



“The PDK – UNL Chapter Challenge to Rebuild the Georgian Radio—ATINATI”

As you are aware, the Republic of Georgia was recently attacked and occupied by Russian military forces whom destroyed crucial parts of the Georgian infrastructure. Among the essential services that were damaged was a radio station operated by ATITATI, a non-government, non-profit organization that delivered vital information to more than 800,000 Georgians, primarily to the city of Zugdidi and Western Georgia. The director of ATINATI is Rusadan Kalichava, a teacher and friend, who has traveled to Nebraska on several occasions. In response to the recent attacks by Russia on the Republic of Georgia and a call for help, the University of Nebraska Phi Delta Kappa Chapter Executive Board has announced a fund raising effort to help rebuild the only radio station in the war-torn region. This station is crucial and is a major force in Georgia’s continuing struggle to build a democracy

Ms. Kalichava seeks \$128,000 to rebuild the radio station. To date, ATINATI, http://www.atinati.org/index_eng.shtml, 1.800.233.5027, ext.1220, has received approximately \$80,000 donations from organizations in Great Britain, Holland, and the US Embassy in Georgia. ***Your donation can help close that \$40,000 gap.*** A number of UNL and SCC faculty have pledged AND given more than \$6,000 for this cause. But this is not enough, so the Department of Educational Administration at UNL, who hosted the Georgian visiting educators, has asked PDK to sponsor a donation program called the “*The PDK-UNL Chapter Challenge to Rebuild the Georgian Radio--ATINAIT*” so that the station can again, provide news including democratic information to its 800,000 listeners.

Since 2004 more than 20 educators from Georgia have received training from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln and Lincoln Public Schools toward learning about American education and culture. In addition, a number of UNL and Southeast Community College faculty have visited ATINATI and Georgia on several occasions.

Phi Delta Kappa International, <http://www.pdkintl.org/>, is an educational organization with over 600 chapters dedicated to supporting quality education. The local Chapter is comprised of 230 teachers, administrators, college teachers, and professors. The local chapter has made “Relief for Radio Station ATINATI” as its major service project and welcomes contributions to the fund.

Go to: pdk.unl.edu to view a video tape made by Ms. Kalichava. The video provides evidence of the destruction and condition of the radio station. Pictures also provide evidence of the occupation in Zugdidi and the damage caused by Russian soldiers.

Contributions are 100% tax deductible. PDK will provide an official receipt to all donors. To donate, please complete the form on the next section. Make your check to “Phi Delta Kappa” and mail both aspects to: Dr. Mike McDonald, UNL-PDK President, 836 “C” Road, Palmyra, NE, 68418. We will periodically post updates on the pdk.unl.edu webpage or download additional contribution forms.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PDK-UNL Help Rebuild Georgian Radio ATINATI

I want to help rebuild the ATINATI radio station so it can continue serving the people of Western Georgia and help meet the mission of PDK. Enclosed is my check for _____. (no credit cards accepted)

Please send my receipt to the address on the check or to _____

Signature: _____

Phone _____ e-mail: _____

***No aspects will be provided to any telemarketers or distributed in any manner.**



DAMAGED AND MISSING RADIO EQUIPMENT



SOME OF THE ATINATI VOLUNTEERS



RUSSIAN ARMY IN ZUGIDI