

Barents Cross-border University meeting in Murmansk 20th to 21st November, 2007

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Barents Cross-border University (BCBU) meeting started with vice rector meeting on the 20th November, when the representatives of the partner universities introduced, from the administrative point of view, the current situation of implementing Master's programs at their universities and commented the new project leaflet. In the meeting, the participants discussed the standing of the BCBU in their universities referred to funding and implementation possibilities of Master's programs. The meeting representatives approved to take into use the name Barents Cross-border University and the new logo introduced in the meeting. At the same, the new project leaflet, prepared by the Finnish partners, was approved. The leaflet will be available at the project web site (<http://bcbu.oulu.fi>).

BCBU aims to develop up to four Master's programs in the fields of Comparative social work, Environmental engineering, Information systems, and Circumpolar health and wellbeing. The working group representatives introduced the present state of each of the Master's programs. At the end of the day, Prof. Kyösti Urponen invited the BCBU rectors in Rovaniemi next March.

The Murmansk State Pedagogical University was introduced by Vice Rector Andrey Sergeev. The participants got a concrete outlook of the activities of the host university, when the students and teachers showed their dancing and musical skills in a high-class performance.

The meeting continued with parallel working group meetings of the Master's programs. The results were introduced and discussed at the end of the two-day meeting. All of the programs have proceeded positively, and the upcoming actions were agreed.

In addition, the Finnish-Russian joint steering group of the Master's programs (Social work and Environmental engineering) had its meeting. In the meeting, implementation and activities for the year 2008 were treated.