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WEEKLY

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CAREERS & EDUCATION

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IREX International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) announces Open Competition for the Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellowship Program

The program is funded by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the US Department of State. The program provides opportunities for Master's level study in the United States to citizens of Eurasia.

Further information and application forms are available from Yerevan IREX office at the following address:
IREX/Armenia, 50 Khanjyan St., Tekeyan Center
Tel: (374-1) 57-53-36, 57-18-96, 57-16-31, www.irex.am
THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS November 19, 2004, 17:00

IREX International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) announces Open Competition for the Eurasian Undergraduate Exchange Program in the USA

The program is funded by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the US Department of State. The program provides opportunities for current first-, second- and third-year undergraduate students (in five-year programs) from Eurasia to spend one academic year of non-degree study in a US university or community college.

Further information and application forms are available from Yerevan IREX office at the following address:
IREX/Armenia, 50 Khanjyan St., Tekeyan Center
Tel: (374-1) 57-53-36, 57-18-96, 57-16-31, www.irex.am
THE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS November 12, 2004, 17:00

BRITISH COUNCIL **dca** Department for Constitutional Affairs **John Smith MEMORIAL TRUST**

APPLICATIONS FOR THE JOHN SMITH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME 2005

The British Council and the John Smith Memorial Trust are inviting applications to participate in the John Smith Fellowship Programme 2005.

The Programme aims to strengthen and deepen democratic awareness and leadership through a 6-week course in the United Kingdom combining classroom study, work placements and visits. The "ideal" candidate will be aged 25-35, working in politics, local administration or civil society, with a track record of concern for good governance and promoting democratic values. Good written and spoken English is essential.

The primary objectives of the John Smith Fellowship Programme are to:

- Bring together influential young civil society and political leaders to exchange views and receive training.
- Deepen awareness of how a mature democracy supports and develops good governance, the Rule of Law, human rights, and social justice.
- Promote a dialogue between Fellows within and outside their home countries.

The John Smith Fellowship Programme is a partnership between the John Smith Memorial Trust, the British Council and the Department for Constitutional Affairs.

Applications for the year 2005 Programme must be submitted to the British Council office no later than 1 December 2004. Final selection of candidates will be concluded by mid February 2005.

Successful interviewees should be aware that they will be asked to sit the IELTS exam at the end of January 2005.

For details visit the British Council website at www.britishcouncil.am, come to 24 Baghramyan, or call us at 569923/24.

"Lycos" and EIF Unite Efforts to Shape World-Class Professionals

The Internet Technologies Center of the Engineering University Celebrates its First Anniversary



By Gourgen Khazhakian

RECENTLY, faculty and students of the State Engineering University of Armenia (SEUA) had huge cause for celebration as they marked the first

laboratory has been established at the SEUA Department of Computing Systems and Informatics.

All the above-mentioned is the result of a partnership between the SEUA, "Lycos Armenia" and the Enterprises Incubator Foundation (EIF), also financial support of the DEG Foundation (funded by the German Government).

the SEUA and "Lycos".

Christoph Mohn, the CEO of "Lycos Europe", (the parent company of "Lycos Armenia"), heaped praise on Armenia. He said that "Lycos Europe" is not just introducing advanced technologies into Armenia, but is learning from the "Lycos Armenia" staff and other Armenian specialists, as well as from the students themselves. This probably explains why "Lycos Europe" is going to implement new, more complex projects in Armenia. "Speaking of the complexity of the projects and the quality of work being done, our Armenian subsidiary is leading the way as compared with other branches of "Lycos", he concluded. Mr. Mohn was in Armenia on a one-day visit together with Dr Felix Eglof, the company's CTO.

Hovhannes Avoyan, the "Lycos Armenia's" Managing Director, President of the Union of IT Enterprises of Armenia (UITE), said that he was very pleased at the success of such a large-scale educational undertaking. He thanked the Head of EIF, Bagrat Yengibarian, for their participation actually in all the "Lycos Armenia's" projects.

"Lycos" was established in the USA in 1995 and is one of the major IT players in the world. It comprises three parts: "Lycos America", "Lycos Asia" and "Lycos Europe". The latter was formed in 1997 and today its Internet portals are used in 12 countries and in 10 different languages. It averages 25 million users per month.

"Lycos Armenia" was established in 2001 in Yerevan to develop Internet systems and applications and provide the core services of its parent company to users in Armenia. It can be considered as the largest software centre in the "Lycos Europe" structure.

And it goes without saying that "Lycos Armenia" views on-going on-the-job training of its staff as vital.



From left to right: Hovhannes Avoyan, a selected student, Christoph Mohn and Yuri Sargsyan

anniversary of their state-of-the-art Information Technologies Research and Education Centre. A year ago, as a result of gruelling tests and in-depth interviews, 32 third-year SEUA students were selected for optional courses including four different IT subjects, intensive workshop practice and advanced English lessons. These courses were taught and/or supervised by the staff members of the "Lycos Armenia" CJSC. Six of the students are now combining their studies with work at "Lycos Armenia".

Now, a year after the Centre was launched, the "Internet Systems and Applications" specialization, complete with brand-new fully-equipped

The first group of 20 third-year students have just started the new specialization. The curricula will be taught by high-skilled professionals from the SEUA and "Lycos". Similar groups of third-year students will be formed each year.

Professor Yuri Sargsyan, the Rector of the SEUA, emphasized that "Lycos" was unique in taking the initiative in its approach to the University, "as normally we who go to the companies and factories! These first twenty students will be ambassadors of the University in the field of Information Technologies", the Rector said - adding that the celebration marked a great achievement for both

Iraqi Schools Lack Even Basic Water and Sanitation Facilities

A year and a half since the end of the Iraq war the UN Children's Fund, UNICEF, says the Iraqi education system, once one of the finest in the Middle East, is still overwhelmed. More Iraqi children are going to school than before, but there aren't

water supply at all and that nearly half have no sanitation facilities.

The problem, the UN says, is the result of the impact of three wars and over a decade of neglect and under funding during sanctions. It notes that since March last year over

AESOP'S FABLE FOR TODAY

An astronomer used to walk around outside every night to watch the stars. One time, as he was wandering on the outskirts of the city and gazing at the stars, he fell into a well. After hollering and crying for help, someone ran up to the well, and after listening to his story, remarked that...