

Another Kule Gift Creates the Largest Single Chair Endowment at MacEwan

With generosity unequalled in the Ukrainian community, Edmonton philanthropists Drs. Peter and Doris Kule recently donated an additional \$500,000 to the Grant MacEwan College Foundation to benefit and advance Ukrainian studies. On July 17, 2006, MacEwan President, Dr. Paul Byrne, received the gift during a visit to the Kules' home and confirmed that the College would match this donation on a 2:1 basis, with the sum of \$1,000,000. "We are pleased that Drs. Peter and Doris Kule are helping to make MacEwan College a national and international leader for carrying out projects in Ukraine," says Dr. Byrne. In total, this new gift will add a further \$1,500,000 to the Kules' earlier endowment established at MacEwan.

In September 2004, Drs. Peter and Doris Kule made their first donation to MacEwan to establish the Chair in Ukrainian Community and International Development, held by the Director of the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre (URDC). The Chair was initially endowed with a gift of \$500,000 by the Kules, matched by \$1,000,000 from URDC resources, and created as an endowment of \$1,500,000. This first arrangement, together with the new endowment of \$1,500,000, now totals \$3,000,000, making it the largest single Chair endowment at MacEwan College.

The Kule Chair of Ukrainian Community and International Development supports URDC in attaining its goal, which is to foster innovation, leadership and education in the fields of community development, the arts, digital communication, health and business. As a result, Ukrainian Canadians are able to develop and better retain their cultural identity and participate more effectively in the multicultural life of Canada. URDC Director, Dr. Roman Petryshyn says, "Drs. Peter and Doris Kule have made a significant gift to the College and have done so at a very key time in our history. Their gift, along with the matching funds from the College, allows MacEwan to focus on health and business issues in Ukraine and its international region."

This most recent donation continues the Kules' tradition of support for endowed

Chairs in post-secondary education. These include two Chairs at St. Paul University – The Kule Chair of Eastern Christian Theology and Spirituality; and the Kule Family Chair in Eastern Christian Liturgy – along with their funding of the Peter and Doris Kule Chair in Catholic Religious Education at St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta. The Kules have also funded an Endowment for the Study of the Ukrainian Diaspora at CIUS, and endowed the Centre for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore, including the Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography, at the U of A. Drs. Doris and Peter Kule have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the advancement of Ukrainian studies in Canada and are known as eminent philanthropists recognized by MacEwan, U of A and St. Paul University.

L-R: Dr. Paul Byrne, President of MacEwan; Vice President Finance and Corporate Services, Brent Quinton ; Drs. Doris Kule and Peter Kule (sitting); Dr. Roman Petryshyn, Director URDC; Peter Kossowan, UFCE; and MacEwan Fund Development, Donna Blundell



Kule Visiting Scholar Program

In July 2006 Drs. Peter and Doris Kule made a donation of \$250,000 to the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre (URDC) at Grant MacEwan College. These funds are to be doubled and matched from the Government of Alberta through the MacEwan Foundation. This creates a \$750,000 endowment in the Grant MacEwan Foundation in support of activities to be called the Kule Visiting Scholars program.

Revenue permitting, this endowment will be used to fund associated expenses of Kule Visiting Scholars hosted by participating Faculties and Schools of MacEwan College. These scholars must have a distinguished record in their field and will enhance and contribute to the academic and public profile of the College; student learning; and to the understanding of Ukrainian Studies. These ends will be achieved at the College by such means as research, lectures, seminars, performances, collaborations,

consultations and publications in the field of Ukrainian Studies and its component disciplines.

Current plans have the MacEwan Business School exchanging faculty with its partner since 1997, the International Institute of Business in Kyiv. The MacEwan Faculty of Arts and Science will extend its twelve-year faculty exchanges with the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. The Faculty of Health and Community Studies will launch its Visiting Scholar program in 2008 by building on its many institutional relationships in nursing developed in Eastern Europe.

In the event that additional and sufficient endowment funds are donated in the future, the Kule Visiting Scholar Program could develop into an Endowed Chair in any Faculty at Grant MacEwan College.

Drs. Peter and Doris Kule have identified the Ukrainian Foundation for College Education (UFCE) as their official contact authorized to give consents and approvals and agree to amendments as may be required

or requested in relation to the Endowment. "The gift provided by Drs. Peter and Doris Kule helps to launch our new plans and motivates us to locate other donors to give the same degree of commitment and generosity as shown by the Kules," says UFCE President, George Zaharia.

The Terms of Reference were signed into effect by Drs. Peter and Doris Kule, Dr. Paul Byrne, President of Grant MacEwan College, and George Zaharia on November 20, 2006 at a luncheon honouring the Kules.

Dr. Janet Paterson-Weir, Executive Vice President, Academic, speaks at the November 2006 signing.

L-R: MacEwan's Vice President of Finance and Corporate Services, Brent Quinton, Drs. Peter and Doris Kule, UFCE President George Zaharia at the November 2006 signing



AULA Launched to Promote Ukrainian Education

The Alberta Ukrainian Learning Association (AULA), which unites into one umbrella organization Alberta educators, schools and school boards involved in teaching Ukrainian language and culture, was launched as a registered society at Edmonton's Grant MacEwan College on April 27, 2006.

The objectives of the organization - evolved from a think-tank held by educators, parents and students at the University of Alberta a year earlier - are to increase excellence in existing programs and provide new international educational opportunities in Ukraine for all Albertans. AULA is now working to: encourage exchanges among students, teachers and researchers; use advanced technology in teaching language and culture; and develop standards and assessment that provide students with globally competitive skills.

AULA is pleased to accept volunteers into membership. Please contact URDC for more information at 497-4374.

CURT Research Makes Strides

Four research initiatives have emerged in the work of the Canada Ukraine Research Team (CURT), assisted by URDC, over the past year.

1. CURT WEB SITE

In 2006, the MacEwan Research Council provided URDC Director, Dr. Roman Petryshyn, with a second small grant to help build up the electronic site of the Canada Ukraine Research Team. The site carries academic articles in English and Ukrainian; seminar presentations and reports by visiting graduate students from Ukraine; and information about the work of CURT members. (see following article)

2. SUMMER INSTITUTE OUTCOMES

Dr. Michael Rodda is completing an evaluation of the impact of Canadian assistance to twenty summer camp institutes, held from 2000 to 2006 for over 1000 deaf and hard of hearing children in Ukraine. The project has used focus groups, systematization of data from existing records, summative statistics and written reports to document how Ukrainian participants selected and used Canadian expertise to articulate and pursue educational reforms in Ukraine.

3. ESTABLISHING SCHOOL PROFILES

Dr. Judy Lupart, Canada Research Chair in Special Education, University of Alberta, has received a Killam Research Fund grant to establish a baseline profile in twenty schools in five provinces of Ukraine. Modelled on earlier baseline studies done in Calgary schools, the project is identifying and understanding the perceptions and attitudes of students, parents, teachers and administrators involved in the change process to pilot inclusive schools in Ukraine.

4. SIGN LANGUAGE RESEARCH IN UKRAINE

Dr. Debra Russell, David Peikoff Chair of Deafness Studies, University of Alberta, has partnered with the Ukrainian Sign Language Research Laboratory at the Institute of Special Pedagogy in Kyiv. She is advising how to document and computer analyze Ukrainian natural sign language, and how best to create materials that can be used by families and in educational settings that will provide the deaf child with a meaningful language and access to education and society.

CURT was established in February 2004 as an international network of staff from: Grant MacEwan College; University of Alberta; and, the Institute of Pedagogical Sciences, Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine.

CURT Launches New Web Site

The Canada Ukraine Research Team (CURT) has launched its upgraded, English/Ukrainian bilingual web site at www.canada-ukraine.org.

The purpose of the web site is to bring together, from all over the world, community leaders and researchers interested in inclusive education and contemporary practices that assist children with disabilities. Through the website, CURT offers a forum in which new practices can be discussed, implementation strategies worked out and experiences shared.

The site offers information about joint research projects and the exchange of faculty and graduate students, as well as links to other resources such as applications for exchange and research grants. Projects in Ukrainian Sign Language, autism and fetal alcohol syndrome are already underway. Other initiatives, such as projects on inclusion and the Deaf Teachers Training Program, are under discussion.

The site also hosts CURT's newest initiative, the Lastivka Translation Project. Its purpose is to translate academic articles about the newest techniques and technologies in special education, and disseminate them among stakeholders in Ukraine. The goal is to provide a wide scope of world research to help in the modernization of Ukraine's system of inclusive education.

Organizations and parties interested in the work of CURT are welcome to become members of the group via its web site at www.canada-ukraine.org. For further information, please feel free to contact CURT's web developer at natalial@ualberta.ca.

CURT Hosts Four Visitors

The Canada Ukraine Research Team (CURT) hosted four visitors from Ukraine. Dr. Oksana Taranchenko and PhD student Tetyana Berynk are both from the Institute of Special Pedagogy in Kyiv, Ukraine. PhD students Zoriana Leniv and Maryana Zakharchuk are from the Ivan Franko University in Lviv, Ukraine.

Dr. Taranchenko's primary focus is on historical studies about hearing services; Ms. Berynk and Ms. Leniv are studying speech and language pathology; while Ms. Zakharchuk's area of interest is English as a second language for the deaf. The four are working on better applying their expertise to the emerging issue of inclusive education in Ukraine. While in Edmonton they had an opportunity to share knowledge about the challenges, experiences and advances in these fields with Canadian colleagues.

Both Dr. Taranchenko and Ms. Berynk are also participants in a new CURT web site currently under development at their Institute. This web project includes input from academics from Grant MacEwan College, the University of Alberta, the Institute of Special Pedagogy in Kyiv, and the College of Education at the Ivan Franko University in Lviv, Ukraine.

Funding for all four visitors was provided by the International Education Awards (Ukraine) administered by Alberta Advanced Education.

CURT's primary goal is to improve the education of special needs students in Ukraine through joint research, exchange of information and faculty, and implementation of special projects.

Rodda and Petryshyn Honoured by Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine

Drs. Michael Rodda and Roman Petryshyn, from MacEwan's Faculty of Arts and Science, have been recognized for their international research and program development work. Both have been voted in as Foreign Members of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences of Ukraine (APSU). Membership allows Drs. Rodda and Petryshyn to participate in Academy meetings, receive reports and vote on resolutions.

APSU is a government financed umbrella uniting seventeen institutes, centres and programs that conduct research, award doctorate degrees and make national recommendations to government on changes in Ukraine's

system of primary and post-secondary education.

Drs. Rodda and Petryshyn have worked most closely with the Institute of Special Pedagogy (ISP) in Ukraine – one of the 17 institutes under the APSU umbrella – to improve education for children with disabilities. In 2004, MacEwan, ISP and the department of Educational Psychology at the University of Alberta signed a cooperation agreement that formed CURT, the Canada Ukraine Research Team. CURT has focused on issues of sign language, fetal alcohol syndrome and inclusive education.

Additionally, Rodda and Petryshyn helped to establish the voluntary society, Canada Ukraine Alliance for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons, of which Dr. Rodda is currently President. This society has sponsored 20 summer-camp training institutes in Ukraine for over 1000 deaf children and their parents and teachers over the past six years.

Drs. Michael Rodda and Roman Petryshyn



*L-R: front row:
Zorianna Leniv , Alice Chumer, Roman Petryshyn*

back row: Tetyana Berynk, Maryana Zakharchuk, Bohdan Horich, Oksana Taranchenko (Berynk and Taranchenko are from the Institute of Special Pedagogy, Kyiv. Leniv and Zakharchuk are from the College of Education, Ivan Franko University in Lviv)

Seeded in 1992 – Harvested in 2006

In 1992, Maureen and Art Mykyte were one of several Canadian farm families to host the first tour of private farmers from Ukraine to go abroad, in a project organized by URDC in partnership with the Canada Ukraine Agricultural Exchange Society*.

Fifteen years later, as an independent farmer and chemical and seed distributor, one of those Ukrainian farmers – Radion Khirluk – arranged for 15 Ukrainian distributors and farmers to visit Canada on their own. The Mykytes volunteered to organize and guide the visitors during their two-week visit. Ukrainian companies Syngenta and Agro Zakhist Donbass also supported the tour.

The friendships formed through this initiative have established a close tie between Canada and Ukraine, and laid the basis for continuing agricultural contacts.

* (See Centrepieces article at <http://www.macewan.ca/web/artssci/urdc/projects/detailspage.cfm?id=2008>)



URDC Director Honoured with Hetman Award

Dr. Roman Petryshyn, founder and director of the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre at MacEwan was honoured on October 1, 2006 with a Hetman Award.

Established by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council in 1998, the Hetman Awards recognize leaders in the voluntary sector in Alberta, and those who have contributed to the Ukrainian community.

Dr. Petryshyn was honoured this year for his significant volunteer efforts in the community, particularly in the areas of dance, culture, business, education and special education.

2006 Golf Tournament a Slice of Fun!

The Ukrainian Golf Open – also known as the Buck-Diachuk Classic – was held on Wednesday, August 16, 2006 at the Fort-In-View Golf Course. Clear blue Alberta skies and warm temperatures greeted the 82 golfers who participated, including MacEwan's Vice-President of Fund Development, Dale Bayley.

A tasty supper at the Fort Saskatchewan Legion followed the tournament, where Drs. Peter and Doris Kule were special guests. Also at the dinner was Ludmila Suvorova, an award-winning photographer from Luhansk. Upon her return to Ukraine, Ms. Suvorova showed a photographic exhibit of her visit to Edmonton, including photos of the fun she captured at the Buck-Diachuk classic.

*The original group of farmers from Ukraine during their 1992 visit
Golf tournament participants; photograph by Ukrainian photographer L. Suvorova
Dr. Petryshyn (back row, centre), with fellow 2006 Hetman Award recipients*



Kostash Keynote at Kyiv Konnection

The 13th annual Kyiv Konnection banquet, sponsored by the Ukrainian Foundation for College Education (UFCE), was held on May 4, 2006 at the St. Basil's Cultural Centre in Edmonton. The event was well attended by an audience eager to hear keynote speaker, renowned author Myrna Kostash.

Born and raised in Edmonton, Kostash is the author of several books, including *All of Baba's Children*. In her introduction of Kostash, Dr. Geraldine Nakonechny described the book as "the touchstone of Western Canadian identity, and the first of many nationally and internationally recognized works of fiction and non-fiction." Nakonechny also added that, "For Ukrainian Canadians, Myrna Kostash's work is a reflection of our time, our place and our culture, and she has given us a deeper understanding of our beginnings and has shown us to the path of national and international acclaim while embracing our cultural identity. She has also illuminated countless others within Canada beyond our heritage and our struggles."

Kostash's keynote address at the event consisted of vignettes from her upcoming book, tentatively titled "My Demetrius", which explores the Slavic relationship with Byzantine culture and the Orthodox Church.

Dr. Steven Kashuba was the recipient of this year's UFCE President's Award, presented to him at the banquet by UFCE President George Zaharia. Dr. Kashuba has held many positions on the UFCE executive since the organization's inception, including two years as President. It was during his tenure as President that Dr. Kashuba oversaw the amended and restated Trust Indenture between the Strathcona Ukrainian Bilingual Association and UFCE, which was signed on September 30, 2001. In accepting the award, Dr. Kashuba stressed the importance of volunteerism, and thanked URDC's Director, Dr. Roman Petryshyn, for helping the community to focus its volunteer efforts in a positive way.



*Myrna Kostash gives keynote address
George Zaharia presents Steve Kashuba with
UFCE President's award*





Donor Support Appreciated

Comprised of members from the Ukrainian Canadian community, the Ukrainian Foundation for College Education (UFCE) is strongly committed to and financially supportive of the work of the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre.

For information on how to become a UFCE donor, contact Dr. Steve Kashuba at (780) 435-7527 or Alice Chumer at (780) 497- 4374.

UFCE acknowledges and thanks the following individuals and organizations, who have donated \$1,000 or more in support of UFCE's fundraising efforts.

UFCE Hetman Club: \$25,000 or more

Gauk, Orest and Roma
Strathcona Ukrainian Bilingual Association

UFCE Cossack Club: \$10,000 to \$24, 999

UFCE Shevchenko Club: \$5,000 to \$9,999

Alberta Ukrainian Commemorative Society
Koroluk, Pauline and John
Petryshyn, Dr. Roman and Marusia
Semotiuk, Andriy and Ann

UFCE Friend: \$1,000 to \$4,999

Canadian Importers (Ukrainian Bookstore)
Fedeyko, Wm. Sr.
HSBC Bank-Canada (Earl Andrusiak)
Pacific Valve Services Inc. (John Boyko)
Suchowersky, Dr. C.
Ukrainian Canadian Social Services - Thunder Bay, ON
Alberta Foundation for Ukrainian Education Society
Buck, Dr. W.A.
Dutchak, R.W. Prof. Corp.
Filipchuk, Dr. Cornel
Galagan, Ron
Garrick, Paul
Hemisphere Engineering Inc. (John Chomiak)
Kossowan, Peter
Krawetz, Anna
Krawford, Construction
Kudryk, William Prof. Corp.
Mulka, Orest
Nakonechyny, Dr. Geraldine
Ochotta, Nick
Petryshyn, Martha
Piasta, Edward
Ukrainian Self Reliance Association - Edmonton Branch
Workun, Morley
Zaharia, George and Gloria

New Award from UFCE Trust

The Ukrainian Foundation for College Education (UFCE) Trust awarded student Lindsay Michelle Borys with a \$1,000 travel award. The grant was used for travel to Lviv, Ukraine, where the University of Alberta holds its annual summer course, "Ukrainian Through Its Living Culture".

Lindsay is a third-year student in the Faculty of Education at the University of Alberta.

This award is the first one given by UFCE Trust, which plans to make it available on an ongoing basis to encourage advanced studies in Ukrainian.

For further information on the University of Alberta's Ukrainian program and summer course, please visit:

<http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/~ukraina/Homepage.html>

2006 Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the following for their award winning achievements in the area of Ukrainian cultural arts:

Charlie Sakuma, Edmonton, Alberta Award:
Sergei Eremenko Music Scholarship (\$500)

Charlie has devoted a tremendous amount of time and effort to studying the Bandura and promoting its use as a musical instrument. He has traveled to Ukraine for further study, and currently plays in the Chaika orchestra in Edmonton.

Olenka Slywynska, Toronto, Ontario Award:
Roman Soltykevych Music Scholarship (\$500)

Olenka is a talented voice student who is very involved in choral music and its promotion. She is always looking for new repertoire.



CENTREPIECES BICTI 3 ЦЕНТРУ

*is produced by the Ukrainian
Resource and Development
Centre (URDC)*

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

UKRAINIAN RESOURCE AND
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
Grant MacEwan College
Box 1796
Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2P2

www.urdc.net

Phone: (780) 497-4374
E-Mail: chumera@macewan.ca
Fax: (780) 497-4377

URDC Director
Dr. Roman Petryshyn

Administrative Assistant
Alice Chumer

Writer
Vera Krawec

Layout
Faculty of Arts and Science