Sergey Arhipov, HKS’2010

This year in the position of the Club’s President I managed to achieve 3 major goals in the interest of our community:

1.The Club became an indisputable intellectual and thought leader among alumni communities in Russia. I worked hard to create traction and today top politicians, business and community leaders feel natural to come to our discussions and ask for our assistance. This year we hosted Yakunin, Pozner, Blavatnik, Khamatova, McFaul who came to Harvard community to exchange ideas and discuss what matters to our society.

2.The Club became a highly efficient operating organization. Comparing to the last year, we raised 50% more funds, attracted 2x more paying members and increased the number of events and attendance. When I was elected in 2011, our Club experienced heavy financial losses. Today we have +700K RUB on account.

3.The Club adopted the Harvard Alumni Association principles for governance by overwhelmingly voting for the November bylaws. A 50% cut of Executive Team’s internal bureaucracy was achieved by reducing the number of Vice President seats. Now any Club member can lead his/her initiative as an appointed Director with the full support from the lean Executive Team. I am proud that now our organizational structure can compete with the best practices, like the Harvard Club of Boston!

As my results speak volume, I am running for the position of the President for 2013 to create more value to our community. Continuing the activities that we have launched this year, I will put special attention to establishing the Club’s scholarship fund for Harvard students from Russia and increasing the number of alumni and associate members in our community.