

OPENING THE RED DOOR

Curriculum Guides – Discussion Questions



PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

Leadership Principles – A Case Study in International Business

1. How would you evaluate the formation of the American Working Group (AWG) and their initial steps to launch the development of the Russian-American Christian University (RACU)?
2. Did the plans for the initial visit of the Russian delegation in September 1990 seem appropriate? What changes might you have made in these plans?
3. If you were responsible for creating this new private college in Russia, would you have followed the advice offered by business and church leaders in Russia (p. 102)?
4. In 1994-95, the RACU Board made a number of key decisions about how to build the school, what its focus ought to be, and how its president should handle his responsibilities (pp. 108-111). Any thoughts about how these policies were developed and then implemented?
5. How would you assess the decision about the school being binational (Russian-American) or starting up as a binational school and then becoming a Russian institution?
6. The appointment of competent and committed Trustees – both Americans and Russians - was of critical importance in the development of RACU. How would assess this process and what would you have done to get more active Russian ownership of the school?

7. What options did RACU's leadership have when faced with Russian government bureaucrats who were hostile as Putin turned against the U.S., when dealing with constant demands for the payment of bribes, and when the whole system of Russian higher education was fundamentally corrupted (by their own admission)?