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Journalist, a joint publication of Moscow State University and the University of Washington Tacoma, is nearly a decade old. However, experience does not necessarily come with age. Each year, the publication contains a new group of students and a new group of ideas. This year isn't any different. Four American students, and their professor, traveled from Tacoma, Wash., to Moscow to take part in this extraordinary opportunity.

The production did not start on that first day in Moscow, but three months earlier, when the visas were approved and a Facebook group was created. This was the first time, since the program started that social media was used to jump start the production. This group allowed everyone on the project to post ideas about articles and get to know one another.

When the time arrived for everyone to be together in Moscow, we thought we were close to a finished product. After five days of intense work, the publication came together nicely. We feel this publication speaks about and for today's youth. In these pages you will find articles on the Presidential elections and protests that have taken place in Russia and the U.S., as well as articles on tourism, fashion, and St. Patrick's

This experience was amazing for all involved. As editors we shared laughs, frustrations and moments that brought our two cultures together. Though every student has a story, we decided to share with you a moment during this experience that helped create this journey.

Maria Eremina

Nabokov was a brilliant Russian and American writer. He showed that cultural and linguistic boundaries could be destroyed easily. As he once noticed, yellow blue bus sounds like a poor pronunciation of "I love you" in Russian (by the way, yellow blue vase is a better pronunciation). Walking along the Moscow streets, near Red Square, we – me, Sasha, and Chelsi – remembered this. Sasha and Chelsi laughed out loud, but I did not understand this mystification of sounds.

Just two minutes later, I got it, and I gasped loudly. At the same moment we realized "No limit," the most important thing I learned during our project.

Chelsi Harrell

Arriving in Russia I felt that I had a pretty good idea of what to expect. I read the books and talked with all the right people. I was, however, not prepared for my experience on the metro, the Russian Rapid Transit system. Growing up I learned basic manners--wait your turn, be polite, and do not push. All those manners go out the window when you ride the metro. If I didn't shove people on and off the train, I would probably still be stuck riding the line, and not writing this editorial. In my short time here, I have learned that it is customary, and accepted, to shove your way to the front,

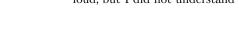
to be aggressive, and to push people out of the way when riding the metro. I won't ever forget my time here.

Alexander Solomonov

Facebook and Skype are technologies that you would think could enable us to do this project online without gathering in Moscow. But now, when we've been working for several days, my memory is full of moments and episodes, which are not connected with the workshop. Still, I realize, that these very

moments, which we are spending together, I'll remember for life. When we communicate, not with the help of a computer, but face to face, we (the Russians) discover again the things we are used too. We discover together, new horizons, not very global, but still important. Though technology allowed us to get to know one another, it was the moments when we were together physically, that gave us the opportunity to break down cultural barriers and see how equal we are.

We want to thank those who have worked and who have supported us during this production. To the staff, the professors, the universities, and to our families, without each and every one of you this joint publication could not have happened. Thank you!



Journalist March 2012

Joint project of the MSU department of Journalism, Moscow and University of Washington Tacoma

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elections

Taking the Youth Vote

Mariela Algara

As the 2012 presidential election draws near candidates are feeling the pressure to seize every vote. Democrats have actively targeted the youth vote, but most Republicans seem to be falling short in the demographic.

The youth vote in the 2008 presidential election accounted for a total of 18 percent of the total vote, according to data from CIRCLE, The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement.

The youth voters between the ages of 18—29 overwhelming voted for President Barack Obama in the 2008 election, by 68 to 30 percent. Many, like journalist David Von Drehle of TIME magazine, called youth voting the "muscle of Obama's army" in 2008. "Obama did something unusual in politics; he made them a genuine priority," Von Drehle said of the youth vote.

If the youth were so mobilized in the 2008 election, what are candidates doing to mobilize the 18 percent in the upcoming election in November? With one of the biggest concerns for voters this year being the economy, many students worry they will be unable to find a job after graduation, on top of having to pay student loans debt.

"As a college student, he (Obama) sup-

ports us the most, while the other candidates seek to deny us money and or raise the cost making it harder to gain education," said Sean Cargill, 26, a University of Washington Tacoma student and a passionate Obama voter.

President Obama acknowledges the power of the youth vote for his win in 2008 and has set out to mobilize the demographic again by releasing an ad early on in the race, as well as using social networking sites.

"You're our new generation of leaders, and we're stronger together than we can ever be on our own. So let's dothis. Thanks and see you out there," said Obama in his ad released October 25, 2011.

It seems Republicans have not reached out to the youth voting demographic in the same aggressive matter as President Obama this election.

"As a youth voter, I don't feel like any of our candidates are internet friendly, and I use my smart phone like my computer, so for me to know what is going on I have to read the newspaper. I am not informed via any social networks. It's hard to feel connected to any candidates these days," said Jawanza Barial—Lumumba, 25, a student at the University of Puget Sound.

Mitt Romney, the Republican that holds the most delegates leading up to the Republican national convention, does not have anything on his campaign site that



specifically aligns him with youth voters. The same can be said about two other republican candidates, Ron Paul and Rick Sandtorum.

Newt Gingrich seems to be the only Republican candidate reaching out to the youth demographic by allowing a place on his campaign website for there voices to be heard, calling the coalition, Young Americans for Newt.

Although Von Drehle accounts some of Obama's win in 2008 to youth voters, Rich Perlstein of Rolling Stones urges that democrats may have issues among youth voters. Perlstein claims voters are choosing to not align themselves with a political party as they have done in the past.

"The turn away from party identification has been a long-term American trend," Perlstein said.

A study conducted by Tufts University Center and CIRCLE in 2008 found that among youth voters in North Carolina, a swing state that Obama won in 2008, registration was 300,000 and only 265,000 in 2011

Perlstein has found that the youth vote has taken on different trends. Youth that tend to vote democratically do not choose to register as a democrat or align themselves to any party, but the youth that tend to vote republican are registering themselves as republican, which has led to the rise in young republicans.

"Republican registration among the same age cohort is about the same," Perlstein said in his February 28 2012, Rolling stone article. "Nationally, Republican youth registration has gone up—which means that the Republican Party is bucking the trend: right-of-center kids seem perfectly happy calling themselves Republicans, at the same time that young lefties are becoming increasingly leary of being called Democrats."

Youth Vote Percentages for Presidential Elections from past 20 Years

Year	Candidates	Youth Vote	Winning Party of Youth Vote	Winning Party of the Total
		Percent		Election
2008	Barack Obama (D) vs. John McCain (R)	18 %	Democrat	Democrat
2004	George W. Bush (R) vs. John Kerry (D)	9%	Democrat	Republican
2000	George W. Bush (R) vs. Al Gore (D)	9%	No Winner	Republican
1996	Bill Clinton (D) vs. Robert Dole (R)	9%	Democrat	Democrat
1992	Bill Clinton (D) vs. George H. W. Bush (R)	11 %	Democrat	Democrat

Source: Roper Center, Public Opinion Archive

elections

Civil Unrest: Two movements, separate countries, similar motives?



Anastasiya Ivanova, MSU Ashley Mathews, UWT

2011 was a busy year for protests across the globe. TIME magazine named "The Protester" the person of the year in 2011 and the spirit continues its presence in 2012.

The Occupy movement, which started in New York City over dissatisfaction with the economic structure of Wall Street and big corporations, has spread into a worldwide movement with similar demands in major international cities.

The most common complaint being expressed by protestors across the globe appears to be dissatisfaction with their country's internal governments. Russia, while not participating in Occupy movement, per se, is nonetheless experiencing a social revolt of its own. Stemming from parliamentary elections in

December 2011, hundreds of thousands of people have taken to the streets in protest of unfair elections and disavowal of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin.

Rallies were held on December 10 in Moscow, St. Petersburg and other major cities. In Moscow at Bolothaya Ploshad Square more than 50,000 people congregated in force against "official" power. Most liberal newspapers said this was the biggest rally in Moscow since the fall of the Soviet Union.

In the United States, the Occupy Wall Street Movement, which began on September 17, 2011, originally started with the intent to "fight back against the corrosive power of major banks and multinational corporations," according to organization's official website.

With numerous branches extending not only across the country but around the world, the movement successfully used recognizable slogans such as the "we are the 99 percent" and the user-friendly hashtag format "#occupy," to create a somewhat cohesive organization.

In Russia, protesters continue to take to the streets of Moscow wearing white ribbons, carrying white balloons and calling for "Russia without Putin." Communists, nationalists, liberalists, students, pensioners, and numerous people from the middle class gather together to call for a change in political power.

Protests in Russia experienced a wane in attendance and support directly after the presidential elections saw Putin emerge as the winning candidate, said Rafael Saakov, Russian Service correspondent of the BBC. Saakov stresses that the concern may not be with the fact that attendance at demonstrations in Russia has decreased, but with the possible answers to why attendance has decreased.

On March 17, Occupy forces in Tacoma, Wash., staged a rally with the goal of overturning Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission. This U.S. Supreme Court ruling determined that the government cannot limit the political expenditures of corporations or unions.

It should be noted, however, that the Occupy Tacoma group had decamped prior to the March 17 protests. Reports headed by blogger and Tacoma native Alan Oldstudent, claim the Occupy Tacoma movement was evicted from the park by Washington State authorities. In contrast, the website for the General Assembly of Occupy Tacoma states that they left the park voluntarily.

Stars of Protests

Alexander Novichenko

Witty slogans filled with political satire, 'Big White Circle' protests around the Garden Ring road in Moscow, and various funny pictures and videos on the Internet have made some of the protesters famous nationwide. Here is the countdown of the Top Five stars of Russia's political protests.

—Fifth place goes to Bazhena Rynska, a famous journalist and it-girl. She was originally famous for her reports about Russian show-biz. But, her popularity has been slipping during the past two years. She reinvigorated her presence in the media by taking part in protests on Triumphalnaya Square. During her arrest, she cried out — "I'm Bazhena! Take my pictures!"

—Number 4 in our list goes to Mikhail Antonov. This young man was one of the founders of Putin's Supporters Network. He became popular on the Internet due to his photos taken with Putin's rivals and opposition members. He shook hands with Alexey Navalny, Sergey Mironov, and Vladimir Zhyrinovsky and gave a thumbs up, while on his left hand he sported the motto: "We support Putin."

—The 3rd position goes to Ksenia Sobchak, godchild of Putin. She became well-known because of her public scandals. Now, she is over the age of 30 and so can't behave like an it-girl anymore. In spite of being relatives with Putin, Sobchak supported opposition members. She thinks that her godfather has formed an autocracy in Russia.

—Sveta from Ivanovo arrives in at 2nd place. This girl seems to have become famous in no time at all due to an interview for Moscovskiye Novosti. A video featuring Sveta on Youtube got more than 3 million views. Sveta is one of the supporters of Putin. In the interview, she said that because of Mr. Putin, Russians have become more stylish.

—And, the Protest Grammy goes to Pussy Riot. This feminist punk-rock band provokes and explodes Russian society. An anti-Putin band, Pussy Riot refuses to play in normal venues and seeks to bring down the Russian government. They became most popular after performing a punk-prayer in the Temple of Christ the Savior. Now, two members of the band are under arrest and awaiting judgment.

St. Patrick's Day, Moscow-style

Ashley Mathews, UWT Maria Tyurina, MSU

March 17 signifies a day of celebration for many people throughout the world. Normally a holiday observed by the Irish and their descendents, St. Patrick's Day is often synonymous with a day of folly and carefree indulgence. In Moscow, a city not typically associated with the teachings of Saint Patrick, a celebration took place on the old Arbat Street.

From an Irish-American perspective, whose country also celebrates St. Patrick's Day from a second-hand standpoint, the celebration held on Arbat was like that of any other. The peculiarity lies not with the celebration itself, but the underlying ideology of a culture celebrating a custom and tradition not native to their culture.

Saint Patrick is not a traditionally recognized saint of Russia, and therefore begs inquiry into why a holiday normally reserved for people of Irish Catholic descent, is popularly celebrated in a society largely considered to be Orthodox.

The adaptation of European traditions to Russians' own local style is becoming increasingly common. Increased globalization and large amounts of foreigners in modern Russia are likely a factor for this shift in customs. However, according to a 2010 Federal Migration Service statistic, of more than 13.6 million foreigners that entered the Russian Federation, only 29 percent still remain within Russia. Of this number, only an additional fraction actually represents Europeans. Celebration of foreign holidays, when not traditionally recognized by the majority, may have historical implications in Russia's history.

For centuries, Russians were politically repressed and cheerful holidays were not as common nor practiced because of the poverty experienced by Russian citizens. Now, it seems Russians are more enthusiastic to celebrate "beautiful" holidays and bear the necessary expenses to do so. Adopting jovial and attractive

holidays from neighboring countries would therefore seem very appealing, even if the holiday is from as distant a neighbor as Ireland. Although not officially recognized or existing within Russian Law, holidays such as Valentine's Day and Halloween, in addition to St. Patrick's Day, are extremely popular within Russian culture and especially the youth.

Many young Russians share the desire to no longer be characteristically and easily distinguishable to the global community. Instead, they would prefer to be viewed as, and to actually be recognized as, possessing the very same opportunities as any other culture. European fashion has also had a large influence on Russian culture and attire, which may have originated from the feeling that Russian garb typical of the nonexclusive Soviet Union era was tiresome. By celebrating European holidays, it would seem that Russians are receptive to evolving foreign traditions into a custom that is familiar, and in doing so, makes non-native traditions unique to Russian culture.

By decorating the front of Russian restaurants, cafes, and public spaces in appealing European styling, businesses hope to attract clients with an impression of "European-ness." The European styling of businesses often gives consumers the illusion that they are buying a product at a "European price" when in fact the price of the very same product in Europe is twice as cheap.

At the St. Patrick's Day celebration in Moscow, one could paint their faces with shamrocks, don a red wig, or simply dance a jig-all of which could be considered as being far from "tiresome." With participatory singing and dancing, one would hardly believe they were in Moscow and not a town in Ireland. The importance of this celebration seems not that it is a foreign one, but that it serves to bring together people of any ethnicity-Russian or Irish-American-and celebrate togetherness, which is ultimately at the core of the St. Patrick's Day celebration.









Social Networks Battle For Dominance

The number of popular social networks is decreasing rapidly

Maria Eremina

Analysts of two research companies Alexa The Web Information Company and Google Trends combined their efforts to make a map of world social networks. All the information given below is the analysis of their map and report. As it turned out, 16 social networks worldwide were the leaders last year based on usage. Today, only 9 leading social networks remain. In the rest of the countries, Facebook has become the leader, taking the majority of users away from local social networks.

Social networks possess a narrow competitive capacity. In this sense, they could be compared to newspapers. History has shown that one of them will be forced out some time or other. The same process is taking place in terms of social networks today. Ac-

cording to Alexa and Google Trends, Facebook is overshadowing the local social networks of different countries. During the past year, Facebook took users away from national social networks such as Orkut (Estonia, India and Paraguay), Wretch (Taiwan), and Friendster (the Philippines). Only two European countries—Latvia and the Netherlands—show preference for their own social networks.

However, some countries see little to no influence by Facebook. Orkut in Brazil, QZone in China, Cloob in Iran, Mixi in Japan, and Zing in Vietnam operate their own networking sites. Russia's Vkontakte could also be added to this list.

Facebook's penetration into these countries has been slower than in other regions for two main reasons. The first reason is the strong and timely appearance of local networks in countries in-

cluding Russia, Brazil and Japan. The second reason pertains to government policy. In countries such as China, Iran and Vietnam, many Internet sites are blocked, including foreign social networks. For example, Alexa's and Google Trends' analysts put emphasis on the fact that the Chinese don't have access to Facebook.

Facebook has only five powerful and strategically important rivals in Russia, Brazil, Japan, Iran and China. Social networks of these countries are strong, making it virtually impossible for Facebook to take their users. In the ranking of social networks in Russia by number of active users, Facebook places sixth. The top five in order of number of users are Vkontakte, Odnoklassniki (Classmates), Moy mir (My World), V krugu druzey (Circle of Friends) and Moy krug (My Sphere).

Russia

TOP 5 of social networks



USA

social network	amount of people
Vkontakte	in millions 88,9
Odnoklassniki	61,2
Moy Mir	54,2
V krugu druzey	4,4
Moy krug	2,9

social network	amount of people
Facebook	127
MySpace	46,5
Twitter	19,78
Flickr	13,4
LinkedIn	11,3

Statistics knows everything

(Source: The Nielsen Company, 2011).

More than **1 billion** people worldwide are active in social networks.

47% of adults, who are active on the Internet, use social networks.

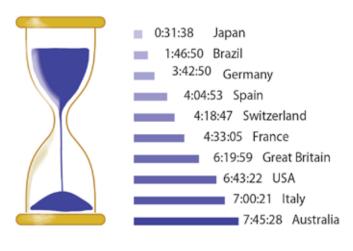
73% of teenagers and youth are registered for at least one social network.

10.8% of online advertising falls on the social network, which is almost six billion dollars.

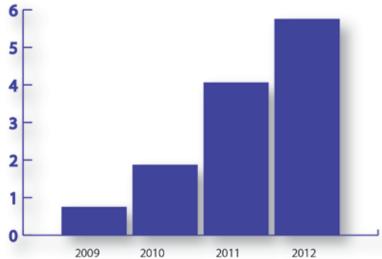
92% of all Internet users in Russia use social networks.

Facebook takes third place in terms of attendance among all sites. It is just ahead of Google and Yahoo!

Daily amount of time a person spends on Facebook



Facebook advertising income, in billions of dollars



social networking

Facebook

The feature distinguishing Facebook from other social networks is that it provides an opportunity for users to choose an address by themselves. For political and religious reasons, access to Facebook is blocked in China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Syria and Vietnam.

VKontakte

Russian VKontakte has a charitable service that makes it possible to make donations to various charities in the nation. Vkontakte does not take a commission of the donations so all proceeds go directly to the charity. Approximately two years ago, the network stopped accepting new members unless they are invited by current users.

Odnoklassniki

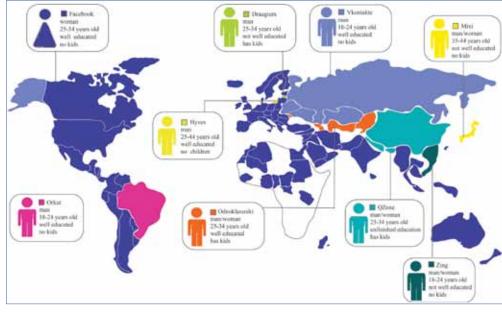
It is forbidden to link to Odnoklassniki's main rival, VKontakte. In 2008, registration became fee-based. In 2009 Odnoklassniki won an odious award: "Disappointment of the year."

Draugiem

Draugiem social network is used by many companies for business purposes. The site has recently been involved in multiple scandals.

Hyves

Hyves social network is closely connected with the political life of the country so leaders of political parties have their pages on Hyves. The first political



virtual debate in history took place there.

Zing

This Vietnamese social network is a part of the Zing Entertainment Portal, which means that users have access to a multitude of different services. The most remarkable is ZingMP3. It allows storage of more than 1 million songs that users can listen to, put up on their pages and download.

Mixi

The word "Mixi" descended from combination of "I" and "mix"-an idea is that one user interacts with others. The Japanese government restricts Mixi to citizens only by using phone numbers as registration requirements.

Orkut

Orkut social network is Google's project. Google Talk is integrated to the social network, so users may use chat services right on the page. Also, users can rate their friends in different categories -"Cool," "Sexy," "Deserve credit."

QZone

QZone in China was created in 2005 and has become successful quickly. However, QZone is a fee-based service. It has its own messenger QQ, which is similar to Skype and MSN.

Twitter Offers High-Speed Competition to Established Press

Anna Laletina

en though Facebook seems to be taking over the world, Twitter remains a popular tool for communication between people and organizations.

Based on an informal survey of Russian youth, many active Twitter-users confessed that they went through three stages when it came to Twitter.

At first, they were not going to get an account at all because they were determined that Twitter was a stupid site for people who for some reason think that others are interested in what they are doing every minute of their life. The second stage occurs when a person gets an account on Twitter (with an intention not to use it) just to see what the buzz is all about. Gradually, they begin to believe that Twitter is a place where news, quotes and opinions circulate in real-time. This is the third stage of Twitter usage.

Russia, however, has not seemed to embrace Twitter with the same enthusiasm as the rest of the world. According to Yandex, a Russian IT company that operates the largest search engine in Russia, there are only 2 million Russian users, while Twitter worldwide has 500 million accounts.

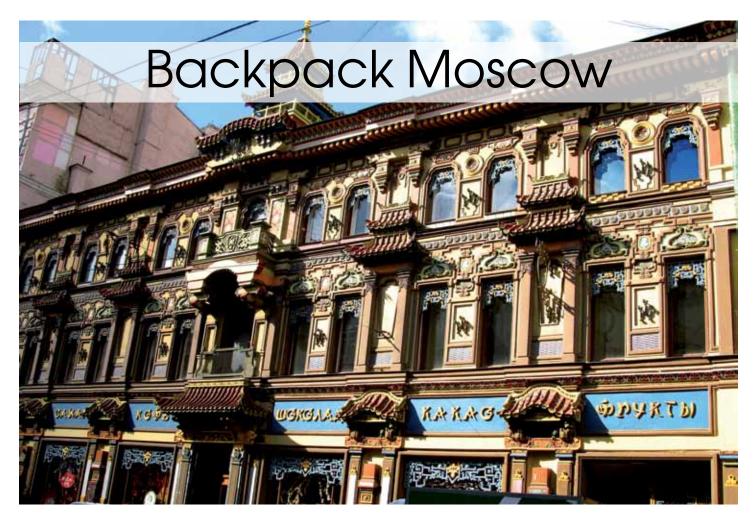
It's easy to track down the moment when the number of Russian-speaking Twitter-users began to grow rapidly-it all started in June 2010 when Russian president Dmitri Medvedev signed himself up for a Twitter account.

Since then, many things have happened in Russia-good and bad, and Twitter seemed to be the fastest platform for spreading the news. For example, when terrorists blew up a bomb at the Moscow airport Domodedovo, Twitterusers were the first ones to tell the world about it, while some of the federal channels it took up to several hours to come up with "breaking news." That day, Twitter experienced an explosion of tweets with hashtag #domodedovo. Of course, traditional media did not just die at that very instant, but that case proved that Twitter can be a powerful source of information.

Luckily, not only events involving deaths made it to the worldwide trends on Twitter. This winter, the world could "twitness" how thousands of Russians rallied for honest elections and demanded

Twitter is also beginning to be used in Russia to expose corruption by the established media. Recently, one of the trending topics in Russian segment of Twitter was #HTВлжет (NTV lies). Under this hashtag people were denouncing the fake documentary "Anatomy of protest" made by NTV, a quasi-government operated TV station owned by Gazprom. In this "documentary" NTV stated that oppositional groups were organizing riots and hiring thousands of people to take part in the anti-Putin protests in an effort to intentionally destabilize the situation in Russia.

travel guide



Alexander Solomonov

I'm not going to write here about such sights as The Kremlin or St. Basil's Cathedral. You can find them in every manual for tourists in Russia. Instead, I will focus on the not so popular places. These are the places you should visit to see a different Moscow, not glossy and pompous, but still beautiful and unique.

The first place you should definitely visit is the Honey Market. It is held twice a year in spring and in autumn. If you visit the capital of Russia in the beginning of March or in mid-September, you should definitely spend at least an hour there. Beekeepers from all over

Russia come to Moscow with various types of honey. The most popular honey-product is called medovuha, an alcohol drink, which is not strong, but you won't be disappointed.

The Multimedia Art Museum, Moscow (MAMM), a fairly new museum in the City Center, is not as popular as Tretiakov Art Gallery but it's worth seeing. Located on Ostojenka Street, it is close to the Cathedral of Christ the Savior and Pushkinskiy museum. MAMM is different from traditional Russian museums. Photography, different pieces of modern art and video installations are exibited on two large screens.

The Tea House on Myasnitskaya Street is one of my favorite places in Moscow. The Perlov House, designed in a Chinese style, has been a tea store since the end of 19th century. It is one of the oldest and most beautiful stores in Moscow. The Perlov House is also the largest tea store in Moscow. There, you can find any possible sort of tea or coffee.

The botanical garden Aptekarsiy Ogorod that belongs to Moscow State Univesity contains a greenhouse of jungle flora. The Orchid Festival is held through February and March when it's still cold and snowy and you can see thousands of orchids.



travel guide

Come Rain or Shine:

The must see places of Western Washington



Chelsi Harrell

From the sparkling waters of Elliott Bay to the Space Needle and the massive outdoor Pike Place Market, there are attractions in Seattle for outdoor enthusiasts, history buffs and foodies alike.

Seattle has been nicknamed the Emerald City because of the vastness of the forests in the area. Its natural beauty, though, is not all that draws visitors to Seattle. The city also has much to offer in terms of tourist attractions

The city skyline stands out with the **Space Needle**, the most popular tourist attraction in the Northwest, with more than 1 million visitors each year. If you're not afraid of heights, you can walk all the way around the observation deck for a panoramic view of the city. The restaurant, which sits at 500 feet above the ground, rotates while you dine, giving you changing views while you enjoy your meal.

Pike Place Market, an open-air



shopping haven, is a must-see for all visitors. Whether you are shopping for farm fresh produce, unique foods from around the world, or handmade arts and craft, you'll find it at Pike Place Market. The main and north buildings are the most popular, with fish-throwers, flower stalls and lots of arts and crafts. The market also houses well-known Greek, Japanese, Italian, French and Russian eateries. Stick to mornings here if you want to avoid the afternoon mobs.

Walking along the **Seattle Water-front** is a perfect way to soak up some Northwest atmosphere. Take in views of the Puget Sound and Olympic Mountains while exploring Olympic Sculpture Park, shops, and restaurants like Ivar's, a local landmark, where you can watch the ferries load and depart while you eat.

A visit to the **Seattle Aquarium**, located on Pier 59 on the waterfront, makes for a wonderful day out with the family. Exhibits include creatures such as giant octopuses, jellyfish, sea otters, seals and a variety of fish. It is definitely recommended for anyone interested in seeing and learning about the exciting marine life in the Puget Sound.

Seattle isn't the only city with attractions that may entice you. Tacoma, full of museums, parks, and restaurants, is just a short drive south on I-5.

Situated across the street from the University of Washington Tacoma, is the **Museum of Glass**. Here you can experience contemporary glass art in a breathtakingly beautiful museum. After exploring the art inside the building, take a walk outside on the Chihuly Bridge of Glass, made by international-

ly famous artist Dale Chihuly, who also happens to be a Tacoma native.

Just a short walk from the Museum of Glass is the **Tacoma Art Museum**. The museum is dedicated to exhibiting and collecting Northwest art, with the mission of connecting people through art. Tacoma Art museum serves the communities of the Northwest through its collection, exhibitions, and learning programs, emphasizing art and artists from the Northwest. If you are in the Tacoma area now through June 10, stop in and see the controversial art exhibit "Hide/Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture."

If you are looking for something more outdoors, head to the **Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium**. The zoo is large enough to offer an array of animals yet small enough for you to get really close to them. It's fun, affordable and offers spectacular views of Puget Sound, Mount Rainier and the Olympic Mountains.

Don't worry about the rain. Seattle and Tacoma may have a reputation for rain, but according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, New York actually averages 12 inches of rainfall more each year than the Emerald City. Instead of harsh thunderstorms, Seattle and Tacoma experiences a steady drizzle, but during the summer months, it barely rains at all and stays sunny as late as 10 p.m.



political economy

ALL UNDER CONROL: THE TRUTH ABOUT THE BIG FIVE

Lillie Mazitova

A rather frivolous comment can be made—"In order to understand Russia, you need to understand how its media operates." At first it does seem way too pretentious, but if you give it a second thought, you might find yourself realizing that it's not that far from the truth.

Television in Russia was launched in 1931, and was completely recreated after the end of the World War II. Two channels existed in the 1950s, but it would be the 1980s before television could actually be called mass media.

Nowadays, state-owned channels are the primary vehicles for socially constructing Russian reality. Privatelyowned channels do exist but it's essential to note that most of them are suitable only for entertainment purposes. Besides, their weekly viewership is not even close to that of the state-owned channels.

On the other hand, state-owned channels provide all kinds of content and establish the principle manner in which news should be reported and presented to the public.

There are five major owners of the broadcasting system in Russia: All-Russia State Television and Radio Company (VGTRK), Gazprom Media, Russian government, Government of Moscow and Ministry of Defense.

The All-Russia State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company, founded in 1990, operates ten national channels, at least ninety regional TV channels, five radio stations and a news agency RIA Novosti.

RIA Novosti also owns a global multilingual television news network called Russia Today. The channel broadcasts from its headquarters in Moscow and Washington, D.C., but also has a number of bureaus all around the world—Paris, London and Los Angeles to name a few. The channel operates like CNN with news 24/7. The target audience of RT is the overseas market.

RIA Novosti runs English, Arabic, and Spanish speaking channels. Many American media outlets have contended that the English speaking channel was originally created for propaganda purposes in the United States. The Guardian, an international newspaper based out of the UK, described the network as "unashamedly pro-Putin."

However, the executives of the channel deny these kinds of charges, and they state that the channel wasn't created by any particular demands from the Kremlin.

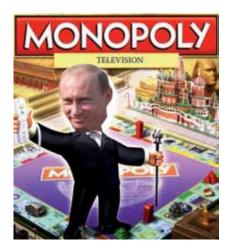
"Nearly in every country we can find mass media aiming for propaganda outside its own borders," said Grigoriy Pruttskov, Moscow State University professor of journalism. "The same applies to the USA. For example, the magazine America and radio station Voice of America were created exactly for those purposes. There's no shame in that," said Pruttskov, who added that he doesn't consider this policy a bad one.

No matter the accusations, RT definitely has a way to engage the public. Recent reports show that RT is the second most watched foreign news channel in the United States after BBC News.

What VGTRK owns

TV CHANNEL	Type of content
Russia 1	entertainment, news
Russia 2	sports, entertainment
Russia 24	news
Russia K	culture
Karusel	children's
RTR Planet	international
My Planet	documentary
Sport 1, Sport 2	sports
Euronews (RU)	news

The most distinguished channel, owned by VGTRK, is Russia 24, a national Russian-language news channel. Rumors of the news channel launch floated around for three years, right before Russia 24 started broadcasting on July 1, 2006. It's peculiar how Russian journalists claimed that Russia 24 is going to be Russian CNN.



Well, obviously not everybody was that impression. The channel strives to give an impartial outline of life in Russia; however, it rarely turns out that way. Quite often Russia 24 violates the ethical and professional principles for the sake of having good ratings.

The channel can be criticized for sensationalism. A lot of stories are intentionally developed one sided. For some reason, Russia 24 tends to be more interested in private-domestic aspects of the arising problems rather than the real reasons behind them.

Anatolij Lisenko, the HSE media communications professor, once said that Russia 24 is "a replacement for the USSR propaganda television."

Moreover, there's no feedback between the channel and its audience. If a report airs, chances are that it's profitable to someone. Way too often, news is connected with the names of politicians and other authority representatives.

Gazprom Media is actually one of the largest Russian media holdings founded as a subsidiary of Gazprom in 2000. It owns three television channels, six radio stations, and eight newspapers and magazines.

Gazprom is an open joint stock company, which is the largest extractor of natural gas in the world and the largest Russian company. The chairman of Gazprom is Viktor Zubkov and the CEO is Alexei Miller. Both have been linked to Vladimir Putin and other Kremlin authorities on numerous occasions. Several Russian media scholars have drawn connections between this relationship and the station's content.

political economy

What Gazprom Media owns

TV CHANNEL	Type of content
NTV	entertainment, news
NTV Plus (digitalsatellite TV) *over a hundred of channels	entertainment, news, children's, sports, documentary, music
TNT	entertainment

The Russian government owns Channel One, the most significant channel in the country, and the first television channel to broadcast in the Soviet Union. Today, Channel One remains the most prosperous of Russian TV channels (it also has the biggest budget).

The Russian government controls over 51% of its shares. Therefore, the channel has a clear pro-government bias. Channel One's news and information are frequently used for propaganda purposes.

For example, most recently, when the 2012 presidential elections took place, Channel One presented Vladimir Putin as a leader who strives to hold the nation together while the opposition was portrayed as an insane crowd who wanted to bring "orange revolution," (a term reffering to a series of political protests that took place in Ukraine from late November 2004 to January 2005).

Because Channel One delivers news approved by the Kremlin, the amount of

stories focusing on the positive aspects of official government policy is disproportionate compared to the relatively small amount of coverage of controversial topics. The level of editorial commentary is extremely high in Channel One's news reports, especially when broadcasting stories concerning government goals. And, it appears that more and more people are becoming critical of Channel One as well, given the recent drop in station viewers, according to TNS Gallup Media.

However, many in the country still rely on Chanel One as their main news source. Pruttskov thinks that to a certain degree most viewers trust what is said on television.

"If you go 30 to 40 kilometers outside of Moscow, or Saint-Petersburg, you'll find people thinking that everything shown on TV is true," he said. "So, in a twisted way Putin did a good job when he decided to monopolize the TV."

The administration of the city of Moscow owns TV Center. This state-run TV station has the fourth largest coverage area in Russia and was created to highlight various aspects of Moscow life. The channel was founded by Oleg Poptsov, who also founded VGTRK and was its chairman in 1990-1996.

The channel reflects the official line of Moscow Mayor Sergey Sobyanin, who supports Dmitriy Medvedev and Vladimir Putin. This channel is obviously under government influence too, but compared to other TV stations, it has much more freedom, and consequently has a

more realistic looking news agenda.

Ministry of Defense owns a nationwide TV network called Zvezda. The channel focuses on military documentaries and tends to avoid airing contemporary news. Zvezda's CEO Grigory Krichevsky was previously known for his work on NTV in the late 1990s.

Taking into consideration all the above, we can conclude that none of Russia's major channels reflect the country's current political situation objectively. So long as monopolization of the national media exists, this topic will continue to arise in Russia.

Although television does form social conciseness, this role doesn't belong to it completely. More and more people believe that Internet is the key to solving this problem in Russia.

"Nowadays, people don't rely on TV that much. So, you really don't know what's going to happen in the next moment," Pruttskov said. "In the '80s, people thought that The Times program on Channel One would last forever, but then everything collapsed."

It's important to keep in mind that things do change in the span of a second. In the 19th century, gas lamps were filled with whale fat. Newspapers kept discussing the fact of what will happen when all the whales in the ocean will get slaughtered and the world will fall into the darkness. But then electricity was invented and that question was never raised again.

So who knows what will await Russia?

Elena Vartanova: There's no unity in the journalist community

Lillie Mazitova, MSU Kelsey Pasero, UWT

What is your opinion of the American media?

This is one of the most developed media markets in the world and it is very powerful. It's one of the most professional ones, but on the other hand it's quite concentrated. However, the American market provides us with very good examples of public service media, quality newspapers, and quality product.

What do you think about the various ways Rupert Murdoch obtains information?

This is of course beyond the journalistic ethics and in a way he has his recipes and these recipes became extremely popular, not among American journalists, but everywhere in the world and this is the kind of tabloid process in media which makes

media more sensational and more profitoriented.

Which of the Russian channels presents a more realistic looking news agenda?

If you are fond of Russian literature, you probably know one of the plays by Nikolai Gogol about a young lady who's trying to find herself a husband. She had six candidates and said that she would prefer eyes from one candidate, ears from the other one and so on. If you combine the information from all the state-owned channels, you would get a more realistic looking news program. You can not exclude Channel One from your TV menu since it's a channel with an almost universal coverage.

Can we even discuss Russian television journalism, when no true journalism actually exists without freedom of speech?

Sometimes ethic is more important than freedom as such. It's not fair to say there's

no freedom of speech. What we should stress out is the gap between journalists — different journalistic generations, cultures, and media outlets... There's no unity in the journalist community.

The full version of the interview with MSU Faculty of Journalism Dean is available on www.conver.i-journalist.ru



political economy

The Connection Between Media, Money, and Power

Kelsey Pasero

Today's American youth are increasingly turning away from mainstream news outlets in favor of the Internet, cable news programs and even comedy shows.

In a poll of more than 1,000 young Americans, The Brookings Institution found that 25 percent of those polled receive their news from websites. Cable news was used by 20 percent of 18 to 29 year olds, newspapers and magazines by 15 percent. Blogs and comedy shows were ranked 37 and 34 percent, respectively.

Dr. Larry Rosen, professor of psychology at California State University, Dominguez Hills, is currently researching youth and news consumption. He contends that Jon Stewart, from The Daily Show, is seen as a leader in bringing news to a younger demographic in a manageable, hip, understandable, and humorous format that they can digest.

One reason why younger media consumers are turning away from mainstream news may be the result of increasing conglomeration of the media, a phenomenon that media scholars have been drawing attention to since the deregulation of ownership in the 1980s.

"Companies need to be regulated by the government so they do not monopolize," said Dr. Ellen Moore, a communications lecturer at the University of Washington Tacoma. "It is important to study the media because when companies monopolize they raise prices, decrease diversity, and create undue political and economic impact."

Today, the media is owned and operated by "The Big Six." According to the 2011 Fortune 500 list, The Walt Disney Company is America's largest media conglomerate, followed by General Electric, News Corporation, Time Warner, CBS Corporation and Viacom. These six conglomerates dominate the media landscape, owning many seemingly unrelated businesses resulting in vertical integration.

According to Dr. Robert McChesney, professor of communication at the University of Illinois, there are four reasons why media conglomerates want to monopolize: Cross-promotion, cross-production, leverage over advertisers, and blockbusters.

Companies can promote their products through the other channels they own and companies can cross-advertise. For example, Viacom's Paramount Pictures released the movie "The Adventures of Tin Tin" and promoted that movie for free through the other channels they own such as MTV and Nickelodeon.

Government deregulation of the media and the resulting media consolidation have been heavily critiqued by media scholars. Scholars like McChesney claim that increasing consolidation of media ownership has a direct correla-

tion to decreased diversity in content.

In addition, news content produced by the media conglomerates is dependent on the advertisers because networks rely heavily on advertising dollars. Media giants will avoid reporting negative news on their advertisers, which could result in lost income.

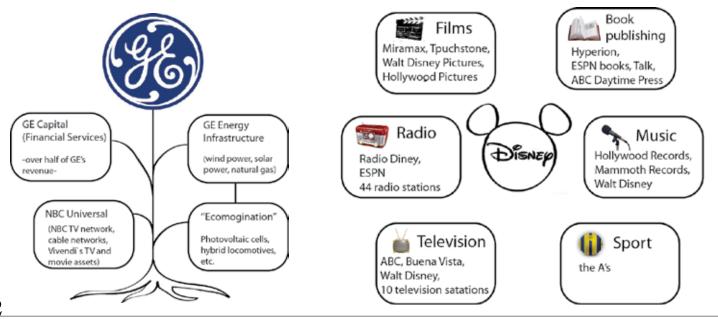
According to McChesney, journalism is supposed to function in three ways: act as a rigorous watchdog of those in power and who want to be powerful, report the truth and distinguish truth from lies, and present a wide range of informed positions on key issues.

It is hard for journalists to function in these three ways because commercialism has caused them to be resource dependent. As McChesney explains, conglomerates want to attract as many viewers as they can in an effort to achieve high ratings because advertisers base many of their decision on ratings numbers.

Dr. Mark Crispin Miller, a media studies professor at New York University, contends that as a result of chasing ratings, the media conglomerates will privilege entertainment over substance.

"So, what this does is it creates a kind of ready market for stories that are high on sensationalism and low on information," Miller said.

While no conclusive research exists yet on the correlation between increasing media conglomeration and decreasing use of traditional media outlets by young people, this could be one explanation for why twenty somethings would rather get their news from John Stewart than Brian Williams.



Lost in Translation

Elisabeth Markova

ust imagine: you are watching a movie about cool guys. One of them is a Russian hero with a serious look on his face. You are expecting something heroic from him-an action or a command. And then-bam!-he says something like: "Дергни ero!", which means "pall him" instead of saying something like "pull him." Then all of a sudden, you hear scary music, with a small inscription in the corner of the screen that literally translates "A top the toe," which makes absolutely no sense what they were attempting to say in Russian. As an audience, instead of experiencing an epic moment, you are left laughing because of the horrible translation.

Actually, Russian is pretty hard to learn. That is why Hollywood seems to get it wrong a lot of the time and make some funny mistakes. Here are a few of the funniest Hollywood mispeaks:



Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow (2004)

Polly Perkins, a newspaper reporter, looks into the disappearances of six scientists. While she is trying to find out whose fault is it, air raid sirens go off as giant indestructible robots attack the city. News reports show similar attacks around the globe, including in Russia.

The producers of this film seem to believe that Russian newspapers are full of just random words, not complete sentence or formulated news topics. Perhaps they believe that Russian newspapers publish only jibberish because almost all people in Soviet Russia do nothing but drink vodka, play balalayka and chase bears around the city. Through these newspapers in the films, the producers create the idea that all Russians are the same: illiterate and uninformed.



The Terminal (2004)

What's the name of Tom Hanks' character? Maybe you think his name is Viktor Navorski? Actually, you are completely wrong. As you can see on his driver's license his name is Гулина Гульнара (Gulina Gulnara) which is actually a woman's name from Asian decent.

The Simpsons

In one of the episodes of the Simpsons, Homer is pointing to various billboards. One in Russian reads: "УЧИСЬ ГОВОРИТЬ ПО-АНГЛИЙСКИ, ИЛИ УБИРАЙСЯ," which translates into "Learn English or get out of here." A mistake by producers or a strategic plan? You decide.

But despite the difficulties with the Russian language, some Hollywood stars still attempt to speak it. One recent example involves Danny DeVito.

During the recent presidential elections in Russia DeVito called on Russians to vote for him in March. The video posted on YouTube by Universal Pictures featured DeVito speaking Russian and calling on voters to vote DeVito.

Did he have any hope in winning? Probably not. But, he did create publicity for his new film. On March 6 he came to Moscow to present the new animation feature Lorax in which ge is the voice of the main character. The film was originally recorded in English but he chose to also read the dubbed voice over in Russian.

"I speak very funny Russian, don't I?" DeVito says in his video greeting. "Vote for me in March in the cinema!"

DeVito went on to explain why he decided to read the Russian dub over for Lorax.

"I wanted to voice Lorax myself in several languages including Russian," DeVito told the radio station Voice of America. Two Russian language tutors were hired to help the actor with his pronunciation. "I don't know if you heard my voice yet—it's a bit rasping... But I wanted my Russian to sound right."

He is not the only American actor to try out the Russian language. A few years ago, Angelina Jolie attempted the language as well for her role in Salt.

"I love speaking Russian. It's very, very hard. I find it a very interesting sound because it can be so hard and strong and also very sensual and very beautiful. I just had to practice over and over and over and I was told that I was getting it wrong a bunch of times and I had to keep practicing," Jolie said during a press-conference promoting the film.

Jolie says that speaking the language in Salt added sexual tension with costar Liev Schreiber, who can read Russian

"It was interesting to see how seductive that language could become when we were doing it... that some sounds can really hinder that or some accents have a very specific feeling to them," she said.

All the examples are high-budget movies, so why is it that they have horrible Russian translations? Do American producers and directors simply not care? Or, do they think that no one will notice? Russian is a complex and beautiful language and obviously given the number of examples above, an important plot device in many American films. My suggestion: perhaps the wealthy American film producers might considering hiring a translator the next time they need a Russian word. Most graduate students will work rather cheaply.



culture





Sofia Dzyuba

Nobody expected a couple of years ago that the Best Picture of the 84th Academy Awards Oscar would be a black-and-white silent film. "If you want to be an actress, you need to have something others don't," Clifton said in the film "The Artist." This film has something others don't.

"The Artist" is not just a unique film because it won the prestigious honor of Best Picture. It is offering the viewer something completely new.

Direct Michel Hazanavicius, influenced by the common practice of European directors to not rely on special effects or elaborate sets, had dreamt for years of making a silent film.

"The Artist was made as a love letter to the cinema, and grew out of my admiration and respect for movies throughout history. It was inspired by the work of Hitchcock, Lang, Ford and Wilder," Hazanavicius said.

These words mean that the direc-

tor really understood what he was shooting and why. Moreover, this film was not only important to the director; it was also greatly anticipated by film buffs who are interested in cinematography. This stylized type of movie production is highly valued in the era of mass-produced cinema. "The Artist" is a film with soul and the cast has a special chemistry.

Hazanavicius also put a great effort into trying to recreate the essence of the old Hollywood style of acting. Others have attempted this in the past but failed because their attempts were superficial. We see Hollywood in the "The Artist," though, more than just scenery and costumes from the time period; the actors embody the feel of the period as well.

Given the novelty of the approach and the reliance on an antiquated film technique (both being black and white and silent), the cast and crew of the "The Artist" should consider themselves lucky to have caught the eye of mainstream audiences. In addition to the fantastic directing, the actors were also amazing. Jean Dujardin (who played George Valentin) and the director's wife Brnice Bejo (who played Peppy Miller) remind the audience of traditional Hollywood actors of the past.

One could refer to this style of acting as the genius transformation, which only few actors can do effectively well. Many people expected that Bejo would not be a talented actress, thinking that she was mainly in the film because of her relationship to the director. But those people were wrong; she was fantastic

Finally, it is important to remember that this was a silent film. The director proved that one does not need spoken dialogue to create a relevant contemporary film.

Through his direction, he was able to create a film that viewers became a part of. The viewers were actively involved with the work of the director when they were engaged with the film and that is why we see "The Artist" in a category of the winners.

march 2012

culture

Marrying science and fashion

Alina Petukhova

Each season designers compete for the influence in trends, trying to attract new customers. Fashion often relies on a style redesigning but not on the functionality. It's high time to talk about some edgy ideas: LED—gowns, GPS—shoes, jackets with a solar cell system.

The marriage of science and fashion is making a striking entrance into the world of modeling. The focus is shifting to more environmentally friendly fashion that lends itself to an eco—friendly, nature embracing design. The fashion industry is working on developing new ideas to enhance the collaboration between technology, the environment and how we dress.

For example, Eben Bayer, an American product designer, recently revealed his new fungus—based material that can be substituted in place of synthetics. Paco Rabanne, during one of his fashion shows, amazed the audience with his rubber—plastic— and nylon—made models. Japanese designers invented robot ears that reflect your mood by spinning. Also, Materials and Components Science has suggested ways of making dresses with hemlines that filter the atmosphere or other textiles created from viruses.

Currently, more and more pioneer brands are eco—friendly, such as Stella McCartney, NOIR, Thakoon, Hussein Chalayan and Yohji Yamomoto. Inditex of Zara, Oysho, Stradivarius, Pull&Bear and Massimo Dutti, are a benchmark group that follows the latest eco—efficient trends in organizing the retail space. These new brands are creating a concept that is a sustainable, innovative entry into the fashion business. This is an attractive alternative for traditional, non—ecological fashion designs.

Russian designers are adopting European and Western fashion practices to develop their patterns.

Moscow is an international fashion hub replete with fashion exhibitions, master—classes, forums for designers, fashion journalists, buyers and creative academics. A lecture about the latest eco—garments in beauty design was held by Digital October Center, which hosts unique global educational programs.

American apparel and accessories designer Alison Lewis (alisonlewis.com) communicated with the audience via teleconference from California. Lewis, who earned a degree from the Singularity University of Silicon Valley, collaborates with the U.S.

military complex and designs innovative uniform products. Because of this, she has now launched her own eco—brand based on her extensive experience with cutting edge technology.

Lewis presented some new high—tech fashion ideas and introduced Internet sites (shapeway.com, freedomofcreation.com, electricfoxy.com) where users can send a self—made costume sketch. The Internet companies will work out a 3D—model of the costume sketch and create sewing patterns.

In the next two to four years, Lewis plans to release electronic jewelry that is responsive to touch.

"Just imagine that you and your boyfriend are wearing a special ring. When you are many miles away, one can touch this ring and the other will feel the warmth. It's all about intangible relationships," Lewis said.

For now she is making inlay LEDs in lace, which are recharged during the day and can warm you at nighttime.

The first EcoFashion Weekend was held in Moscow this autumn, similar to the Ethical Fashion Show held in Paris. Marina Kokorina, the leader, explains that the key message of a project was to bring all Russian eco—designers together, discover new creators, and persuade the fashion industry to support the ecological activity.

Participants came from Moscow (SUDARYANTO by Tatiana Sudaryanto), Saint—Petersburg (Midway by Veronica Repina), Perm (KAMWA by Tatiana Maximova), Kursk (Artur Brage "ECA"), Belgorod, and Engels to showcase their work. Irina Omelyanchuk from ECO—TEXTILES "THE THIRD ROME" held a lecture about eco—fabrics and its universal certification.

All of these ecological, innovative ideas in the West, Europe, and Russia can't seem catch enough governmental or business response, perhaps because their success seems so unlikely right now. One of the issues designers face is who will be the customers for these products. Lewis admitted the audience of hi—tech clothing has not yet been determined. Currently, hi—tech products cost on average \$400—\$500.

"The target audience likely will be women 18 to 30 years old, who are quite wealthy and interested in style and quality." Lewis said. At this stage, according to Lewis, these products remain only an idea. For now, all the attention is on searching for sponsorship and promotion of i—accessories.



journalist



Dr. Maria Lukina, MSU

Always nervous whether students manage their high-flying plans. And always say "We did it."



Dr.Chris Demaske, UWT

After nearly a decade, this program remains fresh, intense, and wonderful.



Alexander Solomonov, MSU

Here in Moscow, we thought a lot about how to make your trip memorable! I hope it was.



Chelsi Harrell, UWT

All work, all play, and no sleep. Thank you!



Maria Eremina, MSU

Just want to say, thank you guys for this production. It was a great experience for all of us!



Kelsey Pasero, UWT

One of the most intense and best experiences of my life.



Ashley Mathews, UWT

Just go with the flow, and surf the Metro.



Lillie Mazitova, MSU

Not only had I learned about how American news media operates, but also had a blast working with everybody!



Elisabeth Markova, MSU

It was exciting to write in English and then just watch how your sentences are transformed into something different.



Mariela Algara, UWT

Someone once told me patience is a virtue, this trip showed me that out of virtue comes beautiful experiences.



Alina Petukhova, MSU

Thanks to our colleagues for their friendship and strong motivation. We did it – YEP!



Anastasiya Ivanova, MSU

Our project showed that there are people who want to hear the truth and to tell the truth.



Yana Andriesh, MSU

Our flags have the similar colors, and we are more alike than anybody expected!



Sofia Dzyuba, MSU

I appreciate the laborious undertaking made by a joint effort. I am proud of our result.



Maria Tyurina, MSU

Never suspected the preparation of the article in a foreign language is that hard.



Anna Laletina, MSU

It's a chance to meet aspiring journalists from the USA and get good advice from an American journalism professor.



Diana Kulchitskaya, MSU

This is probably my fifth time in the project and I still find it very exciting and inspiring.



Alexander Novichenko, MSU

There are no borders for reporters. We share the same values of democracy, peace, and freedom of speech.



Aleksey Spodineyko, MSU

The best magazine issue I've ever designed!



Marina Rudenko, MSU

It was very pleasant to meet you and work together on the project.