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*St. Petersburg Christian University*

# CONTACT

## SPCU Hosts the Euro-Asian Think Tank

**FEBRUARY 2006** - On February 2–3, 2006, SPCU was pleased and honored to be able to host the Eurasia Think Tank. Twelve leaders from Christian educational ministries from Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and Lebanon gathered for two intensive days of discussions related to the development of Christian/Theological education with respect to Church development, leadership development, institutional development, and curriculum development. Participants stated that the discussions were very open with strong cooperation which was the key to the success of the think tank. This proved to be a very valuable tool to challenge leaders towards more continued open dialogue with one another even after the completion of the think tank. The think tank was sponsored, encouraged, and facilitated by Overseas Council International.



Think Tank Participants

**Kneeling:** (L to R) Ilya Okhotnikov, Robert Faber  
**Standing:** (L to R) Sergei Namesnic, Ivanas Shkulis, Jason Ferenzi, Manfred Kohl, Sergei Sannikov, Dimitry Lavrov, Alexander Negrov, Anatole Gloukhovski, Riad Kassis, and Alexander Karnaukh.

## Fifty First Meeting of the Euro-Asian Federation of ECB

**MARCH 2006** - Alexander Negrov, President of St. Petersburg Christian University participated recently in the fifty-first meeting of the Euro-Asian Federation of the Unions of the Evangelical Christian Baptists. The theme of the meeting, which took place from March 7-10 near Moscow, was "Let them say among the nations: The Lord Reigns!" from I Chronicles 16:31. During the meetings presentations were made on the topic of "Broadening the Kingdom of God." Later there were discussions with a delegation of brothers from the Southern Baptist Convention, where the participants further considered five themes which are current and vital to the church today:

1. Pastor's family (about Christian families).
2. Formation of Theological Education (System of requirements needed for Theological Education and today's realities)
3. Theology of the Evangelical Christian Baptists (Charismatics, Calvinism, and Women in Service)
4. Youth and the Church
5. Church Growth (Our perspectives, current problems, and current methods of evangelism).

One final item of business that occurred during these meetings was the election of a president and vice president and secretary for the Euro-Asian Federation. Brothers from Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan and Russia were elected for these positions.

During his time at the meetings, Dr. Negrov was able to meet with various leaders from the Russian Federation of the ECU such as Y.K. Sipko, President, P.V. Mitzkevich, Vice President, L.V. Kartavenko, Director of the Missions department and with E.Y. Baxhmutsky, Director of the Youth Ministry Department. He was also able to meet with various leaders from the other federations such as Armenia, Ukraine, and Belarus. During these meetings the discussions were concerning how SPCU and these federations and their churches can partner with one another in the area of Theological Education.

Before the March 7 meeting of the Euro-Asian Federation of Evangelical Christian Baptist Unions, Dr. Negrov was able to visit with the leadership of "Spiritual Renewal" and also to speak on live radio "New Life" about SPCU.

**FIFTEEN YEARS OF SERVING ALONGSIDE THE CHURCHES IN RUSSIA!  
FIFTEEN YEARS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION!  
FIFTEEN YEARS OF PREPARING LEADERS!**

Join us as we celebrate our fifteenth birthday. Be sure to mark the following dates on your calendar:

**MAY 19-21, 2006**

We are hoping that many of you who have served with us as professors, students, staff, prayer partners, financial supporters, volunteers, as well as other friends of SPCU will consider joining us for this wonderful time of celebration and praise to God for His abundant grace and provisions which have allowed us to develop as a servant to Him and to His churches in the former Soviet Union.

For more information please visit our website at: [www.spcu.spb.ru](http://www.spcu.spb.ru)  
or contact us by e-mail at: [pr@spcu.spb.ru](mailto:pr@spcu.spb.ru)

## Alumni Update - Church in Borovichi Celebrates 5 Years

This month we are very pleased to introduce you to two of our graduates. Yulia Kolesnikova who graduated from SPCU in 1999 and Nikolae Dyadchenko who graduated from SPCU in 2000. They serve together along with Nikolae's wife Yana and son Yaroslav in the city of Borovichi Russia. Upon graduation from SPCU they moved to



Yulia Kolesnikova

Borovichi which is Nikolae's home town and God called them to a church planting ministry. Nikolae serves as the pastor of the church while Yulia serves in the areas of Sunday school, worship, youth ministry, and summer camping ministry.

In February their church celebrated its fifth birthday. Officially begun on February 18,

2001 the church now runs about 60 people on the average Sunday. In 2004 the church was able to successfully purchase and remodel a building for their church. While the church is already five years old neither Nikolae nor Yulia are resting on the abundant blessings already received but, instead, are working on many exciting plans for the future ministry and growth of the church.



Newly renovated church building that was purchased in 2004

Blagovest Church  
Borovichi Russia

Worship team during a recent worship service



Nikolae and Yana Dyadchenko



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### Dates to Remember

- April 3-21, 2006 - Masters Program Spring Session
- April 13-14, 2006 - Third St. Petersburg Christian Reading Conference: "Christ, The Gospel, Russia"
- April 18, 2006 - SPCU Easter Concert
- May 19-21, 2006 - Fifteenth Birthday Celebration of SPCU
- May 20, 2006 - SPCU Graduation
- May 21-24, 2006 - SPCU Board of Directors Meeting