#### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The Rule of Law Consortium (ARD/Checchi Joint Venture), under the auspices of the U.S. Agency for International Development, announces the Russia ROL Grants Program under the Russia Contract (CCN#-0007-C-00-3166-00), and the Ukraine ROL Grants Program under the Slavic Contract (Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus) (CCN#-0007-C-00-3169-00) for the purpose of creating a stable legal and political environment for developing and strengthening the Rule of Law (ROL) in the transition to democratic, market-based societies in Russia and Ukraine.

Grants will be made to U.S., Russian, and Ukrainian organizations that propose action-oriented programs designed to have a direct impact on change through the Rule of Law. Programs should be designed to strengthen core legal institutions and processes (as well as civil society as it relates to legal development) in order to support general legal reform, encourage an orderly transition to a market economy, protect human rights, and limit the potential for arbitrary exercise of governmental power. All proposals must demonstrate how they will contribute to the sustainability of Rule of Law.

Although support is not limited to any predetermined list of activities, the following are illustrative: increasing public awareness and knowledge of laws and legal procedures; helping citizens organize to advocate changes in the legal system; helping citizens protect their individual and property rights; helping citizens utilize the legal system for the adjudication of conflict; developing systems of private and quasi-public alternative dispute resolution; helping the public remove legal and regulatory constraints on private sector commercial activities; helping the public establish constitutional guarantees of private ownership, commercial activity and public accountability; developing a system of administrative law, public defenders' offices, and other oversight organizations; etc.

Proposals are requested from U.S. not-for-profit (501 C 3), non-governmental and private voluntary organizations in co-partnership with corresponding entities in Russia or Ukraine. Proposals may originate with the Russian or Ukrainian partner but must be administered via the American partner. In some cases, official public institutions may also be eligible for funding (please refer to guidelines enclosed in the application packet for complete eligibility requirements).

Approximately two million dollars is available under the Russian Program over the course of the Contract period, and one and one-half million dollars is available under the Ukrainian Program over the same period. Most awards will range between \$5,000 and \$100,000. All proposals require a minimum 25% match from non-federal sources. The application deadline for the Russian Grants Program is **December 2, 1994** and awards will be announced in February 1995. The application deadline for the Ukrainian Grants Program is **November 25, 1994** and awards will be announced in January 1995.

For more information about requirements and an official application package, write, fax, call or E-mail:

In Russia: Rule of Law Consortium (ARD/Checchi Joint Venture), Russian Grants Program, ul. Nezhdanovoi d. 6, kv. 24, 103009 Moscow, R.F., 7-095-229-8219 (fax), 7-095-229-8623, e-mail:ard@ard1.law.msk.su

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# GRANT'S RUSSIAN EXPERIENCE INC.'S NEWSLETTER

#### GRE CELEBRATES ITS SUCCESSFUL FIRST SUMMER PROGRAM IN RUSSIA

Grant's Russian Experience successfully completed its first summer program in Russia with 30 American and Russian students. The American students came from all over the United States and the Russians from all over Russia including places like Kamchatka, Lake Baykat, Novosibirsk, the Caucuses, Moscow and St. Petersburg.

The 8 week program was held in a pansionat (resort hotel) in Zvenigorod, a favorite vacation spot for elite Moscovites which is located 25 miles outside Moscow. The pansionat has all kinds of sports facilities and sits on the bank of the Moscow River. It is surrounded by pristine fields and forests making it ideal for swimming and outdoor recreation.

Week days, the American students start each day with four academic hours of intensive Russian language study. During this time, the Russians study political science and economics. The Russians' instructors, brought to Russia by GRE, included a world renowned economist and a Chilean congressman who discussed Chile's transition from Communism.

At least once a week, the students were taken on field trips to such places as Pushkin's apartment and Tolstoy's home in Moscow. These trips were supplemented with organized excursions, usually several a week, to theaters, concerts, night clubs, the circus, etc. In the afternoons, the students participated in organized activities such as playing sports or floating down the river or they headed into Moscow on their own.

The Russian students were nominated by university presidents and members of the Russian parliament. The result was an incredibly talented group of Russian students. These young Russians had an impressive group of parents, amongst them five members of parliament and one of Russia's best known philosophers.

The teachers and staff of GRE are well acquainted with Russian culture and with many interesting and prestigious Moscovites. Due to these acquaintances, the students in 1994 were afforded very unique interviews and glimpses into Russian life. They had a private interview with Elena Bonner, widow of Andrei Sakharov, and were introduced to Mark Rozovsky, the director of a well known theater, and to Stanislav Govoroukhin, a prominent film director and member of parliament. At the closed meeting for Mr. Govoroukhin, a few of the students had the chance to get their pictures taken with Gorbachev.

The students also enjoyed weekly outings at the hotel's Russian banya (bathhouse) and several meals with Russian families in their apartments. The students were invited to the wedding reception of the local leader of the Cossacks, to an ancient ceremony annually held by MGU students at a neighboring summer camp, and to go horseback riding with a local equestrian. Perhaps the fondest memories will be of the many evenings spent singing around a campfire accompanied by one of the several very talented student guitar players. Both the American and Russian students found GRE's program to offer an incredible social and learning experience. The relaxed atmosphere in a resort hotel enabled them to build friendships that will last a lifetime.

An early sign up is recommended for those interested in being part of the summer of 1995 program because enrollment will again be limited. Prior Russian is not a prerequisite but is recommended.



Elena Bonner, widow of Andrei Sakharov, listens to a question during the private interview she gave GRE's students. Beside Mrs. Bonner is GRE's Dean, Dr. Larisa Salamova.



The country setting permitted many of the classes to be held outdoors. Here Dr. Salamova conducts a class for the intermediate Russian language students.

#### AMERICAN TEACHERS COMPLEMENTED

The American students were almost all recommended to GRE's program by their teachers of Russian in America. GRE's Dean, Dr. Larisa-Salamova, was extremely impressed with the quality of the American students and with their preparation.

"I have been teaching Russian to foreigners for 10 years," said Dr. Salamova. "Over that period," she said. "I have had the opportunity to assess the intelligence, the intellectual curiosity and the perseverance of literally hundreds of students in the process of learning the Russian tanguage." "Initially," said Dr. Salamova, "I was working with officers from the former Soviet bloc countries and more recently with foreigners from all over the world who have recognized the economic and other opportunities now opening up in Russia. Of all those students," said Dr. Salamova, "these American students in GRE's summer program were as a group certainly amongst the most impressive that I have had the pleasure of leaching over this 10 year span." (Continued on next page)

#### - ADVERTISEMENT

#### AMERICAN TEACHERS COMPLEMENTED

(continued from prior page)

According to Dr. Salamova, "They were very intelligent. Those that were not beginning students were well grounded in Russian grammar. They were hard working and they were a genuinely nice group of young people."

"I complement all those teachers of Russian who have had any input in preparing these students," said Dr. Salamova, "and I hope that any of these teachers who are ever in Moscow while our summer program is in session will make the short trip out to beautiful Zvenigorod so that I can complement them personally."



The students attended an exhibition of almost all of Glazunov's paintings. Pictured here with student Kathy Lee is the illustration of Polina that he did for Dostoyevsky's "Player".



GRE's student body contained many talented musicians permitting a number of musical programs. Mark Caroul put on a recital to which all the guests at the hotel were invited. "This experience and the encouragement received from my fellow students," said Mark, "has made me decide on a career change".



Close by the resort hotel on the Moscow River in which GRE's summer program was held is a Moscow State University summer camp. It is a tradition that in the evening of the longest day of the year, the MGU students at this camp recreate an ancient ceremony. Crowns are woven out of flowers and vines. Songs are sung around a huge bon fire. GRE's students were invited to join in this celebration including the traditional mid night swim in the Moscow river.



GRE'S first year's students.



American Nancy Morgan and Russian Vladimir Shimkov in the ball room of the Hermitage.



American Bill Converse and Russian Natasha Dounets at the students' Disco.

The fee for the Summer of '95 8 week program is \$3995 which includes airfare from N.Y., room and board, four academic hours of intensive Russian language study each week day, course materials, weekly local tours and a week end in St. Petersburg. Nine credits are usually available through the student's own school for this program or, for an additional fee, through SUNY New Paltz. The airline is FINNAIR.

#### Grant's Russian Experience Inc.

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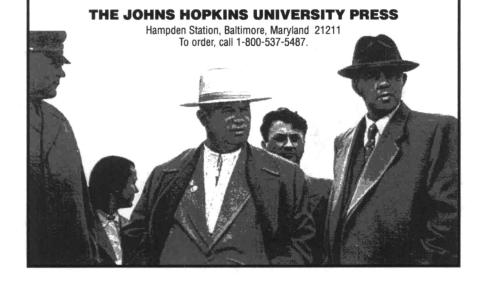
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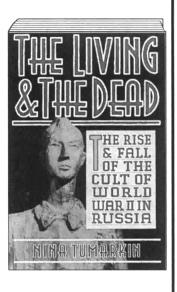
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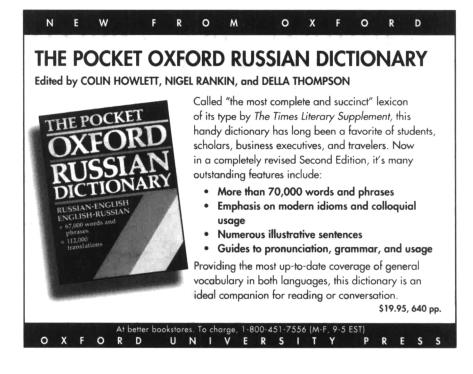
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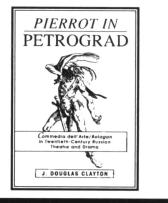
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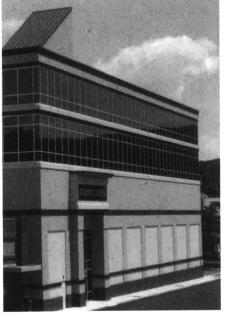
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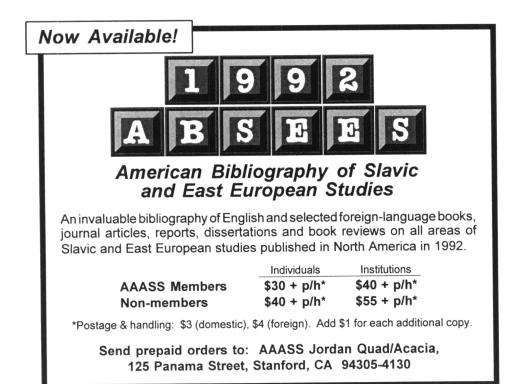
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There has been a fall off in some areas in the number of American students studying Russian at the high school level. Dr. Henry Urbanski, the Director of the Language Immersion Institute at SUNY New Paltz and former chair of its foreign language department, advises that at a recent gathering attended by a number of high school teachers of Russian, fear was expressed for their jobs and a number advised that they were studying other languages to assure being retained as foreign language teachers. The annual statistics gathered by the Russian Studies Center support this concern. They show a fall off from 17,856 students studying Russian at the high school level in the 1989/1990 school year to 11,692 studying Russian at that level in the 1993/1994 school year, a 36.9% decrease. The effect of this fall off at the high school level will be increasingly felt at the college level.

The Russian Federation State Committee for Higher Education has asked Grant's Russian Experience Inc. to commence a pilot project designed to reverse this trend. The essence of the plan is to bring over talented young Russian college students and send them to schools offering Russian. They would hopefully be hosted by the teachers of Russian or by students at the schools now studying Russian who would be arranging for them to address their school body. In each area, we would like to team up a Russian university student with an American student studying Russian at a school relatively close to the schools to be visited.

These young Russians would be talking about economic opportunities for Americans in Russia, cultural opportunities, the excitement of being part of something akin to what happened politically in America 200 years ago, the contribution through encouragement that American students could potentially make in this area and the need to avoid a return to the adversarial relationship between our two countries which was so counter productive for the whole world. They will introduce them to Russian literature, introduce them to the Russian soul, etc. Hopefully, they will be able to reinforce all these messages with an inspirational mini music program.

Please send us the below coupon if you would like one of these young Russian college students to come to your school to attempt to help you increase the number of students studying the Russian language. Initially, we would like roughly a half the visits to be to high schools, a quarter to junior high schools feeding high schools that offer Russian and the rest to colleges.

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