

January – February 2004 Newsletter from American Ukrainian Medical Project

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Communications Director Appointed

Loretta Ferguson has recently been appointed to be our Project's first Communications Director. She joins our Project from the Kent – Kherson Sister City Committee where she holds a similar position for that group. Active in local international organizations, Loretta is also a member of the World Affairs Council and United Nations Association of Seattle. Chief among her duties will be the further development and administration of our publicity campaign (see next item). If you have ideas or would like to help, you may contact her at Communications@aump.org

AUMP Publicity Campaign

Already there is success to report from Loretta's work for AUMP. On Christmas Day the local King County Journal newspaper ran a two page article about our Project in its Living section. You can read this excellent piece at:

<http://www.kingcountyjournal.com/sited/story/html/152150>

Terry, our IHC expert, was featured on the cover page of this section which sadly is not part of the online version of the article. Copies of this article were sent to key supporters and our Ukrainian colleagues. We hope everyone here in King County was able to get a copy for themselves. A happy outgrowth of this article includes new volunteers, donors and sponsors – a great Christmas gift for AUMP! Thank you Loretta and King County Journal!

Supply Donations Continue

We continue to receive periodic and most welcome donations of surplus histology supplies. Significant recent examples include a 50 pound (22 kg) carton filled with steel microtome knives and another carton of steel tissue cassettes. These items are perfect for our Project – rugged, reliable and just what our colleagues in Ukraine need. They will join the rest of our donated equipment and supply shipment.

Volunteers at AUMP

In addition to Loretta, our Communications Director, AUMP has also received inquiries

or applications from some other great volunteers recently. They include: Valeriu Vicol, Limu Wang, our Accountant volunteer, Dr. Olha Shmanko, a Muskie Fellow studying in California, and Deborah Hayes, our new Distance Learning Coordinator. Joining AUMP as translators are Olena, Katya, Julia and Alexandra. To help us with our upcoming equipment shipment we have been joined by Stansislav, Alex, Sasha, and Ellen. Finally, we have Richard, Elizabeth, Hui and Tiffany who have signed up to be new Online Shoppers. Last, but certainly not least, I wish to congratulate our longest serving translator, Michelle, who has contributed over 100 hours over the past two and a half years (since AUMP was officially founded!). Our volunteers are truly international, representing Belarus, Moldova, Russia and Uzbekistan in addition to Ukraine, the United Kingdom and America. Welcome, new volunteers! And “thank you” to all of our volunteers! Only with your help can our Project continue to do its work and grow.

Equipment Shipment Update

Travel scheduling and funding appear likely to delay our equipment shipment. Most of the manuals are ready and the equipment is getting a final checkout, but we also need to meet the shipment when it arrives in Ukraine. Finding a time for this which will coincide with reasonable airfare is a challenge no matter what. No new date has been set. The delay is a blessing, too, however as it will give us more time to raise funds. Additional funds are necessary for certain supply purchases, travel and training expenses as well as those shipping costs not borne by Operation Provide Hope. The total we seek to raise is \$4,000 with any extra funds being used to further enhance our supply purchasing. Anyone who is interested in helping is invited to drop us a line or pledge your support.

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American Ukrainian Medical Project
302 - 156th Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98007

Tel: 1-425-643-1798