



Press Release

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CFUS Supports Creation of New Struk Fund at CIUS

In November 2009, the Danylo Husar Struk Memorial Endowment Fund at the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies (CFUS) in Toronto was transferred to the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) at the University of Alberta and renamed the Danylo Husar Struk and Oksana Pisetska Struk Endowment Fund. In response to an appeal from the community, the principal of this fund was increased to \$100,000 before the transfer in order to take advantage of the Government of Alberta's Matching Funds Program. The main objective of the fund is to support the Danylo Husar Struk Program in Ukrainian Literature at CIUS, which seeks to promote Ukrainian literature in the English-speaking world by sponsoring literary research, scholarly writing, and translation, as well as to improve access to texts by means of print and electronic publications, public lectures, and readings.

The fund was established at CFUS by Struk's family and friends shortly after his death in 1999. Both Danylo and Oksana were born in Ukraine. After the war, by different paths, they emigrated to the United States from Displaced Persons camps in Europe. After obtaining his bachelor's degree at Harvard University, Danylo Husar Struk completed his master's program at the University of Alberta and his doctoral at the University of Toronto, where he then served as professor of Ukrainian literature at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures for almost thirty years. He is also known as a scholar, poet, translator, and author of the monograph *A Study of Vasyl Stefanyk: The Pain at the Heart of Existence* (1972) and the textbook *Ukrainian for Undergraduates* (1978), which has been reprinted several times. One of his major achievements was his work on the monumental five-volume *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* (1984–93), first as managing editor and then as editor-in-chief.

Oksana graduated from the Institute of Notre Dame and received a Bachelor of Science degree in medical technology at Mount Saint Agnes College. She was a member of Plast, sang in a church choir, and headed the Baltimore chapter of the Ukrainian Students' Union of America. Having come to Canada (1960), she married Danylo Struk in 1978 and became his inspiration, sharing his appreciation of the fine arts, music, theatre, literature, and travel. She has been working on an English translation of selected works by Valerii Shevchuk that are planned for publication soon.

A significant annual event supported by the fund is the Danylo Husar Struk Memorial Lecture, given every spring at the University of Toronto, which attracts students, scholars, and a broad community audience. Since its inception, ten lectures have been given by such well-known

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literary scholars as Marko Pavlyshyn (Monash University, Australia), George Grabowicz (Harvard University), Oleh Ilnytskyj (University of Alberta), Myroslav Shkandrij (University of Manitoba), Vitaly Chernetsky (Miami University, Ohio), Taras Koznarsky and Maxim Tarnawsky (University of Toronto), and Tamara Hundorova (Institute of Literature, Kyiv).

Of particular importance is the fund's support for an electronic library of Ukrainian literature that includes the works of classic and modern Ukrainian authors, works of literary history, criticism, and linguistics, as well as various documents and archival materials (<http://www.utoronto.ca/elul>). The website also hosts a journal of English translations of Ukrainian literary works—a forum for gifted young authors to try their skill in the art of translation. The library is a valuable and easy accessible resource for students and all who love Ukrainian literature, wherever in the world they may live.

One of the upcoming projects of the Program is the publication of literary works by Danylo Struk and, later, by other scholars of the Ukrainian diaspora. The website already features all thirty-seven of Dr. Struk's literary essays in English, Ukrainian, and French, along with literary works by Bohdan Rubchak and recordings of all ten memorial lectures (<http://www.utoronto.ca/elul/Struk-mem>).

CFUS is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to securing funds and other resources to promote the growth and development of Ukrainian studies in Canada in perpetuity. The work of CFUS is supported by the generosity of individuals through donations, bequests, and endowments. If you wish to support the Danylo Husar Struk Program in Ukrainian Literature through this new fund, please contact CIUS at: 430 Pembina Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada T6G 2H8; (780) 492-2973; cious@ualberta.ca.

Photo: Oksana Pisetska Struk (l) and Danylo Husar Struk (r).