

# The Role of University Senior Leaders in Students' Formation as Active Citizens and Ethical Leaders: Lessons from Ukraine



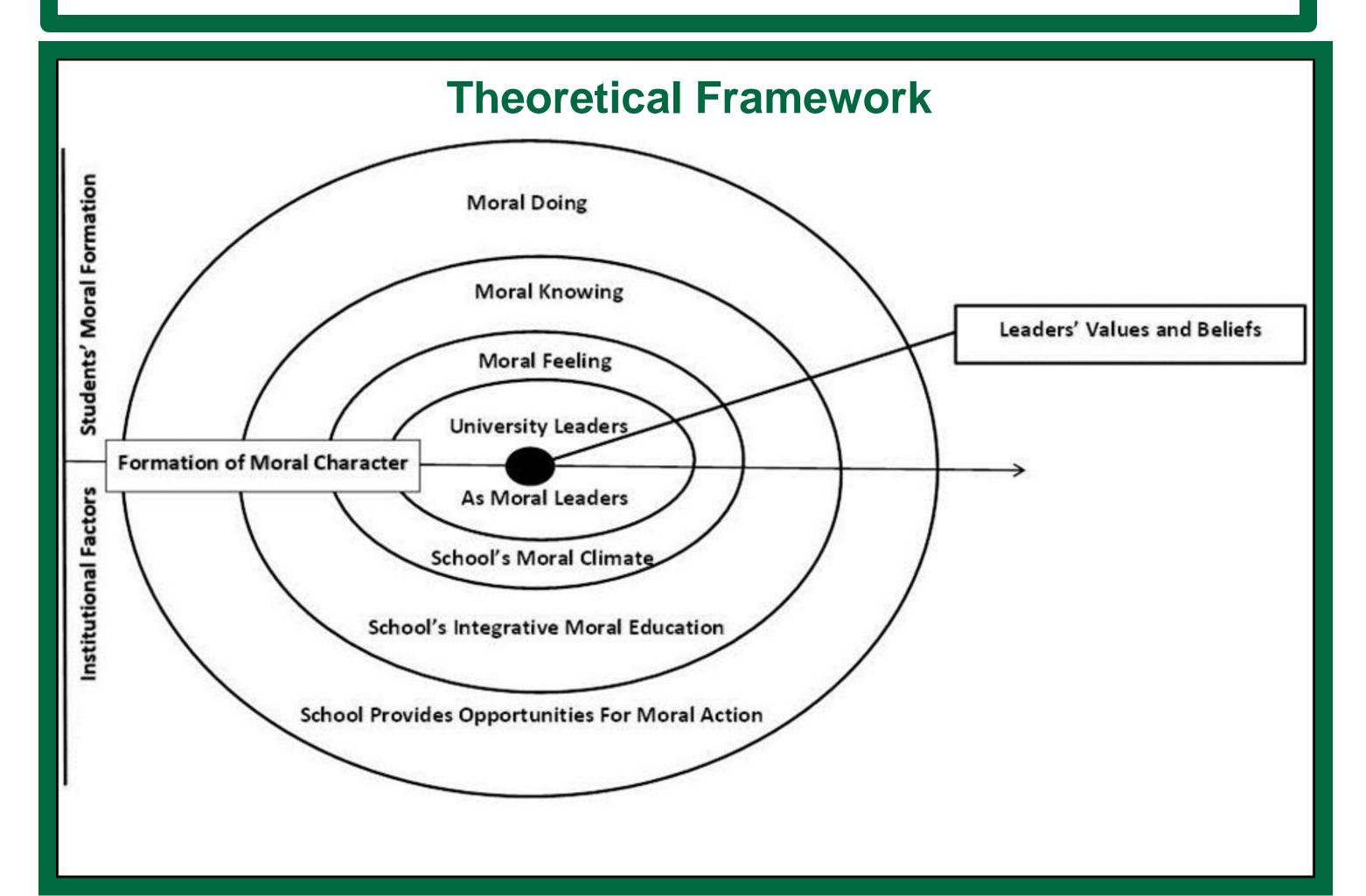
Svetlana Filiatreau, Ph.D. sfiliatr@gmu.edu

George Mason University

## **Research Questions**

### How do Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) leaders:

- •Describe the values and beliefs that guide their leadership of the university, and how do these values and beliefs align with the university's policies and practices?
- \*Understand UCU's institutional role in the context of post-Soviet Ukraine, and how do these views align with the university's policies and practices?
- \*View their leadership role in students' moral and civic formation?
- •View UCU's institutional role in the moral and civic formation of undergraduates, and how do these views align with the university's policies and practices?



# **UCU Leaders' Values and Beliefs**

- ➤ Upholding human dignity through institutional policies promotes integrity and justice.
- ➤ Christian anthropology as the foundation for UCU leaders' philosophy of education and leadership.
- ➤ Centrality of values and principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST).
- >Intentionality of UCU leaders in applying CST principles.

## **UCU Mission of Social Transformation in Ukraine**

- ➤ Universities have a critical nation-building role aimed to
  - ♦ end corruption, distrust, and lack of solidarity, and
  - transform Ukraine into a true democracy.
- > Education of moral and active citizens is an answer to Ukraine's challenges.
- ➤ UCU leaders aim to promote moral formation through an institutional culture and moral climate that support moral development.

# UCU Leaders' View of their Role in Students' Moral and Civic Formation

- ➤ Most important for students' moral formation is to model
  - ♦ valuing the dignity of the human person,
  - ⇒ service to others,
  - ♦ self-sacrifice for the common good, and
  - ♦ solidarity, inclusiveness, and community.
- >Serving as moral exemplars is the way for UCU to fulfill its mission.
- >The rector's personal example is important.
- >Students perceive UCU leaders as positive role models.
- >UCU leaders also seek for the institution itself to be a model and example for students' moral and civic formation.



# UCU's Institutional Role in Students' Civic and Moral Formation

>UCU leaders believe that university education must be integrative.

>UCU aims to promote moral formation by supporting moral knowing and moral reasoning.

➤ UCU's institutional policies and practices intend to foster the development of moral character and engaged citizenship by promoting moral knowing and a life of moral action.

### Conclusion

University-based civic and ethical formation, if incorporated into an institution's mission and culture, could successfully facilitate the formation of ethical and civically responsible democratic citizens.

# **UCU Students and Faculty in the Revolution of Dignity**



Євромайдан Львів @euromaidanlviv - Nov 21

#Львів 21.11.2013 Перші Люди які вийшли на заклик підтримати #Євромайдан

# Implications for University-based Education for Globally Engaged Citizenship

- > Supports previous research conclusions that moral and character education should go hand in hand with education for active citizenship.
- ➤ Identifies elements of a comprehensive organizational and educational framework for the university-based formation of students as ethical and active citizens:

Integrative education

Experiential and service learning pedagogy

Mission-driven leadership

Positive institutional moral climate Modeling by university leaders, faculty, and staff

Emphasizes the role of leadership in establishing positive moral climate

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