Dear colleagues.

We are happy and very proud to introduce you to “The HSE Look” - the new supplement to the informational bulletin “Okna Rosta.”
First of all, let me explain the peculiarities of the name chosen. It is based on a pun intertwining the English and the Russian languages - «look» is a homophone to the Russian «лук», which means «onion». What is it so magnetic about an onion? Well, what has attracted us in the first place is its multi-layeriness that is so similar to the structure of the School, and life in general. The kernel is covered by numerous layers that are semitransparent, but superposing one another they form the visible fruit. In our supplement we want to unscramble the layers and look at each one of them minutely. In each issue we will be stripping off one or more layers and giving it a good broiling. The color theme is also not haphazard. There are many onion species and all of them are salubrious, but the amaranthine one is also sweet. And this is the tendency we intend to stick to.

The pictogram you see in our headline can be interpreted in numerous ways. What it stands for is the onion bulb, cut in half and displaying all of its layers in full view. You can see every layer quite vividly here and nothing is swept under the carpet.

This supplement is designed for all international members of the faculty and English-speaking colleagues; however, we are planning to make it rather different from other supplements. What we aim at achieving is not just to inform you of the novelties in the life of the School, but to make our content as up-to-date as possible. And we really need your help to act up to our promises.

Being employed at a different country always causes a certain amount of perplexity – the bureaucratic system is different, the organizational set-up is different and the co-workers, in general, are different. Sound familiar? We want to make things more simple and logical for you by informing about new (or old, but complex) documents, procedures and of the like in due time. Despite the fact that we have immersed into the situation and certain problems fairly good already, we nevertheless seek your help to make our supplement as useful as it is possible. And this is where you come in. Our content will fully depend on your needs.

Do you have a question that keeps you on the anxious seat? Is there anything you heard of and want to find out more about? Is there something that you’ve tried to undertake within the walls of HSE and failed? Tell us, we’ll help! Or even better – you’ve embarked on something and brought home the bacon. Share your success story - we’ll make it known on your behalf and it will help other readers to avoid a fiasco in similar affairs. Moreover, not only are we willing and able to tell you about the internal processes and experience of fellow researchers, but we are also set for announcing your publications and works. That’s how far our ambitious plans reach. But as you see, we’re a little imperfect without your help. If you have tuned into the beat of our extensive scheme, please, go to http://bit.ly/the_HSE_look and answer as few as only 5 questions!

We will receive your stories and contact you as soon as possible in order to help or to just say ‘thank you!’ :) We are anxiously rubbing our hands in anticipation.

Kind regards,

Yulia Grinkevich
Director for International Academic Integration
Short-term Sabbaticals

What is a short-term sabbatical leave?
A short-term sabbatical is a paid leave, which pursues scientific research as its goal. The School appreciates and upholds the value of sabbatical leave for individual career development, and as a consequence for its academic reputation. During a sabbatical leave at HSE one can work at their research in other scientific and educational institutions.

What is the procedure, considering the short-term sabbaticals?
A short-term sabbatical is granted to employees for whom HSE is the primary place of employment and who were hired through international recruiting or have a third level academic merit pay. Supposing, all the requirements are fulfilled:
1) Two weeks before the planned beginning of the short-term leave file an application addressed to the Rector to your head of the structural subdivision.
   • If you are a member of the faculty staff – the head of your subdivision is the Dean of the Department.
   • If you are a researcher the person you are looking for is the CAS Director
   • If you have two contracts, then your sabbatical has to be agreed upon by both.
   • If you work in a lab address the Laboratory Head
2) On filing the form, the applicant needs to co-ordinate the reporting form of the research results with the head of the structural subdivision. This is a very important moment, because a copy of the report will be required by the accounting department.
3) Having returned from the short-term sabbatical the results (in the form agreed before the leave) are to be filed to the head of the structural subdivision within two weeks.

How often is a short-term sabbatical granted?
A short-term sabbatical should not exceed 28 days a calendar year. It can be submitted once or several times annually for periods when the researcher or faculty staff member has no lessons or other classroom-based events. At the discretion of the International Recruitment Committee the short-term sabbatical may be prolonged to 56 days per calendar year.

How is the short-term sabbatical paid?
The sabbatical is granted with standard salary maintenance and within the timeframes of HSE's internal regulations. However, in case the 28-day period has not been used up, the remains are not transferred to the next calendar year. Neither can it be compensated for, preceded or followed by the basic annual leave. In order to make the process more easy, we are preparing an infoscheme for you to follow. It will visualize and untangle every step of the process. It still is on the development stage, which is why we are calling upon you to let us know the exact information you want to see there. We wouldn't want it to be useless. Meanwhile, shall any questions arise – contact the coordinator at your department. If you are unaware of who that person is address the Head of the Academic Support Center Lidia Gribanova at lgribanova@hse.ru or via the phone (495)772-9590*1673.

Summer Schools

No doubt you have at least once taken part in a Summer School either as a lecturer or as a participant. Summer Schools are a great opportunity to combine the useful with the pleasant by sharing experience and knowledge with colleagues and counterparts, adopting the wisdom of authoritative professors, and especially by communicating your own priceless skills in a friendly and homelike atmosphere.

HSE has a long-term practice of organizing events of the like and many internationally acclaimed professors have taken part in them. Moreover, you are most welcome to organize a Summer School of your own, and it is not as complicated as it may seem at first sight. Let us tell you about some of HSE's successful experiences in this sphere.

Such scientists as Scott Masten (University of Michigan), John Nye (George Mason University), Eshien Chong (Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne) and Danila Serra (Southern Methodist University) have already confirmed their participation in the Center’s for Institutional Studies annual Summer School devoted to Institutional analysis. Some of these speakers are participating for the 4th or more time in a row. If you grew interested find out more at their website - http://rssia.hse.ru.

Sociology Department at HSE St. Petersburg is launching its most interesting “Social network analysis” Summer School. Not only have foreign lecturers, such as Ilan Talmud (University of Haifa, Israel) taken the floor at this event, but members of the HSE faculty as well, Daniel Alexandrov among them. Last year one of the speakers at this occasion was Benjamin E. Lind, an Assistant Professor of the Sociology Department and an internationally recruited member of the faculty. He shared his experience of instructing a workshop and impressions of the Summer School altogether. You may find his report here http://badhessian.org/social-network-analysis-workshop-at-hse-st-petersburg to learn more about the process.

Another intriguing event is “Creating Effective Universities” organized by the Institute of Education. Headed by Isac Froumin, this event will also feature Jussi Välimaa (University of Jyväskyla), Martin Carnoy (Stanford University), Simon Marginson (University of Melbourne) and HSE Rector Yaroslav Kuzminov. The objective of this event is to gather specialists from all over the world and discuss the issue of developing universities. For more information you may contact erylova@hse.ru.

These are just few of the many Summer Schools planning to be carried out in 2013. Many departments in HSE offer the possibility to enroll on such an exciting and advantageous experience in numerous domains. Have you not found a Summer School of interest to you? Why not organize your own? Applications for Summer School organization are considered in November so there is still plenty of time for reflection and planning for next year.

Don’t hesitate to let us know if you’re interested! Waiting for your feedback at eeliseeva@hse.ru.

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