

GMCC CEMENTS TIES WITH NAUKMA

Grant MacEwan Community College and the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA) have cemented their partnership with the signing of three important agreements.

The documents signed by GMCC President Gerald Kelly and NaUKMA President Vjatcheslav Brioukhovetsky call for students



GMCC President Gerald Kelly (l) signs agreement with NaUKMA's Dr. Vjatcheslav Brioukhovetsky while Dr. Roman Petryshyn looks on.

and faculty exchanges and the development of joint academic and administrative programs. Proposals were also laid down for co-operative projects involving computer technology and for the organization of a two-day international education seminar in Ukraine this spring.

Dr. Brioukhovetsky visited Edmonton in November as part of a month-long international fund-raising tour — the first such

trip in Western Canada by NaUKMA which, as an autonomous institution, receives little financial support from the state.

"We played a lead role in his coming to Edmonton," comments Dr. Roman Petryshyn, Director of the Ukrainian Resource Development Centre. URDC initiated the partnership between GMCC and NaUKMA, the first independent university established in the new Ukraine and one of the most progressive with a democratic,

Western-style structure and a fully bilingual Ukrainian and English liberal arts program. Enrollment at the university has more than tripled in the past three years. There are now more than 700 students enrolled in three faculties: humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. Master's programs in economics, literature, history and sociology are being offered for the first time this year.

While touring GMCC's City Centre campus, Dr. Brioukhovetsky said he was envious of the new, ultra-modern, multi-million dollar facilities. But he also said he was confident that his own university will flourish, despite the economic woes facing Ukraine, and will regain its historic reputation as a prestigious centre for higher learning. Founded in 1632, the

original Kyiv-Mohyla Academy thrived for more than two centuries, producing many of Ukraine's top thinkers and leaders as well as exerting an important intellectual influence upon the entire Orthodox world. The university's current crop of students — among Ukraine's best and brightest — may well include a future president, he speculated.

Dr. Brioukhovetsky touched base with two of his faculty members, Professor Natalia Andrievska, deputy director of the International Relations Department and Dr. Lesya Batarska, an assistant English professor, in Edmonton for three months at the invitation of GMCC. Prof. Andrievska, who is responsible for fund-raising at NaUKMA, consulted with her counterparts at the college. Like her President, Dr. Andrievska feels NaUKMA has a significant, continuing role to play in educating the next generation of Ukrainian leaders. As she told local media, "If we educate these young people correctly, we will have a wonderful country. If not, we have nothing."

Dr. Batarska worked with GMCC's English department, studying English as a Second Language teaching methods and curriculum, technical and business writing, and journalism programming. She was intrigued by the contrast between the Canadian educational system which is oriented towards students, allowing them a great deal of responsibility and freedom, as compared to the more authoritarian teacher-centred approach inherited from the Soviets. Dr. Batarska was also impressed by the interactive computer technology used by GMCC English classes.

Her visit is being followed up in Kyiv by a needs assessment undertaken by the English department to determine NaUKMA's specific English language and writing programming requirements. Two GMCC faculty members will travel to Kyiv to teach spring sessions in basic journalism and business writing.

"We have a wonderful opportunity to do something for an institution that is in the process of reinventing itself," says Dr. Allen Watson, Dean of GMCC's Arts and Science Division. "We can make a significant contribution in the development of curriculum in areas where they have little expertise as a result of the restrictions laid down by the previous regime. From our perspective, this helps to add a dimension to our college and community that is broader than Edmonton."



Dr. Lesya Baturka (l) and Prof. Natalia Andrievska (r) enjoy a late seasonal cook-out in Jasper with URDC's Suzanna Sidlar

Arts and Science is one of the three GMCC divisions that has purchased shares in GMCC Ukraine which is completely self-funding. Health and Community Studies, one of the other divisions involved, has indicated plans to organize a conference on nursing in Ukraine this fall. Upgrading nursing education and standards was one of the priorities listed by Ukraine's Ministry of Health during a URDC-sponsored health education conference at GMCC a year ago. ♦



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For a free subscription or for further information about URDC, please call or write:

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SUMMER PROGRAM OFFERED IN KYIV

The University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA) is offering the Summer Program Ukrainian Studies from May 22 to July 1 in Kyiv. The program is open to all university students.

Program curriculum includes: Ukrainian Language Beginning Level, Ukrainian Language Intermediate Level, Ukrainian Language Advanced Level, Survey of Ukrainian Literature and

Culture, and Survey of Ukrainian History. Credit is being offered through the Department of Slavic East European Languages, the Pennsylvania State University, USA. Students will also receive an official transcript from NaUKMA for completed courses.

The cost of \$1,000 U.S. includes tuition, room and board, all travel within Ukraine as well as NaUKMA cultural programming.

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KYIV office report

In our last dispatch from Kyiv, GMCC Ukraine had moved into new offices at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (NaUKMA) under a new general manager, Taras Pavlyshyn of Toronto.

Six months later, Pavlyshyn has many new projects to report, beginning with major office renovations. The university quarters have been converted into a Western-style business office with a general reception area and private offices for staff. Glass-topped partition walls were put up to reorganize the available space.

These changes have not only prompted keen interest but are being copied elsewhere in the university, says Pavlyshyn. "Under the Soviet system, only the elite had their own private offices."

The additional wall-space — painted all-white — is being well used as a mini-gallery to display original works by contemporary Ukrainian artists. A coffee machine has been installed in the reception area to entice visitors. "We make the best coffee in Kyiv," boasts Pavlyshyn. Other goodwill gestures included organizing a Christmas party for the children of NaUKMA faculty and staff.

Three new employees have been hired to handle the increased workload generated by GMCC Ukraine's expansion and the signing of partnership agreements between Grant MacEwan Community College and NaUKMA. Victoria Kozina is the new office manager while Serhij Kotenko, a pianist and graduate of Kyiv's music conservatory, has taken a part-time position as a researcher and public relations person. Andriy Blinov, a third-year

economics student, is assisting with student recruitment on a part-time basis. Yuri Konkin continues as manager of Canada-Ukraine programs. All speak English fluently.

Among new projects in the works is a career counselling centre being set up at the university to help the first crop of baccalaureate graduates cope with a new dilemma: where and how to find jobs. Under the Soviets, jobs and the apartments that came with them were assigned by the state. Also planned is a walk-in medical clinic for students. Donations of medicine and equipment are now being solicited.

A desktop publishing company, Griffin International, will also be established within the next couple of months to translate, develop and adapt curriculum and textbooks into Ukrainian. There is a desperate lack of Ukrainian language textbooks after decades of Soviet-imposed Russification.



Taras Pavlyshyn (far left), Yuri Konkin, Dr. Roman Petryshyn, visiting Kyiv in October, and Andriy Blinov

Five Ukrainian university students have been recruited to study English as a Second Language and later Management Studies at GMCC for a year. GMCC Ukraine also facilitated Dr. Brioukhovetsky's visit to Edmonton and the three-month exchange of

NaUKMA's Professor Andrievska and Dr. Baturka. It is involved in the spring faculty exchange of two GMCC English instructors, and is helping to organize the two-day international education seminar and upcoming nursing conference.

GMCC Ukraine has continued to offer business services to corporate clients and played an instrumental role in the establishment of the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce which opened its Kyiv offices in January.

After nearly a year at his post, Pavlyshyn says, "It's been challenging working in a country with a collapsing command economy. We take so much for granted in the West — like having access to goods and services, having a legal infrastructure in place or even being able to pick up the phone and place a call. In Ukraine, the concepts of initiative and responsibility are still largely unheard of. Social institutions are deteriorating. They're associated with the all-pervasive state. There

is an underlying psychology of mistrust. The roads, the transportation systems are all falling apart. Just getting through a day takes an enormous amount of energy and struggle."

Pavlyshyn's final comment is perhaps something of an understatement. "I think we've accomplished a great deal in a short time under difficult circumstances." ♦



Entertainer delights children at GMCC Ukraine's Christmas party.

AMBASSADOR MATHYS TO GIVE KEYNOTE

The Ukrainian Foundation for College Education (UFCE) has set May 25th as the date for its second annual fund-raising event. Dubbed *Kyiv Konnection '95*, the event will feature an afternoon business seminar followed by a gourmet banquet at the City Centre Campus of Grant MacEwan Community College with Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine as the keynote speaker.

Kyiv Konnection '95 will kick off with an afternoon business seminar exploring the benefits of linking business and education in Ukraine and the resulting opportunities that arise for Canadian businesses and educational institutions alike. His Excellency, François Mathys, Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine, will be the main speaker.

One highlight of the evening will be a prize draw of a two-foot high, commissioned wood sculpture, entitled *Ukrainian Kozak*, by Anton Yavny, a renowned

Ukrainian artist who now makes his home in Edmonton.

Yavny's large scale sculptures, which take three to four months to complete, can fetch thousands of dollars on the market. The

Ternopil-born artist's most recent work can be viewed

at St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church where he is assistant iconographer. The banquet will also feature a video tape of GMCC Ukraine's new Kyiv office, its programming and staff.

Proceeds from the event will

help fund many new and exciting education-related programs that are being launched by the expanded GMCC Ukraine office in Kyiv.

Organizers are out to top their previous fund-raising record by getting the corporate sector involved.

"Our community knows the value of supporting organizations such as ours," says UFCE President Dr. Bert Hohol. "Through our fund-raising activities we will be able to assist in the establishment of a career counselling centre at NaUKMA (National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy), a summer school program for young Ukrainian students to come to GMCC, the organization of a symposium on international education in Ukraine, and much more."

Banquet tickets are the same as last year at \$75 per person or \$125 per couple. Tax receipts are available. Further information can be obtained on the banquet by phoning the URDC office at 497-4373. For more information on the business seminar, direct your inquiries to Suzanna Sidlar at the same number.



Anton Yavny at work at St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church.

Tickets can also be ordered from UFCE program committee members Bill Pidruchney (chair), Andrew Semotiuk, John Shalewa, Suzanna Sidlar and any other UFCE member. ♦

INSTRUCTORS LEARN BASICS OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND

Don Bushe vividly remembers his first attempt at explaining supply and demand economics to agricultural college instructors in Ukraine three years ago.

Bushe and a Saskatchewan farm economist had carefully drawn a couple of graphs to illustrate their points. "We had everything worked out in nice pictures." Or so they thought. Then a senior instructor from one of the largest agricultural colleges in Ukraine leaned over and said, "So all I have to do is get to know the person in charge of the supply section and my prices will be good." The two Canadians exchanged rueful glances as they realized how far they had to go to get their message across.

It was a different story, however, when Bushe who is pedagogical adviser to the Agri-Business Learning Project, recently sat in a class listening to his colleague Dr. Len Bauer explain the same concept to the same instructor. This time the man got it. "Of course," he said. "Duzhé (very) OK".

The latter scene took place during a five-day *Farm Business Management* workshop Feb. 20-25, organized by the Agri-Business Learning Project for lead farm economy instructors from agricultural technikums in Ukraine. "We're getting the material to the point where they can conceptually understand it and apply it," says Bushe, an Edmonton-based educational consultant.

The Agri-Business Learning Project brings together Bushe's instructional design skills with the agricultural teaching expertise offered by Dr. Bauer, a professor of agriculture at the University of Alberta. The project is managed in

Ukraine by Bohdan Chomiak who has a background in agricultural education and who foresaw the need to prepare Ukrainian farmers for the switch-over from a command to a free market economy.

By the time the \$553,905 project, funded by the federal government, is completed, teachers will be trained to use over 500 pages of learning materials covering such important areas as production (how to decide what and how much to produce), risk management, marketing (how and where to sell), human resource management, and basic accounting.

Over half of the modules have been completed and translated into Ukrainian so far. The six instructors selected to attend the workshop — ‘the cream of the crop’ — had a chance to read the material before they were taken through it step-by-step in the classroom. They returned home to teach their colleagues — 140 other instructors — who will adapt the modules for their own students, the vast majority of whom are or will be employed by collective farms.

“This group represents the fruit of our labour,” says Dr. Roman Petyshyn, URDC Director and overall project manager. “They are the first walking embodiment of this transfer of knowledge. You would not believe what it took for us to get here!”

The dramatic drop in the Canadian dollar was only one of the problems encountered. Project staff saw their operating budget shrink by one-quarter in Ukraine where everything is calculated in U.S. dollars. Computer equipment and software were held

up for a month-and-a-half by Ukrainian customs which resulted in hefty and unexpected storage bills. Finding a competent translator proved to be a major hurdle. At one point, three different people

psychologically,” said Valeriy Zamula, a teacher from the Kakhovka state farm-technikum. “Perhaps our children will see it.” “It’s hard to break through but that’s why we’re here — to see,



GMCC President Dr. Gerald Kelly (centre) meets with first Ukrainian agricultural group visiting Edmonton in November



Don Bushe, pedagogical adviser

were translating the materials, each using their own concepts and terminology. The results were confusing to say the least. Vitali Ovsienko, an economist and experienced translator, appeared as a godsend.

Ovsienko is convinced that translating quality Western texts into Ukrainian is the quickest and most effective method of getting essential knowledge across to Ukrainians to help them make the painful transition into an independent democracy. “It will take years to educate our own professors,” he says. “Translating and publishing a good book will reach thousands. We have to quickly produce Ukrainian texts for our students to counter the massive Russification.”

Even with appropriate learning materials, change will take a long time, the farm instructors agreed during a lunch break from their intensive schedule. “After decades of a communist system, it will take a while for people to change

learn and find out,” countered Elena Chechko, a veteran instructor from the Donetsk oblast and the perennial optimist in the group.

The instructors’ way was paved by an earlier two-week study tour by high-ranking Ministry of Education officials and directors of agricultural colleges and state farms organized by the Agri-Business Learning Project in November. The 11-person delegation visited GMCC and Olds College where they had a chance to experience rural and urban college life. They also visited Alberta farms and farm organizations.

Their concerns ranged from student assessment (students in Ukraine sit oral exams), developing equivalencies (every college in Ukraine has its own program which means there is little consistency and students have a hard time transferring), and hiring and firing processes for faculty (faculty in Canada are unionized). Budgetting in times of cutbacks proved to be a preoccupation shared by college administrators in Ukraine and Alberta alike. ♦

FUND-RAISING COUP FOR FRIENDS OF NAUKMA

With only three weeks advance notice, Edmonton's Friends of NaUKMA (National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy) pulled off a fund-raising coup.

The ad hoc committee drew 100 people to a \$50-a-plate banquet honoring NaUKMA president Dr. Viatcheslav Brioukhovetsky at the



Dr. Brioukhovetsky (front, centre) with Friends of NaUKMA (top row, 1 to 7) Olena and Dr. Serhiy Plokhyy, Dr. Oleh Ilnytskyj, Rev. Kit; (front row, 1 to 4) Natalia Andrievska, Dr. Baturka, Dr. Pylypiuk and Mrs. Kit.

Faculty Club, University of Alberta, on Nov. 28 and raised \$16,000 for the newly-reopened Kyiv university.

"It was a phenomenal response given the short notice," commented Dr. Natalia Pylypiuk, Mistress of Ceremonies and one of the organizers of the evening. "We only found out about Dr. Brioukhovetsky's visit three weeks beforehand."

During his three-day stay in Edmonton, Dr. Brioukhovetsky signed a five-year memorandum of agreement with the University of Alberta. He also met with members of the Department of Slavic and East European Studies, the

Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and the Faculty of Law. NaUKMA has recently opened a Centre for Legal Studies and plans to offer a master's program for law students soon.

To help achieve this goal, a donation of \$10,000 was presented by Michael Savaryn from the Friends of Rukh through the Alberta Ukrainian Commemorative Society. Individual donations were also made ranging from \$50 to

\$1,000 (from Wasyl and Anna Pylypiuk, and Steven and Martha Kostenko).

"We are all aware that the independence of a country is established only when it controls its own education system," commented Dr. Pylypiuk, a professor of Slavic and East European studies, during an interview.

"It's in the best interest of scholars here to develop relationships with credible institutions such as NaUKMA because it enhances our own work and profile."

Members of the Friends of NaUKMA banquet committee

include: Dr. Serhiy Plokhyy, Dr. Zenon Kohut, Khrystyna Jendyk, Dr. Oleh Ilnytzkyj, Dr. Roman Petryshyn, Daria Porochiwnyk, Reverend Mychailo Kit, Dr. Lesya Baturka, Suzanna Sidlar, Prof. Natalia Andrievska and Dr. Pylypiuk.

Dr. Pylypiuk praised Dr. Brioukhovetsky for his effectiveness in cultivating relationships with major universities and colleges throughout Canada and the U.S. His stops in Canada included Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Thunder Bay as well as Edmonton. ♦

URDC PROUDLY ANNOUNCES 1994-95 AWARD WINNERS

Ten years ago, Bill Wsiaki started taking a video camera along to record weddings and other special events. What began as a hobby has turned into an award-winning professional sideline for the 39-year-old Winnipegger who is the recipient of the 1994-95 William and Mary Kostash Award for Film and Video Arts.

Wsiaki, who works full-time as a supervisor at St. Paul's College Library at the University of Manitoba while pursuing his love of video, is being honored for his 21-minute-long documentary, *The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko: Pride in Our Heritage*. The video was originally commissioned as a fund-raising tool by the Shevchenko Foundation but Wsiaki decided to broaden its appeal to a wider audience by taking a historic look at the organization within the context of Ukrainian immigration to Canada as well as explaining its mandate.

Wsiaki felt that the video would have a better chance of getting TV exposure if he took a soft sales approach and his reasoning has proven right. *Pride in Our Heritage* has appeared on local PBS channels. The filmmaker plans to take the video, made on a shoe-string budget of \$12,000, even further by entering it in competitions in California, Europe and Yorkton, Sask.

The self-taught videomaker has built up an impressive track record at competitions. In 1991, he won first place in the U.S. Videomaker Competition for his 27-minute documentary, *Again the Spring Returns*, a gripping piece on cultural survival in Ukraine after 70 years

of Soviet domination. Wsiaki scored again at the prestigious competition the next year, winning second prize for *Follow Me*, a moving portrayal of a young seminarian preparing for his ordination into the priesthood.

A five-part lecture series on contemporary Ukrainian folklore in Canada has won Natalia Shostak the Royal Canadian Legion: Norwood Branch #178 Educational Exchanges Award. Shostak, a Ph.D. candidate in Ukrainian folklore and cultural anthropology at the University of Alberta, is fascinated how Ukrainian traditions have been preserved and adapted by immigrants in different geographical settings, specifically in Western Canada. The Ukrainian-born scholar believes students in Kyiv will be intrigued by her findings. "They would never expect that elements of 19th century folk traditions would still be functioning in a highly-developed, urbanized, capitalist country such as Canada," she says.

Anna Marie Koszarycz, a master's in music student at the University of Calgary, has won the Ukrainian Performing Arts Award offered by the Royal Canadian Legion: Norwood Branch #178 for her proposal to analyze early Ukrainian folksongs in North America. Folk music reflects the distinct rhythms and melodic patterns as well as the relationships and concerns of a society, says Koszarycz. "Different versions of songs evolve to fit different contexts. In one version, a song may simply

be about the harvesting of crops, while in another, it may have political overtones."

The second step in her study is to put together a teaching methodology for Ukrainian music educators.

Koszarycz, a former teacher in Ukrainian bilingual schools in Vegreville and Sherwood Park, says no methods have been developed to teach Ukrainian folk songs to children in a logically sequenced way.

Michael Muc, a biology professor at Augustana College in Camrose, received the Royal Canadian



Videomaker Bill Wsiaki



Ethnographer Natalia Shostak

Legion: Norwood Branch #178 Award for Museum Programs for the second year in a row to continue his study of plan use among early Ukrainian settlers in Alberta.

Jo Anna Beyak, a Lakehead University student, has received the Anna Pidruchney Award for New Writers with her winning short story entry, *Little Anna*. ♦

CIRCLE YOUR CALENDARS

KYIV
KONNECTION
'95

The Ukrainian Foundation for College Education (UFCE) kicks off its annual fund-raising campaign

Thursday, May 25th at GMCC's City Centre Campus
10700 - 104 Avenue

WITH:

An afternoon seminar on exciting, new business and education opportunities in Ukraine.

Cost — \$250 per person or \$1,000 per corporation (includes two seminar tickets, eight banquet tickets, the use of a display table and booth, and your company's name printed on the program).

FOLLOWED BY:

A gala banquet featuring His Excellency, François Mathys, Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine, as special guest speaker and a draw for a prize work of art.

Cost — \$75 per person or \$125 per couple.
(Tax receipts available.)

Proceeds go towards GMCC Ukraine's Kyiv office.

Reserve your tickets now by phoning the URDC office at 497-4373.



UKRAINIAN STUDENTS ENJOY NEW LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The first crop of students from Ukraine settled into English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at Grant MacEwan Community College in January.

The six students — all first year business and law students in Ukraine — are here for a year to take the diploma program offered by GMCC for business management. First they have to complete their ESL levels, however.

"There is an enormous demand for people with business and English language skills in Ukraine," says Dr. Roman Petryshyn, URDC Director. "The future of these young people is guaranteed once they complete the program."

Parents of the students had responded to media ads placed by GMCC Ukraine's Kyiv office in regions throughout the country last fall. Candidates were carefully screened and tested to ensure they had at least some rudimentary knowledge of English.

During their first two months, the young people aged 17 to 19 coped with homesickness, the cold climate and foreign language and culture but their spirits remained high as they determinedly slogged away at their studies.

"I didn't come here to play but to learn," was the no-nonsense comment made by Anatoliy Alimov, 17, a commerce student from the Donetsk region. "If we study hard then we will be able to pick up the economy back home. But if we only live for our parents' money, then we will not improve Ukraine."

Many of the students come

from business families who work in government-owned enterprises or private ones they set up themselves after independence. Ilona Lemeshko, 17, has worked part-time in her father's dairy processing factory which employs 80 workers in Poltava, has branches throughout Ukraine and exports dried milk abroad. She would like to realize her father's dream of taking over his business someday and knowing English would definitely be an



Ukrainian students (l, clockwise) Victoria Soldatova, Artem Belozor, Marina Burlachenko and Anatoliy Alimov

asset. "To do business in Ukraine, it helps to know English because it is an international language," she says.

Her roommate, Marina Burlachenko, a 19-year-old Donetsk student, also harbors ambitions of following in her father's footsteps in food processing. "Many of the private businesses being set up in Ukraine involve international companies or joint ventures with Germany, Britain or America," she says. "Being able to speak English will help me a great deal."

As they struggle with the exigencies of the English language, the students say they are enjoying their classroom learning experiences enormously. They revel in the cosmopolitan atmosphere that enables them to become acquainted with students from every corner of the globe including Hong Kong, Spain, Vietnam, Poland,

Afghanistan and Kazakhstan. The college facilities — the language labs, the computers and the library — seem positively luxurious compared to what they're used to at home. They also enjoy their instructors' approach to teaching English which may vary from having students talk about their homelands to discussing the news headlines of the day. All are billeted with English-speaking families in order to immerse them in the language as fully as possible. ♦

FESTIVAL OF CAROLS SCORES ANOTHER HIT

by Alice Chumer

Once again the annual Festival of Carols, co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Music Society of Alberta and URDC, proved to be an enjoyable time for participants and audience alike.

This year's event, held in Grant MacEwan's John L. Haar Theatre on Sunday, January 15, made the Edmonton Journal's list of top ten functions to attend that weekend.

The audience was treated to a varying assortment of choral and instrumental music, as well as an amusing children's drama scene. All had a chance to enthusiastically sing along to their favorite carols. The sound of music wafted through the theatre and down the hallways. Even after the concert's conclusion, performers were still humming away as they departed for home. What a great way to end the Christmas season! ♦

BOUQUETS



A special thanks to Mrs. Kvitka Kozak of Vancouver for her donation in memory of William Kostash to the William and Mary Kostash Award for Film and Video Arts.