

## Дослідження молодих вчених університету Сетон Хол Університету

### Seton Hall University Young Scientists Researches

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#### Introductory word

Students at Seton Hall University and at the Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University have collaborated on projects and activities for over thirteen years. This work was an outcome of the Deliberating in a Democracy Grant, which created a partnership between secondary schools in New Jersey and Ukraine. When the grant funding ended, Dr. Tarasenko and I agreed that there was so much good work done during the project that we would continue it between our two institutions. Without any funding, we've done a great deal. During this time, we have used Skype, and Zoom, and a website hosted by the Center for Global Education to conduct discussions and to share information – including research projects. We have invited high school students to join sessions where speakers talked about topics of importance. We have had historians, from both countries, work with students.

In 2016, a small Digital Humanities Grant from Seton Hall was awarded to Dr. Tarasenko and myself, to learn about digital humanities tools along with our students. Together we decided to create a research project that linked both of our countries and institutions. That was the creation of a visualey website on the Ukrainian Diaspora. The US Census Bureau reports that over one million Ukrainian Americans live in the United States, with over 73,000 living in New Jersey. As Seton Hall students examined how to frame their work, they contacted a variety of organizations and individuals. It became clear to them that for many Americans of Ukrainian descent, religion was a significant influence. Students visited the headquarters of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (UOC), located not far from the campus. They met with the archivist Michael Andrec, who directed a tour of St Sophia's and of the Museum, and the archives of the Ukrainian History and Education Center: <https://orthodox360.com/tours/uocofusa/>. In conversations with Mr. Andrec, who also visited the class on campus, students were put in touch with Ukrainian Orthodox Churches in New Jersey.

With this knowledge and information students created the visualey website; The Ukrainian Diaspora. Students from both universities populated the site with historical information. The Seton Hall students created an inter-active timeline on Ukrainian immigration, the location of Ukrainian Orthodox Churches in New Jersey, and pictures from the headquarters of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The site also linked views to both campus sites: <http://www.viseyes.org/visualeyes/?1092>.

The following year, Seton Hall students again met to discuss how to build on the prior years' work. Because of the significance of the Church in supporting Ukrainian Americans, students decided to prepare an oral history project to build into the existing website. Using the contact information that Michael Andrec had provided, students contact a UOC close to the Seton Hall campus. Kalliopi Logothetis contacted the pastor, Fr. Hucul, who invited them to meet with the parishioners and to describe the proposed work. I joined the students and they were warmly welcomed by the congregation following Sunday service. Over coffee, tea and other refreshments, students got to speak informally with the parishioners. They then gave a formal presentation about the project. We returned again to meet with those who had indicated an interest in sharing their stories. The necessary forms were shared and signed, giving permission to record their narratives. A schedule was then set up to conduct the interviews.

ver two Sundays, after services, Seton Hall students conducted the interviews. They were edited, and then posted on the visualey website. We are grateful to the entire parish, Fr. Hucul, all of the parishioners, and those who took part in the interviews.

The narratives on the website capture a powerful view of the sweep of history. These are stories of hardship and suffering, stories of strength and determination, stories of family and church, of love and success. The videos tell stories of pride in their heritage.

