



**REPORT FORM FOR
NETWORK ACTIVITIES**

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Confidential

1. Lead Applicant

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Title (Dr, Professor, etc)	Dr		
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Present appointment and employing institution

University Lecturer, University of Oxford

Role in activity

Co-organizer

2. Activity details

Type and title of activity

Workshop (1 day and a half), Science and Technology Policy in the CIS

Location

St Antony's College

Date

From: 4	To: 5 December 2008
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Brief Description of activities carried out (please include or attach a confirmed list of participants)

The workshop hosted the presentation of research papers on science and technology policies and their outcome in countries of the CIS. A list of contributors is attached in the workshop schedule.

The objective of the workshop was to evaluate the contribution of science and innovation policies in transformation and draw comparative insights from former Soviet Union's experiences for comparison with the effectiveness of policies in the EU new members' states from the CEE. We aimed to understand whether countries with similar legacies but dissimilar transition policies have now diverged or converged in regard to advancement toward a Knowledge-Based Economy (KBE). We also sought to explain the quite different policy responses to similar challenges

There were three sessions spread out over the afternoon of 4 Dec and morning and afternoon of 5 Dec. The sessions were opened by Julian Cooper's paper, which gave a broad perspective on the trends in Russia, which was in line with general perceptions in Irina Dezhina's paper. Natalia Ivanova's paper found some contrast in that she found more evidence of restructuring, and found it significant. Sessions addressing the other countries, beginning on Day 2, were introduced by another comprehensive comparative paper, including materials on CEE countries, by David Dyker, whose views helped shape the overall evaluation of the conference, with a similarity of conclusion for Ukraine and Armenia and, in some ways, Kazakhstan.

Day 2 of the workshop was missing one paper (by Marat Myrkhzamet, whose visa was not issued in time for him to attend the workshop). Anticipating that this might be the case, Carol Leonard and a D Phil candidate in Geography at the University of Oxford, Paul Domjan, wrote and presented a paper on Kazakhstan to complete the session. Their paper drew attention to a potential need for a different measurement approach, other than capturing the value of high tech exports in total manufacturing exports, to show advancement toward the Knowledge-based Economy for resource-abundant countries. The concluding session on Day 2, after lunch, brought together the themes. It was introduced by Slavo Radosevic, who emphasized a main conclusion that the functional foundations of CIS S&T policy are importantly similar to their historical Soviet version. This sets apart western European and former Soviet Union science and technology policy, especially in regard to the degree of state support for innovative activity.

Each of the sessions was chaired by a member of the University of Oxford faculty or a graduate student in the area of economic of science and technology (see attached). The exchange between scholars from the CIS and the UK academic community, including a number of graduate students, was useful and interesting, as the evaluation sheets suggest. It was determined at the final session (the panel) that the results were indeed important and should be published. Carol Leonard and Slavo Radosevic agreed to co-edit the papers for publication as a book, following their resubmission, estimated to be around March. The co-editors would write the introduction and conclusion.

3. Achievement of stated aims and objectives

Please summarise how the stated aims and objectives of the activities proposed have been achieved and how these have helped to further the aims and objectives of CEELBAS.

The papers presented and extensively discussed the degree to which legacies of S&T policy from the Soviet era in transition continue to dominate the functionality of S&T institutions. In some cases, the institutions have been transformed, and the conference discussion pointed out a comparison with more successful reforms in the organization of science in Estonia than in Kazakhstan or Russia. Effort has been made and funds have been spent in support of new policies, but functional institutional persistence shows up in the continued obstacles to greater SME participation in innovation, for example. It is also clear that R&D spending in the CIS countries continues to be carried out largely by the state, and across the CIS, to some extent with the exception of Russia, GERD as a percentage of GDP is extremely low by comparison with spending in the US and western Europe. Another example lies in continued weak linkages between institutions of higher education, such as universities, and the intensive research-based work in Academy of Sciences organizations. Technology upgrading, finally, even in knowledge-intensive industries, has been limited. These and other conclusions will form the basis for the resubmitted and completed papers, an update on current CIS S&T Policy, to be gathered together for publication as a book.

The workshop explicitly supported CEELBAS Network objectives in bringing together experts within the UK and key scholars in the CIS. The attraction for the CIS scholars was in part to meet with UK counterparts and in part with others from the CIS: those invited made every effort to attend. In their correspondence with Dr Leonard, they emphasized how important it was to be a part of this workshop. The publication of the papers will add to the institutional basis by which they have been able productively to collaborate and spread the results of their research to CEELBAS students and faculty in other fields.

The publicity and preparations were effective in generating local faculty participation and an audience for this workshop, even though it was held in the eighth week of term. The importance of it being held in term is that students and faculty are in residence, which they are not, generally, between terms, when they conduct their research. A complicating factor during term, however, are the courses and other work that must comprise the main academic activity of faculty and students and keep them from attending conferences.

In view of this constraint, I was impressed that four D Phil candidates attended the sessions, when they could, three of whom attended the dinner on Thursday evening. Four M Phil candidates and one M Sc candidate were among those in attendance on the last day. Also, the workshop attracted an active attendee from the Internet Institute. Other attendees included faculty whose work concerns science and technology in general. The interdisciplinary focus of the workshop was particularly conducive to clear understandings. Economists, historians, network-analysts and policy specialists were there, and they engaged in a broad discussion of the relationship between the conditions, or context, in transition countries and convergence in policy effort. The continued challenges for CIS governments in realizing a more functional transformation is one of the key areas of thematic concern to CEELBAS.

4. Outcomes

Please indicate the outcomes and 'value for money' of activities carried out.

By bringing together the main experts in the UK and in selected CIS countries, the workshop achieved a high-level discussion of current S&T policy and its impact. There were sharp disagreements only over some aspects of accomplishments in Russia; there was concord in a general assessment of policies. In addition to bringing out a book of papers by these experts, the value therefore lies in continued contact and consensus, which may have a policy impact, especially in Russia through the participation of IMEMO's major scholars. A number of features of this workshop were particularly important in assisting its success:

- The representativeness and number of CIS participants (four), which gave the workshop balance and breadth of perspective
- With only one overnight required for non-Oxford UK participants, costs of accommodation were kept moderate
- With only one dinner and one lunch provided, cost of food was moderate. Both of these events were successful, and they assisted in creating a positive overall environment for the participants

- The facilities at St Antony's College and service, particularly in regard to the meal on Thursday, which was very carefully catered
- The kind assistance of Alexia Lewis at REES in Oxford, who arranged for the accommodations at a difficult time of year, put together the programme packages for forty people, and organized coordination with the CEELBAS web page
- The useful help of Andreas Schmidt at REES in Oxford for our application writing and financial estimates
- Assistance by the following faculty at the University of Oxford, who helped with accommodations, sessions and hospitality: Judith Pallot of Christ Church College, Christopher Davis of Wolfson College, Linda Yueh of St Edmund's Hall, Matthijs den Besten of St Antony's College and the Internet Institute,

5. Breakdown of total costs for workshops (please attach evidence of expenditure)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Key speakers (Travel, accommodation and subsistence)	
	£347.80
	£73.33
	£43.00
	£60.00
	£67.79
	£503.00
	£262.35
	£102.40
	£74.70
	£234.78
	£35.22
	£173.97
	£85.30
	£553.53
	£48.00
	£196.34
	£78.30
Postgraduate participation	£0.00
Room/equipment hire	£0.00
Administration costs	£0.00
Printing and publicity (including conference packs)	
Printing and publicity Conference packs to MBRPIIO	£100.00
Conference website: posting papers to MBRPIIO	£150.00
Cost of plastic wallets ordered for C Leonard conference	£18.12
Other (please specify	
Total expenditure	£3,207.93
Total contribution invoiced to CEELBAS	£3,207.93

6. Breakdown of total costs for projects (please attach evidence of expenditure)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Staff costs	
Equipment/technical costs	
Administration costs	
Other (please specify	
Total expenditure	
Total contribution invoiced to CEELBAS	

7. Dissemination and further research

Please give details of dissemination of the outcomes of the workshop/project and any further research planned.

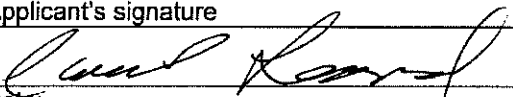
The papers presented will be gathered together and edited for publication as a book. All of the scholars who participated continue with their work in this field.

One of the appointed chairs of a session (the panel) has decided to address the panel's question in her own research, and she will submit a paper for the proposed volume. She has also agreed to supervise one of the masters students in attendance, should he be successful in his application for D Phil work in this area.

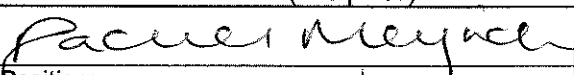
Finally, when all of the papers have been resubmitted, they will be posted on the CEELBAS web site for the public and other scholars to review.

8. Signature and date

Applicant's signature


Date: 13 / 12 / 2008

Institutional authorisation (if required)


Position: 7-05-08
Date:

Rachel Meyrick
Head of Research Accounts
University of Oxford

Institutional CEELBAS Network Primary Contact

Date:

This form must be accompanied by an invoice from the applicant's institution, supported by receipts or other evidence of the expenditure incurred.