

**Memorandum of understanding and interest towards cooperation
in the sphere of the
NORTHERN CROSS-BORDER UNIVERSITY**

We the rectors of Universities in Northern Finland and North-West Russia hereby agree to develop and cooperate in a manner that supports university cooperation in the Barents Region.

In Rovaniemi, January 19, 2006

Bogolitsyn Konstantin the representative of the Rector, Arkangelsk State Technical University		Shergalina Valeria Rector, Murmansk Humanities Institute
Tripolsky Ruvyn Rector, Murmansk State Pedagogical University		Jershov Aleksander Rector, Murmansk State Technical University
Sumarokov Jury Vice-rector, Northern State Medical University		Verigin Sergei the representative of the Rector, Petrozavodsk State University
Briazgin Valery Rector, Karelian State Pedagogical University		Krylov Aleksander Vice-rector, Pomor State University
Esko Riepula Rector, University of Lapland		Lauri Lajunen Rector, University of Oulu

The above mentioned Institutions agree to initiate cooperation and further explore and develop the possibilities of cooperation in order to establish a more solid higher education area in the Barents Region with the Northern Cross-Border University initiative.

This agreement becomes effective upon completion of the signatures of the participating institutions and is valid till January 31, 2007. It can be subjected to revisions, renewal, or cancellation by mutual consent of the participating institutions. Details of the implementation of any particular initiative resulting from this Memorandum shall be further negotiated between the participating institutions.

We are convinced, that our cooperation is beneficial for mutual understanding of Finland and Russia, it increases the knowledge of traditions and cultures of both countries, and furthermore promotes the Northern Dimension and internationalisation of each institution.

This Memorandum has been made in English and Russian language.