

ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ КОМИТЕТ РФ
ПО ВЫСШЕМУ ОБРАЗОВАНИЮ

**НОВОСИБИРСКИЙ
ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ**

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Dr. F. Mayor:
Secretary-General of UNESCO
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May 05, 1995

Dear Dr. F. Mayor:

Novosibirsk State University (NSU) approaches you with a request to open an UNESCO international Department on socio-ecological problems of sustainable development. NSU is ideal as a location for this project. NSU is one of the leading educational institutions in Russia. It is situated in the scientific center of Akademgorodok in Novosibirsk. The educational and research process at NSU is carried out by drawing upon the powerful intellectual resources of the Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Science. NSU also has close contacts with numerous universities and scientific centers abroad.

At the present time NSU has consolidated the intellectual potential of Siberia and the Far East in reference to sustainable development and ecological safety. The ecological and economical problems of sustainable development are being worked on by our university with the help of surrounding institutes of the Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Sciences. For a number of years the specialists have been trained to work on these problems. The mechanisms which would balance the relations between society and environment, between different social and political forms, territories and states in ecological, political, legal, cultural and language spheres are being investigated.

The international UNESCO Department at NSU could stimulate the activity of the university in studying the problems of sustainable development and would help to consolidate and coordinate the efforts of research and educational centers of Siberia, the Far East and many Asian countries in this domain.

The NSU questionnaire is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Prof. V.N. Vragov,
Rector of the University



Questionnaire

Suggestions on the organization of the international UNESCO Department at Novosibirsk State University.

A. Basic Information on the Organization

1. Name of the department:

Department of socio-ecological problems of sustainable development.

2. Projected date of opening: January, 1995.

3. Duration: 7 years.

4. Types of activities:

pedagogy, research, organization, publishing, and exchange of the international experience of training experts on the problems of socio-legal, economic and ecological technologies of sustainable development.

5. Field of Study and Concentration:

Content of Activity: scientific research on problems of values and technologies in relation to the harmonious development of nature and society; elaboration of the concept and working out of mechanisms of adaptation to international standards; legal protection of the scientific and educational development; working out of ecological, economic, culturological, sociological, socio-philosophical, and technological aspects of sustainable development; comparative analysis of the international federal structures of the multinational regions; working out of the concept of social and ecological stability and its legal protection; building up political, legal and ecological culture. Scientific-pedagogical activity: training and retaining of highly qualified experts competent in the solving of the interaction of ecological, economical, social, legal, culturological, chemical, biological, and technological problems of sustainable development of society.

Forms and Methods:

- scientific research on fundamental trends in sustainable development, pedagogical activity on the training of experts through the addition of classical university education (including postgraduate and doctoral education);
- publishing an interdisciplinary journal on the problems of sustainable development; writing instructional materials;
- conducting workshops and symposiums.

6. Name of Organization:

Novosibirsk State University (NSU).

7. Departments involved:

Natural Sciences Department (NSD), Economics Department (ED), Humanities Department (HD), Philosophy Department (PD), Geology and Geophysics Department (GGD); Center of Ecological Research and Education; Interdepartment Scientific Research Laboratory on the sustainable development of society (NSU, Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SD RAS), Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences (SD RAMS); Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences (SD RAAS); NSU Department of International Relations.

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9. Contact Person:
Professor Vragov Vladimir Nikolayevich,
The Rector of Novosibirsk State University.

B. Description of Activities

10. Short-term and Long-term Goals:

- working out the concept of sustainable development of society with regard to global, national, social, cultural, ecological, economic, technological and regional factors;
- assistance in the combined efforts of scientific and educational institutions, associations and organizations in the working out of policy, programs and plans for sustainable ecological, economic and social development;
- working out principles of development of science and education, focused on the positive trends in the relationships between society, human and nature;
- the spread of advanced knowledge and skills by means of long-term international research and training in collaboration with the cooperation of experts of the international level;
- unification of efforts of all interested parties in working out the technologies of sustainable development.

11. Types of activities to be performed:

scientific and pedagogic research, organization, publishing, cultural enlightenment.

12. Similar types of activities in progress:

A conference titled Conformities of social development — reference points and criteria of models of future development was hosted by the SD RAS with its President academician V.A. Koptjug as Chairman of the Organizing Committee.

In March 1994 the Russian Conference — Law and legal regulation in the framework of sustainable development was held and resulting materials were published. Practical and scientific recommendations were presented to all interested organizations.

The following organizations were opened as a part of NSU: the College of Ecology, the Center of Ecological Research and Education, Interdepartmental Scientific Research Laboratory on sustainable development of society. The organizations involved are the following: NSU, SD RAS, SD RAM, and SD RAAS.

The biological section of the NSD has accredited graduates in ecology for the past several years. The chemical section of the NSD and GGD have started to train experts in the concentration of ecology and the rational use of natural resources. The institutes of SD RAS deal with the problems of chemistry and biology conduct research in global ecology.

The ED teaching staff and researchers of the Institute of Economics of SD RAS train experts and conduct research in the fields of economics and ecology.

The HD and PD, with the support of the combined Institute of History, Philology and Philosophy of SD RAS train experts and conduct research in culture, history, philosophy and languages of Siberian peoples.

13. Results to be expected:

The International UNESCO Department will become the Siberian Center of fundamental research in the basic spheres of the development of society and long-term international collaboration of industrialized and less-developed countries. Development of international relations will be carried out in the framework of UNITVIN plans.

Elaboration of the latest socio-ecological technologies of sustainable development in conjunction with advanced international experience, and giving recommendations to the administrative and government bodies on various levels.

Training of experts who meet international standards of education in ecology, law, ethics, social sciences, culturology, philosophy.

Publication of scientific literature, monographs, and instructional and conference materials. Establishment of a department data base on the subject areas that the department deals with, based on the materials available in the Siberian region.

14. Other interested organizations:

Higher Educational Institutions of Siberia and the Far East, Siberian Division of the Russian Academy of Education, SD AMS, SD RAAS, Interregional Association Siberian Agreement.

C. Budget:

15. Projected Annual Budget:

For the Department of socio-ecological problems of sustainable development to function the following are needed: management and pedagogical staff, a secretary, and an interpreter.

Salary — \$15,000;

Travelling Expenses — \$15,000;

Publishing — \$15,000;

Equipment and Facilities — \$100,000.

16. Required extra-budgetary funds:

An annual sum of \$60,000 is required for traveling expenses, receiving foreign guests in accordance with international norms, and arranging international conferences.

17. Contribution of NSU:

NSU will provide the highly qualified staff, laboratories, library use, administrative support, fax machine, computer use, E-Mail, satellite communication which will total \$90,000.

18. Projected sources of financing:

NSU intends to apply for financial support from the following organizations: the Ministry of Science of Technical Policy of Russia, the Committee on Higher Education of the Russian Federation, the Russian Fund of Fundamental Research, the INTAS Program (Belgium, UNO), and the Inter regional Association Siberian Agreement. In the future the university is going to earn money with the work of the International UNESCO Department.

19. Projected contributions from the following interested organizations:

Financial Support:

Association of Siberian Banks, Interregional Association Siberian Agreement, Technical Fund for the Development of Siberia, Cultural Initiative Fund, Fundamental Scientific Research in SD RAS Fund, and the Revival and Development of Siberia Fund.

Material and Intellectual Support:

Higher Educational Institutes of Siberia will support the arrangement of international conferences in general and in particular the international conference on Education and Science on the threshold of the third millennium in September 1995.

D. Additions

20. Give any additional information which is not given in the previous sections:

It should be added that close scientific and educational contacts with foreign universities and scientific centers have already been established (UK, USA, Canada, Germany, France, Greece, Italy, China, Japan). In the Institute of Philosophy and Law of SD RAS the program Scientific and Educational Potential of Siberia: Essence and Problems of Developing, approved and adopted by the XXVII Session of the General Conference of UNESCO, is under development. The staff of our university takes the most active part in the program.