

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**St. Mary's University College Professors Visit the Ukrainian Catholic University to Exchange Resources and Academic Research**

**Calgary, AB (April 14, 2011)** – The Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU), Lviv, Ukraine, and St. Mary's University College, Calgary, Canada are partners under a Memorandum of Understanding for Institutional Cooperation. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 two representatives from St. Mary's University College; Linda Dudar, St. Mary's Director of Education and Carole Baldwin, professor of Education will be traveling to the UCU in Lviv for St. Mary's first formal exchange of resources and academic research.

Dudar and Baldwin will be delivering guest lectures, presentations and workshops to educators in Ukraine which focus on ways to implement catholicity in the field of education and the school system. These types of exchanges are particularly important to St. Mary's as Dudar states "what St. Mary's does is threefold; it teaches, it conducts research and it offers a service. This partnership and specifically our upcoming trip will address all three of these. We will be teaching Ukrainian educators how to deliver Catholic education. We will be sharing our research on best practices, and we will be providing support to the Catholic education community in Ukraine which is an important part of being a Catholic Institution."

Both the Ukrainian Catholic University and St. Mary's University College will benefit greatly from this trip. The Ukrainian Catholic University, the only Catholic university in the former Soviet Union, will receive innovative resources and support for furthering Catholic education in their communities. Topics to be addressed through Dudar's and Baldwin's presentations, lectures and workshops include faith formation, Christian spirituality and teaching as a vocation. According to Dudar, St. Mary's will benefit by "bringing back future possibilities for both institutions to continue to work together."

Future plans for cooperation include creating formal student exchange programs between the institutions and continuing to find ways to promote academic, research and cultural exchange.

**About the Ukrainian Catholic University**

Founded in 2002, the Ukrainian Catholic University, a centre of the educational, spiritual and cultural life of the Church in the Ukraine, grants Bachelor's and Master's degrees and is the only Catholic university in the former Soviet Union. For more information, visit [www.ucu.edu.ua/eng](http://www.ucu.edu.ua/eng)

**About St. Mary's University College**

St. Mary's University College is a Catholic post-secondary, liberal arts and sciences teaching and research institution open to all faiths and traditions. St. Mary's offers Bachelor of Arts degrees, a Bachelor of Education (Elementary) degree and university courses in 33 academic disciplines. For more information, visit [www.stmu.ca](http://www.stmu.ca)

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