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Developing U.S. - Russian Relations: Academically, Legally and Economically

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DEVELOPING U.S.–RUSSIAN RELATIONS: ACADEMICALLY, LEGALLY AND ECONOMICALLY

INTRODUCTION

by

DEAN ISAAC C. HUNT, JR.

On 18 July 1990 the "Agreement between the University of Akron School of Law and the Institute of State and Law for Joint Research on the Legal Problems Arising from the Exploration and Use of Outer Space" was entered into. This Agreement grew out of the desire of Professor Hamilton DeSaussure, of this School of Law's faculty, and Dr. Vladlen Vereshchetin, Deputy Director of the Institute, both internationally recognized experts in Air and Space Law, to work more closely together.

In September 1992, Professor DeSaussure and I traveled to Moscow for discussions with representatives of the Institute focused on the possibilities of expanding the scope of the above-mentioned Agreement. These discussions were successful, and representatives of the two institutions modified the Agreement to enlarge the fields of work, to provide for professional exchanges of faculty and students, and to provide that the School of Law and the Institute would establish an educational Summer program to be conducted in Russia during the Summer of 1993.

Our faculty exchange efforts began with Professor DeSaussure's March 1991 visit to Moscow, at the invitation of the Russian Academy of Sciences, to participate in the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's first manned space flight, and Dr. Vereshchetin's Fall 1991 visit with us. We have now also welcomed Academician Boris Topornin, Director of the Institute, and Dr. Elena Kamenetskaya, of the Institute's faculty, to our campus. We are looking forward to receiving Dr. Avgoust Roubanov, Head of the Institute's Sector of Civil Law, for a three month visit beginning in October 1993.

The articles on Developing U.S.–Russian Relations in this issue of the Law Review are further evidence of the expanding relationship between the Institute and this School of Law. Its authors include one of our Distinguished Visiting Professors with extensive business experience in Russian and Dr. Kamenetskaya. We look forward to presenting more articles on related topics in future issues of the Law Review.

