**State Polar Academy (SPA)**

**Network of Aquaculture Centres in Central and Eastern Europe (NACEE)**

**Fourth International Young Researchers’ Conference of NACEE,**

**Saint Petersburg, Russia, 15-16 April 2014**

**INFORMATION LETTER**

We invite young researchers, BSc, MSc and PhD students, etc., who are doing research in the fields of

ichthyology,

aquaculture,

fisheries,

ecology of fisheries waters,

protection of valuable aquatic species,

and other related subjects

and are interested in putting their materials to the test and publishing them, as well as establishing professional contacts with colleagues from other institutions,

to take part in the Fourth International Young Researchers’ Conference of NACEE, which is to be held on 15-16 April 2014 in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

The conference will take place at the State Polar Academy, which is situated in the centre of Saint Petersburg – the largest scientific centre of the Russian Federation and one of the most beautiful towns of the world, famous for its museums, monuments and other sights.

The conference will include oral and poster presentations. Publishing a paper without attendance is also possible.

The working languages of the conference will be Russian and English.

The conference hall is equipped with multimedia equipment, including microphones, a computer, a multimedia projector and a screen for accompanying the presentations with Microsoft® PowerPoint slides. Photographs and a video will be taken during the conference.

The conference participants are offered the opportunity of publishing their materials, 2-3 pages of text in Russian and English, i.e. a full paper, in the „Vestnik Gosudarstvennoy polyarnoy akademii”, the scientific journal of the SPA (see Instructions for Authors in Annex 2). The publication of tha paper is free for all participants, regardless of the form of participation. Please note that the „Vestnik Gosudarstvennoy polyarnoy akademii” is registered in the Russian Science Citation Index, and thus, any publication therein and citations thereof are shown in the ScienceIndex system on the site [www.elibrary.ru](http://www.elibrary.ru).

**Accommodation, transfer and board of the conference participants**

The State Polar Academy invites one participant from each NACEE member institution, and provides the following:

- transfer from Pulkovo Airport, railway or bus stations to the student hostel, from the student hostel to the conference venue and back, from the student hostel to Pulkovo Airport, railway or bus stations;

- board during the conference, on 15 April, including coffee breaks, lunch and a buffet after the conference;

- cultural programme in Saint Petersburg on 16 April;

- publication of a paper in the „Vestnik Gosudarstvennoy polyarnoy akademii” and one copy of the journal; for those who cannot attend the conference, their copy will be sent by mail.

SPA covers the above costs only to the first 25 registered participants. The expected number of oral and poster presentations is 20 and 5, respectively. Papers can be accepted for publication from up to 10 non-attending participants, but this number may be increased if the number of oral and poster presentations is less than expected.

Accommodation in a comfortable student hostel of SPA in double rooms with facilities and a kitchenette (one per two rooms) costs 12 EUR (500 RUB) per person per day. Payments should be made in roubles in cash or bank transfer. The participants may decide how long they wish to stay at SPA.

Please note that this amount is NOT a registration fee! Participation in the conference is free for the registered participants, only the accommodation should be paid. If a participant does not stay at the student hostel of the SPA, he/she will not have to pay this amount.

**Draft programme of the conference:**

**11 April** – arrival, transfer to the SPA student hostel, accommodation

**12 April**

8.30 – 9.30. Transfer to the conference venue

9.30 – 10.00. Registration of the conference participants.

10.00 - 10.30. Opening addresses, keynote presentation.

10.30 - 12.00. Oral presentations

12.00 – 13.00. Coffee break and poster presentations

13.00 -14.30. Oral presentations (continued)

14.30 – 15.00. Lunch for the conference participants

15.00 – 17.30. Oral presentations (continued)

17.30-18.00. Discussion

18.00. Closing of the conference and a buffet

20.00. Transfer to the student hostel, free time

**13 April**

11.00 – 15.00. Cultural programme, excursion in the town

17.00 - … Transfer to to Pulkovo Airport, railway or bus stations, departure

Minor modifications of the programme are possible.

The duration of oral presentations is 10-12 minutes, followed by 3-5 minutes for questions. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to move presentations from the oral session to the poster session and vice versa, upon agreement with the author.

Venue of the conference: Educational Building of SPA, 11 Rizhskiy Ave., Saint Petersburg, Russia.

Accommodation of the participants: Student hostel of SPA, Block 2, 21 Sofiyskaya St., Saint Petersburg, Russia.

For participation in the conference, participants are requested to fill a registration form (attached in Annex 1). Please, indicate in your registration if you need:

1. An official invitation letter for obtaining an entry visa to Russia,

2. An official invitation letter for the management of the participant’s place of work,

3. A reservation of accommodation for the time of the conference.

Registration deadline: 31 January 2014

Deadline for paper submission: 10 March 2014

Instructions for authors: see Annex 2.

Required size of the posters: not exceeding 75х110 cm.

Contact person:

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Information on the conference will be published on the websites of NACEE: http://www.agrowebcee.net/nacee/ and SPA http://[www.gpa-spb.ru](http://www.gpa-spb.ru).