

LISA HAYDEN ESPENSCHADE

SUMMARY OF SKILLS & COMPETENCIES

Very fluent Russian skills sometimes mistaken for émigré Russian. Work as freelance writer and translator. Russian language experience includes teaching Russian to Americans at three schools, eclectic reading of classic and contemporary literature, and six years living and working in Moscow.

DEGREES

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

M.A. in Russian Literature, August 1989.

Coursework included seminars on translation and proficiency-based teaching.

B.A. in Slavic Studies, concentration in Russian and Soviet Civilization, May 1985.

RUSSIAN LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE

Freelance Translator and Text Editor. Scarborough, ME

September 2000 to present

- Translate Russian texts into English, including short stories and a script for the anthology *Squaring the Circle: Winners of the Debut Prize for Fiction* (2010, Glas), and articles for a gallery's art book about artist Yuri Vnodchenko. Translate legal documents.
- Write Lizok's Bookshelf, a blog about Russian literature, reading fiction in the Russian original and following news on translations.
- Edit Russian-English translations on topics including art, technology, and medical care.
- Interpreting assignments have included medical appointments in diverse specialties, corporate training, and professional hockey.

Russian Teacher and Tutor. The Language Exchange, South Portland, ME

April 2000 to present

- Teach various levels of Russian, including grammar and conversation skills, to adults.
- Lead occasional workshops on Russian classical and contemporary literature.

Russian Language Lecturer. University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME

September 2003 to May 2004. September to December 1989, 1990, and 1991

- Taught first- and second-year Russian courses.

Abstracter and Indexer. ProQuest Information and Learning Company, Louisville, KY

June 2003 to present

- Read Russian- and English-language articles in performing arts journals, write English-language abstracts, and provide index terms for database.

Director, Moscow Office. Institute of International Education, New York, NY/Moscow, Russia

August 1996 to June 1998

- Supervised staff, managed programs, led program development efforts.
- Co-edited *Returning to Russia* book with American Chamber of Commerce in Moscow.
- Assisted Ford Foundation and two oil companies in developing and implementing grant competitions.
- Trained Russian teachers in interactive teaching methods after winning World Bank funding.

Director, Moscow Office. IREX Institutional Partnership Project, Moscow, Russia

February 1995 to July 1996

- Established and supervised office that monitored and evaluated Russian-American partnership projects funded under a \$29 million USAID grant.
- Visited Russian partner organizations and advised grantees on optimizing project implementation.
- Coordinated conferences and designed seminar on financial management of U.S. government grants.

Independent Consultant. Moscow, Russia

October 1994 to January 1995

- Wrote and used seminar materials to train Russian and Belarusian NGOs in fundraising.
- Evaluated USAID-funded partnerships in Russia and Belarus, making recommendations in detailed reports after extended site visits and interviews.

Program Director. United Way International, Alexandria, VA/Moscow, Russia

July 1993 to October 1994

- Oversaw management of USAID-funded volunteer center, planned volunteer events.
- Edited Russian- and English-language newsletters for Russian nonprofit organizations and donors.
- Trained Russian nonprofit organizations in volunteer management.

Resident Director. American Council of Teachers of Russian, Washington, D.C.

September 1992 to June 1993

- Administered and coordinated study abroad program for American college students.
- Acted as liaison between students, host institute, and ACTR, observing all levels of classes and making recommendations to Institute of Steel and Alloys about curriculum and teaching methodology.

Volunteer Consultant. Portland, ME

September 1988 to September 1992

- Travelled to the Soviet Union as interpreter and group leader for high school student exchange program.
- Participated in development of high school exchange program for Russian and American students, including student and chaperone recruitment and selection, program design, and community fund-raising. Program later received funding from USIA.
- Served as interpreter and liaison for Soviet groups visiting the United States, including Supreme Soviet deputies, businesspeople, and actors.

ENGLISH-LANGUAGE WRITING EXPERIENCE

Freelance Writer. Scarborough, ME

July 1998 to present

- Corporate writing includes developing and editing promotional and technical texts for Web sites. Write and edit business correspondence and proposals.
- Write and edit medical interpreter training newsletters and manuals. Proofread and edited Russian-language materials for distribution to hospital patients.
- Published essay in *The Pennsylvania Gazette* about living in Russia.
- Wrote over 320 articles about economic development, and biotech and technology companies for individual investor Web site, Maine Science & Technology Foundation Web site, and other technology publications.

HONORS

- Listed in several editions of *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who Among American Women*
- Won CASE Media Fellowship for journalists; participated in marine science program, May 2003.