



LEADER

Leading Education & Development



2010 SUMMER ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

IVEY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Director Address	1
LEADER Alumni Event.....	2
Looking Forward.....	3
Site Pages	
Dnepropetrovsk.....	4
Togliatti	5
Ekaterinburg	6
Nizhny-Tagil.....	7
Irkutsk	8
Moldova	9
Macedonia	10
Alumni Portal	11

Executive Director Address

Hello LEADER alumni and friends!

The 2009-2010 LEADER Project is coming to a close as we are starting to prepare for the 2010-2011 Project. We've had a great year with 28 LEADERites traveling to seven sites across Eastern Europe. Like every year, we had our share of unexpected events, especially while trying to organize our travels amongst the volcanic eruption. But, everyone did eventually make it to their destination and I've been hearing nothing but fantastic stories from each site! A special thanks to Anton Tchajkov (HBA Executive Director), Mike Brosseau (MBA Executive Director), Chim Kan (MBA Executive Director) and our Advisory Board for all the work they've put in to make this past year a success!

This coming year, 2011, marks LEADER's 20th anniversary! This is a major milestone for the Project and we want all LEADERites, past and present, to help us celebrate. Stay tuned for details on our annual Toronto Alumni Event in early spring where you can reconnect with old teammates and meet current LEADERites. Also, please feel free to drop us a line anytime at leaderproject@ivey.ca, or, share a great story or experience from your time in LEADER. We'd love to hear from you!

Melanie Thomas
HBA Executive Director



LEADER ALUMNI EVENT



Make sure to join us next year!

LOOKING FORWARD

LEADER Updates

2011 marks LEADER'S 20th Anniversary! Stay tuned for details on our upcoming Toronto Alumni Event in early spring.

LEADER's new MBA Executive Directors are Mike Forcht and Neha Bhasin. We are all already busy planning for LEADER 2010-2011!

The recruiting for the 2010-2011 Project has begun. We would like to welcome our newest 10 MBAs to the team and we're looking forward to recruiting the rest of the team in the fall!

We are currently in the middle of Project and site evaluations from this past year to see how we can continually improve the Project.

Keep an eye out in our next newsletter for the link to our brand new facebook group currently under development.

Dnepropetrovsk

Anton, Jillian, Sylvia and Clayton arrived in Dnepropetrovsk in May 2010. Long hailed as one of the most active sites, the teachers were prepared for a full two weeks of teaching "cultural activities." Unfortunately, Clayton and Sylvia were delayed in Germany due to volcanic ash which interrupted their flight's regular schedule. Nonetheless, the team got off to a great start. The local students continue to enjoy the LEADER Project immensely. This year, all students completed a business plan in groups and competed for the prestigious prize of a bottle of Crown Royale. Other notable highlights included camping (in the rain), "free" karaoke (each song cost \$10), a VIP session with all of the English language teachers at the local university, and a daily dose of fried Ukrainian fish. Afterwards, the teachers parted ways but continued to travel: Anton road-tripped through Ukraine with relatives, Sylvia and Jillian visited Turkey, and Clayton went to Paris. All in all, a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

- Anton Tchajkov



Togliatti

Team Togliatti had an amazing two weeks at the Togliatti Academy of Management! Teaching two classes every day (an undergraduate class and an adult class of entrepreneurs) was a challenge that our team was excited to take on. It was so rewarding to see not only the impact we were making on our students after only a few days, but also the impact they were having on us. Our students were very proud of their city, and were eager to show us around. Some highlights outside of the classroom include a beautiful boat ride down the Volga River, exposure to delicious Russian dishes ("Blini" was our favourite), a cultural tour of the city, a thrilling game of Laptain between classes, and of course, a couple of exciting nights at the Magic Dancing Club!

- Kristy Irwin





Ekaterinburg

Pulling in after the insanity that was Victory Day in Russia, we were greeted by students at the airport, who then gave us a day long tour of the city – on their day off! This only begins to describe the hospitality and generosity of the Ekat students. The class was energetic, and engaged, and occasionally, even arrived on-time.

The students took an immediate liking to their new Canadian teachers (especially ones with Greek heritage). They asked engaging questions, and participated with enthusiasm and excellence. The real fun came outside the classroom where they showed us the great places to eat, and a few other places to have some drinks. They cooked pizza with us while celebrating a Russian victory over the Canadians (we still have the Olympics...), and brought us into their summer homes for a traditional Russian BBQ and Banya – which got to nearly 100 degrees Celsius! As much as our students seemed to learn from us, we took so much away from them, both inside and outside the classroom. Ekaterinburg was more than a teaching site for LEADER, it was a place where new friends were made, and new experiences were had!

- Peter Lowas



Nizhny-Tagil

Reflecting on our time in Nizhny-Tagil, I am certain this was a two-week adventure that my teammates and I will never forget. These two weeks were jam-packed with classes, daily adventures to various museums and cultural sights, and even a trip to the Ural Mountains for an authentic Russian BBQ. From the minute we arrived, we were greeted warmly by not only the students in our classes, but by our neighbours, the school's administration and the local media. Our interview with a local news crew was featured on the last evening we were there, highlighting the LEADER program and our impressions of the city, culture and students. To cap off an eventful session, we took the students bowling before hosting them at our place for the Russia-Canada hockey game, and were treated to an exciting talent show at a local elementary school. Our experience in Nizhny-Tagil was a true cultural immersion where we had the opportunity to teach, work with, and learn from a unique and vibrant group of people.

- Gail Leizerovici



CERTIFICATE
of COMPLETION

This certifies that

PROJECT ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM

Irkutsk

Teaching in Irkutsk was truly an incredible experience. We were stationed at the Baikal National University of Economics and Law and taught 3rd and 4th year students. The students were bright, hardworking, and very determined to succeed. They really enjoyed the case method of learning, and were engaged and passionate about case discussions and group business plans. We immersed ourselves in the culture by trying Russian cuisine and we ended up consuming a lot of mayo and borsch. Our site liaison took us on an amazing trip to Lake Baikal, also known as "The Pearl of Siberia". Here we soaked in the natural beauty of the Sayanas mountains, enjoyed smoked omul, and were educated on all of the species "endemic" to the area. Our students were very hospitable, and took us on a tour of Irkutsk where we got to see the world through their eyes. Key learning: if something doesn't make sense, all you have to say is "It's Russia." Somehow this is the answer to everything!

- Meena Nanji



Moldova

Before arriving in Moldova, we knew very little about this country so we were excited about the adventure that lay ahead. We had heard many mixed stories about Moldova but we could not speak any more highly by our experience and were blown away by the engagement of some of our more dedicated students.

Our students were excited to learn from four "Canadian Specialists" and were very engaged and committed to the program. Even though the case study method was new for our students, we were actually quite surprised at their level of preparation and involvement. The students were able to share their personal experiences which helped us learn a lot about Business in Moldova.

We have all realized that our contribution makes a real difference in the lives of our students. We are honoured to play a small part in their education and in doing so we provided them the tools and the knowledge that can enable them to bring about change in Moldova.

In two seemingly short weeks we were exposed to the history of the region, the culture, the food and the fantastic hospitality of our students and hosts. They have given us such amazing memories that we would cherish for the rest of our lives. We feel fortunate to be part of the LEADER community and plan to do a reunion in Moldova someday.

- Syed Pirzada



Macedonia

Team Skopje returned this year from Macedonia inspired about what the future holds for such an exciting country and people. Celebrating the third year of the LEADER Project's partnership with Macedonia 2025 and the Macedonian Chamber of Commerce, our project worked with another exciting group of entrepreneurs and managers of local business. Our classroom discussions were lively and filled with great sharing of business practices and our social outings were packed with sharing of cultural practices – most notably wine and food! Our site hosts and students made every effort to make us feel welcome in their homes and show us just a taste of the wonder Macedonia has to offer. We visited local business, both big and small and took in some amazing natural wonders at Lake Ohrid and through the countryside. When I reflect on my experience, I feel very proud and honoured to have had the opportunity to see a glimpse of what types of opportunities budding entrepreneurs and ambitious business people are carving out for themselves in such a fast paced and evolving business climate. Being surrounded by such warm and inspiring people, and coupling that with delicious food and exciting adventures formed cherished memories for myself and the Skopje team. A country we all hope to visit again soon and friends we hope to keep in touch with in the future.

- Pat Duncan





ALUMNI PORTAL

The Alumni Portal is a brand new initiative started this year by the Alumni Relations Committee. The aim of the Portal is to help keep LEADER alumni connected with one another, their students and with the program.

The Portal will be an open forum featured in the annual summer newsletter in which past LEADERites and students can submit a few words to update each other on their lives, careers, family and more. We are hoping you as the first participants of the Portal will take advantage of this opportunity.

If you would like to submit an update for our newsletter next summer, please feel free to email leaderproject@ivey.ca

Regards,

Sukhbir Grewal
Alumni Relations Director
LEADER Project



IVEY