

AUA founding documents



Signing of the affiliation agreement with University of California

The founders of AUA: Armen Der Kiureghian, Mihran Agbabian and Stepan Karamardian

1991

◆ The American University of Armenia is founded through the partnership and support of the Armenian General Benevolent Union, the University of California, and the Government of the Republic of Armenia. ◆ Throughout AUA's existence, the University has continued to receive generous contributions from AGBU for its academic success and excellence. ◆ AUA presents Armenia's first institution of Western-style higher education with a commitment to quality teaching, research and community service. ◆ The University opens its doors on Armenian Independence Day, September 21, with 101 students enrolled in the Intensive English Program. ◆ Within months, these students move into their respective graduate degree programs in Business and Management, Earthquake Engineering, and Industrial Engineering. ◆ AUA's first President is Dr. Mihran Agbabian. Dr. Armen Der Kiureghian and Dr. Stepan Karamardian assume positions as Dean of College of Engineering and Dean of College of Business and Management, respectively.



Signing of the Agreement for the English Language Program with University of California



Papazian Library, then and now



Students working on a team project



Engineering Research Center has its own designated laboratories, including an earthquake shake table and a computer-controlled manufacturing facility



The Speaker lecture series is launched by the Extension Program

1992

◆ AUA establishes the Certificate Program in Teaching English as a Foreign Language to prepare English school teachers. ◆ The Environmental Conservation and Research Center opens to provide courses to AUA students and to conduct research. ◆ The College of Engineering establishes the Engineering Research Center and the School for Business and Management opens the Center for Business Research and Development. ◆ The AUA starts the Extension Program offering short courses for working professionals and the general public. Since its inception 9,000 people have enrolled in Extension Program courses. ◆ The Student Council is established to promote the general interest and welfare of the student body, to enhance student communication and leadership skills, and to promote academic freedom, responsibility, and excellence.



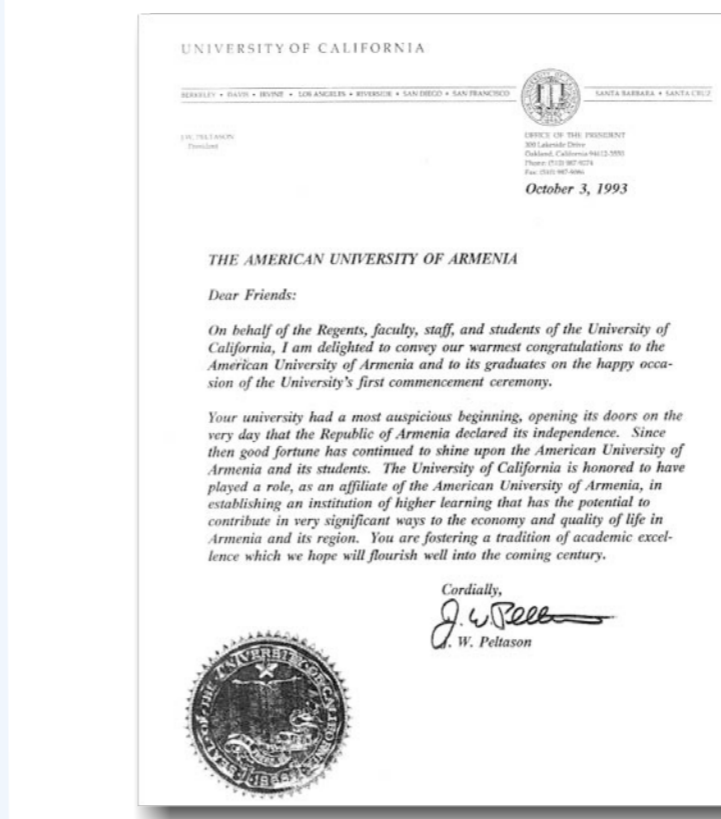
AUA Computer Labs, then and now



CBRD prints and translates books on business



Mrs. Louise Simone,
President of AGBU,
giving the Commencement Address



Congratulatory
document
from the Regents,
Officers, and Faculties
of the University of
California to the
first graduating class



AUA Diploma



The first
Graduating Class

1993

◆ The University holds its first Commencement ceremony graduating thirty eight men and women in Business and Management, ten in Industrial Engineering, and five in Earthquake Engineering. ◆ The Birds of Armenia Program begins its mission to increase environmental awareness in Armenia. ◆ Several books are published for community education and outreach, promoting birding and local involvement in environmental conservation, including A Field Guide to the Birds of Armenia (in English) in 1997; the Handbook of the Birds of Armenia in 1999; a Reference Map for the Birds of Armenia Project in 1999; and A Field Guide to the Birds of Armenia (in Armenian) in 2000.



U.S. Senator Paul Simon



Madeleine Albright,
U.S. Ambassador
to the United Nations



Publications of the Birds of
Armenia Program



Commencement ceremony



Valedictorian
A. Hambarian



Dean A. Der Kiureghian
congratulates the graduates of
the College of Engineering



U.S. Ambassador H. Gilmore with
Dean N. Schahgaldian and
Prof. R. Tembekhjian



1994

◆ The School of Political Science and International Affairs is established offering a Master of Arts in Political Science and International Affairs. The PSIA degree is career-oriented and gives students the broader skills and analytical perspectives necessary to function effectively in government as the new generation of diplomats, policy analysts, and administrators; strong emphasis is placed on acquiring a comprehensive understanding of policy making, and of policy evaluation and implementation. ◆ The Alumni Association is established to support the fulfillment of the professional and academic potential of AUA alumni to contribute to the prosperity and broader development of the Republic of Armenia.



Alumni Association
is established



AUA students with Faculty



Teaching Agreement between Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health and AUA

OF INTEREST

TEACHING AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN SCHOOL AND ARMENIAN UNIVERSITY

A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the School's Department of Epidemiology and the American University of Armenia (AUA) Corporation, forming an affiliation toward development of the program of Public Health at AUA. Manousser Armenian, MD, DPHU, professor, Epidemiology, will act as coordinator for the new program. Dr. Armenian has been involved in a number of evaluation, research, and educational projects in Armenia with the Ministry of Health, Armenian Relief Society, and the United States Agency for International Development.

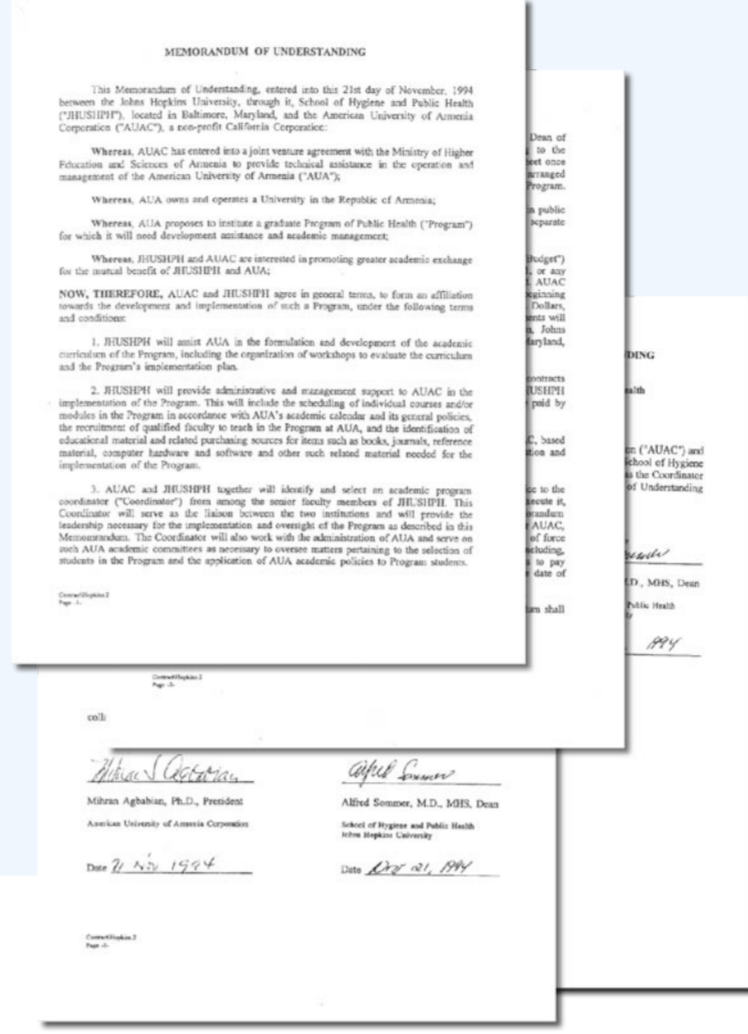
The five-year agreement, signed by Alfred Sommer, MD, MPH, dean of the School, and Dr. Mhram Agbabian, president of AUA, will see the School assist AUA in the formulation, development, and implementation of academic curricula. Emphasis will be placed on personal skills in basic public health sciences and health care management. Several faculty from the School will travel to Armenia next March to assist in the initial instruction.

"This will be the first program in health sciences at AUA," said Dr. Armenian. "The School's role is to provide oversight and academic planning, to help get the program up and running. Eventually, we hope the program will be offered as a master's degree."

SCHOOL EXPANDS HUMANITARIAN RELIEF EFFORTS



Dean Sommer, President Agbabian and Prof. Armenian sign the Agreement between AUA and Johns Hopkins University



Mr. and Mrs. Turpanjian visiting T CPA with President Armenian



1995

- ◆ The College of Health Sciences is established, offering a Certificate in Public Health Program in affiliation with the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.
- ◆ The Center for Health Services Research and Development starts operating parallel to the Public Health Program providing technical assistance, research, evaluation, and program development assistance to the RA Ministry of Health and international humanitarian and donor organizations.
- ◆ The Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis is established to conduct multidisciplinary applied policy research in a broad spectrum of contemporary social, political, and legal fields.



Students and faculty work together at the Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis



College of Health Sciences Faculty



Graduates of the School of Business and Management with President M. Agbabian and Acting Dean H. Kassarian

AUA College of Health Sciences collaborates with the Ministry of Health of Armenia



Graduates of the School of Political Science and International Affairs with President M. Agbabian, Dean of Faculty D. Fuller and Dean N. Schahgaldian



1996

◆ The Certificate Program in Public Health expands into a full Master of Public Health degree program providing health professionals a thorough grounding in population-based approaches to health sector problem identification, investigation, analysis, and managed response. ◆ Armenia's need for specialists capable of creating the legal foundation and staffing the institutions that support the needed reforms leads to the establishment of AUA's two year Master of Law degree program.



AUA students



Students of the School of Public Health with Dean H. Armenian



Graduates of the College of Engineering with Dean A. Der Kiureghian



Haroutune K. Armenian,
the new President of AUA



The first anti-smoking
campaign in Armenia is organized
by the Center for Health Services
Research and Development



The University meets prospective students
for the first Master of Law degree in Armenia



Department of English
Programs faculty

1997

◆ Dr. Haroutune K. Armenian is appointed as the second President of AUA. The Department of Law is established with the goal of preparing high-caliber legal advisers and advocates for Armenia and the region. ◆ The Legal Research Center is established as an integral component of the Law Department providing access to new publications and Internet-mediated databases covering all areas of relevance to law-based governance. ◆ The Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Foreign Language Program is established to complement the CTEFL Program. ◆ The degree combines theory and practical skills providing students an opportunity to conduct research in the field of applied linguistics and language teaching.



Facilities are improved to
accommodate the physically
challenged



The Legal Research Center



MA students in TEFL
with Instructor V. Strohmeyer



Graduates of the School of Business and Management



Graduates of the College of Engineering



Commencement Ceremony

1998

◆ In recognition of the trend towards more use of information technology, a minor in Information Technology is initiated under the umbrella of Industrial Engineering and Systems Management. ◆ The Program emphasizes the use of computer and information technologies. ◆ The minor in Information Technology welcomes all AUA students; the program consists of a minimum of five courses on such topics as information systems analysis, design of databases, Java and C++ programming, and computer-human interfaces.



Students of the Department of English Programs with faculty



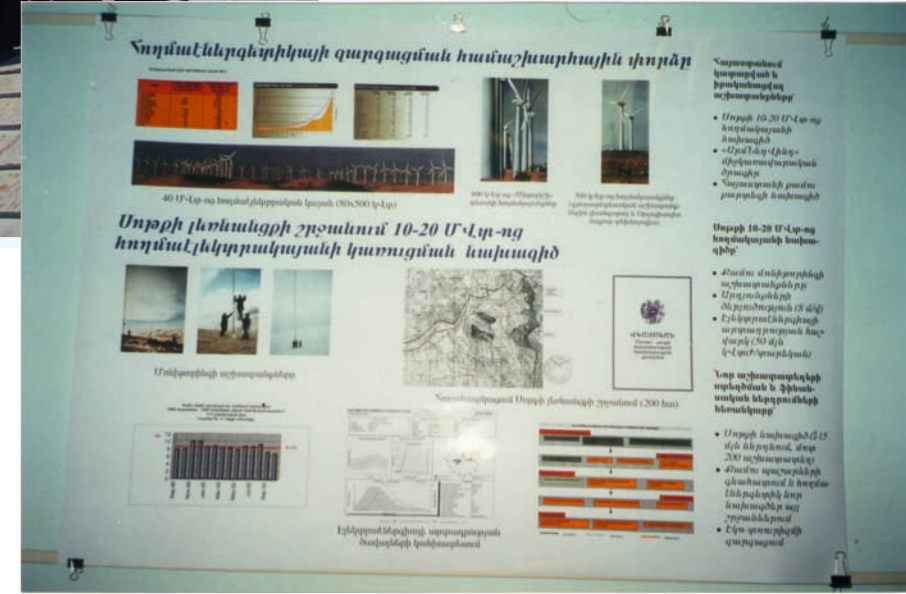
Graduates of the School of Political Science and International Affairs with faculty



Ceremonial hooding



Commencement ceremony

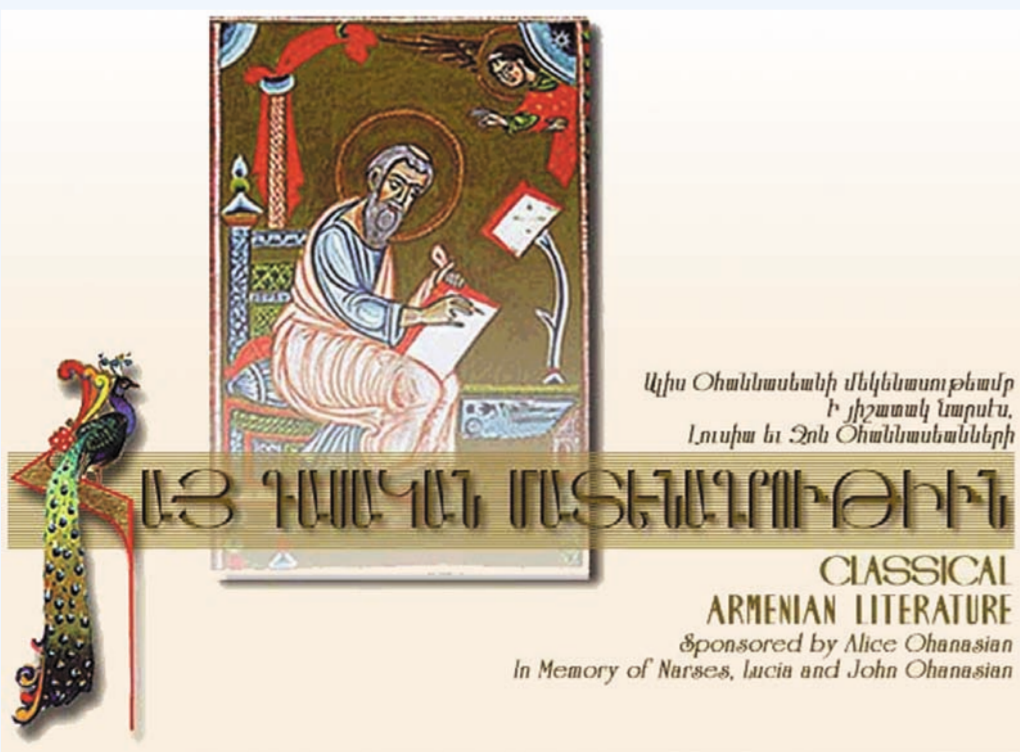


The first International project related to Solar Energy in Armenia



1999

◆ The U.S. Congress allocates \$9.6 million to the AUA Endowment Fund. ◆ The Environmental Conservation and Research Center begins offering a certificate program to second year students who want to include a specialization in environmental research in their graduate studies. ◆ The Digital Library project begins developing electronic versions of classical Armenian literature, which is essential for the preservation of the cultural heritage of Armenia and for making the rich Armenian literature accessible to a broad audience of readers and students. ◆ The Engineering Research Center launches a first-ever international solar energy project to heat and cool the AUA Small Auditorium.



The Digital Library project for digitizing classical Armenian literature begins



The Digital Library Project is presented to the community



Mrs. Meghriyan, First Lady Bella Kocharian and AUA President H. Armenian at the opening ceremony of GMEIPO



Garo Meghriyan Eye Institute for Preventive Ophthalmology

2000

- ◆ AUA starts the Master of Comparative Legal Studies program enabling students from other fields to participate in addressing the rule-of-law challenges confronting the region.
- ◆ The ISCT-funded Information Technology course provides retraining of 112 unemployed former programmers and other technical professionals.
- ◆ The Garo Meghriyan Eye Institute for Preventive Ophthalmology is established by the College of Health Sciences for the implementation of blindness prevention projects throughout Armenia.
- ◆ The Extension Program begins a four-year project offering English courses in Gyumri.



AUA introduces new technology in IT to 112 programmers and technical professionals throughout the community



Extension Program offering continuing education courses to the community in Gyumri





President Armenian, President Emeritus Agbabian and Prof. Der Kiureghian receive the Movses Khorenatsi medal from RA President Kocharian



President Kocharian awards the "Best IT Project" to the Digital Library team



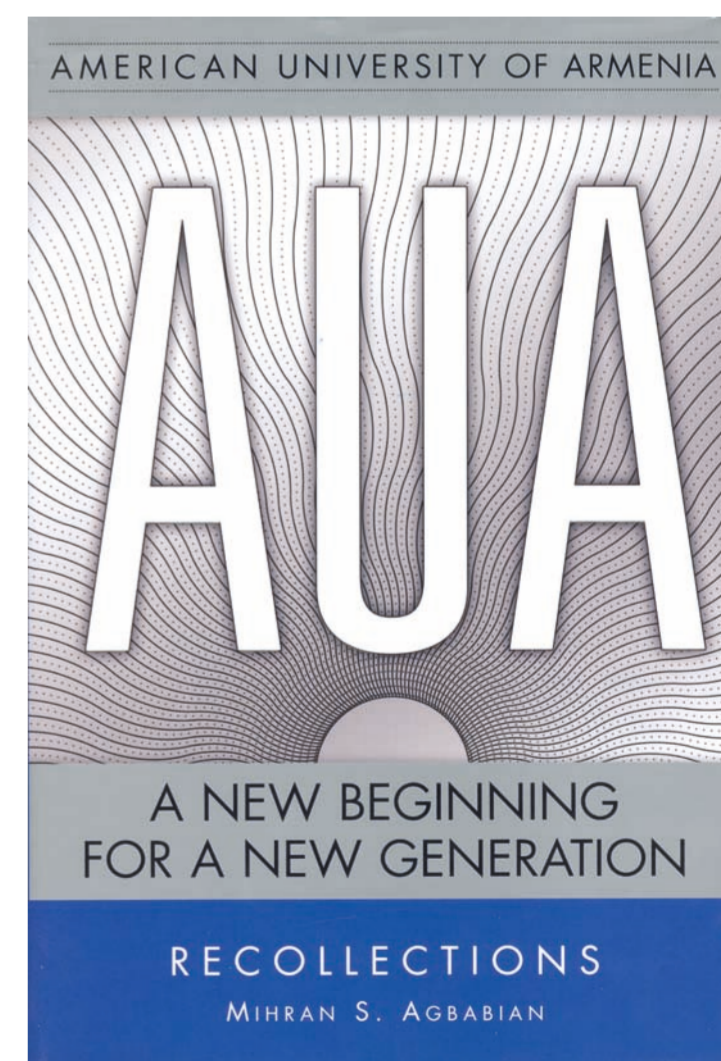
2001

◆ AUA celebrates a "Decade of Achievement" in education and research. During AUA's 10th Anniversary Celebration, Armenia's President Robert Kocharian bestows the Movses Khorenatsi Medal on AUA founders Dr. Mihran Agbabian and Dr. Armen Der Kiureghian, and to President of AUA, Dr. Haroutune Armenian, for their exceptional achievements in education. ◆ Louise Simone is awarded the Mesrop Mashtots Medal for her assistance to Armenia's development. ◆ Construction of the first phase of the AUA Center is completed. ◆ The College of Health Sciences is accepted as a member of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region and undergoes accreditation review by the Association. ◆ The Digital Library project is awarded the RA President's Prize for "the best IT project accomplished in Armenia in the last five years."



Celebrating a Decade of Achievement

Dr. Agbabian's book of recollections is published



The completed AUA Center on Alex Manoogian Street





Western Association of Schools and Colleges recognizes AUA as a Candidate for accreditation



TCPA researchers conducting interviews in villages



2002

◆ The MS Program in Computer and Information Science is launched as an applied program to help students gain the necessary skills required to be productive leaders in computing and related industries. ◆ Groundbreaking ceremonies take place for the new Paramaz Avedisian Building. ◆ The first addition to the main campus is planned as a state-of-the-art educational facility that will allow AUA to expand and meet its mission. ◆ AUA reaches a historic milestone in its institutional development as the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), the U.S. accrediting agency, recognizes AUA as a Candidate for Accreditation in November. ◆ AUA is the first university outside the territorial U.S. to be considered for such a status by WASC.

AUA's newest construction: Paramaz Avedisian building



Groundbreaking with donor and trustee Edward Avedisian and his wife Pamela



The Avedisian building in progress





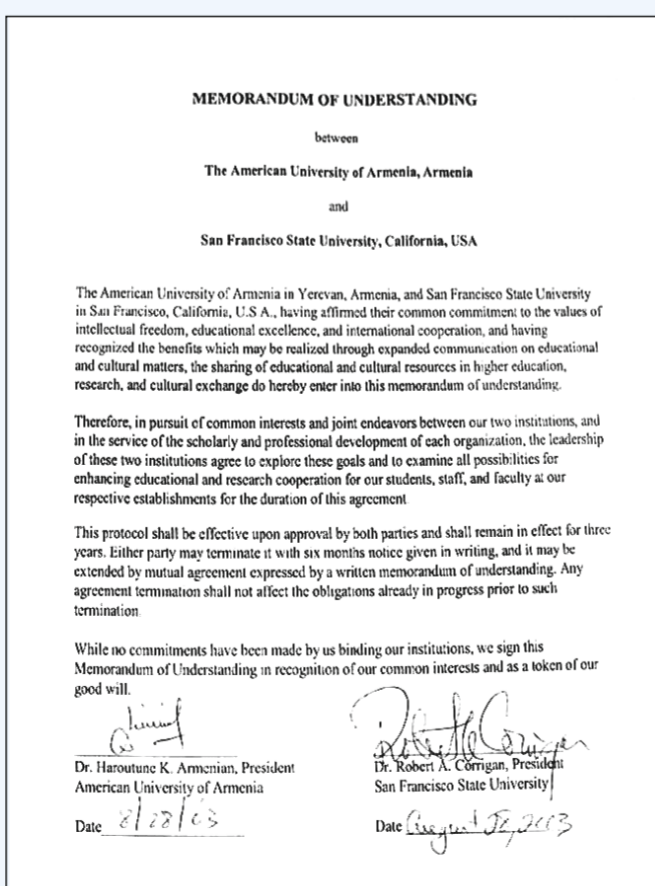
AUA hosts the 8th World Seminar and International Workshop on Seismic Engineering

2003

◆ AUA and San Francisco State University sign a Memorandum of Understanding in support of the Computer and Information Science program “which affirmed their common commitment to the values of intellectual freedom, educational excellence, and international cooperation.” ◆ The 8th World Seminar on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation, and Active Vibration Control of Structures takes place at AUA. The seminar brings together international academic and field specialists to exchange and disseminate information on new technologies in anti-seismic systems. ◆ AUA launches Armenia's first student loan program, which provides tuition assistance to all qualified applicants.



SFSU President Robert Corrigan and AUA President Haroutune Armenian, signing the MOU



SFSU and AUA celebrate the CIS agreement



Dedication of the Mihran and Elizabeth Agbabian Hall at AUA



Dedication of the Stepan Karamardian Conference Hall at AUA Center



2004

◆ The University receives several scholarships named as follows: Turpanjian Family Foundation, which helps orphaned and economically disadvantaged students at AUA and other Armenian Universities throughout the country; Stepan Karamardian; Arpine & Arda Hovnanian; Zaven O. Kodjayan, the Garmery Benevolent Association, Richard R. Tufenkian/the Armenian Educational Foundation, and Harry Kullijian. These scholarships are added to those established earlier and named after Vartkes and Rita Balian; Abgar L. and Loretta Asman Babaian; Louise Dumanian; Kademian; Sarkis Zartarian. ◆ The Speaker of the National Assembly establishes two awards for AUA students. ◆ The Department of English Programs establishes the Center for Research and Development in Applied Linguistics and Language Teaching.



Graduates of the Department of English Programs with faculty



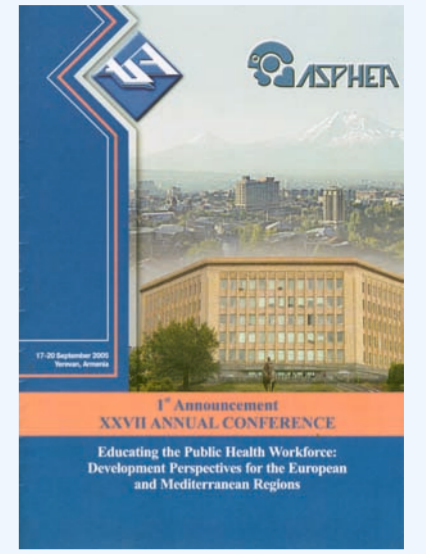
Turpanjian Family Foundation Scholarship Program is established



AUA Club opens



The XXVII Annual ASPHER Conference hosted by the College of Health Sciences



2005

◆ The University hosts a second accreditation team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and successfully completes the first of two final reviews. ◆ The Turpanjian Family Foundation provides support for Armenia's first Big Brother and Big Sister program. ◆ The College of Health Sciences hosts the XXVII conference of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region with delegates from over 50 countries and five continents. ◆ Through the generosity of AUA Trustee Mr. Vartkes Barsam, AUA acquires the HyeBusiness Suites Hotel, located in central Yerevan, to help meet the University's student and faculty housing needs. ◆ AUA becomes a Certified Test Administration Site for the Educational Testing Service, the organization responsible for tests such as the SAT, GRE, and GMAT.



The newly elected Alumni Association Board



Trustee member Vartkes Barsam and his wife Hasmig donate the HyBusiness Suites Hotel to AUA



Turpanjian Program for Adult Education and Rural Development in Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh



Law Department pilgrimage to Goshavank with faculty, students and alumni



Minister of Education Levon Mkrtchian presents an award to Mr. Turpanjian



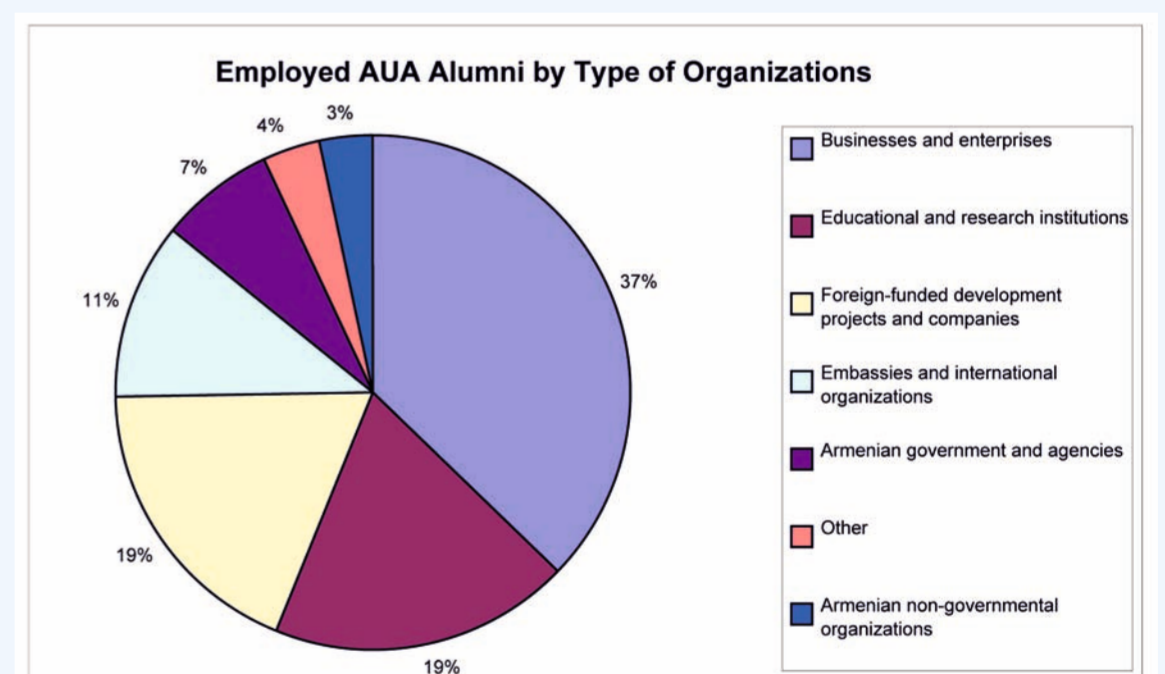
Law Department panel "Notions of a Republic: National perspectives of the Meaning of a Republic"

2006

◆ AUA becomes a founding member of the consortium of American-style Academic Libraries of colleges and universities in Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. ◆ AUA launches the Turpanjian Rural Development Program, a major five-year initiative focused on economic growth through adult education and rural entrepreneurship. ◆ The Anti-Seismic Systems International Society and AUA, in collaboration with the Armenian Association for Earthquake Engineering, hold an international workshop on "Base Isolated High-Rise Buildings." ◆ Fifty-two doctors and nurses in Nagorno Karabakh complete basic first aid and emergency skills training organized by the Center for Health Services Research and Development as part of a Humanitarian Assistance Program for Nagorno Karabakh funded by the United States Agency for International Development.



The world-renowned Computer Scientist Donald Knuth with the AUA Community



Statistics on AUA's 1400 Alumni



The videoconferencing room opens its doors on main campus





President H. Armenian making official statement about AUA accreditation



K. Aghababyan receiving the Whitley Award



Lucig H. Danielian, AUA Provost and Vice President



Accreditation celebration

2007

◆ AUA achieves U.S. accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, one of the seven regional accrediting bodies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. ◆ The Board of Trustees of the American University of Armenia Corporation appoints Dr. Lucig H. Danielian as AUA Provost and Vice President. ◆ The Turpanjian Rural Development Program opens three field offices in the Shirak and Tavush Marzes and in Nagorno Karabagh. Dr. Karen Aghababyan receives the United Kingdom's prestigious Whitley Fund for Nature Award for research combining environmental conservation research with education. ◆ The Legal Research Center organizes a number of legal symposia for the public and provides curriculum support for Armenia's new Judicial School. The AUA Barsam Suites begin operations.



AUA delegation meets with the President of the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh

AUA President at the opening ceremony of the TRDP office in Shirak Marz



AUA Barsam Suites after renovation



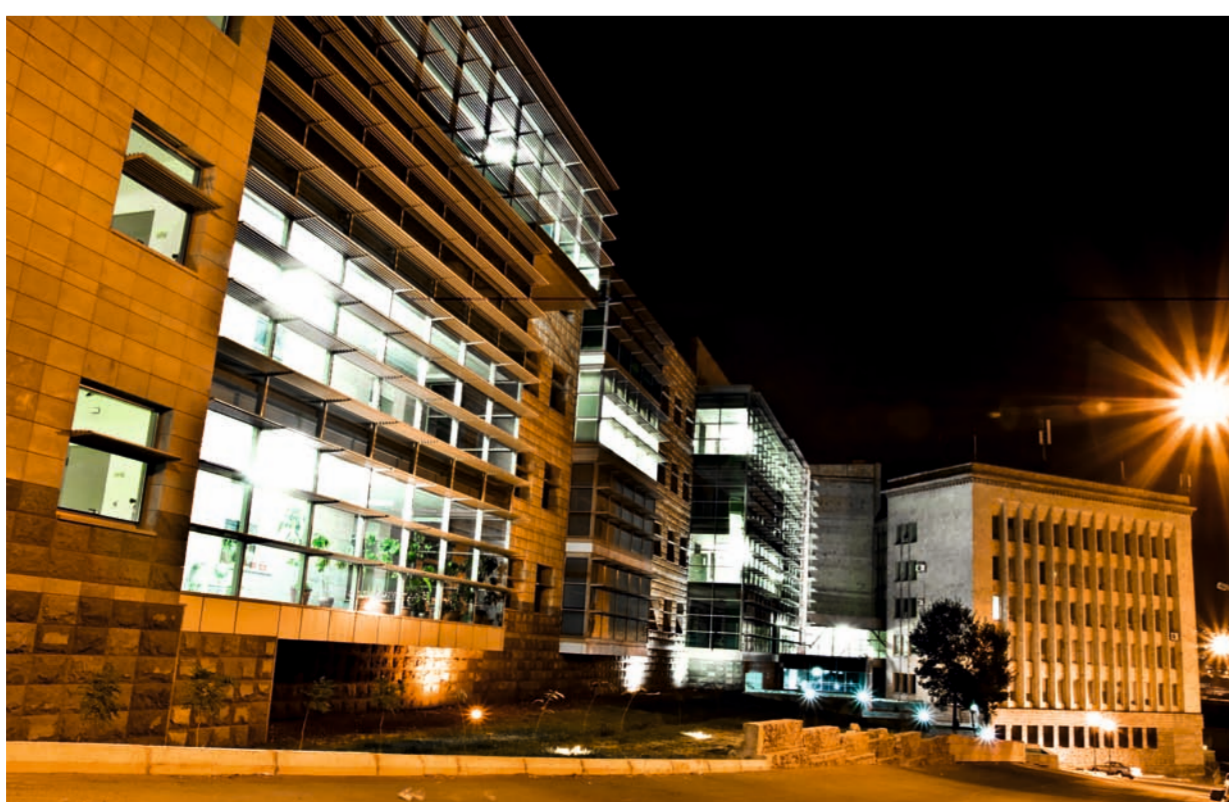
Dedication of the AUA Paramaz Avedisian Building

2008

- ◆ The Paramaz Avedisian Building opens with a grand ceremony. The PAB is a fully-equipped state-of-the-art educational facility that offers a superior learning environment exceptional not only for Armenia but for the entire region.
- ◆ The Center for Health Services Research and Development starts a three-year collaborative project “Epidemiology and Intervention Research for Tobacco Control in Armenia” with the Johns Hopkins Institute for Global Tobacco Control.
- ◆ The AUA Extension Program expands to Gyumri and Stepanakert.
- ◆ Through a generous donation by the Turpanjian Family Foundation, the AUA Digital Library of Armenian Classics completes digitization of 60 major authors of Western Armenian literature, 1850-2000.
- ◆ AUA hosts a faculty-led study abroad group from the University of Redlands in California.



The AUA Digital Library completes digitization of 60 major authors of Western Armenian literature





President Armenian and World Bank Country Manager Dr. Varoudakis sign Memorandum of Agreement



AAICU conference participants



AMICAL conference participants

2009

- ◆ A team of first year CIS students wins the Microsoft Imagine Cup Armenia competition.
- ◆ The Law Department launches the first LSAT to take place in Armenia.
- ◆ The World Bank Yerevan Office and AUA launch the Knowledge for Development Center at the AUA Papazian Library.
- ◆ AUA hosts the annual meetings for the Association of American International Colleges and Universities, and the American International Consortium of Academic Libraries.
- ◆ DEP convenes the first International Language Assessment Conference in Armenia with more than 150 international scholars in attendance.
- ◆ ACE convenes the first conference in Armenia on the use of GIS and Remote Sensing.
- ◆ The Turpanjian Rural Development Program provides training and financial support for the Program's 100th village entrepreneur.



The first International Language Assessment Conference in Armenia



The first conference on the use of GIS and Remote Sensing in Armenia



CIS students win the MICA competition



Bruce M. Boghosian,
the third President of AUA



Opening of the Akian Art Gallery



Tree planting
activity on campus

2010

- ◆ The AUA Board of Trustees appoints the University's third President, Dr. Bruce Boghosian. AUA opens the Akian Art Gallery.
- ◆ The Law Department successfully transitions to a thematic curriculum which simultaneously qualifies students for the LL.M.
- ◆ To celebrate the World No Tobacco Day, the Yerevan State Medical University and AUA convene the first Tobacco or Health Conference in Armenia.
- ◆ The Main Building of the AUA campus undergoes major renovation and modernization with funding from USAID ASHA.
- ◆ AUA and the US Embassy in Armenia launch the Mentoring Program for Women.
- ◆ DEP hosts IATEFL Virtual conference with 150 international participants and is awarded a grant to help improve the professional development of TEFL in Armenia.



Coalition for
Tobacco Free Armenia



Renovated classrooms and
offices of the Main Building

