

Statement by Dr. James J. DeCaro  
At  
Opening of Bauman State Technical University  
PEN-International Multimedia Lab  
26 November 2002

Good evening ladies and gentlemen.

I would like to start by paraphrasing Robert F. Kennedy.

Some people see things as they are and ask, “Why?” Some people dream things that never were and ask, “Why not?”

When the NTID dream of an international postsecondary education network was proposed, The Nippon Foundation asked, “Why not?”

When the dream of a multimedia laboratory was proposed, Rector Fedorov and Professor Stanevsky asked, “Why not?”

When the dream of a postsecondary education network across Russia was suggested, the Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Education asked, “Why not?”

If people are willing to collaborate, dream, invest, take risks and work diligently, almost anything is possible. What you see in this room is the first stage of a vision to network postsecondary education around the world—a vision to create a network in all of Russia.

I think you will agree with me that we are off to a good start. However, to paraphrase the poet Robert Frost, “But we have promises to keep and miles to go before we sleep.”