

# Recent Fulbright Projects Ukrainian Fulbrighters in the U.S.

## Ukrainian Fulbright Projects (2003-2004)

A pysanka



### Volodymyr Anderson

Project title: "The Role of Geomarketing in Promotion of Local and Regional Economic Development"

The major strength of this project is the combination of its theoretical and practical aspects. Mr. Anderson addressed economic development from a local perspective, and studied primarily geomarketing theory to apply it to projects that employ the local business and administrative community. He collected data dealing with specifically Ukrainian problems, and in the United States studied two mining towns in Idaho and one sawmill town in Nebraska to see how they reinvented themselves as economically profitable tourist centers. Mr. Anderson hopes to popularize geomarketing as a tool for promoting local economic development which creates synergy among business, government and the private sectors.

### Svitlana Biletska

Project title: "Child-Centered Education in Light of the Historical and Contemporary Debate"

Ms. Biletska will develop a child-centered approach to education within a framework of the Ukrainian teacher training program. She gathered first hand data on how child-centered schools actually function. This information on the success of concrete schools and the sheer numbers of those schools will buttress her argument on the feasibility of the child-centered approach to education.

### Larysa Bobrova

Project title: "Linguistic Diversity and Cross-cultural Differences in Ukrainian and American English"

Ms. Bobrova tried to isolate culturally determined linguistic phrases to determine their interaction with other anthropocentric categories, especially when dealing with phrases of place and motion. These categories reflect differences between the cultural contexts of languages, and have a direct impact on the translation of all texts. Ms. Bobrova wants to develop further research in this field as well as to develop strategies translators can use to reflect more closely the sense of meaning from one language to another.

### Oksana Chepelyk

Project title: "The Interactive Artistic "Textual Gene" Project as a Model of Intercultural Research"

Ms. Chepelyk sees art, in terms of Art Electronica, as a motivating force and a catalyst for social change. Her previous films have earned her some domestic and international recognition. Her professional training is in architecture and film; the architectural background led this young artist into digital electronics. She wants to perfect her techniques in digital art, which she also sees as part of cross-cultural communication.

### Liliana Hentosh

Project title: "The Vatican between Tradition and Modernity: Two Patterns of Papal Politics — in Eastern Europe and the USA in 1914-1922"

Ms. Hentosh is using the topic to study how an established entity — the Vatican — dealt with emerging aspects of modernity — nationalism in the newly established states in Eastern Europe. The case of Ukrainians within this context is especially interesting in that here the new entity, Poland, dealt with an emergent group — Ukrainians. The majority of Ukrainian Catholics found themselves after the First World War in Roman Catholic Poland that was firmly set on limiting the influence of the Ukrainian Catholic Church but cultivating closer ties with the Vatican. At the same time, Ukrainian Catholic immigrants in the United States began to create an effective network of their churches, under papal authority, in the United States. Hence, while relatively marginal, the Ukrainian Catholic Church (even without implications for Vatican relations with the whole Orthodox East) is at the crossroads of the bundle that we call modernity.

Ms. Hentosh was one of the first scholars to work in the recently opened Vatican archives on the period. She has identified a body of sources in the US Jesuit archives as well as the National Archives that deal specifically with the development of Vatican policies toward the Eastern European Catholic churches. These materials will enable her to conclude her work.



Restaurant on the Dnipro in Dnipropetrovsk

### Volodymyr Vladymyrov

Project title: “Developing a Theory of Mass Communication Through Creation of a Theory of Mass Comprehension”

Mr. Vladymyrov has written a textbook on various approaches to mass communication that is used in some of the schools of journalism in Ukraine. The formulation of the current project — the hermeneutics of mass comprehension — reflects the dominant approach to journalism in Ukraine that stresses theory rather than the reliance on factual information. The goal of Mr. Vladymyrov’s current project, however, is to publish a book that would validate Western-style open journalism. The University of Missouri placed the scholar in the midst of American reality and its reflection — U.S. media.

### Serhiy Yakubovsky

Project title: “Importance of Favorable Social-Economic Environment for Effective Development of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (The American Experience and Its Possible Application to Ukraine)”

Mr. Yakubovsky studied ways in which intellectual centers such as Columbia University help promote small business development in their immediate vicinity. Yakubovsky stressed the importance of fostering and creating a social-economic environment that would encourage the creation of small enterprises.

### Anatoliy Yefymenko

Project title: “Comparative Legal Analysis of Ukrainian and U.S. Legislation Regulating Joint Stock Company Activities and Circulation of Securities”

Mr. Yefymenko worked as a consultant for the Ukrainian government in the latter’s rather half-hearted attempts to create a functioning open securities market. Yefymenko wants to focus on features of regulation of large business corporations and the legislation that ensures circulation of securities.

### Victor Yelensky

Project title: “Religious Freedom and National Identity: A Comparative Study of U.S. and Ukraine Nation-Building”

Independence brought a flourishing of new religious faiths to Ukraine, as well as the renewal of previously suppressed ones. But the special position the Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate enjoyed during the Soviet period left a stamp on the minds of some officials regarding the role of the church. Mr. Yelensky studied notions of religious freedom and analyzed how that principle, which was written into the Ukrainian constitution, is being implemented.

### Volodymyr Salamatov

Project title: “Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Municipal Governance: The Implication of the U.S. Experience for Ukraine”

Mr. Salamatov’s topic — municipal administration — is of prime importance in Ukraine which still labors under the tradition of a centralized approach to all governance issues. Mr. Salamatov has worked in Ukraine with one of the faculty members from the Vinson Institute of Government at the University of Georgia. He continued studying the theory of local government and supplemented that study with first hand acquaintance with American town and city administration. His final goal — after he compares the cognitive models of municipal administration in the U.S. and Ukraine — is to produce an action plan for Ukraine for implementing a more effective means of municipal administration that would draw on local resources.



Monastery at Maniava

## Svitlana Pukhnata

Project title: "The Narrative Strategies in the Novels of Modern Afro-American Women Writers"

Ms. Pukhnata has already studied the works of Toni Morrison and now would like to analyze more closely the prose of other Afro-American women writers. She's manuscript on Morrison is not yet published since the prospective author wants to familiarize herself more fully with both Afro-American culture and with recent literary, especially feminist, criticism.

## Victor Stepanenko

Project title: "Civil Society in Post-Soviet Democracy and in the USA: Concepts and Policy"

Civil society is a fashionable concept within the Eastern European intelligentsia but is not understood by either political leaders or the general public in Ukraine. Stepanenko, who had earlier participated in a program that brought Ukrainian scholars for six week stays to Britain, studied the functioning of civil society in contemporary USA, analyzed the recent conceptualizations of such functioning, and elaborated some effective policy recommendations on how practices that could entrench a functioning civil society in Ukraine could be implemented.

## Taras Tkachuk

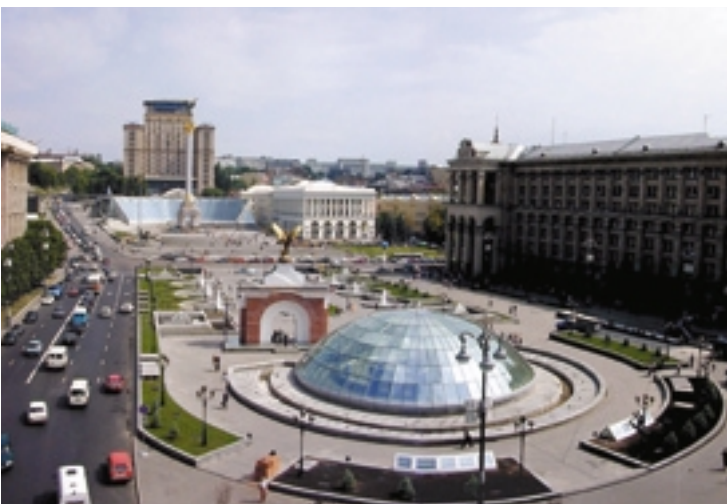
Project title: "Ware Ornamentation as a "Language" of Prehistoric Cultures"

Mr. Tkachuk has worked on archeological digs in Ukraine and in Poland deciphering a possible system of signs in the Trypillian culture. Comparison with an Anasazi element would conceivably provide a key in understanding how "archeological cultures" communicated. He proposes a semiotic analysis of Anasazi ornamentation to be able to compare it with the Trypilya-Cucuteni.

## Oleksandr Tokhtamysh

Project title: "Adaptability and Effectiveness of some Psychological Help Methods for Physically Handicapped Children from Families of Different Ethno-Cultural Communities"

In the Soviet educational system, sociology and psychology were part of philosophy, which is the subject Mr. Tokhtamysh studied. Subsequently, he went through psychological training and study in Stuttgart, Germany, and is currently teaching psychology at the Kyiv Municipal Pedagogical University and working with emotionally disturbed children. This field, including the understanding of attention deficit disorder, is not well developed in Ukraine.



Aerial view of Independence Square, Kyiv



Interior of St. Volodymyr Cathedral

## Maksym Vakulenko

Project title: "An Acoustic Invariant Approach to Speech Analysis and Spelling: English and Ukrainian"

Mr. Vakulenko proposes to use a system of acoustic invariant speech analysis which he developed to create a more advanced wave analysis of sound that would be able to include whisper and song. The representative speech sound spectrograms that Mr. Vakulenko and his American colleagues will obtain are to help devise a better system of sound analysis and transliteration. This work will be of benefit to hearing impaired and deaf students, as well as for the production of effective teaching materials for language study.

## Mariana Tovt-Korshynska

Project title: "Cross-Cultural Issues in Psychological and Mood Disorders Measurement: Gender Differences in Psychological Distress and its Health Outcomes"

In her professional and research work on stress as a factor of illness, Ms. Tovt-Korshynska unexpectedly came across gender as a significant factor in the management of both stress and illness. Gender had not been considered in any manner a determinant factor in Ukrainian medical and psychological practice and this fact emerged as a surprise element in the research. As Ms. Tovt-Korshynska analyzed her findings, she noted that Ukrainian women rarely complained of depression, but that the suicide rate of women was rising dramatically. She further noted that Ukrainian medical staff did not pay attention to potential signs of depression in women patients. The data collected in Ukraine when counterpoised with the data from the U.S. would be able to shed additional light on the role of gender differences in the expressions of physical and psychological stress.

## Yakiv Hershkovych

Project title: "Cultural Development and Economic and Ecological Systems of the Bronze Age from the Balkans to the Urals during the 2nd Millennium BC"

American scholars of the Bronze Age have highly developed theories about possible structures of those societies and their presumed interactions. Mr. Hershkovych, in turn, has worked for over 20 years on actual Bronze Age excavations in the steppe areas of Ukraine. That work provides factual material upon which current theories could be tested. With his American colleagues, Mr. Hershkovych worked on constructing — on the basis of the archeological evidence and cultural, economic and ecological factors — a description of the Bronze Age society.

## Kostiantyn Hlomoza

Project title: "A "Free World of History": The Importance of the American Experience for Post-Soviet Ukrainian Historical Science"

Even if only a segment of this ambitious project were to be completed, Ukraine would have an important source for informed discussion. Hlomoza, whose specialty is historiography, studied the current historical discourse in the USA as it refers to general attempts at periodization.

## Oksana Kis

Project title: "Woman in Ukrainian Peasant Culture, Community and Family in the 19th — Early 20th Centuries: Gender Approach"

Ms. Kis combined with equal success the three essential elements of a true Fulbright scholar — scholarship, teaching, and community service. Her work in the non-governmental organizations is particularly significant because in contemporary Ukraine those organizations serve as the catalysts for change in the social and educational spheres. Her involvement in the publication of journals that deal with contemporary issues is especially commendable, as are her cooperation with other European scholars. Ms. Kis researched her topic fully in Ukraine, but she needed to study methodologies of social history and cultural anthropology to be able to do full justice to it.



A Kyiv apartment house

## Antonina Kolodii

Project title: "National Consolidation in the United States: Ways and Means of Managing Ethnic-Cultural Diversity"

Ms. Kolodii is one of the ranking experts on political science in Ukraine. Her works on democracy, civil society, and political science have become textbooks throughout the country. She researched the ways in which the United States fashioned itself as an integrated state from various divergent groups.

## Serhiy Lepyavko

Project title: "Two Great Frontiers (The European and North American). A Comparative History"

Mr. Lepiavko has done significant work on the functioning of the European-Ottoman and European-Steppe frontiers. His attempt to study the American Western frontier rounded off his work.

## Valentyna Pidlisniuk

Project title: "Governmental Policies and Practices for Environmental Management: Status and Perspectives for Ukraine"

As a trained chemist, Dr. Pidlisnyuk brought her scientific expertise to address realistically the various environmental problems Ukraine faces. Her current goal is to prepare jointly with her Georgia colleagues a textbook on environmental policy and management that could be used in both the United States and in Ukraine.



Church in Kyivorivnia, Carpathian Mountains

## Oleksandr Pronkevych

Project title: "National Identity in Spanish and Ukrainian Literatures from 1900 to 1936"

This ambitious project analyzed methods by which Spanish and Ukrainian writers articulated their newly emergent national identity. Both Spanish and Ukrainian literary studies within an interdisciplinary context are best developed in the United States, rather than in their own respective countries. Pronkevych, a specialist in Iberian literature who branched out into Ukrainian, is interested in how these two peoples, both on the edge of Europe, defined Europe and modernity for themselves.