



# Leaders to Follow

## SUMMARY REPORT ON ILI KEY PROGRAMS, 1990-1998

From 1991-1997, the main focus of the International Leadership Institute has been to deliver *Business Leadership Forum: USA (BLF: USA)* programs, to fulfill our mission of assisting individuals in building productive international business and educational relationships.

To deliver these multi-faceted, comprehensive programs, the Institute has partnered with more

The *BLF:USA* executive education programs were originally developed to help major industrial enterprises in the Czech Republic and Slovakia in their transition from a state-planned economy operating in a communist political system to a free-market economic system operating in a democracy.

More than 250 executives have taken part in the *BLF:USA* programs to date.

The International Leadership Institute's *BLF:USA* programs have an outstanding record of achievement including

- More than US\$ billion in contracts for new international business ventures between Central European program participants and US-based firms;

- Successfully-negotiated contracts between Central European and US-based companies, including purchase/sale of products, outsourcing of parts production, joint ventures and setting up of international offices;
- International employment and educational opportunities for program graduates;
- International social, educational and cultural exchanges between program participants and their American host families;
- More realistic and productive relationships between Central European executive participants and their American executive counterparts, internship sponsors, trainers, lecturers, host families and new acquaintances. To p. 2

The first EEP-CBL program visits The University of the South in Sewanee, TN



than 300 businesses, government agencies universities, chambers of commerce, training organizations, and host families.

These partners include the Czechoslovak Ministry of Industry, Olomouc Training Center, the World Trade Center-Chattanooga, Covenant College, the Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade, the University of North Florida, the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, and Jacksonville University's Institution for World Capitalism.

## ILI Update

1997 *BLF: USA Executive English* participant **Libor Holsan** returned to Florida in February 1998 for a custom-tailored program to explore establishing a U.S. office for his firm **Montan**, based in the Czech Republic. He traveled to Florida's Gulf Coast and met with **Alan Tannenbaum** of **Levin & Tannenbaum**. Libor reported that his firm is doing well in its trading activities.

**Sylvie Brandejsova** of the Czech Republic, 1996 *American English Language Immersion* participant, worked as an au pair in London this year.

**Nadia Linkova** of the Czech Republic, 1991 *American English Language Immersion* participant, reached two milestones this summer: she graduated from Charles University with a degree in Economics and she married Jeff Roberts, an American from Colorado. Congratulations, Nadia!



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## SUMMARY REPORT ON ILI KEY PROGRAMS, 1990-1998

The Czech government, after having been our constant partner in selecting the executive candidates and giving them financial assistance, has now officially completed its economic transition. In 1995, then-Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus announced the official movement of the Czech economy from state-planned to free-market, signaling the fulfilling of our contractual agreement with the Czech government which began in 1990.

### ***US AID Programs***

Since 1996, the Institute has served as a training provider for *US AID (Agency for International Development)* programs of the *US Department of State*, through *World Learning, Washington, D.C.* As with all Institute programs, these results-oriented training programs are key expressions of our core mission, which is to bring together business, professional and government leaders from the transition economies of East Central Europe with their American counterparts.

Institute programs are designed to help these leaders overcome their past isolation, and develop closer economic and social ties with the United States. In addition to giving participants the needed tools for success in their home organizations, these programs stress the importance of

building free, open market economies in the context of democratic political systems.

These programs have been funded entirely by *US AID*, which is under increasing pressure to justify the resources spent on its development assistance, with training resources not exempted.

Trainees are selected for participation based on their ability to make positive economic, political or social change in their country. Typically, these participants possess technical or academic skills, and leadership qualities, are committed to development, and are striving to become effective leaders in managing change.

### ***American English Language Immersion Programs in the United States***

Since 1990, the International Leadership Institute has been delivering *American English Language Immersion Programs in the United States*. Participants from Czech Republic, Slovakia, Switzerland and Germany have ranged from students to young aspiring professionals. Language programs offer participants the opportunity to see the United States, become familiar with its major historical, cultural, economic and political features. We continue to offer these programs for interested young people.

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## American English Language Immersion Programs in the United States (AELIP) for 1998

### ***Albania in the Spotlight***



**Anisa Nerguti**

The province of Kosovo is in the news recently. Although it's ethnically about 90% Albanian, Kosovo is part of Yugoslavia. The current violent conflict is a reflection of centuries-old racial, religious and ethnic differences that have erupted in the transition from a repressive communist regime to a free political and economic system.

Unfortunately, this violence has spilled over into Albania, picturing it to the world as an unstable country with unresolved political problems. This only adds to Albania's general woes. Since its communist dictatorship was forcibly removed by

its citizens in a dramatic 3-day public event, that appeared on televisions all over the world, Albania has struggled to provide economic and political security for its people. A widely-publicized pyramid scheme that robbed many Albanians of their life savings is emblematic of the difficulties faced by Albania as it takes its rightful place among the nations of the modern world.

Because of the spotlight on Albania, we at ILI were most interested when our friend Dr. Dietrich Fischer of Princeton, NJ introduced us to Mithat Gashi, an Albania emigrant who came to the U.S. in the

mid 1980's and now teaches in the New York City school system. Mithat has a niece, Anisa Nerguti, (age 16) who dreams of coming to the U.S. to further her skills in English and to become acquainted with American life.

Anisa applied for ILI's *AELIP* program for summer 1998. We are happy to admit her, as she sent us very favorable recommendations from her high school teachers. Anisa's *AELIP* program includes a host stay with Kit and Boyd Fink, and visits to UNF, JU, area high schools, and Kennedy Space Center. We look forward to welcoming Anisa to Florida!