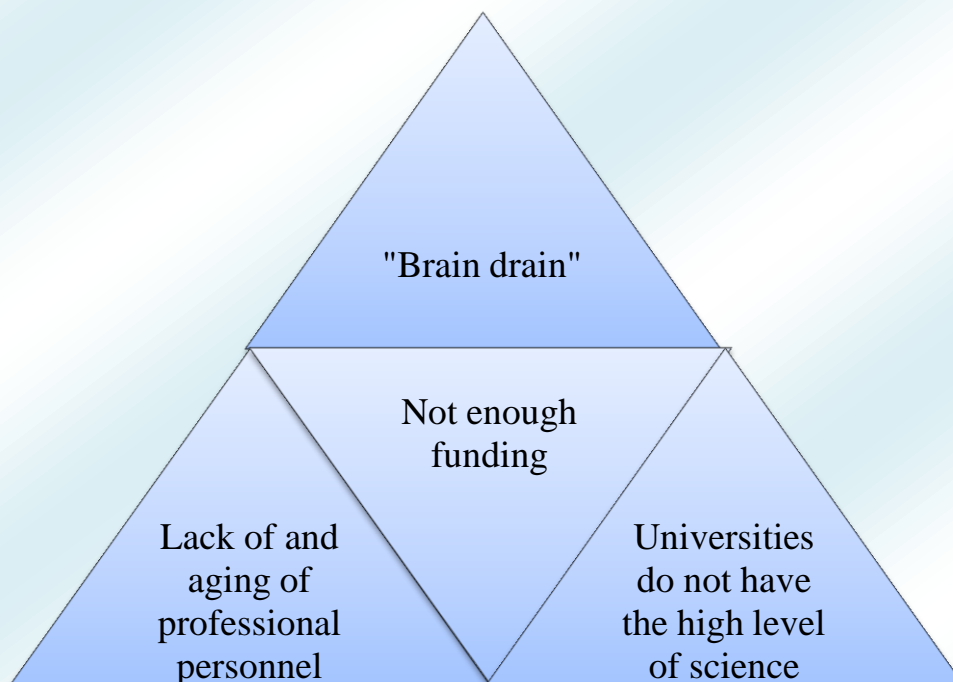




Scientific potential of higher educational institutions in modern Russia

In the context of digitalization of modern society science plays an important role. The future of Russian science largely depends on the influx of young specialists. Vladimir Putin drew attention to this during the awarding of prizes to young scientists in the field of science and innovations in February 2019, stressing that "all our national projects require powerful scientific support".

The issues associated with the scientific potential and the system of higher education



Further on, we will talk about possible ways of solving the above mentioned problems.

The integration of universities

The expansion of the universities' freedom in the development of educational programs

Wage increase

Reducing the working hours

Elaboration of the rankings according to the world standards

The closing of some universities

Young people's attitude to science and scientific activity

The attitude of young people to science and scientific activity is very important, since they are the ones who build the future. As the secondary analysis of data from all-Russian sociological studies shows, among the main factors that affect attitudes to science, one can distinguish gender, social environment and the quality of teaching.

Speaking about the gender identification of students, we can say that male representatives show greater interest in research work, especially in the field of engineering and technical activities. Among all subjects, physics is the least popular among women.

Speaking about the second factor that affects the attitude of students to science, we can refer to the results of the survey that informs us that "the inclusion of interactive components into classes devoted to a specific topic: role-playing games, discussions, computer games, etc. significantly increases the students' interest both to a specific topic and to the subject being studied.



Research results

«Are you going to do research after graduation?», %

Answer choice	The faculty of computational mathematics	The faculty of mechanics and mathematics	The faculty of sociology	The faculty of public administration	The faculty of physics	The faculty of chemistry	Total
2004							
Yes	2,6	14,6	20,0	8,7	11,5	10,8	11,7
Rather yes	15,8	43,9	20,0	34,8	57,7	35,1	35,9
Rather no	34,2	22,0	35,0	34,8	19,2	29,7	28,1
Not	21,1	2,4	22,5	17,4	3,8	8,1	11,7
Difficult to answer	21,1	17,1	2,5	4,3	7,7	16,2	0,9
No answer	5,3						

Answer choice	The faculty of computational mathematics	The faculty of mechanics and mathematics	The faculty of public administration	The faculty of physics	The faculty of chemistry	Total
2004						
Yes	12	25	33	40	50	11,7
Rather yes	23	17	9	12	10	35,9
Rather no	10	39	4	8	7	28,1
Not	37	17	33		18	11,7
Difficult to answer	18	17,1	15	40	15	11,7
No answer			7			0,9

«What, in Your opinion, are the problems of modern Russian science related to?», %

The problems	2001	2004
Funding	63,7	88,7
Lack of highly qualified specialists		5,2
Lack of demand for science and scientists	12,1	35,1
Change of values	7,7	26,0
Falling prestige of scientists	7,7	19,5
Unreasoned government policies	22,5	50,6
Brain drain	18,1	24,7
Declining education levels	4,4	13,4
Other		0,4

The main conclusions from the research results are the following:

- in judgments about the role of science in our country, there is a dependence: the higher the educational level of a person, the less difficult it is to give the answer. The younger the respondents, the more often they believe that the role of science in our country is growing.
- the younger generation is more loyal to science than the population of Russia in general. This is also true in relation to the assessment of the impact of science on certain aspects of life – the state of the environment, human health, and the overall standard of living;

➤ the results of international comparisons show, that among the Russian youth the proportion of those who definitely appreciate the impact of science on society, is higher than among similar age cohorts in a number of developed European countries;

➤ science and new technologies are seen by youth as the drivers of economic growth and increasing living standards. However, the responses of young people also give reason to believe that they are not close to the position of full self-regulation of scientific activities and open scientific research in all areas of investigation;

➤ the attitude to science is not unambiguous. Young people are more optimistic about science, but not many of them want to connect their lives with science and scientific activities.

➤ It is necessary to attract young highly qualified personnel to this sphere. After all, science and education act as a basic driving force in the process of formation of the future competitive specialists in the labor market.

The end