



Cultural Fund launches benefit concert series

The Washington Group Cultural Fund, in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine, launched a series of benefit concerts in the 2000-2001 season in order to raise funds for the procurement of musical instruments for the Lviv Conservatory. The series venue is the Spectrum Theatre in Rosslyn, next to the Newseum.

The first three concerts, in October and November—like the two scheduled in March and April of next year—presented soloists from Lviv and works by a featured Ukrainian composer.

In the first concert, October 3, it was pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky and an ensemble of musicians from the Washington Opera Orchestra performing Myroslav Skoryk's Concerto No. 3 for piano and string quartet and percussion.

The program also included Mozart's Oboe Quarter in F major, with oboist Igor Leshchishin,

See *Benefit Series*, Page 3

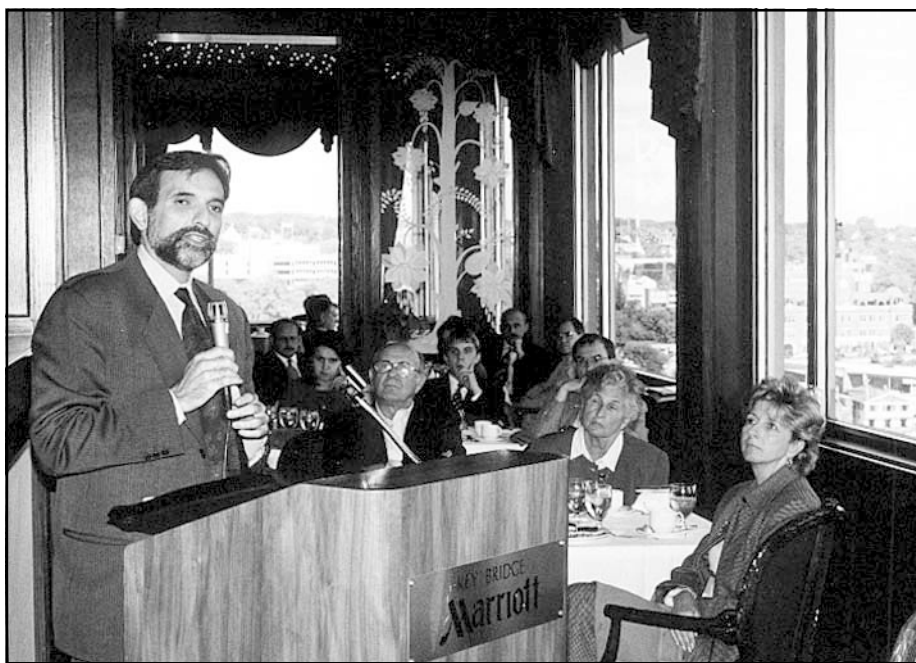
IN THIS ISSUE

Complete coverage of the
2000 Leadership Conference,
with photographs.

also:

- 2 Notes on Members
- 5 TWG Jazz Night
- 7 Kharkiv reception

TWG Conference examines prospects for Ukraine's integration into global community



Ambassador Carlos Pascual addressing the Leadership Conference luncheon.

By Yaro Bihun

Photos by Yaro Bihun and Natalie Sluzar

The Washington Group's annual Leadership Conference, held October 6-8 at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, looked at the issue of integrating Ukraine into the global community. Its participants analyzed the issue in three panel discussions featuring experts in the various fields involved and heard the official Ukrainian and American perspectives from the Ukrainian Embassy's Charge d'Affaires Oleksii Berezhnyi and recently sworn-in U.S. ambassador-designate to Ukraine, Carlos Pascual.

If one were to sum up the give-and-take over the three days of the conference, the consensus appeared to be that Ukraine should strive to integrate itself within European and global economic and political structures even though it is

not yet fully ready to take some of the necessary steps.

The conference program began Friday evening with a reception at the Ukrainian Embassy, at which the participants got acquainted with each other as well as with some Ukrainian officials visiting Washington that week, among them Prime Minister Yushchenko's advisor, poet Volodymyr Tsybulko.

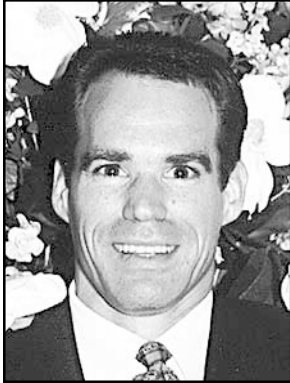
The conference program also included the presentation of this year's TWG Award to Orest Deychakiwsky for his years of work on behalf of human rights and democracy in Ukraine, discussions about forming a Business Development Forum within TWG and about Ukraine's leading intellectual journal *Krytyka*, a banquet and dance, a perfor-

See *Conference*, Page 4

Notes on Members

TWG Members have been elected or named to a number of leadership positions in the Ukrainian-American community in recent months, among them:

Sawkiw elected UCCA president



Michael Sawkiw, Jr., was elected president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America during the organization's convention in Chicago in October. Mr. Sawkiw, who lives in Washington, has been director of the UCCA's Ukrainian National Information Service in Washington since 1996.

Earlier, he worked for AIG Financial Products Corp., in Westport, Connecticut, and the Cohoes Savings Bank, Center for New Technology and General Electric Company, in the Schenectady-Troy area. Mr. Sawkiw has a BS degree from Union College in Schenectady and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York.

Jarosewicz named editor of *Svoboda*

Irene Jarosewicz was named editor-in-chief of *Svoboda*, the Ukrainian-language weekly of the Ukrainian National Association. *Svoboda*, which until recently was a daily, is the oldest continually published Ukrainian-language newspaper in the world. There were no relocation expenses involved: she was an editor with *The Ukrainian Weekly*, the UNA's English language newspaper, which she joined in 1996. Her earlier media and public relations experience

included: the National Office of the Millennium Committee in Washington, director of foreign media relations for Rukh in Ukraine, director of public relations for Ukraine's largest telephone company UTEL, director of public relations for Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, writer and editor with the National Endowment for the Arts, managing editor of the bi-weekly *Washington Herald*, as well as a stint as editor of *TWG News*.



Ms. Jarosewicz has a BA degree in philosophy and political science from the University of Wisconsin. Born in Chicago, she grew up in DC's suburban Maryland, and now lives in New York.

Voyevodka to head UMANA



Ihor L. Voyevodka, M.D., was elected president of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America during the group's November convention in Lake Tahoe.

Dr. Voyevodka graduated from the University of Vienna in 1971. He has been practicing obstetrics and gynecology since 1976, for the past 20 years in Reno, Nevada. He will assume the presidency of

UMANA in June 2001.

Denysenko on USUF Board

Tamara Denysenko, General Manager and CEO of the Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union and Chairman of the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association, was elected December 1 to a two-year term on the Board of Directors of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, a Washington-based, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization

See **Notes**, Page 10

TWG News

Published for its membership by
The Washington Group
P.O. Box 11248, Washington, DC 20008

EDITOR: Yaro Bihun
(202) 362-0569 • E-mail: yarob@aol.com

<http://www.TheWashingtonGroup.org>
http://www.brama.com/twg_cultural_fund

Material in this publication may be reprinted,
provided TWG NEWS is cited as the source.

ADVERTISING: Business card size: \$10 per issue, or \$25 for three issues for TWG members; \$15/\$40 for non-members. Quarter page: \$45 members, \$55 non-members. Half page: \$60 members, \$75 non-members. Full page: \$100 members/\$140 non-members. Please contact TWG Treasurer Roman Stelmach (215) 572-1481.



Prudential

Carruthers REALTORS

NICHOLAS BABIAK

Licensed in DC and Maryland

Buying or selling? Owner or investor? Get Top Value.

Bus: 202-393-1111 Res: 202-546-3364 Fax: 202-393-8222
E-mail: nickb@prudentialcarruthers.com

independently owned and operated member of The Prudential Real Estates Affiliates, Inc.

Benefit Series

From page 1

and Beethoven's Sextet for two horns, two violins, viola and cello, with Greg Drone and Bob Odmark as horn soloists.

While the first televised presidential debate kept many politically minded Washingtonians from being in the audience, those who came to the concert—the dean of the Washington Post's music critics, Joseph McLellan, among them—found Skoryk's Concerto, and Mr. Vynnytsky's execution, moving.

"While the differences between a concerto and a piece of chamber music have been well established for centuries, and...never the twain shall meet," Mr. McLellan wrote on October 5, "pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky and colleagues performed the Washington premiere of a concerto that is also a piece of chamber music:

Concerto No. 3 for piano and string quartet by Myroslav Skoryk, a very productive (e.g., 40 movie soundtracks) and impressively imaginative Ukrainian composer who is virtually unknown in the United States."

The concerto's last movement, titled "Life," he added, is, like the first two movements, "unconventional in structure but emotionally and harmonically well within the late romantic tradition. Wild outbursts of passion alternate with charming melodies; displays of virtuoso temperament with moderate dialogue."

"The performance, with violinists Zino Bogachek and Joan Hurley, violist Uri Wassertzug, cellist Liz Davis and drummer John Spirtas," Mr. McLellan continued, "brought out the music's color and excitement."

The second concert, October 16, featured violinist Solomiya Ivakhiv and pianist Christina Anum-Dorhuso and Yevhen Stankovych's *Sonata Piccola*. The two artists also performed works by Bach, Beethoven, Skoryk and Manuel de Falla.

Cellist Natalia Khoma was joined by Volodymyr Vynny-



The performers of first concert, with TWGCF Director Laryssa Lapychak Courtney (2nd from left) and Project Director Chrystia Sonevytsky (3rd from right) are (l-r): Zenoviy Bogachek, Volodymyr Vynnytsky, Igor Leshchishin, Elizabeth Davis, Bob Odmark, Greg Drone, Uri Wassertzug and Joan Hurley.

tsky in the November 13 concert, which highlighted Mykola Lysenko's *Sorrow* Elegy for cello and piano. The performance also included compositions by Beethoven, Liszt, Shostakovich, Granado and Cassado.

The two remaining concerts will add vocal soloists to the series:

- On March 5, soprano Anna Bachynsky and tenor Roman Tsymbala will pay tribute to Ukraine's bard Taras Shevchenko in a concert of music, song and poetry.

- On April 23, soprano Oksana Kroyvtska and violinist Zenoviy Bogachek will perform a program to announced later.



Natalia Khoma

Introducing the performers of the first concert, TWG Cultural Fund Director Laryssa Lapychak Courtney noted that the benefit series combines the goal of the Fund—to acquaint the greater Washington area with Ukrainian culture—with a need for assistance for those who create that culture in Ukraine.

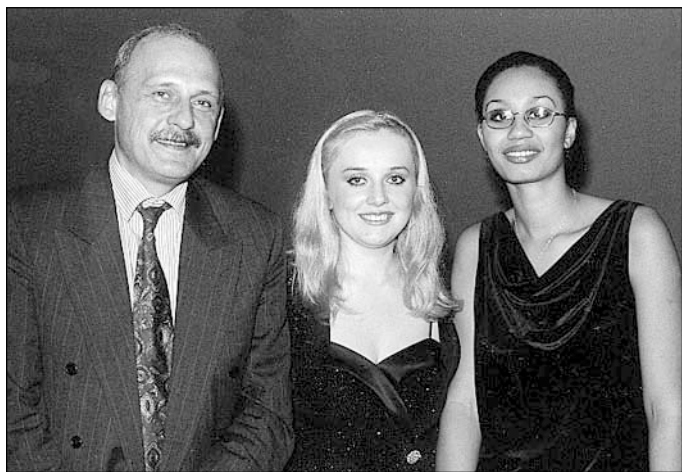
If successful, she said, the series will be expanded to help other conservatories and cultural institutions in Ukraine.

The series is organized by Chrystia Sonevytsky.

The performances begin at 8 p.m. Tickets can be obtained at the door for \$20; seniors and students, \$15. Each concert is followed by a reception. Additional donations are gratefully accepted.

The Rosslyn Spectrum Theatre is located at 1611 N. Kent Street, two blocks east of the Rosslyn Metro Station and next to the Newseum. Free garage parking is available in the rear of the building, off Arlington Ridge Road.

For more information please call 703-241-1817.



Ukrainian Cultural Attaché Mykola Kravchenko meeting with the performers of the second benefit concert Solomiya Ivakhiv and pianist Christina Anum-Dorhuso.

Leadership Conference

From Page 1

mance by the Experimental Bandura Trio, and the TWG Cultural Fund silent auction.



Oleksii Berezhnyi

sees “full-fledged” European Union membership as a long-term goal.

Mr. Berezhnyi said Ukraine is apprehensive about new EU procedures being proposed for Poland, Hungary and other EU candidate-members, fearing that they may interfere with trade among the countries of that region.

Maintaining its “strategic relationship” with the United States “is essential for Ukraine,” Mr. Berezhnyi said, listing in the bilateral agenda basket of that relationship such goals as the establishment of a normal trade regime—which is “long overdue,” he said—U.S. support in International Monetary Fund and World Bank decisions on Ukraine and on Ukraine’s membership in the World Trade Organization.

In answer to a question, the Ukrainian diplomat said it was time to untie Ukraine from the trade limitations of the annual U.S. Jackson-Vanik Amendment process, originally imposed on the Soviet Union to help Soviet Jews emigrate, and grant Ukraine the permanent trade relations status that most other countries enjoy. Over time, this legislation’s provisions were revised to include the restitution of Jewish property, and, most recently, he added, the discussion has turned also to honoring intellectual property rights.

Panel 1: Future of the Nation-State

In the first panel, dealing with the future of the nation-state and its implications for Ukraine, Roman Solchanyk, an analyst with the RAND Corporation, juxtaposed some contradictory developments and opinion poll results that suggest that Ukrainians find it difficult to make a final decision about themselves as a nation and where they feel they belong regionally. But there is no doubt about the fact that the people

are dissatisfied, he said.

As for fears about the establishment of a new dividing line in Europe after the first group of East European countries join the European Union, he said, that line exists and has always existed in the eyes of Western Europeans, who differentiate between Eastern European countries that were under Soviet domination, and those that were part of the Soviet Union itself. Ukraine can cooperate and even become a member of its military alliance, NATO, he said, but membership in its economic family, the EU, is another matter. He used the example of Turkey, which has been a member of NATO since 1952 and yet has not had its membership in the EU even considered until December 1999. The reason, Dr. Solchanyk suggested, may be because Turkey is not “white and Christian.”

On a positive note, Dr. Solchanyk pointed out that despite early gloomy predictions by the CIA and others that Ukraine would fall apart because of ethnic divisions and other considerations, today there are no doubts about Ukraine’s viability as a nation-state, with a normal, functioning democratic process.

“From that perspective, Ukraine looks good,” he said, certainly in comparison to its neighbor Russia, which over its



Conference Panel 1: Oleh Havrylyshyn of IMF, moderator Andrew Masiuk, and Roman Solchanyk of RAND Corp.

ten-year history has seen, among other things, a coup attempt by “alcoholically challenged” Soviet-style old-timers, tanks shooting up the parliament building, the rise of a Zhirinovskyy, recurring wars in Chechnya, a financial collapse and “phony-crony economic reforms.”

Oleh Havrylyshyn, a senior advisor in the European Division of the International Monetary Fund, presented the case for Ukraine to welcome and take part in the globalization process and become a member of the European Union.

Prefacing his remarks with the caveat that he was expressing his own personal opinions, Dr. Havrylyshyn said that global-

See *Conference*, Page 6



Natalie Sluzar organized a TWG outing to hear jazz pianist John Stetch and his trio perform at the Blues Alley jazz nightclub in Georgetown October 25. A few years ago, John Stetch was a featured performer during the TWG Leadership Conference. Standing around Mr. Stetch, seated at the piano, are (l-r): George Sajewych, Xenia Jowyk, Olena Gapenko, Lesia Lorenz, Jerry Lorenz, Olenka Stasyshyn, Natalie Korytnyk and Ihor Kotlarchuk. Natalie Sluzar is behind the camera.

OKSANA O. XENOS

Attorney at Law

FORMER IRS DISTRICT COUNSEL

FOR THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

*Representing individuals & businesses
in federal & state tax controversies*

**IRS TAX AUDITS & APPEALS - US TAX COURT LITIGATION
OFFERS IN COMPROMISE - LEVIES - LIENS - RELEASES
PAYROLL TAX PROBLEMS - FAILURE TO FILE TAX RETURNS
TAX & PENALTY SETTLEMENTS**

RUBENSTEIN, ISAACS & XENOS, P.C.

2000 Town Center, Suite 2700 - Southfield, MI 48075

(248)354-3200 - FAX(248)354-3106

Leadership Conference

From Page 4

ization is not a threat to Ukraine; indeed, it may well help save it as a nation-state and open up enormous opportunities.

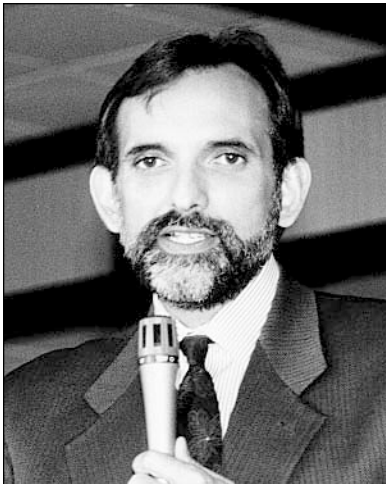
He discounted what he called the “Poland-is-different” argument of those who maintain that Ukraine does not have the wherewithal to compete. Neither did he find the “lack-of-natural-resources” argument convincing, pointing to the successes of resource-less Japan and South Korea, and the failure of resource-rich Venezuela and Nigeria.

“Every country has its pluses and minuses,” Dr. Havrylyshyn said, noting that success comes from reforming old structures as quickly as possible, and using your advantages and overcoming your disadvantages. “The issue is how to succeed with what you have,” he stressed.

Dr. Havrylyshyn said that the more open a country’s economy, the more resistant it is to the corruption of oligarchs with connections and influence in the government, for which a closed economy is a “breeding ground.”

Ukraine, he said, must strive to eventually become a member of the EU. It should not wait for an invitation, but, like Poland and the Czech Republic, it should keep knocking on Brussels’ door. “There’s only one way to get in—keep asking for it,” he said. And the benefits of membership, in trade and investment, are great, he added, pointing out that while foreign investment in Ukraine now is \$9-10 per-capita, in the EU member-candidate countries the figure is in the “hundreds of dollars” per-capita.

The panel moderator was Andrew Masiuk, the former director of the International Management Institute in Kyiv and now a consultant.



Carlos Pascual

Conference participants heard the U.S. government perspective on the direction it thinks Ukraine should be going from Carlos Pascual, in his first public appearance since being sworn-in as the next U.S. ambassador to Ukraine on the previous day.

Following his address at the conference luncheon, which, at the new ambassador’s request, was “off the record,” he fielded questions about press freedom in Ukraine, the replacement of Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk, corruption, the use of the Ukrainian language by the Embassy staff, and how Ukrainian Americans can help foster better U.S.-Ukrainian relations.

(Ambassador Pascual had addressed the subject of Ukraine’s European integration in remarks during his swearing-in ceremony at the State Department, where he promised continued U.S. support for this effort. He added that if Ukraine

wants to be a part of Europe, “it must look like Europe” in structuring its political, economic and social systems.)

Panel 2: Developments in Ukraine

The second panel discussion analyzed recent developments in Ukraine, with Anders Aslund, the foremost expert on post-communist economic transformation, now with the Carnegie for International Peace, reporting on the economic situation, George Grabowicz, of Harvard University, looking at the cultural situation, and Oleksandr Potiekhin, of the Ukrainian Embassy, presenting the latest data on social attitudes in Ukraine. The moderator was Andrew Bihun, of the U.S. Commerce Department who had spent four years as the U.S. commercial attaché in Kyiv.

Dr. Aslund had just returned from a visit to Ukraine two days before his appearance, and the latest book he co-authored, *Ukrainian Economic Reform*, was published three days before that.

He said that, at long-last, Ukraine’s economy seems to be on the right track. “But it’s still very fragile,” he added. This progress was evident on the streets of Kyiv, where he saw, among other indicators, growing competition between stores at the lower end of the market, which were selling locally produced goods and processed foods.

In addition, light industry and food processing increased by 30 percent so far this year, and the gross domestic product increased by around five percent, according to official figures. Taken all together, “that’s exactly the kind of organic development you want to see,” he said. “Something is happening at long last.”

Corruption in Ukraine, Russia and other post-communist countries is not there by chance, Dr. Aslund said. “It has nothing to do with the nation; it has to do with the economic system that communism left behind and that was not sufficiently reformed,” he added.

Since corruption is centered in the few people high up in government who know how to benefit from the massive government subsidies, attacking it from below will not work, he said. “You need to act at the top of society,” he stressed, adding that he saw a “substantial attempt to put things right,” for which he credits Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, First Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov and Finance Minister Ihor Mitiukov. Unfortunately, he added, the people don’t seem to be aware of this.

Dr. Aslund said that the new prime minister also brought a large measure of order into the work of the cabinet. The



Anders Aslund

Continued on following page

TWG hosts Kharkiv delegation

Kharkiv Governor Oleh Dyomin (left) and former U.S. commercial attaché in Kyiv, Andrew Bihun, discussing the “Kharkiv Initiative” during a TWG-co-sponsored reception for the Kharkiv delegation at the Ukrainian Embassy in October. A former vice president of TWG, Mr. Bihun is organizing a “TWG Business Development Forum” to help foster better economic relation between Ukraine and the United States.

The Kharkiv delegation, which included the mayors of Kharkiv and Azyum and other oblast officials, had three days of meetings in the Washington area, and then left for a two-week visit of 7 U.S. cities in search of investors to help develop their region.

The tour was organized under the auspices of the State Department in support of the U.S.-sponsored “Kharkiv Initiative.” The initiative was launched in 1998 after, under pressure from Washington, Ukraine agreed to cancel its participation in a \$850-million Russian nuclear power plant construction project in Bushehr, Iran.



Kharkiv’s Turboatom, which was contracted to build the turbines for the plant, lost the contract, reportedly worth \$45 million, and potential future contracts with Russia.

President Kuchma replaced Governor Dyomin a few weeks after he returned.

Leadership Conference

From preceding page

previous government, which he called “a wonder of improvisation,” never had regular cabinet meetings, for which ministers could prepare; they were called the night before the meeting was scheduled, he said. Under Mr. Yushchenko, the cabinet meets every Wednesday at 10 in the morning.

Under the new decision-making process, expenditures are decided in an orderly fashion and address real needs, such as education and health care, rather than providing subsidies to favored projects. Under the new government, Dr. Aslund said, the finances are in order, there is a balanced budget, and payment arrears “are not quite gone, but almost.”

He said that, additionally, the government revoked 209 decrees that gave persons and enterprises tax exemptions and other subsidies, greatly reduced barter and non-payments, especially in the area of electricity and gas, which has made Mr. Yushchenko and his deputy prime minister in charge of energy, Yulia Tymoshenko, unpopular among the oligarchs. “She knows the tricks they are doing, because she had been doing it herself,” he said.

Dr. Aslund observed that about 25 percent of agricultural land now is in “real private hands,” which, he added, “makes it plausible that real agricultural revival might happen rather soon.” And a new tax code, civil code, and land code and in the pipeline

The question remains whether these reforms will continue. There are threats from two quarters, he said—from the oligarchs in the Verkhovna Rada and the oligarchs associated with the presidential administration.

Dr. Aslund felt that the threats against the Yushchenko government from both quarters now were too obvious and, therefore, less potent.

He also noted that Ukraine is getting “quite a new group of businessmen, who are real producers and not only trading government subsidies among themselves.”

While leaving Kyiv “moderately optimistic,” he said he was most worried about the press, “which has really declined from being bad to being extremely bad” and unable to present “an intelligible view” about things that matter.

Dr. Grabowicz, professor of Ukrainian literature at Harvard University, pointed out that culture has been getting short shrift in recent discussions about development in Ukraine.

While Ukraine is generally viewed as a country “in transition,” it hasn’t really transitioned anywhere, especially in the cultural sphere, he said.

“Ukraine is very much a continuation of its past existence...of Soviet Ukraine,” he said, pointing out that such essential elements as cultural institutions, cadres, and the cultural style, have not changed at all.

Ukraine’s foreign service, with which Ukrainian Americans deal with most often, is the most reformed of Ukrainian institutions, being composed of new, young people, he said. But it is “largely an exception,” he added. Other institutions, especially in culture and scholarship, he noted, “are almost totally unreformed.” Some names were changed—“The Institute of Scholarly Atheism” became “The Institute of History of Religion,” but the people directing them are the same, he said. And the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, he pointed out, continues to be headed by Boris Paton, who was appointed under Mykyta Khrushchev.

Dr. Grabowicz said it was a paradox to speak of “Ukrainianizing Ukraine.” Ukraine is a country with an official language that does not have “normal functioning” within its borders and no cultural policy. As an example of the problem,

See *Conference*, Page 8

Leadership Conference

From Page 7

he noted that among the thousands of books in a large bookstore he visited in Yalta, only three were Ukrainian. The situation was similar in Odesa, he said.

Dr. Grabowicz said that while normal countries can do without a policy on culture, Ukraine, which has been denied nationhood for centuries, cannot afford such a *laissez faire* approach. While that might not seem important for writers, composers and other individuals who can work without a cultural infrastructure, he said, such institutions as film studios and opera companies cannot make it without some government support in a country where the market does not yet support culture and local governments do not see it as a priority.

On Sunday, in a separate conference session, Prof. Grabowicz talked about *Krytyka*, a monthly intellectual journal he edits in Ukraine, which is experiencing some of the problems he focused on in the second panel.

Prof. Grabowicz also pointed out that Ukraine has not yet come to grips with its past and that no moral responsibility has been attributed for Ukraine's major crimes and tragedies. The anniversary of the 1933 Great Famine in Ukraine, for example, was marked in 1993, but only "halfheartedly," he said, and the monument in Kyiv commemorating the millions of Ukrainians who died as a result of this artificial famine he felt was "understated."

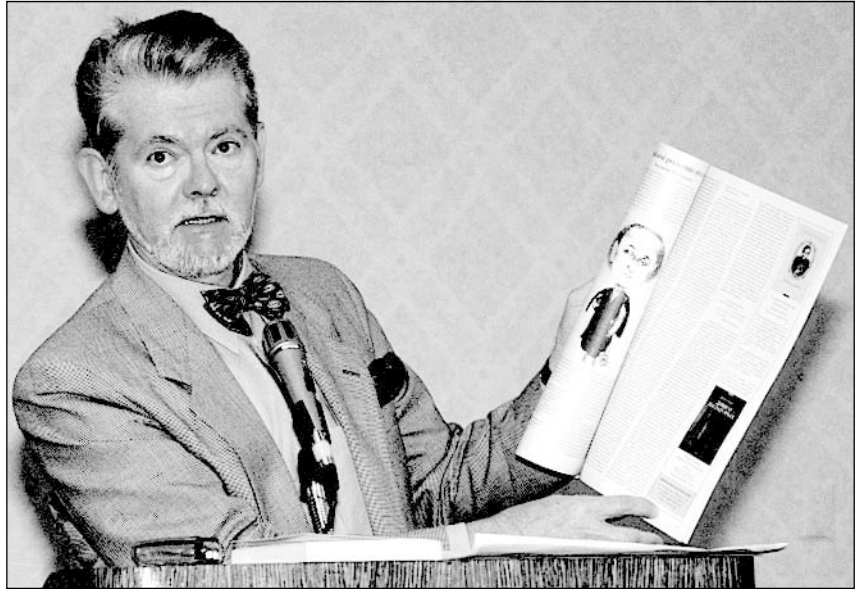
Dr. Potiekhin, who heads the political section at the Ukrainian Embassy, took exception to some of Prof. Grabowicz's assertions. He said that he thought the Famine monument in Kyiv was adequate in scale and spirit and that there were larger monuments elsewhere in Ukraine. He also pointed out that his daughter had just finished "one of the most conservative Ukrainian universities," the Kyiv University of Economics, and all but a few of her economic textbooks were modern, mostly by Western authors. He



Oleksandr Potiekhin

admitted, however, that there were still some "old-style" professors at the school.

In his presentation, Dr. Potiekhin showed the results of recent polling about how Ukrainians feel about themselves and others. One poll, about what problems concerned Ukrainians most, showed that the standard of living remained the



George Grabowicz

top priority and, in fact, increased from 74 percent in 1994 to 89 percent in 1999. Crime came second, but it dropped over the five years from 49 percent to 37 percent.

On relations with Russia, 57 percent wanted Ukraine to remain independent but friendly with Russia, 35 percent wanted to unite with Russia, and 10 percent wanted to close the borders with Russia.

Another poll result showed that Ukrainians had more relatives living outside the former Soviet Union (26 percent) than in Russia (22 percent), and only 5 percent elsewhere on the territory of the former USSR.

And as for anti-Semitism in Ukraine, one poll showed Ukrainians were more intolerant of Americans and Canadians than of Jews.

Panel 3: Building Democracy, Civil Society

The third and last panel on Saturday dealt with building democracy and civil society in Ukraine, with Ambassador William Taylor, the State Department coordinator of assistance programs to the New Independent States, presenting the U.S. view on how things are developing in that direction and reporting on some U.S. assistance programs in that area.

In conducting many of its programs, he said, the United States now does not have to go through the government of Ukraine but deals directly with non-governmental organizations, individuals and the private sector.

The "good news" and hope for the future lies with the new generation, in which Amb. Taylor included Prime Minister Yushchenko. He reported that more than 11,000 young Ukrainians have been brought to the United States through various U.S. exchange programs since 1992.

The "bad news," Amb. Taylor said, has been the media and the slow progress in establishing the rule of law. The country is still awaiting the passage of the law on the judiciary, which is holding up the passage of other related laws; American

Continued on following page

Leadership Conference

From Page 8

investors continue to have problems with the implementation of court judgments in their favor; and the fight against corruption needs not only the support of the central government but also local implementation.

Panelist Judy Van Rest, of the International Republican Institute, described her organization's training programs for young deputies in the Verkhovna Rada and some of the problems their efforts have encountered. Ukrainian parties are driven by personalities and lack grass-roots support, she said, and, politically, Ukraine is still "very much in transition."

Katie Fox, of the National Democratic Institute, described their training programs with Ukrainian political parties, non-governmental organizations and members of the Verkhovna Rada. A major problem they found in working with democratic parties in Ukraine was that they are small, tend to fragment even further and find it hard to build coalitions.

Deychakiwsky gets TWG Award

The moderator of third panel was Orest Deychakiwsky, staff advisor with the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, who, during the banquet that evening was honored with the TWG Award for his work in fostering human rights and democracy in Ukraine over the past quarter century.

Accepting the award, the former TWG president stressed the need for Ukrainian Americans to continue pressing the government in Kyiv to continue improving the human rights situation in Ukraine.

"Support (whether through policy statements or concrete assistance) and constructive criticism are not mutually exclusive—whether the criticism comes from the U.S. or other governments, or, for that matter, from the Ukrainian-American community," Mr. Deychakiwsky said.

"It is legitimate to raise concerns about actions that threaten democracy in Ukraine or that violate human rights of Ukrainian citizens, e.g., the recent treatment of independent media/missing journalist Heorhii Gongadze. And it is legitimate to encourage the development of the rule of law and to criticize the corruption that so debilitates Ukraine," he added.

Mr. Deychakiwsky stressed that "what is critically important to remember is that the struggle for independence was a struggle not just to throw off foreign domination, but it also was—and to some extent continues to be—a struggle to restore the human dignity of the Ukrainian people."

"The promotion of human rights, civil society and democratic development in Ukraine is the best way to not only promote the material and spiritual well-being of the people of Ukraine; ultimately, it is the best way to ensure and strengthen Ukraine's independence and thereby contribute to the peace and security of Europe and, indeed, the entire world," he said.

Also honored that evening was another former TWG president, George Masiuk, for his work in organizing the 2000



Ambassador William Taylor



Svitlana Marinova Shiells questions the second panel.



TWG Award winner Orest Deychakiwsky (center) with TWG President Ihor Kotlarchuk and Vice President Marta Zielyk.



Andrew Bihun discussing the Business Development Forum.

See *Conference*, Page 10

Leadership Conference

From Page 9

as well as a number of earlier leadership conferences.

The banquet was preceded by a cocktail hour, during which the TWG Cultural Fund held its second annual silent auction. The evening ended with a dance, to the music of Fata Morgana.

Sunday program

On Sunday morning, the TWG Leadership Conference program continued with Professor Grabowicz's discussion about the monthly journal "Krytyka," which he and like-minded Ukrainian intellectuals founded in 1997. The magazine's necessarily low newsstand price in Ukraine of under 50 cents is subsidized by the normal subscription price in the West of \$50 a year and with donations. The magazine's goal is to boost its circulation from the current 3,000 to 10,000, at which point companies would consider advertising in the journal, he said.

The cultural program after the Sunday brunch featured the Experimental Bandura Trio of Julian Kytasty, Michael Andrec and Jurij Fedynsky.

The conference concluded with a discussion of the possibility of instituting a new specialized body within the TWG structure, called the Business Development Forum. The Forum would unite TWG members involved or interested in broadening and improving commercial ties with Ukraine.



Experimental Bandura Trio—Yurij Fedynsky, Julian Kytasty and Michael Andrec—performing after the Sunday brunch.

The discussion was led by former TWG vice president Andrew Bihun, who served as the U.S. commercial attaché in Kyiv from 1995 to 1999.

Kytasty memorial

Between the the concert and closing session about the TWG Business Development Forum, conference participants paid tribute to Victor Kytasty, a former member of TWG who had been the first director of the U.S. government sponsored America House in Kyiv. He died unexpectedly September 22 while paying basketball at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy University.

Notes

From Page 2

whose goal is to facilitate democratic development, encourage free market reform and enhance human rights in Ukraine through various exchange and assistance programs.

Ms. Denysenko has been a resident of the Rochester area and active in the Ukrainian-American community for over 30 years. For the past ten years, she has been traveling to Ukraine helping establish credit unions and providing humanitarian aid there. She has served as the treasurer of the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives which represents credit unions in the U.S., Canada, Australia and Ukraine. In 1997 she became president of the Rochester District of the New York State Credit Union League, a position she holds to the present day. For more than seven years, she was the chairman of the Irondequot-Poltava Sister Cities Committee. She has also assisted the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation on various projects in the past.

Bilajiw literary evening

Wolodymyr Bilajiw had a literary evening November 26 on the occasion of his 75th birthday. The evening, featuring the reading of his poems, was organized by the Washington branch of Ukrainian Free Academy of Science at the St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral's Social Hall. The audience also saw a short video of an interview with poet Mykola Vinhranovsky.

Mr. Bilajiw, former chief of the Ukrainian Branch of the Voice of America, and his wife now live in North Palm Beach, Florida.

POSITION — THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

With Irene Jarosewich now editing *Svoboda*, there is a job opening at *The Ukrainian Weekly* for a full-time editorial staff member based at the UNA home office in Parsippany, NJ.

Journalism or related experience required; bilingual (English/Ukrainian) skills a must; photography skills a plus. Position requires knowledge of Ukrainian community in the diaspora (primarily North America) and current events in Ukraine.

Position involves: writing, reporting, interviewing, rewrites, diverse assignments, copy editing, proofreading, translating and more.

Those interested in becoming a member of The Ukrainian Weekly's editorial team, are encouraged to send a resume and clippings, plus a cover letter explaining their interest in the position, ASAP to:

Editor-in-Chief
The Ukrainian Weekly
2200 Route 10
PO Box 280
Parsippany, NJ 07054

For additional information call (973) 292-9800, ext. 3049

book ad

The Washington Group Membership Information/Application Form

TWG is an association of Ukrainian-American professionals who live throughout the United States and in several countries of the world. It offers its members an opportunity to meet and get to know each other through a variety of professional, educational and social activities. TWG NEWS is a monthly newsletter for TWG members, and a membership directory, published for members only, helps them in networking.

**To apply for membership, please fill out the form below and mail with a check to:
The Washington Group, P.O. Box 11248, Washington, D.C. 20008.
(The Board of Directors considers membership applications at its monthly meetings.)**

DATE: _____ NEW MEMBER RENEWAL DIRECTORY CORRECTION

Name _____ Profession _____

Home address _____ Home phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ E-Mail _____

Company _____ Position _____

Business address _____ Office phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Fax _____

Circle information you would like omitted from the published TWG Directory.

Membership Dues (Please check where appropriate):

\$50 Full Membership

\$35 Associate (Members outside Washington metropolitan area and retirees)

\$15 Full-time students

\$10 Surcharge for foreign addresses (*Payment must be in US Dollars*)

VISA/Master Card No. _____ Expiration date _____ Signature _____

TWG News

THE WASHINGTON GROUP
P.O. Box 11248
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

FIRST CLASS MAIL