

UKRAINIAN ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

The First Newsletter for Ukrainian Alumni
Administered by American Councils for International Education ACTR/ACCELS

A Letter from the Editor



Dear Alumni!
We start a new Ukrainian alumni newsletter to keep you updated on all the work we do in Ukraine and

on alumni issues that you might face.

In this issue you will find the description of events held for alumni and by alumni in September 2003 and also announcements for October and November 2003 activities.

The big upcoming event is the International Education Week on November 17-21 (see page 4).

As for the title of the newsletter, send us your ideas and the selection committee will reward the best title.

Please feel free to contact us and give us your ideas.

Yours,

Kateryna Nalyvayko

Higher Education Programs Alumni Coordinator

Re-entry Seminar for Newly Returned Muskie Fellows September 5, 2003

This year approximately 100 Muskie finalists are returning to Ukraine after graduating from U.S. Universities. The Muskie Graduate Fellowship Program provides graduate level studies in Business Administration, Economics, Education, Environmental Management and Policy, International Affairs, Journalism and Mass Communications, Law, Library and Information Science, Public Administration, Public Health, and Public Policy.

It is the goal of the Muskie Fellowship Program that Fellows, upon their return home, contribute to the economic and democratic growth of their countries and serve as leaders in the targeted fields of study. To aid in this goal American Councils for International Education:

Anti HIV/AIDS Run («Probig za Zdorove Zhyttya») September 14, 2003



On Sunday, September 14th, more than 1,000 people turned out for Kharkiv's First Annual Run against HIV/AIDS. People came for the run, and stayed for the concert, contests, speeches and prizes awarded afterwards. AIDS Awareness Day coincided with the City's Day of Sports and Culture, and many teachers encouraged their students to participate. The City Administration agreed to close off Sumska and at 3 pm the run began. Some sprinted, some jogged, and some walked the distance to the finish at Gorky Park. After the run, an event was held at the main stage of the park. It was emceed

by various member of the planning committee who took turns hosting quizzes about HIV/AIDS, talking about different organizations at work in the city, and introducing guests. Speakers included an HIV-positive woman; the director of Emmanuel, an NGO that works with drug users and people who test positive for HIV; the director of Chervona Strichka ("Red Ribbon"); Dr. Evelyn Hess, an immunologist from Cincinnati Ohio; and several singing and break-dancing groups for entertainment.



These different groups handed out information about HIV/AIDS and more information about their organizations' activities. As a whole the event was a great success thanks to our alumni.



Svitlana Dryhush and Faig Bairamov from Foyil Security Systems give Power Point presentation about their company and potential job opportunities with it.

ACTR/ACCELS held the Re-entry seminar for 40 newly returned Muskie Fellows which took place on the 5th of September. The participants were provided

with insight about today's job market in Ukraine and with the information about resources available for alumni in Ukraine. Several senior alumni (Ihor Tsymbalysty, Mykola Polonsky, Serhiy Kasyanov, Svitlana Dryhush, and Petro Koshukov) joined this event to share their experience and possible job opportunities. Nine international companies (Corporate Training Company; Foyil Security Systems; HR Professionals; CTC – OL Consulting; Procter & Gamble; AIDS Institute; Spektor, Sachs & Company; Wisconsin University; and Lohika Systems, Inc.) showed great interest in the event and made presentations on the company profiles and encouraged Muskie Fellows to seek jobs within their scope of activity.

Round Table on Consumer Rights Protection in Ukraine

September 19, 2003



Lyudmyla Lyashenko, head of the sixth department (communication issues), answers the question about UkrTelecomm communication issues and a recent court case.

A round table discussion concerning the rights of consumers in Ukraine was hosted for alumni and general public in Kyiv on September 19. The round table was initiated by Mykola Orlov, attorney at law, Shevchenko Didkovskyy & Partners, Yuriy Zabara, editor-in-chief of the weekly newspaper «Yuridicheskaya praktika», and American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS. The round table is a continuation of a series of round table discussions that are popular with alumni. Together with alumni, representatives from both the public and private sectors, and experts discussed the issues related to the topic and came up with solutions for development and improvement. Those findings will be formed into a resolution and sent to the appropriate institutions. «Yuridicheskaya praktika» is going to publish materials and information about the roundtable and its outcomes within the upcoming week after the round table.

List of speakers:

- Mykola Orlov, attorney at law, Shevchenko, Didkovsky & Partners;
- Yuriy Zabara, editor-in-chief, newspaper «Yuridicheskaya praktika»;
- Lyubov Kuzmenko, deputy head of the first housing and communal department, antimonopoly committee;
- Lyudmyla Lyashenko, head of the sixth department (communication issues);
- Halyna Yurovska, judge, Court of Appeal of Kyiv region;
- Ihor Pryyanchuk, partner, «Pryyanchuk, Melnyk & Partners»;
- Ihor Olekhov, attorney at law, Baker & McKenzie;
- Ivan Kozhura, deputy head of the department on quality control and services safety, state committee on issues of technology regulation and consumer

policy;

- Svyatoslav Pusev, lead specialist, customer services, Central Kyiv City Administration Department on Protection of Consumer Rights;

- Tetyana Fedorova, legal consultant, «Golden Telecom».

Conflict Resolution Workshop

21 September 2003

Getting alumni necessary skill development information on how to deal with conflict situations was the goal of the workshop. This event is a continuation of the seminar on professional growth through necessary communication skills. It was conducted by Elina Tykha whose previous trainings were popular with alumni. All places were booked in advance and staff could not register all alumni who wanted to participate. The group consisted of 20 alumni – the maximum number of participants for a psychological training.

At first, the participants got acquainted with each other (there were alumni from all over Ukraine) and told about their expectations. They each expressed what feelings the word “conflict” awoke in them.

The next activity was a meditation workshop which alumni really enjoyed. The aim of it was to be in state of complete responsibility and then gradually moved into the state of complete irresponsibility. After the meditation, participants expressed feelings about which state is the best for them. The majority agreed that the happy medium was the best because a modern person couldn't afford being irresponsible. On the other hand, the state of complete responsibility is a heavy burden and freezes initiative and life in a surrounding world.

Then the participants discussed “internal conflicts” between passion and mind, duty and desire. The trainer said there are two ways to solve such conflict: 1) to force one of the options into sub-consciousness (to “forget” about it): in this case, the displaced option begins to play against us determining our destructive behaviour; 2) to dig deeper, try to understand self-contradictions, be frank with oneself: a more mature way of dealing with the internal conflict.

The alumni were divided into groups of 5 and were asked to draw a picture that symbolized a problem of choice. The representative of the group then spoke in support of the drawing.

Next, the participants continued to work in groups role-play activities. Each group was asked to represent a choice between duty and desires, mind and passions. One member of the group acted like a person torn by contradictory feelings and reasons; all other members impersonated such notions as “duty”, “desire”, and “opportunities” each advising the person what to do. The group had to play with the situation and show the most effective way of solving it. The goal of this activity was to give the participants the skills in identifying their psychological states in the process of solving external and internal conflicts.



Role play: Vyacheslav Zub tries to solve the internal conflict surrounded by contradictory feelings. From left to right: duty (Natalya Shtanko, JFDP 2002), desire (Vitaliy Ostroptsyky, RSEP 2002), a man torn by contradictory feelings (Vyacheslav Zub, JFDP 2002), conscience (Olena Vasylyeva, trainer's assistant).

Work in pairs was the next activity. Each pair had to recall 2-3 situations from everyday or professional life that had caused conflicts for them and try to figure out what makes each situation tense. Then the situations were role-played. One person had to look into the eyes of his/her partner and calmly express his/her displeasure by telling that this and that irritated me, made me unhappy, etc.

The trainer gave the alumni two constructive patterns of solving conflict situations. One is effective for situations that involve people and relations you care about and don't want to lose. The second one is to be used in the situation that involve people accidental in your life when the aim is to receive what you have a right to receive, to be properly served, etc.

The training was concluded with more meditation giving alumni an opportunity to evaluate and consolidate the received knowledge and to come out of a training format.

by Olena Sukhotepla
Program Assistant, Dnipropetrovsk

Events Held in October 2003

- October - November:** English Language Internet Olympiad Preparation (Kharkiv)
October - December: School of Responsible Citizenship (Kyiv)
October 10: Civic Education and Ecological Thinking Conference (s. Tankove, Bakchisaray Region, Crimea)
October 12: Grant Writing workshop for FSA Undergraduate alumni (Kharkiv)
October 17: FSA Undergraduate Alumni Planning Meetings (Kharkiv)
October 24: Bright Ideas: New Approaches to Teaching Speaking and Writing (Kharkiv)
October 25: Rural Education Conference (Lviv)
October 31: Halloween celebration (Kharkiv & Kyiv)
October 31 - November 2: All-Eurasia FSA FLEX Summit "10 Years of Leadership" (Kyiv)

International Education Week (IEW) 17-21 November 2003

All-Ukrainian Volunteer and NGO Fair in Kyiv (devoted to IEW) 8 November, 2003

The All-Ukrainian Volunteer and NGO Fair is a follow-up activity on Legal Status of Volunteers and NGO activity. The original Youth Volunteer Fair was held during the week of 30th June - 5th July 2003 in the European Youth Centre Budapest, Budapest, Hungary. Kateryna Nalyvayko and Yuliya Kobets both attended the Fair representing American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS and several alumni NGOs established in Ukraine.

The fair will be divided into several sessions. The first session will include presentations on the volunteer law functioning in Ukraine and NGO work

and later the fair of several selected local, national and international alumni NGOs from all over Ukraine will be held. The invited speakers will be from the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, UN Volunteers in Ukraine and representatives of international NGOs working in Ukraine.

IEW Workshop Training for Trainers

14-15 November, 2003

Alumni will receive training of trainers conducted by professional Counterpart Creative Center trainers. This training will allow alumni to apply more effectively their skills and knowledge that they acquired during the program and later during participation in various alumni seminars and trainings. There will be total 20 participants, including alumni

of FSA Undergraduate, PIE, TEA, JFDP and Muskie Graduate Fellowship program.

On-line Course «Leadership and Management»

17-21 November, 2003

Alumni will receive online training in Team-building and Leadership with the help of Thompson on-line course. This course will allow alumni not only to learn new and necessary information but also effectively apply their computer and communication skills acquired during their international experience in the USA.

Kyiv All-Alumni Meeting

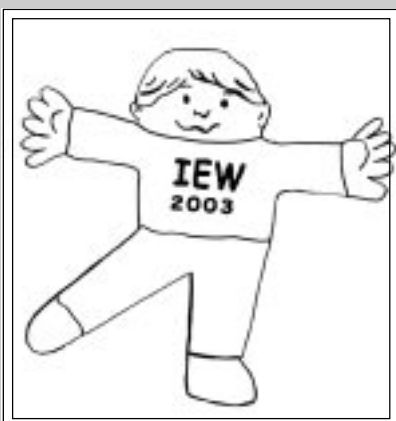
20 November, 2003

Hotel «Bratislava»

6 PM - 9 PM

International Education Week (IEW) 17-21 November 2003

Events Held in November 2003



*Flat Stanley
mascot of the IEW 2003*

- November 3:** Round Table Seminar on Tax Reform in Ukraine (Kyiv)
November (IEW): Healthy Way of Life Workshop (Odesa)
November 12: Alumni Advisory Board Meeting (Kyiv)
November 15: Innovation in Teaching Round Table Discussion (Dnipropetrovsk)
November 20-21: Round table discussion "Factors of Economic Growth in Ukraine and Neighbouring Countries" (Kyiv)
November 21 (postponed to Dec 6): New Strategy of Education Planning Meeting (Kharkiv)
November 21: ESL and Computer Use Training (Lviv)
November 23: Contemporary Ideas in English Language Teaching (Kharkiv)
November 29-30: Conference "Model United Nations" (Odesa)

More information:

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American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS

administers programs of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State and cooperates closely with the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The goal of these programs is to provide experience and skills to current and future leaders to help build democratic infrastructures and a market economy in Ukraine.

Programs in Ukraine:

Freedom Support Act Future Leaders Exchange Program (FSA-FLEX) — This is a program for 9th and 10th graders. This year's participants must have been born on or after January 1, 1988 and on or before July 15 1989. Participants are tested and interviewed by American representatives of American Councils. Finalists receive scholarships for one academic year of study in American high schools and live with host families.

Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellowship Program — Finalists are rewarded with one/two-year degree or non-degree programs for graduate study in: business administration, economics, law, public administration, public health, education, public policy, journalism and mass communication, international affairs, library and information science. Fellows are placed in universities by program administrators. Applicants must be aged 40 or under and hold an undergraduate degree. Preference will be given to professionals who can show leadership potential in the field of specialization. Application deadline: October 31, 2003, 17:00

U.S. – Ukraine Awards for Excellence in Teaching (TEA) — The goal of this program is to find and inspire talented teachers of English and/or American Studies, to support innovative methods of teaching and to establish and enhance connections between American and Ukrainian teachers. The selection process consists of several levels of competition and involves bi-national committees composed of Ukrainian and American specialists. Local Winners receive certificates of nomination and their schools receive a commemorative plaque. Regional winners receive teaching materials and technology/teaching aids for their schools. National finalists participate in a summer workshop/seminar in the U.S. Application deadline: December 15, 2003, 17:00

Partners in Education (PiE) — This is a program in civics education and is limited to specific oblasts of Ukraine which change annually. Instructors at pedagogical institutions and Teachers Training Institutes, teachers (grades 5-11) and other educators of subjects related to civics education and secondary school administrators may participate. Finalists travel to the U.S. to audit classes and participate in seminars. Application deadline: December 12, 2003, 18:00. 2003 Oblasts: Cherkasy, Dnipropetrovs'k, Odesa, Kherson, Kirovohrad, Mykolayiv, Vinnytsya, Zaporizhzhya, Khmelnytsky and Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

Partners in Education – the Directors Element - allows directors of secondary schools to be nominated by officials of the Ministry of Education and their regional departments, alumni of U.S. Government sponsored programs, the U.S. Embassy, American Councils and other non-governmental organizations from participating regions for U.S. based training in civics education curriculum. Knowledge of English is not mandatory for participants. Deadline for Nominations: December 12, 2003, 18:00. Participating regions: Donetsk, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Poltava, Sumy, Chernihiv, Kyiv, Rivne, Volyn, Zhytomyr.

Partners in Education - "Summer Institutes". This is a program in civics education and is limited to specific oblasts of Ukraine, which change annually. Instructors at pedagogical institutions and Teachers Training Institutes, teachers (grades 5-11) and other educators of subjects related to civics education and secondary school administrators may participate. Knowledge of English is not mandatory for participants. Finalists will have chance to participate in 10 day workshop in Ukraine on civics education which will be conducted by PiE alumni and American civics education experts. Application deadline: December 12, 2003, 18:00. Oblasts: Donetsk, Kharkiv, Luhansk, Poltava, Sumy, Chernihiv, Kyiv, Rivne, Volyn, Zhytomyr.

The Kyiv Alumni Resource Center is housed at the American Councils Kyiv office. Alumni are encouraged to register with the center, use its resources, and learn of the opportunities available.

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**AMERICAN
COUNCILS**

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