



**DUSS UAlberta**

DISRUPTED UKRAINIAN  
SCHOLARS & STUDENTS  
INITIATIVE



**UNIVERSITY  
OF ALBERTA**



**2022/23**

**DUSS**

**Year  
in  
Review**

The world was shocked when the Russian army began a full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. The University of Alberta, with strong connections to the Ukrainian Canadian community, promptly pledged its support to Ukraine and its people and took swift action to aid in the situation.

On March 22, 2022, several University of Alberta Faculty of Arts institutes and departments partnered to launch the Disrupted Ukrainian Scholars and Students (DUSS) initiative. The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), Kule Institute for Advanced Study, Kule Folklore Centre, Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies, Department of History, Classics and Religion, and the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies mobilized to provide research funding and other supports to disrupted Ukrainian academics. Since its inception, additional 10 faculties and departments from across campus have rallied resources to help support DUSS.



**By: Veronika Ivanytska**

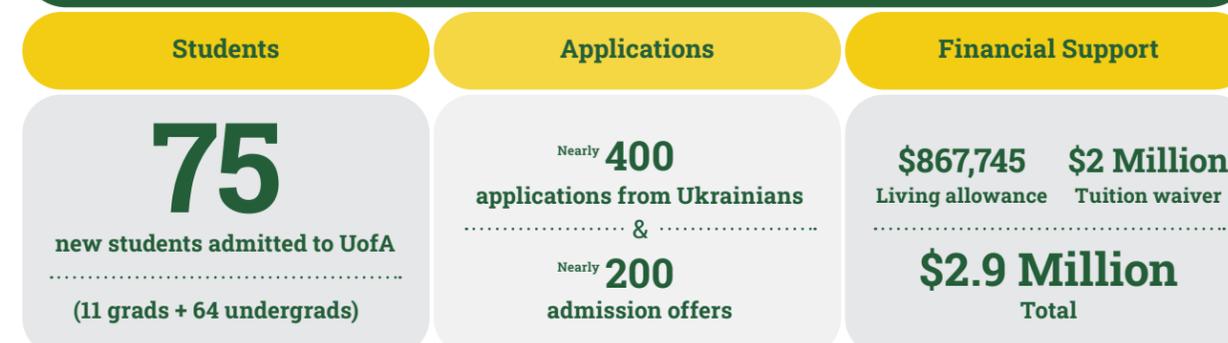
Veronika is a disrupted Ukrainian student who transferred to UAlberta in August 2022 to complete her undergraduate degree in Media Studies and is currently working with the DUSS team as a Casual Research Assistant.

■ **Our Impact in Numbers**

**DUSS: The Impact in Numbers**



**UofA: The Impact in Numbers**



**Our key metrics illustrate the positive impact of UAlberta in general and DUSS in particular:**

- Jointly, the members of this initiative allocated \$630,000 for DUSS and secured \$146,000 in external funding, including awards for three recipients via Canadian government’s Special Response Fund for Trainees (Ukraine).
- DUSS Scholar funds have supported 55 individuals, including 20 on-campus scholars and students. Three DUSS scholars were recently announced as recipients of the New York-based Scholars-at-Risk Ukraine Fellowship.
- UAlberta provided tuition waivers for two academic terms and needs-based living allowances to Ukrainian students admitted in Fall 2022. Seventy-five new students from Ukraine were admitted in 2022, which is nearly four times higher than in the previous year.
- [Additional support and campus resources](#) are also available for students and employees with ties to Ukraine.
- CUAET visa holders admitted to UAlberta from Fall 2022 through Fall 2023 are being charged domestic tuition fees instead of international rates for the entire duration of their programs.



■ **Student Rally**  
Feb. 24, 2023

■ **Commemoration at the Legislature**  
Feb. 24, 2023

## Supplementary DUSS Support

The journey to Canada was difficult for Ukrainian immigrants due to the high costs and far distances. To help, DUSS provided support for travel expenses when possible, and evaluated living expenses on a case-by-case basis. Additionally, they offered administrative and settlement support to assist visiting scholars in their relocation.

Apart from the financial support and other types of assistance provided to Ukrainian scholars and students, DUSS directed its efforts to sustaining scholarly culture. Our top priority was to establish an academic environment where DUSS scholars

could excel. We provided additional support by arranging research talks, teams, and other opportunities for them to engage with the scholarly community.

Other areas of our support included conference participation funds, academic paper subsidies based on their respective journal applications, and grant writing support. We also offered volunteer opportunities to our scholars/students within various units on campus to support their integration into UAlberta's vibrant academic community.

## Our Actions

Throughout the 2022/23 school year, UAlberta's student body participated in a series of notable events. These included President Zelensky's address to students in June 2022 and President Flanagan's welcome reception for Ukrainian students and scholars. In December 2022, we also held a welcome reception and research mixer for DUSS students and scholars. It was an honour to be a part of these initiatives.

On February 24, the anniversary of the invasion, our university community held a touching commemoration event outside the Legislature building, even in -20°C weather. Our Ukrainian students gathered to demonstrate their patriotic spirit, unity, and grief.

Thanks to financial support from DUSS and CIUS, The Unissued Diplomas project raised awareness about the daily sacrifices made by Ukrainians in the fight for freedom. The "Unissued Diplomas"

honoured the memory of Ukrainian students who will never graduate because their lives were cut short by the Russian invasion. The exhibition uncovered the stories of 36 Ukrainian students killed in the war. It was held in over 45 universities worldwide, including UAlberta, from February 24 until April 2.

On March 1, a community vigil sponsored by the Kule Folklore Centre and Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton was held at St. Joseph's College on the University of Alberta campus to honour the anniversary of the February 24 escalation. The event included a Prayer Service for Peace (Molebyn), lectures and discussions by Ukrainian scholars, a free Ukrainian supper, and a candlelit vigil for victims of the invasion (Panakhyda).

In addition, [Chancellor Garrity's podcast](#) on Ukraine featured one of our Disrupted Scholars and a student from Ukraine.

■ **Unissued Diploma Project**  
Rutherford Library Hall

Feb. 24 - Apr. 02, 2023



■ **Our Future Aspirations:**

DUSS will continue to support and encourage disrupted Ukrainian scholars and students. We are seeking additional funding to expand our initiatives while keeping on with our current projects for the foreseeable future. If you would like to continue to support DUSS' work, please click [here](#).

We want to thank all our donors and collaborators for their fruitful actions and invaluable support in these trying times. The success of any organization always depends on its people. All DUSS initiatives and successes would not have been possible without the joint efforts of our partners, donors, and the entire Albertan Ukrainian community.

■ **Please check out our success stories— and meet some of our DUSS scholars:**

- **Dr. Kateryna Shunevych:** [Student, interrupted | Faculty of Arts \(ualberta.ca\)](#)
- **Dr. Taras Lupul:** [Ukrainian scholar Dr. Taras Lupul receives SAR Ukraine Fellowship award to continue research at the University of Alberta | College of Social Sciences + Humanities \(ualberta.ca\)](#)
- **Dr. Lada Tsymbala:** [Ukrainian scholar Dr. Lada Tsymbala receives SAR Ukraine Fellowship award to continue research at the University of Alberta | College of Social Sciences + Humanities \(ualberta.ca\)](#)
- **Dr. Oleksandr Melnyk:** [Ukrainian historian finds safe harbour at U of A | Folio \(ualberta.ca\)](#)
- **Dr. Serhii Nadobko:** [Ukrainian visiting scholar escapes war to study human rights | UAlberta Law Serhii Nadobko extends residency at Faculty of Law through SAR Ukraine Fellowship Award](#)
- **CBC story on DUSS:** [Ukrainian scholars able to keep working with new funding initiative at University of Alberta | CBC News](#)



**To support the continued efforts of DUSS, consider donating here:**

[Disrupted Ukrainian Scholars and Students | Give to UAlberta](#)



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