, and in 1901 he defended his dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Medicine on "Experience of systematic and clinical study of speech disorders in general progressive paralysis". Initially, he worked as a private docent, and since 1919 – head of the Department of Nervous and Mental Diseases of the Medical Faculty of Kyiv University (Ilyash, 2013). During the existence of the Department of Systematic Clinical Study of Nervous and Mental Illness, in addition to prof. I.O. Sikorsky, various disciplines have been taught by professors M.M. Lapinsky and V.V. Seletsky – the subject of "Nervous and mental diseases" (based on Oleksandrivska Hospital and Kyiv Military Hospital), private-docent P.I. Nechay – on the subject of "Psychiatry" (practical classes were held at St. Cyril's Hospital), K.M. Leplinsky, V.G. Kiselyov, V.E. Larionov, S.P. Korshun, M. Kolesnikov – the subject "Nervous and mental diseases".

6 Establishment of Psychiatry in Educational Institutions of Kyiv

On April 23, 1919, St. Vladimir Imperial University received the official name "Kyiv University". In April 1920, the Institute of Public Health was established based on the Medical Faculty of Kyiv University and the previously independent Ukrainian State University, and the Women's Medical Institute. In December 1920, the Institute of Health became the Kyiv State Medical Academy with two faculties: medical and odontology. On December 13, 1921, the Kyiv State Medical Academy has renamed the Kyiv Medical Institute (Menzhulin, 2004). In 1946, it was named after a prominent pathophysiological, president of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, O.O. Bogomolets, and now it is the Bogomolets National Medical University. Followers of the best traditions of the pre-revolutionary school in it were the heads of the Department of Psychiatry, Professor P.I. Nechay, V.M. Gackebusch, E.A. Kopystynsky, Ya.P. Frumkin, G.L. Voronkov.

Psychiatry returned to Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv only in 2019. By that time, the Medical Faculty had already been restored at the University (2017) and the University Clinic had been established. By order of the rector of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Academician of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine L.V. Gubersky from 07.10.2019 No. 777 the Institute of Psychiatry was established at the university. The institute was headed by the director of the medical department, research scientist I. Ya. Pinchuk. The main task of the Institute is the scientific innovation in the field of mental health, training and retraining of specialists, the introduction of innovations in the training of students (Tsvetkova et al., 2021; Kumar et al., 2013; Nishida et al., 2008).

At the first stage of the Institute's development, its main staff was represented by a small group of 8 specialists who transferred to the University from the State Institution "Research Institute of Psychiatry of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine". Immediately began active work on the preparation of research projects and programs on topical issues of psychiatry, providing highly specialized medical care (based on the University Clinic established the Centre for Psychiatry and Psychological Assistance to Adults and Children), organization and participation in scientific conferences, meetings, and symposiums including online, international cooperation and partnership. In the 2020-21 academic year, the specialists of the Institute started teaching the subject

“Psychiatry. Narcology” to medical students of the Educational and Scientific Centre “Institute of Biology and Medicine” of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv.

7 Conclusion

The paper attempts to analyze historical data on the establishment of psychiatry as science in Ukraine during the 19th-21st centuries. The following figures played an important role in its development: Ivan Sikorsky, Mykhailo Lapinsky, and Volodymyr Seletsky. Ivan Sikorsky became the first Ukrainian scientist who began to study child psychology and psychopathology. Mykhailo Lapinsky is known as the founder of neurology, in his honor the “Lapinsky syndrome” was defined. Vladimir Seletsky made a significant contribution to the study of infectious diseases of the nervous system. It is through the study of the life and scientific activities of these individuals it became possible to explore the development of psychiatry. The center of the formation of psychiatry as a science in the 19th century was the St. Vladimir Imperial University in Kyiv. Further development of psychiatry at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv took place in 2019, when the Institute of Psychiatry was established, which is now actively developing and successfully functioning.

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Biography of Authors

	<p>Irina Ya. Pinchuk Full Doctor, Interdisciplinary Analytical Center on Social and Economic Well-Being and Mental Health, Institute of Psychiatry, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv, Ukraine. Email: ir-pinchuk@munch-tech.de</p>
	<p>Marina Yu. Polyvianaiaa PhD, Institute of Psychiatry, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv, Ukraine. Email: polyvianaiaa_m@tanu.pro</p>