



Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution
of Higher Education
«Moscow State Linguistic University»
(MSLU)
38 Ostozhenka St., Moscow, Russia
119034 <http://www.linguanet.ru>



Date: March 6, 2019.

To: SUN Universities

Re: **Letter of Invitation to the 5th Annual International Conference of International Association for Silk Road Studies (IASS), September 26-28, 2019, Moscow, Russia**

Dear members of the SUN universities and institutes,

On behalf of Moscow State Linguistic University (MSLU) and the International Association for Silk Road Studies (IASS) we are pleased to invite you to attend and present a paper at the 5th Annual International Conference of IASS to be held September 26-28, 2019, in Moscow, Russia. The conference is co-organized with the Silk Road Universities Network (SUN) and sponsored by Gyeongsangbuk-do province, Republic of Korea.

Russia as the largest country along the Silk Road takes active part in a wide range of initiatives that have been implemented to restore this ancient route. The importance of the Silk Road for Russia is determined not only by its geographic position but also by the meaning the Silk Road has acquired in the present context.

Over the past four years, Silk Road studies have achieved remarkable success. The theme of the 5th International Conference of IASS has been decided to be *Silk Road: Connecting Cultures, Languages, and Ideas* with focus on the following topics: 1) Silk Road in the world of diversity: a way to connect; 2) Silk Road: communicating science and new technologies; 3) Silk Road across centuries: archeology and history; 4) Silk Road as reflected in arts and literature; 5) Silk Road: achieving balance in economy, trade and politics; 6) IT technologies in data storage and management; 7) Science and higher education; 8) Environment protection: challenges and opportunities; 9) Understanding diverse ways of government administration along Silk Roads.

The conference will involve 1 day of presentations and discussions on September 27, 2019 and will be preceded by a welcoming dinner the night before. The next day we will organize a cultural program (optional, will be charged extra) for the participants.

The conference will also include self-financed forums (closed forums – by separate invitation only) with the following topics to be discussed: 1) Universally usable map of Silk Roads independent of any forms of political and cultural biases; 2) Comparing diverse sports and martial arts along Silk Roads. Working languages of the conference will be English and Russian.

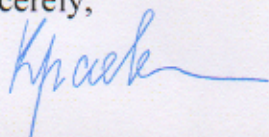
Any papers regarding the above-mentioned topics are welcome. Papers presented at the conference will be published. Please send us an abstract and a brief bio (150 words each), a portrait photo, a copy of your passport and registration form by **April 15, 2019**. Full papers (15-20 000 characters) and e-tickets are to be submitted by **June 1, 2019**. Please send all the required documents and inquires written in English to iass.conference@linguanet.ru. Due to financial limitations we cordially recommend you to apply till April 15, 2019 following 'the first come first served' basis.

Expenses (i.e. accommodation and meals during the conference) except flight tickets of **one** representative of a participating Silk Road university or institute, who submitted **the full paper**, will be treated by SUN and MSLU. Expenses of other participants from the same institution are not covered by the organizers. Hotel reservation will be arranged from September 26 till 28 (total of 2 nights and 3 days). We could help to reserve rooms for those participants who bear their own costs as well, should they inform us in advance.

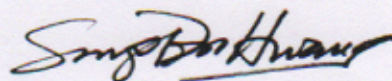
We hope for your positive response and believe your research paper to be delivered in the conference will contribute to the sound establishment of Silkroadology, a field of profound scientific studies.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Sincerely,



Professor Irina Kraeva
Rector of MSLU
President of IASS



Professor Sungdon Hwang
Secretary General of SUN