

RUSLEF Newsletter

IREX announces competition for Russian-US Young Leadership Fellows

Competition for U. S. Host Institutions has February 23, 2001 Deadline

The International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) has announced its competition for the 2001-2002 Russian-US Young Leadership Fellows for Public Service Program. The program brings young Russian leaders to American universities for an intensive year of academic and professional training in the areas of community, governmental, and corporate affairs.

Fellows will be selected in a merit-based competition in May 2001 and will be placed at host universities beginning in June 2001. U.S. host institutions are chosen based on applications that must be filed with IREX by February 23, 2001. Application forms may be downloaded from IREX's web site at www.irex.org. They are also available from RUSLEF.

RUSLEF strongly encourages law schools to apply to host Russian Young Leadership Fellows. During the 2000 - 2001 academic year 47 Fellows are participating

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RUSLEF celebrates first year of operation; plans programs for 2001

Assistance to Russian Law Students its First Priority

RUSLEF is celebrating its first year of operation. Its first priority currently is to provide assistance to Russian law students. U. S. government grants have assisted only a handful of Russian law students to study at U. S. law schools. RUSLEF activities this year have included contacting a number of law schools in the United States to ascertain interest in hosting Russian law students and soliciting gifts in order to establish a fund to assist Russian law students to study at U. S. law schools.

The first students to be assisted will be selected during the spring of 2001 and will include some students who have already been admitted to U. S. law schools but who will not otherwise have the funds to attend.



Happy Anniversary, RUSLEF!

Shipping books to Russian law libraries, many of which have few law books relating to the operations of a market economy, or to international, comparative, or foreign law, is another RUSLEF project. Shipping costs for such books exceed their acquisition costs.

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in this program. A number of the fellows are law graduates of Russian universities. However, only one US law school --- Fordham Law School --- is currently hosting a Russian Young Leadership Fellow. Russian lawyers consequently are being placed in non-law programs in American universities. IREX is eager for more American law schools to participate in this program.

The Russian-US Young Leadership Fellows for Public Service Program is funded by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U. S. Department of State.

NISCUPP Competition for University Partnership Programs has January deadline

Law schools wishing to receive U. S. Government funding to create a university partnership program with a Russian law school have until January 19, 2001, to apply for a NIS (Newly Independent States) Colleges & Universities Partnership Program grant.

The partnership grants are for a 3 year period and provide a maximum of \$300,000 to fund exchanges of faculty members and postgraduate students. Grant funds can also be used to purchase computer technology and library materials for the Russian partner law school. Funds for replacement faculty and for some administrative expenses of the American law school are also available under these grants.

Law school partnerships between American and Russian law schools currently include the following schools:

Cleveland State University – Novgorod State University

Franklin Pierce Law Center (and University of New Hampshire) – Vologda State University

Vermont Law School – Petrozavodsk State University

Wayne State Law School – Mari State University

U. of Wisconsin – Far Eastern State University

Information concerning NISCUPP grants is available at <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/rfps/jan19rfp.htm>

RUSLEF Seeks U. S. Law Schools to Host Russian Law Students

American law schools interested in hosting one or more Russian law students are invited to contact RUSLEF.

Students who are selected for this program will be able to receive financial assistance from RUSLEF to help them meet the expense of spending a year at an American law school. Host institutions are asked to waive tuition costs but will not be expected to provide other financial support to students participating in the program. A modest administrative fee to participate in the program will help defray RUSLEF's costs of student selection, testing English language skills of applicants (using the TOEFL), and evaluating qualifications of student applicants pursuant to host institution requirements.

This program is expected to begin bringing Russian law students to study in American law schools during the 2001 - 2002 academic year.

RUSLEF receives § 501(C)(3) tax exemption

RUSLEF has received its tax exempt status as a public foundation from the Internal Revenue Service pending budgetary review by IRS after December 31, 2001. This means that donations made to RUSLEF qualify as charitable donations for federal income tax purposes.



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