Some Results and Prospects of BMSTU's Participation in PEN-International

Brief Overview

Before 1934

• There was no engineering education for the Deaf in Russia

• Engineering education for the Deaf started in BMSTU

• BMSTU Deafness Center started

1991 Cooperation between NTID and BMSTU was launched

- BMSTU's delegation headed by Rector
 Fedorov visited NTID
- NTID's delegation headed by NTID's Rector visited BMSTU

1991-1993

 Development of close bilateral relations between NTID and BMSTU

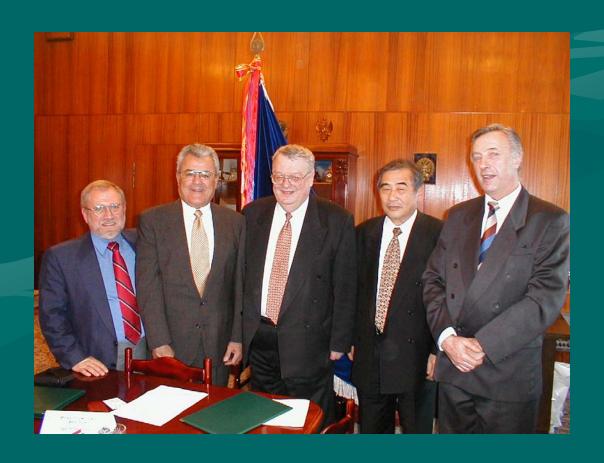
State support for programs for the Deaf started

• Setting up BMSTU Federal Center for the Deaf



2002 PEN-International Program launched in Russia

2002 March: Memorandum of Understanding was signed



- BMSTU and NTID faculty training
- NTID students' visit to BMSTU

• Multimedia PEN-Lab was opened





- Russian deaf students' visit to Rochester
- Dissemination of PEN-International program's experience throughout Russia with financial support from the Government of Russia
- Origination of PEN-Russia network

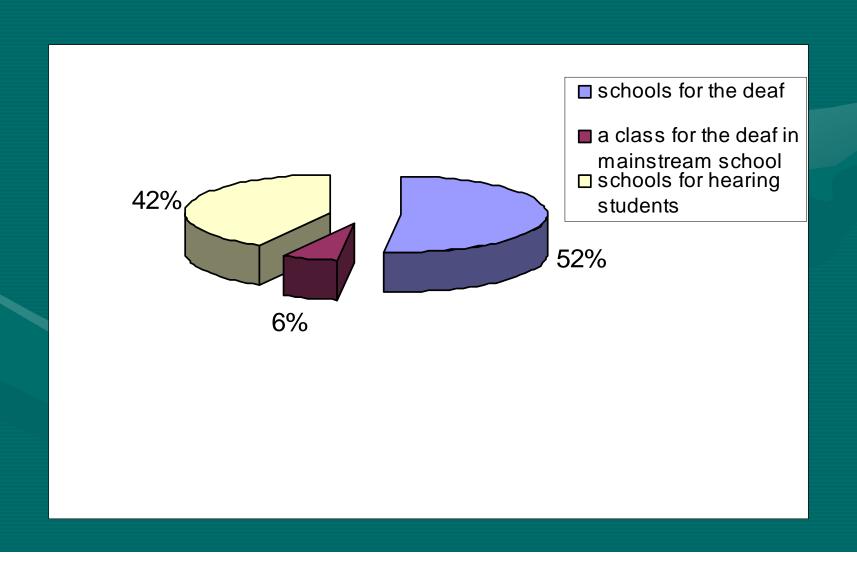
- BMSTU faculty visiting Pittsburg
- Carrying out advanced training of school teachers and university faculty
- dissemination of PEN-International's experience in Russian schools (pre-college education)

The second part of PEN-Lab was opened.
 (Wireless Technology Laboratory)

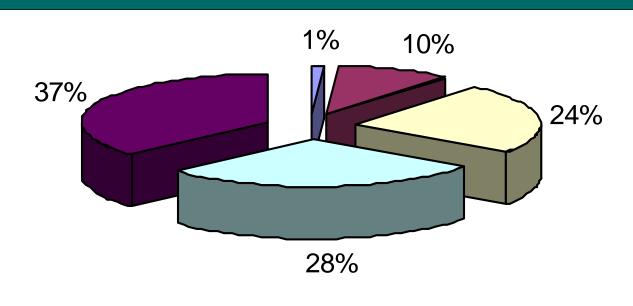




After leaving schools 180 deaf and hard of hearing students get education at BMSTU



Degrees of Hearing Loss

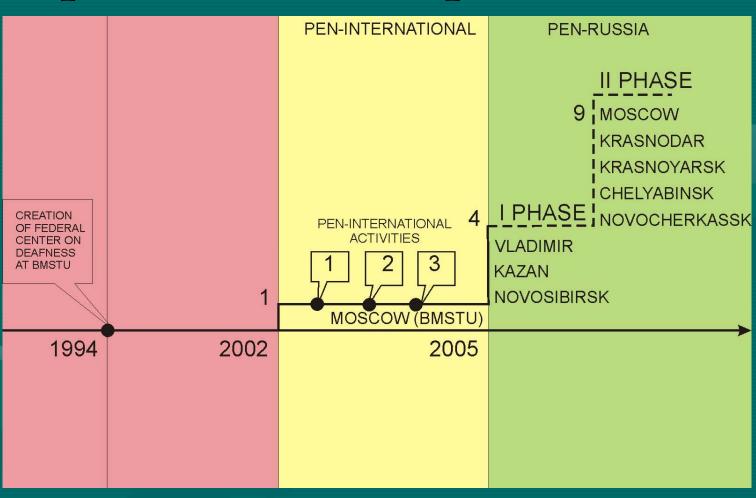


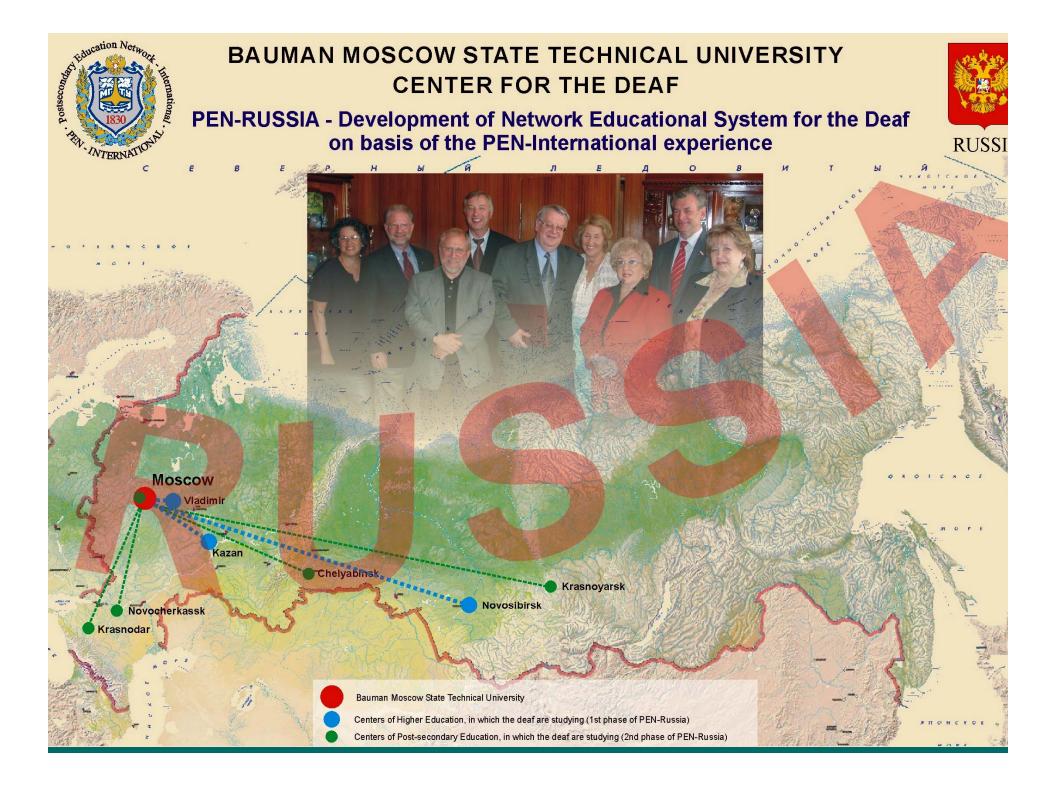
- □ | Up to 40 decibels
- □ || Up to 70 decibels
- Profound deafness (more than 90 decibels)
- || Up to 55 decibels
- □ IV Up to 90 decibels

PEN-International/BMSTU activities

- 1. The creation of the necessary prerequisites for PEN in Russia
- 2. Working out the concept for PEN-Russia
- 3. Technology resources' growth under the aegis of PEN-International

PEN-International partnership expansion is an important result





Aims of PEN in Russia

• Ensuring training programs' accessibility

Ensuring high quality of education

 Ensuring high quality of sign language interpretation and other support services

PEN-Russia Concept

- Training deaf university students in the mainstream
- Complying with the State Educational Standard
- Software, hardware and telecommunication systems' compatibility of PEN program's participants
- Curricula compatibility
- Faculty and staff training

Development of Deafness Center's Technological Facilities

New PEN technologies and the development of new techniques help deaf students master the material which they failed to master earlier.

Trends in Developing Technological Resources

- Creating university-wide informational environment for rendering services to deaf students
- Free unlimited access to educational resouces and Internet for deaf students
- Video conferencing
- Distance teaching and learning
- Support system development

Specific examples of successful impacts

- Center on Deafness' information environment integration
- Center's integration into University
- Faculty training
- Introducing multimedia into training process
- Working out new courses for deaf students to be taught in two new PEN labs
- Improvement of sign language interpreting services (plasma panel, multimedia glossary of signs)

Specific examples of challenges

- Human factor. Problems associated with specialized departments faculty's qulification and mentality
- Problems of interaction and cooperation with University's specialized departments