

Russian International Education Administrators Program

2018-19 Fellow Profiles



Veronika Klepinina is an Exchange Programs Manager at the Academic Mobility Department of Petrozavodsk State University (PetrSU). A young professional with commitment to international education, she has been engaged in various international activities since her high school years, including participation in a language camp at the College of St. Scholastica (Duluth, MN) and several European exchanges. In 2014, Ms. Klepinina graduated from PetrSU with a degree in English and German Philology, and joined the international office of her alma mater shortly after the graduation. In her current role, she is responsible for student mobility, as well as several scholarship programs, such as FIRST+, the Finnish–Russian student and teacher exchange. She oversees study abroad and short-term Russian language programs, and helps with international admissions and the international office website. An effective administrator, Veronika always looks for new ways and approaches to internationalization in education, and strives to build highly efficient system of academic exchange that are clear and easy to follow for both incoming and outgoing students. Her efforts in creating easy access to international office information and services have already resulted in a significant increase of students’ and faculty’ engagement and awareness of international opportunities. She has published and presented at academic conferences, and is currently working on her second degree in law in order to gain a better understanding of the Russian legal system and translate this knowledge into her work at the Academic Mobility Department of PetrSU.



Lidiia Koshkina is the Head of International Students and Staff Support Office at the Department for International Cooperation of Siberian Federal University (SibFU), located in Krasnoyarsk. A dedicated and charismatic leader, Ms. Koshkina founded the ISSS Office in 2016 and managed to achieve significant results in her area of work in a very short period of time. From the opening of the office, her key responsibilities included international recruitment, pre-arrival, orientation and ongoing support programs for international students and staff, as well as coordination and promotion of on and off-campus activities and events, which allow the SibFU’s international students and staff to achieve their full potential in a safe and secure environment. As a result of Lidiia’s efforts, international student enrollment increased by 40% and continues to grow. Already having implemented fundamental changes, she continues to push the boundaries and bring in new initiatives to facilitate further development of her office and the international department as a whole. Ms. Koshkina earned her degrees from Siberian Federal University: a Specialist degree in Linguistics and Translation with a focus on the Japanese Language and a Master’s degree with honors in Environmental Studies and Management of Natural Resources. She has presented at local, national and international conferences, and published a number of scientific papers in academic journals accredited by Supreme Attestation Commission of the Russian Federation. Her professional experience abroad includes internship in Tokyo, Japan, and she also co-founded and has been instrumental in Krasnoyarsk Krai Society for the Development of Relations with Japan.

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Ekaterina Lisitsyna has been working at Udmurt State University (UdSU) as the International Officer since August 2016. A versatile professional, with extensive experience in business and public education, she taught English at schools and universities and worked in the educational exchange consulting sphere. Ms. Lisitsyna's experience in private practice and public education made her move to the premier university of the Udmurtia republic a natural one. From her first days at the International Office of UdSu, Ekaterina has been putting her rich prior experience to practice by helping the best young minds in Udmurtia realize their dreams of studying abroad. In her current position, she is responsible for incoming and outgoing exchange programs for students and faculty, communication with the overseas partner institutions, promotion of international education opportunities, and administrative support for international students and staff. She has successfully launched, contributed and given leadership to a number of projects and events, including Exchange Programs Fair, International Week, World Nations Festival, and her most recent project – *International Lecturers at the Udmurt State University*. Ms. Lisitsyna is an alumna of the EU's Tempus program and has served as a group leader for the graduate student study abroad trip to Alexander Dubcek University in Trencin (Slovakia). She is a certified translator and holds a degree in English Language and Literature from Udmurt State University.



Konstantin Platonov is the Director of the Center for International Cooperation at St. Petersburg Branch of the Higher School of Economics (HSE-SPb). A young and skilled international academic cooperation administrator, he holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in International Relations from St. Petersburg State University (SPbU), and is currently enrolled in his second Master's degree program focusing on Management in Higher Education. After graduation, Mr. Platonov started his career at the SPbU International Office where he worked in various roles for over six years during which he has developed a true passion for international education. Driven by the need to diversify his professional expertise, he subsequently enriched his background with working for the Olympic Games in Sochi and as Sales Director in a study-abroad agency. Konstantin's passion for higher education looped him back into academia, and since 2015, he has been working as Director of the Center for International Cooperation at HSE-SPb, where he runs a team of five people and oversees international student services, partnerships, academic mobility, visa and immigration support, and international student recruitment. In a short period, he managed to produce a significant impact on the operational and strategic achievements of the international office: he doubled the number of full-time international students at HSE-SPb, professionalized the protocol around international visits and contributed significantly to the internationalization of the campus, in general. Mr. Platonov has profound experience of studying and living abroad, which also includes an exchange semester in Germany under DAAD program. He also serves as a federal expert of the Prioritized National Project 'Export of Education'.

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Shakhnoza Rakhimova is the Head of International Department at Pacific State Medical University, located in Vladivostok. In 2013, she graduated magna cum laude from Far Eastern Federal University with a degree in English Philology. That same year, Ms. Rakhimova joined the International Department of Pacific State Medical University. Having completed a professional development program on Management and a Japan-Russian Youth Exchange Program in Tokyo, Japan, she was promoted to the position of the International Department Head. As an international administrator, she has a broad range of responsibilities that include academic exchanges for students, residents, faculty and staff, international recruitment, international student services, visa support, international academic projects, international partnerships and strategic development of the university's international relations. Recently, Shakhnoza started an ambitious new project to develop an International Innovative Educational Medical Center that would bring to Russia the leading experts and the best international practices in the area of education for medical and healthcare professionals. Ms. Rakhimova has experience organizing large international events, one of which – *Days of Heilongjiang Province in Primorsky Territory* – was honored with the Primorsky Territory Vice Governor's Special Appreciation Award.



Olga Zaplatina works at Innopolis University (IU) as an Admissions Manager at Department of Academic Affairs. Ms. Zaplatina is a graduate of Tomsk State University with Bachelor's and Master's degree in History with a focus on the History of Alaska. Through studying the culture of Native Americans, historiography of the region and the Russian period of Alaskan history, Olga developed a strong interest in intercultural communication and international cooperation. Thus, shortly after her graduation she joined the team of the Petroleum Learning Center of Tomsk Polytechnic University (TPU), a joint project of Heriot-Watt University (HWU, Scotland, Great Britain) and TPU, set up to implement innovative internationally acknowledged MSc degree programs. In her current position as an Admissions Manager at Innopolis University, she is working with all steps of international student admission, including international admission campaigns and outreach, application review, document legalization, and enrollment and visa support for the selected candidates, coming from Europe, Middle East, Africa and Latin America. Olga is an active participant in international conferences and major field events, and is a past and current member of different societies and committees, including Alaska Historic Society and IU Scholarship Committee. A highly driven young administrator, she thinks big and sets ambitious goals, some of which include co-organizing an adaptation program for IU international students in collaboration with the Students' Support Team and developing comprehensive protocols for every aspect of dealing with international students, faculty and staff at her home university.