

## Scholarship Programs

### Scholarship Programs Newsletter Summer 2007 – Issue 2

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Welcome to the second edition of the Network Scholarship Programs (NSP) newsletter. This issue focuses on the many conferences that NSP staff and grantees attended from late spring through the end of summer. It has been a busy 3 months of staff meetings, pre-departure orientations, and alumni conferences. From the generous hosts at Rutgers, Brandeis, Harvard, Fulda, and Bilgi Universities to the Black Sea Coast of Bulgaria, NSP has strengthened existing connections and built new relationships, ever deepening its rich network of scholars.

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## **Georgian Scholarship Program for Education Professionals Conference at Harvard**

*Phillip Watkins*

On April 17 and 18, grantees of the Georgian Scholarship Program for Education Professionals gathered in Boston for the inaugural Spring Fellows' Conference. NSP was grateful to the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) for hosting this event, which brought together the six fellows from the first fellowship cohort, representatives from the two host universities (Harvard and Teachers College), NSP and OSI staff, and guests interested in education reform in the Republic of Georgia.

At the conference, welcoming remarks were given by Martha Loerke, Director, Network Scholarship Programs, OSI; James Stiles, Associate Dean for Degree Programs, HGSE; and Marion Boulton, Director, International Services, Teachers College. Along with academic experts in the field of education, all six program grantees presented papers related to their main research interests:

- Ketevan Chachkhiani, Program Fellow, Teachers College: "Education Vouchers in Georgia: Strengths and Concerns"
- Natia Mzhavanadze, Program Fellow, Teachers College: "Standardized Tests and 'Narrowing the Curriculum': Possible Implications for Georgia"
- Chankseliani, Program Fellow, Harvard GSE: "Using Service-Learning Activities for Civic Identity Formation"
- Tamari Gabisonia, Program Fellow, Teachers College: "Education Challenges in Georgia: Impact of Private Tutoring"
- Sophia Gorgodze, Program Fellow, Harvard GSE: "What Hampers the Equalizing Force of National Examinations in Georgia?"
- Natia Andguladze, Program Fellow, Harvard GSE: "Differences between Scholarship Recipient and Non-recipient Student Populations Admitted to Georgian Universities in 2005"

Guest speakers, all well-established academics in the field of education, presented their views on relevant topics such as: the standards movement, performance assessment, and leadership in higher education. Philip Altbach, Director of the Center for International Higher Education at Boston College, spoke on "Globalization and Higher Education: Myths and Realities."

Conference participants were delighted to gather for an informal evening reception, graciously hosted at her home by Professor Patricia Graham, a leading historian of American education at Harvard and long-time member of OSI's Higher Education Sub-board. All guests enjoyed the chance for informal conversation and further discussion of the conference's main themes.

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**Palestinian Faculty Development Program Conference at Brandeis**

## University

In late April, the first cohort of the Palestinian Faculty Development Program (PFDP) convened at Brandeis University outside of Boston. Nearly finished with their first year of studies in the United States as PFDP scholars, the conference was an ideal time to reflect on what has been learned and what is to come.

Ambassador Kattouf, President of Amideast and former US Ambassador to Syria and the UAE, gave the keynote speech at the conference. His talk centered on the significance of higher education in general, and the Palestinian Faculty Development Program in particular, in building a civil society prepared to tackle the challenges of creating a democratic nation-state.



*(PFDP Conference Attendees)*

On the second day of the conference, grantees were broken down by their field of study for panel presentations. PFDP supports doctoral fellowships and short-term faculty visits for Palestinian academics in Political Science, Education, Social Work, Urban Planning, and Urban Policy. Each grantee reported on their current academic research and how studying in the United States has influenced their work. Following presentations by each member of the panel was a Q&A session led by grantee advisors.

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### **Grantee Profile from PFDP - Ata Darwish – PFDP Fellow 2006-2007**

Ata Darwish, a short-term fellow in Education at the University of Pennsylvania (UPENN) presented some exciting work he's been developing with faculty at UPENN. Seeking to use blogs as a teaching resource for a research skills course, Ata has created a new curriculum that will utilize the collaborative powers of web 2.0 technology at his home university in Palestine. Ata is proposing that each student in his class be required to keep a blog and post comments on classmate's blogs. The students will post proposals, papers, and research methodologies. Other students will comment on these posts, in a peer evaluation process. It is collaborative learning, using

the power of the blog, allowing for around the clock communication between professor and students, and between students themselves. Ata's biggest challenge is the lack of adequate internet resources in Gaza, something he hopes will be overcome with time. I recently spoke with Ata to ask how his plans for integrating technology in the classroom are progressing. Unfortunately, due to the recent turmoil in the Gaza Strip, he has been without electricity in his classroom. Despite these challenges, he is determined to utilize the internet and its capabilities in his classroom, a common desire held among many of the Palestinian professors, like Dr. Hisham Hidmi and Jamal Rabee who have focused their studies on improving learning environments. Hidmi has been working on developing an "open learning system" and Jamal has concentrated his efforts on the development of E-learning.

As Palestine is a conflict zone, several scholars noted the difficulties of teaching in such an environment, but also relayed that this did not discourage their creativity, nor their drive to improve the research capabilities at Palestinian Universities, through creative initiatives. For instance, Abdulfattah Shمله, a professor of public policy at Hebron University, arranged to have 150 books and journals on public administration sent to Palestine. Abdulfattah and others have also been active in establishing faculty links between their host university in the U.S. and their home university in Palestine. A key example in this regard is a series of Memoranda of Understanding signed between various departments at An-Najah University and Syracuse University, which resulted from Professor Saed Al-Koni's short-term visit in public affairs at Syracuse. It is hoped that increased communication between faculty across borders will improve the capacity of higher education in Palestine, while simultaneously enriching academic life there and in the U.S.

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### **Faculty Development Program Conference at Rutgers University**

On April 30 and May 1, Faculty Development Program (FDP) grantees met at Rutgers University for 2 days of presentations, panels, and workshops. With an enthusiastic and warm welcome by the staff at Rutgers, the conference brought together faculty members from throughout Southeastern Europe, Central Asia, and Mongolia to share their research and hopefully form academic and professional networks that can be utilized to increase knowledge sharing in the region.



*(OSI staff: Phillip Watkins and Melissa Hagemann)*

The conference featured several presentations by FDP grantees, including an intriguing presentation by Artur Tashmetov, examining gender differentials in applicants to OSI scholarship programs, including FDP. His study is only in the beginning stages but after he analyzes more data, NSP is looking forward to seeing his conclusions. Other presentations discussed academic freedom as well as higher education in countries in transition.

True to the nature of the program, the second day featured a series of workshops, highlighted by grantee presentations, centered on reforming higher education and developing new approaches to teaching and curriculum development. FDP is a program designed to spark international academic collaboration as well as formulate new pedagogical methods. The conference served as a valuable platform to hear what the grantees have learned during the previous academic year and how they will apply this knowledge to their home universities.



*(Presentation by FDP grantee, Artur Tashmetov)*

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## **DAAD-OSI Mid Year Conference, May 17-20 2007, Fulda, Germany**

*Zoë Brogden*

The annual Mid Year Conference for 2006-07 DAAD-OSI grantees took place against a backdrop of baroque splendor in the central German town of Fulda. The 3-day event, which began with a warm greeting from the university's long-serving president, Professor Dr. Roland Schopf, continued in similar fashion with a full program of cultural, academic, and social events.

On the academic front, scholars received an opening lecture on right-wing extremism and election research methodology from Professor Dr. Gudrun Hentges, a presentation which produced a lively question and answer session. Friday saw the floor thrown open to the scholars to present their Universities, studies and dissertations to their peers in broad thematic working groups. Fellow peers challenged, questioned and gave their support for the research plans of their peers, with guest professors from the Universities of Bremen (Dr. Schramm), Bamberg (Professor Dr. Wenzel) and Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (Prof Dr. Luks) acting as chairs.



*(DAAD-OSI Conference Participants enjoy the opening speeches)*

The scholarship sponsors, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and OSI, also gave presentations providing both background and future opportunities. Mr. Benedikt Brisch, responsible for Central Asia and Caucasus scholarships at DAAD headquarters in Bonn, outlined the birth and motivations behind DAAD as an organization and the educational opportunities it provides on an international level. OSI was represented by Dr. Audrone Uzieliene, Deputy Director of the Network Scholarships Program in London, and Program Coordinators Ms. Zoë Brogden and Ms. Magda Adamowicz. Ms. Adamowicz outlined the year-long Human Rights Internships available for Scholars completing their studies this year and was accompanied by a current DAAD-OSI scholar and intern, Azat Imashev, who highlighted the rich and complementary experience to be gained from the internship.

The diversity of the 103 scholars from 11 nations of the former Soviet Union made the event a dynamic and enjoyable spectacle: the atmosphere of unity

and respect was palpable. Professor Dr. Volker Hinnenkamp, course leader for MA International Communications and European Studies, highlighted the 'cultural sensitivity' displayed by some scholars; a trait which was most notable during the working groups when scholars presented a synopsis of their studies.



*(Scholars make their way to reception at the Palace Residence, Fulda)*

The practical academic aspect of the conference had an equal counterweight of social events. All participants were invited to a wine reception at Fulda's stunning Palace Residence, after which the deputy mayor, Mr. Wolfgang Arnold, gave an informal tour of the impressive newly-restored 'Historical Rooms' of the Palace. A city tour, held in both English and German, provided an informative background on Fulda's baroque heritage."

Indeed, the creativity of the scholarship holders was clearly demonstrated through the Photography Competition, to which all scholars were invited to submit personal photographs taken during their time in Germany. The entries were numerous and of an extremely high standard, with participants voting Ms. Nino Tchirakadze's (HU Berlin) serene landscape of 'Berlin in April' as the winning entry. Closely following was a group of entries, narrowly won by a colorful and spirited entry from Farid Aslan (University of Constance) of last summer's football world cup.



*(Scholars review the Photo Competition entries)*

Two-and-a-half days of academic and social forums passed with great success—we hope all scholars enjoyed the networking experience with their fellow grantees, the splendor and hospitality of Fulda University and the town itself—the next conference in 2007 has a lot to live up to!

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### **Undergraduate Exchange Program Commencement Conference and Pre-departure Orientation in Budapest**

In late July, over 70 current and former Undergraduate Exchange Program (UEP) grantees from throughout Southeastern Europe and Mongolia were in Budapest for a pre-departure orientation and commencement conference. Forty new grantees attended a week-long pre-departure orientation, and were joined by thirty 2005 grantees for one day of programming. The 2005 cohort shared stories of their time abroad and presented the results of their Home Country Projects, a community service project that is at the heart of the UEP experience.



*(UEP 2005 commencement conference attendees with UEP staff, Anne Campbell and Amanda Lindberg)*

The Home Country Project accentuates the academic study and international



experience by providing students a focus for their year abroad and subsequent return home. With the 2005 cohort on hand to present the results of their projects, the 2007 group was able to learn best practices, ask questions, and in some instances, explore the possibility of working on joint projects.

Over the course of 3 days, each UEP alumnus in attendance presented his/her HCP. As with all UEP cohorts, the projects were diverse, ranging from educational to environmental to geopolitical. The projects showed impressive initiative from the students. Here is a small sampling.

As a means to promote cooperation and tolerance between Serbia and Croatia, Ivan Senjanovic and Tea Vutmej from Croatia and Marko Kovacevic and Jelena Radovanovic from Serbia initiated a book exchange they termed, The Balkan Library Project. With support from the Universities of Belgrade and Zagreb, as well as the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, they were able to collect hundreds of books. Though the war served to separate the countries and universities, these UEP grantees are moving towards reconciliation and hoping that the Balkan Library Project is but one step in re-establishing strong educational and cultural ties. A successful start has encouraged the fellows and they plan to take this initiative regional, expanding it throughout Southeastern Europe.

Solongo Tsevegdorj initiated a project to train economically disadvantaged university students in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Often, students end up dropping out of university when they are unable to afford the cost of living in the capital city. Recognizing this, Solongo, a summer tour guide for Nomad Tours (<http://www.nomads.mn/>), set up a training program in tourism for a group of students who were having financial difficulties. Working as a tour guide is a well paid summer position that can provide enough income to allow to students to complete their degree. With this project, Solongo has trained and helped secure 6 jobs for university students, who otherwise might have had to drop out of school.



*(UEP 2005 alumnus, Marko Kovacevic and Jelena Radovanovic, discuss their Home Country Project)*

The UEP Pre-departure Orientation and Commencement Conference is a valuable experience for all grantees involved. Not only does it serve to prepare new grantees for their studies abroad and reunite former grantees, it

also acts a bridge between UEP cohorts, networking grantees, and building a foundation for future cooperation.

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### **CNOUS/OSI Summer School 2007**

*Céline Keshishian*

The first summer school for the CNOUS/OSI/French Government Program was organized at the Royal Beach Hotel alongon Lake Issyk Kul in Kyrgyzstan from June 30 – July 13, 2007. The purpose of the school was to provide academic writing support as well as a pre-departure orientation to the 2007 finalists before they embark on their academic adventures in France.

Participants included 15 CNOUS/OSI fellows from Central Asia, a daily French academic writing instructor, seminar instructors, NSP program staff from OSF-London, and representatives from the Soros Foundations, and French Embassies in Central Asia. Two alumni visited the school on the first and last days to provide the students with practical tips and a thorough comparison of the differences in educational systems. Alumni were candid, reminding grantees that no one is going to do the work for them, that they need to be independent and active.

The summer school was informative and intensive for the 15 students who began to comprehend the challenges they will face in France. The daily méthodologie classes were an important introduction to the new system of writing, and the students studied very hard when they realized the difference between academic writing in Central Asia compared to France. Essentially, a mini-French environment was created in the middle of Kyrgyzstan with books, journals, and DVDs as the students became increasingly comfortable with conversing, writing, and researching in French.

Sessions on finding an internship as well as the short seminars for law, economics, and social studies were very useful. The internship workshop was organized to provide students with tips on creating a professional CV, according to the new EU standards, and finding an internship (or stage) in France.

At the end of the summer program, a graduation ceremony was held directly on the beach to celebrate the students' accomplishment over the 2 weeks. Everyone successfully passed the intensive course and received a certificate of completion. One student, Zhanna Zhussupova, received special recognition for her outstanding work in the written assignments. Of course it must be noted that each of the students was outstanding in their own way!

The summer school exceeded the expectations of the organizers because the professor was very strict yet caring, and the group dynamic amongst the students was amazing! Some students expressed that they felt like they were with a big family, and had called their nervous parents to say that they would

be well protected in France. It was definitely a joyful learning experience for all involved!



*(Graduation Day on Lake Issyk Kul)*

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### **OSI Summer School**

From late July through early August, over 80 grantees from Central Asia, the Caucasus, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Mongolia representing the UK Programs (including students who will be attending the University of Essex, the University of Edinburgh, the University of Nottingham, the University of Leeds, the University of Glasgow, the University of Manchester, and the University of St. Andrews), the Social Work Fellowship Program, the Georgia Education Program, the Faculty Development Program, and the Palestinian Rule of Law Program, gathered in Istanbul to attend a four week academic and pre-departure orientation program, more informally referred to as the Summer School.



*(Social Movements Instructor, Dr. Susan Pearce, chats with NSP Deputy Director, Alex Irwin)*

The Summer School is a chance for scholars to attend daily classes in writing and the social sciences to prepare them for coursework in the United States

and the United Kingdom. Taught by an esteemed list of faculty members, coming from universities and institutions in the U.S., U.K., Canada, Central Asia, and the Middle East, the classes are a valuable opportunity for grantees to immerse themselves in a western system of higher education before embarking on their graduate studies. Most importantly, they are subject to a rigorous academic writing curriculum to prepare them for their graduate studies, where analytical and coherent writing is demanded. For junior faculty, publishing articles is an integral part of their professional life, and the Summer School's academic writing program is a great preparation.



*(Summer Instructors)*

This year, two OSI Education Sub-Board members attended and spoke at the Summer School. Dr. Bill Newton-Smith, head of OSI's Education Sub-Board, gave an engaging talk, introducing a lively discussion with the students on the definitions of an 'Open Society.' The following day, Dr. Üstün Ergüder, Director of the Istanbul Policy Center at Sabanci University and member of the OSI Education Sub-Board, provided an overview of the university system in Turkey, with a specific focus on funding. He presented an argument against free university education and advocating targeted scholarships and subsidies for those who could least afford it. Having two Sub-Board members give lectures was a great opportunity for the Summer School fellows to learn more about the OSI network.

The Summer School is a rigorous academic program. With three weeks of intensive courses, students work hard as do instructors. As the end of the academic program neared, many participants stayed up all night finishing their papers. I talked with one student who hadn't slept in 2 days. But to complement the academic program, there is a Turkish cultural night, a hike in the hills outside of Istanbul, and then the pre-departure orientation, which is a chance for the grantees to break into program groups to learn more about the administrative issues of their study experience. As a finale to the event, bringing together students and staff, there is a boat cruise of the Bosphorus, and from there, grantees are soon off for their studies in the US or UK.

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### **Palestinian Faculty Development Program (PFDP) Academic Colloquium - Ramallah**

*Joseph Glicksberg*

In July, the PFDP Program held its first annual Academic Colloquium in Ramallah, West Bank. The colloquium, which was titled "University Teaching in International Perspective", was organized by AMIDEAST, OSI's PFDP administrative partner. The colloquium consisted of a series of interactive presentations over three days by PFDP Short-Term Fellows, PFDP PhD Fellows, and academics from major universities in the West Bank / Gaza. Welcoming remarks were made by Lamis Al-Alami, the Palestinian Authority's Minister of Education; Ambassador Theodore Kattouf, the President of AMIDEAST; Dr. Howard Sumka, the director of USAID's West Bank / Gaza mission; Martha Loerke, the director of OSI's NSP; and Dr. Chris Shinn, the PFDP's Chief of Party in the West Bank / Gaza. The gathering comprised the largest gathering of faculty from Palestinian universities in recent memory. The main objective of the conference was to provide a framework for the exploration of excellent teaching within the humanities and social sciences, thereby enhancing the development of individual faculty and improving learning in the classroom. The colloquia also provided a forum for faculty to network, exchange ideas, and present research.

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### **Palestinian Rule of Law Program (PROL) Alumni Meeting - Ramallah**

*Joseph Glicksberg*

In July, the PROL Program held its first large-scale alumni meeting in Ramallah, West Bank. At the meeting approximately twenty PROL alumni networked, exchanged ideas, and discussed the possibility of using their growing critical mass to form the nucleus of a new legal professional organization in the West Bank / Gaza. Hiba Hussein, a prominent Palestinian lawyer, also attended and agreed to act as an informal adviser to the group.

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### **Coordinators Conference**

In early June, Network Scholarship Programs (NSP) staff and scholarship program coordinators from more than 20 countries met in the seaside city of Varna, Bulgaria. Held annually in different cities throughout the region, the coordinators conference is a chance for colleagues to meet, discuss administrative issues, and plan for the year ahead. Over three busy days, conference attendees participated in program-specific meetings as well as conference-wide presentations.



*(Coordinators Conference Attendees)*

NSP Alumnae Kristina Dzhadzharova and Galina Nalbantova kicked things off with insightful presentations. Kristina explained her highly successful Alumni Grant Project, which is an extension of her Undergraduate Exchange Program Home Country Project. Kristina's project aims at increasing Bulgarian youth involvement and interest in media issues. Creating internship programs for university students and uniting them with Bulgaria's top media personalities, Kristina's initiative is off to a great success. Galina gave an informative presentation about the history of Bulgaria and its place in the EU, using the history of the Cyrillic alphabet as her focus.

NSP Program Coordinator, Michael Sieburg led the group through the different communication resources utilized by NSP, including this newsletter, the journal [Scholar Forum](#), and the newly developed web-based platform, KARL. Additionally, he introduced several web 2.0 tools that are becoming increasingly popular among NSP grantees so that staff could continue their efforts to network former and current grantees.

Nebojsa Radics, an independent consultant from Budapest, delivered a training on how to create and maintain highly effective websites. Focused on integrating web 2.0 tools such as RSS feeds, Google Maps, and YouTube into more traditional website designs, the training should help to improve the usability of each office's website, which will do more to attract talented scholars to OSI programs.



*(Lyubov Schitka and Anne Campbell)*

With the Black Sea providing a stunning backdrop, the conference facilitated valuable face-to-face communication while strengthening links between OSI and its coordinators around the world. No longer simply an email address or a voice on the phone, these colleagues now know each other, a simple but highly effective means of improving the management of OSI's scholarship programs.

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### **Job/Internship/Fellowship Announcements**

Outreach Coordinator position at The Center for Russia, East Europe, and Central Asia (CREECA) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

[http://www.ohr.wisc.edu/pvl/pv\\_057084.html](http://www.ohr.wisc.edu/pvl/pv_057084.html)

Internship position at the Social Research Center, American Univ.-Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. For more information, please contact Alexander Pugachev at [pugachev\\_a@mail.auca.kg](mailto:pugachev_a@mail.auca.kg).

The Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship Program

<http://www.spencer.org>

<http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10008295/spencer>

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) offers International Fellowships for women studying at the graduate level in the United States. For more information please visit the AAUW website:

[http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships\\_grants/international.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships_grants/international.cfm)

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### **Program Updates and Announcements**

### **Baltic OSI Scholarship Alumni Conference**

*Anne Campbell*

Network Scholarships Program Alumni of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania are invited to attend the Baltic OSI Scholarship Alumni Conference in Tallinn, Estonia, October 19-21, 2007. This conference is an opportunity to bring together alumni from across OSI scholarship programs for a weekend of sharing ideas, networking, and hearing from engaging speakers and local leaders. The conference will focus on topics in social responsibility and is hosted by the EducationUSA Advising Center-Tallinn. The conference events are free for registered attendees. Please visit <http://osibalticalumni.org> for additional conference information and registration. For more information about the conference, please contact Lesha Greene at [lgreene@sorosny.org](mailto:lgreene@sorosny.org).

### **Doctoral Program for Tajikistan and Moldova**

*Phillip Watkins*

NSP is pleased to report that development of its newest program, the OSI PhD Fellowship Program, is proceeding as planned, with implementation of a pilot phase to be launched in Tajikistan and Moldova this fall. We hope eventually to extend the program to other countries.

Initial communication with current and past partner universities indicates a strong interest in hosting doctoral students from these countries. We anticipate official announcement of the program by late September.

The program provides four years of full support for up to 15 grantees annually. The first cohort will be placed at universities in the US and Canada to begin study in Fall 2008. Cost-sharing from hosts will be set at 75% of tuition and fees. Fields of study will complement those supported by HESP's Academic Fellowship Program to capitalize on post-fellowship opportunities in the home countries: political science, international relations, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, economics, and history. Applicants must be committed to return to their home countries upon degree completion and to play an active role in the reform and development of higher education within the context of their academic careers.

### **European Studies Program**

*Audrone Uzieliene*

A new addition to the NSP-London has been recently approved for Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia for MA degree studies in European Studies at Maastricht University, the Netherlands. The students will have the opportunity to choose from three tracks: The Masters European Studies, The Masters European Public Affairs and The Masters Analysing Europe. All of the programs approach the process of European integration from different angles and are highly interdisciplinary. It is a unique opportunity to acquire an advanced knowledge and understanding of key issues and debates within the field of ES. The program will last for 12 months.

Following the academic studies, the program will offer the scholars an



internship opportunity of six months. Students may end up working at embassies, NGOs, consultancy firms, or administrations.

The university has shown great commitment in working with OSF, and will offer approximately 50% of cost-share of the total € 353,855 project. A few extra direct costs to the students, such as visas and travel to/from their home countries to the study destination, as well as additional administrative costs for recruitment, will be covered by OSF.

This will be the first NSP-university cost-shared program for study in the Netherlands, and we would hope to increase the range of partner universities in the coming years.

### **Erasmus Mundus seminars for the Educational Advising Centers**

*Audrone Uzieliene*

In the fall of 2005 NSP-Budapest received an EU grant within the framework of the Erasmus Mundus Program, Action 4, to run training seminars for the advisers from Central Asia and Caucasus on European higher education issues and new developments relating to international students. OSI's share (directly and in-kind) amounted to Euro 11,582 and € 167,429 was received from the EU.

Encouraged by the success of the first project, NSP submitted another replication of the Erasmus Mundus Action 4 project for a different set of countries: Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, Albania, Bosnia, Macedonia, Croatia and Kosovo. The idea of the project is to provide the staff of the Educational Advising Centers in the region with information on the higher education systems in European countries such as the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Italy and Spain, as well as the Baltic and Nordic countries. Thirty educational advisers from the capital cities and the regions will be invited to participate. The overall budget of the project is €250,138, with €21,105 as OSF's contribution.

The results of the bid will be known later in September, although we have received very promising news that the project has been short-listed for selection.

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Thank you for reading. We hoped you enjoyed this issue of the Network Scholarship Programs Quarterly newsletter. If you have suggestions or updates for the Fall issue, please send to Michael Sieburg at [msieburg@sorosny.org](mailto:msieburg@sorosny.org)

-Network Scholarship Programs

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