University.



Soviet environmentalists, speaking today at 4 p.m. in Condon Room 104, gather around a computer to discuss concerns about global environmental problems.

Soviet environmentalists speak, hope to improve U.S. relations

By Denise Clifton Emerald Reporter

Three Soviet environmentalists are visiting the United States to review environmental programs at the University as well as at other American colleges, and one of them will speak on global environmental concerns at the University this afternoon.

Marat Khabibullov, director of the International Program of the Department of Nature Protection at the University of Kazan in the Soviet Union, will lecture on and answer questions about global environmental issues, such as ecological and landscape problems. at 4 p.m. today in 104 Condon Hall.

"I will, of course, also be talking about industrial problems because lower developed technology often is the cause of the world's environmental problems today." Khabibullov said.

Khabibullov's lecture and the Soviets' visit are sponsored by the University's Environmental Center.

Khabibullov said he also will teach a class at the University of Wisconsin at Madison this summer which will discuss Soviet environmental problems and programs in detail.

"I will have some information about Chernobyl, as well as other problems," he said. Khabibullov is traveling with one of his colleagues, Yuri Kotov, the chairman of the Department of Nature Protection at the University of Kazan.

Currently. Kotov is running for a position in the Soviet Congress of Public Deputies in the Soviet Union's first free election. This congress will elect the members of the Supreme interpreting. Tarasov described industrial ecology as similar to United States environmental engineering.

"It's really an interdisciplinary approach to implement narrow fields." such as economics, chemistry and fundamental psychology, Tarasov said.

Tarasov said environmental protection programs are improving in the Soviet Union.

'I would like to say to the average student here that he must have more interest in problems outside his own region.' –Marat Khabibullov

Soviet. which governs the country through designated commissions. Kotov said with Khabibullov interpreting.

"This includes the Commission for Nature Preservation." Kotov said. "I am hoping it will help (Soviet environmental concerns) if I win, but it's all very unpredictable."

Kotov will find out today if he and his "Green" environmentalist party won in the election.

Valerje Tarasov, chairman of the Industrial Ecology Department at Mendenez Institute in Moscow, also is visiting the University. With Khabibullov "Talking about industrial programs, we've had them ... since the 70s," he said. "But now we have new programs, like the state committee for nature preservation."

Khabibullov said he hopes to organize a faculty and student exchange program between American and Soviet universities.

"On this trip we have been working on the preparation of a cooperation program between our two countries," he said. "I would like to say to the average student here that he must have more interest in problems outside his own region."

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