

## **CURRICULUM VITAE NATALIE KONONENKO**

Professor and Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography, Emerita  
University of Alberta  
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### **Current contact information:**

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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., granted jointly by Slavic Languages and Literatures and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures, Harvard University, 1976  
M.A., Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Harvard University, 1969  
B.A., Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, Radcliffe College, 1967  
Also attended Cornell University 1963-65.

### **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

Professor and Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography, University of Alberta, 2004-2019  
Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Virginia: 1998-2004  
Associate Professor, Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Virginia: 1980-98  
Department Chair: 1993-96  
Assistant Professor, Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Virginia: 1974-80  
Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Virginia: 1975-1979

### **DISTINCTIONS AND AWARDS**

Canadian Association of Slavists best book award and Canadian Historical Association Clio prize for *Ukrainian Ritual on the Prairies: Growing a Ukrainian Canadian Identity*, 2024.  
Marius Barbeau Medal for contributions to Canadian Folklore, 2020.  
Barbara Heldt best translation prize for *Ukrainian Epic and Historical Song: Folklore in Context*, 2019.  
Patmar Medal for contributions to the study of folklore, 2018.  
First holder of the Kule Chair in Ukrainian Ethnography, University of Alberta, appointed 2004  
Best book prizes for *Ukrainian Minstrels: And the Blind Shall Sing*: Kovaliv prize 1998, American Association for Ukrainian Studies, 2000.  
Raven Society, University of Virginia Literary, Academic, and Service Honorary, 1999  
Omicron Delta Kappa, United States National Leadership Honorary, 1982  
University of Virginia Alumni Association Young Teacher Award, 1979

### **GRANTS (listing only grants received since coming to Canada)**

#### **Research Grants:**

Kule Institute for Advanced Study Cluster Grant for Sanctuary Project: Documenting Ukrainian Spiritual Culture, March 2015.  
Killam Connection Grant for workshops connecting Sanctuary Project researchers, church hierarchs and museum personnel, April 2014

Support for the Advancement of Scholarship grant in support of Sanctuary Project fieldwork, 2013.  
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Public Outreach Grant for Ukraine Alive: Interactive Teaching Resources Online, 2012.  
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Image, Text, Sound and Technologies Grant for Reciprocal Analysis: Group-sourcing Ukrainian Folklore Audio, 2010.

I also received a number of **teaching grants**. I can provide a list, upon request.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books:**

*Ukrainian Ritual on the Prairies: Growing a Ukrainian Canadian Identity*. McGill/Queens University Press, 2023. Went into second printing later that year.  
*Ukrainian Dumy and Historical Songs: Folklore in Context*. University of Toronto Press, 2019.  
*Slavic Folklore: A Handbook*. Westport and London: Greenwood Press, 2007.  
*Ukrainian Minstrels: And the Blind Shall Sing*. M.E. Sharpe, 1998.  
*The Turkish Minstrel Tale Tradition*, New York and London: Garland, 1990.

I also produced, with Serge Cipko, a book dedicated to the couple who funded my and other endowments: *Champions of Philanthropy: Peter and Doris Kule and their Endowments*, 2009.

### **Refereed Articles – last ten years only**

“Ukrainian Christmas Traditions in Kazakhstan and Canada: folklore, folklorism, and preserving heritage,” (with Alevtina Tsvetkova) *Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavists*, 2024, pp. 153-17

“Understanding the Uncanny: Personal Narratives about the House Spirit (*Domovoi*) Collected Among Old Believers in Eastern Kazakhstan,” (with Alevtina Tsvetkova) *Region: Regional Studies of Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia*. Vol. 10, 2021, No. 2, pp. 185-201.

“The Encyclopedia of Coronavirus Rumors and Fakes: a ReportRussian COVID-19 Database,” *Folklorica*, 2020, pp 163-170.

“Громадське життя церков-драми на фольклорні теми в Канадських преріях (Secular Plays in Churches: Folklore Based Drama on the Canadian Prairies), *Народна творчість на етнологія*, 2019, No. 2, pp. 28-40.

“Vernacular Religion on the Prairies: Negotiating a Place for the Unquiet Dead,” *Canadian Slavonic Papers/Revue canadienne des slavists*. Vol. 60, issue 1-2 (2018), pp. 108-35.

“Ukraine Alive—A Teaching Website that Continues to Teach Its Creators,” *East/West: Journal of Ukrainian Studies*, Vol. 4, No. 1 (2017), pp. 129-136.

“Створення бази даних українського фольклору” (Building Ukrainian Folklore Databases: Communicating information to an International Audience). *Visnyk L’vivs’koho Universitetu.Seria Filologii (L’viv University Bulletin. Series Philology)*, 66, pp. 205-229, <http://philology.lnu.edu.ua/research/vydannya/visnyk/arhiv-vypuskiv-visnyk>

“Ukrainian Folklore Audio.” *Oral Tradition*. Vol. 28, No. 2, pp. 243-252. See also <http://journal.oraltradition.org/issues/28ii/kononenko>

“Collecting Ukrainian Heritage: Peter Orshinsky and Leonard Krawchuk.” *Canadian Ethnic Studies*, 2015, issue 4/5, pp. 127-144.

**SE EJ Folklore Forum** – organized and edited the *Slavic and East European Journal Folklore Forum*: “Folklore in the Field, on the Internet, and in Literature;” wrote the introduction, *SE EJ*:64, December, 2020.

**Book Chapters – last ten years only**

“Witchcraft Beliefs in The Witch of Konotop,” introduction to Hryhoriy Kvitka Osnovyanenko, *The Witch of Konotop*, translated by Michael M. Naydan and Alla Perminova, Glagoslav Publishers, 2023, pp. 14-19.

“Courtship Rituals and Legends of the *Bohyni*,” *The Exeter Companion to Fairies, Nereids, Trolls and Other Social Supernatural Beings: European Traditions*, Davide Emarcora and Simon Young, editors, 2024, pp. 243-60.

“Children of Stone: Performing Self-Memorialization.” *Aspects of Performance in Faith Settings: Heavenly Acts*, ed. by Andrey Rosowsky. Cambridge, England: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2018, pp. 29-53.

“From Ukrainian Studies to the Folklore of the Prairies: The Kule Center for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore,” chapter 15 in Patricia Sawin and Rosemary Zumwalt, ed. *History of North American Folkloristics*, Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 2020.

Entries on Жил был пес (There once was a Dog) and Дело прошлое (Bygone Times) for *Directory of World Cinema: Russia 2*, ed. by Birgit Beumers, Bristol UK and Chicago, 2015, pp. 305-06 and 309-10.

**Encyclopedia Entries and Notes – last ten years only.**

Entries on Ukrainian Epic, Russian Epic, and Ukrainian Weddings for the *Oxford Handbook of Slavic Folklore*, 2024.

“Ukrainian Etiquette and Taboos,” *Etiquette and Taboos around the World: A Geographic Encyclopedia of Social and Cultural Customs*. ABC-CLIO, Santa Barbara CA (in press).

“Manners and Customs: Ukraine.” *Encyclopedia of Romantic Nationalism in Europe*, ed. by Joep Leerssen, Amsterdam University Press, 2018, Vol. II, pp. 1454-55.  
<http://romanticnationalism.net/viewer.p/21//object/122-160416>.

Book and film reviews, popular articles, essays, conference reports, newspaper articles are available upon request.

**Digital Media**

Popular website based on Sanctuary Project work: <https://livingcultures.ualberta.ca/sanctuary>

Research site with all Sanctuary Project interviews: [https://era-av.library.ualberta.ca/?f%5Bcollection\\_ssim%5D%5B%5D=Sound+Sanctuary+Project](https://era-av.library.ualberta.ca/?f%5Bcollection_ssim%5D%5B%5D=Sound+Sanctuary+Project)

Ukrainian Traditional Folklore, <http://www.artsrn.ualberta.ca/folkloreukraine/>

Folklore Sound Recordings, <http://www.artsrn.ualberta.ca/UkraineAudio/> (SSHRC supported)

Recordings from Ukrainian Kazakhstan, <http://www.artsrn.ualberta.ca/KazakhstanAudio/>

Folklore Module for Bi-lingual Education, <http://livingcultures.ualberta.ca/ShkolaZhyva/>

Ukraine Alive: Interactive Teaching Resources Online (SSHRC supported website for grade 3 social studies) <http://ukrainealive.ualberta.ca>

Websites covering another world areas mandated by Alberta Education:

<http://indiaalive.ualberta.ca>, <http://chinaalive.ualberta.ca>

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**National and international level – last ten years only**

Member of the Folklore Commission of the International Congress of Slavists, 2018-present; did two presentations and the translation of the Commission website into English.

Vice President, Canadian Association of Slavists, 2015-16; honorary president 2018-21.

Editorial board service:

*Folklorica*

*Slavic and East European Journal*

*Canadian Slavonic Papers*

*East/West Journal*

*Region: Regional Studies of Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia*

*Anthropology and Archeology of Eurasia, A Journal in Translation*

*Journal of Eurasian Studies*

### **Professional and Public Activities, Community Service – University of Alberta**

Member, Administrative Board, Kule Institute for Advanced Studies, 2015-17. Member of the Advisory Council, same Institute 2013-15.

Acting Director, Kule Centre for Ukrainian and Canadian Folklore, 2009-10, 2006-07.

### **Other activities and services:**

Public performances of Ukrainian folk stories

Pysanka Workshops for the public,

Folklore Grad Lunch and Lecture series at the University of Alberta

Visiting lecturers and performers program series, University of Alberta

**Service post-retirement:** Small churches committee, Eparchy of the Orthodox Church of Canada

Pysanka workshops

Lectures on Ukrainian culture, folklore, embroidery for the public

### **Committee Service – University of Alberta only:**

Dean's Committee to review CIUS, the Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies (2013-2015)

Faculty Steering Committee (2004-2012)

Academic Affairs Committee, Faculty of Arts (2010-2012, 2018-2019)

Honors Committee, Faculty of Arts (2014-15)

STIR grants committee, St. Joseph's College (2014-2019)

Mactaggart Travel Awards Committee (2016-2019)

Faculty of Arts Support for the Advancement of Scholarship Committee. (2010-2012)

Departmental Library representative, museum presentative, and teaching awards committee.

## **LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Lectures – last 10 years only**

“Ukrainian Traditions in Canada: Negotiating Identity,” “Ukraine and the World: Culture, Politics, Society” Monash University, Melbourne, Australia, 2018.

“Ukrainian Embroidery in Canada,” Folklore Institute, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kyiv, 2018.

“Ukrainian Folk Art: Magic and Meaning,” Keynote: “Image of Ukraine” University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2017.

“Українська народна творчість в Канаді - стари традиції/новий фольклор,” Shevchenko Scientific Society lecture, Edmonton, 2017.

- “Religious Practices of Ukrainian Canadian Women: Negotiating Ritual Change.” “Crisis and Identity: Cultural and Linguistic Perspectives on Ukraine and Its Diaspora,” Edmonton, 2017.
- “Stories of the Unquiet Dead: Negotiating Ritual Change on the Prairies” Kule Folklore Centre, University of Alberta, Edmonton, 2017.
- “Sanctuary: The Spiritual Heritage Documentation Project.” Thinking Communities. University of Alberta, 2016.
- “Linking Objects and Ukrainian-Canadian Identity: a Report on the Sanctuary Project.” University of Saskatchewan. Saskatoon. February, 2016.
- “History Memory and Song.” Kule Folklore Centre Lunch series, University of Alberta. January, 2016.
- “Historical Memory in Ukrainian Folk Songs.” Harvard University Ukrainian Research Institute, 2015.
- “Turkish Asiks and Ukrainian Kobzari: Sacred Keepers of Historical Memory.” Boston Turkish Festival, 2015.
- “Historical Memory in Ukrainian Epic and Song,” Penn State Symposium on East Slavic Folklore and Popular Culture in Honor of Linda Ivanits, 2015.
- “From interactive sites to gaming: Educational materials for all ages.” DISSH (Digital Innovation and Scholarship in the Social Sciences and Humanities), East Carolina University, 2015:
- “Sanctuary: The Spiritual Heritage Documentation Project,” (with John-Paul Himka) Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies University of Alberta, Edmonton, 2015.

#### **Papers at International Meetings – last 10 years only**

- “Ukrainian Dumy: A Folk Genre at the Crossroads of Epic and Ballad,” Crossroads of History and Musical Tradition: Historical Songs in Turkish and European Culture, University of Ankara, Ankara, Turkey, (online participation), 2024.
- “Пісні і традиція – матеріали з української діаспори Канади” (Songs and Tradition: Materials from the Canadian Ukrainian Diaspora), Lviv Kolessa Conference, 2021.
- “Folk Art and Healing: Ukrainian Epic – Dumy,” ICSEES (International Congress of Slavic and East European Studies), Montreal, (online conference because of COVID) 2021.
- “Becoming Ukrainian Canadian: Vernacular Religion and the Church as Mainstay,” IX International Congress of Ukrainianists, Kyiv, Ukraine, 2018.
- “Vernacular Religion on the Prairies: Negotiating a Place for the Unquiet Dead,” XVI International Congress of Slavists, Belgrade, Serbia, 2018.
- “Ukrainian Traditions in Canada and Kazakhstan.” Central Eurasian Studies Society/European Society for Central Asian Studies, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 2017.

**Papers at Professional Meetings** – I have been active in a number of professional organizations including:

*The American Folklore Society:*

*American Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies*

*Folklore Studies Association of Canada*

*Canadian Association of Slavists*

*American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages*

*American Comparative Literature Association*

*Southern Conference on Slavic Studies*

I can provide a list of papers delivered upon request.

**TEACHING:** I taught for 45 years. During this time, I taught existing courses and also introduced new material. I am proudest of starting a folklore program at the University of Virginia and growing their language programs.

At the University of Alberta, I introduced new folklore courses, built a system of folklore offerings, and dramatically increased folklore course enrollments.

**Graduate teaching and dissertation supervision.**

**I supervised advanced degrees at both the University of Alberta and the University of Virginia.**

**Total number of doctoral degrees: 8**

I also supervised Masters degree work.