

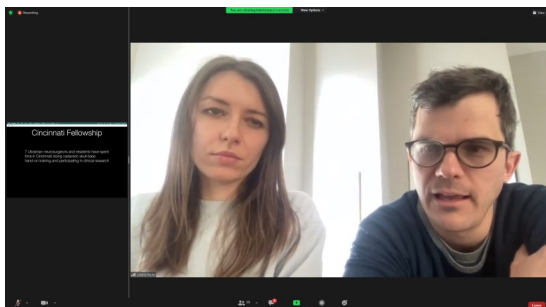
UMANA Scientific Conference Goes Virtual

By George Hrycelak, M.D.

The Scientific Conference of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, regularly scheduled for the summer of 2021, was summarily derailed by the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic. To maintain the educational mission of UMANA, President **Leo Wolansky, MD**, undertook the challenging task of creating a “virtual” conference, available to all members, during the 2021-2022 academic season.

After due deliberation, it was decided that instead of a full 2 day virtual conference, one hour monthly lectures for 12 months would be the ideal format. The Conference will consist of a series of online, live presentations by a variety of speakers on themes relevant to the current state of medicine, touching on topics relevant to all physicians, in the diaspora as well as Ukraine.

The inaugural presentation was held January 23, 2022, on the ZOOM platform, featuring guest speakers **Luke Tomycz, MD**, UMANA Vice President, and Maria Soroka, co-founder and member of the Board of Directors of RAZOM. Dr. Tomycz related his experience in establishing a neurosurgery outreach program with Ukrainian neurosurgeons, the difficulties as well as successes during this undertaking, and ending with discussion of various cases encountered during this experience. The meeting was well attended and proceeded with minimal technical difficulties. Attendees were able to present several questions, and a discussion ensued.



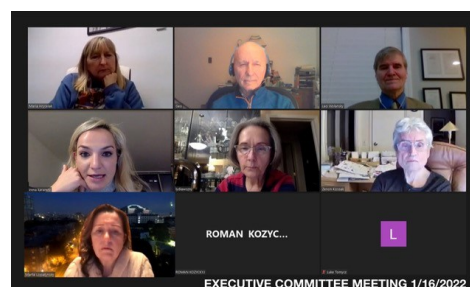
The next installment of the Scientific Conference will take place Sunday, February 20, 2022 at 1:00 PM Eastern Time. The guest speaker will be Alexandra Wolanskyj-Spinner, MD, senior Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine, who will speak on “Lifelong learning in medical education”.

Please check your emails for the relevant links and visit UMANA’s web site for updated information.

UMANA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The UMANA Executive Committee met in session January 16, 2022, to review planning for the upcoming Scientific Conference, review routine association matters, and approve 15 new applicants for membership in UMANA, subject to final confirmation at the Assembly of Delegates in 2023. **Iryna Karanetz, MD**, was appointed social media manager of UMANA’s instagram page: @umana.official

Become a follower.



EDITOR READIES NEXT ISSUE OF JUMANA

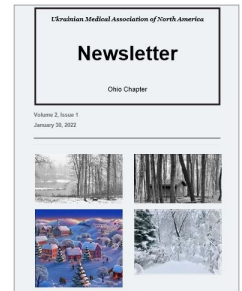
The next issue of the *Journal of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (JUMANA)* aka “Likarskyj Visnyk”, is close to completion. **Andrew Melnyk, MD**, Editor-in-chief, thanks all those who contributed, and welcomes new submissions from all members.

UMANA CHAPTER NEWS

NEW YORK METRO BRANCH held a meeting at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York City on December 7, 2021. **Dr. Petro LENCHUR**, Chief Division of Cardiology, Trinitas Regional Medical Center, NJ, presented “Myocarditis with COVID-19 mRNA vaccines”. Several members also joined the meeting via Zoom. Following the lecture and short business meeting, members and families gathered for caroling and socializing at the annual UIA Yalynka.



OHIO BRANCH is going modern! **Maria STRUS, MD**, Chapter President has started an Ohio Chapter Newsletter for its members. Dr. Strus mentioned that she hopes to build the chapter up and get active again with the help of virtual meetings, a Facebook page and possibly a Chapter website.



UMANA MEMBER NEWS



Anar MIKAILOV, MD (Syracuse Branch), has moved to Rochester, NY, to join the practice at Barrington Park Dermatology Associates and to be closer to his family. He had previously practiced at Lahey Clinic in Boston.



Adrian CHERNYK, MD MPH (New York Metro Branch), started residency in July 2021 in Internal Medicine at Mount Sinai Morningside West (formerly St. Luke’s Roosevelt) in New York City.



Boris BUNIAK, MD (Syracuse Branch), was named Medical Director of the Heartburn Center at St. Joseph’s Hospital Health Center in Syracuse.



Roman DACZKEWYCZ, MD (Illinois Branch), retired from a career in orthopedic surgery, and as he says is “still breathing”, He also recently moved to Lincolnshire, IL.



Solomiya GRUSHCHAK, MD (Illinois Branch), matched at University of California Irvine for a Mohs Fellowship in Dermatology.



Anastasia HRYHORCZUK, MD (Michigan Branch), has co-authored a chapter on “Pancreas, Adrenal Glands, and Retroperitoneum” in the new textbook Pediatric Ultrasound. She also presented a paper at the Radiological Society of North America Annual Meeting on “Gender Equity and Inclusion in Radiology”.

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UMANA News

The Newsletter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America is published quarterly by UMANA with the objective to promote good fellowship and to uphold and enhance the best interests of UMANA. The newsletter serves as an impartial forum for the information for its members. UMANA cannot guarantee the accuracy of all information contained herein. Some information has been obtained from third party published and oral sources and may not have been independently verified. The treatment of articles, view, and opinions expressed in UMANA News is not necessarily endorsed by UMANA.

Distributed to members and friends of UMANA

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The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America

OBITUARIES



ZUK Zenon, MD, age 64, *Wayne State University* 1979, member of UMANA Southern California Branch, died October 9, 2018.

President's Message



Ukrainian-Americans

Each person who calls himself/herself a “Ukrainian-American” has to ask, “Is that accurate?” Do we simply enjoy “пирог” and sing-along with “колядки,” at Christmas, or is there more to it?

As we see Ukraine facing an existential crisis at the hands of Russia, we have to ask, “Have we done enough to help?” Some have lived in Ukraine and participated in nation-building. Those people obviously can sleep at night, knowing that they’ve done all they could do.

We, in the medical profession, have very specific skills, but these are skills that we can share with Ukraine, teaching or providing direct patient care.

This January, UMANA started a monthly virtual scientific conference series that will run through 2022. The theme is to focus on diaspora collaborations with Ukraine. In January, **Dr. Luke Tomycz**, Vice-President of UMANA, and his wife Mariya Soroka, co-founder of Razom spoke about their Neurosurgical program in Ukraine, the Co-Pilot Project. Future speakers will include Dr. Alexandra Wolanskyj-Spinner; Dr. James Rutka, who has carried out Neurosurgery procedures in Ukraine; **Dr. Roxolana Horbowyj**, who has worked on multiple educational programs in Ukraine including collaborations with WFUMA; **Dr. Vassyl Lonchyna**, who has been collaborating with the Shevchenko Scientific Society of Lviv and co-chaired the Smart Lion Conference series; and Dr. Ulana Suprun, the former Acting Minister of Health for Ukraine. The purpose of the conference series is to underscore that one can, in fact, “make a difference.” Hopefully this will inspire future collaborators and provide practical guidance, to avoid pitfalls and find routes to success. Finally, of the twelve-monthly webinars, one is planned to focus on young investigators, to share their research and engage them for the purposes of career development. We hope that these will be our future “medical ambassadors” to Ukraine.

The survival of Ukraine is dependent on many factors. Strengthening the Medical community in Ukraine is just one of many professions that needs and wants educational, material, and moral support. It just so happens that medical expertise is something we, in UMANA, have to offer. If at the end of the day, each of us can look in the mirror and say, “I did as much as I could,” we will also be able to say, “I am a Ukrainian-American.”

Слава Україні!

Др. Лев Волянський
Leo Wolansky, MD

UMANA MEMBER NEWS

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Joseph HURYN, DDS (New York Metro Branch), chief of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Dental Service, has been elected President of the American Academy of Maxillofacial Prosthetics.



Diana IWANIK, MD (Illinois Branch), has retired in December 2021 from a 33 year career in Radiology at Resurrection Hospital (now Amita Health) in Chicago. She has also recently flown South and moved to Florida to enjoy her retirement in warmer climates.

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Mark KOZICKY, MD (New York Metro Branch), nephrologist, was recently promoted from associate to assistant director of Internal Medicine Residency Program at St. John's Riverside Hospital Medical Group in Yonkers, NY.



Orest KOZICKY, MD (New York Metro Branch), left his practice of 34 years at Westchester Digestive Disease to join the St. John's Riverside Hospital Medical Group in Yonkers, NY, where he functions as a gastroenterologist in an outpatient setting and as GI hospitalist.



Orysia KOZICKY, MD (New York Metro Branch), is completing a Rheumatology Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in June 2022 and will be staying on as attending faculty.



Victoria KURITZA, MD (Illinois Branch), started her Dermatology residency program in July 2021 at the University of Illinois-Chicago Medical Center.



Victor LEBEDOVYCH, MD (Syracuse Branch), continues to volunteer at the VA Hospital and helping at Meals on Wheels. He also has 2 new cats to add to his 2 others, and as he says "they better outlive me".



Boris LEHETA, MD (Michigan Branch), recently retired from a career in neurology in Roseville, Michigan, and moved to the Northern suburbs of Illinois.



Peter D. LENCHUR, MD (New York Metro Branch), began New York Medical College in the Summer of 2021. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania, majoring in neuroscience and minored in chemistry.



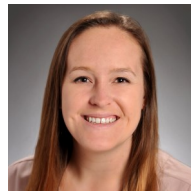
Michael LEWKO, MD (New York Metro Branch), recently retired and sold his practice NJ Arthritis & Osteoporosis Center in Clifton to St. Joseph's Health. He continues to work as Locum Tenens Rheumatology Consultant.



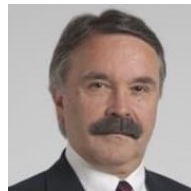
George MIZ, MD (Illinois Branch), after 35 years of practice as an orthopaedic spine surgeon, transitioned his work to clinic only with the University of Chicago Medical Group.



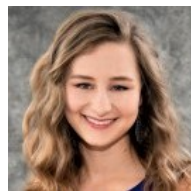
Yaromyr ORYSHKEVYCH, DDS (Maryland/DC Branch), retired for a second time in December 2020 from his dental practice. His first retirement was in 2003 after 30 years of military (combination active USAF, Air Guard, Air Reserve) service.



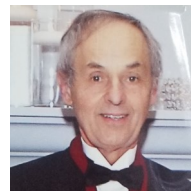
Danielle OWERKO, MD (Illinois Branch), has matched for fellowship in Pediatric Hospital Medicine, continuing her training at the Medical College of Wisconsin/Children's Wisconsin in Milwaukee after finishing her residency at the same program in July 2022.



Bohdan PICHURKO MD (Ohio Branch), retired in June 2021 from the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, from the Respiratory Institute after practicing pulmonary and critical care medicine from 2010-2021. Upon his retirement, the RI CPET Lab, an exercise physiology test lab, was dedicated to him.



Victoria SHUST, OD (Pennsylvania Branch) presented a scientific poster entitled "Giant Fornix Syndrome: A Conjunctivitis Conundrum" at the American Academy of Optometry annual meeting in Boston in November 2021. Dr. Shust is currently completing a residency in Ocular Disease at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Wilmington, Delaware. Victoria is the daughter of UMANA members **Mark Shust, OD** and **Helene Kaiser, OD**.



Alexander SOSENKO, MD (Illinois Branch), recently received the "Silver Cross Sehring Medal of Excellence" which recognizes the accomplishments of an outstanding individual for the service of health care in Will County, Illinois.



Ihor ZACHARY, MD (Ohio Branch), who has devoted his professional life to ophthalmology, retired in June 2021 after many years of practice in Northeast Ohio.