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Dear Slavic Studies Professor:

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We would like to alert you to teaching opportunities available to graduates of your institution as interns in the public and private schools of St. Petersburg, Russia through Petroteach, a not-for-profit program that has been placing native-speakers of English in St. Petersburg classrooms since 1993.

The majority of past Petroteach participants have been recent graduates from programs in such disciplines as Russian language, Slavic studies, sociology, and history who had either not yet had the opportunity to study abroad during undergraduate work, or who wanted an additional year abroad before beginning graduate study.

Among those features of the Petroteach Internship Program that your students may find attractive are:

- **The opportunity to teach their own classes.**

As many teachers may remember, this was not necessarily an easy opportunity to come by. Many graduate programs wait a long while to give students teaching responsibilities of their own. Further, when finally given an opportunity to teach, new teachers are rarely given as much support as they could use. All Petroteachers not only spend 15-18 hours a week in their own classrooms, but are given a great deal of support including daily access to pedagogical advising, weekly practicum seminars, lesson-planning and materials-development mentoring, and regular observation and feedback on classroom practice.

- **The opportunity to live with a Russian host family.**

Unlike many study-abroad programs (particularly those to Russia) where students are placed in dormitories or group settings with other foreigners, each Petroteach participant lives and takes meals with a Russian family in their home. This affords the Petroteachers an invaluable window into "authentic" Russian life. Further, the consensus among past participants is that their own Russian language learning was immeasurably bolstered by life in a Russian household.

- **The opportunity to study Russian in a native environment.**

Many Petroteach participants have a special interest in the study of Russia and the Russian language. Others have been known to arrive in St. Petersburg with no experience of the language but have gone on to speak fluently. In either case, as anyone with the experience of it knows, there is no substitute for language study in a native setting.

- **Much lower program costs than standard study-abroad programs.**

The annual cost of participation in the Petroteach Program is \$6000. (Shorter-term participation is also available.)

This program fee includes:

- placement in one of St. Petersburg's leading schools,
- room and board in the home of a Russian family,
- Russian language study with Russian as a Second Language specialists from St. Petersburg's colleges and university,
- Professional pedagogical supervision, a local team of support staff, a shared office and library, and a cultural program including group trips.

A great deal of additional information about the Petroteach program can be obtained on our website at www.petroteach.com.

Please post this message to any appropriate department bulletin board and/or forward it to any soon-to-be-graduating or recently graduated students. It would also be greatly appreciated if you were to forward this message to any other appropriate colleagues, departments or programs (i.e. Education, History, Sociology, English, Career Centers, Writing Centers, etc.) at your institution.

Respectfully,
Robert MacLachlan
Program Director