

Global Health Subject of U.S.–Russia Collaboration

Russian and U.S. students will tackle issues of public health and improving health policy as part of a new federal grant that supports exchange between IU and the Southern Federal University in Rostov-on-Don.

IU students from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs in Indianapolis and the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature in Bloomington will work with students from the Russian university, which is

conferencing and the Web, a two-week summer field experience in Russia, new courses and an IU certificate in international health care policy, working groups, internships, and opportunities for language study. It is

supported by a two-year \$400,000 grant, one of the early results of a matching grant program between the U.S. Department of Education and the Russian Ministry of Education and Science.



Olena Chernishenko, lecturer in advanced Russian and Ukrainian, and Denise Gardiner, Title VI grant coordinator, lead the team for IUB. “This is a new and exciting direction for our Russian language teaching program offering training in specific language skills

and connecting our students to real issues of global health care in its American and Russian contexts,” explains Ronald Feldstein, professor and chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.



located on ancient trading routes of the Black and Caspian Seas in the Russian Federation. The partnership will include student and faculty collaboration through video

Of Note

Macedonian University Expands Partnership with IU



Aljadin Abazi, rector of the South East European University, seals an agreement with James Perin, chief financial officer of the IU Foundation, to build the Macedonian university's endowment through the IU Foundation.

Building a university involves putting faculty and students together in a classroom, but that's only a beginning. Universities have become complex organizations. Building anew requires expertise at many levels: teaching, certainly, but also technology, student services, finance, facilities management, and other administrative challenges. For eight years, IU has been providing that expertise to the South East European University (SEEU) in Tetevo, Macedonia.

SEEU opened in 2001 with joint funding from USAID and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Its goal is to assure university access for all of

Macedonia's ethnic groups. About 75 percent of its current student body is ethnically Albanian; the majority of the remaining students are ethnic Macedonian. SEEU is the only institution in Macedonia offering instruction in Albanian with substantial instruction also offered in English.

Charles Reafsnnyder, IU associate vice president for international research and development, has directed the cooperative effort between IU and SEEU since it began. “Approximately 35 IU faculty, staff, and graduate students from three IU campuses have taken part in the USAID-funded teaching and consulting activities at SEEU,” Reafsnnyder reports. “In 2000, the campus was a collection of nearly empty buildings. Today, its 8,000 students occupy the most modern facility in the Balkans with the most up-to-date curriculum and teaching pedagogy.”

The latest chapter in the SEEU/IU linkage is financial. In November 2007, SEEU Rector Aljadin Abazi and Pro-Rector Dennis Farrington traveled to Bloomington to sign an agreement with the IU Foundation. In the agreement, SEEU will deposit up to \$1.5 million at the IU Foundation. The income from this endowment will be used to fund faculty and student exchanges and to provide scholarships for junior faculty from the campus in Tetevo to study and consult with their colleagues in Bloomington.