

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education FIPSE)

FY 2007 United States-Russia Program – New Grant Awards by Grant Number

P116S070001

U.S. Lead

Indiana University

Russian Lead

Southern Federal University

Total Funding: \$399,093 (2 years)

Project Title: Advanced Russian/English Language Instruction and Global Health Collaboration

Project Director: Dr. Ronald Feldstein; tel.: 812-855-2608; e-mail: feldstein@indiana.edu

Abstract:

This consortium will establish a new partnership project entitled: Advanced Language Learning/Global Public Health. The Indiana University (IU) -Southern Federal University (SFU) partnership will support U.S. students in attaining higher levels of Russian language ability and Russian students in attaining higher levels of English language ability. The strength of the language-training program will be integrated within a joint IU-SFU research program focusing on the broad topic of Global Public Health, a key issue demonstrating the growing interconnectedness in virtually all aspects of human life. While introducing innovative practices for instructing students in higher-level foreign language skills, the program focus on public health will involve IU and SFU faculty and students from many fields and disciplines such as environmental science, biology, economics, and political science. U.S. Department of Education funding will support the exchange of faculty and students; the development of new foreign language and multi-disciplinary curricular materials; the use of innovative technologies in teaching; and the study of Russian language to achieve higher proficiency levels by Indiana University students in humanities, social science, or natural science fields.

The project comprises six main parts: (1) a “Global Public Health Dialogue” course taught by interactive video to U.S. and Russian students; collaborative student research projects on critical health issues; dissemination of curriculum, best practices, and joint research results on the Web; (2) a two-week summer study abroad course on “Public Health” in Russia for U.S. students; and hosting of students from SFU for a similar course in Indiana; (3) domain-specific language support through development by the Slavic language department of two new courses “Survival Russian” and “Content Russian”, related to the two public health courses listed above; the development of intelligent computer-assisted language learning (ICALL) materials for Russian; and dissemination of materials on the Web; (4) introduction of an IU degree certificate in international health care policy; (5) faculty research collaboration in a variety of fields related to public health; and (6) student/faculty working groups, internship/field experience grants, and language stipends.

P116S070002

U.S. Lead

University of Maryland College Park

Russian Lead

Moscow Engineering Physics Institute

U.S. Partners

Lehigh University

Texas A&M University

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Oakridge National Laboratory

Argonne National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy

Total Funding: \$416,969 (2 years)

Project Title: Joint U.S.-Russia Educational Program on Advanced Energy Technologies

Project Directors: Roald Sagdeev; tel.: 301-405-8051; e-mail: rzs@umd.edu ; Walter Sadowski; tel.: 240-838-2680; e-mail: sadowskiwl@comcast.net

Abstract:

The University of Maryland and its U.S. partners will collaborate with the Moscow Engineering Physics Institute (MEPhI) on the development of a joint United States-Russian Federation (RF) educational program in advanced energy technologies.

The two-year consortium will develop common curricula and teaching methods for the training of nuclear engineers. The management of the project will be Internet-based. The consortium will send U.S. faculty members to work with MEPhI faculty to transfer U.S. instruction and student testing methods to the Russian Federation's educational system. The consortium, in turn, will host MEPhI faculty members to observe U.S. teaching and testing methods at U.S. universities. Distance learning will be stressed to foster closer collaboration between the two educational systems. Two U.S.-RF workshops are proposed to provide feedback on the progress and problems encountered in the course of the project.

Two training courses at U.S. national laboratories will be given to RF students. The courses will give the consortium partners the opportunity to judge the value of jointly developed curricula.

P116S070004

U.S. Lead

University of Iowa

Russian Lead

Plekhanov Russian Academy of Economics

U.S. Partner

University of Northern Iowa

Total Funding: \$358,726 (2 years)

Project Title: Preparing Bilingual Cadres for the New Global Economy: A Russian – U.S. Initiative in Specialized Foreign Language Training and Mathematics and Science Education

Project Director: Margaret Mills; tel.: 319-335- 2848 or 319-353-2206; e-mail: margaret-mills@uiowa.edu

Abstract:

This consortium will design and implement an innovative program to bolster international cooperation through the mutual exchange of advanced language students and expert teachers; increase the number of U.S. professionals with specialized, advanced Russian language proficiency; and foster greater understanding of U.S. values abroad by creating new, advanced English-language modules for Russians studying U.S. economics, education, and business. This consortium project directly advances international teaching and learning with the following activities: (1) the design and delivery of semester language modules to University of Iowa (UI) and University of Northern Iowa (UNI) undergraduates (non-Russian majors) at home institutions to achieve professional proficiency in Russian for science and mathematics, economics, and business; and (2) an intensive two-week seminars on mathematics and science education, economics, and actuarial science by UNI faculty (in English) held in Moscow for Plekhanov faculty and undergraduates with parallel intensive two-week seminars offered by these same faculty for selected Plekhanov undergraduates to study at UNI; (3) the delivery of two-week seminars by Plekhanov faculty in business, economics, risk management, and science and mathematics education (in Russian) for UI and UNI undergraduates at Plekhanov; and (4) an intensive two-week seminar for Plekhanov faculty teaching content-based courses in statistics, mathematics, economics, and business at Plekhanov (in English).