



*Embassy of the United States of America*

Vilnius, Lithuania  
May 25, 2011

Milda Aksamitauskas  
President, Madison-Vilnius Sister Cities  
PO Box 55034  
Madison, WI 53705

Dear Ms. Aksamitauskas:


I would like to thank you for your invitation to speak at this year's Madison-Vilnius Sister Cities annual banquet. I deeply regretted that I was unable to attend. I hope that the event was a success! I appreciated the opportunity to address the group through a taped greeting.

As I said in my message, Madison-Vilnius Sister Cities does a wonderful job of promoting those connections that truly drive the relationship between the United States and Lithuania—the ties between individuals. For this reason, I was particularly excited to discuss the ExCel student exchange program and the U.S.-Lithuanian Trade Mission, both of which create and are fueled by the person to person connections between our countries. We are currently working to obtain the funding to send 10 students to the U.S. for academic year 2011-2012. I have enclosed information on the program, and if you or your members have any questions, we would be pleased to answer them. We welcome your support!

Currently, I am planning to be back in the United States either this August or in January, 2012, and if possible, would greatly appreciate the chance to meet with and address the Madison-Vilnius Sister Cities organization. If you would like, my staff could be in touch as my schedule develops, in the hopes that we can set something up.

Once again, thank you for your generous offer, and I look forward to hearing from you again soon!

Sincerely,



Anne E. Derse  
Ambassador

Enclosure: as stated.

Cc: Professor Alfred Senn