

## ***Eugene Kinasewich Fund***

*Update Fall 2011*



In January of 2005, while battling cancer, Gene Kinasewich was mentoring a group of high school age Ukrainian boys and girls who were touring the United States playing hockey at prep schools and in tournaments. Drawing on his own life experience Gene wondered and dreamed of how these boys and girls might be able to get an educational opportunity and experience similar to his. The pictures in this newsletter will show how Gene's dream has come to life and what is being accomplished. The Gene Fund board thanks its donors and celebrates our 2011 group of college graduates.



*Above: Gene Kinasewich January 2005 with the touring Druzhba Ukrainian hockey team.*

*Thank you for supporting the Eugene Kinasewich Fund (fed ID #68-0602918)  
Contributions are deductible under sections 170(b)(1)(A) & 503(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code  
The Eugene Kinasewich Fund c/o Arthur B Page Esq. Hemenway & Barnes LLP  
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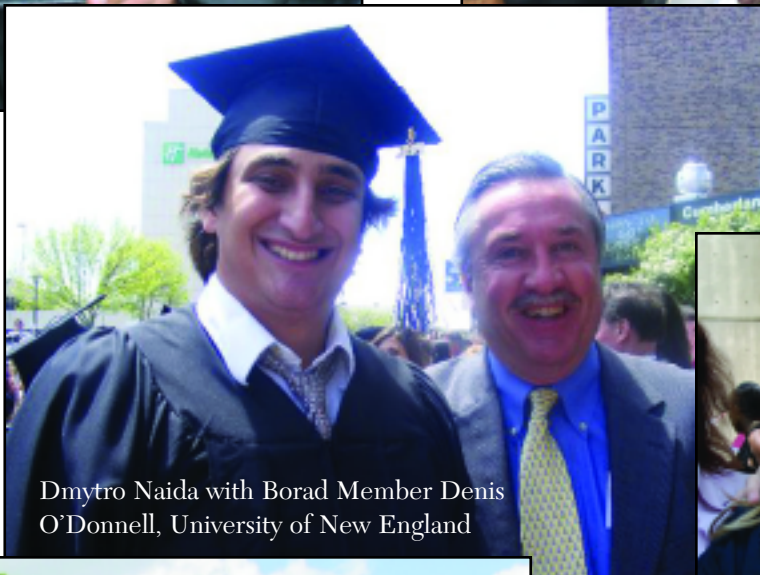
## The Eugene Kinasevich Fund, Inc. 2011 College Graduates



Oleksandr Mykolenko,  
Skidmore



Sergiy Sorokolat with Board  
Member Mark Noonan,  
Manhattanville



Dmytro Naida with Borad Member Denis  
O'Donnell, University of New England



Yelyzaveta Ryabkina, Harvard



Artem Gumenyuk (right), Manhattanville  
Oleksandr Romanenko (left), Manhattanville



### Upon Graduating from Skidmore, Oleksandr Mykolenko wrote to The Kinasewich Board:

Hello board members, friends and donors of Gene's Fund! My name is Oleksandr Mykolenko and I want to share with all of you my experiences in the US and my thoughts about the future. It is crazy to think about, but one of the very important chapters of my life is finally over. I have graduated from Skidmore College with a BA degree in International Affairs. It all started almost seven years ago when a boy from Ukraine was dropped off at the bus station in Lake Placid, NY. I went to Northwood School in upstate NY for two years and those first two years were very hard in terms of adjustment to a new culture, people, language, and hockey style. Despite a hard time in terms of adjustment, at Northwood School I developed basic, and new skills for me, skills that helped me to attend and successfully complete an education at Skidmore College. I have to mention that one of the key figures who enormously helped me at Northwood was Stephen Reed, a human-legend, as I thought of him.

Then, it was Skidmore College in a beautiful Saratoga Springs, NY. It is true when people say that four years in college are the best years of your life. It was no different for me, at least so far in my life. Some things were not great at first. In college, I wanted to play hockey so bad, that I forgot about academics for quite a while. I was very fortunate to have people at Skidmore, along with my parents, who helped to guide me in the right direction and become a student-athlete, and not an athlete-student. Things were

getting better year after year and, finally, on May 21st, 2011, I received my College Diploma and I am ready to move forward.

I do not know where life is going to take me, but I know for sure that I have gained enough skills to be successful in the future. Currently, I am living in New York with my very close friends, my host family, which over the years became much more than just a host family. I have applied for the OPT Visa which will allow me a one year opportunity to be employed in the United States in the area of my study. Currently, I am searching and applying for internships in the International Relations field, because I want to gain experience before I will try to find a job which, I hope, will fit my interests - diplomacy. Also, I was notified by my college coach Neil Sinclair, that one of the teams from SPHL, Huntsville Havoc, is interested if I would decide to try to play professional hockey in the United States. It is in my plan to attend a Free Agent Camp in August in Alabama and decide for myself once and for all if I want to pursue hockey in my life. I feel that having multiple options is a good thing and better than having only one or none at all.

Thank you for your help and support, friends and donors of Gene's Fund! I will never forget Gene and what opportunity he and his fund have created for me and the rest of my Ukrainian friends!

Sincerely, Oleksandr Mykolenko

### Following her graduation from Harvard, Liza wrote this letter to Janet Kinasewich:

Every year I hear about the rising number of students who apply to Harvard and the declining percentage of admissions. The question that I constantly ask myself is "How did I get so lucky?" Now all the laughs and tears, wins and losses, great friends, many of whom are scattered all over the world, lots of drafts and rewritten papers, professors who so diligently stuffed my head with capsules of knowledge - all of that is in the past. However, while Harvard is in the past, it is also in my future and always will be. It gave me tools to succeed and opened many doors, many of which I am probably not even aware of.

After graduation, I joined a small online firm and soon realized that it wasn't the kind of work I was passionate about. Soon after, I was fortunate to get an interview with RBS Citizens Bank and two weeks

later started work in the Global Transaction Services Division performing business development and risk assessment functions. Less than two months in, I received an award for "going beyond and above" on a project at the company's Town Hall. I have amazing bosses and great co-workers. I am constantly given an opportunity to grow and learn, and most importantly, I enjoy what I do. I will be looking to continue my career in finance in the following years.

The truth is, no matter how talented or smart you are, it is the people around you and their support that makes you reach for the sky. None of this would have been possible without the trust and encouragement that I have received from so many wonderful people. And while that is in the past, it will always be in my future.  
~ Liza

## Students Being Supported by The Eugene Kinasewich Fund, Inc. for the 2011/2012 School year

Yegor Bezuglyy	Norwich, 2015
Vladyslav Gavrik	Skidmore, 2014
Danylo Guryev	Neumann, 2012
Roman Khromushkin	University of New England, 2012
Oleg Koval	Grant MacEwan, 2013
Pavlo Kozhokin	Norwich, 2012
Viktoriya Mykolenko	Brown, 2012
Ivan Oliinyk	Morrisville, 2013
Oxana Tkachenko	Colby Sawyer, 2015
Igor Yegorychev	University of New England, 2012

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