

# **Finnish-Russian Barents Cross-Border University**

## **Vice-Rectors' Meeting Master Programme Working Groups' Meetings Petrozavodsk, 6.-7.11.2006**

Tatiana Khrol-Lappalainen

06.11.2006: Vice-Rector Meeting (White Springs hotel and resort centre)

### **10.15 Opening plenary session**

Vice-rector Fedorov (KSPU) opened the meeting and invited the participants of the venture to the celebration of KSPU 75-th anniversary

Rector Valerij Briazgin (KSPU) presented his greetings to the participants and expressed his support to the development of FRB-CBU:

We celebrate the 75-th anniversary of our university these days. The celebration event is devoted to the development and international partnership development perspectives. CBU-cooperation and ICT-development of the universities are the major themes of our agenda. We are looking forward to practical results of our project. We hope our cooperation will be a part of our university life.

Vice-rector Riitta Keiski (University of Oulu) presented greetings from the rector of the university of Oulu and support to the development of FRB-CBU:

It is a great pleasure to be here and represent the rector of our university. Our cooperation is very future orientated. Our cooperation has 10 years behind and we already have some results. International cooperation between our universities is multidisciplinary, diverse and active. CBU development is one of the focus areas of the University of Oulu (Thule Instituutti). Our new development strategy in pedagogics includes CBU collaboration. We look forward to developing 4-5 master programmes. We have a lot of mutual interests: in research, in innovation cooperation (our future ICT-programme as an example), in participating in the Northern Dimension Strategy and so on. I shall personally participate in the development of FRB-CBU master programme of sustainable engineering.

Vice-rector Paula Kankaanpää (University of Lapland) expressed greetings from the rector of the University of Lapland and devotion to the further development of FRB-CBU:

It is a great pleasure to address such a prestigious audience. I'm sure we shall be able to find mutual understanding in FRB-CBU cooperation and find solutions to the challenges we meet. The University of Lapland will coordinate the development of the Comparative Social Work Master Programme.

11.00 Vice-rector Fedorov (KSPU):

Corrections of the agenda and day programme.

### **11.15 Vice-rectors of the partner universities express their universities' opinions on the results of self-assessment:**

Vice-rector Beliaev (Murmansk State Pedagogical University):

MSPU will participate only in the Comparative Social Work master programme.

Common part of the curriculum is under development. Teachers teaching social work in English are being prepared. We still lack some experts. We are doing our best to get master programme rights in Social Work by the year 2009.

Dean Shvartzcop (on behalf of Rector V. Shergalina, Murmansk Humanities Institute):

We are especially interested in participation in the Comparative Social Work Master Programme. We have discussed and answered the self-assessment questionnaire. A lot of questions are already worked out, but for the rest we are waiting for the discussion at the present meeting.

We cannot include the subjects of social work into our curricula but we can hold Summer and Winter Schools (2-4 weeks each). This will include exchange of students and teachers. This may be our form of participation.

Vice-rector Soloviev (Arkhangelsk State Medical University):

see presentation file (attachment Soloviev-06.11.06.ppt)

The NSMU has 15-year experience in Social Work training and well developed international contacts. We are participating in the development of the Master Programme in Public Health, which includes teaching also Social Work subjects in English. International student services are well developed in our university. We are interested in participating in the Comparative Social Work master programme (the licence is applied for).

Chief of academic administration Vorozhova (on behalf of vice-rector Krylov, Pomor University):

see presentation file (Pomor.ppt)

Our university has experience in international teaching with joint curriculum/study plan, at least one semester mobility, distant learning and Bachelor Double Degree. Two faculties of our university have started transformation into ECTS (European credit point system).

As for the FRB-CBU, we plan to participate in the development of the Master Programmes in 1) Comparative Social Work and 2) ICT. At the moment we have licences only for the Bachelor and Specialist Degrees in the subjects of Social Work and Applied Mathematics. But in January of 2007 we expect to receive a decision on our application for the Master Degree licence in Social Work.

The problem is in the present situation we cannot give foreign students a Russian State Diploma, we can give only a course diploma or a Diploma of Professional Retraining.

Other problems:

- Joint degree is not defined in Russian official documents
- No financial support from Russian Ministry of Education for creation of program, student mobility, teacher mobility, teaching in English

Later addition by L. Haimina: Ppomor university has got a master programme right in the subject of ICT starting with the year 2007.

Vice-rector Federov (KSPU) presented the jurisdiction division between the different departments of the Ministry of Science and Education of Russian Federation:

After the reform of 2004 the Ministry of Science and Education of Russian Federation consists of three parts:

- 1) the Ministry itself: creates policies
- 2) Federal Agency: serves the universities (defines funds, student amounts, subjects and programmes)
- 3) Federal Service for Accreditation in Science and Education: gives licences, accredits educational institutions once in 5 years when they get rights to issue a state diploma

In addition to that there are sc. Methodological Units for different subject clusters taught in the higher educational institutions. Methodological Units advise the

departments of Ministry and the universities on the criteria of institutional readiness for good teaching in different subjects. In the case of KSPU, it gets the approval of its master programmes in Pedagogics from the Methodological Unit placed in Russian Pedagogical University (St.Petersburg). The methodological Unit of Herzen University consults KSPU on the content of master programmes.

The Ministry has advised the universities to apply for the master programme rights even if they don't have bachelor programme rights in the subject at question. This is in contradiction with the rules of Federal Agency, that makes such applications practically hopeless.

Recognition of academic degrees between Russian Federation and other European countries is defined by the bilateral agreements. There is no such a bilateral agreement between Russian Federation and Finland.

I suggest, that the vice-rector meeting of FRB-CBU writes a letter to the Federal Agency of Russian Federation and to the Ministry of Education of Finland asking them to give our universities a special permission for experimental cooperation to be resulted into international Double Degrees. This permission should include the rights for master programmes for the participating universities in the subjects of FRB-CBU as well as rights for the Russian universities to recognize foreign mobility programme students as permanent for getting Russian diploma in the frames of CBU.

**Discussion** on the problems of awarding the state degrees for foreign students by Russian universities:

If a student is recommended by the letter of the Ministry of RF, his study gets funds. If not, it is necessary to find the inner university resources for that.

The joint curriculum needs common grounds for the enrolling to academic studies.

The status of foreign students, who do not study all the time in a Russian university, needs to be officially recognized. Their previous studies may be approved to be a part of Russian academic degree studies for example as "previous correspondence studies" (correspondence studies have an official status in Russian higher education system).

Andrew Akhayan (KSPU):

One way to develop a technique for the recognition of the previous studies as part of a Russian degree of a foreign student:

- 1) to enroll a student to a Russian university as a full time degree student (on the basis of international declarations like that of Lisbon and other)
- 2) to recognize his home university studies for a part of a Russian degree studies as "previous correspondence studies"
- 3) thus a student will continue his education as a full time degree student and get a Russian diploma

**Vice-rectors of the partner universities express their universities' opinions on the results of self-assessment** (continues):

Maria Rozbitskaja (Murm. Technical University): presentation of questionnaire (registered in the working table by Kimmo Kuortti)

Olga Kulakovskaja (Petrozavodsk State University): Greetings on behalf of the rector. Petrozavodsk State University is going to participate in the Comparative Social Work Master Programme. Our Department of Social Work is new and we shall need all the help of our more experienced colleagues we can get. We have already applied for the rights on a bachelor degree in Social Work. Master programme rights application is currently being worked on. Our answers of the questionnaire will be ready tomorrow.

Kari Laine (University of Oulu):

Presentation on the master programmes on ICT and Environmental Engineering. The frames are ready. The financial questions are being worked on.

Leena Lehtinen (University of Lapland):

The Law Studies will be represented by the University of Lapland in every FRB-CBU master programme in the form of special law courses in accordance with each master programme profile. There are already possible teacher candidates.

Kimmo Kuortti (University of Oulu):

Extra funding is being applied for on behalf of the master programmes in Comparative Social Work and in Environmental Engineering. The source is the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which required the data of questionnaires.

**Discussion:**

Agenda of the next day

Technical questions of the next day.

**AGENDA FOR 7.11.06**

**Kimmo Kuortti and Kari Laine: Partners' and associated partners' rights and duties (CBU minimum framework document)**

**To be decided:**

- 1) Master's programs: full partners and associate partners
- 2) Steering groups for each program (members) and administrative working group for the whole FRB-CBU
- 3) Academic coordinators for each program:
  - Social work (FI-Kyosti Urponen, RU-?)
  - Environmental engineering (FI-Riitta Keiski, RU-?)
  - Information technology (FI-Kari Pankkonen, RU-?)
  - Circumpolar health and wellbeing (FI-Arja Rautio, RU-?)
- 4) Questionnaire: to clarify missing or unclear information
- 5) Responsibilities and timetables

**To keep in mind:**

- 6) Monitoring and evaluation (quality issues)
- 7) Marketing ("southern" CBU: <http://www.joensuu.fi/cbu>)
- 8) Effectiveness of our work (planning process and outcomes)
- 9) Collaboration with business life and other actors

07.11.2006

#### **10.00 Plenary Session:**

Roman Gokkoev and Kari Laine (University of Oulu): Introduction of the day agenda, presentation of project web site (<http://bcbu oulu.fi>); other organizational questions.

Kimmo Kuortti (University of Oulu): Framework for the Master programmes in Finnish-Russian Barents Cross Border University

#### **10.45 Working Group Meetings:**

##### Master Programme in Comparative Social Work

Chairs: Olga Zviagina, Arja Rautio

##### 1. Partner's roles:

- University of Oulu: associate member
- University of Lapland: **full member**
- Arkhangelsk State Medical University: we may be a full member in 2-3 years, now more realistic is associate membership, but our rector will make a final decision later. At the moment we have master programmes in Public Health and the programme in Circumpolar Health is under development. In the future we are going to apply for master programme rights in Social Work.
- Pomor University: we have applied for the master programme rights **Social Work with Different Population Groups**, the answer will come before January; the head is prof. Danilova; **we apply for full membership** and we are ready to work in the development of possibilities for giving our Diploma to Finnish Students. We have Bachelor Programme (taught in English) in Humanities and Filology, and Master Programme in Pedagogics. Students of these Bachelor Programmes can apply after graduation to a Master Programme in Social Work.
- Petrozavodsk University: we would like to be a full member, but we can't at the moment. We apply for associate membership and head for the full membership in the future. We shall cooperate with Karelian Pedagogical University in the Social Work Master Programme. We have doctoral level teachers, who can teach subjects of Social Work in English.
- Karelian State Pedagogical University: We apply for associate membership and the plan is to develop master programme in Social Work in cooperation with Petrozavodsk University. We have doctoral level teachers, who can teach subjects of Social Work in English.
- Murmansk State Technical University: We apply for associate membership, because we don't have enough English speaking teachers and courses in the subject of Social Work at the moment. We are not ready right now to give our Diploma to foreign students. Our university will not be able to apply for master programme rights in Social Work.
- Murmansk Humanities Institute: We apply for associate membership. We can offer our international programme courses in psychology of social work taught in English.
- Murmansk State Pedagogical University: We apply for associate membership. Our university will apply for the master programme rights in Social Work in the nearest future and we are going to get it in 2-3 years.

2. Steering group for Master Programme in Comparative Social Work:  
Tatiana Iv. Velikolug (Arkhangelsk State Medical University)  
Golubeva Elena (Pomor University)  
Zviagina Olga (Petrozavodsk University)  
Fadeeva Marina (Karelian State Pedagogical University)  
Arja Rautio (University of Oulu)  
Jurij Kuznetsov (Murmansk State Technical University)  
Svetlana Shvartskopf (Murmansk Humanities Institute)  
Elena Shovina (Murmansk State Pedagogical University)  
Kyösti Urponen (University of Lapland)

Administrative working group:

Sumarokov Jurij (Arkhangelsk State Medical University)  
Vorozhtsova Ludmila Aleksandr. (Pomor State University)  
Posnova Galina Vikt. (Karelian State Ped. Univ.)  
Kimmo Kuortti (Univ. of Oulu)  
Harri Malinen (Univ. of Lapl.)  
Olga Buch (Murm. Techn. Univ.)  
Anna Petrova (Murm. Human. Institute)  
Alexander Beliaev (Murm. Satre Ped. Univ.)  
Ludmila Kulikovskaya (Petrozav. State Univ.)

3. Academic coordinators:  
FI - prof. Köysti Urponen, RU - prof. R.I.Danilova

4. Schedules:

- 1) to present the missing questionnaire data by 15.11.2006 to Kimmo Kuortti
- 2) to send the associate members' course suggestions to Elena Golubeva (Pomor University) and Raisa Danilova, Kyösti Urponen, T. Khrol-Lappalainen by 01.03.2007. Academic coordinators will decide on the work share (courses to be delivered) of each organization.
- 3) meeting of Steering Committee in March 2007
- 4) Developing the curriculum and delivering pilot courses: Autumn 2007 – Spring 2008
- 5) Curriculum (description of courses) ready: end 2008
- 6) Looking for students Spring 2009
- 7) Start of ready Master Programmes Autumn 2009

Master Programme in ICT:

**14.00 Plenary session:**

Riitta Keiski (University of Oulu) presented the development stage of the ICT master programme (see presentation in the attachment file)

Arja Rautio (University of Oulu) presented the development stage of the Circumpolar Health master programme (see presentation in the attachment file)

Next meeting:

Oulu or Murmansk, 19 March starting week (week 12)

**Closing word by Kari Laine**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Participant list of the rector meeting 06-11-2006.doc

Participant list of Master Programme Working Groups 07-11-2006.doc

presentation by vice-rector Andrew Soloviev: attachment file Soloviev-06.11.06.ppt

presentation by the administration unit chief Ludmila Vorozhcova: attachment file Pomor.ppt

presentation by Riitta Keiski

presentation by Arja Rautio

Structure of the master programme in Social Work.doc