

Community NEWS

American University of Armenia Corporation

Oakland, California --- A capacity audience and four Boston-area-based Armenian organizations joined with the American University of Armenia in welcoming incoming president Bruce Boghosian and his wife Laura on August 12 at the Armenian Cultural Foundation in Arlington, Mass. Dr. Boghosian becomes the University's third president since its doors opened on the first day of Armenia's independence in 1991.



In opening the evening, ACF president Robert Mirak noted that AUA follows the legacy of the American colleges established for Armenians in the nineteenth century and that AUA is bringing "the highest standards of the academy to our people in Armenia, with Dr. Bruce Boghosian, admirably suited to its leadership."

Dr. Suzanne Moranian, president of the Armenian International Women's Association, described the value of AUA's Extension services which, beyond AUA's nearly 400 graduate students, enrolls 1,500 in non-degree programs, including cooperation with AIWA's landmark Women's Entrepreneurship Program, providing training for Armenian women to establish and run their own businesses. It is our hope at AIWA that we are serving as an inspiration to other American-based organizations to create programs in partnership with AUA. This will benefit not only those in Armenia, but the community here in the United States, as well."



National Association of Armenian Studies and Research chair Raffi Yeghiayan and Haig der Manuelian, president of the Armenian Library and Museum of America, each speaking for their organizations, summed up the feelings of those in attendance that it was "very heartwarming to witness the great interest in AUA shown by the local community and the hope that in future months it will be possible to build on this interest as AUA enters a new phase and faces new challenges in its growth and development."

President Boghosian described in detail how, with its English-language curriculum and U.S. accreditation, AUA brings the American model of graduate education to Armenia. Dr. Boghosian presented examples of AUA graduates as leaders in fields as diverse as law, public health and environmental protection, serving as catalysts for attracting investment to Armenia, spurring rural development and expanding Armenia's participation in the global economy.



AUA today offers American students the opportunity to study in Armenia and earn credits that can be transferred to their home institutions. Graduate students can earn an American-accredited Masters' Degree, while experiencing Armenian culture and developing lifelong friendships with some of the most talented students from the region.

The American University of Armenia Corporation (AUAC) is registered as a non-profit educational organization in the United States and is affiliated with the Regents of the University of California. Receiving major support from AGBU, AUA offers American-accredited instruction leading to the Masters Degree in eight graduate programs. For more information about AUA, please visit www.aua.am.

ANCA-WR ACTIVISTS ATTEND CALIFORNIA REPUBLICAN PARTY FALL CONVENTION

SAN DIEGO, CA---Activists from Los Angeles and San Diego joined the Armenian National Committee of America-Western Region (ANCA-WR) at the California Republican Party Convention this past weekend in San Diego.



ANCA-WR Volunteers at the CA Republican Party 2010 Fall Convention in San Diego

During the convention delegate and candidate learned about a range of Armenian American issues from US recognition of the Armenian Genocide to the ongoing destruction of Armenian cultural heritage in Azerbaijan. Many volunteer related their experiences as ANCA interns and discussed projects in which they were involved such as voter registration and get out the vote efforts.

ANCA-WR representatives also attended a workshop examining the current challenges in USA foreign policy. As part of the broader discussion regarding USA relations in the region, Turkey's increasingly belligerent role in the Middle East and Caucasus was noted.

"This was a great opportunity for us to get to know the party base and let them know how we work in communities across California to get Armenian Americans more involved in the political process," said Jennifer Movsessian, a volunteer for the weekend from Los Angeles.

The Armenian National Committee of America-Western Region is the largest and most influential Armenian American grassroots advocacy organization in the Western United States. Working in coordination with a network of offices, chapters, and supporters throughout the Western United States and affiliated organizations around the country, the ANCA-WR advances the concerns of the Armenian American community on a broad range of issues.

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