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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA
Twenty Years of Advancement
1991–2011

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Mount Ararat viewed from the AUA student lounge

***This book is dedicated to all those who have laid a stone in founding
and advancing the American University of Armenia.***



The American University of Armenia (AUA) gratefully acknowledges the role of the Armenian General Benevolent Union, the University of California and the Armenian Government in founding the University and supporting its efforts over the years. AUA also appreciates the steadfast support of many other donor organizations, including the United States Agency for International Development through its American Schools and Hospitals Abroad program, the Lincy Foundation, the Manoogian-Simone Foundation, the Turpanjian Family Foundation, the Akhian Family Foundation, Edward and Pamela Avedisian and the long list of other foundations and individual donors who have given out of belief in the mission of the University and have helped the institution to flourish academically, technologically and structurally.

378,155
AME



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Congratulatory Messages

President of the Republic of Armenia	4
Supreme Patriarch and Catholicos of All Armenians	5
President, American University of Armenia	7
Mihran Agbabian, AUA Founding President	8
Armen Der Kiureghian, AUA Founding Dean	8
Yuri Sargsyan, Member, AUA Foundation Board of Directors	9
Haroutune K. Armenian, AUA President Emeritus	9
President, Armenian General Benevolent Union	10
Chair, American University of Armenia Corporation	10
President, University of California	11
Embassy of the United States of America	11
AUA Mission Statement	12
AUA History Through Photographs	15-77



ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՆԱԽԱԳԱՀ
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

Երևան, 5 սեպտեմբերի 2011թ.

ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՆ ՀԱՄԱԿԱՐԱԿՈՒ
ԳՐԴՆԵՆՈՂՆԵՐԻ ԱՄԱՆՈՒՄԱԿԱՆ ԿԱՍՏՈՒՆ
ՌԻՍՏԱՆՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԵՎ ԲԱՐԵՎԱՆԱԵՐԻՆ

Հարգելի՛ տիկնայք և պարոնայք,
Մյուսանց շնորհավորում եմ ձեզ Հայաստանի ամերիկյան համալսարանի 20-ամյակի կապակցությամբ:
Ուշագրավ է, որ ձեր կրթության առաջին աստիճանը մտել է լսարաններ հենց 1991 թվականի սեպտեմբերի 21-ին, երբ Հայաստանի ժողովուրդն իր ազատ կամարտահայտությամբ որոշեց հռչակել մեր երկրի անկախությունը: Այս օրերին, երբ մենք տունում ենք Հայաստանի անկախության 20-ամյակը, բուռն լիովին դրսևորել է իր կարողությունները մեր երկրի կրթության: Ուզում եմ հատուկ շեշտել Հայաստանի ամերիկյան համալսարանի հիմնադրման նախաձեռնողների ցանքերը, ովքեր Հայաստանի համար ծանրագույն տարիներին բողեղին իրենց տունն ու աշխատակցը և տեղափոխվեցին Հայաստան՝ համալսարանը հիմնելու և զարգացնելու նպատակով: Դրանք Հայաստանի ժողովրդի հետ ահգրան փորձությունների և ճակատամարտի ծանր շրջանն է, վստահ եմ, այսօր հպարտորեն են նայում իրենց աշխատանքի արդյունքներին:
Հայաստանի ամերիկյան համալսարանի շրջանավարտներն այսօր աշխատում են ամենատարբեր բնագավառներում՝ նպաստելով մեր երկրի զարգացմանը և բարգավաճմանը: Հենց դա էր Հայաստանի Հանրապետության նպատակը, երբ որոշեց «Հայաստանի ամերիկյան համալսարան» կրթությունը հիմնադրելու և ճակատամարտի այս ուսումնական հաստատությունը, որը պետություն-մասնավոր հատված համագործակցության վաղ և հաջողված օրինակ է:

Հայաստանի անկախության այս նոր փուլում մեր ամենակարևոր խնդիրներն են ժամանակին համընթաց քայլերը և քաղաքակրթության նորագույն ձևաբերումները մեր ժողովրդի համար հասանելի դարձնելը: Վստահ եմ, որ Հայաստանի ամերիկյան համալսարանի պրոֆեսորադասախոսական անձնակազմը և շրջանավարտների գիտելիքները և հարուստ ներուժը նետագայում կա պահանջված՝ կլինեն՝ իրենց արժանի կիրառումը գտնելով մեր երկրում:
Կրկին շնորհավորում եմ ձեզ, սիրելի՛ բարեկամներ, այս նշանակալի հոբելյանի առթիվ: Մաղթում եմ ձեզ նորանոր հաջողություններ, մանկավարժական ձեռքբերումներ և գիտական նվաճումներ:

Ս. Սարգսյան ՄԵՐՑ ԱՄԱՐԱՅԱՆ

ՆԱԵՐԿԱՐԻՆՆԻ ԳԱՏՐԻՈՒՐԻ
ԿԼԵՐԻԿԱԿՈՍ
ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ
ՄԻՅՏԻ ԱՅՈՒՆՈՒՐԻ ԷՃՊՐԿԵՐՆԸ



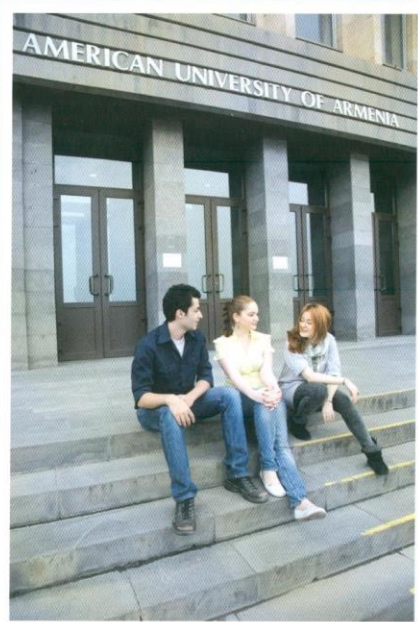
SUPREME PATRIARCH
CATHOLICOS
OF ALL ARMENIANS
MOTHER SEE OF HOLY ETCHMIADZIN

Թիվ 1539 8 սեպտեմբերի, 2011 թ.

ՍԵՃԱՐԳՈՒ
ՏԻՄՐ ԲՐՅՈՒՄ ԴՈՂՈՍՅԱՆ
ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՆ ՀԱՄԱԿԱՐԱՆԻ ՆԱԽԱԳԱՀ
Երևան

Հայաստանի Ամերիկյան համալսարանի մեծարգո Նախագահ,
Մայր Աթոռ Սուրբ Էջմիածնից ողջույն ենք հղում Ձեզ՝ Հայաստանի Ամերիկյան համալսարանի հիմնադրման 20-ամյա տարեդարձին նվիրված հանդիսության առիթով: Հայրապետական Մեր օրհնությունն ենք բերում Ձեզ, և Մեր շնորհավորանքները՝ համալսարանի ղեկավարին, դասախոսական կազմին, սաներին ու շրջանավարտներին և բոլոր ճրանց, ովքեր աջակցություն են բերել այս հաստատության կայացմանը և շարունակում են գորակցել համալսարանի առաքելությանը:
Երկու տասնամյակներ անց, երբ մեր ժողովուրդը համազգային ջանքերով վերահաստատեց անկախ իր պետականությունը, մոր, ազատ պայմաններում սկսեցին գործել նաև հայոց կրթական հաստատությունները: Այդ ժամանակաշրջանում Հայաստանի Հանրապետության և Միացյալ Նահանգների Իշխանությունների, ինչպես նաև Հայկական Բարեգործական Ընդհանուր Միության և Կալիֆորնիայի համալսարանի համատեղ ջանքերով կյանքի կոչվեց Ամերիկյան համալսարանի հիմնադրումը: Կարճատև ժամանակամիջոցում այս կրթությամբ դարձավ Հայաստանի Հանրապետության մեծահամբավ բարձրագույն ուսումնական հաստատություններից մեկը: Ուրախությամբ ենք անդրադառնում, որ ըստ տարիների ընթացքում դասախոսների փորձառության և մեթոդական մեծ ջանքերի շնորհիվ արձանագրվել են նշանակալի հաջողություններ, պատրաստվել են տարբեր ապարեզներում արագաակոր գործունեություն իրականացնող բարձրակարգ, արհեստավար մասնագետներ: Այսօր համալսարանի շրջանավարտներն իրենց բարի ծառայությունն են մատուցում ի խնդիր

հայրենի մեր երկրի առաջընթացի՝ իրականացնելով կրթական այս հաստատության նպատակը՝ նպաստ բերել հայոց պետականաշինությանը և Հայաստանի սոցիալ-տնտեսական զարգացմանը, մեր ժողովրդի առաջընթացին ու բարօրությանը:
Հայրապետական Մեր բարձր գնահատանք ենք հայտնում համալսարանի ղեկավարին ու դասախոսներին, որ ջանք ու եռանդ են ներդրում իրենց գիտելիքները փոխանցելու սիրելի ուսանողներին, զորացնելու նրանց իմացությունը, ոգին ծառայանվիրումի: Մաղթում ենք, որ Ամենակալն Աստված շնորհագարդի ձեզ և հանապազ օրհնի ձեր բոլոր նախաձեռնությունները՝ ամրագրելու նորանոր ձեռքբերումներ:
Հայրապետական Մեր սերն ու օրհնությունն ենք բերում նաև բոլոր ուսանողներին՝ հորդորելով, որ քաջեստանը լինեն ուսման մեջ, և նախաձեռնվողի՝ Հայրենիքին ծառայության, համայն մեր ժողովրդին նվիրական սպասավորություն բերելու գործում:
Թող Հայաստանի Ամերիկյան համալսարանը Աստծո բարեբաղ օրհնության ներքո շարունակի իր առատ հունձը մատուցել մեր երկրին ու ժողովրդին:
Շնորհք, սեր և ողորմութիւն Տեսան մերոյ Յիսուսի Քրիստոսի եղիցին ընդ ձեզ և ընդ ամենեանսնոր, ամէն:
Օրհնությամբ՝
Գրիգոր Բ
ԳՐԻԳՈՐ Բ
ԿԱՌՈՒՐ-ԿՈՍ ԱՄԵՆԱՅՆ ՀԱՅՈՑ



Toward a brighter future...



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԱՄԵՐԻԿԱՆ ՀԱՄԱԼՍԱՐԱՆ

20 Years of Advancement • Չարգացման քսանամյակ



On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the American University of Armenia, I extend my warm congratulations to the university's founders and trustees, to its faculty and staff, to its students and alumni, and to the broad community of supporters and donors throughout the world who have contributed to the success of this remarkable institution. As the third president of AUA, I am honored to join this unique community of scholars, administrators and professional staff, dedicated to the goal of improving higher education in Armenia. It is a pleasure to serve an institution that endeavors to bring to Armenia the ideals of excellence in scholarship, freedom of inquiry, active citizenship and public service.

Coincident with its twentieth anniversary, AUA is about to release a strategic plan for the years 2011-2017 that will call for unprecedented growth, including the addition of an undergraduate program. This will allow the university to admit up to four times as many students per year as we do now, and to admit them at a younger age. At the same time, AUA is reaching out to expand its contacts with government, industry and other academic institutions in both Armenia and the US. It is redoubling its international recruitment efforts, and planning for expansion of its summer offerings and abroad programs. It is exploring new modalities of scholarship for its faculty and researchers in order to encourage interdisciplinary studies, integrate teaching with research and public service, and nurture entrepreneurship. We expect that these initiatives will transform the institution in essential ways over the next decade, consistent with the most important aspects of AUA's mission.

In the years to come, we expect that AUA will become more international in character, with a more diverse student body. We expect that it will offer interdisciplinary majors in a variety of new fields and degree programs ranging from bachelor's degree to PhD. We expect that AUA will have more full-time faculty who will involve students in cutting-edge research worthy of publication in international journals of the highest caliber.

In the years to come, we expect that AUA will have an even larger faculty and research staff who combine excellence in scholarship with public advocacy in

fields such as environmental science, public health, green energy and sustainable business practices. We expect that the university will leverage its intellectual property by incubating small businesses that will inject new vitality into the Armenian economy.

In the years to come, we expect that AUA will be very well known throughout Armenia, the Armenian Diaspora, and the higher education community of Eurasia. It will have an enlarged, active and supportive alumni organization, and a much broader spectrum of active donors. It will have recently completed a capital campaign that will have significantly expanded its endowment. It will maintain its "need-blind" admissions policy and will expand its financial aid programs, so that it will remain the case that we never lose a student because of inability to pay tuition.

In the years to come, we expect that AUA will have an important and ever-increasing impact on Armenia's educational infrastructure. It will provide unique new opportunities that will stem the feeling among the country's best students that they have to emigrate in order to receive an excellent higher education. It will also attract many of those excellent students who have already emigrated to return to desirable faculty positions in Armenia.

These are enormous challenges to be sure. They could not be pursued without a skilled and dedicated workforce. It is deeply gratifying to see the enthusiasm and eager anticipation with which the faculty and staff of AUA have embraced the challenges that lie ahead. The days to come will surely be demanding, but this is a moment when all who have been involved in the university can pause to take pride in the accomplishments of this institution, the impact that it has already had on higher education in Armenia, and the promise of an even brighter future.

Congratulations to all on AUA's twentieth anniversary!

Bruce M. Boghosian

Bruce M. Boghosian, PhD
President

Congratulatory Messages

The Spitak earthquake of December 1988 and the collapse of the Soviet government in 1991 attracted many institutions and persons to visit Armenia for humanitarian aid and for providing guidance in free market economics. Cooperative programs between Armenia and the Diaspora were encouraged.

One of these cooperative programs was the founding of the American University of Armenia (AUA). It was founded with the support of the governments of Armenia and the United States and the participation of the Armenian General Benevolent Union and the University of California.

Classes began on September 23, 1991 with 101 graduate students as Master's degree candidates. This was the day when the Armenian Parliament declared independence. This year we are celebrating the twentieth anniversary of Armenian independence as well as the founding of the American University of Armenia.

These pictures do not tell the whole story. They are simply a recollection of some of the events and people who were instrumental in the establishment of AUA. They also reflect the enthusiasm of faculty, administration, students and staff as participants.

The American University of Armenia has become a constructive alternative to the educational system of Armenia. It is helping Armenia find its legitimate place among the nations of the world.



Dr. Mihran S. Agbabian
AUA Founding President

The American University of Armenia is 20 years old! As in the life of a youngster, this age marks an important passage in the life of the University. It marks maturity of its academic programs and institutions, expansion of its circle of associates, alumni and supporters, an enhanced sense of responsibility towards the society it serves, and a greater potential for growth.

This anniversary also brings about a well deserved pride for the great many accomplishments that have been achieved during the past 20 years, chief among them the more than 2,100 alumni who have gone on to build successful careers and to contribute to making a better society. This has been possible with the hard work of the faculty, staff, students and University administration and Boards, but also because of the unwavering support of the founding institutions, the AGBU, the University of California and the Ministry of Higher Education of the Republic of Armenia, and the many donors who have vested their trust and generosity in the University. As someone who has been with the University from the moment of inception of its idea, I take enormous pride in its accomplishments. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to all those who have made the University possible. I also wish success for continued advancement and growth of the University, for which I believe it is now well poised.



Dr. Armen Der Kiureghian
AUA Founding Dean of Engineering

Congratulatory Messages

Հայաստանի աներիկյան համալսարանը բոլորեց իր օճնդյան երկրորդ տասնամյակը: Խորհրդանշական է, որ համալսարանն իր գործունեությունը սկսեց Հայաստանի անկախության հռչակման օրը՝ հաստատելով իր պատմական առաքելությունը նորանկախ հանրապետության համար: Համաձայն իր իրենատիրների հեռահար նտահղացման՝ նորաստեղծ հաստատությունը կոչված էր նպատակ արեւաբեր երկրաշարժից տուժած Հայաստանի արագացված հոգեբանական և տնտեսական վերածննդը, յուրահատուկ կամուրջ դառնալով արևմտյան և հայաստանյան կրթական համակարգերի միջև:



Համալսարանի 20-ամյա գործունեության արդյունքն այսօր ավելի քան տպավորիչ է. ներգործությունն իր միջավայրի վրա՝ անկիճելի, իսկ հաջողությունը՝ ակնհայտ: Համալսարանը Հայաստան բերեց տնտեսական փոխակերպման համար հույժ կարևոր ուսումնական մասնագիտություններ, առաջավոր միջազգային փորձ ու կրթական մոդելներ, վերջապես, մագիստրոսական նոր կրթական աստիճան՝ հնարավորություն ընձեռնելով մեր բուհերի շնորհաշատ շրջանավարտներին իրենց ուսումը շարունակել հայրենիքում, այլ ոչ՝ արտասահմանում: Բայց համալսարանի հիմնական հաջողությունը և այցետուփը, առաջին հերթին, նրա հազարավոր շրջանավարտներն են, որոնք կապան դերակատարություն ունեն երկրի կյանքի և շարժացման բոլոր ոլորտներում: Այդ գլխավոր հեռանկարով առաջնորդվող, նախաձեռնող և նորարար մեծնեղերն են նրա սերունդն է, որն այդքան պետք էր Հայաստանին:

Հոբելյանի արթիվ իմ ջերմագին շնորհավորանքներն են հղում ողջ համալսարանական համայնքին, մաղթում հետագա հաջողություններ արարման և առաջընթացի անվերջանալի ճանապարհին:

Յուրի Սարգսյան

Հայաստանի աներիկյան համալսարանի հոգաբարձուների խորհրդի անդամ,
Հայաստանի պետական ճարտարագիտական համալսարանի նախկին ռեկտոր

I have always professed that adversity is an opportunity for positive achievement. AUA is the product of the adversity of the 1988 earthquake that was turned into positive achievement.



In epidemiology we have the concept of herd immunity: when we have many immune persons in the community, the immunity of the group is more than the sum total of the immunity of its individuals. There is natural synergy that is developed by many becoming immune to the existing adversities in society. AUA is the product of such synergy through the engagement of many organizations, governments, individual donors, administrators, faculty, staff and students. But AUA also develops the immunity of its graduates to face many of the shortcomings of society.

Our situation as well as our model is quite unique. We believe that this is an institution that is here for the long term and we want to assure its enduring sustainability. Armenia needs the AUA as a new institutional model that others can continue to look up to and can emulate or benchmark to.

As we look forward, we project a continuous major role of AUA in the growth of Armenia. Because, as stated by Areen Armenian:

*But there still are
Undiscovered worlds
Unseen stars
In the vastness of this
Endless universe*

*Բայց դեռ կան
այնպիսիներ չգտնուած,
աստղեր չբեմաւում,
այս անսահման
փնտնելիքի մէջ:*

Haroutune K. Armenian, MD, DrPH
President Emeritus



It is with pride, a deep sense of accomplishment that we salute the 20th Anniversary of the American University of Armenia. Much has been said about the visionary initiative, clear mission, and persevering determination exemplified by the first students, faculty, staff and administration, that endured through the pains of coming to existence and growth of this unique academic institution that arose from the rubble of devastation to become a landmark, a window and a bridge to the world as well as a catalyst for new perspectives and transitional reform.

We feel pride that the Armenian General Benevolent Union, as one of the founding entities along with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia and the University of California, was once again the first to respond to the call of times and help provide the financial resources and influential network of individuals, to bring about one more fundamental structure, a beacon of hope and a symbol of new beginnings to our motherland.

We look back with a sense of accomplishment, because AUA has come a long way along in overcoming the many challenges which it encountered on its route to achievements. It has become a beautiful city university expanding its facilities and academic offerings. It has also contributed to the advancement of best practices and ideals of academic excellence, diversity, social responsibility and public service, in keeping with Armenia's long standing traditions of intellectual distinction. It has surely contributed through the well trained cadre of its more than 2000 graduates to date, who are making an impact on the political and socio-economic life of the country.

As AUA has grown, the academic scene in Armenia has also evolved becoming stronger and diversified. To sustain a unique and meaningful role, beyond being a historical initiative and model, AUA stands at a crossroads that call for a clear set of strategic goals that will enable it to become a distinctive institution of higher learning in Armenia. We are confident that under the capable leadership of Dr. Bruce Boghosian, and the support of its distinguished Board of Trustees and founding entities, AUA will meet the challenges of re-defining its role and continuing its primary mission of educating students to address the needs of Armenia and the region, for sustainable development, in a setting that values and develops academic excellence, free inquiry, scholarship, leadership, and service to society.

On behalf of AGBU's Central Board of Directors and myself, I salute and congratulate the students, faculty, staff and administration of AUA, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia, and the University of California, on the 20th Anniversary of the establishment of the American University of Armenia and wish them continued success in their most noble endeavors of academic and public service.

Sincerely,

Berge Setrakian
President

Dr. Bruce Boghosian
President
American University of Armenia
40 Baghramian Avenue, Yerevan 0019
Republic of Armenia

Dear Bruce:

Hearty congratulations on the 20th anniversary of the American University of Armenia! The entire AUA university community can be immensely proud of what the university has accomplished during its twenty years. We in the University of California share this pride and consider our academic contributions to AUA to be one of our most important endeavors outside our university.

It has been most fulfilling for me to follow the development and maturation of AUA for most of its twenty years. It has been my distinct pleasure to have served as Board Chair of AUA for almost exactly two-thirds of this period, coinciding with my time as Provost and Senior Vice President - Academic Affairs of the University of California, continuing for a few years afterwards, and now again for the past 2 years.

I am also pleased to have been a part of bringing higher education in the American style to the Republic of Armenia. It is clear that AUA graduates have vital roles in the continued development of Armenia. I much look forward to the planned expansion of AUA's degree offerings and enrollment.

With all best wishes to you and AUA for continued success,

Sincerely,

C. Judson King
Chair
American University of Armenia Corporation
And
American University of Armenia Foundation



1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, California 94607-5200
Phone: (510) 987-9674
Fax: (510) 987-9086
<http://www.ucop.edu>

September 30, 2011

September 12, 2011

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

Dear Friends:

I am sorry I cannot be with you to join in celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the American University of Armenia, but I am delighted to have this opportunity to offer, on behalf of the University of California community, our warmest good wishes on two decades of distinguished service to the advancement of learning. The American University of Armenia stands as a shining example of the extraordinary vision and the dedication to the pursuit of excellence that the people of Armenia have shown in the development of this extraordinary community of learning.

The University of California takes enormous pride in our long association with such a dynamic enterprise. From the earliest stages of the AUA's planning, through its historic founding on Armenia's Independence Day, it has been our honor to be a partner in this exceptional international cooperative effort to expand and enhance educational opportunities in Armenia. We have welcomed and embraced the remarkable opportunity to assist in offering higher education in the American style to the people of Armenia. It is the University of California's firm belief that a diversity of educational approaches is healthy, and it has been our distinct pleasure to join our approach with the other models of higher education in Armenia.

I am pleased to convey to the American University of Armenia's community of learning the University of California's gratitude for the fruitful and cordial cooperation that has existed between our two institutions through the years, along with our desire to continue to strengthen those ties that bind our institutions together in our common desire to further the cause and the purpose of higher education in society. We extend congratulations and good wishes to the American University of Armenia and to the Republic of Armenia for continuing distinction and success in the years ahead.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mark G. Yudof
President

Dear AUA Community:

The U.S. Embassy is proud of its enduring relationship with the American University of Armenia and congratulates this important institution on twenty years of academic excellence. AUA is a beacon of intellectual inquiry, professional development, and academic integrity that provides an important public service.

Over the last two decades, AUA has prepared young Armenians to find solutions to today's challenges and serve as leaders in a complex world. Today AUA graduates work in Armenia and across the globe to promote the public welfare and improve the world in which we live. The U.S. Embassy honors AUA's achievements and looks forward to many more years of partnership.

Sincerely,

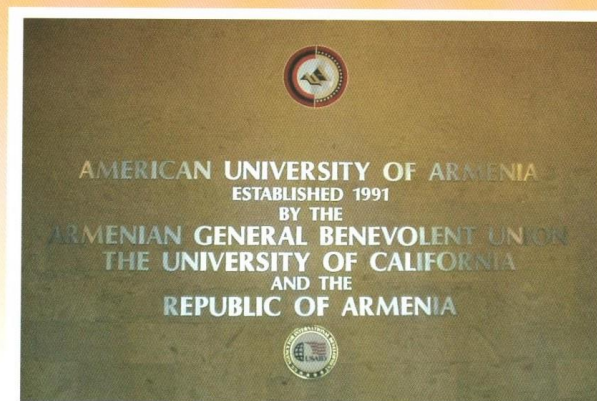
Bruce Donahue
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



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.



July 1990: University of California delegation headed by Bill Frazer visiting HH Vazgen I Catolikos of All Armenians during their fact-finding mission for establishing the university



The University dedication plaque in the Milran and Elizabeth Agbabian Hall in the Main Building

AUA History at a Glance

The post 1988-earthquake months and years were a time of active involvement by Armenians throughout the United States and elsewhere in the world. With the devastation caused by the earthquake and the signals of a deteriorating Soviet regime, the question was not whether or not to help the recovery process; rather, the pivotal issue was deciding what type of assistance or initiative would make the highest and most optimal impact on Armenia.

It would be impossible to capture, in this brief history, the sentiments, aspirations, and willpower of those few Armenians who vigorously pursued the idea that founding an American University in Armenia would be the most lasting gift to their motherland. It took many trips to Armenia and numerous months of hard work to shape the strategic alliances necessary for organizing and funding the initiative.

The seminal team of Drs. Mihran Agbabian and Armen Der Kiureghian soon grew to include Mrs. Louise Manoogian Simone (at the time President of the Armenian General Benevolent Union), Dr. William Frazer, in his capacity as Senior Vice-President for Academic Affairs and Provost of the University of California system, and Professor Stepan Karamardian (deceased) of UC Riverside.

Long hours and tireless efforts by the formation team culminated in the resolution by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Armenia to authorize and support the establishment of the American University of Armenia (AUA) and the allocation of the University's main building.

The first Board of Directors was formed with Mihran Agbabian, AUA President Emeritus; Professor Emeritus, Earthquake Engineering, University of Southern California;

Babken Ararktsyan, former Chairman, National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia; William Frazer, Senior Vice President Emeritus, Academic Affairs, University of California; Professor Emeritus of Physics, UC Berkeley; Vartkes Gnooni, former Minister of Higher Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia; Gagik Haroutunian, Chairman,

Constitutional Court and Former Vice President of the Republic of Armenia; Vilik Haroutunian (deceased), former Minister of Higher Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia; Meredith Khachigian, former Regent, University of California; John Marcum, Director, Education Abroad Program, University of California; and Louise Manoogian Simone, Chairman, Armenian General Benevolent Union.





1991

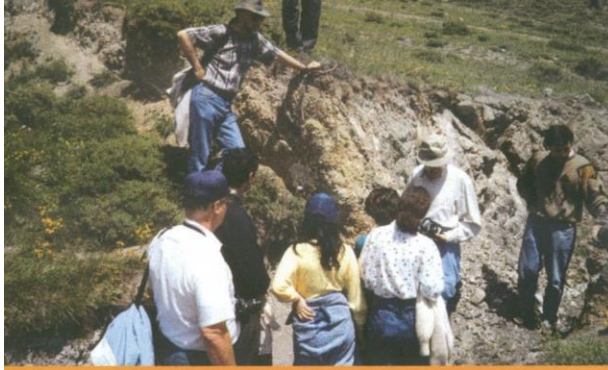
Classes began on September 23, 1991 with 101 students enrolled in the Intensive English program. In the following year, these students would enter the degree program of their choice: Business Management; Industrial Engineering; or Earthquake Engineering. (Main building viewed from Baghramyan Ave.; The founders of AUA; The old university library; Book donations begin to arrive at the AUA library.)





A formal affiliation agreement was signed between the University of California and AUA. (Signing of the affiliation agreement with the University of California; AUA English Language Program; Prof. Yuri Sargsyan on Opening Day; Opening Day at AUA.)





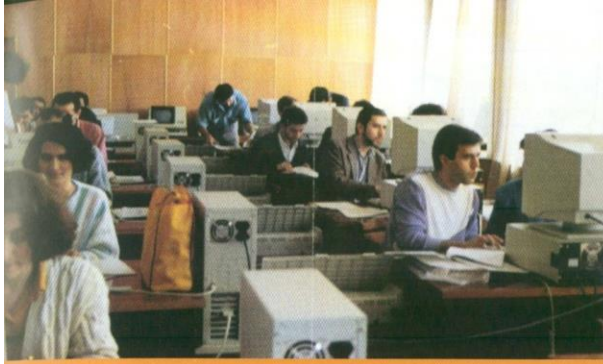
1992

Two new programs were added: Teaching English as a Foreign Language certificate program; and the Extension Program offering condensed courses and training, thus extending AUA's reach to the general public. (AUA students with Professors Bruce Bolt and Armen Der Kiureghian on a field trip to the Spitak fault that generated the December 7, 1988 earthquake; Computer Lab; Class of English as a Foreign Language; Staff training on personal well-being)

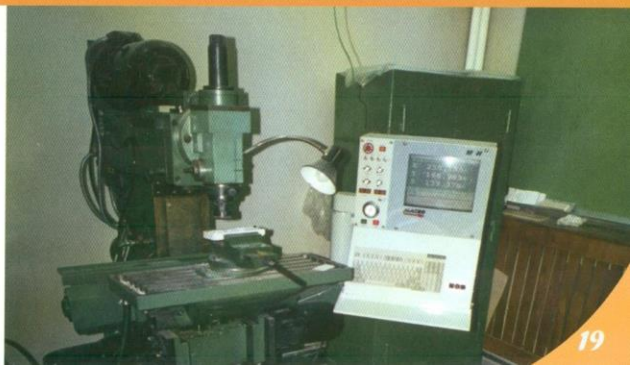


18





In the same year, several centers were established: the Environmental Conservation and Research Center to promote research and lead the required introductory course on environmental science; the Center for Business Research and Development to conduct "western-style" research and to offer consulting services to private and non-profit organizations; the Engineering Research Center for research in industrial engineering and renewable energy. (Students practicing in the computer lab; A book in Economics published by the Center for Business Research and Development; Intensive English Program class; CAD-CAM lab.)



19



1993

The University held its first Commencement ceremony in 1993. The first master's degrees were granted to thirty eight men and women in Business and Management; ten in Industrial Engineering; and five in Earthquake Engineering. (Mrs. Louise Manoogian Simone addressing the first graduates; Dr. Theomy Condos, Special Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees speaking at the Commencement; First Commencement Day at AUA; Graduates rejoicing after the Commencement.)



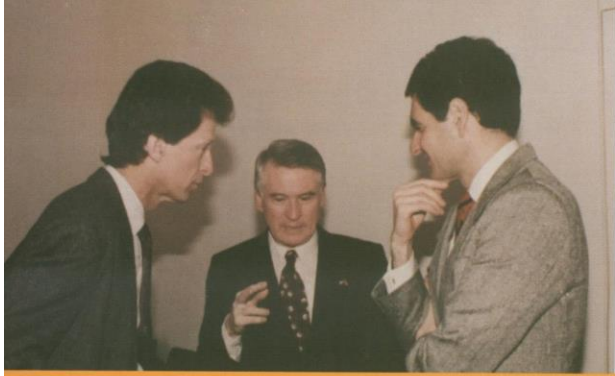
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The Birds of Armenia Program is launched to increase environmental awareness in Armenia. Several books were published in future years for community education and outreach, promoting birding and local involvement in environmental conservation. (Madeleine K. Albright, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations visiting AUA; Career Day at AUA; U.S. Senator Paul Simon speaking at AUA; Test of English as a Foreign Language.)



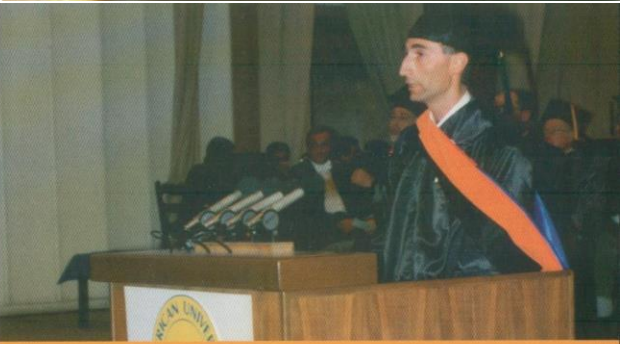
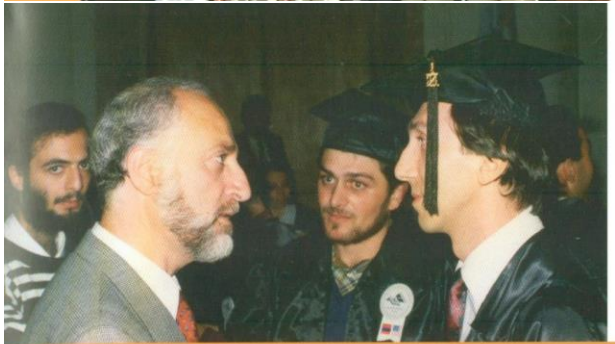


1994

In this year, AUA established the School of Political Science and International Affairs, offering a Master of Arts in Political Science and International Affairs. (U.S. Ambassador Harry Gilmore at AUA; The second graduating class with faculty, family and friends; AUA students and faculty; AUA Papazian Library.)



22



In the same year, the alumni got organized into forming the Alumni Association with the purpose of creating a network of AUA alumni that would collectively support the fulfillment of their individual potential in supporting the development of the Republic. (Dean Armen Der Kiureghian with graduates; Valedictorian A. Hambarian; A group of graduates; U.S. Ambassador H. Gilmore with AUA students and faculty.)



23



1995

The College of Health Sciences was established, offering a Certificate in Public Health in affiliation with the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. The Center for Health Services Research and Development started 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. *(Signing of the agreement with Johns Hopkins University; College of Health Sciences faculty; AUA Open House; Class in Public Health.)*



24





In the same year, AUA established the Turpanjian Center for Policy Analysis (TCPA) dedicated to conducting multidisciplinary applied policy research on a broad spectrum of contemporary social, political, and legal topics. (Students and faculty working together at TCPA; A group of MBA graduates after defending their Master's project; Public lecture; A view of the general audience of the Commencement.)



1996

Armenia's need for specialists capable of creating the legal foundation and for staffing the institutions that support the needed reforms led to the establishment of the two-year Master of Law degree program. The AUA Law School has fostered major movements in Armenian law, including the reforms to transition to a free market economy and other laws. (AUA faculty meeting; Class in Law; Initiation of collaboration with the RA Ministry of Health; A group of AUA students.)





In the same year, the Certificate Program in Public Health expanded into a full Master of Public Health degree providing health professionals a thorough grounding in population-based approaches to health sector problem identification, investigation, analysis, and managed response. (Graduates of the School of Business and Management; Graduates of the School of Political Science; Students of the School of Public Health; AUA faculty and guests.)



27



1997

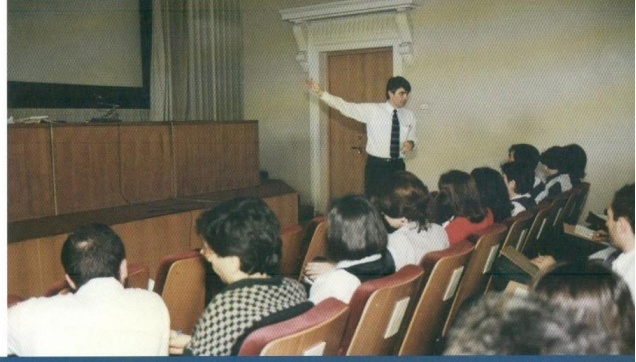
Dr. Haroutune K. Armenian was appointed as the second President of AUA. In the same year, the Legal Research Center was established as an integral component of the Law Department providing access to new publications and Internet-mediated databases covering all areas of relevance to law-based governance. (President Armenian addressing the AUA community; Anti-tobacco conference; Public lecture; Legal Research Center.)

The Master of Arts in degree combined the language teaching, (T and Legal Research Co



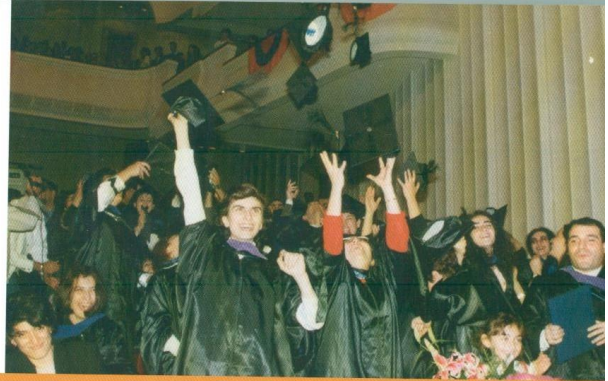
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The Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) program was established to complement the Certificate Program. The degree combined theory and practical skills providing students an opportunity to conduct research in the field of applied linguistics and language teaching. (TEFL students; Public lecture at AUA; Students working in the computer lab; Open house showing the Law Department and Legal Research Center desk.)





1998

In recognition of the trend towards greater use of information technology, AUA initiated a minor in Information Technology under the umbrella of Industrial Engineering and Systems Management. The Program emphasizes the use of computer and information technologies. *(The stage on Commencement Day; Graduates; Open House; Computer Lab.)*

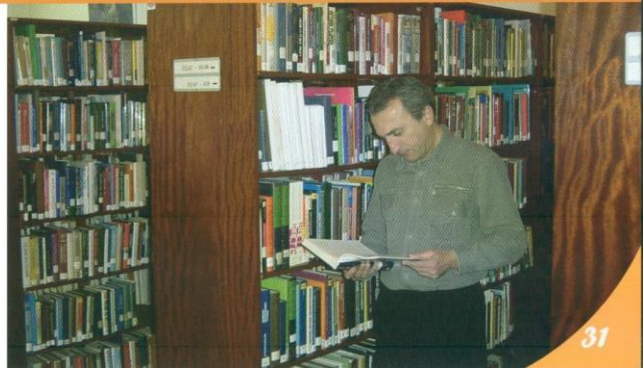


30





The minor in Information Technology consisted of a minimum of five courses on such topics as information systems analysis, design of databases, Java and C++ programming, and computer-human interfaces. (U.S. State Department representatives at AUA; Graduates of TEFL; AUA Papazian library instructional resources; AUA's growing library collection.)





1999

In this year, the U.S. Congress allocated \$9.6 million to the AUA Endowment Fund. The Environmental Conservation and Research Center (ECRC) began offering a certificate program to second year students who want to include a specialization in environmental research in their graduate studies. *(Commencement faculty and guests on the stage; General view of the audience in the large auditorium; ECRC key staff and researchers; ECRC.)*





The Engineering Research Center launched a first-ever international solar energy project to heat and cool the AUA Small Auditorium. The Digital Library project began to develop electronic versions of classical Armenian literature, a project deemed essential for the preservation of the cultural heritage of Armenia and the wealth of Armenian literature and for it to become accessible to a broad audience of readers and students of Armenian culture. *(Engineering Research Center staff; Solar energy project; Digital Library project presentation; Digital Library project leaders.)*





2000

The Garo Meghriyan Eye Institute for Preventive Ophthalmology (GMEIPO) was established by the College of Health Sciences for the implementation of blindness prevention projects throughout Armenia. The Master of Comparative Legal Studies program started in this year, enabling students from other fields to participate in addressing rule-of-law challenges confronting the region. (Opening of GMEIPO; Patients of GMEIPO; Faculty and students of the Law Department; U.S. Ambassador Lemmon and Mrs. Louise Simone at AUA Commencement.)





The ISCT-funded Information Technology course provided retraining of former programmers and other technical professionals. The Extension Program began a four-year project offering English courses in Gyumri. (IT course participants; Extension program class in Gyumri; Computer lab; AUA cafeteria.)

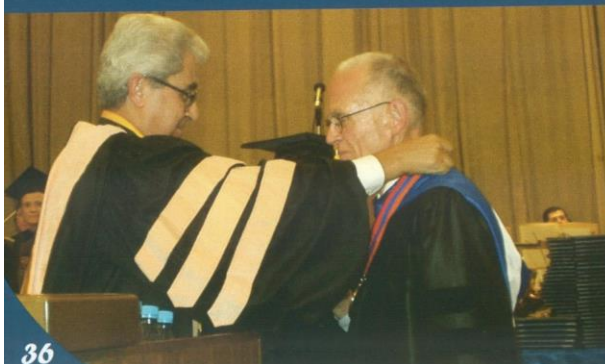


35



2001

AUA celebrated a Decade of Achievement. RA President Kocharian bestowed the Movses Khorenatsi medal to Dr. Mihran Agbabian and Dr. Armen Der Kiureghian, and AUA President Armenian, for their outstanding achievements in education. Mrs. Louise Simone was awarded the Mesrop Mashtots medal for her support of Armenia's development. (RA President Kocharian presenting the medal; The three medal recipients; Vice President Fuller receiving the AUA medal from President Armenian; Cutting the 10th anniversary cake.)



36





Construction of the first phase of the AUA Center was completed in this year. The College of Health Sciences was accepted as a member of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region. The Digital Library project received the Armenia President's award as the Best IT Project accomplished in the past five years. (RA President Kocharian at recognition of the Digital Library as the Best IT Project; Graduating students; Homecoming of first group of graduates on AUA's 10th Anniversary; Use of modern technology in teaching English .)

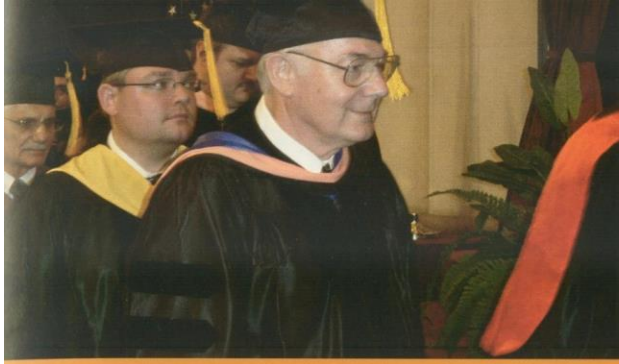




2002

The MS Program in Computer and Information Science was launched as an applied program to help students gain the necessary skills required to be productive leaders of the computing and related industries. Groundbreaking ceremonies took place for the new Paramaz Avedisian Building. (Members of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges at AUA; A few stakeholders of the solar energy project at AUA; Groundbreaking of the Paramaz Avedisian building; Dr. Aghabian at the groundbreaking.)





AUA reached a historic milestone in its institutional development as the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), the U.S. accrediting agency, recognized AUA as a Candidate for Accreditation in November. (*Procession at AUA Commencement; PSIA graduates; AUA faculty and staff; A group of AUA faculty and staff participating in a paragliding event at Mt. Hatis.*)





2003

AUA and San Francisco State University signed a Memorandum of Understanding in support of the Computer and Information Science program affirming their shared commitment to the values of intellectual freedom, educational excellence, and international cooperation. AUA launched Armenia's first student loan program, which provides tuition assistance to all qualified students. (U.S. Ambassador John Ordway addressing the graduates; Signing of the MOU with San Francisco State University; Graduating students at Commencement; AUA faculty and staff at genocide memorial on April 24th.)

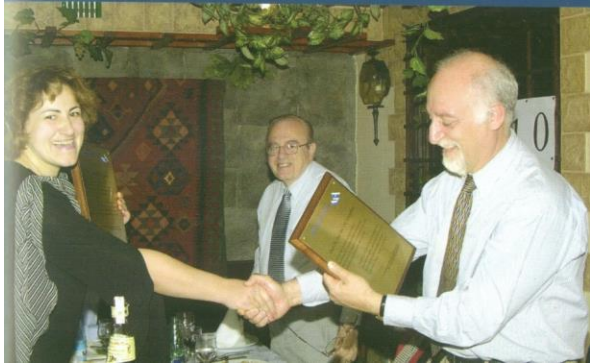


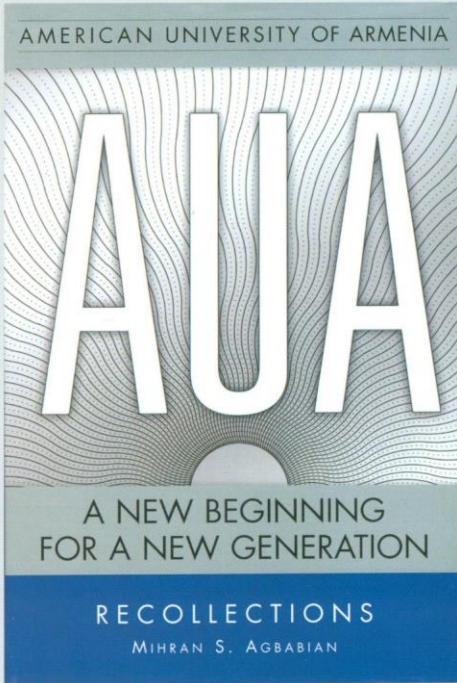
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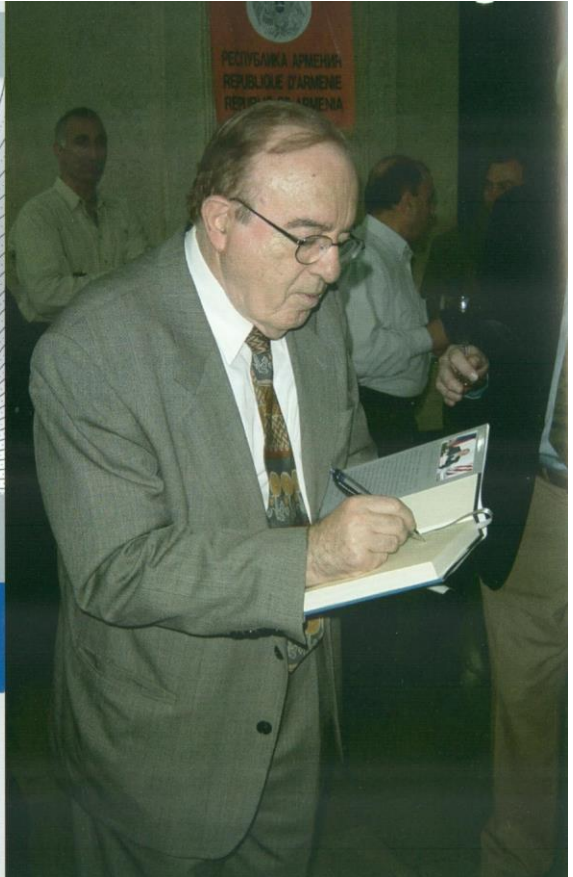


In the same year, AUA held the 8th World Seminar on Seismic Isolation, Energy Dissipation, and Active Vibration Control of Structures. The seminar brought together international academic and field specialists to exchange and disseminate information on new technologies in anti-seismic systems. This Seminar also promoted the implementation of innovative technologies in seismic retrofitting and new construction of housing, industrial facilities, and structures of cultural heritage. (Participants of the seismic seminar; PH public forum; Presenting the 'thank you' plaque to Dr. Der Kiureghian; Christmas at AUA.)





Dr. Mihran Agbabian signing his book after its public presentation at AUA



Tree planting at the AUA Center in honor of the founders of the American University of Armenia



2004

AUA established several scholarships: Turpanjian Family Foundation Scholarship; Stepan Karamardian Scholarship; Arpine and Arda Hovnanian Scholarship; Zaven O. Kodjayan Scholarship; Garmery Benevolent Association Scholarship; Richard R. Tufenkian/Armenian Educational Foundation Scholarship; and Harry Kullijian Scholarship. These scholarships join the existing five, which have provided long-standing support to AUA's best students. (New Student Council elected; President of AGBU, Berge Setrakian, speaking at AUA; Environmental panel discussion; Ladies Karamardian, Avedisian and Armenian at AUA graduation banquet.)





The AUA anti-tobacco campaign reached the RA National Assembly. In the same year, the Speaker of the National Assembly established two awards for AUA students. The Department of English Programs started the Center for Research and Development in Applied Linguistics and Language Teaching. (Anti-tobacco campaign at the RA National Assembly; Mrs. Hranush Hakobyan, chairperson of the NA Committee of Health and Social Affairs speaking on behalf of AUA's anti-tobacco campaign; Dr. Armenian presenting the AUA medal to Sona Hamalian; AUA student carnival)





2005

AUA hosted the second accreditation team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and successfully completed the first of two final reviews. The College of Health Sciences hosted the XXVII conference of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region with delegates from over 50 countries and five continents. (Time capsule placed in the foundation of the Paramaz Avedisian Building; WASC review process; Public lecture by Dr. Alfred de Zayas; ASPHER Conference at AUA.)





Through the generosity of AUA Board of Trustee member Mr. Vartkes Barsam, AUA acquired the HyeBusiness Suites Hotel, located in central Yerevan, to help meet the University's student and faculty housing needs. AUA became a Certified Test Administration Site for the Educational Testing Service, the organization responsible for tests such as the SAT, GRE, and GMAT. (Mr. and Mrs. Vartkes Barsam dedication day of AUA Barsam Suites; Former U.S. Ambassador John Evans speaking at AUA; Alumni dance; PH public forum.)





2006

AUA became a founding member of the consortium of American-style Academic Libraries of colleges and universities. In the same year, the Turpanjian Rural Development Program (TRDP) was launched, a 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, held an international workshop on Base Isolated High-Rise Buildings. (Law class; The former RA Minister of Education awarding medal to Mr. Turpanjian; Launch of TRDP; AMICAL conference.)



Fifty-two doctors and nurses in Nagorno Karabakh were trained in first aid and emergency skills by the Center for Health Services Research and Development as part of the United States Agency of International Development funded Humanitarian Assistance Program for Nagorno Karabakh. (Dr. Knuth of Stanford University at AUA; AUA at Education and Career Expo; AUA's 15th anniversary celebration; Family and friends of graduates at commencement reception.)





AUA football game



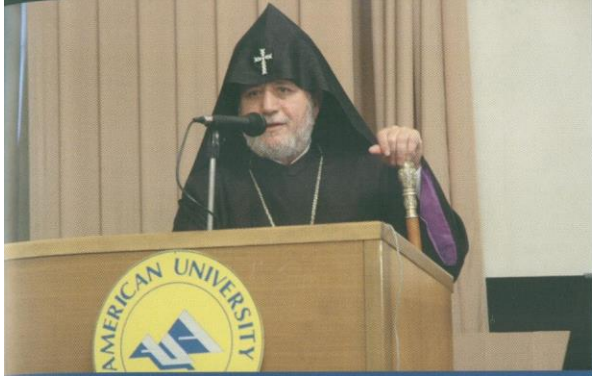
Chess contest at AUA



2007

AUA achieved U.S. accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, one of the regional accrediting bodies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The Board of Trustees of the American University of Armenia Corporation appointed Dr. Lucig H. Danielian as AUA Provost and Vice President. TRDP opened three field offices in Shirak and Tavush Marzes and in Nagorno Karabakh. (MBA class; Accreditation celebration; Playing backgammon at AUA July 4th picnic; AUA graduates working at AUA.)





AUA's Dr. Karen Aghababyan received the UK Whitley Fund for Nature Award for research combining environmental conservation research with education. The Legal Research Center organized a number of legal symposia for the public and provided curriculum development support for Armenia's new Judicial School. The AUA Barsam Suites began operations. (HH Karekin II at AUA; Dr. Karen Aghababyan receiving the Whitley Award; TRDP Conference on development challenges; 2007 graduates).





RA Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan with AUA students



AUA Student club activity



2008

This year marked the physical expansion of the AUA campus, with completion of the Paramaz Avedisian building (PAB) construction. The Center for Health Services Research and Development started a three-year collaborative project "Epidemiology and Intervention Research for Tobacco Control in Armenia" with the Johns Hopkins Institute for Global Tobacco Control. *(The new AUA campus, including the Paramaz Avedisian building; PAB Opening ceremonies; The stage at the PAB opening ceremonies.)*

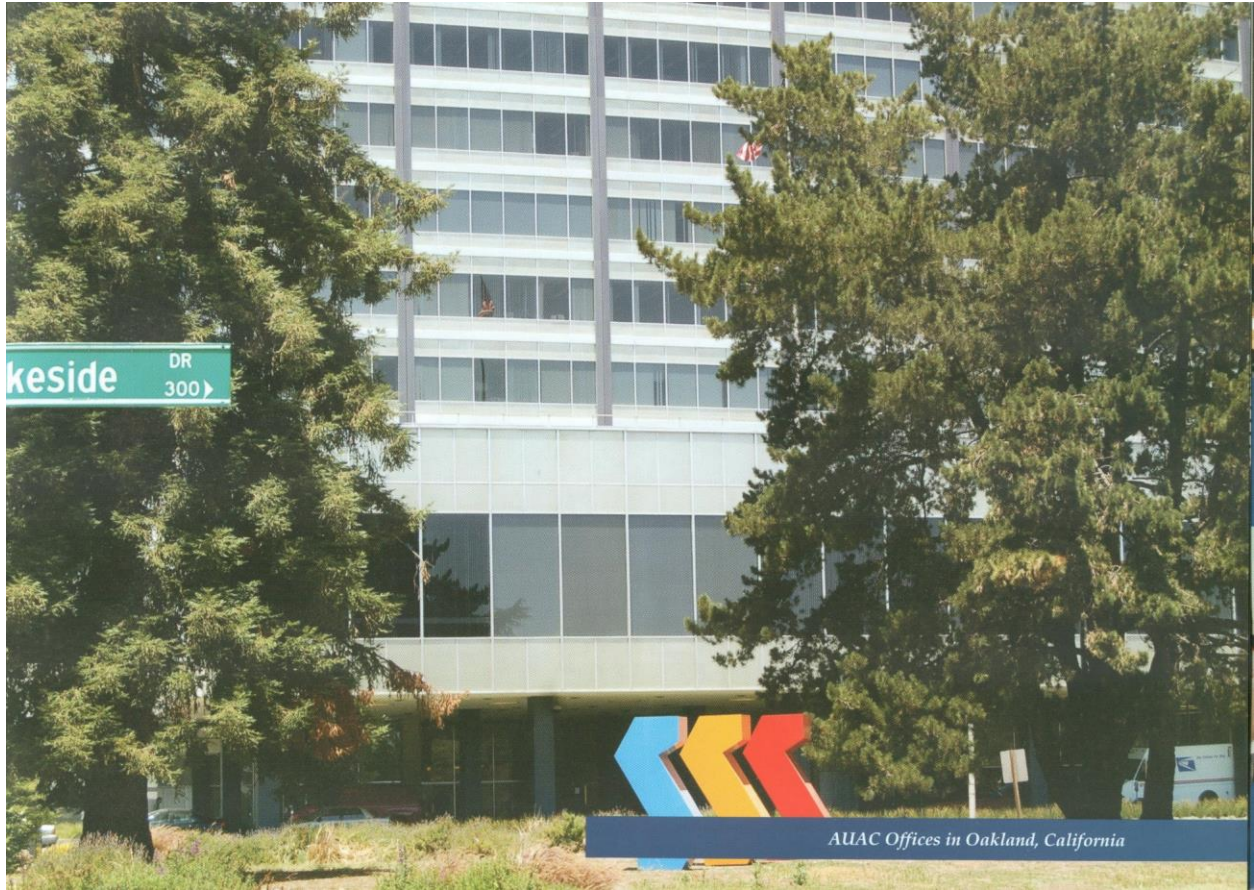




The AUA Extension Program expanded to Gyumri and Stepanakert. Through a generous donation of the Turpanjian Family Foundation, the AUA Digital Library of Armenian Classics completed digitization of 60 major authors of Western Armenian literature, 1850-2000. AUA hosted a faculty-led study abroad group from the University of Redlands in California. (AUA TRDP computer center in Artik, Shirak; AUA Open House; Law class; Greeting prospective students at the entrance of AUA.)







AUAC Offices in Oakland, California





Aghabians and Frazers on PAB room dedication day



2009

A team of first year CIS students won the Microsoft Imagine Cup Armenia competition. The Law Department launched the first LSAT to take place in Armenia. The World Bank Yerevan Office and AUA launched the Knowledge for Development Center. AUA hosted the annual meeting of the Association of American International Colleges and Universities and the meeting of the American International Consortium of Academic Libraries. (GIS Day at AUA; ILACA Conference; TRDP Annual Conference; Students receiving Environmental Science and Conservation certificate.)



The Department of English Programs convened the first International Language Assessment Conference in Armenia with more than 150 international scholars in attendance. The Acopian Center for the Environment convened the first conference in Armenia on the use of GIS and Remote Sensing. TRDP completed training and financial support to the Program's 100th village entrepreneur. (Presentation of work completed by the Digital Library; Videoconferencing with USA; International Language Assessment Conference; Faculty and students of the College of Health Sciences.)

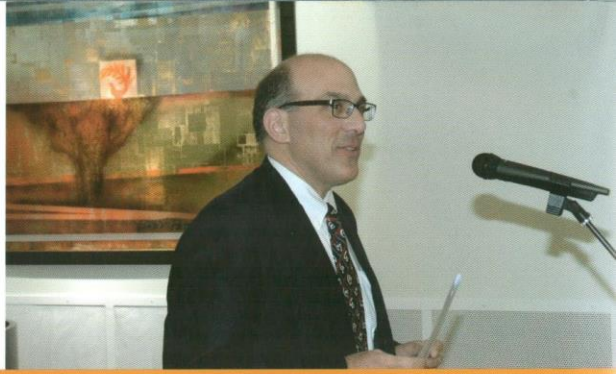




The stork adopted by ACE



ACE's environmental awareness raising activity



2010

The AUA Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Bruce Boghosian as the University's third President. AUA opened the Akian Art Gallery. The Law Department transitioned 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 convened the first "Tobacco or Health" Conference in Armenia. The Main Building of the AUA was renovated with funding from USAID ASHA. (Export Promotion Conference; President Boghosian welcoming guests at the Akian Art Gallery; Exhibition at the Akian Art gallery; "Tobacco or Health" Conference.)



66



AUA and the U.S. Mission in Armenia launched a Mentoring Program for Women. DEP hosted IATEFL Virtual conference and was awarded grant to help improve the professional development of TEFL in Armenia. (U.S. Ambassador Yovanovitch addressing at the Mentoring Program for Women; TEFL students; Musical concert at the Akian Art Gallery; SBM Class.)



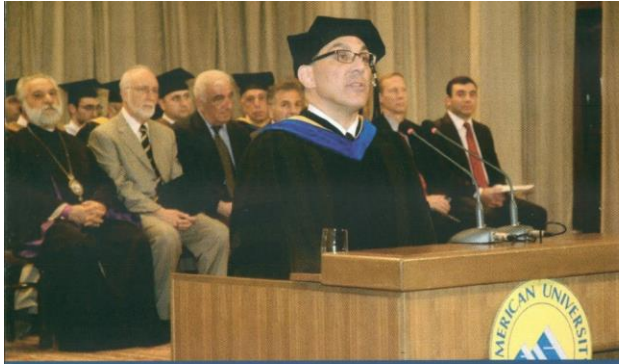
67



Chess tournament at AUA



Tennis tournament at AUA



2011

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the founding of AUA. Today, AUA is made up of 7 principal academic units and 3 research centers. The work of AUA faculty forms an important part of its *Twenty Years of Advancement*. Curriculum materials, research files, correspondence, and administrative records document not only the advancement of the university, but also the advancement of knowledge in all fields. (Dr. Boghosian speaking during commencement; RA Deputy Minister of Defense at AUA; Law Department lecture; AUA's Strategic planning process launch.)



2011

Continuous advancement defines AUA's past and future. AUA consistently follows its mission, always seeking out new ways to improve, expand its scope, and better serve the Republic of Armenia and the region as the leading institution for education, innovation, and intellectual progress. (Department of English Program class; A group of DEP students; College of Engineering students; PSIA students in class.)





The first Intellectual Property Moot Court for law students throughout Armenia is held at AUA. A team of CIS cryptography researchers and students initiated collaborative research projects with NTX Research and the Volkswagen Foundation. DEP organized the Armenian Ministry of Education and Science's English Olympiad and hosted a conference on Challenges and Opportunities for EFL Testing. Three MBA students received first place awards in the World Bank's nationwide essay competition. CBRD completed Phase I of the Ministry of Economy's Gyumri Technology Incubator Project. *(The AUA Registrar's office staff; Law Department; Students of SBM; AUA Papazian Library staff.)*





2011 Graduation party



2011 Graduation party

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