



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA
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April 28, 1994

Michael Kouchakdjian
Mhaer Alahydoian
Matthew Der Manuelian
Gayane Harutunian
Anahit Bayandour
David Siefkin

Vaughn Huckfeldt
Virgil Strohmeier
Natalia Tovmassian
Robert Tembeckjian
Ashot Voskanian
Aram Tarakhcian

Dear Committee Members:

Enclosed please find the minutes of the Planning Committee on "Armenia in the Year 2010", held on Tuesday, April 26, 1994.

As noted in the minutes, the title of the symposium "Armenia in the Year 2010" is simply a working title. Dr. Mihran Agbabian, President of the American University of Armenia, has suggested two titles for the symposium: "Perspectives and Options for the Republic of Armenia" or "Toward a Strategic Plan for Armenia" and has recommended that the following issues be considered for discussion:

1. The Making of the New Administrative State
2. Administrative Modernization
3. Armenia in the Next Decade - Hopes and Aspirations
4. The Redirection of Resources and Search for New Resources
5. Major Obstacles
 - Internal
 - External
6. The Prospects of Conflicts Resolution
7. Action, Accountability and Monitoring
8. Near Term and Long Term Evaluation Methodology of Plans and Action

The symposium will be coordinated through the University Extension Program, with the support of a Steering Committee. A distinguished Armenian professional will also be asked to serve as Honorary Chairman.

Should you have suggestions to make or concerns to share, kindly contact me before our next meeting to be held on Friday, May 20th, at 10:00 a.m. in the University Conference Room on the 6th floor.

Sincerely,

Sona Hamalian
Administrator
University Extension

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Planning Committee on "Armenia in the Year 2010", held on Tuesday April 26, 1994, at 2:30PM. Present were the following individuals:

Michael Kouchakdjian
Mhaer Alahydroian
Matthew Der Manuelian
Sona Hamalian
Gayane Haratunian
Vaughn Huckfeldt
Virgil Strohmeyer
Natalia Tovmassian
Robert Tembeckjian

Mr. Kouchakdjian chaired the meeting, and Mr. Tembeckjian acted as secretary.

At Mr. Kouchakdjian's request, Mr. Tembeckjian summarized the results of the Planning Committee's meeting of April 22, noting that the group (1) discussed holding a conference at AUA on the subject of Armenia's future, (2) discussed a variety of possible subjects to be covered at such a conference, (3) considered that the goal of the conference should be to identify a goal or vision for life in Armenia, (4) discussed a pre-conference publication of material and a post-conference report on the conference results but (5) reached no final decisions on any of these matters, or on the dates for such a conference, since planning had just begun and the participants wanted some time to think about various possibilities. Mr. Tembeckjian pointed out that even the title of the program, "Armenia in the Year 2010," was simply a working title.

Ms. Tovmassian expressed the hope that the program would concentrate on socio-economic issues, since this was of utmost importance for Armenia's future.

Mr. Strohmeyer suggested that the five substantive AUA disciplines -- engineering, business, political science, English (including education and culture) and public health -- would be natural subjects for such a conference, and that the five substantive AUA departments could help coordinate conference activities in those five areas.

Mr. Tembeckjian suggested that, rather than a short-term conference, having a lecture or seminar series over the course of an academic quarter might be appropriate. This would allow greater participation by native Armenians. Ms. Hamalian added that roundtable discussions might sometimes be appropriate, and that video-taping and editing the results of such a series would be useful, in addition to any publication.

Mr. Kouchakdjian said that the Extension Program was the appropriate forum for such an undertaking, since such a role was consistent with Extension's mandate and structure.

The participants discussed the possibility of running such a program over the ten weeks of the Autumn 1994 Quarter, with two sessions per week, and ten themes, *i.e.* one theme for each week. The group considered the following subjects, which includes the five substantive AUA fields:

Law
Computers/Information/Communications
Sciences
Economics
Business Management
Business Development
Political Science/International Relations
Engineering
Education
Public Health

Mr. Kouchakdjian suggested that committees be formed to work with Extension Director Sona Hamalian in each of the ten areas, to help with such tasks as identifying lecturers and roundtable participants. He also suggested that, where possible, each committee be chaired by a local Armenian professional in the particular field, to help maximize the participation of the local community in the program.

Mr. Strohmeyer stressed the importance of including within each of these areas, where relevant, environmental perspectives and concerns. He also urged that particular AUA students be involved in the project. In this respect, Mr. Tembeckjian suggested that ten AUA students could be designated as "secretaries" for the ten subject areas, responsible for working with the organizing committees and participating in the preparation of final report on the project. There was also some discussion as to whether a distinguished Armenian professional should be asked to serve as Honorary Chairman of the series, and it was agreed that Mr. Kouchakdjian and Ms. Hamalian should submit any such names for the consideration of the AUA President.

It was agreed that the group would meet again within two weeks, and that copies of the Minutes would be sent to Dr. Agbabian and First Lady Lucia Ter Petrosian, for their comments and guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert H. Tembeckjian