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MEDIA ADVISORY

April 16, 2007

For Immediate Release

Academic Freedom: European Humanities University Seeks Support

WINNIPEG—Dr. Anatoli Mikhailov, Rector of the exiled European Humanities University (EHU), will be visiting The University of Winnipeg as part of a three-day visit to Winnipeg to promote EHU and stand up for academic freedom and democracy.

Formerly located in Minsk, EHU was founded in 1992 and garnered a reputation as the leading independent institution of higher education in the former Soviet republic of Belarus. In Summer 2004, Belarusian authorities forced EHU to close, a move condemned by the international community as a violation of academic freedom. In Fall 2004, EHU was re-established as a “university-in-exile” in Vilnius, Lithuania. EHU offers a broad undergraduate liberal arts curriculum to nearly 1000 students through classroom instruction, distance learning, as well as a number of graduate programs and research centres. It was granted official university status by the Government of Lithuania in 2006.

UWinnipeg President Lloyd Axworthy is co-chair of the International Support Committee—comprised of university heads and leading educators from Canada, U.S. and Europe—whose aim is to support the EHU and help it deliver its message of academic freedom and a brighter, democratic future for Belarus.

Media are invited to conduct interviews with Dr. Mikhailov on Monday, April, 16, 2007:

Dr. Anatoli Mikhailov

Rector, European Humanities University, university-in-exile

Monday, April 16, 2007

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Room 2M70 (2nd Floor, Manitoba Hall)

The University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Ave.

Located in the heart of downtown, The University of Winnipeg is a compact, diverse, multicultural academic community committed to access and excellence. Home to more than 9,200 full- and part-time students, UWinnipeg has been ranked by our graduates in the Top Ten of all Canadian universities when asked about their “Entire Educational Experience” (Maclean’s Graduate Survey, June 2006). The Globe & Mail 2006 Report Card gives The University of Winnipeg an overall ‘A’ grade in the areas of quality of education, teaching quality, class sizes, faculty-student interaction, and the availability of faculty outside classroom hours. Find out why. Visit www.uwinnipeg.ca

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Ilana Simon, Communications Officer

The University of Winnipeg

T: 204.786.9930

C: 204.782.3279

i.simon@uwinnipeg.ca