

History of cooperation

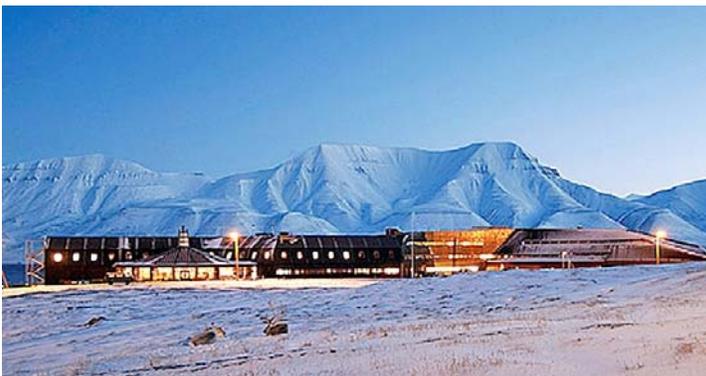
The pressure on governments to develop the hydrocarbon fields in the Arctic to provide an energy hungry world with fuel is increasing. Both oil and gas developments are being considered. The technology used in other areas of the world, may for these Arctic areas become insufficient due to the presence of the ice, the low temperatures and the long distances from shore to the actual fields and commercial markets.



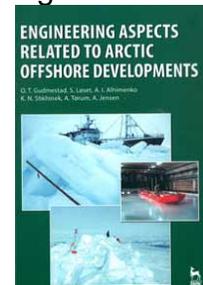
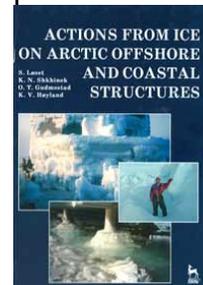
Russia has long traditions in onshore exploitation of hydrocarbons. Some of the fields are located in warmer climate while others are located in the Sub-Arctic and Arctic. Over the last decades it has, furthermore, become evident that a substantial amount of the Russian hydrocarbon reserves are located on the Arctic Shelf. To secure a sustainable development of these resources, scientists and engineers specialized and familiarized with the challenges these waters represent, are required.

Norwegian oil industry (mainly Statoil and Norsk Hydro) has a long experience from offshore developments in the North and Norwegian Seas. The industry as well as the nation does have great interest in exploiting the resources in the Barents Sea.

With this foreseen development in mind NTNU, UNIS and SPbSTU started to collaborate for more than 10 years ago.



The collaboration is documented in the joint research efforts and publications including text books.



The first students came to UNIS from SPbSTU in autumn 1996 (Oleg Prossytchev and Ekaterina Shushkanova), just three years after UNIS was established in 1993 to provide university level education in Arctic studies. UNIS' geographical position gives it a unique advantage, enabling students and faculty to use nature as a laboratory, arena for observation and data collection.

Since the collaboration started more than 30 Russian students have attended technology courses in Norway with a stay of one year or longer. They took part both in lecture and Field courses



The funding has been provided by the "Cooperation in Higher Education and Research between Norway and Russia" program, Statoil as well as own funding. The employment record of these students is splendid – they are very attractive for both Russian and Norwegian industry and multinational companies working in Russia. The majority of these students have attended the teaching at UNIS ([see UNIS relevant courses](#)). Three of them got an honoured diploma in Russia and two of them have got the opportunity to take a doctor degree in Norway (Dr. Pavel Liferov and Dr. Svetlana Shafrova).

We have also had several of Norwerian students in St. Petersburg and Moscow for longer or shorter periods (e.g. Dr. K. Høyland and Dr. P. O. Moslet) as part of this exchange. SPbSTU has regularly had guest lecturers at UNIS and NTNU.

The other partners in this project have either been involved through research collaboration (AARI), exchange of professors or by student exchange (MIPT, MSTU). Students from MIPT attend UNIS courses from autumn 2007.

Our former students work now at universities and industry ([see pages ALUMNI](#))