



Ukrainian Catholic NEWSLETTER

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UCU Secures Re-Accreditation & Fundraising Assures Growth Can Continue

On January 12, 2013, Dr. Taras Dobko, Senior Vice-Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU), announced at a meeting in Chicago that UCU has received its re-accreditation from the Ukrainian Ministry of Education after an extensive accreditation process. Although the university has won international acclaim for the excellence of its programs and for its firm commitment to academic freedom, the ministry required the university to undergo a rigorous review before granting re-accreditation. Dr. Dobko reported that the ministry also approved the university's request to open two new programs: one in psychology and another in IT management

The positive news about re-accreditation came on the heels of a successful and intensive fundraising season that the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF) conducted in various cities throughout North America between November and January.

'In many ways, 2012 was a year of pivotal breakthroughs for UCU. Our rector was ordained a bishop... and the university he envisioned is taking shape before our very eyes.'

"In many ways, 2012 was a year of pivotal breakthroughs for UCU", said Alexander Kuzma, Chief Development Officer of UCEF. "Our rector, the Very Reverend Borys Gudziak, was ordained a bishop at the Cathedral of St. George in Lviv, and the university he envisioned is taking shape before our very eyes." In August,



▲ Bishop Borys Gudziak, Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, being interviewed at 'Icons Unite Us,' an exhibit held at St. Vladimir Institute in Toronto.

UCU completed construction of the first building on its new Stryisky Park campus. "We now have 135 students and faculty living in a vibrant community – a beautiful state-of-the-art residential college ('collegium') that fulfills the vision of our founders. We're deeply grateful to all our donors and supporters who believe

in the dream that Bishop Borys and his team pursue – a dream that can be traced back to the legacy of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky and Patriarch Josyf Slipyj."

The continued progress of UCU received a boost from the strong fundraising season that UCEF conducted. A concert

of Christmas carols in Calgary on January 13 was only the latest in a series of events in Canada and the U.S. raising money to benefit the university. Popular singer Ihor Bohdan headlined at the Calgary event. In southern California, the Kobzar Choir and the Los Angeles Doctors' Symphony Orchestra also hosted a successful Christmas benefit concert on December 8, featuring members of four combined choirs.

Despite the devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy that blighted many areas of New York and Long Island in early November, local committees decided to go forward with several planned events that yielded positive financial results. Bishop Gudziak was able to carry out

Continued on page 4 »

Canada Donor Recognition 2011

We thank all of our donors for assisting the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation to support the Ukrainian Catholic University. These contributions were put towards programs that benefit students, seminarians and the faithful throughout Ukraine.

The 2011 Pledge of the **The Temerty Family Foundation** deserves special mention. In 2012, \$1.2 million dollars was put towards the creation of three professorships at UCU.

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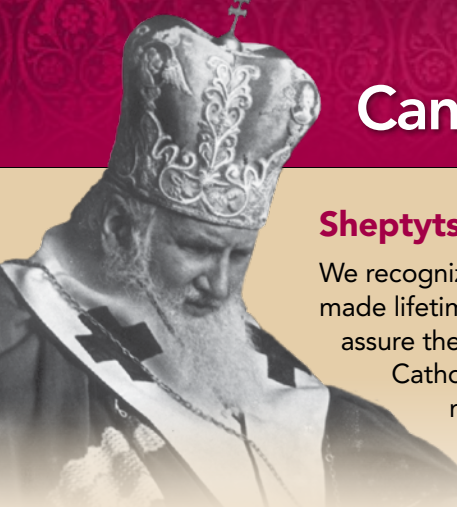
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We recognize members who have made lifetime contributions to assure the future of the Ukrainian Catholic University and its mission in Ukraine.

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Former MP, Etobicoke Centre, owner of Future Bakery and M-C Dairy



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MAKE A LASTING GIFT!



Have you considered including UCEF in your will? A will is an expression of your commitment to the people and groups that you cherish here on earth. As a supporter of the Ukrainian Catholic University, a bequest in your will ensures that the training of young leaders in Ukraine will continue into the future.

Thanks to **Alexandra Khraplyvyj Schur and her late husband Orest Schur** for including a living bequest to UCEF in their estate plan.

■ Suggested wording for a bequest:

"I give and bequeath to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, of Toronto, ON, _____% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$_____ for its charitable, educational and religious purposes."

Donors can also make a special gift by sponsoring a seminarian or other student at the Ukrainian Catholic University this year. Please contact UCEF for further information.

Fundraising Campaign Assures Growth Can Continue

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▲ Bishop Borys Gudziak blesses a parishioner after celebrating Liturgy at St. Joseph Parish in Oakville, Ontario.

a very ambitious speaking tour that included visits to Toronto on November 2-3, New York City on November 4, the Boston area on November 7-8, and Whippany, N. J., on November 9. His tour culminated in a well-attended event in Chicago on November 11 that drew over 350 guests. The video “And Their Hearts Grew Strong” gave donors throughout the country vivid images from recent events at UCU. (Readers can view it at <http://ucf.edu.ua/video/8140/>)

Canadian support for UCU clearly continues to grow, as demonstrated by a more formal fundraiser in Calgary on

September 25, a spirited “tango” event in Montreal on October 27, and a lecture and icon exhibit in Toronto on November 3. Dr. Gerry Turcotte, President of St. Mary’s University College, reminded the Calgary audience about the developing exchange program with UCU. According to Joseph Solimini, UCEF’s Chief Operating Officer, “he amused the crowd by showing off his growing Ukrainian vocabulary.” The Calgary Friends coordinated a live Skype video discussion with two UCU students expressing their appreciation for all supporters who sponsor students through scholarship gifts.

And U.S. support remains strong. Andrew Lencyk, UCEF Board Member and Chairman of the New York Friends of UCU Committee, reported: “This year’s fundraiser was especially memorable thanks to the enthusiastic participation of many young, first-time attendees. This included 20 members of the Youth Prayer Group of St. George’s Church.”

On November 5, Bishop Gudziak celebrated Mass with Cardinal Timothy Dolan at St. Patrick’s Cathedral. And on November 7, a reception was held at the

Harvard Faculty Club, one of several events organized by the Greater Boston Friends of UCU.

The after-effects of Hurricane Sandy threatened to depress turnout for the

UCEF reception at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Whippany, New Jersey, but organizers were pleasantly surprised by a large, spirited crowd on November 9th.

On November 11, far from the storm a large Chicago audience gave rapt attention to the program, focusing on UCU’s present and future. “After hearing Rev. Ihor Boyko, PhD, Master of UCU’s new residential college, speak so eloquently, it is obvious that UCU and Bishop Borys have nurtured a new generation of leaders and educators that will ably continue to grow Bishop Borys’ vision for UCU’s future,” commented Friends of UCU committee member Christine Dziuk.

Thanks to strong donor support, UCU’s new IT management and psychology programs are being properly funded. And the university plans to complete construction on its new multi-purpose academic building by August of 2013. “With its strong and resilient team of vice-rectors and faculty, UCU has shown that it can withstand many challenges as it continues to grow and attract an outstanding group of talented young scholars,” said Kuzma. The university

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has announced that its commencement speaker in July will be renowned American theologian and biographer of Blessed Pope John Paul II, George Weigel. “With God’s help, we are looking forward to a very exciting 2013.” ✠

Study the Ukrainian Language at UCU’s Summer School!

In Canada, students looking to study language in Lviv can apply to the **Taras Shevchenko Foundation in Winnipeg** for the ‘Bursary for Language Program in Ukraine.’ (<http://www.shevchenkofoundation.com/grant-education.html>)

The Ukrainian Credit Union also offers scholarships with specific criteria (<https://www.ukrainiancu.com/UCU/InOurCommunity/Scholarships/>) and these may apply to university students taking Ukrainian studies.



**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC
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