



THE WOODS HOLE RESEARCH CENTER

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The Woods Hole Research Center hosts a Russian delegation to explore issues of significance in Russia.

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The Woods Hole Research Center, in conjunction with its Russian Visiting Scholars Program and the Science in Public Affairs Program, hosted a delegation to explore the issues of significance in Russia, including problems of economic growth, environmental security and civil society, as well as broader issues concerning the health of the environment.

The visitors were:

Professor Alexei Yablokov, Counsellor, Russian Academy of Sciences

Professor Vladimir Zakharov, Director, Center for Russian Environmental Policy

Professor Sergey Bobylev, Department of Economics, Moscow State University

Professor Semen Avaliani, Russian Postgraduate Medical Academy

The delegation was at the Center March 10 and 11.

A public lecture by Professors Yablokov and Zakharov was held on Thursday, March 10 in the Harbourton Auditorium. Two of the Russian scientists, Alexei Yablokov and Vladimir Zakharov, spoke on "Russia's Environmental Health: Role of Civil Society."

On Friday, March 11, the Russian visitors and the Center scientists, researchers and policy staff discussed boreal/circumpolar-related forest issues, high latitude climatic disruption, Arctic rivers, carbon and international environmental policy. The goal of these discussions was to increase mutual understanding of these issues and find topics that could be pursued together in the coming months. The Center's Deputy Director, Dr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna who invited the Russians for this visit, said that Russian environment has always been a big part of the Center's interests, ably led by George Woodwell and scientists R. A. Houghton and Thomas Stone. The recent additions of Scott Goetz, Max Holmes, and Josef Kelindorfer position the Center towards major steps in increasing our collaboration with Russian scientific establishment.

The Woods Hole Research Center's Russian Visiting Scholars Program, initiated in 1992, provides Russian forest ecologists the opportunity to spend up to three months in Woods Hole learning state-of-the-art technologies used in forest ecology, advancing shared goals in research on forests, and visiting other field sites and research organizations.



Alexei Yablokov (seated) and Vladimir Zakharov (standing). Photo by Diane Quaid.