A New Era for Science
Annual Report 2009
CRDF is a nonprofit organization authorized by the U.S. Congress and established in 1995 by the National Science Foundation. CRDF promotes international scientific and technical collaboration through grants, technical resources and training in over 30 countries. As we celebrate our 15th anniversary, we are pleased to present to you our 2009 annual report.
In 2009, science emerged as a revitalized and recognized catalyst to help solve the grand challenges of our time and to bring people across the world closer together. It is fitting, then, that our theme for this annual report is “A New Era for Science.”

In this new era, science cooperation provides countless opportunities for scientists and researchers to come together to address shared challenges and humanity’s most pressing problems, including poverty, disease, global warming, energy security and underdevelopment. These challenges are not constrained by political boundaries. Therefore it is critical for nations to address them in a cooperative and complementary way, which is enabled by relationships established by scientists and engineers. In this report, you will learn of our new efforts in 2009 to bring scientists together to advance climate change research in Russia and neighboring countries in Eurasia, and of our 2009 launch of a pilot virtual science library in Afghanistan that will give researchers access to international journals and other educational resources.

Enhanced international scientific cooperation can also lead to greater economic prosperity at home. The U.S. can benefit from new technologies and markets to create jobs, develop new industries and rebuild consumer and investor confidence. Sustainable international partnerships allow us to leverage limited resources and give American companies access to cutting edge research and expertise around the world. In 2009 we connected entrepreneurs in emerging economies to potential U.S. investors, partners and private sector experts—facilitating mutually beneficial global partnerships and linking U.S. businesses with promising processes and technologies developed abroad.

Finally, science cooperation provides increasingly important benefits in advancing peace and security by building mutual respect, particularly with countries that have been isolated. In 2009, we organized the first-ever U.S. science delegation to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) for five days of talks and site visits hosted by the DPRK State Academy of Sciences, resulting in very positive exchanges and areas of interest for mutual collaboration. CRDF serves as secretariat and one of four founding members of the U.S.–DPRK Science Engagement Consortium (with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Syracuse University and The Korea Society), which comprised this delegation.

In this new era for science, CRDF is at the forefront in advancing science and diplomacy. We are recognized leaders and "doers," actively promoting international science collaboration, working with valued partners and sharing our insights about our work to a growing audience around the world. CRDF is now actively promoting S&T collaboration in more than 30 countries. With increased work in the Middle East and North Africa, we will soon open our fifth inter-
national office in Amman, Jordan. Our work in that region supports the U.S. President’s announced science initiative for the development of knowledge-based societies. We are providing innovative mechanisms for scientists and engineers in the Middle East to work proactively together and with their international collaborators on urgent scientific and technical challenges facing the region and the world.

We are also forging new ways of working in the regions we have long served. Such developments help us to respond to the changing needs of the international scientific community. The result: we are delivering increasingly valuable services to our partners—while building critical connections between scientists. As an example, in 2009 CRDF established a limited liability company (LLC) in Russia, a new entity that significantly expands CRDF’s operational and programmatic capabilities in the Russian Federation. CRDF looks forward to continuing to serve as a leading organization in uniting scientists internationally to advance science and technology research, to promote peace and security and to build economies through enhanced educational and entrepreneurial opportunities. We look forward to working with you in this new era.

Sincerely,

Cathleen A. Campbell
President & CEO

John Moore
Chair, Board of Directors
Transforming the International Science Conversation

At CRDF, supporting international science collaboration has long been the core of our programs and activities—and the expertise developed by CRDF over the last 15 years provides valuable insights into global S&T issues. Throughout 2009, our staff and members of our Board of Directors and Advisory Council were invited to share their perspectives on the benefits of global science collaboration before policy makers, scientists and business leaders around the world.

Dr. Farouk El-Baz, a 2009 member of CRDF’s Advisory Council, discussed the mutual benefits of supporting the Middle East in cooperative research and educational activities at a July 22, 2009 Capitol Hill event.

Ambassador Thomas Pickering, the chair of CRDF’s Advisory Council and former U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs, served as a panelist for a meeting—entitled “Fixing the Crisis in Diplomatic Readiness”—hosted by the Council on Foreign Relations on January 5, 2009. The meeting also presented a report initiated by the American Academy of Diplomacy entitled “A Foreign Affairs Budget for the Future: Fixing the Crisis in Diplomatic Readiness,” which addressed the inadequate resources in American diplomacy and provided recommendations on the financial and human support needed to rebuild the foreign affairs capacity of the United States.

Egyptian-born scientist Dr. Farouk El-Baz, a 2009 member of CRDF’s Advisory Council, spoke at a July 22, 2009 Capitol Hill event on the mutual benefits of investing in science and science education in the Middle East. The invitation-only event was hosted by CRDF and the Brookings Institution, in conjunction with Representative Rush Holt and the House Research and Development Caucus, to highlight the benefits to the U.S. of further engaging with the Middle East as it builds these scientific and technical capacities.

Dr. Marilyn Pifer, CRDF senior program manager and senior technical advisor, discussed science and engineering education as part of a panel at the Science and Technology in Society (STS) forum held October 4-6, 2009 in Kyoto, Japan. The high-profile meeting—themed “The Lights and Shadows of Science and Technology”—has created a global human network for open discussions on the ongoing progress of science and technology. The forum gathers top leaders and policymakers, from the fields of business, scientific research and media, from all over the world.

CRDF President and CEO Cathy Campbell discussed the shape and direction of Russian technological development at a conference—entitled “The Evolving Role of Science and Technology in Foreign Relations: Implications for International Affairs in the 21st Century”—at Penn State’s School of International Affairs held October 22-23, 2009. Campbell spoke as part of an invited panel focused on new centers of innovation and technological capability.

Dr. Eric Novotny, CRDF senior vice president, presented on “International Science and Technology Cooperation: Issues and Strategies for U.S. Policy” at the Dupont Summit 2009 held in Washington, DC on December 4, 2009. Dr. Novotny spoke as part of a panel on strategic science and democracy. The Dupont Summit, hosted by the Policy Studies Organization, at the Carnegie Institution for Science, focused on bringing academics, government and society leaders into discussion about the development and direction of the science & technology agenda of the new Presidential Administration.

Dr. Marilyn Pifer, CRDF senior program manager and senior technical advisor, shared her expertise on science and engineering education at the Science and Technology in Society (STS) forum held Oct. 4-6, 2009 in Kyoto, Japan.

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The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) invited the U.S.-DPRK Scientific Engagement Consortium to visit Pyongyang from December 10-15, 2009. The six-person delegation representing the Consortium and headed by Nobel Laureate Peter Agre visited the country to promote potential academic research exchanges between both countries in areas of mutual interest. This visit was the highlight of numerous activities conducted over the last two years by the Consortium, which CRDF helped to establish in 2007 and for which it serves as secretariat.

Distinct from other delegations that travel to the DPRK for humanitarian, economic or nonproliferation purposes, this delegation was the first significant effort to engage in a comprehensive effort focused on science cooperation. In addition to Agre, the delegation included members of the Consortium: Cathy Campbell, president and CEO, CRDF; Linda Staheli, senior associate and consortium secretariat, CRDF; Nealm Thomson, Donald P. and Margaret Curry Gregg Professor, the Maxwell School, Syracuse University; and Vaughan Turekian, chief international officer and director, Center for Science Diplomacy, AAAS. Maximilian Angerholzer III, the executive director of The Richard Lounsbery Foundation, which generously provided funding for the trip, also traveled with the delegation. Collectively, the Consortium members have decades of extensive experience in successfully establishing and advancing international scientific collaborations, including with the DPRK.

Fostering Scientific Collaboration with the DPRK

DPRK (North Korean) scientists work in the Branch Academy of Cell and Genetic Engineering.
Training
CRDF provided logistical assistance for a training workshop—entitled “Working Safety and Security within BSL-II Laboratories,” held by the African Biological Safety Association (ABSA) at the Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya on March 9-13, 2009. This assistance was part of our organizational mentoring relationship between CRDF and ABSA under the State Department’s Global Threat Reduction Program. CRDF subsequently sponsored six grantees to attend the “Antimicrobial Resistance among Bacterial Pathogens” training workshop in Cairo, Egypt on October 1-3, 2009. We also sponsored four African grantees to attend short training courses at International Center for Infectious Diseases in Winnipeg, Canada in May and September 2009. CRDF also hosted the director and deputy director from the Center for Solar Research and Studies (CSERS)—which is part of the Libyan Nuclear Energy Center—during their visit to the U.S. in July 2009. The visit provided the CSERS representatives with insights into the leading edge of solar energy technology innovation as well as government incentive structures for promoting investment in solar energy.

Higher Education
Building on its highly successful higher education programs, CRDF has developed a Global Research, Education and Technology (GREAT) initiative to meet the challenge of strengthening research in universities in developing and transitioning countries. In 2009, CRDF Senior Program Manager and Senior Technical Advisor Marilyn Pilor and Associate Program Manager Meaza Zerihun Demissie participated with Kola A. Sherrifin, Ph.D., director of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation’s Africa office and co-chair, Higher Education Initiative in Africa, during the Association of African Universities 12th General Conference in May 2009, in Abuja, Nigeria.

Africa is fostering the development of its science and research resources. African leaders are making science and science education a priority to build long-term economic development. Building on its capabilities, CRDF seeks to help build sustainable infrastructures to connect Africa’s scientists and students to each other and to the U.S. and global scientific community. Our 2009 activities in this region—from training workshops to invited presentations to briefings and lectures—are building blocks for future initiatives intended to truly make a difference for African researchers, engineers and science students.

Lectures and Briefings
At a public lecture held January 9, 2009, Harvard professor Calestous Juma explored the role emerging technologies can play in fostering economic growth and improving human welfare in Africa. CRDF co-sponsored the lecture, which was hosted by The National Academies in Washington, DC. We hosted an April 28, 2009 briefing at our Arlington headquarters on scientific research and higher education to embassy officials from several African nations.

A New Era for Science in Africa
CRDF Senior Program Manager and Senior Technical Advisor Marilyn Pilor and Associate Program Manager Meaza Zerihun Demissie participate with Kola A. Sherrifin, Ph.D., director of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation’s Africa office and co-chair, Higher Education Initiative in Africa, during the Association of African Universities 12th General Conference in May 2009, in Abuja, Nigeria.

CRDF's Annual Report 2009
Taking Action on Climate Change

Climate change is a global problem that requires multinational solutions. CRDF has proven that it is an effective, efficient implementer of new climate change initiatives. Our partners look to us both for our experience in successfully coordinating international scientific partnerships, and the credibility we bring in engaging stakeholders in collaborative activities.

For example, CRDF provided crucial logistical support to an international team of scientists from the U.S., Germany, Russia and Austria to stage scientific drilling operations in remote northeast Russia to recover hundreds of meters of lake sediment and impact breccias. The recovery of these materials will provide new insights into the climate evolution of the Arctic and the formation of the crater. The team relied on CRDF’s Cooperative Programs/Science Liaison Office in Moscow—in operation since 1998 under a grant with the National Science Foundation—to ensure their project’s success.

CRDF also held several competitions in fall 2009 to engage U.S. and Eurasian scientists in new projects to address key energy and climate change challenges. It leveraged funding from the U.S. government and partner government organizations in Russia, Ukraine and Estonia. While presently focused on U.S.–Eurasia cooperation, this program is applicable to other regions around the world.
According to Dr. Edgerton, co-author Dr. Yuri Gerasimenko—a professor with the Pavlov Institute of Physiology, St. Petersburg, and a researcher at Edgerton’s laboratory—played a strong role in the project. Dr. Edgerton had previously focused on using pharmacological interventions in spinal cord recovery, while Dr. Gerasimenko had focused on epidural stimulation. “Our interests over the years have been very similar, and so the merging of our efforts has been quite productive,” says Dr. Edgerton. “It’s very clear that Dr. Gerasimenko’s contributions have been very significant and he has made a big impact on the productivity of our lab.”

“This combination gave us new properties and new results,” adds Dr. Gerasimenko. “Using a combination of spinal cord stimulation and pharmacological intervention gives us a beautiful tool for the recovery of motor function.” Another Russian co-author, Dr. Igor Lavrov, is a former student of Dr. Gerasimenko’s and a full-time staff member of Dr. Edgerton’s laboratory.

The study was also funded by the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, the Craig Nielsen Foundation, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the International Paraplegic Foundation and the Swiss National Science Foundation.

Published September 20, 2009 in the online edition of the journal *Nature Neuroscience*, the findings suggest that the regeneration of severed nerve fibers is not required for paraplegic rats to learn to walk again. The research may hold implications for rehabilitation after human spinal cord injuries.

In 2009, CRDF supported groundbreaking research conducted by U.S., Russian and Swiss scientists who found that a combination of drugs, electrical stimulation and regular exercise can enable paralyzed rats to walk, and even run. Dr. Reggie Edgerton, the U.S. principal investigator and a professor of neurobiology and physiological science at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, accredited significant contributions to the project from the Russian scientists, who were supported by a CRDF grant, through funding from the U.S. Department of State and the National Science Foundation, and by the Russian Foundation for Basic Research.

Working Together to Offer Hope

U.S. principal investigator Reggie Edgerton, a professor of neurobiology and physiological science at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Dr. Yuri Gerasimenko, a professor with the Pavlov Institute of Physiology in St. Petersburg, were among the co-authors of the project.
A Gateway for Sharing Knowledge

Researchers in Afghanistan will gain a higher profile and access to information with the creation of a new Afghanistan Virtual Science Library, a tremendous resource which will offer access to international scientific, engineering and technical journals as well as other electronic professional and educational resources. CRDF—with funding from the U.S. Department of Defense—is developing and launching the AVSL, beginning with a pilot project at Kabul University.

The AVSL project involves the development of a Web portal that will provide links to licensed content from major scientific publishers. CRDF is also providing support and training to designated individuals at Kabul University, who will be responsible for the project in the long term. These individuals will also be responsible for training users at Kabul University.

The AVSL pilot project is being launched at Kabul University, which has a broadband Internet connection via satellite as part of the Virtual Silk Highway, a large computer center and a fiber optic network throughout the campus.

The AVSL pilot project will establish the technical and implementation requirements to provide Afghan higher education students, professors and researchers with access to up-to-date publications and knowledge resources in a cost-effective and accessible form. The AVSL will build institutional capacity by providing opportunities for curriculum development as well as strengthening university research and ties to the international scientific and engineering communities.

With the development of the AVSL, CRDF hopes to complement and support existing efforts such as the University of Arizona’s Afghan Digital Libraries and Kansas State University’s assistance to the Kabul University Faculty of Engineering.

A Catalyst for Economic Growth

CRDF Senior Program Manager Natalia Pipia, second from left, first row, joined international experts in sharing best practices in building innovation systems and entrepreneurship at a technology entrepreneurship development workshop organized by CRDF in Kuwait.

As part of our mission, CRDF supports innovation and technology entrepreneurship by introducing international best practices and proven institutional models in science, higher education and technology commercialization.

In 2009 CRDF worked to increase the competitiveness of entrepreneurs in emerging economies by providing training and resources to help connect the dots between technology development and commercialisation. We and our partners hosted numerous events—in Kuwait, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Armenia and Georgia—to showcase emerging technologies and connect entrepreneurial teams to potential investors, partners and private sector experts. We also provided personalized training to aspiring entrepreneurs on such topics as intellectual property rights and how to plan and operate their own business and license their technologies.

CRDF established a wholly-owned, for-profit subsidiary—called CRDF TechInnovation—to expand the support of science and technology collaboration in the Russian Federation. In 2009 CRDF TechInnovation successfully completed its first contract with Tomsk State University to plan and conduct an innovation management training program for university personnel. Plans are underway to offer training, business development and program management services to several businesses, government ministries and universities.

In April 2009 CRDF also signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Republic of Tatarstan in the Russian Federation to work together to help support the establishment of small and medium-sized technological companies. The MOU signing ceremony took place at a CRDF technology entrepreneurship training workshop in Kazan on April 20-24, 2009. At the workshop, CRDF President and CEO Cathy Campbell delivered the opening plenary and moderated a panel entitled, “Technology Start-up in a Global Environment,” which also featured CRDF Board Member and Aurora Equity Managing Partner Dr. Julah Dizdarevic.

CRDF will develop and launch the Afghanistan Virtual Science Library—beginning with Kabul University—as faculty and students can gain access to international science publications and other content.
Financial Statement

Consolidated statement of activities for the year ended December 31, 2009

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Expenses:

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*The information presented here is drawn from the 2009 unaudited financial statements of CRDF, which were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The audit report by McGladrey & Pullen, LLP will be presented to the CRDF Board of Directors at its July 2010 meeting.

Executive Staff

Ms. Cathleen A. Campbell
President & CEO

Dr. Eric Novotny
Senior Vice President

Mr. Shawn Wheeler
Vice President for Global Operations and Program Support Services

Mr. Stephen S. Wolk
Chief Financial Officer

Locations

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Central Asia
131/115 Cornet Rukhontsov Str.
Abyr. Almaty

CRDF Subsidiary

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Ulitsa Karagandaskaya, d. 9
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Fax: 380-44-253-4577
www.crdf-techin.ru

CRDF Annual Report 2009
Advisory Council
(as of Dec 31, 2009)

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George Washington University

Dr. William Wulf Vice Chair Emeritus
National Academy of Engineering

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Chairman, Board of Directors CRDF TechInnovation

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Director and Senior Associate
Diplomat in Residence
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

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Grove City College

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University of Michigan

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Mr. Paul Longsworth Vice President
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Center for International Security and Cooperation
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Former Director
Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory

Ms. Kim K. Savit International Business Manager
Science Applications International Corporation

Dr. Richard Murphy Former President and CEO
Salk Institute for Biological Studies

Mr. Robert M. White Principal
The Washington Advisory Group
Former President
National Academy of Engineering
CRDF Annual Report 2009

In addition to the foreign embassies listed, CRDF gratefully acknowledges the continued support of the U.S. embassies in each of the countries in which we work. CRDF also thanks the many individuals, organizations, and engineers who volunteer their time and expertise for our merit-based review programs to ensure the quality of the work supported by CRDF.
We hope you enjoyed reading this annual report and learning about how international science collaboration builds bridges between the nations of the world. For more information about our work, please visit www.crdf.org. Thank you for your support.
In Memoriam

Dr. Sergey Andreevich Egorov (1959–2010)

CRDF is deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Sergey Andreevich Egorov, the general director of CRDF TechInnovation and the former director of CRDF’s representative office in Russia, on May 2, 2010.

Dr. Egorov’s 26 years of international science and technology experience strengthened CRDF in many ways. Beginning in 1997, he served as the manager of CRDF’s highly successful Basic Research and Higher Education (BRHE) program, where he provided strategic direction for its university-based programs and research centers throughout the Russian Federation. He was appointed as director of the Moscow office in 2007 and ably guided our operations in Russia through a rapidly changing economic, scientific and educational environment. In 2009 Dr. Egorov was named the general director of the newly established CRDF TechInnovation, a wholly-owned, for-profit subsidiary expanding the support of science and technology collaboration in the Russian Federation. He understood that the first year of an organization’s life is crucial to its long-term development and, accordingly, he poured all of his energy into ensuring that this bold initiative would succeed.

Dr. Egorov will be remembered by all who knew him for his professionalism, for his commitment to international science and technology cooperation and for his tireless efforts to improve conditions for Russian students and scientists. We will miss him greatly.