



**SCIENCE
OF THE
FUTURE**

RUSSIA
ST. PETERSBURG
17-20 SEPTEMBER
2014

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "SCIENCE OF THE FUTURE"

On September 17-20, 2014 St. Petersburg hosted the international conference "Science of the Future", held under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation.

The conference became a platform for the exchange of the scientific excellence, as well as the discussion of the prospects for the development of international cooperation, the integration of Russia into the global scientific environment, and the debate on scientific and scientific-organizational issues. The conference featured the plenary and the poster sessions, the lectures by the leading scientists to general public and carried out work in sections on the basic and applied scientific fields. The conference participants believe that it is useful and important to make the international conference "Science of the Future" a regular event and to hold it next time in two years from now.

During the conference the focus of intense discussions was the mega-grants research program that gained recognition not only among Russian scientific community, but also abroad. The leading scientists directing the research projects under the mega-grants program shared the results of their ongoing research, the experience in creating university-based laboratories and successfully integrating these laboratories in the university structure, and the knowledge of the organization of the research process.

The conference participants noted that the laboratories established within the framework of the mega-grants, are successfully functioning, and became the points of growth for research and development in educational and scientific organizations. The host institution or scientific organization, which provide necessary support to ensure long-term performance of the laboratories, as is customary in the world's leading universities, play a major role to ensure the laboratory success. In general, providing conditions for normal functioning of laboratories established in the framework of the "mega-grants" by the host universities and organizations is essential to maximize the long-term outcomes of this program. Activities of the laboratory created as part of the university or research organization strengthens the national and international reputation of this university or organization, enhances its modern research infrastructure and training qualified scientists, capable of solving important scientific problems in accordance with highest international standards. To increase qualifications of the laboratories personnel and exchange scientific experience in the area of the work of the laboratory the training of the researchers in leading foreign science and education center is organized.

The conference participants highlighted the development of cooperation with the leading former Soviet and Russian scientists working abroad. Given their expertise and global



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experience, the knowledge of the Russian language, the national culture and mentality of the Russian scientific environment, such scientists can successfully apply the knowledge and experience gained in Russia and abroad, attract high-level professionals, develop new scientific schools, and successfully train cadre of young scientists. This is a unique competitive advantage of Russia that should be fully utilized to the benefit of Russian science.

The conference participants believe that the current achievements of the mega-grants program including 160 laboratories established must be further developed to form a critical mass of advanced research teams, which will allow Russian science to make a qualitative leap forward. The "mega-grants" have become a prestigious Russian scientific "brand" that is internationally recognized and favorably perceived across the world. Maintaining this brand is beneficial to the Russian scientific community and the Russian State at large.

The conference participants believe that it is advisable to continue the program after 2016, and to bring it to a new level, providing possibility for further budget funding of most successful current research projects for up to 10 years (by analogy with science programs in Europe, USA and Japan). This will create optimal conditions for involving young researchers in the work of laboratories under the supervision of leading scientists in order to retain the young scientists in Russia and ensure the continuity of the scientific knowledge.

Handwritten signatures in blue ink on a light yellow background. The signatures are written in Cyrillic and include names such as 'E. L...', 'M. K...', 'B. K...', 'B. D...', 'A. V.', and 'D. A. V.'.



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for Uelov
Tingon Uet
Name Nov Anton
Dainton A. Duroch
Joseph Kavze
Kavon Karata
Ungaral Mory
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