Peter the Great - A Decree on the Founding of the Academy – January 28, 1724

His Imperial Majesty decreed the establishment of an academy, wherein languages as well as other sciences and important arts could be taught, and where books could be translated. …..His Majesty approved the project for the Academy….that stipulates that the Academy’s budget of 24,912 rubles annually should come from revenues from custom dues and export-import license fees……the activity of the Academy has the sole task to improve the arts and sciences through theoretical research that would benefit professors as well as students of universities. Freed from the pressure of research, universities can concentrate on educating the young people.