

**PARAMAZ AVEDISIAN BUILDING**



**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA**



# PRESIDENT AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

The founding of the American University of Armenia was a bold move that... and worked its way... the development of a unique institution. Institution building... ent for... been involved since the inception of the University.

Universities represent what is universal in... and inspires what... of where we come from... Invented... and... and... and...



PARAMAZ AVEDIAN BUILDING  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

Haroutune...  
President  
American University of Armenia



## **PRESIDENT** AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

The founding of the American University of Armenia was a bold move that charted and worked its way for the development of a unique institution. Institution building has been a major achievement for all who have been involved since the inception of the University.

Universities represent what is universal in our heritage. Universality also implies values that are independent of where we come from: values that belong to all human beings and are invariable across countries and times.

To achieve universality, universities need to provide an environment where diversity is encouraged and directed towards innovation in science, technology, and cultural expression. Thus, the AUA is moving towards enlarging the scope of its reach to a more diverse student body, and programs and projects that engage people all over Armenia and the Region.

In order to achieve such a future vision of the University, the AUA needed to grow in physical space and modernize its infrastructure to provide an outstanding environment for education and research. This is what the generosity of the Avedisian family and our other donors made possible.

This building is named after Paramaz Avedisian who was the embodiment of many of the same universal values that this University stands for. In a way, these events are a celebration of these values through the persona of Paramaz Avedisian.

Krikor Zohrab was a distinguished law professor at the University of Constantinople, and an influential member of the Ottoman Parliament. He was one of the first victims of the genocide in the First World War. In a speech, delivered 100 years ago about the Liberal movement, he emphasizes that for society education should be a primary responsibility because *education saves*. He goes on further to state that "Our education should strive for both intellectual and economic development." Very much what AUA stands for!

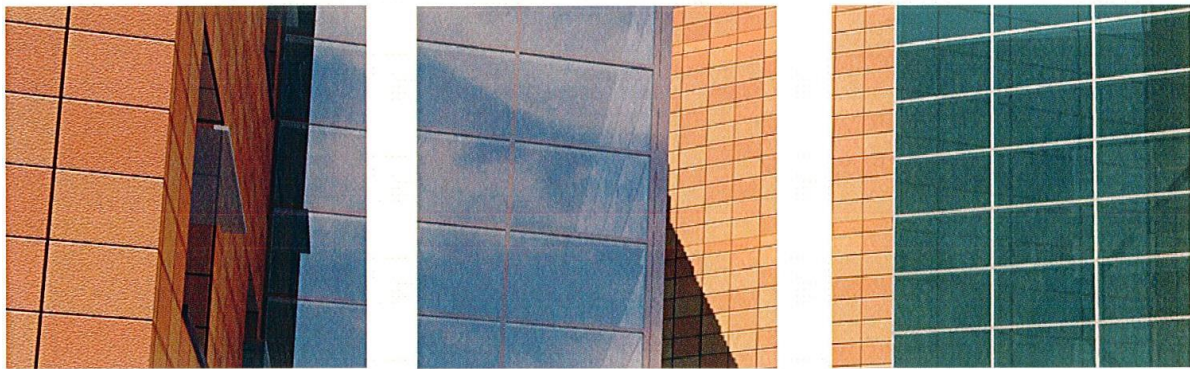
AUA is an expression of optimism towards the future of Armenia. In a major way, the Paramaz Avedisian Building expresses the commitment for all those who are involved, that this institution will continue to be part of the bright future of Armenia and is here for the long term.

**Haroutune K. Armenian**  
**President**  
**American University of Armenia**





## **AMERICAN UNIVERSITY of ARMENIA MISSION**



**As an institution of higher learning, the American University of Armenia provides teaching, research, and service programs that prepare students to address the needs of Armenia and the surrounding region for sustainable development, in a setting that values and develops academic excellence, free inquiry, scholarship, leadership, and service to society.**

The American University of Armenia has reached an exciting moment in its 17-year history. So much has been accomplished since its founding on September 21, 1991, the day of Armenian independence. AUA has truly taken its place among the leading educational institutions in the entire Caucasus region.

Each year AUA's list of assets has grown, starting in 1991 with its University of California affiliation and its founding partnership with the Armenian General Benevolent Union, the blessing and support of the Republic of Armenia and the United States of America through the U.S. Agency for International Development and its Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad. Now, the University also holds American accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. AUA's board of trustees provides exceptional guidance and vision, and its president, faculty and staff in Yerevan and California contribute to its wealth of human resources.

With the completion of the Paramaz Avedisian Building,

AUA enters a new era, with a 21st century state-of-the-art facility which enables the University to double its enrollment and expand the adult and professional education programs and conferences which are so needed in the region. This building makes the powerful statement that AUA has the ability to grow, expanding its physical stature to carry its share of the hopes and dreams of the Armenian people, the region, and the international students and professionals who will study and learn in its beautiful and well-appointed halls and classrooms.

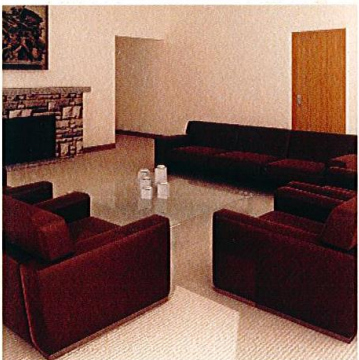
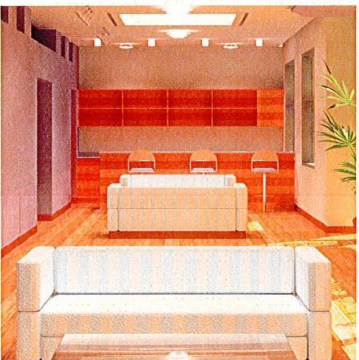
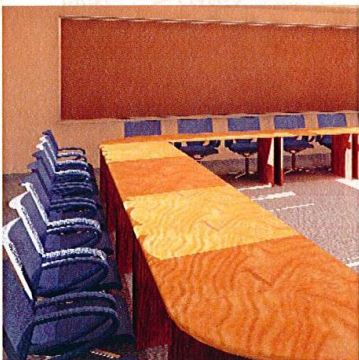
These assets are not merely names of people and organizations, or pieces of paper declaring competency, or pretty buildings to look at, or entries on a spreadsheet. These assets serve a purpose, producing an even more precious asset: Graduates. The Alumni of the American University of Armenia are growing in number. They daily fulfill AUA's mission of equipping students to address the needs of Armenia and the surrounding region for sustainable development. This new building, along with all of the University's other valuable assets, enable

AUA to prepare these individuals "in a setting that values and develops academic excellence, free inquiry, scholarship, leadership, and service to society."

The Alumni of AUA are its most important asset, going forth from AUA to serve the country, the region, and the world. All other assets that AUA accumulates are valued solely for their ability to prepare the Alumni to achieve these goals and to attract people and resources to the University campus for the enrichment of the students. The Paramaz Avedisian Building enables AUA to be a premier destination in Yerevan and the region, drawing leaders, opinion-makers, the arts & sciences, culture, and learning to AUA's students and community, as great universities throughout the world attract such learning assets to their campuses.

So it is with great pleasure that AUA dedicates its newest asset, the Paramaz Avedisian Building.

**PARAMAZ AVEDISIAN BUILDING**





This building was inspired by the exceptional achievements of Paramaz Avedisian both during his years at the Rhode Island College of Pharmacy and beyond. He graduated Summa Cum Laude and ranked first in his class while serving also as class treasurer, editor of the year book and earning four of the six academic prizes awarded by the college. However, he believed that his greatest achievement was not any of the above but in tutoring a legally deaf classmate for over four years and seeing him receive his diploma. For this there was no award or written commendation but just the satisfaction of making a significant contribution to one in need. Excellence in academics and humanitarian acts of kindness and caring for others in need are the hallmarks of a life well lived.

*Where best* to perpetuate these characteristics of excellence in

academic achievement and humanitarian values than AUA which was founded on the day Armenia declared its independence and announced itself a democratic state.

*Where else* but in Armenia where freedom and expression of thought were repressed for seventy years.

*Where else* but in Armenia where there was always an extraordinary amount of talent but the absence of a truly democratic western style of education.

*Where else* but in Armenia to reawaken the concept of giving back to others, a long held characteristic of being an Armenian but short on its realization given its history under Communist rule.

*What better* way to assist in this country's rebirth and determina-

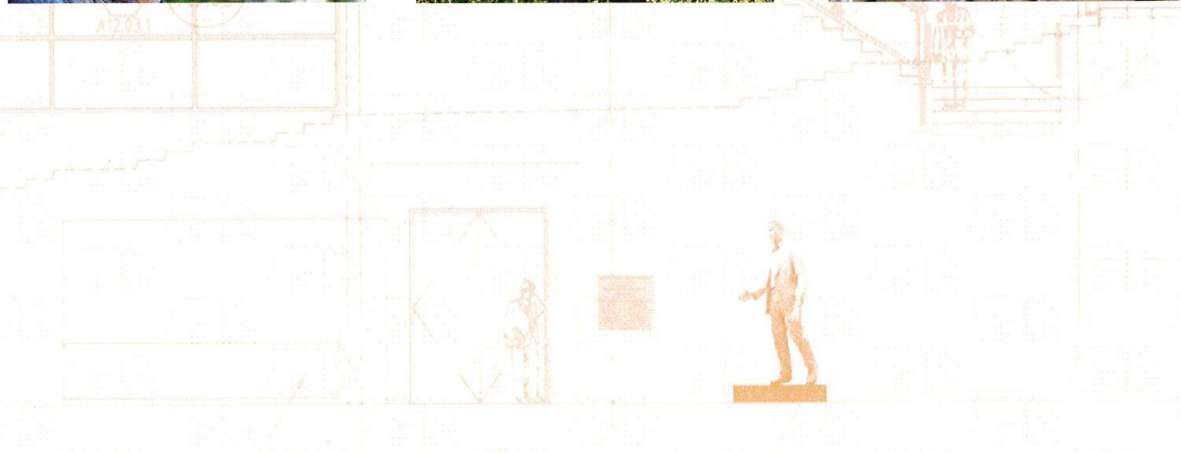
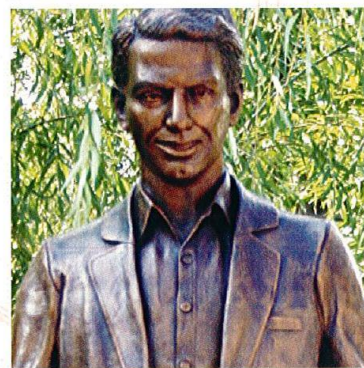
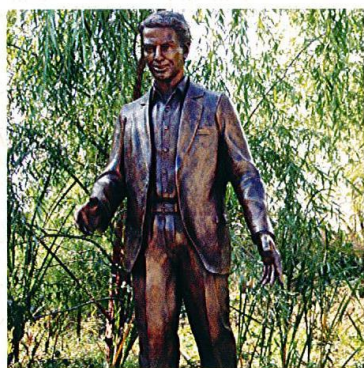
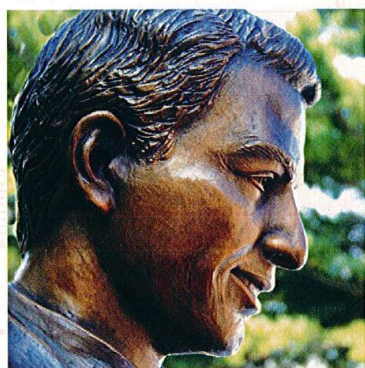
tion to take its rightful place among the leading nations of the world.

Should any of the above be achieved in but the smallest of ways, the Paramaz Avedisian Building will have succeeded in its mission and worthy of the effort to bring it into being.

**To the faculty, administration, and students we say good luck and God speed.**

**The family of Khoren and Shooshanig Avedisian**

# PARAMAZ AVEDISIAN STATUE





## PARAMAZ AVEDISIAN 1931-1996

*STATUE DEPICTION CIRCA 1965*

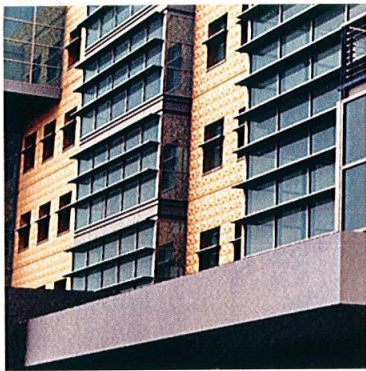
THIS STATUE WELCOMES ALL THOSE ENTERING THIS FACILITY WHICH BEARS HIS NAME. IN A WORD YOU ARE BEING WELCOMED AS SPECIAL AND HONORED GUESTS. THE ARMENIAN WORD WHICH MOST NEARLY AND CLOSELY ENCOMPASSES THAT IS "HRAMMETSEK."

IT IS ALSO HOPED THAT THE VIEWER WILL BE INSPIRED BY THIS COMMON MAN WHO ALONG WITH COUNTLESS OTHERS, NOT NOTED ANYWHERE IN HISTORY, HAVE PERFORMED TRULY UNCOMMON ACTS OF HUMAN KINDNESS. THEIR GENEROSITY OF TIME, TALENT AND CONCERN FOR OTHERS HAS MADE A VERY SIGNIFICANT AND POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON OTHERS IN TIMES OF NEED, ALL THE WHILE EXPECTING NOTHING IN RETURN. THIS IS TRULY A QUALITY THAT HAS BEEN ESPOUSED BY COUNTLESS BILLIONS SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL. THE SUM TOTAL OF THOSE SIGNIFICANT BUT SILENT ACTS OF COMPASSION AND CARING FOR OTHERS FAR EXCEEDS ALL THE BOOKS WRITTEN ABOUT OTHER ISSUES AND HISTORICAL EVENTS. THIS STATUE, WHILE IN THE LIKENESS OF BUT ONE, IS REALLY FOR ALL. WHO HAVE SHOWN AND ACTED IN THAT HUMANITARIAN SPIRIT, REGARDLESS OF RACE, COLOR OR CREED; PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE. THEREFORE, THIS STATUE OF PARAMAZ, COULD VERY EASILY BE ABOUT YOU AS WELL AS FOR YOU.

"HRAMMETSEK," (WELCOME) TO THE FUTURE,  
THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA'S PARAMAZ AVEDISIAN BUILDING.

*THE FAMILY OF KHOREN AND SHOOSHANG AVEDISIAN*

# PARAMAZ AVEDISIAN PLAQUE





**PARAMAZ AVEDISIAN BUILDING AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA**  
**ՓԱՐԱՍԱԶ ԱՎԵՏԻՍԵԱՆ ԸՆԷՔ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԵԱՆ ՀԱՍՎԼԱՐԱՆ**

THIS PLAQUE IS DEDICATED IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION TO  
 ԱՅՍ ԶՈՒՇԱՏՆԱՅԱԿ ԵՐՈՒՐՈՒՄԸ Է

THE FAMILY OF  
**KHOREN AND SHOOSHANIG AVEDISIAN OF PAWTUCKET, RHODE ISLAND, USA,**  
 ԽՈՐԷՆ ԵՒ ՇՈՒՇԱՆԻԿ ԱՎԵՏԻՍԵԱՆՆԵՐԻ ԸՆՏԱՆԻՔԻՆ,  
 ԱՄՆ-Ի ՈՉ ԱՅԼԸՆԴ ԱՐԿԱՆԳԻ ՓՈԽԱՔԵՏ ՔԱՂԱՔԻՑ

THEIR FRIENDS, AND SUPPORTERS OF AUA,  
 ԵՐԱՆՑ ԸՆԿԵՐՆԵՐԻՆ ԵՒ ՀԱՅ-Ի ԱԶԱԿԻՑՆԵՐԻՆ,

WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE THIS EDUCATIONAL EDIFICE POSSIBLE.  
 ՈՐՈՇ ՆՈՒՐԱՏՈՒԹՅՈՒՆՆԵՐԻ ԸՆՈՒՐԻ ԶԱՐԿՈՒ ՊԱՐԶԱՒ ԱՅՍ ԿՈՅԱԿԱՆ ԿԱՌՈՒՅՑԸ:

THOSE NOTED BELOW ARE RECOGNIZED FOR THE SPECIAL ROLES THEY PLAYED IN THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THIS BUILDING.  
 ԱՏՈՐԻ ԵՆՈՒՄ ԱՆՁԻՆՔ ՑՍՏՈՒ ԴԵՐ ԵՆ ՈՒՅԵՑԵԼ ԱՅՍ ԸՆԷՔԻ ՆԱԿԱԳՈՄԱՆ ԵՒ ԿԱՌՈՒՑՄԱՆ ԳՈՐԾՈՒՄ:

**AUA BUILDING COMMITTEE**  
 ՀԱՅ ՀԱՌՈՒՑՄԱՆ ԴԵԿՆԱԿԱՐԱՆԱՆ ՑԱՆՁՆԱԾՈՂՈՎ

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| <b>EDWARD AVEDISIAN</b><br>ԵՐՈՒՐՈՂ ԱՎԵՏԻՍԵԱՆ       | <b>CHAIRMAN</b><br>ՆԱԽԱԳԱՅ                           |
| <b>HAROUTUNE ARMENIAN MD</b><br>ՑԱՌՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԱՐԱՆՆԵԱՆ | <b>UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT</b><br>ՀԱՅ ՆԱԽԱԳԱՅ           |
| <b>MIHRAN AGBABIAN PHD</b><br>ՄԻՐԱՆ ԱՂԻՔԱՅԵԱՆ      | <b>PRESIDENT EMERITUS</b><br>ՀԱՅ ՊՐԵՏԻՍԻՏՈՒ ՆԱԽԱԳԱՅ  |
| <b>GARO MISSIRIAN PHD</b><br>ԿԱՐՈ ՄԻՍԻՐԻԱՆ         | <b>PROJECT MANAGER</b><br>ՇՐՋԱՐԱՐԱԿԱՆ ՇՐՋԱՐԻ ԴԵԿԱՆԱՐ |

**BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TEAM**  
 ԸՆԷՔԻ ՇՐՋԱՐԱՐՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԱՇԽԱՏԱՆՔԱՅԻՆ ԽՈՒՄԻ

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| <b>FARAJ YERETSIAN</b><br>ՖԱՂԱՅ ԵՐԵՏԵԱՆ | <b>CONSTRUCTION MANAGER</b><br>ՇՐՋԱՐԱՐՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԴԵԿԱՆԱՐ |
|---|--|
- BUILDERS UNION OF ARMENIA**  
 ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՇՐՋԱՐԱՐՆԵՐԻ ՄԻՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ
- |   |                             |
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| <b>GAGIK GALSTYAN</b><br>ԳԱԳԻԿ ԳԱԼՍՏԵԱՆ | <b>PRESIDENT</b><br>ՆԱԽԱԳԱՅ |
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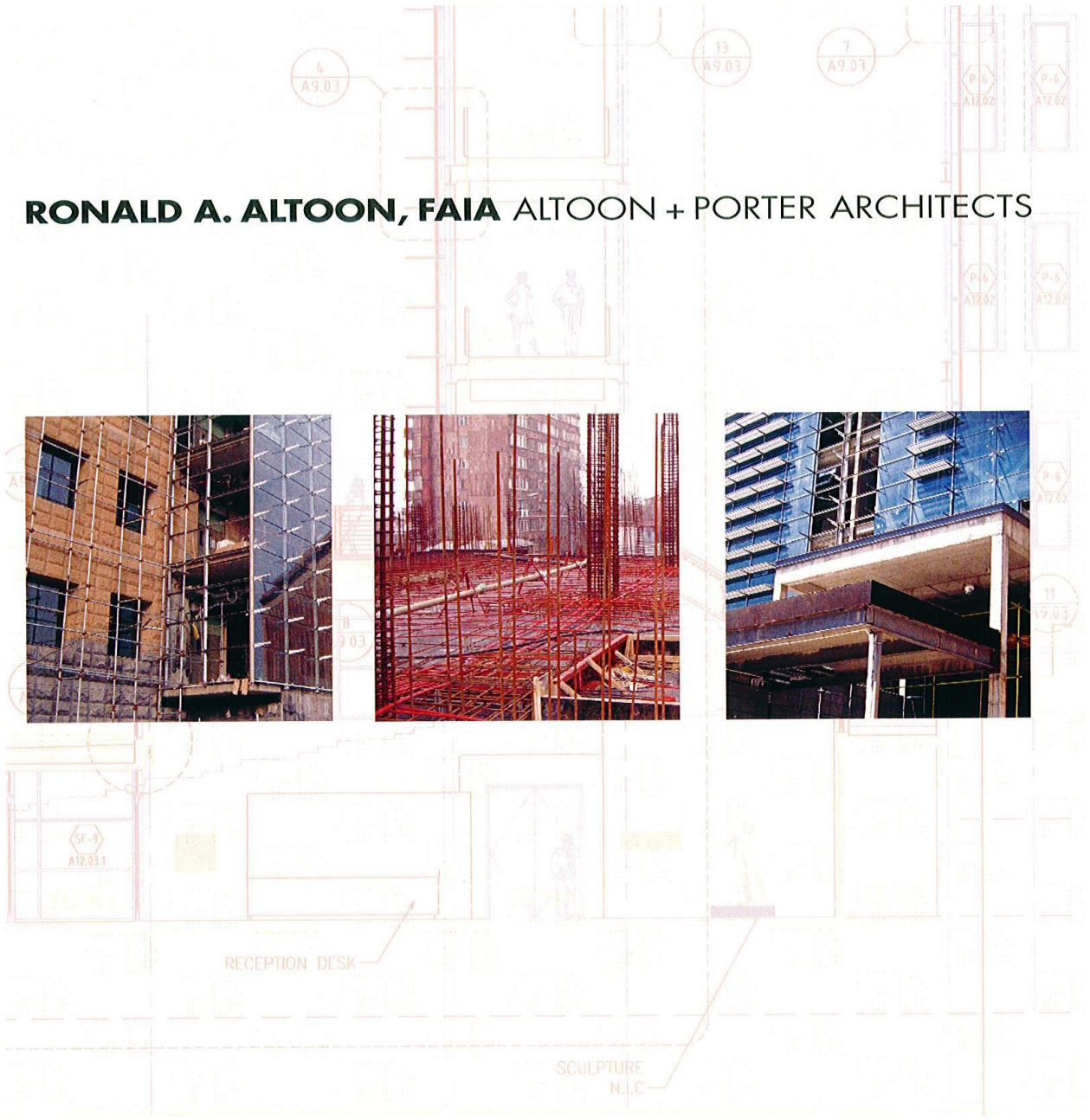
**BUILDING DESIGN TEAM**  
 ԸՆԷՔԻ ՆԱԿԱԳՈՄԱՆ ԽՈՒՄԻ

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| <b>RONALD ALTOON FAIA</b><br>ՌՈՆԱԼԴ ԱԼԹՈՆ     | <b>ALTOON+PORTER ARCHITECTS</b><br>ԱԼԹՈՆ+ՊՈՐՏԵՐ ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ                           |
| <b>MITCHELL LAWRENCE AIA</b><br>ՄԻՏՉԵԼ ԼՈՐԵՆՍ | <b>ALTOON+PORTER ARCHITECTS</b><br>ԱԼԹՈՆ+ՊՈՐՏԵՐ ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ                           |
| <b>ISAHAK NERSISYAN</b><br>ԻՍԱԿ ՆԵՐՍԻՍԻԱՆ     | <b>LV+ARCHITECTS</b><br>ԼՎ+ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ  |
| <b>GURGEN MUSHEGIAN</b><br>ԳՈՐԳԵՆ ՄՈՒՇԵԳԻԱՆ   | <b>YEREVANPROJECT CIVIL ENGINEERS</b><br>ԵՐԵՎԱՆ ՆԱԿԱԳԻՑ ԵՆՈՒՄԱՎՈՐՈՒՄՔԱՆԻՑ ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ |
| <b>MARK GRIGORIAN PHD</b><br>ՄԱՐԿ ԳՐԻԳՈՐԻԱՆ   | <b>MGA STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS</b><br>MGA ԿԱՌՈՒՑՈՒՄՔԱՆԻՑ ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ                     |
| <b>CARL GRIGORIAN PHD</b><br>ԿԱՐԼ ԳՐԻԳՈՐԻԱՆ   | <b>MGA STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS</b><br>MGA ԿԱՌՈՒՑՈՒՄՔԱՆԻՑ ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ                     |
| <b>ANDY HOWARD</b><br>ԱՆԴԻ ՀԱՌՈՐԴ             | <b>ARUP MEP ENGINEERS</b><br>ARUP ՄԵԽԱՄԱԿԵԼԵԿՏԻՆԻԿ ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ                        |
| <b>GRIGOR AZIZYAN</b><br>ԳՐԻԳՈՐ ԱԶԻԶԵԱՆ       | <b>ARMPROJECT MEP ENGINEERS</b><br>ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻՈՒՄ ՄԵԽԱՄԱԿԵԼԵԿՏԻՆԻԿ ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ          |

AND NUMEROUS OTHER ENGINEERS, CONTRACTORS, SUBCONTRACTORS, SUPPLIERS, TRADESMEN, TECHNICIANS, LABORERS AND AUA STAFF MEMBERS.  
 ԻՆՉՊԵՍ ՆԱԾ ՄԻ ԸՆԴՐ ԸՅԼ ԸՆԴՏԱՐԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ, ԿԱՌԱՆՈՒՄՆԵՐ, ԵՆԹԱԿՈՒՄՆԱՆՈՒՄՆԵՐ, ՄԱՏԱԿՈՒՄՆԵՐ, ՏԵԽՆԻԿԱՆ ՄԱՍՏԱՊԵՏՆԵՐ,  
 ՔԱՐԿՈՒՄՆԵՐ ԵՒ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԵԱՆ ՀԱՍՎ ԿԱՐԿԻ ԱՆՁԱԿԱՅԻՆ ԱՆՈՒՄՆԵՐ:

DEDICATION - 1 NOVEMBER 2008  
 ՊԱՇՏՈՆԱԿԱՆ ԲԱՏՄԱՆ ՕՐԸ - 1 ՆՈՅԵՄԲԵՐԻ, 2008

**RONALD A. ALTOON, FAIA ALTOON + PORTER ARCHITECTS**



RECEPTION DESK

SCULPTURE  
N.I.C.



## **PARAMAZ AVEDISIAN BUILDING**

**Design 2002/Completion 2008**

**American University of Armenia**

**10,000-square-meter,**

**5-story classroom building**

**Honed and rustic tuffa stone,**

**basalt stone, glass curtainwall**

In Yerevan, the ancient capital of Armenia, on a hill facing Mount Ararat, the tallest mountain in the country's historic homeland, the American University of Armenia is adding a state-of-the-art academic building complex to expand its single-structure campus. The building is set into a steep hillside site in a precarious seismic zone. The harsh climate, unpredictable energy grid, onerous building codes, a tight budget, and limited access to materials and skilled constructors would challenge even a simple project. The University required an innovative, flexible building that would provide classrooms for students, offices for faculty and administrative staff,

and a residence for the president of the university.

Adapting the complex program to the constraints of a 10,000-square-meter building required an in-depth utilization study and a design that takes full advantage of modular solutions that allow the spaces to serve multiple purposes. To meet demand for advanced, highly flexible technology, the building is designed to accommodate the latest in video, computer, and telecommunications equipment, including wireless networking.

The design is an environmentally sensitive solution that creates alternative solutions to the university's energy needs. These include simple concepts such as setting the building orientation to minimize heat gain in the summer and maximize both heat gain and sunlight exposure in the winter; sophisticated innovations that include a breathing stone wall that adds additional insulation;

and light shelves that reflect low winter sun deep into the south-facing rooms. A second level bridge connects to the existing structure, and a public pathway through the adjacent park passes underneath the building to continue the connected pedestrian linkage to public transit.

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Khoren and Shooshanig Avedisian Family

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Manoogian Simone Foundation  
Turpanjian Family Foundation

Alex and Marie Manoogian Hall  
Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis

### \$ 500,000 TO \$ 1 MILLION

Edward and Pamela Avedisian

Zvart Avedisian Onanian Center for Health Services Research  
and Development

Edward and Pamela Avedisian

Paul Avedisian Center for Business Research and Development

### \$ 100,000 TO \$ 499,000

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Acopian Center for the Environment  
Vartkes and Hasmig Barsam Classroom  
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