

IPR Saint-Petersburg

Enhancing Intellectual Property Rights Competence and Cooperation in Russia (St. Petersburg), Finland, Denmark and Sweden

Minutes

Component 3 – Study tour to Finland and Sweden

2-5 June 2008

Component 3 of project IPR Saint-Petersburg organized a study tour for representatives of St. Petersburg based universities, teachers, professors and other experts on IPR, to Finland and Sweden. The aim of the study tour was to give the participants a possibility to familiarise with the ways that IPR is taught in Finland and Sweden and how the framework for IPR education is built in these countries. Also the joint IPR online course was to be discussed. Furthermore, the study tour wanted to promote strengthening of connections between IPR experts between the countries.

Monday 2 June 2008

The study tour started on Monday 2 June, when the Russian participants from St. Petersburg State University, St. Petersburg State University of Finance and Economics, Innovation Technologies Center of ITMO, St. Petersburg State University of Service and Economics and St Petersburg State University of Low-Temperature and Food Technologies, arrived in Helsinki at 12.35.

After registration to the hotel, the programme continued at IPR University Center, where with the lead of Ms Marja-Leena Mansala and Ms Päivi Helander the concept of the Center was thoroughly explained to the participants. IPR University Center is the leading academic intellectual property law institution in Finland. The cooperation model of 5 Finnish universities was very interesting to the participants, and the possibility to build a similar model to St. Petersburg was briefly discussed and noted as a very challenging task. Also in Finland the model is relatively new having functioned since 1999, and founded with a strong support of Finnish industry.

Furthermore, the participants heard also about the latest developments of the planned innovation university in Finland, Aalto University.





Ms Mansala presenting IPR University Center

Professor Niklas Bruun continued the programme with presenting the Master's Degree Programme in Intellectual Property Law, which is a two-year full-time programme combining both legal and business studies. There is no similar concept existing at the moment in St. Petersburg.



Audience at IPR University Center

Mr Bruun also introduced INNOCENT graduate school, which concentrates on innovation incentives and the regulatory infrastructure. The school is open also for participants from St. Petersburg.

Discussion on the online course started already on Monday with a presentation from SpbSU with concrete questions about how to implement the course.

The day ended with a cruise and dinner in Helsinki archipelago in a beautiful sunny weather.



Dinner with beautiful scenery

Tuesday 3 June 2008

Discussion on the online course was continued on Tuesday 3 June, when also researcher Mr Mikko Välimäki joined the group. After presentations from participating universities and discussion on the course the following conclusions could be made:

- The need for the course really exists in each university, as all have IPR at least as part of their education
- Potential target groups differ in universities:
 - SpbSU: also researchers seen as target group
 - other universities: mainly students

Some points mentioned as important for the course

- aim for the course: to help students, future entrepreneurs to understand basic issues of IPR and about the contracts that he will be dealing with
- how to create IPR strategy could be an interesting viewpoint for the material
- international legislation is important and should be included in the course (as it already is)
- the course should include case studies of real life examples how IPR has been protected, how the subject of Intellectual property has been identified, what has the cost of IPR been, how to make sure that protecting IPR is worth it
- furthermore, there is an interest in questions regarding copyright, software, how to protect technology etc., the problem with know-how, transfer of scientific results to another party etc

It was decided that a workgroup on adapting the course and the material to St. Petersburg should be formed from representatives of the partner universities, and that the copyright for the Russian version of the material should be transferred to the partner universities. The workgroup will be formed at the latest by the next network meeting in September, and will start work immediately after its formation.





Ph.D. Mikko Välimäki



Mr Andrey Matveev from SPbSU

Programme on Tuesday continued with transfer to Gothenburg, Sweden by plane.

Wednesday 4 June 2008

Wednesday 4 June offered a chance to familiarize with the Center for Intellectual Property Studies (CIP), which was founded as a joint effort between Chalmers University of Technology and School of Business, Economics and Law at Göteborg University. CIP is a world-leading actor in the area of intellectual property and entrepreneurship. Deputy Director Mr Bo Heiden presented the idea and work of CIP, assisted by Senior Associate Ms Caroline Pamp. Different courses and programmes of CIP were presented, and it was noted that in its education, CIP concentrates on the business perspective on IP. Mr Heiden stressed also that IP is about building, not blocking – and that sometimes e.g. patents are not needed at all. Participants were reminded about the fact that also students from St. Petersburg are welcome to apply for these programmes.



Mr Bo Heiden and Ms Caroline Pamp



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ARBETS- OCH NÄRINGSMINISTERIET
MINISTRY OF EMPLOYMENT AND THE ECONOMY



After a discussion on similarities and differences on the IPR education in Sweden and St. Petersburg, Director of CIP, Mr Ulf Petrusson continued the programme with a lecture presenting CIP's understanding of how to transform academic research into assets, property and capital.



Mr Ulf Petrusson

The lecture was followed with concrete examples of success stories how research results have been commercialized with the help of the incubator services offered by CIP. Ms Lotta Emlind from Denator and Mr Aslak Felin from SenCere Medical presented their companies and how they had started their work under the wings of CIP. Furthermore, the participants heard about how young companies can be funded in Sweden from Mr Morgan Skarin, representing CSE Incubation AB, *the Fund* for start-up companies in Sweden.

The day ended with participating an award ceremony, ending a particularly demanding course of students at CIP, ICM (Intellectual Capital Management) Awards Ceremony 2008.



The participants also had some time to admire the beauty of Gothenburg

After visiting CIP, participants from St. Petersburg have new information not only about IPR education at CIP, but also about the models how technology transfer system functions in Sweden.

Thursday 5 June 2008

On Thursday 5 June, the participants traveled back home with new insights on how IPR education is offered in Finland and Sweden and how the challenge of transformation into a knowledge economy is faced in these countries.