



## **Catholic Universities Project (CUP) in Brief**

### **Mission**

Founded by Jim McAdams in fall 2004 with the agreement of the rectors of four Catholic universities in central and eastern Europe, the CUP began an informal consortium of the following universities:

- John Paul II Catholic University (Lublin), Poland
- Pázmány Péter University (Budapest and Piliscsaba), Hungary
- Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv), Ukraine
- Catholic University in Ružomberok, Slovakia
- University of Notre Dame, USA.

The proposed goals were to involve Notre Dame in a concrete way in Catholic university education in Europe and, in so doing, to use European Catholicism to enhance Notre Dame's Catholic mission. The Nanovic Institute's goal is to sustain these exchanges – regular symposia with our four university partners, visiting faculty fellowships, other forms of collaboration – in perpetuity.

### **CUP Symposia**

- 2005, April 4-8. *The Future of Catholic Higher Education*. Hosted by the University of Notre Dame, USA.
- 2005, September 30-October 1. *The Position and Challenge of the Central-Eastern European Catholic Universities*. Hosted by Pázmány Péter University.
- 2006, May 27-30. *Catholic University in Modern Culture*. Hosted by John Paul II University, Lublin, Poland.
- 2007, May 9-12. *Challenges to the Catholic University in the Present Times*. Hosted by Catholic University in Ružomberok, Slovakia.
- 2008, May 8-11. *Spiritual Life and a Culture of Academic Excellence*. Hosted by Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv, Ukraine.
- 2009, May 10-11. *Identifying Opportunities for Academic Cooperation*. Hosted by the Collegio S. Bonaventura ('Seraphicum'), Rome, Italy.

### **Accomplishments**

- The CUP has advanced the academic credentials and professional positions of future leaders in Catholic higher education in post-communist central and eastern Europe and at Notre Dame;
- Visiting CUP faculty to Notre Dame have conducted and completed research projects, taken classes in their fields of specialization, engaged with students and faculty, and perfected their English;
- Its annual meetings have provided a forum for leaders in Catholic higher education to share best practices and insights;
- Students from Notre Dame have pursued meaningful internships and other activities at our partner universities, such as teaching English in the summer at the Ukrainian Catholic University.