

DMACC PIONEERS HISTORY PROJECT

DMACC/SSPI RECIPROCAL VISITS

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND STAVROPOL STATE PEDIGOGICAL INSTITUTE

AUTHOR

CARROLL BENNETT

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

JOHN LIEPA

ANN SCHODDE

BURGESS SHRIVER

FRANK TRUMPY

2019

DMACC travelers to Russia in May 1992 along with three SSPI employees

Red Square, Moscow



Front Row: Evgeni Popomarev, Gary Stasko, Slava Strugov, John Liepa, Frank Trumpy, Joe Harper, Ewa Pratt (standing)

Back Row: Mark Pogge, Vivian Brandmeyer, Carroll Bennett, Anne Schulte, Alexi Erokhin, Ann Schodde, Peg Cutlip, Joe Robbins, Kim Linduska, Peggy Gaines, Burgess Shriver

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The rather extensive documentation and history of the DMACC/SSPI Exchange would not have progressed to the current level without the foresight and leadership of Carroll Bennett. Carroll initiated the meetings of our Steering Committee and provided the direction and motivation to write down and preserve these materials. He was the primary author and our editor-in-chief. Sadly, Carroll died on June 11, 2019, just prior to the completion of this project. We want to pay tribute to Carroll for a very long devotion to DMACC and for his efforts to always do the right thing.

We would like to further acknowledge Carroll's grandson, Andrew Bennett, for perusing Carroll's personal computer to find the dozens of DMACC/SSPI files and scans that were present. Andrew found

everything we needed to reach closure on the project and forwarded it to us. Without his help, we would not been able to finish.

When word of Carroll's death reached Stavropol, Russia, this is what our very good friend Boris Zhogin wrote back:

"I'd like to share with you one episode associated with dear Carroll that I feel and see very vividly.

It was at a reception offered by the Stavropol business community to a DMACC group in May 1992. The party took place at a mansion in downtown Stavropol.

It started in a strained ceremonial way with welcome speeches that contained correct words lacking sincerity and human emotions, begetting an apprehension that it would be just one more formal, stiff event.

In a while - I guess after some 20-30 minutes since the reception started - we all heard sounds of piano in one of many rooms of the mansion playing popular American songs and melodies. It was Carroll who slipped away from the public to create an atmosphere when "hearts speak to hearts direct," requiring no interpreters or words.

Quite a large group of people encircled the pianist and started to offer Carroll the songs they knew and were willing to sing. It was a crucial moment at a party; after which, it turned into a very warm and friendly get-together, with Carroll spending most of the party at a piano preserving the atmosphere.

I also remember Ann Schodde kicking off her shoes and dancing barefoot in a fiery gypsy style.

Carroll was a person who sensed what was needed and came forward to offer it in a humble, unpretentious way. A real leader and a born gentleman!

Rest in peace!"

Boris

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	Burgess Shriver
Table of Contents	
Introduction	Carroll Bennett
Chronology	John Liepa
Funding	Ann Schodde
SSPI Visit to DMACC October 1991	Carroll Bennett and Burgess Shriver
DMACCC Visit to Stavropol May 1992	Carroll Bennett and Burgess Shriver
DMACC Faculty and Staff Recollections of Visit to Stavropol	Compiled by Burgess Shriver
Spin-offs from DMACC-SSPI Relationship	Frank Trumpy
Appendix I	Names and Titles of Delegates from SSPI
Appendix II	Names and Titles of Delegates from DMACC to SSPI
Appendix III	Itinerary of SSPI Delegate Visit to DMACC-Oct 1991
Appendix IV	Itinerary of DMACC Delegate Visit to SSPI -May 1992
Appendix V	DMACC Delegation Responses to Survey of Experiences in Stavropol Responses by Carroll Bennett, Ann Schodde, Frank Trumpy, John Liepa, Burgess Shriver, Eva Pratt, Joe A. Robbins, Anne Schulte, Joe Harper, and Peggy Cutlip
Appendix VI	Criteria for Selection of DMACC Employees for Program
Appendix VII	DMACC Press Release
Appendix VIII	Photos

DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND STAVROPOL STATE PEDIGOGICAL INSTITUTE RETURN VISITS—OCTOBER 1991-MAY 1992

INTRODUCTION

Carroll Bennett

Preface to the Stavropol Paper

In 1991-92, DMACC (Des Moines Area Community College) developed a relationship with SSPI (Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute) in Russia. As a result of a continuing series of events between DMACC and SSPI, a proposal was submitted to receive a grant of \$60,000 from the United States Department of State, Department of Cultural and Educational Affairs, and Citizens Exchange Office for one year to finance reciprocal visits by delegations from each institution. Accordingly, a delegation of 12 SSPI administrators and faculty visited DMACC between October 20 and November 2, 1991, and a similar group of 16 from DMACC visited SSPI from May 9 – 21, 1992. Several subsequent visits occurred between representatives of the two institutions through 2004.

This paper details the activities of each college from the mutual visits from each institution to the other, preparation of the grant, selection of representatives from each institution to host and to visit their sister college, and the knowledge each gained from the other.

It is appropriate to recognize and thank then Deputy Director of SSPI, Dr. Boris Zhogin, for the key role he played in this relationship after visiting DMACC starting in 1988 and consulting with the college on the formal proposal for funding, providing leadership during the college reciprocal visits, and continuing to visits to the Des Moines area, to DMACC, and to the homes of several DMACC members of the delegation. He continues to be a valued friend to many of those who participated in the project.

This paper was prepared by five members of the DMACC delegation to SSPI (Carroll Bennett, John Liepa, Ann Schodde, Burgess Shriver and Frank Trumpy). Boris Zhogin, who chaired the SSPI delegation, provided an account of the project from the viewpoint of SSPI participants that is included with this paper.

We believe this was a unique project for DMACC and SSPI based on the number of participants from each college, the scope of involvement, and the building of strong relationships between members of the delegations from each institution.

The paper has several appendices that include detailed information about some topics that are included in the body of the paper.

The DMACC participants were selected by Ann Schodde and John Liepa with a goal to include people from all four campuses, to achieve a gender balance, to include a range of employment positions at DMACC, and to verify the interest of each participant in the project. In preparation for the visit to SSPI, a series of afternoon sessions were held at the DMACC Ankeny Campus on

a host of topics related to the history and culture of Russia. The group also attempted to learn basic Russian vocabulary. The instructor for this series was Stan Pshonik, who was employed at Compressor Controls in Des Moines.

The idea of a joint visit between DMACC (Des Moines Area Community College and SSPI (Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute) was generated as a topic of discussion in a meeting of Iowa Sister States (ISS) Committee. This group was formed in 1986 by Governor Terry Branstad following a visit to the Soviet Union to discuss trade. He requested the Iowa Legislature establish a Sister State friendship between the US and USSR. DMACC Professor John Liepa was invited to be a member of the committee. In August 1988, Dr. Joseph Borgen, President of DMACC, invited Ivan T. Taranov, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Stavropol Krai, to attend DMACC's President's Day activities on August 29, 1988.

Later in 1988 (December 5-9), Dr. Alexander Khomenko, Professor of Linguistics, People Friendship University in Moscow, visited the DMACC Ankeny Campus and delivered lectures on the Ankeny, Boone, Carroll, and Urban campuses. Later several events involving representatives of Stavropol Krai occurred on DMACC campuses.

(A detailed listing of interactions between representatives of the two institutions is included in Appendices III and IV.)

IOWA SISTERSTATES/DESMOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE/STAVROPOL – A CHRONOLOGY

John Liepa

The grant to fund the reciprocal visits was one of several outcomes from years of planning and cooperation between the United States and Russia that specifically involved the states of Iowa and Stavropol.

1986

Governor Terry Branstad visits Soviet Union to discuss trade; requests Iowa Legislature to establish first Sister State friendship between the United States and the Soviet Union (USSR).

1988 (June 15-22)

Governor Branstad and a delegation of 9 Iowans leave on June 15 for the signing of the Sister State agreement and 5 days of meetings and touring. Governor Branstad and Ivan T. Taranov, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Stavropol Krai Soviet of People's Deputies sign agreement on June 17.

1988 (August)

Prof. John Liepa, DMACC History and Political Science, is invited to join ISS Stavropol Committee.

1988 (August 18-24)

Chairman Taranov leads a 5-member delegation to Iowa to complete the establishment of a formal sister-state relationship.

1988 (August 23)

Gennady Straostin, Chairman of Stavropol Executive Committee, and Tamara Korkina, a journalist for Stavropol'skaya Pravda, visit the home of DMACC Professor John Liepa in Indianola.

1988 (August 29)

Dr. Joseph Borgen, President of DMACC, invites Chairman Taranov to DMACC's President's Day activities to inform us about Stavropol and explore exchange possibilities.

1988 (September 29-October 6)

Iowa Sister States sends an official 10-person delegation to Stavropol Krai to work out details on future exchanges. DMACC President Borgen approves Prof. John Liepa as a member representing Higher Education and Sports. Liepa meets Dr. Boris Zhogin, Director of Faculty Exchanges, at the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute.

1988

DMACC celebrates "Soviet Union Year"

1988 monthly seminar series:

September - History, Geography, and Culture of the Soviet Union

October - Health Practices in the Soviet Union

November - Agriculture and Business in the Soviet Union

1988 (October/November)

DMACC faculty members John Liepa, Jim Stick, Tom Beck, Dave Palmer, and Rick Chapman submit a grant proposal: "The Soviet Union in Iowa: An Intercultural Glasnost to the Iowa Humanities Board" - it was approved.

1988 (December 5-9)

Dr. Alexander Khomenko, Professor of Linguistics, Peoples Friendship University, Moscow, visits classes and delivers lectures at Ankeny, Boone, Carroll, and Urban campuses.

1989

DMACC continues "Soviet Union Year" sessions

1989 monthly seminar series:

January - The Legal System and Minority Groups in the USSR

February - Religion and Lifestyles in the USSR

January-April - Beginning Russian Language
January-April - Honors Seminar on Soviet Culture
April 3-7 - Soviet Union Week
Thursday, April 6 - "Foods of the Soviet Union" Gourmet Dinner

1989 (May 19-25)

ISS hosts 15-member delegation from Stavropol. On Monday, May 22, DMACC's John Liepa and Chef Robert Anderson host delegation for campus tour and luncheon prepared and served by DMACC students.

1989 (November 10)

DMACC's President Joe Borgen receives educational exchange proposal from Yuri Davydov, Rector of the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute. The suggested delegation would include Dr. Boris Zhogin, Deputy Rector, SSPI, Chef Genady Bagiev, and translator, Tatyana Fetisova.

1990 (April 24-29)

Drake Relays Director, Bob Ehrhart, ISS, and DMACC's John Liepa arrange for and host a delegation of 11 Stavropol athletes, a coach, a translator, and the head of the Stavropol Sport Committee, Victor Kriunov attend the Drake Relays. DMACC's Rick Chapman and John Liepa home-hosted some of the athletes.

1991 (October 20-November 2)

As part of a USIA funded grant - "Building Communities" - a 12-member delegation of educators from the Stavropol Region visit DMACC to learn about community colleges and how their pedagogical role might be beneficial in expanding educational offerings in Stavropol.

1991 (Nov. 8-22)

DMACC's Vice President of Development Services, Ann Schodde and Prof. John Liepa visit Stavropol Region to visit with educators and elected officials to get an overall sense of their educational system and to explore how DMACC's community college system might be integrated into Stavropol's.

1992 (May 9-21)

Seventeen DMACC faculty and staff accompanied by Soviet experts and project consultant, John Chrystal travel to Stavropol to explain Iowa's community college system to Russian educators and elected officials who hope to establish a prototype community college in Russia modeled after DMACC.

1992 (July)

Visit by Stavropol Governor Kuznezov and delegation.

1993 (September 7-8)

Valeri Shapovalov, Director of the Stavropol Krai Department of Education, along with High School principal Vladimir Mishiev, and English teacher Tatyana Tolmatchyova visit DMACC classes, the Academic Achievement Center, and counselors. DMACC's John Liepa, Frank Trumpy, Cathy Curry, and Jerry Manning host Russians for business meeting with University of Iowa Business College faculty.

1994 (May)

Visit by Stavropol's Director of Refugees, Sergei Popov to Iowa Sister States and hosted by DMACC's Professor John Liepa.

1994 (August 23-30)

Iowa delegation visits Stavropol to implement a plan of work entitled, "DMACC Small Business Association Building Project" - team members include State Rep. Sue Mullins, Des Moines City Manager Michael Reagan, DMACC's Director of Resource Development, Jim Riordan, and DMACC's Professor John Liepa.

1994 (October 23-28)

Stavropol delegation of business leaders visit central Iowa, including DMACC, Des Moines, and Indianola to learn more about small business, and to, hopefully, establish a Stavropol Center for Business Development. DMACC's Jim Riordan and John Liepa make arrangements for and host some of the visitors.

1998

Iowa Sister States/Stavropol - Iowa Hospital Education and Research Foundation headed by Phil Latessa with Frank Trumpy's involvement.

2002 (October 31-November 4)

DMACC visit by Dr. Boris Zhogin with Liepa, Schodde, Trumpy, Riordan, Stick, Nelson

2004 (May 1-9)

Stavropol Education delegation - Alexey Shabalda, Minister of Education (Stavropol Krai); Anatoly Zhigailov, Director - Stavropol Talented and Gifted Youth and Dr. Boris Zhogin. Visits to DMACC, Simpson College, Drake University with US Senator Tom Harkin and Lt. Governor Sally Pederson.

2009-10 (October 29, 2009-March 5, 2010)

DMACC and Ankeny High School offer a year-long series of seminars at Ankeny High School - "The Wonders of Russia," followed by written essays and oral presentations.

**DMACC/STAVROPOL STATE PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE (SSPI)
EXCHANGE PROGRAM
Developing Communities: A Partnership Exchange
October 1991- June 1992
Funded by United States Information Agency, US Department of State
Ann Schodde**

Development and Funding of the Proposal

After the sister state agreements between Stavropol and Iowa were signed, there were many early interactions between the Sister State office in Iowa and Stavropol. A key player in these early interactions was John Liepa, member of Iowa Sister States and a DMACC faculty member, who traveled on the first official Sister State delegation to Stavropol and visited faculty and officials at Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute (SSPI). As a result, in the fall of 1988 and spring of 1989, a series of monthly programs about Russia were held on the DMACC Ankeny Campus, coordinated by the Development Office under the direction of Ann Schodde, Vice President of Development, and John Liepa.

In the summer of 1989, an initial letter was sent by Dr. Borgen, President of DMACC, proposing an exchange of faculty to Dr. Yuri Davydov, then Rector of the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute. On November 10 of that same year, a formal letter of introduction was sent to Dr. Borgen from Yuri Davydov with an offer to send a small delegation of educators from SSPI to DMACC. In addition, Dr. Davydov sent a letter of support to Dr. Borgen for inclusion with a proposal to the US Department of State Exchange Visitor Program for a two-way faculty exchange program. The result was a four-week visit to DMACC in the fall of 1990 by Dr. Boris Zhogin, Professor of Russian and World Literature, who spoke fluent English. Dr. Zhogin visited all the DMACC campuses and assisted Ann Schodde and John Liepa through the Development Office to prepare a proposal for a USIA-US Department of State faculty exchange grant between DMACC and the Institute. As a result, DMACC received a \$60,000 grant from USIA, United States Information Agency, in the late spring of 1991 and the first 12-member faculty delegation visited DMACC from October 20 to November 2, 1991.

(See the Appendix for the detailed programs of meetings and visits, a roster of the Stavropol delegation to the DMACC campuses, and DMACC participants who went to Stavropol.) Following the SSPI visit to DMACC, John Liepa and Ann Schodde traveled to Stavropol November 8-22, 1991, to plan the exchange visit of DMACC faculty to SSPI on May 9-21, 1992. (See press release from DMACC in the Appendix VII)

Exchange Program: Objectives

- Establish an institutional exchange of faculty and staff between Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute in Stavropol, Russia, and Des Moines Area Community College in Des Moines, Iowa
- Establish professional and friendship relationships between exchange program participants from both institutions

- Share programs and services of a US community college with a traditional Russian teacher's college as the Russian system of higher education underwent significant social and political change.

General Observations

This exchange program funded by the US Department of State, Department of Cultural and Educational Affairs - Citizens Exchange office, represented one of the first of its kind funded to a US community college. Until that time, all funded educational institutional exchange programs were limited to four-year colleges and universities. After funding the DMACC program, the State Department funded significant numbers of professional exchange programs between US community colleges and other institutions of higher education throughout the world.

Although language differences sometimes hindered communications between participants, translated written materials and the fact that all the Russian participants knew English enabled the exchange program to make a significant personal and professional impact on those involved as well as other faculty and many other community members who participated in the exchange but were not involved in actual international travel.

Upon completion of the DMACC/SSPI exchange program in June 1992, DMACC submitted a second proposal to USAID for \$250,000. The goal was to work with SSPI and other appropriate officials in Stavropol to establish a separate educational institute on the US community college model. A building was identified with the support of Stavropol authorities. However, the grant was not supported by USAID and further efforts were impeded by political constraints in both the US and Stavropol. However, an important result was that numerous relationships between staff and faculty from both institutions were maintained, and some members returned to Stavropol to work with Dr. Zhogin and others on a computer project. Dr. Zhogin traveled back to Iowa numerous times, and several faculty and staff at DMACC continue to communicate with him to this day.

Ann Schodde left DMACC, but in her work with another international non-profit in Des Moines, she was the lead administrator for a four-year hospital exchange program between the hospital administration of Stavropol Krai and the Iowa Hospital Association.

SSPI VISIT TO DMACC – OCTOBER 1991

Carroll Bennett and Burgess Shriver

The visit to Iowa by twelve SSPI (Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute) administrators and faculty members began on October 20, 1991, when the team arrived at the Des Moines Airport at 11:30 p.m., after a long flight from Stavropol to Moscow, Moscow to New York, New York to Chicago, and then to Des Moines. Three DMACC hosts welcomed our guests at the airport and made sure each had all their luggage and possessions in hand before starting on the short trip to the DMACC Campus in Ankeny. This was the first time most of our Russian guests had been out of their country, and only one, Boris Zhogin, had been in the United States.

Since it was late on Sunday evening, there was little traffic. Six of the party were in our van. One of the Russians in our group spoke English and served as an interpreter. There were many questions on our short trip through downtown Des Moines about the numerous brightly lighted auto dealerships and the abundance of autos on sale, the buildings in downtown Des Moines, and the absence of police cars chasing other cars on the streets (they had seen this in many American movies).

Our guests were staying on the DMACC Ankeny Campus in the International House apartments (two units designed for guests of the college with kitchens and sleeping accommodations.) After arriving, we hosts explained the lodging arrangements and asked if there were questions. Two of the women in the group had no idea what the functions of the Maytag washer and dryer were. They were fascinated when we demonstrated how each worked. Since they were all exhausted from the long trip, we limited our responses to questions. We assured them that several DMACC hosts would be joining them at 9 AM the next morning, that the hosts would accompany them to breakfast at the DMACC Conference Center, and that there would be ample time for questions.

When we arrived at the International House the next morning, our guests were eager to have breakfast. The short drive to the Conference Center provided an opportunity for guests to have their first view of the DMACC Ankeny Campus—this generated many questions and compliments. Fortunately, several in the group were fluent in English and were excellent interpreters at subsequent meetings and in informal conversations. The buffet breakfast was welcomed since most hadn't eaten for many hours.

Many of the DMACC staff who would be travelling in Russia in May 1992 were there to greet our guests. Dr. Joseph Borgen, DMACC President, gave a formal "DMACC Welcome" message to the group and provided a quick overview of what would occur during the two weeks of their visit. Dr. Boris Zhogin, Vice Provost of SSPI, responded on behalf of the Russian delegation and expressed his thanks to all who had been involved in making this visit possible.

This was followed by presentations by DMACC staff who described the role and function of the college and its campuses and centers at other locations in Central Iowa.

The group then was briefed in more detail about their two weeks in Iowa including visits to other campuses, home visits, and shopping and sightseeing in the Des Moines area and Central Iowa.

The group then met with the DMACC Executive Council (President Borgen and key college administrators) for lunch. Some of the menu items were not familiar to our guests.

The afternoon consisted of briefing sessions about the college, its mission and purpose, and characteristics of the students. It was surprising to our guests that students ranged in age from 14 to the 80's and that instruction was delivered in a number of settings (offices, high schools, businesses) in addition to the DMACC campuses.

A dinner was held that evening at the DMACC Conference Center until 7:30 PM. This allowed our guests to return to The International House and have ample time to rest and relax after two long and busy days.

The next day was the beginning of the comprehensive program to acquaint our visitors from Russia about DMACC through a series of presentations by DMACC staff who described many aspects of DMACC's approach to educating and enriching the lives of our students. It was also important that they see and interact with the people who were instrumental to the success of the college: elected board members, advisory groups, administrators, faculty support people, and students. Campus tours allowed them to see the various physical facilities in which the education program was delivered, primarily on each of the four campuses and, also, at several centers.

The approach to communicating this information was through a series of presentations on various aspects of the College, visits to each of the DMACC campuses, social interaction with DMACC personnel, and the opportunity to develop personal relationships with a variety of people. It was also important for them to experience the culture of Iowa, and to see and to interact with Iowans in a variety of settings (stores, homes and parks).

The major vehicle to achieve these goals included a series of structured workshops, visits to DMACC facilities at all four campuses, home visits, and the opportunity to shop in our stores, eat in our restaurants and interact with a variety of Iowans.

A DMACC committee had developed the calendar of activities for their visit. Most of their time was spent in workshop presentations conducted by DMACC personnel. The purpose was to explain how the DMACC programs and services had been developed and implemented. A list of the topics of these presentations follows:

Academic Programs "The DMACC Version"

Agri-Business Programs

American Community Colleges—History and Mission

American Community Colleges—Serving Student Needs

Building Communities

Business Occupations Training

Community Education—Lifelong Learning for Adult Students

Continuing Education—Working with Adult Students

Curriculum: Structure and Process

Financing the College

Financing, Physical Plant and personnel Management

Governmental Bodies and State Relationship

How DMACC is Organized and Governed

Maintaining Buildings and Grounds

Managing People

Meeting the Needs of Rural Students
Serving the Special Needs Population
Small Business and Economic Development: Working to Build Iowa's Economy
Special Programs—English as a Second Language and Literacy
Teaching Methods “Pedagogy” in the Community College Classroom
The Changing State of Higher Education: Building Communities Together
The College President's Office
The Secondary School—How Community Colleges and High School Work Together
Using the Community or Colleges to Develop Small Business
Working with Businesses—Training and Contracts
Working with the Unemployed

Another activity that was designed to encourage social interaction was a series of lunches and dinners when our guests interacted with a variety of people from the college as well as others who were supporters of our institution. Listed below are some of these social events.

President's Luncheon for SSPI and DMACC Executive Council
Buffet dinners for SSPI and DMACC Participants
Lunch with Student Action Board (DMACC Student Governance)
Women's Connections Luncheon (presented by DMACC female staff to Russian female group members)
Sandwich Buffet for SSPI staff at the International House
Dinner at the Boone Campus for Faculty and Administration
Lunch with the DMACC Student Action Board
Lunch with DMACC Curriculum Commission (faculty)
Lunch with DMACC Board of Trustees, President Borgen, Golden Circle Business Center and DMACC Foundation Representatives
Home-Hosted Meals by faculty at the Ankeny, Boone, Carroll and Urban Campuses

There were also several “special activities” included as a part of the program that encouraged social interaction in a relaxed setting:

- Small SSPI groups of three people visited classes at each of the campuses and interacted with faculty and students.
- A weekend where SSPI participants were hosted in the home of a DMACC employee (Friday evening through Sunday afternoon) to see how Iowa's lived their lives. In some instances, neighbors were invited to meet and interact with our guests.
- Time for shopping (with a host) to experience what was available to the American consumer.
- A final wrap-up session was presented by our SSPI guests where each summarized their experience at DMACC.

**DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
VISIT TO STAVROPOL STATE PEDIGOGICAL INSTITUTE
MAY 9-24, 1992
Carroll Bennett and Burgess Shriver**

A long anticipated "return visit to SSPI" occurred in the spring of 1992 when 17 DMACC administrators, faculty, staff, a board member, a prominent Iowa banker, and our translator flew from the Des Moines Airport to Moscow. All went well after landing until the group discovered that their checked luggage was not on the aircraft. The group was greeted by several SSPI staff, each of whom had visited DMACC in October 1991, led by Vice Provost Boris Zhogin. This airport was one of several smaller airports in the Moscow area and was quite drab.

Upon discovering that the luggage had not arrived, Carroll Bennett, delegation leader, asked our host, Boris Zhogin, to accompany him to the airport office to learn about the status of the group's luggage and to act as an interpreter to the airport staff. It was quite a surprise to learn that the airport had only one phone line coming into the facility—so it was necessary to wait until the line was available. The airport director made a call and learned that the luggage had not been loaded on the aircraft before it departed from the Brussels airport. He also could not provide us with a day and time when it would arrive in Moscow but confirmed that it would be immediately forwarded to the Stavropol Airport. The decision was made to immediately proceed to Stavropol on a smaller aircraft as originally planned.

Many on the tour had dressed informally for the flights anticipating that they would dress more formally for activities in Stavropol once they claimed their luggage—which now wasn't possible. The luggage arrived two days later.

We and our Russia hosts boarded a bus and took a short ride to the aircraft that had been chartered for the three-hour flight to Stavropol. The plane was designed as a military aircraft, primarily to transfer military equipment. Seats had been installed for passengers, but there were no luggage compartments. So, carry-on luggage was placed under seats and throughout the aircraft. (Fortunately, there was no turbulence during the flight.) We were surprised that there were several "back up" pilots on the flight dressed in uniforms. Most slept during the flight. The aircraft was a big surprise, but fortunately the flight went well, and we arrived late that the evening at the Stavropol Airport.

We were greeted by additional Russian friends who had been our guests in Iowa. Since it was late evening, we thanked our friends and were then bussed to The Intourist Hotel, a nice facility located in the center of the city. It was a pleasure to get some much-needed sleep.

The next morning, we were met in the lobby at breakfast by Boris Zhogin and several other Russian friends. After breakfast, we were transported to the college where we met other SSPI staff who had visited DMACC, enjoyed informal conversations, and took a tour of their campus.

SSPI was housed in two major buildings—an older facility and a recently constructed “new” building—that was being used for some classes but was still under construction. We were encouraged to take tours of the city and the area and to relax.

The next day our formal program activities began with a welcome from Rector Vladimir Shapovalov in the college auditorium. The audience included faculty, students, parents, some children, and local citizens. Most were interested because few had ever seen “an American.” Our entire DMACC group was asked to sit on the stage facing the audience. Carroll Bennett, who represented our group, gave opening remarks with the assistance of our translator, Stan Pshonik. After members of our delegation were introduced, they described their role at DMACC and shared information about their family and personal interests.

It was explained to the audience by our Russian hosts that the purpose of our visit was to act as consultants to SSPI administrators and faculty as they considered changes that would strengthen their college and provide additional services and student educational outcomes. After lunch, small groups of SSPI faculty met with DMACC staff who conducted workshops to learn about these specific topics:

- Agri-Business
- Basic Skill Center and English as a Second Language
- Career Education—Office Technology Program
- Community College Administration
- Continuing Education
- o Curriculum Development
- o Transfer and Articulation
- Contract Training
- Educational Issues and Processes
- Small Business Development
- Training the Unemployed – Working with Industry

Additional workshops were conducted as requested by our Russian hosts. Several DMACC participants also met with government officials and visited farms and businesses in the area.

Those attending additional workshops were educational professionals who were specifically interested in the topics and planned to assist the Center with specific training classes and short courses.

The next two days were spent with DMACC guests providing consulting and conducting workshops in addition to informal meetings with groups of SSPI faculty and students. Several social events with other Stavropol political leaders who were interested in visiting with American educators were also held. Each evening dinners were also held with DMACC reps and SSPI staff at various locations.

Ample time was provided for DMACC guests to visit local markets and area attractions and to interact with Russians in the community.

On Friday, May 15, 1992, our group departed by bus for a trip to the Caucasus Mountains area, including stops in several small towns along the route. This provided us with an opportunity to see how Russians in rural areas live and to experience some of the most beautiful scenery in the area. The view from Mt. Elbrus was especially spectacular!

It was fascinating to drive through the small towns and to see individual houses that were very old. Most of our SSPI hosts lived in multi-housing units, which was common in Russian cities.

On Saturday, no events were scheduled in the morning, so several of us could enjoy visiting the local markets near our hotel. It was interesting to see the variety of fresh vegetables, fruits, dairy products, and live animals (chickens and little pigs) that were displayed. Generally, the products were on a table, but some farmers sold baby pigs from the trunks of their cars. We were noticed by the natives, but we would often receive a smile if we smiled at them. There were no conversations since few people spoke English. The markets were a striking contrast to what we had seen in US markets and were probably the major source of food for most of those who were shopping. We felt totally safe at the market.

Around 2 PM, our group was in a bus on our way to Pyatigorsk, a beautiful resort city surrounded by lakes and outstanding scenery. Our hotel was occupied largely by tourists (mostly Russians) and was quite modern. We visited a spa and bath, and several of our group relaxed by taking a bath followed by a massage. The food in the city was also excellent. That evening, we enjoyed an excellent dinner in our hotel.

On Sunday, we continued to be tourists, and some shopped in stores and markets. The quality and selection of merchandise was more "upscale" since we were in a tourist area. Others took walks about the city and visited lovely parks in the beautiful weather. We again enjoyed a dinner at the hotel.

After relaxing on Monday morning, most of our group members presented workshops, with the assistance of SSPI faculty and staff, to faculty at a college in Pyatigorsk. The topics were similar to the workshops that were presented at SSPI the previous week and were well received.

On Tuesday morning, we repeated the workshops. After lunch we enjoyed a presentation by SSPI friends and local college officials on "New Directions in Russian Higher Education." Following the workshop, we boarded a chartered aircraft (it was much newer than the aircraft that had flown us from Moscow to Stavropol) and flew to Moscow. After checking into The Cosmos Hotel, we had a wonderful dinner in the hotel dining room. After dinner, Boris invited us to his room where his Russian friend sold authentic Mariska Dolls, embroidered towels, and other beautiful items.

On our final day in Moscow, we were “total” tourists and attempted to see as many of the famous buildings and areas as possible. This was the first time in Russia that we had seen a plethora of autos and trucks. The city was very interesting and beautiful. That evening we attended the famous Bolshoi Ballet—which was breathtaking and beautiful. Our Russian hosts accompanied us and told us that only a few of them had attended this historic attraction since it was very expensive. (The tickets were approximately \$20.)

The next morning, we departed the main Moscow Airport on our flight to New York City and arrived in Des Moines late that afternoon.

We all agreed it was a very special and unique experience. Many in our group continued to correspond and send Christmas cards to our SSPI friends.

DMACC FACULTY AND STAFF RECOLLECTIONS OF THEIR VISIT TO SSPI **Burgess Shriver**

The DMACC representatives who traveled to SSPI were asked to respond to several questions in 2019 that inquired about their experiences and memories from 1991-92. The questions were generated by Carroll Bennett and Burgess Shriver, with review by the members of the Steering Committee. Not everyone responded.

The completed responses to these questions are included in the order received in Appendix V to this paper.

SPIN-OFFS FROM THE INITIAL RELATIONSHIP **BETWEEN DMACC AND STAVROPOL STATE PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE** **Frank Trumpy**

Although the formal DMACC/SSPI reciprocal visits were confined to the 1991-92 academic year, a number of activities continued for many years involving members of the DMACC group. What follows is a summary of several of these projects. It is interesting to read about these activities and to note the additional sponsors who became a part of this extension of the original project.

After the initial exchange in the fall of 1991 and spring of 1992, a second, smaller delegation visited Stavropol in the spring of 1993. Those traveling in this delegation included Joe Harper, Ewa Pratt, Tom Nelson, and Frank Trumpy. As was the case with the first delegation, the focus was on community college structure and curriculum development.

About this time, it became apparent that maintaining a relationship between our two institutions was very difficult due to a lack of a reliable means of communication. Ordinary mail was very unreliable with less than 50% of mail going to Stavropol reaching its destination. Fax machines in Russia were rare and seldom turned on. Likewise, telephone service was

intermittent, expensive, and dependent on interpreters to bridge the language gap. Many educated Russians can read and write English but don't speak it because of the irregular pronunciation in the English language.

So, when I returned from the second trip in the spring of 1993, I began to research the possibility of using email as a primary means of communication between DMACC and SSPI. At that time, to my knowledge, there was no email anywhere in the city of Stavropol. That is to say that no one in the city of Stavropol had an email address or had any access to the Internet. Moreover, none of the Russians involved in our exchange even owned a computer. About this time, I met Jane Vanvoorhis through Iowa Sister States. She was interested in Stavropol Krai because it was a "Sister State" to Iowa. That relationship was established by Gov. Branstad in 1988.

Jane had also been thinking about establishing email in Stavropol, and she thought there might be an internet service provider in the city on Pyatigorsk located 200 km south of Stavropol. She had somehow acquired an email address that might get to the provider, but she had not followed-up on it. I sent an email query to the address and received a reply from someone named Andre Kokarev. Andre turned out to be the Internet guru at a very important energy distribution center for southern Russia. This center controlled the distribution of electrical energy from several nuclear and hydroelectric generation facilities. As a result of this, the center had a high quality, dedicated phone line to Moscow and, therefore, to the rest of the world.

The question was: Would it be possible to connect to their server in Pyatigorsk from a computer in Stavropol? A lengthy exchange of emails between Andre and me explored this possibility and what kind of equipment would be required to handle the very poor quality of everyday Russian phone lines. Those lines were very "noisy" with a lot of static and even hearing other people talking. The telephone switching station in Pyatigorsk that we would have to go through was installed by the Germans during their occupation in 1943. We also discussed the cost Andre would charge us for each email address we wanted in Stavropol. They didn't want money. They wanted subsequent delegations to provide computer memory chips and other computer components.

I discussed all this with Sister States and decided to write a grant proposal that would establish three sites in Stavropol to send and receive email. They were Center Columbus (headed by Boris Zhogin), Stavropol Office for International Affairs (Anatoly Tartychev), and English Speaking School #1. The proposal would provide a new computer w/monitor and a Telebit Worldblazer modem. This modem was state-of-the-art at that time, with the ability to tolerate excessive line noise, and cost \$1000 when ordinary modems could be purchased for \$100. I also recruited another DMACC employee, Tim Cain from Systems Integration, to accompany me as my computer expert.

I wrote all of this up and submitted it to the Carver Foundation. In due time, I received a reply. The foundation thought the proposal had merit and that it would pay for all the hardware if I

could find another financial source to pay for all transportation and accommodation costs for myself and Tim. Not long after I received the reply from the Carver Foundation, I received a phone call for Dr. Jose Angel, a Des Moines physician. He said he had just returned from Stavropol and he had a letter for me from Boris Zhogin. In fact, letter by courier had become the most common and reliable method of communication between DMACC personnel and our Russian colleagues.

Of course, I was curious what Dr. Angel was doing in Stavropol. I learned he was working with the Iowa Hospital Association and Iowa Sister States to establish a working relationship with the medical community in Stavropol. Among other activities, delegations of physicians were traveling back and forth between Iowa and Stavropol. He complained to me that poor communications were making it difficult to execute their plans. When I told him about my grant and a search for a second source of finances for travel and accommodation costs, he made a proposal to me: If I would add a fourth email site at the Stavropol Pediatric Oncology Hospital, IHA would pay for the travel expenses.

At my request, Dr. Angel sent me a letter formally proposing this, and I sent a copy to the Carver Foundation with a revised grant proposal to add the fourth site. The Foundation immediately approved the revised proposal with IHA support. I don't recall all the details of the financing, but I purchased the four computers and modems and packed them up to take with us as extra baggage. I do recall being charged an extra \$550 for excess baggage which I put on my credit card along with the airline tickets. I must have taken cash to pay for hotels, food and incidentals, but I don't recall the details.

In any event, all our many pieces of baggage arrived with us and we went through customs in Moscow. They asked us to declare the contents, and I told them it was a computer. I didn't mention there were four of them and four modems, as well. We also didn't mention that Tim had a laptop in his suitcase. The customs person seemed uninterested in us, wrote "computer" on our declaration form and let us pass. In retrospect, we were very lucky. Other IHA delegations who came later had computers seized by customs and charged very large fees to get them back. Upon departing Russia, exit customs demanded to see the computer mentioned on our declaration form that we had brought into Russia. Tim pulled out his laptop and they were satisfied.

In summary, the project was a success. All four computers and modems were installed. We made two trips to Pyatigorsk to negotiate and arrange the method of payment. We also verified that all four sites were able to access the Internet as well as to send and receive email before we departed for home.

A few months after all sites were up and running, I received an email from Dr. Lev Dubovoy, a surgeon in Stavropol, with the subject line "EMERGENCY!!!!!!" A physician in Stavropol had fallen gravely ill and doctors there were requesting consultation with doctors in Des Moines. I arranged for Phil Latessa and Dr. Jose Angel to meet me in my office at DMACC the next morning, a Saturday. Dr. Dubovoy and I connected through an application called "Talk." I could

type on the computer screen in Stavropol and Dr. Dubovoy could type on mine in Ankeny. We spent more than an hour exchanging information with Dr. Angel giving medical advice and treatment strategies to Dr. Dubovoy based on Dubovoy's description of the symptoms. The long and short is that the ill physician eventually regained consciousness and fully recovered. Of the three of us on the Iowa side of this effort, I was the next to return to Stavropol. I was greeted by a reception hosted by the now-recovered doctor and his wife. In other words, I got all the credit to the mild dismay of my two cohorts. Occurring in 1994, I believe this may have been one of the first Internet-based medical consultations ever conducted.

The hospital site had proved so successful in assisting IHA that I was approached by the IHA to return the following year to assist in doing more with other medical facilities such as women's polyclinics in Essentuky and other cities within Stavropol Krai. Funding for this work came from the American International Health Alliance. In the late 1990's this work continued in Samara, Russia, where a technique was developed to create training materials in Iowa and transfer them to Samara via the Internet where CD's were created for distribution to out-lying medical clinics. My last trip to Samara was in 2001.

CHINA

In 1996 Iowa Sister States received a grant from Pioneer Hybrid to establish email contact with the Hebei International Affairs office, Agricultural Administration office, and a hospital in Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, China. Because of the success we had achieved with the work in Russia, I was contacted to carry out the objectives of this grant. Over Christmas break in 1996, I traveled to Hebei Province and established all the proposed email connections.

TANZANIA

In the early 2000's Phil Latessa, the former Executive Director of Iowa Sister States and someone I had worked closely with on the many Russian projects, became the Director of Empower Tanzania, Inc. Empower TZ, a non-profit corporation, and was working with Lutheran churches in Iowa on various humanitarian projects in the Pare Region of Tanzania. One such effort was a PEPFAR (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) project to "train-the-trainers" to administer palliative care to AIDS victims. As in Russia and China, a lack of effective communication was hampering progress. Retired by this time, I was called upon to work on improving Internet connections in the same region. I traveled to Tanzania in 2008 and 2009 to help in achieving their goals for improved communications.

APPENDIX I

NAMES AND TITLES OF THE DELEGATION FROM SSPI WHO VISITED DMACC IN OCTOBER 1991

STAVROPOL STATE
PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE
I PUSHKIN STREET
STAVROPOL, USSR, 355009
JULY 30, 1991

JOSEPH A. BORGES, PH.D.
PRESIDENT
DES MOINES AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
2006 SOUTH ANKENY BLVD.
ANKENY, IOWA, 50021

Dear Dr. Borges:

We are sending you herewith the list of SSPI delegation for the trip to DMACC in the fall.

1. Vladimir Alexandrovich SHAPOVALOV, Rector of SSPI
2. Yuri Stepanovich DAVYDOV, Chairman of Committee for Education and Research, Stavropol Region Council
3. Boris Georgievich ZHOGIN, Deputy Rector for Research, SSPI, Project Coordinator
4. Boris Michailovich REBUS, Dean, Retraining of School Principals, SSPI
5. Alexei Alexeevich ANIKEEV, Dean, History and Law, SSPI
6. Alexei Michailovich EROKHIN, Dean, Secondary Schools Liaison, SSPI
7. Tatyana Victorovna PANTYUKHINA, World History Instructor, Secretary of SSPI Council
8. Nickolai Phydorovich KHOROSHKO, Chairperson, Pedagogy, SSPI
9. Vyacheslav Gennadievich STRUGOV, Director of Research Contracts, SSPI
10. Tatyana Nickolayevna LOMTEVA, English Language Instructor, SSPI
11. Yuri Sergeevich BRANOVSKY, Chairperson, New Technologies in Education, SSPI
12. Valery Kirillovich SHAPOVALOV, Chairperson, Management in Education, SSPI

RESERVE MEMBERS

1. Raisa Phydorovna GUDARENKO, Deputy Chairperson, Stavropol Region Executive Committee
2. Natalya Leonidovna MOSKOVSKAYA, English Language Instructor, SSPI
3. Gennady Alexandrovich OZERETSKOVSKY, Instructor of Physics, Head of Trade Union, SSPI

More detailed resumes will be forwarded to you in a letter.

Sincerely, *B. Shapovalov*

Vladimir Shapovalov, Ph.D.
Rector

APPENDIX II

NAMES AND TITLES OF THE DELEGATION FROM DMACC WHO VISITED SSPI IN MAY 1992

Funded by: United States Information Agency, Citizens Exchange Program

Des Moines Area Community College
Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute
SSPI/DMACC
"Building Communities"
October – June
1991-92

Participants:

Carroll Bennett, Dean, Continuing Education, representing lifelong learning, outreach to adult learners and vocational/technical education and Chair, DMACC Delegation

Vivian Brandmeyer, Instructor, Business, Boone Campus, representing rural educational expertise and business education

John Crystal, Project Consultant, representing private business sector with expertise on the Soviet Union and agriculture

Peggy Cutlip, Training Consultant, representing expertise in retraining of the unemployed and contracting with outside agencies in business and industry

Peggy Gaines, Instructor, Development Center, Urban Campus, representing special services to students

Joe Harper, Instructor, representing expertise in agri-business education

John Liepa, Instructor, History and Project Director

Kim Linduska, Dean, Academic Achievement, representing instruction and curriculum for target populations with special learning needs

Stan Pshonik, Marketing and Publications Director, Compressor Controls, and official interpreter

Mark Pogge, Audio-Video Recording Specialist

Joe Robbins, Manager, Planning and Research, representing small business development and instructional research

Burgess Shriver, Dean, Humanities and Science, representing Humanities and Science education

Ann Schulte, Instructor, Sociology/History/Psychology, Carroll Campus, representing education in rural Iowa

Gary Stasko, Instructor, Farm Management Business and Economics, Boone Campus representing outreach rural education and business training

Frank Trumpy, Instructor, Physics, representing science education expertise and curriculum development

Ann Schodde, VP Development, representing international education program planning, development and funding

Thanks to the following DMACC staff who facilitated grant work and travel plans for this project.

Gladys Calhoun, Administrative Secretary, Development Services

Daryl Vanderwilt, Director, Grants and Contracts Office

Theatta Brandmeyer, Grants Monitor, Grants and Contracts Office

Yoshiko Swift, Training Consultant, Continuing Education

Note:

Dr. Joseph Borgen had planned to head the delegation but was forced to remain in Iowa based on his need to be involved in supporting legislation related to community college by the Iowa Legislature.

APPENDIX III

DETAILED ITINERARY OF THE SSPI DELEGATION VISIT TO DMACC IN OCTOBER 1991

Gladys

Revised: October 17, 1991

ITINERARY
DMACC/SSPI

"BUILDING COMMUNITIES"
October 20 - November 2, 1991
(Phase I)

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
SUNDAY, OCT. 20		
11:16 pm	Arrival United # 87 Greeters: DMACC Staff/Faculty	Des Moines Airport
MONDAY, OCT. 21	OVERVIEW - THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	
9:30 am	Coffee, Rolls, Juice (Video Presentation) Informal Gathering	Oak Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
10:00 am	Welcome/Introduction to DMACC Dr. Joseph Borgen, President, DMACC Responder: Dr. Vladimir Shapovalov, Rector, SSPI	
10:30 am	Group Review of 2-Week Schedule Presenters: John Liepa, DMACC Project Director Dr. Boris Zhogin, SSPI, Project Director Ann Schodde, Vice President, Development Services	
10:45 am-12:00 pm	AMERICAN COMMUNITY COLLEGES - HISTORY & MISSION Presenters: Burgess Shriver, Dean, Humanities & Sciences Carroll Bennett, Dean, Continuing Educations	
12:00 pm	Break	
12:30 pm	President's Luncheon for SSPI Delegation with Executive Council	Walnut Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
2:00 pm- 3:30 pm	Campus Tour (includes major facilities at Ankeny) Hosts: Curt Vandivier, Vice President, Ankeny Campus Chuck McFarlin, Dean, Industrial & Technical Pam Van Ast, Dean, Health & Public Services Tom Nelson, Dean, Business & Management Burgess Shriver, Dean, Sciences & Humanities	
3:30 pm	Rest/Relax	International House
4:00 pm	Reception & Welcome All faculty/staff	Lakeview Inn Bldg. 7
5:30 pm- 7:30 pm	Buffet Dinner - DMACC/SSPI Project Participants	Walnut Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
7:30 pm	Rest - International Guest House	

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
TUESDAY, OCT. 22	AMERICAN COMMUNITY COLLEGES SERVING <u>STUDENTS'</u> NEEDS	
9:00 am	Historical Perspective & Demographic Comparisons between Stavropol, Krai and Central Iowa Dr. Boris Zhogin, Deputy Rector, SSPI John Liepa, Project Director	Cedar Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
10:00 am	"The DMACC Student Profile" - The nature & kind of students served at DMACC Joe Robbins, Manager, Research, Planning, & Reporting	Cedar Room, Bldg. 7
11:30 am	Break	
12:15 pm	Student Luncheon - with Student Action Board Panel Presentation by four DMACC Students (all campuses represented) Hosts: Lynn Albrecht, Mary Lonsdale	Bldg. 7, Room 7-03A Conference Center (Lunch prepared by Student Culinary Club)
12:15 pm	Women's Connections Luncheon (Women Educators from SSPI)	Walnut Room, Bldg. 7
2:00 pm	THE ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE HOW DMACC IS GOVERNED & ORGANIZED	
	"Governmental Bodies and State Relationships" Iowa's Public Community Colleges Presenters: Don Kerr, Assistant to the President Don Zuck, Vice President, Operations Joe Robbins/Susan Clouser, President, Board of Trustees	Cedar Room, Bldg. 7
3:00 pm	CURRICULUM: STRUCTURE AND PROCESS	Cedar Room, Bldg. 7
	"How are academic programs designed, changed, and approved? What standards are used? Presenters: Frank Trumpy, Instructor, Physics & Chair, College Curriculum Committee Joe Harper, Chair, Agri-Business Department	
5:00 pm	Dinner: Sandwich Buffet for SSPI Group only	International House
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 23	"SERVING SPECIAL POPULATIONS" TO MEET SPECIAL NEEDS	
8:30 am	Briefing: Urban Campus Overview - Mary Chapman, Dean Tour - Urban Campus	Urban Campus

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u> <i>(Urban Campus)</i>	<u>LOCATION</u>
9:30 am	Special Needs Programs - Women, Minorities, Displaced Workers, At Risk Youth Presenters: Kim Linduska, Dean, Academic Achievement Peggy Gaines, Instructor, Development Center Kevin Thomas, Minority Affairs Officer Denise Hotopp, Coordinator, Project Self-Sufficiency	Seminar Room
11:15 am	Break - Relax	Teachers' Lounge Urban Campus
11:30 pm	Leave for Boone Campus - East Entrance Urban Lunch in Boone	
1:30 pm	Train Ride - Boone Railroad	
3:30 pm	"MEETING THE NEEDS OF RURAL STUDENTS" Welcome and Introduction Kris Phillips, Dean, Boone Campus Presenters: Gary Stasko, Instructor, Farm Management/ Business & Economics Vivian Brandmeyer, Instructor/Chair, Business	Boone Campus
6:00 pm	Dinner: Hosted by Boone Campus Staff/Faculty	
8:00 pm	Return to Des Moines - International House	
HURSDAY, OCT. 24	ACADEMIC PROGRAMS: "DMACC VERSION"	
9:30 am	Chuck McFarlin, Dean, Industry & Technology Vocational/Technical Education Curt Vandivier, Vice President, Ankeny Campus College Transfer Programs Carroll Bennett, Dean, Continuing Education Working with Secondary Schools	Board Room, Bldg. 1
12:15 noon	Luncheon: Curriculum Commission	Walnut Room, Bldg. 7
1:30 pm	"COMMUNITY EDUCATION - LIFELONG LEARNING FOR ADULT STUDENTS" Presenters: Carroll Bennett, Dean, Continuing Education and Community Education Staff	Board Room, Bldg. 1
3:30 pm	Informal Discussion	
5:00 pm	Dinner and Roundtable Discussion SSPI Guests and DMACC Participants "The Changing State of Higher Education: Building Communities Together" DMACC Staff: Reservations - Call Gladys 964-6570 by Wednesday, October 23	Walnut Room, Bldg. 7

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
FRIDAY, OCT. 25	"WORKING WITH THE UNEMPLOYED"	
9:00 am	The Displaced Worker: Working with Employers and the Unemployed Presenters: Peggy Cutlip, Training Consultant Arlen Twedt, Counselor Bev Anderson, Financial Aid Mike Waters, Training Consultant	Golden Circle Business Center, Conference Room Bldg. 18
12:00 pm- 2:00 pm	Luncheon: Dr. Borgen, President, Board Members, Golden Circle Business Center, and DMACC Foundation Representatives "SMALL BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: WORKING TO BUILD IOWA'S ECONOMY"	Walnut Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
	Economic Development - How Community Colleges Work with Training and Education for Business and Industry Presenters: Clyde Kramer, Vice President, Community Education Joe Robbins, former Director, Golden Circle West Business Center Tour: Small Business Incubator, Wayne Haines, Director Host: Peggy Cutlip, Training Consultant	Golden Circle Business Center Conference Room Bldg. 18
3:30 pm	Break and Wrap-up Discussion of Week I Sign Up for Teams - October 28/29	
5:00 pm	Pick up for host homes and weekend activities (All 12 will stay in host homes on the weekend, Friday to Sunday afternoon-early evening)	International Guest House
SATURDAY, OCT. 26	Open - Activities to be determined by host families and guests	
SUNDAY, OCT. 27	Open for rest and shopping with families Return to International House on own schedule	

PHASE II - WEEK 2

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
MONDAY, OCT. 28	"BUILDING COMMUNITIES"	
8:30 am	General Group Session: DMACC team is "paired" with DMACC team members Review Oct. 28-29 itinerary for work team sessions	Board Room, Bldg. 1
9:00 am	SSPI/DMACC work teams depart for 2 days of "shadowing" with DMACC counterparts (see listing)	Various Locations
TUESDAY, OCT. 29	Same as Monday - work teams continue Lunches - informal with group leaders Dinner/Evenings Monday, Oct. 29 - <u>Open</u> Tuesday, Oct. 30 - <u>Open</u>	Various Locations

DAY I - OCTOBER 28 - MONDAY

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

#1 Business Occupations Training

and

Using Community Colleges to Develop Small Businesses
Joe Robbins
Vivian Brandmeyer

#2 Continuing Education - Working with Adult Students
Carroll Bennett

#3 Special Programs - ESL and Literacy
Kim Linduska
Peggy Gaines

#4 The Secondary School - How Community Colleges & High Schools Work Together
Ben Norman
Burgess Shriver

4:00 - 6:00 pm Rest

6:00 pm Dinner - Open

DAY II - OCTOBER 29 - TUESDAY

9:00 am - 1:45 pm

#1 Agri-Business Programs

Gary Stasko
Joe Harper

#2 The President's Office

Dr. Borgen with Dr. Shapovalov,
Dr. Davydov, and Dr. Boris Zhogin

#3 Working with Business - Training & Contracts

Peggy Cutlip

#4 Teaching Methods - "Pedagogy" in the Community College Classroom

Ann Schulte
Frank Trumpy

1:45 pm - All Meet - Conference Ctr

2:15 pm - Capitol - Tour and meetings with officials

3:30 pm - Afternoon/Evening Open

Supper at Leo Haines Club

6:00 - Social

6:30 - Dinner

*MD
spans to*

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 30 FINANCING, PHYSICAL PLANT, AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT		
8:30 am	"Financing the College" Where Does the Money Come From? Presenters: Don Zuck, Vice President, Operations Darrell Roberts, Vice President, Business Irv Steinberg, Controller	Cedar Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
10:15 am-10:45 am	Break: Question & Answer - Informal Discussion	
10:45 am-12:15 pm	"Managing Buildings and Grounds" Presenter: Ken Brown, Director, Physical Plant	Cedar Room, Bldg. 7 & Ankeny Campus Grounds
12:30 pm	Lunch: Hosts: Don Zuck, Ken Brown, Darrell Roberts, and Irv Steinberg	Walnut Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
1:30 pm-3:45 pm	"Managing People - Human Resources at the Community College" Gene Boldt, Manager, Human Resources and Staff	Cedar Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
4:15 pm	All meet at International House Two groups of three leave for Carroll and Boone Campuses Hosts: Gary Stasko, Vivian Brandmeyer, and Ann Schulte Two groups of three leave for Ankeny, Urban Hosts: Peggy Gaines, Burgess Shriver	
6:00 pm	Dinner hosted by Faculty at homes Boone, Carroll, Ankeny, and Urban campuses Those with Ankeny, Urban campus - return guests to International House or Host Homes	
THURSDAY, OCT. 31 "THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASSROOM" DIALOGUE WITH DMACC STUDENTS & INSTRUCTORS IN THE CLASSROOM		
	Four groups of three SSPI guests will visit DMACC classes at Boone, Carroll, Urban, and Ankeny Hosts: Gary Stasko, Vivian Brandmeyer, Ann Schulte, Peggy Gaines, Burgess Shriver	All Campuses
3:30 pm	Total group meets at Ankeny Campus for final wrap-up session and SSPI presentation to DMACC faculty, staff, and students	Oak Room, Bldg. 7 Conference Center
5:00 pm	Rest - Open Evening	

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
FRIDAY, NOV. 1	SUMMARY NOTES	
9:00 am- 9:30 am	Overview of Project	Board Room, Bldg. 1
9:30 am-11:00 am	Project Directors and Presidents meet for review and planning session	
	Remainder of the day is free for shopping, packing, and saying goodbye to friends, faculty, and students	
	Lunch: Open - Guests on their own	
6:00 pm	Dinner: Pizza Party - Faculty Dining Room SSPI and DMACC	Bldg. 7, Room 7-03A
SATURDAY, NOV. 2	DEPARTURE: SSPI GROUP LEAVES FOR STAVROPOL "GOODBYE UNTIL MAY 1992"	
7:30 am	Pick-up at International House for Des Moines Airport	International House
	Flight United #362 - Departs 9:16 am DMACC group at Airport for Farewells until May 10, 1992	Des Moines Airport

APPENDIX IV

DETAILED ITINERARY OF DMACC DELEGATION VISIT TO SSPI IN MAY 1992

ITINERARY
DMACC/SSPI
BUILDING COMMUNITIES
MAY 9-24, 1992
STAVROPOL, KRAI, RUSSIAN REPUBLIC

Saturday
May 9, 1992 DMACC Group leaves Des Moines International Airport for Moscow

Sunday
May 10 Arrive in Moscow - 4:50 p.m., Flight #768 TWA from JFK Airport. Leave for Stavropol on chartered plane. Dinner, rest, unpack in Stavropol. Exact in country flight departure time still being arranged and not yet determined.

Monday
May 11 Rest and relax - Welcome dinner
Optional tours in Stavropol

Tuesday
May 12

10:00 a.m. Opening ceremonies at the new Stavropol Pedagogical Institute, Center for Education Innovation and Economic Development (all delegation)

11:00-12:00 Dr. Borgen, President, DMACC, meets with Russian Stavropol Region officials and Ministry of Education.

12:00 p.m. Luncheon

2:00-5:00 p.m. Consultation Workshops presented by DMACC group with SSPI resource personnel and interpreters

Consultation Topics

- * Continuing Education
- * Small Business Development
- * Educational Issues and Processes
 - Transfer and Articulation
 - Curriculum Development
- * Agri-Business
- * Community College Administration
- * Career Education - Office Technology Program
- * Basic Skill Center and English as a Second Language
- * Training the Unemployed - Working with Industry

Note:

Consultations to be presented to small groups of educational professionals in Stavropol who are specifically interested in the topics and planning to assist the Center with future training classes and short courses.

7:00 p.m. Dinner

Wednesday
May 13

9:00 to
4:00 p.m. Workshops by DMACC group at various locations
12:00 p.m. Luncheons at workshop locations

Topics

(same as May 12)

9:00-12:00 Dr. Borgen and Board Members Tour Stavropol Region
Industries, Dr. Vladimir Shapavolov, President,
SSPI, Host

Luncheon

1:00 p.m. Dr. Joseph Borgen, President, tours Collective Farm near
Stavropol, Dr. Vladimir Shapavolov, Rector, SSPI, Host

Thursday
May 14

9:00 a.m. Wrap-up Session (all delegation)

11:30 a.m. All workshop groups to meet in one location for
questions and answer session

12:00 p.m. Luncheon

2:00 p.m. Leave for Caucasus Mountains

6:00 p.m. Arrival and Dinner

Friday
May 15

All day in the mountains - tour, hiking, etc.

Saturday
May 16

Dr. Borgen, Mike Clouser, and Susan Clouser leave
for airport at Pyiatigorsk. Areoflat, #1212 at 6:50
p.m.

2:00 p.m. DMACC staff group leaves for Pyiatigorsk

6:30 p.m. Dinner in Pyiatigorsk for group except for
Dr. Borgen, Mike Clouser, Susan Clouser who will spend
Saturday evening and all day Sunday and Sunday evening
in Moscow

Sunday
May 17

Optional Tours in Kieslavosk
Shopping in Pyiatigorsk
Rest and prepare for workshops Monday/Tuesday
Dr. Borgen, Mike Clouser, Susan Clouser tour Moscow

Monday
May 18

8:05 a.m. Dr. Borgen, Susan Clouser, Mike Clouser depart for U.S. TWA departure flight #769 at 8:05 a.m. - Arrive at JFK airport 1:00 p.m., Monday May 18

9:00 a.m.- Workshops presented by DMACC staff May 18 with
4:00 p.m. SSPI faculty assisting

(Topics - same as May 12-13)

12:00 -
1:30 p.m. Luncheon

6:30 p.m. Dinner

Pack and prepare for departure Tuesday evening, May 19, to Moscow

Tuesday
May 19

9:00 a.m. Workshops continue and Introduction to the SSPI Center for Innovative Education and Economic Development - Conducted by SSPI staff and faculty

12:00 p.m. Luncheon

1:30 -

3:00 p.m. Presentation by SSPI staff and officials - New directions in Russian higher education

Evening Group departs on chartered plane for Moscow and spends evening in Moscow

Wednesday
May 20

Moscow - Tour and Shop (all day)
Group will stay at In Tourist Hotel in Moscow

Thursday
May 21

DMACC Group leaves for U.S. JFK airport from Moscow on TWA #769, 8:05 a.m.

John Liepa will leave for Riega. His flight is still being arranged.

Group to arrive in U.S. - Thursday May 21. Arrive JFK 8:05 a.m., May 21.

APPENDIX V

DMACC DELEGATION RESPONSES TO SURVEY QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES IN STAVROPOL

The Steering Committee for this project felt that it would be worthwhile to seek the impressions of all the DMACC employees who travelled to Stavropol in May of 1992. Carroll Bennett and Burgess Shriver generated a 10-question survey to attract responses 27 years after the trip. The responses appear below in the order that they were received.

Survey for DMACC Participants in the SSPI Exchange

In 1992, you were a key member of our DMACC team that flew to Stavropol, Russia to visit the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute (SSPI). Our committee is requesting that you look back to that bygone era and recall your thoughts and reflections of our exchange. Please take a moment to select three or four of the topics listed below and give us your impressions. Of course, we would be happy if you prefer to answer more of the questions. We would like the survey returned by May 17 if possible. These comments will become part of the Pioneers History of DMACC. If you wish that your comments remain anonymous, please so note when you transmit them.

- What were your top five memories and recollections from the visit to SSPI?
- What was your initial reaction to the differences between DMACC and SSPI?
- What were the biggest differences between Russia and the U.S.?
- What were your most pleasant and rewarding memories of the SSPI exchange?
- Which Russian SSPI Committee Members are most memorable to you? Why?
- Comment on the contrast in values, educational programming, support services, resources, dress, customs, priorities, and daily lives for Americans and Russians.
- What activities and experiences from the SSPI exchange do you most vividly recall? Why?
- What about the visit to Stavropol disappointed you?
- In what ways did the SSPI experience change your life?
- What memories stand out about the SSPI visitors when they made trips to DMACC?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Please return your survey responses to: Burgess Shriver, 244 Todd Cir, Ames, IA 50014 or, even better, email them to me at bhshriver@gmail.com to facilitate transfer to the larger document.

Thanks.

Burgess Shriver

Carroll Bennett's responses

1. What were your top five memories and recollections from the visit to SSPI?

a. The Moscow Airport where our plane landed: our group's luggage was not on the plane. As chair of the group, I asked Boris to go with me and translate my discussion with the airport director about the situation. This was not the major Moscow airport and was a rather dreary, small place. He discovered that the luggage was still in Brussels, our previous point of departure, and there was no certainty when it would arrive--it might be one or more days. When I asked if the airport director would call to get specifics, he informed me that the airport had only one phone line and that the line was usually busy. After consulting with Boris, I made the decision that our group would fly to Stavropol as planned and hope that the luggage would arrive the next day--it took two days. Many of us had dressed informally for the flight and our "good" clothes were in the luggage. One of our Russian hosts arranged for me to borrow a shirt from her husband.

b. Boris Zhogin and the administrators and faculty at SSPI were so kind and helpful when several of them met us at the airport in Moscow. They were helpful in getting us on a smaller aircraft that usually served the military. It had no luggage storage area, so we placed carry-ons under the seat and stashed other baggage throughout the cabin. This would have presented a safety problem had the plane experienced turbulence, but that didn't happen. There were also several backup pilots in uniform who were seated in the passenger area—they slept most of the time during our three-hour flight to Stavropol. We were welcomed warmly at the airport and went immediately to the Intourist Hotel where our group had reservations. The rooms were basic but comfortable. We all slept well that first night after the long flights.

c. The welcome at SSPI the morning after our arrival. We were greeted warmly at the college and connected with each of the SSPI employees who had been our guests the previous fall at DMACC. It was so special to meet them in "their" setting and to talk about their memories of the college and people they had met at DMACC. Our group then went to the college auditorium that was filled with SSPI staff, some students, parents, and others from the community. I was asked to represent our group. I expressed our thanks to faculty and their families (spouses, children, and others) for their welcome and hospitality. (It was the first time I had used a translator—and it was helpful to be able to speak two sentences, hear his translation in Russian, and be thinking about my next comment. Most of the people in the assembly had never seen "an American." Our group was seated on the stage, looking out at the audience.

d. The tour of the campus. After the assembly our group enjoyed a hosted tour of the campus. It was amazing how "basic" it was compared to DMACC Ankeny Campus. There were two major building—the original building and a new addition. The classrooms were equipped with older furniture, while the science labs had equipment that would have been in use in the US thirty years ago. The students were curious about us, and we answered their questions. One of the major surprises was the lavatories—they were not well kept and sanitary. In fact, the most well-kept facility was a part of the office of the college president.

2. What was your initial reaction to the stark differences between DMACC and SSPI?

It was amazing to compare the differences between the two institutions. One of the first suggestions I had for Boris was that they start night classes to accommodate people who worked during the day. His answer was a surprise—we have a shortage of light bulbs.

Another difference was the characteristics of the students. While DMACC serves students of ages from 13 to 85 (some of them part time), SSPI enrolled only full-time students. The age range appeared to be 18-25—most were full-time students.

Another difference was the physical facilities—DMACC was mostly new or recent construction, while SSPI buildings were older and not maintained as well.

Student organizations did not appear to exist.

There were many part-time faculty members at DMACC. SSPI appeared to employ mostly full-time faculty and staff.

3. What were the biggest differences between Russia and the US?

(Note these comments are based on the culture at the time of our visit and many of the facts would be different today in 2019)

Russia states it is a democracy because officials are elected, but the power of the president is much greater than in the US—even though there are regular elections for this office and the people who serve in the legislature.

The economies of the US and Russia (at that time) were very different. The Russians had a shortage of everything most citizens used daily, including many food items. Americans have many choices. This was obvious when I asked one of the SSPI faculty who visited DMACC what they typically would have for dinner at home. Her response was, “We have what is available that day in the market.”

A high percentage of Americans own automobiles—in Russia there was virtually no auto ownership for people who lived in cities unless you were a government official. The public transportation was mostly in very old vehicles or very small autos. Most trucks that were used to transport consumer goods were military vehicles

Incomes and the standard of daily living were quite different. It was not unusual for faculty and administrators to go several months without compensation.

Alcohol consumption appeared to be very high compared with the US. Several DMACC people visited agricultural locations and noted that the tour guides and others were drinking at work in the mornings—after our dinners with the Russians, vodka was consumed in high quantities. I

was advised by Boris after making remarks at a dinner to toast and to drink the vodka—but after that to be sure to drink water if a toast was offered. He said it would be impossible for me to keep up with their level of consumption

It appeared that many Russians were under-employed and that technology at that time was minimal. For example, in a retail store, at least four and perhaps five workers would be involved when you made a purchase: one to show you the item, another to explain it to you, and third to take the item to the cashier and a fourth to receive your money. Many times, a fifth person would place it in a bag or wrap it for you.

4. What were your most pleasant and rewarding memories of the SSPI exchange?

Hospitality—everyone we met, especially at the college, went out of their way to be helpful, and all were polite. Several were fluent in English, while others knew some words. Others would use a translator to express their interest in you and welcome you to SSPI.

Social Events—it seemed we had a lunch or dinner scheduled each day. The food was different, but tasty in general. Vodka was always available. The “table talk” at these events was interesting since Russians would answer questions about their work and home life as well as their perceptions of Americans.

Public Meetings—we met with several different groups and the questions about the US and our daily activities at work and at home were always discussed.

Tours—we were fortunate to visit several locations in Russia including a spa and a mountain. The roads were adequate but not always in good repair and there were frequent “security stops” along the highways. It was obvious that many Russians were seeing Americans for the first time, so we were “noticed.”

Adaptability—we were surprised at the ability of our hosts to innovate and to be creative when they did not have support items for instruction (computers, lab equipment, etc.) Most were used to living their lives with limited possessions and technical support. It would have been difficult for Americans to adjust to this.

Housing—we were surprised that few people lived in individual houses—most were in apartments or housing units built by the government. A few had inherited houses from ancestors, but this was rare. The format for the housing units was similar and usually included a main room, kitchen, bathroom and bedroom. Many had a porch on the back of the unit that had been converted into another room. Few of us visited the home of a Russian host. I was fortunate to have dinner in the apartment of the college president—a unit that was larger and nicely furnished.

Special Events—We were given tours and access to the communities including Saturday farmer’s markets, spas, dinners, tours of unique buildings, facilities and parks.

6. What changes occurred at DMACC as a result of the exchange? Changes at SSPI?

I can't recall a major change that was directly related to any DMACC operation or practice as a result of our visit. However, several faculty and staff did return visits to Stavropol after returning to the US. Often they would take items that were impossible for the Russians to obtain (our group took a computer and several more were delivered to SSPI after our visit by DMACC staff.)

The major change that occurred as a result of the visit was simply the awareness and knowledge of how a college in another culture differed from what was considered "normal" at DMACC. It was also apparent that the US standard of living was substantially above what we observed in Russia. Every member of our group also gained an appreciation for what we had available to us in the US.

7. Comment on the contrast in values, educational programming, support services, resources, dress, customs, priorities, and daily lives for Americans and Russians.

It is difficult to compare values because of the cultural differences. The Russians love and concern about families was similar to that in the US, but it appeared that grandparents played a larger role since in most Russian families both parents worked outside the home.

Religious activities occurred in Russian but were not supported as much as in the US because of the focus on the state—there were rumors that many religious activities occurred in the privacy of homes because of fear of retribution.

There appeared to be limited support services compared to the US—and families were self-sufficient out of necessity. Medical care was limited, and variety of prescription drugs was less than in the US as was anything related to health technology and equipment.

We did not visit a K-12 school, so it is difficult to compare this with the US.

Dress at the colleges appeared to be basic. In preparing the trip, my wife Mary Jo and I went shopping and purchased several items that we had been told were not available in Russia at that time. This included perfume. I took a "bag" for each of the 12 Russians who had visited DMACC and filled them with items I carried in a special and very large suitcase. I also distributed candy, chewing gum, and miscellaneous items to faculty and students who attended lectures I gave. I was surprised one morning when a female faculty member who was probably in her late 40's or early 50's stopped me in the hallway to thank me for a small container of perfume I'd given to her after a lecture. She was well dressed and smiling. She told me that this was the first day in years that she "felt like a woman" because of the perfume. She also told me that it was common for female friends to share clothing to provide some variety in their daily dress. Clothing was expensive in Russia.

I was also surprised one day after a lecture that a student stopped me and just stood and smiled. He spoke some English and wanted me to see that he was “chewing gum” that I had given the group members at a lecture the previous day. He told me that gum was not available at that time in Russia and that he thoroughly enjoyed it and would ration it.

Values appeared to be quite different – based on economic and political contrasts. However, each of our Russian friends had a very strong love of their family and took great pride in their children. It was also very important to them that their children get all the education possible to ensure they would have a good life economically. Several Russians asked if there was any way Mary Jo and I could host their children so they could attend college in the United States.

It was difficult to find a job that paid well by American standards. State control of everything also made it impossible to press for a pay increase, and strikes were forbidden. Many people were under-employed based on their intelligence and ability. Outstanding students were usually identified and given financial support to get college educations in occupations that would benefit the country.

Services were scarce in Russia at that time. For example, Boris told us about getting his only suit cleaned at a shop. During the process, a hole was burned in the suit jacket, and it could not be repaired.

8. What activities and experiences from the SSPI exchange do you most vividly recall? Why?

Visiting with students and professors was very rewarding as we both asked questions of each other and learned about the differences in our cultures and opportunities.

Dinners and banquets were special since we experienced Russian foods and could visit and interact easily at the events. The presentations by our Russian hosts were also interesting.

Tours of the college and community were fascinating and let us interact with “locals.”

Visiting historic sites, tourist areas, the countryside, the mountains, and small towns, as well as dinner at the President’s apartment were all so informative.

I enjoyed visiting outdoor markets early in the morning to see what was available to the average Russian. It was also amazing to see very old cars owned by farmers who would park, open the trunk, and display little pigs that were for sale.

It was also a great opportunity to meet with the politician who was responsible for the Krai— region. This position was formerly held by Premier Mikhail Gorbachev, whose wife had been a faculty member at SSPI. John Crystal, who was a prominent Iowa banker and member of the Garst family who had long term relationships with Russians, was a member of our tour group. The two of us met with this local political leader. His office was much as one sees in Russian

movies of that era: large room, red carpet, long walk to the desk of the official (he had four telephones on his desk since the Russians had not adopted “button” phones that could access separate lines). We visited with the assistance of an interpreter. He told us about their challenges and felt they were making progress in providing more food and services to the population. It was especially interesting when John Crystal told him that he knew that Premier Mikhail Gorbachev would be supporting what they were doing. He looked surprised and said, “Do you know him?” John said yes and that he had visited with him a week earlier. Our host was amazed.

9. What about the visit to Stavropol disappointed you?

The challenges that the average Russian faced to maintain a family with their incomes and the limited health, nutrition, transportation, and other basic services that Americans take for granted as a part of our daily life.

10. In what ways did you the SSPI experience change your life?

The greatest awakening was realizing that what we take for granted as being available in our daily lives was considered a luxury by the typical Russian. This was also true of educational opportunities for our children, extensive travel (in country and foreign), suitable housing, political stability, choices of food items and clothing, private ownership of automobiles and other transportation vehicles, and political freedom. The visit made me very appreciative of things I’d always taken for granted as an American citizen.

Ann Schodde’s responses

Top five reactions to the program: 1991:

- The overall condition of the city of Stavropol and the public institutions as well as apartments and living conditions were stark and sad. Citizens were in need of everything
- The genuine friendliness of everyone we met and worked with. At that time, we were welcomed with genuine interest, and people were open to our suggestions and ideas which is much less the case today. We were all eager to learn about and from one another.
- The water and sanitary conditions were disconcerting
- The countryside was beautiful, and fields of sunflowers were amazing

Reaction to the difference between institutions The two institutions were starkly different in all aspects: administration, curriculum, teaching methods, educational materials, books, supplies, use of technology etc.

Biggest differences between US and Russia in 1991 History, government structure and policy, years under extreme communist government at all levels, intolerance for individual freedoms, poor living standards for vast numbers of the population throughout the country: backward healthcare, poor basic municipal services, most everything related to daily life.

Pleasant and rewarding memories Russian art and culture, formation of lifelong friendships, memorable trips to the mountains, ski resorts and health resorts, piano concert, fields of sunflowers, Russian dancing and music

Changes at DMACC and SSPI I left DMACC too soon after the exchange ended to really comment here but others will have insight

Values Instructional methods were starkly different. In Russia, it was primarily all lecture and recitation. Educational services were non-existent since what you studied would automatically determine your career, in this case, teaching or some form of career in education. Dress and overall customs were far more formal, and also beautiful. Relationships were more formal until a friendship was developed over time. Overall, daily life was hard, life expectancy and healthcare much shorter, and healthcare backward. I felt as if I were in 1920.

Valued lessons Overall... in spite of the differences in language, culture, and way of life, I realized we all had the same dreams for a better future for our children, loved laughter, and desperately wanted peace between our countries so that the US and Russia could put the past behind and move forward as partners in the 21st century. I am sad to say that 28 years later, stark political and historical differences have prevented that from happening, at least for now.

Vivid recollections The trip to the top of Mt. Elbrus and the visit to the Bolshoi ballet in Moscow.

Stavropol Nothing disappointed me. It was just an outstanding learning experience which I shall never forget.

Changes in me The connections and friendships I formed, led to additional trips to Stavropol and then Ukraine over a period of the next 10-12 years. These experiences were invaluable to my understanding of communism, the history of the region of the former Soviet Union, and the understandable ongoing struggle between the United States and that part of the world that continues today.

Frank Trumpy

Q1.

- a. Flying on the Yak 40 (doors opening during take-off and the rain-on-landing phenomena).
- b. The lack of and condition of public restrooms.
- c. The lack of bright colors and lighting.
- d. The friendliness and eagerness of people to meet us and learn about our lives and work in the US.
- e. The polite and well-dressed students who reminded me of education in the US 80 or 100 years ago.

Q2.

a. I was amazed that we had considered them the “enemy.” I came to realize that what we were seeing in Stavropol was the result of a government that had spent most of its money on the military and not on social or public enterprises.

Q3.

a. All of our Russian colleagues lived in apartments that would be considered rather small by US standards. The maintenance of the public areas in these apartment buildings was essentially nonexistent. On the other hand, the interiors of the apartments were neat, well-furnished and clean.

b. Elevators in all buildings were small and wouldn’t operate if more than four people tried to get on.

c. The food distribution and marketing system was completely different than in the US. There were no supermarkets. There was an open-air market with many independent vendors selling things they had made, grown or otherwise acquired.

Q4.

a. The dinners in the private homes were always very pleasant. Everyone was more relaxed and people were able to have frank, open conversations about ideas and issues.

b. I also very much enjoyed our bus trip to Mount Elbrus. It gave us a chance to see the countryside and some of the small villages in Stavropol Krai. The trip up the mountain on the cable car was also an edifying experience.

c. Finally, and most importantly, was how hard our hosts worked to keep us comfortable, well-fed and on schedule.

Q5.

a. From the Russian side of the collaboration, Boris Zhogin was the most influential participant. He was the leading proponent from SSPI for reform of their system. He had clearly embraced our system of granting credit and maintaining independent control of curriculum development. All of this was augmented by his excellent command of the English language. Prior to his work with our educational exchange, Boris had spent a year teaching English in Scotland. Boris’ warm and affable personality made him a favorite of those on the DMACC side. I think that some of his colleagues who followed him to DMACC were not so sold on our system, but they were eager to come to the U.S. and see what it was like. Not putting all his eggs in one basket, Boris expanded his connections in Iowa to include Iowa State University and Iowa Sister States.

b. Well, many names come to mind. At the top of the list would be Boris Zhogin, Natalya Moskovskaya, Natalya Lomteva and Tantyana Pantyukina. This would partly be because they had excellent English language skills and all three ladies, in particular, served as interpreters for me from time to time. They were also very enthusiastic about our educational system and eager to incorporate some new ideas into their system.

c. I would also have to mention Slava Strugov and Valery Shapovalov. Slava was a physicist like me and had had an interesting career in the Russian nuclear industry. I had a number of meals

with Slava and his wife, Tatyana. Slava also stayed with us here in Ames during one his visits to Iowa. Valery had a great sense of humor and was often the life of the party.

Q6.

a. I can't really say that I think DMACC changed much as a result of this exchange. I would say that those of us who went to SSPI acquired a greater appreciation for DMACC's facilities.

b. I think the exchange led to a debate at SSPI about whether it would adopt any of the practices on governance and curricular development that we were presenting to them. Everything at SSPI was top down, and much of the top was with the central government in Moscow. In the long run, it appears that the group that wanted to maintain the status quo won the debate.

Q7.

a. I thought the students were more disciplined than our students. They were extremely polite, respectful, and well-dressed. I had lunch one day in the student canteen. All the tables were occupied. My host walked over to a table full of students, leaned over, and softly said a few words. All the students immediately got up and vacated the table. Frankly, I was a bit embarrassed by this, but it was simply expected of their students, and there was no hesitation on their part. By the way, lunch consisted of chicken soup (broth, actually, no chicken) and a piece of bread with cheese melted on it. There were no snack items in cellophane packages, candy bars, soft drinks, or other junk food available.

b. The curricular structure at SSPI appeared quite rigid and traditional. As I mentioned before, it reminded me of US education in the 1950's and earlier. I thought support services and material resources were very limited. Paper, for example, was never wasted. When our Russian colleagues took notes, every square centimeter of the paper was used.

c. The Russians I saw at SSPI and on the streets were generally well-dressed. One sees a lot more people in uniforms, especially the military. Russians are not accustomed to greeting strangers when out in the public, especially foreigners. No doubt, from the clothes we wore, our shoes and everything else made us stand out like little green people from Mars.

Q8. I think this is essentially the same question as #1.

Q9.

a. I suppose there is disappointment that all the efforts by both sides did not result in much, if any, change at SSPI. To some extent this is probably due to the fact that the "democratic euphoria" that existed shortly after the fall of the Soviet Union did not persist. In fact, Russia seems to have regressed to an atmosphere more like that prevailing during the Soviet years.

b. These exchanges were funded by a federal grant. Once the grant ended, neither institution provided ongoing funds to maintain the relationship. Had some funds been provided institutionally, the final outcomes might have been more positive and longer-lasting.

Q10.

- a. For one thing, it kept me very busy for nearly 10 years. The first two trips led to seven more in Russia, China and Tanzania.
- b. I have many great memories and still count folks in all three countries as my friends. Having seen a number of cultures and had to deal with them in a practical way has very much broadened my understanding of those issues.

Q11.

- a. During the Russian's first visit to Iowa, I was teamed up with Slava Strugov. Slava smoked, and I had to help him find cigarettes. I took him to Cub Food, and we had to wander around to figure out where the cigarettes were. Toward the end of their stay, Slava told me that he thought that I had taken him to Cub Food because it was a "show store" used to impress foreigners. However, he told me that he now knew that all the grocery stores were like the Cub Food store. I think he was totally amazed.
- b. I had the occasion to drive Russian guests on the Interstate system. An hour or two into the trip, I would suggest pulling over at a rest area. After that stop, our guests would insist on stopping at the next couple of stops. I am sure they thought the first stop was a "show facility" to impress foreigners. Eventually, they figured out that all the rest areas were clean and well-maintained. I recall one visitor marveling that toilet paper was supplied. He wondered why people didn't steal it.

John Liepa

Question #5

1. Dr. Boris Zhogin: visionary, courageous, a "Don Quixote," a genuine, honest human being.
2. Anatoly Tartyshev: a "survivor," a good guy, willing to adapt to any situation; he genuinely wanted this exchange and its ideas regarding higher education to succeed, but he was a professional facilitator, not a decision-maker.
3. Dr. Valery Shapovalov: As a higher-level education official, he was in a position to make some change, but ultimately, no matter how good one's intentions were, all died with the murderous dictator Putin.

Question #10

I think that we all knew that on a personal level that the hopes and dreams of our colleagues/friends in Stavropol weren't that different than our own. Although 70 years of dictatorial Communist domination and a drawn-out Cold War of fear-mongering had stereotyped us as "good guys" and the Russians as the "evil Empire, I think our visits showed us that our common bonds as individuals and families transcend any ideological and political differences our governments might have. My four visits to Stavropol didn't change my life on an ideological or academic level: it opened my eyes to how difficult it is to reverse 70 years of authoritarian dictatorship, even if lots of reform-minded Russian educators are willing to reach

out and explore other educational career paths and possibilities. On a personal level, I'm convinced that regardless of political systems or governmental ideologies, there are reform-minded, progressive educators who share universal values and visions that transcend restrictive governments. In the short-term, I'm not optimistic for Russia.

Question #11

I had Boris and Natalya Moskovskaya visit two of my classrooms on their visit, and it was eye-opening and astonishing how little DMACC students knew about Russia, but somewhat encouraging because the quality of the questions was quite good, and my students seemed genuinely interested in learning more. As an almost life-long educator, I feel that maybe there is hope.

Burgess Shriver

What were your top five memories and recollections from the visit to SSPI?

- A) The Russian participants from SSPI were so very warm and generous. They really enjoyed our time together. We all did.
- B) The government buildings in the cities we visited looked very impressive from the outside: large, imposing structures. On the inside, they often were poorly heated by US standards and lacked enough working light bulbs, maintenance, and basic supplies to function efficiently.
- C) The Russian educators who attended our seminars were eager to absorb as much from us as possible. They often wore winter overcoats in our sessions because they were prepared for low temperatures in the SSPI buildings.
- D) People in very rural areas were totally lacking in resources. The women there had no paid jobs, so they made dolls, sweaters, and handicrafts to sell to outsiders when the opportunity arose. They set up tables at locations where our bus would stop to be ready for us to spend any amount. I had a bunch of new DMACC pencils and scratch pads with me, which I freely passed out to these ladies, and their eyes lit up like Christmas trees.
- E) I noticed when we toured a classroom in physical education that the class had a professional pianist to provide live music for tumbling and floor exercises. This would be unheard of in the U.S.
- F) Near our Intourist Hotel in Stavropol was an open-air market with a variety of goods available. I noticed a butcher who had brought in a day's supply of meat for sale. The meat was unrefrigerated and placed on a stone slab. He carefully trimmed off the fat. The poor consumers bought the fat for their meal while the wealthier citizens could afford the meat.

While at the market, I struck up a conversation with a flower vendor. Early each morning he would load his fresh-cut flowers on a commercial jet in a nearby city and fly to Stavropol. I purchased a beautiful bouquet of flowers for about \$3 U.S. And the vendor still made a profit. The reason: the only commercial airline, Aeroflot, was heavily subsidized by the State and

airfares were very low for citizens. Also, labor was cheap, and daily earnings were very meager in retail.

G) This is not meant as a criticism, but as a humorous anecdote from the beginning of our official exchange. We had made a long, five-legged trip to fly from Des Moines to Stavropol. As others have mentioned, our luggage did not arrive, and we were still suffering 8 hours of jet lag with nothing to wear but our casual clothes. We were told that morning at the hotel that if we were not on the agenda for the opening ceremonies with Russian participants that we could just sit on stage and relax. I was not on the printed agenda, so I intended to enjoy observing others, particularly our Russian associates. There were several hundred Russian educators present in the audience from many colleges. One of our team leaders walked over to me while on stage and told me that because the luggage had not arrived, that the American flag that I was going to present from the podium to the SSPI Rector did not arrive either. That was news to me. But then I was told that I would still need to get up and give "my" welcome speech. That was also news to me. I stated that I had no welcome speech to give and was unprepared. The next question for me was, "Didn't anyone tell you about this?" No, not a whiff. Then I was told to get up there when my name was called and give a welcome address anyway. I did my best. I never asked who was supposed to inform me of these events, and I still don't know.

What was your initial reaction to the differences between DMACC and SSPI?

DMACC, and the entire American community college system, has much flexibility in who they serve. The U.S. criticism is sometimes that community college missions are too broad and that we try to have something for everyone. On the other hand, SSPI is part of a very top-down government structure in which curricula is highly defined and consistent throughout the country. The SSPI structure was geared to serve only students fresh out of high school with the appropriate credentials to move forward. SSPI did not have an admission system for 40-year-olds who just decided to quit a job and go to college. Night classes and part-time students were not part of the plan. That said, there was little doubt about the quality of the instruction in the Russian system. It was excellent.

What were the biggest differences between Russia and the U.S.?

The agricultural system. In Russia, the farms had been collectives for decades. A hundred people might work on a Russian farm that would be managed by one family in the U.S. Also, the system for getting food from farm to market was well below our standards. There was no interstate road system in southern Russia. Much (even most) food was wasted due to spoilage since the highway systems were not good for high speed travel. We saw free roaming livestock near the road and were told that if our bus driver were to hit a farm animal, he would be expected to stop and pay for the animal on the spot.

Which Russian SSPI committee members are most memorable to you? Why?

Natalya Moskovskaya, Tatyana Pantyukina, and Tatyana Lomteva were absolutely indispensable as interpreters. They were seemingly on duty 24-hours a day. Lilly Dubovoya was not an official part of the exchange, but she facilitated and translated while we were in Stavropol, and travelled with us.

Boris Zhogin is a very special person in every way. Without him, this exchange could not have occurred. He could do it all and understood both cultures and both languages.

What activities and experiences from the SSPI exchange do you most vividly recall? Why?

I very much enjoyed our travels around to other locations. We visited the Caucasus Mountains, Pyiatigorsk, Kieslavosk, and Moscow. We were able to attend the Bolshoi Ballet, visit Red Square, and see Lenin's tomb and Moscow State University (from the outside).

In what ways did the SSPI experience change your life?

The exchange strengthened my belief in the American community college system. We can make a difference in the lives of students who want to make career changes in their 30s, 40s, and 50s. The State-run Russian educational system was very conventional, admitting only students who had followed a college-prep high school curriculum and matriculated directly to college.

I really came to appreciate the resources available for all aspects of life in the U.S. We visited the new building that was under construction at SSPI. It was taking years longer to complete than an equivalent building in the U.S. One worker I watched needed to pass an insulated electrical wire through a solid concrete wall from one room to the next. This worker did not have access to a masonry bit that would have been common in the U.S., so he used a heavy hammer and a cold chisel to make the needed hole. The result was a very ugly and asymmetrical hole for the wire. It would take him 10 or 20 times longer than if he had the correct bit in the first place.

What memories stand out about the SSPI visitors when they made trips to DMAACC?

When SSPI participants visited our supermarkets, department stores, and automobile sales lots, they were astounded at the variety, the expanse, the quality, and the choices available.

Ewa Pratt

1. Top five memories:
 - a. Being hosted at the apartments of our Russian friends – wonderful hospitality and great discussions.

- b. Very warm and appreciative reception by the seminar participants.
 - c. Trips to Mount Elbrus, Pyatagorsk, and Kislavodsk.
 - d. Getting to know my wonderful DMACC colleagues (teachers and administrators) and interacting with them outside the college walls.
 - e. Watching the ballet performance of “Giselle” at the Bolshoy Theater.
2. I was impressed by the high quality of their education in spite of very limited resources available to them.
3. The biggest differences were in the standard of living – the communist system failed the middle class. Our hosts complained about the lack of goods, corruption, and very difficult everyday life.
4. Developing relationships and friendships.
5. There were many: Tanya Pantukina, Boris Zhogin, Tatiana Lomteva, Anatoly Tartishev, Victor Hitrov, Nikolai Koroshko, Eugeni Ponomarev, Svetlana, Valery, Vitaly, Alexey... they all tried very hard to make our trip very memorable.
6. I think that, as educators, we shared a lot of the same values trying to meet the goals of our students the best we could. Their resources were very limited, and they faced many challenges both in programming and educational services in their English as a Foreign Language Department. The seminar participants were very interested in methods and techniques we used at DMACC in our ESL Department. When the seminar was over, they kept asking me more questions, and some of them even followed me to the hotel where we continued the discussion.
7. I recall vividly:
- a. SSPI Campus Tour – it was very informative.
 - b. The wonderful audience at the seminar and my facilitator – Svetlana.
 - c. My hosts: Nikolai Koroshko and his wife – they received me very warmly.
 - d. Welcome dinner in Stavropol and SSPI gift to DMACC – a beautiful oil painting of the mountains. It was a great evening.
 - e. Frank in his burka.
 - f. Climbing Mount Ring near Pyatigorsk.
 - g. Holding on to Frank when the plane door flew open during the takeoff of the flight from Moscow to Stavropol and hoping I would not be sucked out of the plane.

The visit was great. However, I was hoping that our visit would eventually lead to an establishment of a community college in Stavropol – this did not happen.

8. It has enriched me as an educator and as a person.
 9. SSPI visitors were always very gracious, eager to learn and develop friendships.
-

Joe A. Robbins

1. What were your top five memories and recollections from the visit to SSPI?

a. For some reason, Kim Linduska and I had decided that it would be a good idea to exchange some of our US Dollars for Rubles. We each gave one of our SSPI hosts \$100. When they brought us the Rubles, they carried a briefcase that was stuffed full. It reminded me of a ransom exchange in some kidnapping movie. Later in an outdoor market, I had to hand over a stack of Rubles about 8 inches high to purchase 2 bananas.

b. The first day we were in Russia, there was a type of “farmers market” across the street from our hotel. In walking around, I noticed a lady selling whole chickens that had been plucked and were ready for cooking. They were displayed on an old dirty, greasy piece of lumber out in the hot sun. After seeing that, I had trouble eating any of the food. I just couldn’t eat it. I think I lived on cucumbers. A lot of that had to do with the fact that I couldn’t tell what a lot of it was. I still remember getting on the airplane to fly home, and although many people make fun of “airplane food,” to this day, that was the best meal I’ve ever had.

c. Very few people owned cars, and those who did were quite proud of the fact. I never saw a gas station, and I don’t recall ever stopping at one. I just remember that those who had cars carried filled gas cans in the trunk if they were going to be traveling much of a distance. If a car had a mechanical problem, the owner would pull it over to the curb and work on it right there. If they didn’t get it fixed, it would sit there all night, and the next day they would be back to work on it again. Sometimes this would go on for several days. I always wondered what these people did for a living that allowed them to not go to work so they could fix their car.

d. When we were in the hotel in Stavropol, I could look out my window and see a public park of some type. There were some smooth stone steps up the side of a hill that led to a statue of some sorts. Each step was probably 30 to 40 feet wide and there had to be a hundred or more of them. Every morning when I got up, there was a short heavy woman in her 70’s or 80’s with an old-fashioned straw broom sweeping those steps. She was always dressed in a plain house dress, sweater, and something wrapped around the top of her head. She would start at the top sweeping across one step at a time and then descend to the next step and sweep it. I never saw her get all the way to the bottom because we always left and were gone for the day. But the next morning when I’d get up and open the curtains, there she was.

2. What was your initial reaction to the differences between DMACC and SSPI?

a. The facilities were out of the 40’s or 50’s. They were very dark and gloomy, dusty and musty. Not a very pleasant environment for learning. The furnishings and the equipment definitely indicated a lack of resources. Plus, our visits and attendance at events in these facilities were very much controlled. What we were allowed to see and experience was limited. I remember being encouraged to wait until we returned to the hotel to use the restroom. I don’t think they wanted me to see the restrooms in those facilities, although I think I knew where they were because I believed I could smell them. The buildings were not very welcoming, and I know that based on our facilities, the students had no idea what it could be like.

b. One day, the DMACC team was split up and we went to different locations. At the end of the day, I was to wait out front of the building for a van to pick me up. As I walked out the front door with faculty, administrators, and students, I stopped to wait, but they all kept walking, going in a hundred different directions. It seemed strange until someone explained to me that they were walking home. Without cars, there were no parking lots and everyone had things to do and only so much time to do it. It honestly looked like a stampede. Not only were they walking wherever, they were all in a hurry.

3. What were the biggest differences between Russia and the U.S.?

a. I remember the exact words I thought when observing the differences between Russia and the U.S., "cruel hoax." I grew up during the cold war and was taught to believe that Russia was a super-power comparable to the U.S. and a country to be feared because of their military and economic strength. My observation was that the country, compared to home, was crap. The people who lived there did not have the opportunities or choices that we had. When I envisioned what a country could be and provide for its people, there was no comparison. The infrastructure was crumbling and the facilities for residents were few and far between. It seemed to me that the economic wealth of the country was directed toward a handful of residents who were politically popular and the country's military strength. Meanwhile the average citizen was left behind and lived a life similar to those in poverty in our country. The way the people lived did not give me an image of a mighty nation. Around the world there are various types of government. As a result of observing the lifestyle of the Russian people, I tend to judge those systems based on the standard of living enjoyed by the average citizen. Russia rates pretty low.

b. I remember that unlike America, the government supplied hot water. The buildings there had two water sources, hot and cold. This seemed very inefficient to me and proved to be just that. I would guess that when it came to having hot water in the morning to shower, we batted about 50%.

c. Similar to the educational facilities, the entire country was dark and drab and most of the facilities were aging. I noticed very little, if any, new construction. Businesses had no signage and there was little advertising. Unless you were familiar with the area, you had no idea what was behind the door. It was as if it were a secret, and if you didn't know about it, you wouldn't be bothering them.

d. The lifestyle of our counterparts was very much different than ours. There was no private housing except for those politically favored and their residences were secluded and protected. Most citizens live in apartment buildings, and there seemed to be a very competitive and "underground" system for determining who got to live where. I just felt they were all hustling to get on the good side of someone who could maybe use a little influence to help better their standard of living. Providing citizens with apartment living compared to a private residence, made it hard for me to take Russia seriously as a country.

e. Life was much harder for the Russian citizen. Most families had no form of refrigeration and thus no capacity for storing food. That mean they had to shop (hustle) for meals every day and had to walk to get there. That had to seriously eat into the leisure time that we get to enjoy. In addition, I don't know how they knew when certain commodities might be

available. There weren't stores, as such, where you could stop and get a pound of hamburger, a loaf of bread, and a gallon of milk. That would take three stops and you had to get there when the items were available. There was some sort of sophisticated communication network. One day while taking a short walk, we spotted a small building that several people were entering. We decided to go in and see what was happening. It turned out that they were selling milk, and obtaining some was very competitive. We were treated as if we were trying to compete with them, and the environment became very unfriendly. We immediately left. One night we had dinner at the apartment of a member of the SSPI team. Her husband proudly showed us several old non-working refrigerators that he had collected. His hope was to assemble one that would function, and their standard of living would take a giant leap.

f. One day, we took a bus into the mountains to visit a resort of some sort. I remember traveling in that bus for hours. We passed through several towns/villages where the residents reminded me of the people in Van Gogh's "The Potato Eaters." But never once did we see a rest area, a gas station, a convenience store, a historic site, any sort of commerce, and absolutely no place to stop and get a cold drink or rest. To travel in Russia, you're really in the middle of nowhere.

g. Many of the restaurants we ate in were not places for the general public. Rather than entering the front of an establishment, it seemed we were taken to the back door of some older building and ushered down a long dark hallway. We dined on a common meal with some influential group of one sort or another. These places, too, were very dark and drab. I also got the impression that these were not places where the general public could dine. I saw very little commerce that was designed for the general public.

4. What were your most pleasant and rewarding memories of the SSPI exchange?

5. Which Russian SSPI Committee Members are most memorable to you? Why?

6. Comment on the contrast in values, educational programming, support services, resources, dress, customs, priorities, and daily lives for Americans and Russians.

7. What activities and experiences from the SSPI exchange do you most vividly recall? Why?

I was asked to make a presentation on Business Planning with the idea of giving those in attendance, basics of starting a new business. Under the old regime, it was an opportunity that few of the citizens had or had any knowledge of. Hopefully for some of them, it might be their future. My presentation included the basics of the difference between a service business and selling a product, the types of revenue and expense that needed to be quantified to determine the financial viability of the venture, planning the facilities, equipment and personnel needed to turn the idea into reality and the cost of those assets, sources of personal and public investment for start-up and operating capital, and ideas about determining the target market and how to reach them. When I finished, I had allowed several minutes for questions. Every question was related to how many cars I owned, how big my house was, what appliances I owned, what sort of stores we were allowed to shop in, and several others all related to my personal life and lifestyle. Not one question related to the presentation I had made. Apparently, no one came because of the topic. They came to see the geek (the American in a shirt and tie).

8. What about the visit to Stavropol disappointed you?

a) In a lot of ways, I did not feel safe in many of the positions we were in. DMACC President Joe Borgen knew that we would be required to pay cash for many of the goods and services the team members received. To facilitate this, he made me treasurer, arranged for me to have approximately \$20,000 in cash, and asked me to keep a record of expenditures and to obtain receipts whenever possible. When our plane arrived in Russia, we were ushered into a dark, drab area as a customs inspection of sorts. For certain items we were asked to declare that we were bringing them into the country. I was unsure about declaring the cash I was carrying and asked the advice of several DMACC team members. We agreed that it should be declared and the officials at the airport examined and counted the currency. After everyone was cleared, we were taken to the hotel. When we walked into the hotel, I was one of the first through the door. As I walked toward the check-in counter, a hotel employee came from behind the counter and handed me a bill for our lodging and asked to be paid in advance. Somehow from the airport, word had been received at the hotel about who was carrying the cash. There is no doubt in my mind that I had been adequately described, and the minute I walked through the door, they knew I was the "cash man." It gave the entire environment a mafia, underworld type feel. We were being watched and talked about, and we were unable to understand what was being said. It made me feel very uneasy the entire trip.

b) The underworld atmosphere continued through the entire trip. When the SSPI visitors came to visit DMACC, I volunteered to take them on a shopping excursion. At the various stores we waited on benches, and they went wherever they pleased, looked at whatever they wanted to look at, and purchased whatever they wanted and could afford. No such freedom was allowed our team on our trip to Russia. I can recall only one store where we visited, and that was as a group and after regular hours, so we were the only ones in the store. I remember that we did visit a type of farmer's market. Almost everything we purchased was actually purchased by a member of the SSPI team and then resold to us. My uncle is an architect and asked if I could bring him a book or two about Russian Architecture. I mentioned this to an SSPI team member and asked if I could go to a bookstore. I was later told that if I gave him a certain amount of money, he would (and did) find me a couple of books. Remember when we purchased the painted jewelry boxes, eggs, and nesting dolls? We weren't taken to a store or craftsman to look at them and make purchases. As a team, we had to compile our order, pay for it with College funds, and then the items were delivered to Stan and me. We then had to divide them up and collect from each individual. I just always felt as if we were being exploited. It just seemed to me that everyone was hustling us about and getting a cut somehow. Nothing was as simple as seeing an item, checking the price, and making a purchase. You had to have an SSPI team member make the transaction, so you didn't get ripped off. You had to pay in advance because, of course, they were cash poor. Then the team member would get the item, because they knew somebody who knew somebody who could get us a good deal. Again, I felt that underworld atmosphere.

c) The idea that all our transactions were in cash made me a little uneasy. Many times, I was given inadequate or no documentation. I was surprised how many times the amount changed, or that I was asked, after the fact, to pay some additional amount. It was as if someone suddenly decided, "Just a minute; I should be getting something here," and the price would

suddenly increase by \$100. Remember the time we took a chartered flight. First there was the bartering of the price, next there wasn't enough gasoline in the plane to get to our destination, so we had to purchase more, and then when we got the gasoline, it was more expensive than anticipated. I have forgotten how long we sat in that airplane before we finally took off. All these negotiations were done by the SSPI team member, and we were just expected to pay the amount they had negotiated. I don't know how many times I was told, "I'll get you a receipt" and never saw anything.

9. In what ways did the SSPI experience change your life?

I've thought about the country and the people we met many times. I have always hoped that these people would have the opportunity to develop some type of control over their own lives. Here in America, it's always amazing when you look around at all the small businesses that provide goods and services and a reliable source of income for their employees. And many of these businesses have only a handful of employees. Anyone with the desire and work ethic can start such a business in this country and realize the emotional and economic benefits that come with these activities. Long before I ever worked at DMACC, I met a Russian immigrant who had moved to America and was willing to work hard to achieve the best for his family. He learned the art of watch-making and soon decided to go into business for himself. If you took your watch to virtually any jewelry store in Des Moines for repair, in most instances, Peter would pick your watch up during his rounds, take it home, repair it and then return it to the jewelry store. At the end of the year, he'd receive a pile of 1099's in the mail for the payments he'd received. For several years, I helped him complete his tax return and every year the same conversation would take place. Peter was always afraid that once the Federal government saw how much money he was making, he would be in some sort of trouble. I had to convince him that here in America, the government likes the fact that you make money. As long as you pay your taxes, they are going to encourage that type of activity. It goes to show though, a difference in the perspective. I just felt the Russian people, and the friends we met, deserved better. I would have liked to see them be able to use their skills and knowledge to better benefit themselves and their families.

10. What memories stand out about the SSPI visitors when they made trips to DMACC?

I was not involved in the activities when the SSPI members visited DMACC. I did offer to drive my van and help pick them up at the airport when they arrived. I remember it was night time, and when we headed north, we turned off Fleur Drive into downtown Des Moines. At that time, near that intersection was Stiver's car dealership. We drove by the dealership and hundreds of shiny new and used cars were sitting under the street lights, and they seemed to glow. I looked into my rearview mirror at the Russians sitting in the back seats, and their eyes were as big as half dollars. When we drove through a residential area in Ankeny, they immediately wanted to know how many families lived in each house. I'm not sure they believed me when I said, just one. I also volunteered to take several of them shopping. We went to Valley West Mall. That stop did not last long. They were very frugal and

knowledgeable enough about the U.S. to ask us to take them to WalMart, where they spent the rest of the afternoon.

Anne Schulte

Remembering Russia

Memories

We arrived in Moscow, but our bags did not, leading to a long wait in Customs where there were no “facilities.” Our bags caught up with us a day later.

We seemed most welcome at the hotel in Stavropol. Local people were there to greet us and practice their English. Late night revelry.

SSPI is an old building with a new wing under construction. When we asked when it would be finished, we were told it had been under construction for ten years, so who can say. It looked as if it was going to be very nice.

There seemed to be cranes everywhere, but few seemed to be doing anything.

In Pyatigorsk, known for its healing waters, we went to a place to sample them. There were women working there passing around trays of glasses...but the glasses were used by multiple people.

Some of us took a walk and came upon a beautiful Russian Orthodox Church. We went in to see amazing icons lining the walls. We lit a candle, and a very old woman sang for us in a crystal clear, beautiful voice. We also got a bit lost and were directed toward the hotel by a friendly local.

We were invited to the homes of our hosts for a dinner. The car ride there was memorable because the driver kept turning off the headlights to save wear as car parts were in very short supply. Made for a somewhat scary ride! Replacement wiper blades were in short supply. I saw lots of cars with pieces of garden hose fitted on the wiper mechanism.

One afternoon, I was with one of the host women. We needed to get somewhere, so she just waved down a passing car and paid him to drive us. (Early Uber)

Attending the Bolshoi Ballet. Giselle! It was wonderful.

Russian Vodka...yum

Saw a small herd of goats trimming lawns in one of the cities.

Utility poles made of concrete.

Shall I mention the bathrooms at the universities...uh...maybe not.

For the return flight to Moscow we formed a “baggage brigade” and loaded the plane ourselves.

Joe Harper

I feel that I probably received more from the experience than our Russian counterparts did!

What were your top memories and recollections from the visit to SSPI?

I remember being invited to the home of one of the ladies one evening for supper. She lived in a small apartment in a big apartment building. I remember that there were several burned out light bulbs in the hallway leading to the apartment. There were no new light bulbs to replace them. But I felt very welcomed to be a part of the gathering. She had invited her family and some neighbors who all had similar views and opinions, so the group could be open with our conversation. The room that we were in was small, and I was asked to sit on the couch at the end of the table. Space was so tight that I had to crawl over the arm of the couch to sit down, but it was obvious that they made do with what they had. We were served a good meal, and I enjoyed getting to know the individuals who were there better.

I also remember one of my first impressions of some of the material things that we saw as being poor or of low quality. For example, buildings and construction we saw seemed to display poor workmanship. There was a new building at the school which had new concrete construction, but it was a rough finish that was not troweled down. People often had poor daily living conditions and didn't seem to have the resources to build a better life. We saw one farmer who was just starting out and was gathering machinery for his operation. He had 6 or 7 pieces of old equipment that were small and the kind that we might consider to be junk and not fit to use. But that is what he had to work with. Another way I saw this was at the airport. We sat on the runway for some time in an airplane that had a low tire. Eventually, there was nothing done about it, and we went ahead and took off.

I remember being allowed to visit a production pork farm. It was interesting to see management practices and how they compared to Iowa standards. One thing I observed was a small feeding floor with pigs of all sizes – from about 15 pounds up to 280 or 290 pounds – all in the same pen. That isn't something you would see in Iowa.

What was your initial reaction to the differences between DMACC and SSPI?

I remember thinking that when I presented about how we teach agriculture at DMACC, there seemed to be a reaction of disbelief regarding how much we could do and the resources we had available to do it. I observed physical cues and heard verbal comments wondering how we could do some of the things we were doing. For example, I told them that for one of my classes, I wanted students to visit a beef farm. So, I contacted a cattle producer and arranged a tour. We loaded up the students on a bus and traveled the 15 or 20 miles for the field trip. They could hardly believe I had the latitude and the resources to provide our students with that experience.

What were the biggest differences between Russia and the U.S.?

I sensed that the Russian people we interacted with harbored a general distrust of those around them. They seemed to be cautious about what they said if they weren't sure who was near them, not wanting to say the wrong thing and looking over their shoulder to see who was around. I even felt the lack of trust at our hotel where, on every floor, there was someone sitting at a desk observing where people went and what they did. Another example was a time that we had finished a presentation and we were waiting for our ride back to the hotel. One of the Russian participants was waiting there, too, and wanted to know if he could ride with us back to the same area. Our Russian driver would not allow it as he was not someone the driver knew and didn't know his background.

What were your most pleasant and rewarding memories of the SSPI exchange?

The personal relationships that I was able to develop with specific people were the most rewarding aspect of the exchange. I enjoyed getting the opportunity to visit one-on-one with people, to talk and interact with people from the institute and from the various places we visited. If there were other Russians around, people would be pretty closed-mouthed, but if you were able to talk one-on-one, they would be very friendly.

Another thing I remember that impressed me was that the individuals we met had a genuine interest in learning about life and the educational opportunities that were available in the U.S.

What about the visit to Stavropol disappointed you?

It seemed that we didn't have as much opportunity to interact with individuals directly involved in production agriculture as I would have liked to have had. I had the sense that we were shown the aspects of farming that they wanted us to see. I had to ask specifically to visit a pork production operation. I'm not sure of the reason for that, but I have wondered if it was because we had painted a pretty bright picture of agriculture in Iowa and the operating conditions in Russia didn't necessarily fit with that.

Peggy Cutlip

Memories - so many!

*Boarding the Russian plane in Moscow for our flight to Stavropol and being served beverages from a cooler by the stewardess as frost was covering windows. Didn't know then that Trumpy had checked the tires and kept his concerns to himself.

*Expressions of happiness by Tanya's husband and his co-workers as he tried his new American handcuffs (with a key) on a buddy.

*Crossing the bridge into the State Compound of buildings housing the Russian Government and touring each one by foot.

*Questions asked by my class members as they lingered to hear more of individuals starting or financing a business.

*Visiting a church that had been stripped of all sacraments and objects of worth by members who then stored/hid them. As I recall, they were finding and returning pieces of art as we visited.

Other memories include:

An evening for dinner and dance in a private home; hopping on the back of a beautiful white horse for a trot around the track. Those horses may now be dancing in Vienna; receiving beautiful gifts that we are still enjoying; being served "yogurt" for breakfast that I think had been placed on table the night before; jarring every ounce of my body as I ascended and descended buildings stepping on steps of different thickness following hundreds of years wear; and if I am remembering the right town, the park in Grozny with the statue of Mother Russia with her sons commemorating war.

I appreciated the kindness and acceptance of all people wherever we were. How could I have been disappointed? I listen to today's news programs regarding the activities between our countries and wonder if our friends are as concerned for us as we are for them.

APPENDIX VI

CRITERIA USED FOR SELECTION OF DMACC EMPLOYEES TRAVELING TO RUSSIA

Here were the criteria used for selecting a team of DMACC employees to participate in the DMACC/SSPI Exchanges:

The process of determining which DMACC employees would be invited to participate on the team was delegated by Dr. Borgen to John Liepa and Ann Schodde to make recommendations. These factors were considered in selecting the team members.

Positions—Achieve a balance between administrators, faculty and technical support staff.

Campuses—Have representatives from each of the four DMACC campuses

Gender—There were five females and seven males from DMACC staff on the team.

Role and Specialization—Give consideration to the expertise that SSPI leaders identified as crucial areas for assistance and consulting.

Experience—Provide experienced consultants. Each delegation member had a minimum of ten years employment at the college in their field of specialization.

In addition to DMACC staff members, four other Iowans were a part of the team.

John Crystal—President of Bankers Trust in Des Moines and a member of the Garst family. He had a long history of working with Russians as a consultant in the field of agriculture and finance.

Stan Pshonik—A native of Ukraine who had served in the Russian Military before immigrating to the United States and becoming an executive of Compressor Controls in Des Moines. He served as translator for the team and taught team members some basic Russian phrases.

Mark Pogge—DMACC Media Specialist who went along to Stavropol to photograph all aspects of the trip to Russia and produce dozens of hours of video

Jerry Perkins, a Des Moines Register Agricultural Reporter, participated in a few aspects of the trip to Stavropol. He had made other trips to the regions and offered his expertise to guide the team as necessary.

Dr. Borgen had planned to head the delegation but was forced to remain in Iowa based on his need to be involved in supporting pending legislation by the Iowa Legislature that was crucial to DMACC. He appointed Carroll Bennett to assume his role on the team.

APPENDIX VII

DMACC PRESS RELEASE ON THE RECEIPT OF THE GRANT FROM THE US INFORMATION AGENCY TO ESTABLISH A PARTNERSHIP EXCHANGE WITH STAVROPOL STATE PEDAGOGICAL INSTITUTE IN RUSSIA (September 1991)

(See below)



News Release

Des Moines Area Community College
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE For more information contact:
September 5, 1991 Dan Ivis (515) 965-7029

DMACC ESTABLISHES EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH SOVIET COLLEGE

Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) has received a \$60,010 grant from the United States Information Agency to establish a partnership exchange with a four-year teacher's college in the Stavropol region of the Soviet Union.

The grant enables 12 representatives from the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute (SSPI) to visit DMACC October 18-November 2, 1991. The exchange continues in May, 1991 when DMACC President Dr. Joseph A. Borgen and DMACC History Professor and Project Director John Liepa lead a 16-member delegation of DMACC faculty members and administrators to SSPI.

Coon Rapids native John Chrystal, an authority on Soviet affairs, has agreed to accompany the DMACC delegation in May.

Iowa is a sister state with the Stavropol region of the Soviet Union. In fact, Iowa was the first state in the U.S. to sign a sister state agreement with a state in the Soviet Union.

During an Iowa sister state delegation visit to the Stavropol region in 1988, Liepa made some initial contacts with Soviet education representatives.

Ann Schodde, DMACC Vice President of Development Services, said Chrystal provided helpful advice to DMACC in 1989 which led to the Ankeny-based college establishing connections with the Soviet Embassy.

-more-

For information contact
Dan Ivis, Media Liaison, Institutional Relations, (515) 964-6234

DMACC-SOVIET EXCHANGE

Page 2

The following year, Phil Stanhope from the Iowa Governor's Office traveled to Stavropol with instructions from DMACC officials to see if any colleges there would be interested in establishing an ongoing linkage with DMACC.

The rector of the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute indicated an interest in developing ties with DMACC.

DMACC officials continued to nurture contacts with Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute which led to a three-week visit last October by Dr. Boris G. Zhogin, Deputy Rector of the SSPI. Zhogin was accompanied by a Soviet chef who taught Soviet cuisine to DMACC culinary arts students.

Zhogin received an orientation on the organization, management and design of an American community college during his three weeks of in-depth meetings with officials from all four DMACC campuses--Ankeny, Boone, Carroll and Urban Des Moines.

"Dr. Zhogin saw what this kind of institution could do for people who were unemployed knowing that as the Soviet Union changed its system to a free-market entrepreneurial economy, many Soviet citizens would no longer have the jobs they now have," said Schodde.

Community colleges are not a part of the educational system in the Soviet Union. Zhogin indicated to DMACC officials that Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute would be very interested in restructuring its educational system to expand educational access to adult learners, rural areas and the unemployed, similar to the way programs are offered to Americans by U.S. community colleges.

-more-

DMACC-SOVIET EXCHANGE

Page 3

Officials at the two-year Iowa community college sought to further the relationship by seeking a USIA grant to establish an on-going exchange with the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institute that would assist SSPI in establishing a prototype community college in the Stavropol Region through the relationship with DMACC.

DMACC emphasized its prior international success when applying for the USIA Citizen's Exchange Program Grant conducted out of the USIA Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

DMACC has been involved in a number of successful international activities, including the establishment of a exchange program with Yamanashi Gakuin University in Kofu, Japan beginning in 1986. In addition, DMACC has undertaken a focused study of a foreign country through its "International Year" programs each year beginning in 1985. Faculty, staff and students of DMACC's four campuses concentrated on the history, culture, economy and politics of the Soviet Union in 1989.

The internationalization of DMACC continues with the approval of the USIA grant.

The \$60,010 USIA grant allows 12 Soviets, including Dr. Vladimir A. Shapovalov, Rector of SSPI; Dr. Yuri S. Davydov, Chairman of the Committee for Education and Research, Stavropol Region Council; and Dr. Boris G. Zhogin, Deputy Rector for Research of SSPI, to fly to Des Moines. Some of the Soviet delegation will stay in DMACC's International House on the Ankeny Campus. Others will stay in the homes of DMACC faculty members.

-more-

DMACC-SOVIET EXCHANGE

Page 4

The SSPI officials will spend considerable time with DMACC officials of comparable expertise. Schodde said this will allow experts in technical education, curriculum development, and adult and continuing education² from DMACC to be matched with experts in those areas from SSPI.

The grant will also allow for 16 DMACC representatives to visit SSPI in May and also a two-member DMACC Planning Team to visit Stavropol in November.

Upon completion of the Spring 1992 visit, a formal agreement will be signed by DMACC President Borgen and SSPI Rector Shapovalov committing both institutions to an ongoing exchange program of mutual benefit.

For additional information, contact Project Director John Liepa at (515) 964-6886 or DMACC Vice President of Development Services, Ann Schodde at (515) 964-6570.

-###-

APPENDIX VIII

PHOTOS

A common sight in Russia: Soviet Communist Murals. Notice the hammer and sickle in the center frame.



Below: On our bus trip to Mount Elbrus, we had to cross the border between Stavropol Krai and Karachai-Cherkess Republic. Here the two border officials discuss our purpose.



Mount Elbrus was one of our favorite sights on the trip to Russia. It is a dormant volcano in the Caucasus Mountains in Southern Russia near the border with Georgia. It is the highest mountain in Europe and has two summits, the higher one being 18,510 feet. It is the tenth most prominent peak in the world.



The entrance to SSPI.

The Intourist Hotel in Stavropol where we spent the majority of our stay.



Lily Dubovoya and Frank Trumpy at an open-air market



Below:

Left to Right: Natalya Moskovskaya, Joe Harper, Ewa Pratt, Unidentified, Michail V. Kouzmin (Stavropol City Mayor,) Peter Petrovich Marchenko (Stavropol Krai Governor,) Tom Nelson, Frank Trumpy, Tatyana Pantyukhina , Slava Strugov.

The above were members of a second delegation that met in Stavropol in May, 1993.





Waiting on our luggage at the airport in Russia, which did not come for two more days.



The Intourist Hotel in Pyatigorsk.

A local restaurant on one of our field trips in Stavropol Krai where we stopped for lunch: The Castle of Love and Perfidy. Live music was provided by the trio above



Back row - L to R - Translators with me: Stan Pshonik, Anatoly Tartashev, Sergey Fetisov, John Liepa, and Valentin Mezin
Middle row - L to R - Kim, Ann, Peggy

Front row - L to R - Vivian, Susan Clouser



SSPI visit to DMACC - October 20 - November 2, 1991

Boris, John, Dr. Borgen, Dr. Vladimir Shapovalov (Rector of SSPI), John Chrystal



L to R - Moscow State University

Carroll, Alexey Eurokhin, John, Boris



John Liepa, Ann Schodde, Boris Zhogin



Our last night in Moscow. A banquet meal at our hotel, The Kosmos.

Colo's Joe Harper talks about Russian experience

A Colo resident recently spent 12 days in Russia explaining Iowa's community college system to Russian educators who hope to establish a prototype community college in Russia modeled after Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC).

DMACC Agri-Business Instructor Joe Harper, was part of a 19-member DMACC delegation that visited the Stavropol region of Russia.

The trip, paid for by a United States Information Agency grant, was the second phase of an exchange program developed between DMACC and the Stavropol State Pedagogical Institutue (SSPI), a four-year teacher's college located in Stavropol, Iowa's sister state. Last October, 12 representatives from SSPI visited the four DMACC campuses.

Harper said the delegation left Des Moines on a Saturday morning and arrived at a dimly lit Stavropol airport late Sunday night. He said the terminal building was totally dark and it was drizzling rain.

"We crawled off this 32-passenger Russian jet, and a guy comes around the corner of the terminal with his trench coat turned up, a hat on, carrying an umbrella and a flashlight," said Harper. "We're wondering, 'what are we doing here?'"

Harper said this is after finding out that their luggage did not make it to Russia, but was apparently lost in Brussels, Belgium.

The luggage finally caught up with the Iowa delegation in Stavropol on Tuesday, four days after leaving Des Moines.

"Some people were smarter to put things in their carry-on bag," said Harper. "Some didn't put any clean socks or clean underwear in their carry-on so they were hurting that way. I did have a clean shirt, which helped a lot."

Community colleges are not a part of the educational system in Russia. SSPI officials are interested in restructuring their educational system to better fill the needs of adult learners, the unemployed and the agricultural sector.

Harper and DMACC Boone Campus Farm Management/Business/Economics Instructor Gary Stasko conducted workshops on agri-business while in Russia.

Harper said as they were to give an in-depth workshop at the Polytechnic Institute in Pyatigorsk, which was a 2-hour bus ride from Stavropol. According to Harper, the president of this institution greeted the Iowans with a stern face as they were introduced. Harper said the president quizzed him on how he was going to conduct the workshop and what he was going to tell the Russians. After the president realized Harper and Stasko were not going to lead everyone astray, the president started smiling a bit.

He then opened up a cabinet beside his desk and pulled out a dish of candy-covered peanuts, some shot glasses and a bottle of vodka. Harper said the president started pouring vodka and through the interpreter, he said, "They will have a toast with me." Harper said it was "not will they, but they will!"

"One was he had no source or place to buy it," said Harper. "And the other reason was that he didn't have the money to buy it. Everything he needs on his farm is obtained by bartering. If he needs equipment, he trades pigs for it."

Harper said there are several missing links that need to be developed before Russian farmers can effectively produce and market their products.

"*Capital is the first one. There needs to be a banking system developed where they can borrow capital."

"*The development of agri-business is needed. Right now there is nowhere within a thousand miles that you can buy parts."

"*A marketing system is a necessity. The only marketing system now is individualistic, where a farmer takes his products into town and sells them in the open market."

Harper said the Russians need to reduce their crop spoilage. He said the farmers he talked with had no concept of drying their crops before storing.

"They have no way of drying their crops and so they do get a lot of spoilage, and the transportation system is such that if they pick vegetables they may not be able to get them where there are people that want them," said Harper.

Because of the high cost of food, empty store shelves and long lines waiting for what food is available, Harper said nearly everyone had a garden out on the edge of town. He said it was commonplace to see people walking out from the city with a hoe or a shovel, and walking pack carrying a bag full of produce from their garden.

Harper emphasized that most were walking because very few people can afford cars. He said those that had cars, always carried containers of gasoline in their trunks because if they went anywhere, they had to carry enough gas with them to make the return trip. Harper said throughout his 12 days in Russia, he saw only one gas station.

But one thing Harper said he saw alot of were broken windshields.

"Everytime we got into a bus, or a van, or a car, it seemed like the windshield was broken," said Harper. "I suppose they just don't have replacements for them."

He said that everyone who owned a car was their own mechanic. Harper said he saw one guy who had part of his engine laying on the street cutting out a new gasket out of gasket material, making his own parts.

Russian people are used to making do with what they have. Harper said it's not unusual to find a husband and wife, and two kids, sometimes even a grandpa and grandma, living in a three room apartment. Harper said he found the Russians to be very friendly and proud because they want to present the best picture that they can. He said they were very apologetic for things that were not up to snuff.

During the trip, Harper was able to visit a hog farm. Harper said this hog farmer was trying to privatize. According to Harper, the farmer had about 300 total head of hogs that were extremely light muscled and much fatter than the hogs produced in Iowa. Harper said these hogs would weigh 330 pounds when taken to the market, compared to the typical 230 to 260 pound hogs in the U.S.

Their pigs go to market about 12 months of age, where we teach our students that they ought to be getting their pigs to market as early as five months and most of them by six months as is typical of successful Iowa swine farms," said Harper.

He said their pork was extremely fat. In fact, Harper said some of their bacon had no strips of lean at all and those that had strips of lean may have just one real thin strip of lean. He said a big part of this is attributable to their genetic program. He said the Russian farmer he visited fed his hogs oats, wheat and peas. The producer said there were two reasons he wasn't feeding a product like soybean meal to provide additional protein.

Some of the construction work was poorly done. Harper said at a hotel where he stayed in Stavropol, there was a lamp hanging on the wall but it didn't work. Harper figured out why: the lamp cord wouldn't reach the plug-in.

He said he never had hot water for a shower or shave at the hotel in Stavropol and said the shower didn't have a curtain on it so the water would spill onto the floor.

However, Harper said the hotel in Pyatigorsk did have hot water. He said the maid for his room in Pyatigorsk spoke English. Harper said he gave her a tip of 10 rubles, which is about nine cents.

"She loved that and from then on that room was spic and span," said Harper. "Even my dirty clothes were folded when I'd come back to the room."

Harper said he hopes the exchange between DMACC and SSPI can continue because DMACC has a lot to offer to the Russian people.

The concept of the Northern Caucasus Center for Industry and Economic Development has the support of four groups within Russia: The Minister of Education, SSPI, the state of Stavropol and the Workers Council, which is similar to our unions. DMACC's role in this is to act as a consultant with no state funds involved in this project.