

UMass Establishes Partnership with Kyiv School of Economics

The University of Massachusetts Amherst has established a partnership with the Kyiv School of Economics (KSE) to assist students and scholars affected by Russia's war with Ukraine.



The new multi-level partnership with KSE, initiated in fall 2022, establishes several modalities for Ukrainian students and scholars to be part of the UMass academic community. An academic exchange program for students enables undergraduate and graduate students from Ukraine to study at UMass for a semester or academic year with nearly all costs waived. In addition, a nonresident, virtual scholar-in-residence program offers Ukrainian scholars the opportunity to collaborate with UMass centers, departments, and faculty on relevant research topics. Ukrainian scholars receive a stipend through the KSE Foundation.

Anna Nagurney, UMass professor and Eugene M. Isenberg Chair in Integrative Studies in the Isenberg School of Management, played a central role in driving these collaborative efforts. As a long-standing member of the International Academic Board at KSE, and now co-chair of the KSE Board of Directors, Nagurney was instrumental in nurturing the relationship between the two institutions. Other key faculty supporters included Bogdan Prokopovych, lecturer in the Isenberg School of Management; Ina Ganguli, associate professor of economics; and Lauren McCarthy, associate professor of legal studies and political science.



Funding for these programs has been generously contributed by Provost Emeritus John McCarthy's office along with the deans of the Isenberg School of Management, the College of Social and Behavioral Science, and IPO.

Founded in 1996 by the Economics Education and Research Consortium and the Eurasia Foundation as a master's program in economics, KSE is now a leading world academic institution. It currently offers degrees in programs such as economics, business analytics, mathematical economics, and public policy.

During the 2022–23 academic year, 15 Ukrainian scholars in a variety of fields were matched with UMass faculty in the Isenberg School of Management, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the College of Natural Sciences.

In late February 2023, KSE President Tymofiy Mylovanov visited campus and met with UMass leaders. Mylovanov previously served as Ukraine's minister of trade. During his visit, Mylovanov met with several UMass officials, including Provost Tricia Serio, Provost Emeritus McCarthy, Vice Provost Kalpen Trivedi, Isenberg Dean Anne Massey, SBS Dean R. Karl Rethemeyer, and CNS Interim Dean Nathaniel Whitaker.

The first anniversary of the partnership with KSE was celebrated in May 2023 with a virtual webinar panel featuring the research of numerous Ukrainian scholars and a special lecture by Tymofii Brik, rector of KSE, entitled "Resilience of Ukrainian Universities and Communities during the War."

Attendees at Dr. Tymofiy Brik's lecture.