



ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT
INNOVATION FUND

STATE ALUMNI
YOUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY



1st Set of Workshops, Skopje, Feb 13-17, '12

Equal Access through Service Learning for Persons with Disabilities

Ana M. Lazarevska



Outline

- **JFDP Alumni Grant (JAG): JFDP Regional Conference**
- **Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) Application**
- **The Project:**
 - **Activities, Timeline, Responsibilities**
- **Project website**
- **Q&A Discussion, Conclusions**



JFDP Alumni Grant (JAG):

JFDP Regional Conference

”Enhancing Accessibility of the Higher Education to the Disabled”,

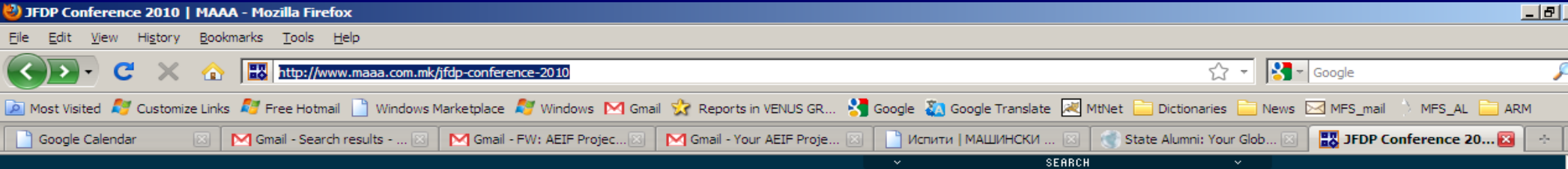
Nov 22-24, 2010 in Skopje/Ohrid, Macedonia :

- **Book of Abstracts**
- **Draft Action Plan**
- **Web site:**

<http://www.maaa.com.mk/jfdp-conference-2010>



JFDP Alumni Grant (JAG):



MAAA

Macedonian American Alumni Association

- About Us
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JFDP Conference 2010

- Info
- Goals
- Partners
- Agenda
- Organizational Board
- Sponsors/Patrons
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Regional JFDP Alumni Conference

"Enhancing Accessibility of the Higher Education to the Disabled"

Nov 22-24, 2010 in Skopje/Ohrid, Macedonia

Call for JFDP alumni presentations

Dear JFDP Alumni,

We are pleased to inform you of the positive outcome of our JFDP Alumni Grant (JAG) application relating the organization of a **Regional JFDP Alumni Conference on the topic of "Enhancing Accessibility of the Higher Education to the Disabled"** to be held on **Nov 22-24 in Ohrid, Macedonia.**



JFDP Conference 2010





Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF)

Application: <https://alumni.state.gov/home>

State Alumni: Your Global Community - Landing Page - Mozilla Firefox

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https://alumni.state.gov/home

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Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) --
We are pleased to announce the 38 projects awarded AEIF funding! [See Assistant Secretary Ann Stock's message of congratulations and the list of funded projects!](#)

Recent Alumni News

Belarusian Community Connections Alumni Gather for Annual Meet-Up MINSK, Belarus -- On Tuesday, May 31, 2011, Community Connections alumni from 2008 met for an annual gathering at the... [Read More >](#)

U.S. Ambassador to Estonia Meets Local Government Leaders TALLINN, Estonia. -- On June 2, 2011, U.S. Ambassador Polt welcomed a group of local government leaders to his residence... [Read More >](#)

Fulbright Alumna Named "Professor of the Year" PHOENIX, Arizona -- In May 2011, Dr. Ileana Orlich, a distinguished Fulbright Senior Alumna, professor of Romanian Studies and... [Read More >](#)

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Browse By Region



World Wide
EUROPE

Welcome [ana.lazarevska](#)

25
New Mail!

Communities

- Disability
- Literature Community
- Macedonia State Alumni

My Profile

My Network (96 members)

- Alumni News**
Read about activities, achievements, and contributions.
- Calendar of Events**
Find or announce events in your region.
- Find Fellow Alumni**
Search for alumni throughout the globe.
- Job Opportunities**
Find job listings or advertise new positions.
- Alumni Associations**
Find information and resources for alumni associations.

State Alumni on Facebook

 7,694

State Alumni Youth Ambassadors in Argentina launched a "Healthy Hearts" community project this week. Alumni plan to raise awareness about common heart diseases and the benefits of regular physical



Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF)

Application:

- **Application: Mid of Feb till mid of Mar, 2011**
- **Results:**
 - 683 submissions and 137 finalists
 - after state alumni voting: 3rd in the World
 - after Review Board selection:
among the 38 financed projects in the World &
among the only 5 financed projects in Europe:
<https://alumni.state.gov/aeif/funded>



Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) Application

State Alumni: Your Global Community - Service Learning (SL) towards tackling Individual needs of the Persons with disabilities (PwDs) in Education - Mozilla Firefox

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https://alumni.state.gov/aeif2011/finalist/march_13_2011/service-learning-sl-towards-tackling-individual-needs-of-the-persons-with-disabilities-pwds-in-ed

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Service Learning (SL) towards tackling Individual needs of the Persons with disabilities (PwDs) in Education

<< Back to results

Posted on 2011-03-13 9:52 pm *By Ana from Macedonia*

FINALIST ✓ 233 votes Last Updated 2 Month(s) ago -->

Category:
Democracy and Human Rights, Outreach to Marginalized Communities

Project Description:
Overall Project Goal

The main goal of the project is to organize a set of workshops (WS) whereby the concept of Service Learning (SL) shall be conveyed to tackle problems relating to

(1) raising awareness for the necessity of a correct attitude towards Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and

(2) enabling, promoting and guaranteeing equal rights of PwDs in line with the UN Convention on the rights of PwDs (Art.24&8).


Primarily, educators and students are the targeted groups. However, through the SL case-studies (CS) impact on the wider community is inevitable.

Project Objectives

(1) present, adopt and implement the SL concept;

(2) raise awareness for correct attitude and diminish discrimination against PwDs, disseminate information about their individual needs;

(3) utilize positive practices/existing methodologies to identify and analyze various kinds of handicaps, understand, tolerate differences and include specific needs in the classroom, adjust teaching methods and suggest possible steps to make learning process easier;



Equal rights for ALL

Helping persons with special needs through all ages and stages of life

Goals and Objectives:

(a) The overall project goal is to organize a set of WS, where the SL concept is presented, adopted and implemented to tackle problems relating to (1) raising awareness for correct attitude towards PwDs and (2) enabling, promoting and guaranteeing their equal rights in line with the UN Convention on the rights of PwDs.

Primarily, targeted are educators and students. Thus, the WS serve as training seminars for the educators. However, since each student can be regarded to as a potential future educator, especially students that major in education, pedagogy, special education and rehabilitation, we envisage conveying the SL concept to all levels of education. This is where we draw the sustainability of our project.

Finally, through the SL case-studies to be implemented in the project, impact on the wider community is inevitable.

(b) Implementation of the key project objectives:

(1) The six WS are the nexus tying the complete project and building the network among all project participants and relevant stakeholders. I.e. the WS are where State Alumni and

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Region: Any

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Keyword:

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AEIF Information

- Funded Projects
- Finalist Projects
- Original Project Ideas
- Introduction to AEIF
- Guidelines
- Q&A Live on the AEIF
- PR Toolkit

Communities

Return to State Alumni Home

- Disability
- Literature Community
- Macedonia State Alumni




Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) Application

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Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund Home



The Office of Alumni Affairs in the U.S. Department of State challenged alumni to create innovative projects that will make a difference in our world in the first Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF)! 137 finalist projects were selected. Their projects, which address democracy and human rights, economic opportunity and prosperity, women's empowerment, promoting a better environment, food security, global health, or outreach to marginalized communities, are listed below.

We are pleased to announce the [38 projects selected for AEIF funding!](#)

FINALIST PROJECTS SORT: Random / Most Popular

<p>Prevention of alcohol abuse by school youth in Russia and Other Eurasian Countries</p> <p>By Vadim from Russia</p> <p>Category: Food Security, Global Health, and Outreach to Marginalized Communities Location: Eurasia</p> <p>A 9 months (September 2011 - May 2012) research, education, and information project targeting school youth, their parents and teachers in Russia and Eurasian countries is meant to reinforce the habits...< more ></p>	<p>✓ Votes: 389</p> <p>Views: 2245</p> <p>Comments: 84</p>
<p>Remembering Lebanon's Marginalized Communities</p> <p>By Ziad from Lebanon</p> <p>Category: Democracy and Human Rights, Outreach to Marginalized Communities Location: Near East</p> <p>The Interreligious Academy is a project of the Dialogue for Life and Reconciliation Organization. After a successful first year experience with building bridges across confessional communities, the Ac...< more ></p>	<p>✓ Votes: 320</p> <p>Views: 2840</p> <p>Comments: 141</p>
<p>Service Learning (SL) towards tackling Individual needs of the Persons with disabilities (PwDs) in Education</p> <p>By Ana from Macedonia</p> <p>Category: Democracy and Human Rights, Outreach to Marginalized Communities Location: Europe</p> <p>Overall Project Goal The main goal of the project is to organize a set of workshops (WS) whereby the concept of Service Learning (SL) shall be conveyed to tackle problems relating to (1) raising aware...< more ></p>	<p>✓ Votes: 233</p> <p>Views: 1324</p> <p>Comments: 58</p>
<p>Women Political Empowerment through capacity building of women leaders on election campaign development and sensitization and education of First Times Female Voters.</p> <p>By Haseeb from Pakistan</p> <p>Category: Democracy and Human Rights, Women's Empowerment, and Outreach to Marginalized Communities Location: South Asia</p> <p>Idea: According to National Database And Registration Authority-NADRA (March 2011) 35 Million people having Computerized National Identity Cards are not registered as voters which is equaling to 40...< more ></p>	<p>✓ Votes: 218</p> <p>Views: 1447</p> <p>Comments: 75</p>

Find Projects

Region:

Category:

Keyword:

AEIF Information

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Communities

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Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) Application

State Alumni: Your Global Community - Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund - Funded Projects - Mozilla

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https://alumni.state.gov/aeif/funded

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EURASIA		
Armenia	Solar Drier Site to Promote Food Security and Renewable Energy	Economic Opportunity and Prosperity Promoting a Better Environment Food Security Outreach to Marginalized Communities
Georgia	Rural Tourism as Alternate Income for Marginalized Communities in Armenia, Georgia, Macedonia and Serbia	Outreach to Marginalized Communities
Georgia	Ensuring Access to Education and Employment Opportunities for Prison Youth	Democracy and Human Rights
Russia	Online School for Responsible Bloggers	Democracy and Human Rights
Russia	Way to Work: Professional Development for Working Moms	Economic Opportunity and Prosperity Women's Empowerment
EUROPE		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	FixMySchool: Online Tool for Education Improvement and Youth Participation	Democracy and Human Rights
Czech Republic	Public Awareness Campaign: Reversing Stereotypes in the Czech Republic	Democracy and Human Rights
Latvia	Creating a Baltic Center for Investigative Journalism	Democracy and Human Rights
Macedonia	Ensuring Equal Access through Service Learning for Persons with Disabilities	Democracy and Human Rights Outreach to Marginalized Communities
United Kingdom	UK Community Action Days	Promoting a Better Environment

Change of the Project Title



Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF)

Application: Preceding activities

- **Foreseen project start Oct 2011**
- **Finances transferred mid of Oct 2011: small delay**
- **Project Title changed to:**

Equal Access through Service Learning for Persons with Disabilities

- **Certificate Award Ceremony: Oct 26, 2011**



The Project:

- **Objectives**
- **Activities**
- **Timeline**
- **Responsibilities**



The Project: Objectives

- **present, adopt and implement the SL concept;**
- **raise awareness for correct attitude and diminish discrimination against PwDs, disseminate information about their individual needs;**
- **utilize positive practices/existing methodologies to identify and analyze various kinds of handicaps, understand, tolerate differences and include specific needs in the classroom, adjust teaching methods and suggest possible steps to make learning process easier;**
- **learn about the status-quo in the education institutions, analyze how institutions can improve physical environment & offered services to better adapt to special needs of PwDs;**



The Project: Objectives

- **train/empower students to negotiate and initiate changes in their immediate community;**
- **publish guidelines for the educators/students to help them work/cooperate/live with PwDs.**
- **set a web site serving as an interface platform among all involved stakeholders;**
- **identify problems in the legislation relating PwDs and suggest appropriate changes/amendments;**
- **use and share gained experiences of the Macedonian and Croatian State Alumni from their exchange in the U.S. to give back to local communities.**



The Project: Activity I

- (I) **Nov 2011–Mar 2012: Conduct the Status-quo analysis focusing on:**
- (1) individual needs of the PwDs, in particular during education
 - (2) implemented/existing methodologies currently in use at selected universities in Macedonia (MKD) & Croatia (CR).
 - (3) (non)existence of special educational programs for PwDs

Engagement:

10 teams (2-3 persons per team) led by State alumni (8MKD/2CR), shall conduct the analysis to provide input to where actions are necessary and what educational institutions should be regarded as potential CS during the project implementation



The Project: Activity II

- (II) **Organize a set of WS towards realization of the main project goal:**
- **WS1/2 (faculty/students): Identify special needs of the PwDs. Psychological background, approach and correct attitude. Encourage and promote cooperation among students with(out) individual needs. Needs Analysis and Course Design**
 - **WS3/4 (faculty/students): Understand and implement the SL concept by conducting CS in MKD&CR to obtain overall picture relating to technical, physical/architectural, informational, curricular and legal (TechPhInCuLe) accessibility issues**
 - **WS5 (all stakeholders): Adapt existing methodology and incorporate psychological background when practically approaching to/working with PwDs**
 - **WS6 (all stakeholders): Present practical experiences and results from the field work.**



The Project: Activity II

Engagement:

- (II.1) Dec 2011–Apr 2012: Prepare WS1-5: Foreseen engagement of minimum 6 State alumni (4MKD/2CR) as WS organizational board for each WS1-5 organization/realization,
- (II.2) 13-17 Feb 2012: Realize WS1/2 (1 day for students/1 day for educators): Auditoriums: for WS1=30, for WS2=40 persons,
- (II.3) 13-17 Feb Feb 2012: Realize WS3/4 (1 day for students/1 day for educators): Auditoriums: for WS3=30, for WS4=40 persons,
- (II.4) Apr/May 2012 (TBA): Realize WS5, (1 day for all stakeholders): Auditorium for WS5=60 persons,
- (II.5) Mar–Aug 2012: Prepare WS6: Foreseen engagement of minimum 6 State alumni (4MKD/2CR) as WS organizational board for WS6 organization/realization,
- (II.6) 1st week of Sep: Realize WS6 (1-2 days for all stakeholders): Auditorium for WS6=70 persons, incl. 10-20 VIPs.



The Project: Activity III & IV

- (III) Feb–May 2012: Conduct field work (case–studies) in MKD and CR: 8 teams (4-5 persons per team) led by State alumni (6MKD/2CR), shall conduct the SL-CS related research. The topics of the CS, thus the teams, shall be selected based on the criterion that TechPhInCuLe issues are covered**
- (IV) Jan–Sep 2012: Organize and conduct a public awareness campaign: 4 teams (4-5 persons per team) led by State alumni (3MKD/1CR), shall work on organizing/conducting the public awareness campaign in MKD&CR, respectively;**



The Project: Activities V & VI

(V) Mar – Oct 2012: Print and distribute publications from the project: 8 teams (3-4 persons per team) led by State alumni (6MKD/2CR) shall work on preparing, editing, translating, distributing the publications deriving from project activities,

(V.1) Apr–May 2012: Prepare and print guidelines for faculty/students,

(V.2) Sep–Oct 2012: Write final report, publish case–studies outcomes and summarize project results;

(VI) Nov 2011–Oct 2012: Set a website to serve as an interface platform among all involved stakeholders: 1 team (1-3 persons plus 4-5 students volunteers) working on the website design, regular up-date & maintenance, blog, and linking it with the state Alumni website.



Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF)

Application: Realized activities

- **Visit SEEU & attend the Lecture of Aida Koci:
Service Learning in practice: Oct 28, 2011**
 - Jennifer Knowles, Kate van Haren (PCV)
 - Daniela Stojanovska (ASYD):
invited presenter both as a Person with Disabilities (PwD), as well as graduated from the Faculty for Special Education
 - Jennifer Birdsall (Fulbright)



Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF)

Application: Ongoing activities

- **FB page and FB group: you are all invited to join us and to “like” us**
 - **FB Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Equal-Access-through-Service-Learning-for-Persons-with-Disabilities/211881288885733>
 - **FB Group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sl4pws/>
- **Web site and web application**



Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF)

Application: Ongoing activities

- **Web site / web application:**
<http://www.equalaccess4pwds.org/>
- **Atrium: Intranet (to be explained by Bogdan)**
- **2 coordination meetings: Nov 7, 2011 & Dec 5, 2011**
- **Group of Students from the FME working on accessibility of the FME campus**
- **Status-quo survey Macedonia / Croatia**



Q&A Discussion, Conclusions

- **Q & A**
- **Discussion**
- **Conclusions**

**Thank you for your attention
and presence**

