

December 14, 2009 Issue 7

## 7th Annual Diversity Week



The Diversity Week is an undividable part of the AUCA life. Do you know the feeling of walking in hallways and seeing a group of students in national clothes, and then other group, and then one more and all in different national costumes? Are you familiar with the feeling when one enters the AUCA, and is surrounded by the fabulous smell of delicious food from different countries and lost in choices of what to have for lunch? The Diversity week is the best reflection of the AUCA spirit itself, because the diversity week unites whole AUCA community. The diversity that everyday lives within AUCA becomes as obvious as never before, reflected in costumes, dances, songs, smells, food and completely diverse atmosphere. Sharing our differences with each other enriches every AUCA student, uniting us in understanding.







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## Dean of Students Column



### «Улыбнитесь, Вас снимают!»

Уважаемые студенты, преподаватели и сотрудники!

К сожалению АУЦА, хоть и менее криминален, чем любое другое место в подлунном мире, мы не может Вам гарантировать полную безопасность и безопасность вашего личного имущества.

Серия краж, которая произошли в последнее время, вряд ли может быть списана нами на то, что это лишь дело рук людей, которые незаконно проникли на территорию АУЦА благодаря благодушию секьюрити. Кстати говоря, здесь следует напомнить, некоторым любителям разговаривать с охраной в повышенных тонах, когда приходиться ковыряться в карманах в поисках карточки, - настраивая нашу охрану быть лояльными к людям без документов - мы открываем дорогу в АУЦА людям с отмычками. Прецеденты имеются...

Есть знаменитая фраза - «спасение утопающих - дело рук самих утопающих»...

Простая внимательность к личному имуществу поможет вам на 90% гарантировать себя от краж. Это общеизвестная истина.

Всех краж, которые произошли в последнее время, и от которых пострадали студенты могло бы не быть. Если бы мы не оставляли компьютеры на 20 минут без присмотра, не оставляли сумки где попало на час и т.д.

Для того, чтобы произвести кражу надобно не более 1-й (!) минуты. Вот и сопоставляйте факты.

Я провел беседу с господином Акымбаевым, главой нашей охраны, представителями студенческого сената...

Готовится комплекс мер, чтобы выявить человека (людей), которые у нас не чисты на руку. Мы будем заниматься этим и постараемся, чтобы дела дисциплинарные стали делами уголовными.

Но, как вы прореагируете на такую информацию:

Работник охраны видит, что на столах в коридоре лежат компьютеры без всякого присмотра в течение 15 минут. Он собирает их и несет начальнику охраны, просто из опасения, что их могут украсть... Через некоторое время хозяева компьютеров сбегаются Эргешу Осмонговичу с просьбой посмотреть показания камеры... Им возвращают компьютеры и предупреждают... Комедия!?

Будьте бдительны. Будьте внимательны. Ваша бдительность вовсе не оскорбительна для сообщества АУЦА. Она вполне нормальна. Не надо провоцировать потенциального воришку криминальный на поступок...

К сожалению, статистика говорит, что наибольшее количество краж в АУЦА происходит в первом семестре. Этому может быть масса причин. Не обязательно это дело рук фрешменов, и тех кто пришел к нам на подготовительное отделение. Но тем

### Student Coordinator Column

As a student coordinator, I usually write about events in AUCA. But this time I want to address my column to the person, in whom we truly believed in childhood and some of us still secretly believe in.

### Dear Ded Moroz!

For the new 2010 year, and further years, I would like to ask you to save AUCA spirit. So that we keep the best Orientation Week for freshmen students, have fun and laugh at ourselves during Spirit Week, have spooky Halloween, where students do not hesitate to dress up, fantastic Initiation that is known among other universities in Kyrgyzstan, wonderful, exceptional Diversity Week, beautiful Junior's Ball and ceremonial Commencement.

Please, save the fire inside the students, save the hope and joy in their hearts. Give the tolerance to our dear faculty and staff; we know how exhausting students can be.

Let the aspiration for knowledge and yearning for better be always our goal.

Let the class of 2010 successfully complete all requirements, pass exams and graduate. Let the class of 2011 have a wonderful Junior's Ball. Let the class of 2012 be as fun as they are now. Let the class of 2013 keep the fresh freshmen spirit.

Oh, and by the way. Let the Class of 2009 be always flourishing and lucky! Thank you.

P.S. I don't believe in Ded Moroz, or Santas. But I believe in AUCA spirit and I believe that students are the core of this spirit. And thanks to all professors who spend their lives to share their knowledge with us. Good luck on finals, dear students! Good luck on checking finals, dear professors!

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! See you in 2010!



## Conversation with the President

and study abroad, and the design and development of a particular class, course or curricular offering. Sometimes I join students at special events off campus as well, including performances, socials and outreach activities such as Rotary Bishkek at which most recently Rotoract,, the junior division of the Rotary Club which consists primarily of our own students, was the guest of honor.

Wonderful and inspiring as these small meetings may be, they are not enough to address the legitimate need of the entire student body to hear directly from the president of the University. I have no excuse other than that I am focused on the mix of fund raising, communicating, and faculty, staff, board, and student development that constitute the preponderance of my work. Your bringing this issue to my attention is a good thing that promises to lead to improved communication through The New Star and campus discussions.

Your newly elected Student Senate has also raised the communication issue with me, and we have agreed that I will hold open meetings with students at least once a semester. Academic Senate has suggested that we hold a student-wide essay contest on the meaning of the liberal arts at AUCA. Together with Student Senate we have thought to open up a University-wide discussion on this topic as a point of departure for the contest, to be sponsored jointly by the Academic Senate Sub-Committee on Student Life, the Student Senate and the Office of the President. This discussion can and should include questions about the Bard College partnership and the liberal arts mission of the University.

Your Student Senate has made a commitment to regular

И последнее. Самое главное.

В той или иной степени кражи случаются в АУЦА каждый год. Как, скорее всего, во всех учебных заведениях. Вопрос - насколько они перманетны и насколько наше сообщество способно находить воришек и избавляться от них. Так вот, со всей ответственностью заявляю - до этого времени были пойманы ВСЕ (!), повторяю ВСЕ студенты, которые занимались воровством. Вы можете верить мне, можете, нет, но это факты за последние 10 лет...

Их и сейчас немного... по опыту... ну один...два... вряд ли больше... И вероятность того, что они пересядут с учебной скамьи на скамью подсудимых очень велика... Близка к 100 процентам...

Будьте внимательны и не забывайте подавать заявления обо всех случаях, которые так или иначе помогут нам уличить вора...

**PS** До скорой встречи, господа мелкие воришки... До скорой и последней встречи...

Декан по делам студентов Н.Г. Шульгин

The "New Star" is launching the new project "Conversation" with the President", which will give every student the opportunity to address questions directly to the President through the pages of our newspaper. All you need to do for this is to send your question (with the headline "Conversation with the President") on thestar@auca.mail.kg

The first question is: Why is the communication between the President and the student body ineffective? Are there any ways to improve the communication?

*I very much welcome the opportunity to communicate* directly with our students through conversations in The New Star. I shall try to answer this question as directly and concretely as possible.

Each week when I am present on campus and not traveling on behalf of the University, I meet with groups of students about various matters of concern, including the comfort of international students in the University, the role of intellectual life on campus, plans for graduate study

attendance at our Academic Senate meetings, and this, frankly, would be a welcomed change from past practice. It has also requested that a second Senate rep attend jointly with the Chair of the Student Senate and the University Committee on Governance, which I chair, will consider this proposal at its next Committee meeting. Should they respond favorably to the request of the Student Senate then there will be two representatives serving on the Academic Senate regularly.

Communication is, of course, a two way street-those of us in the Office of the President must be accessible to you and you to us. I believe that The New Star and the Student Senate are deeply serious about accessibility and openness to candid dialogue about University matters. And so are we. Let us keep the two way street clear and open to considering together the challenges that we face. AUCA is a great University-together we can address all matters creatively and constructively.

### Ellen S. Hurwitz

New Star

## It's your opportunity

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## **Student Intellectual Life Committee Presents:**

"... far from being on the verge of a new order, the world has entered a period of great disorder. In facing these new dangers, a re-examination of old priorities is needed. Cultural diplomacy, in the widest sense, has increased in importance, whereas traditional diplomacy and military power... are of limited use in coping with most of these dangers."

### Walter Laqueur

I would like to express my gratitude to SILC committee for providing me with travel grant, Emir Kulov and Alexander Pugachev for all the help, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan, especially Mirgazy Maratovich, the Ambassador of Kyrgyzstan to Germany Maratbek Bakiev, and Issyk Kul local agencies for financial support. With the help of you all, I was able to have an unforgettable experience being part of the Weeklong Seminar "Forum for Young Leaders: Europe Meets Russia." Thank you!

### Day 1

The weeklong Seminar "Forum for Young Leaders: Europe Meets Russia" started with the welcome speech of Mark Donfried, Founder and Director of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy. He expressed his excitement about the seminar, which coincided with the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Mr. Donfried introduced the participants to the field of cultural diplomacy. The working definition for the seminar was provided by Milton C. Cummings Jr., which states that cultural diplomacy is "the exchange of ideas, information, values, systems, beliefs, and other aspects of culture, with the intention of " fostering mutual understanding." He told his favorite story or analogy, which highlights the importance of cultural diplomacy. "There was an island, where a monkey and fish lived. They didn't know each other and were living each on their own. Once they were given an information, that there is going to be a huge flood. The monkey thought: "I am a good climber, so when the flood comes I will climb on the highest tree and I will be fine." The fish thought: "I am a good swimmer, so when the flood comes I will swim with all my might against it, and I will survive." So, the flood comes, the monkey climbs on a tree and sits there, while the fish tries its best to swim against the flood. At this moment, the monkey notices the fish and realizes that he should help him. He stretches out its hand, catches the fish, and holds it until the water is gone. Consequently, the fish dies This story clearly shows that the better knowledge of the other and mutual understanding, ensured by cultural diplomacy, are crucial for better communication. The next speech was delivered by Janos Can Togay, Director of Hungarian Institute. He demonstrated how he used the building of the institute as a tool for cultural diplomacy. Films and archive footages were projected from inside, as well as from outside the building. As a result, people passing by the Hungarian Institute were able to see part of the exhibition project "German Unity at Lake Balaton." This intermedia exhibition tells personal stories of families, who were separated by the Berlin Wall. For these families, Lake Balaton became the only place where they could meet.

### Day 2

The Second day of the seminar started in German Foreign Office. I was amazed by the size and beauty of the building, one side which was completely transparent as well as the roof. Ms. Laura, an expert in European-Russian relations, answered questions of participants. She told us that as a desk officer, she reads over 30 articles about Russia and Germany from various sources every day. Afterwards, she writes a summary and her opinion. Besides, her responsibility is to provide the German ambassador to Russia with all the information before the latter takes part in meetings. This Information includes the interest of the other side, as well as the interests of Germany, and what objectives may be achieved during the meeting.

It followed a question about her opinion concerning the construction of the gas pipeline below the Baltic Sea, which links Germany and Russia. She said that this is not a "German – Russian" project, as it was stated by one of the participants, but it is in the interest of the EU state-members. Her answer led to the arising of a hot debate with the participants of the Baltic States, who feel insecure and are deeply disappointed with the project.

The next speech was delivered by Dr. Ulrich Bruckner, professor of the Stanford University in Berlin. He talked about challenges of European integration and identified four of them: the maintainance of the effectiveness of the EU during the course of expansion; the obtaining of a higher level of efficiency of the currently complicated system, which wastes the already limited resources; the democratic accountability of the union; and it's international role. Accoring to Dr. Bruckner, the Lisbon Treaty was designed to meet these challenges. Then he talked about the possibility of Russia joining EU, which he thinks is almost equal to zero due to the sizes (who should join whom?), different cultures, history, and economy.

The next interesting speech was delivered in the Ukrainian Embassy by Natalia Zarudna, the Ukrainian Ambassador to Germany. Her appealing speech left almost none of the participants neutral. According to her, Ukraine's mistake was that, throughout its history, it was trying to please everyone. For instance, in 1994, the Ukraine promised to stop selling weapons, and France took advantage of this move and replaced Ukraine in the field. Concerning relations of Ukraine with Russia and EU, the former cannot keep neutrality as the latter are rivals. In her opinion, the EU should "hurry up" to welcome the Ukraine into the Club; otherwise it would "join" the Russian side. Finally, she stated that "Europe must help Russia to become democratic through the Ukraine."

part of the speech was about the difficulty of drawing a line between the human rights and business. For instance, Germany pressures countries concerning the issue of human rights, while keeping doing business with them. On the other hand, Germany would not dare to criticize, say, China about the human rights situation there. The day continued with an

informative lecture, given by Dr. Klaus Segbers, director of the Institute for East European Studies and the Global Politics Center. He talked about the "new global context," which creates the impression of disorder with an increased number of international actors, multi-level games, and accelerated pace. He touched upon the issue of the EU enlargement, Russia's role and its domestic challenges. An Interesting part of the lecture was when students started asking questions related to the previous speech of Ukrainian Ambassador. One of the questions was about his opinion of the "danger" of the Ukraine turning from theEU towards Russia. To this question, Dr. Segbers replied with a short "Good luck with that," which again rose a hot debate among participants.

### **Day 4** (unofficial part) On Saturday morning, I got lost in the Berlin metro and spent half of the day trying to get out of the "Ulanstrasse" station. Later, I met two other participants Helena and Anna who were also wandering around and trying to find their way to the next lecture. After trying to figure out how to get to the place, we gave up and decided to go sightseeing instead. Wohhhhooo!! The day was crazy with Helena getting all the time distracted by the clothing stores, while me and Anna were trying to get her out of them. We were deciding to go and find the Holocaust memorial. On the way, we saw an amazing street performance by some band. In fact, they were very good, especially the singing guy, who managed to do some hilarious moves and jumps while singing. After 10 minutes of non-stop laughing, we tore ourselves apart from the band's performance, but instead of reaching the Holocaust memorial, we again got distracted by the Berlin Wall domino, which consisted of more than 1000 giant plastic dominos. Finally, somehow after getting distracted by the stores and many

### **Day 5**

Sunday morning started with a Lunch Buffet, followed by the panel discussion "Strong Europe is an Integrated Europe" led by a former European Ministers discussing the challenges and opportunities of European integration. During this they expressed their differing views on globalization as a uniting force and as a dividing aspect at the same time. Some speakers expressed their hopes of Europe becoming a single unit, while others expressed their concerns with the possibility of Europe widening without deepening. The discussion was concluded with a rhetorical question posed by the Former President of Romania Emil Constantinescu: "Does the world need stronger Europe?" Remarkable panel discussion with various opinions expressed was followed by the Gala Event

Remarkable panel discussion with various opinions expressed was followed by the Gala Event "1989: A Celebration of the Year that Changed the World," during which live musical performances of classic American rock popular during Cold War were delivered.

### Day 6

The last day of the seminar started in the ICD House of Arts and Culture, where participants were informed about how leadership initiatives in the field of cultural diplomacy could be conducted. Afterwards, participants shared with each other ideas of possible projects, targeted at strengthening intercultural ties. As a result of this, now many participants, including myself, are part of the Youth Eastern Partnership Scientific Project.

now many participants, including myself, are part of the Youth Eastern Partnership Scientific Project. It followed the panel discussion "Global Leadership in a World without Walls: The Challenges Ahead" among Former Heads of the States. The discussion mainly focused on the need for global leaders, who can think globally opposed to domestically focused politics. However, Radmila Sekarinska, Former Prime Minister of Macedonia, pointed out, that to be a good global leader, one should first be a good national leader. Moreover, the existence of "walls" in minds of people, which need to be "tore down" was pointed out by the speakers.

was pointed out by the speakers. Later on, participants traveled to the Brandenburg Gate to attend the celebration of 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall "20 Jahre Mauerfall." The celebration included speeches from Mikhail Gorbachev, Angela Merkel, Gordon Brown, Hillary Clinton, Nicolas Sarkozy, Dmitri Medvedev, and others. The most exciting moment of the celebration was the symbolic "domino fall" of the Berlin Wall. With this fantastic celebration, our weeklong seminar "Forum for Young Leaders: Europe Meets Russia," ended and left pleasing memories in the minds of the participants with further thoughts on cooperation and cultural dialogue.

### Day 3

Friday morning began with the visit to the Bundestag. I myself was very excited and thanking inside of me everyone who made this trip possible. In the basement of the building, there were writings left by Soviet soldiers during World War II, so I was able to touch part of the history shared by our country as well. A speech was delivered in the SDP party meeting hall by one of the party members. An interesting other things, after taking loads of pictures on front of the Brandenburg Gate, we managed to get to the Holocaust memorial, consisting of gray stone slabs of different sizes with no names, no dates. Even though this place borders with the chaotic life of Berlin, it is very quiet and still. This place creates a feeling of insecurity and instability inside of the visitors. After spending some time in Holocaust and dipping into sad part of the history we went further.

The evening, we spent seeing all the other cultural places of the city, like the most beautiful square Gendarmenmarkt, Victory Tower, Berlin Dom or Cathedral, constantly tearing Helena out of shops :) At last, I would like to thank everyone, who assisted and supported me and made this trip possible... Furthermore, I would like to encourage students of AUCA to take advantage of the opportunity provided by SILC committee and apply for the travel grant.

### Bermet Zhumakadyr kyzy

### New Star

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## My First National Conference or an Exciting Experience of Being a Photographer

An airport, a railroad station, a bus terminal... Embassies, crowds of people in line... Piles of papers, documents, and signatures everywhere... And that is not yet it: besides, tears on children's faces when parting with their parents, everlasting instructions on how to live without the closest adults, how to obey the people with whom the little kids are left... All of these are "indicators" of migration, a process, which makes many people live apart from their families in order to provide them a rather good existence. Why does such a phenomenon take place? Don't we have job opportunities in our country? Why do people permanently strive to find "happiness" abroad? These and many other questions were raised on the National Conference "Kyrgyz Labor Migrants' Behavior in the Context of Global Financial

on November 26, 2009. The OSCE Center of Kyrgyzstan set up this event with the help of ACTED and the European Commission. Also, many other organizations from different countries took part in the Conference: the officers of CASE (Kyrgyzstan) conduct a very actual research "An Influence of a Global Economic Crisis on the Labor Migration from Kyrgyzstan to Russia"; also, representatives international migration's of organizations (Switzerland and Russia) had their presentations on the topic of labor migrants. Therefore, the Conference consisted of three parts with a discussion afterwards on how to solve all the problems migration causes.

Fortunately, we, the students of AUCA, had a chance to participate in this Conference. About two

Crisis." which was held in Bishkek weeks before it started, our Social Research Center (SRC) gathered students from different departments expressing the wish to assist in the organization of a photo exhibition on migration. The Center invited the wellknown professional photographer Alexander Fedorov, who hold several master classes on photography and provided us with good advices during our work. To know the most important issues about the migration process, we were consulting Emil Nasritdinov, the SRC's Thematic Leader on Migration and Associate Professor of the Cultural Anthropology Program at AUCA. Thus, the aim was set, but the question occurred on how to achieve it. How can one reflect migration problems by the means of photography? What kind of motives should be on the pictures

being taken in order to express everything our coordinators wanted? The deadline came closer, and, on the first glance, it seemed impossible to obtain our goal. But somehow we managed to turn on our imagination and responsibility - and achieved everything on time. It was an amazing creative process, and it would be an unforgettable experience for everyone: having met many people with their own migration "stories", we felt their stories as our own and were imbued with their problems, reexamined our own life, wishes, and perspectives, and understood that everything in our life is not as awful as it seemed before.

SRC organized a trip to Tokmok for our group, and it helped a lot, I think: the members of newlymade photographers talked to migrants' families in order to deepen in our issue, and took pictures of these people. With every photo we tried to express the concerns of those who were left on their motherland without close people, hoping that one day, everything will be as it was once before. We also took photos of different motives that might be associated with such a global and many sided process as migration - everyone came up to it with his (to be more exact – her, as we

had only girls in our group) own approach.

Being the "illustrators" of a National Conference that was devoted to migration problems, we gained many other chances; since the knowledge we obtained while visiting the conference could not be obtained anywhere else. Having closely felt the problems that occur while people live to other lands lands, I would like to stress the following: People think and re-think several hundred times before accepting a certain solution. Of course, migration, or labor mobility, is a consequence of globalization and a global economy; thus, it is an integral part of our world. But maybe the relationships with your close people are more significant than some profits you can gain abroad. According to statistics, the money that people earn there, they can also earn here. Furthermore, children, who grow up without their parents, will hardly value money earned in such way. Kids are waiting for their mothers and fathers, and parents do not even know how their babies grow up... Will this be really worth it? In my opinion, such a lost childhood will never be made up.

Svetlana Verchenko



## Column: Promises leading us to nowhere or what to expect from AUCA

The future? It is something that we think about and plan based on our abilities, needs and life, however everybody tries to get a maximum of life, to enjoy life without problems, accidents and risks.

But what are the basics of this success? What makes the life to be full of joy, happiness and luck. Most people will answer: Education, knowledge experience and, of course, will to study.

To get these above mentioned criteria for success, local and international students applied and entered AUCA which promised dozens of international faculty, good life, excellent knowledge and so on. But due to being a freshmen, more emotional and ambitious, most freshmen don't notice the reality which is hidden by fake actions, smiles and promises that are being expected for many years. Junior life brings new ideas and goals which motivate a student to reach his or her goals trying and trying, but where are these international faculties, equipment, security and others that can be listed to help a student to achieve his goal? Students spread gossip and rumors trying to find the real answers that logically can satisfy students' ambitions, but what do they get? Nothing, or at least almost nothing, however, that's the way some students think inside American University of Central Asia.

*"We will have the best international faculty in* Central Asia, teaching primarily in English, to fulfill the mission and values of the University, and to foster a caring and exciting academic environment for the development of enlightened and passionate leaders." and that's the goal of AUCA written on official web site www.auca.kg

goals and mission promised to students before entering the university.

of all faculty, staff, students, and visitors to AUCA," reads the AUCA official web site.

But at the same time AUCA students got e-mail on the 6th of November 2009 that says that AUCA Security is not responsible for disappearance of your personal stuff (Ещё раз напоминаем Вам, что служба безопасности АУЦА не отвечает за пропажу Ваших личных вещей.)

But after this email, students and faculty members But in fact, the number of international faculty, that is a wondered about the responsibility of security and part of AUCA is decreasing year by year, regardless of the disappearance of personal stuff. In fact, security inside campus means preventing so-called disappearance of personal stuff unless there is another criteria AUCA administration made for a word "security". Meanwhile journalism students experience lack of equipment that can't even cover the basic needs to fulfill the needs of video courses they take.

"Lack of budget, lack of finances, lack of recourses," that's was the answer the author got.

"Lack of budget, lack of finances, lack of recourses," that's was the answer the author got.

But once again students can wonder about the increasing tuition and decreasing number of international instructors and professors, but not administration.

And again "Lack of budget, lack of finances, lack of recourses,"

Each student signs a contract between himself and AUCA where the university is responsible for "supplying a student with necessities required for studying", but a part of such necessity is security inside AUCA territory.

But in October-November 2009, more then 5 cases of stealing personal things and money happened. Professors got robbed; students' got robbed loosing a digital camera and a laptop.

"AUCA Security is responsible for the safety of the AUCA Campus. AUCA Security is present 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. AUCA Security requires 100% ID Check

And once again "Lack of budget, lack of finances, lack of recourses."

Several formal and informal meetings held by JMC students with administration resulted that students by spring semester will get at least 2 digital video and 5 digital photo cameras.

But how about other problems that exist in AUCA over the long period? How to solve them? Or do students have just simply to give up, hearing the same very familiar and famous words "Lack of budget, lack of finances, lack of recourses."

### **By Abdurahman Aripov**

## Let's talk about cinematography!

In our time most of our population goes to cinemas and almost nobody miss premiers of brand-new films like "Twilight", but unfortunately we start forgot about treasures of old movies which were based on issues of real life, on feelings and morality. Successfully in Bishkek, we have found such people for whom future of cinematography is more or less important. Asking about their preferences in movie, which one they prefer more, old one or new, one the organizer Sergei Doljenkov responded so: « Я Восхищаюсь новой картиной, а наслаждаюсь старой»

Sometime ago in the house of movie in Bishkek the group of people with the same interests gathered and started showing "Другое кино" (Another cinematography).

Films were chosen by the audience and the entrance was free. Beside of this they create different type of movie watching, that calls "Киноспор" (Cinema disscussions). Every Thursday at 19:00 o'clock in Café-bar "Битлы" there is a movie evening in the surrounding

of smart and interesting people who understand the sense of movie and interested in movie making and movie watching. Atmosphere in the bar is really pleasant and friendly. It is a good place for intellectual brain storming, because after watching film there is a controversy on that film and discussions it with the audience.

If somebody interested in it and wants to participate in such kind of event and want to know next calendar of movies here is contact information.

www.elcat.diesel.kg www.guide.kg www.sunpeople.kg

°APYEUC GEPCEA \*\* (Other shores)

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The project "Other shores" was aimed to give to the

teenagers of Kyrgyzstan the place for self-actualization, make people involve in active way of life and show how it possible to spent a bit of their time somewhere out.

It was organized in the middle of November by one of the AUCA students Edil' Sharshenaliev and his company organized movie festival named "Other shores" which gathered many people who were interested in movie making. Afterwards, Edil' shared with us with his emotions and told some information about the Festival.

The festival continued about three days including Opening Ceremony, Closing Ceremony and the main process. The Opening Ceremony was crowded and audience actively participated in it. Organizers showed art cinematography, documentary films; also, they touched social problems like poverty, repeatedly power cutting and unrequited love. One day was devoted to the active way of life, where most of the extreme people came to see the film about them and about extreme sports.

Possibly, that festival will be annual. Now we are in process of our own film. We planned to start it after ending of the festival. The topic and the story is the secret", Sharshenaliev Edil said.

Hopefully, the Festival "Other shores" will become a good tradition in our university that would help students to become more creative, to develop their skills in movie making and cinematography.

Material prepared by Diana Takhudinova

considered to be "not funny", because nobody from outside audience understands the jokes about "Bravo", "Kichinet" and other internal topics. But AUCA students understand and know all about the Drama club, freshmen,

Moving forward cherishing traditions, filling every day of studying with jokes and laughter. Socializing and laughing about important and less important things that what makes up the best part

because they laugh about their everyday lives, and about what themselves. Being able to joke about each other and ourselves has always been the strength of humor. As long as AUCA students will be able to do so, will the KVN in AUCA remain.

## **KVN in AUCA remains**





6

On the 18th of November, 2009 AUCA students, members of the French Club "Ma Douce France" have organized a celebration to commemorate the 220-Anniversary of the Great French Revolution – great historical event that brought democratic freedoms and values to many countries of the world!

The French Club of AUCA "Ma Douce France" organized a striking event dedicated to the commemoration of the 220-Anniversary

of the Great French Revolution. Students of various departments, learning French, took an active part in this event by singing the French National Hymn "La Marseillaise," dancing the national dance "La Carmagnole" and even dramatizing the famous painting of Eugene Delacroix "Freedom at the Barricades." All of these bright actions were performed in the costumes, typical exactly to that period of time. Praiseworthy are the vivid presentations, given by the students of an advanced level about the origins of the revolution and the consequently created symbols of the French Republic.

The French Club was privileged to welcome Jean-Pierre Godart, Chargé d'Affaires de l'ambassade de France au Kirghizstan and Eduard Rouché, Attaché militaire among its guests. Students and professors of the National, Slavic and American Universities and the representatives of the Alliance Française also joined the French Club in the celebration of Anniversary.

After the lively performance, all active participants of the event were awarded with the Certificates by J-P Godart. Chargé d'Affaires was impressed by the interest in the French culture and history that AUCA students have demonstrated by means of organizing such a celebration. M. Godart has also emphasized his hope that the French Club of AUCA will continue its active work by participation and organizing various events.

President of the "Ma Douce France," Yulia Kalinichenko, ES-108, has expressed her pride in the active participation of many students in this event, who spoke exclusively French. "I must admit that this is a great achievement of the club since students tried to transmit the French culture by speaking and singing in the original language!" Yulia has also emphasized the meaning of the freshmen students' active participation – despite the challenging task of singing and learning French songs and poems, freshmen francophones have succeeded by demonstrating the newly acquired skills.

Lyubov Lojenitsyna, coordinator of the French Club and the acting associate professor at AUCA, has made a great contribution to the preparation of this event and keeps cultivating love for the French language among the students of the American University.

The French Club has existed in AUCA since 2008 and has already carried out many interesting activities to promote the French culture and language and to unite with other francophones in Kyrgyzstan. Namely, the guests from Francophone countries were constantly being invited to the meetings of the Club to discuss various topics, such as French educational system and culture. Francophone students dedicated their time to the organization of role plays for Christmas, presentations about Louis de Funes

"I must admit that this is a great achievement of the club since students tried to transmit the French culture by speaking and singing in the original language!" Yulia Kalinichenko, '12

and French Resistance. Noteworthy is the students' engagement in the project of the Association Kyrgyz - Français, which is aimed at the search of the Kyrgyz participants of the French Resistance.

The members of the "Ma Douce France" have set a meeting with francophones of Kyrgyzstan, participation in the "Week of Francophonie" and many other events on the agenda of the Club for the nearest future.

We wish great success to the French Club "Ma Douce France" in their future endeavors to organize interesting activities, which not only entertain the pubic, but promote the French culture, history and knowledge of the beautiful language!

All interested in the work of the French Club are more than welcome to get involved into its activities either by registering on the available web page of the Club, available at the AUCA e-course system (http://e-course.auca.kg/) or sending an email to the President of the Club (Yulia Kalinichenko) yuliakalinichenko@yahoo.fr Eugene Delacroix "Freedom at the Barricades

Inalienablehumanrightsanddemocratic freedoms are tremendously valued in each modern society today. The French Revolution of 1789 appeared to be one of the most decisive events to stimulate their development. This Revolution brought about significant socio-political changes, replacing the absolute monarchy by the newly created republic. This occurrence influenced the political development of many countries during the XIXth and XXth centuries. Significantly enough, on the 26th of August 1789, the National Assembly of France, representing "the people" of the French Republic published the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. Thus, the newly proclaimed principles of "Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité" made a significant impact on the great countries of Europe and America, inspiring the creation of similar texts around the world. The French revolutionary tradition is reflected in one of the most significant instruments of international law - the European Convention of Human Rights of 1950. In such a way, the democratic freedoms and values, which are of vital importance for all the Nations today, take their roots from the French Declaration of 1789.

Regina Molchanova

### AUCA students visiting Jogorku Kenesh

November 13, 15 students of AUCA with the Dean of Academic Affairs Shairbek Juraev gathered at 9.25 on the Old Square to go to Jogorku Kenesh, determined to visit Jogorku Kehesh. It's the highest instance of KG's government. However the expectations to see the luxury everywhere inside wasn't fulfilled. Students just saw simple repair, nothing else and cold building.. Jogorku Kenesh was without heating as whole Bishkek. Students are sharing impressions about their visit to Jogorku Kehesh.

**Ainagul Takanbekova, Sociology:** "It was really interesting to see in real how deputies work or discuss the questions. Before I did not have any idea how it works. It was surprising how straight and open deputies were to each other even they were a little bit rude in some cases. But I think it is good; it shows how deeply they are involved and concerned in solving nation's problems. One thing which made me worry is that I noticed some elements of distinction from north to south. Of course, they said that deputies from different regions and different fields of society are gathered. But one of the deputies joked saying that at South the quality of education is 50 % worse than in Bishkek. Meeting in the Small Hall with Kubanychbek Isabekov and Kabai Karabekov was interesting. Students asked different questions from deputies' salary and family businesses to the benefits of cooperation with EU and got pretty sincere answers. Once again we heard about the important role of the youth in political life of the country and there are summer internship opportunities in JK for students, who are interested.

Then we went to the cabinet of the vice-speaker; there we saw all the awards, booklets and books prepared for the anniversary of JK, asked additional questions and took a group picture. Overall Visit to Jogorku Kenesh was very interesting and I would like to thank the organizers of the tour for the given opportunity.

Akjibek Beishebaeva

Shairbek Juraev, Dean of Academic Affairs is answering the questions about the purposes of tour to Jogorku Kehesh.

Parliament would send the teachers to the south to improve the education quality but nobody would go because "first, it is cold there and there is nothing to do". I understood that it was joke but we all know that any joke has a portion of truth. But in general the tour and the conversation with deputies were very interesting".

**K.Subanbekova:** Speaking about the impressions remained from visiting Jogorku Kenesh, I can note the positive fact – how we were accepted, and possibility to talk with the vice-speaker Kubanychbek Satyndievich Isabekov, to ask questions, to receive answers on them; to see the building inside, to take photos.

Speaking directly about session of Jogorku Kenesh, I expected something more, like discussion of real problems which exist in our country, because we really do have them. The time while we were sitting in the hall we didn't hear anything concerning problems of our country - this, certainly, didn't leave good impressions about work of our deputies. The purpose of my campaign to Jogorku Kenesh - to look at work of deputies; what occurs inside of this building. Unfortunately, I have not seen real work of elected representatives of the people. It is possible to tell that I am disappointed.

Anyway, I thank for the invitation and for reception, and it would be desirable very much to believe that my impression is erroneous, and that our deputies are actually engaged in the direct duties and do our life better...

**Aijan Sydykova, ICP:** Personally I think, that parliament members are little more impolite then they suppose to be, because they can easily interrupt each other, make statements without enough information about the subject, (like Roza Otumbaeva said that there is no OSCE in Belgium), or make too much emphasis on the design of the awards, whereas there were other important issues to discuss.

#### Why did you decide to make this trip?

The tour was organized on the initiative of Jogorku Kenesh. It was a part of series of activities that the parliament staff launched to celebrate the 70th anniversary of establishment of the legislative body in Kyrgyzstan.

### Did you personally like it?

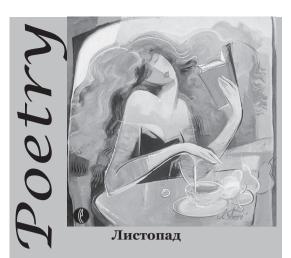
I believe the tour was very useful for our students. We do discuss a lot about various branches of power, and the Kyrgyz parliament has long been one of active actors in this country. This tour was a very useful addition to those in-class discussions. Students observed the actual plenary session of the parliament, witnessed some arguments between different parties and had a chance to extend some smart questions to the vice speaker and a parliament member who volunteered to meet with our students.

### Are there are other trips to Jogorku Kenesh planned?

We agreed with the relevant staff members of the parliament that our students would be invited to meetings of parliamentary committees, to observe but also contribute to various policy discussions.

25 students signed up for participating and just sixteen showed up. What can you say about that?

Due to the necessity to send the list of students to the parliament beforehand, we did not have an opportunity to invite other students to replace those who missed. This may be linked partially to the flu, or various other reasons. However, I would expect students to act responsibly, and inform about their inability to come to the planned tour. No one did so. We had a long list of students who would love to join but were not included because of seat limitation.



В вихре мнений, страстей и желаний Потеряли последний покой. Сколько надобно сердцу страданий? Для чего нам опыт чужой? Жёлтый лист кружился, Потерялся, сбился... Мы на всё распыляемся смело,

Одолеет эмоций полёт! Дело ладится, если умело Человек его в руки берёт. А для нас суть – процесс, завершенье Интересно всё менее нам. В лжезанятьях не ищут спасенья, Нужно всё расставлять по местам. Жёлтый лист кружится,

Главное – не сбиться... Через сколько пройдём мы ошибок И удержимся ль в вихре судьбы? Потребляет лист больше подпиток -Опадает всё так же, увы. Не сдержать нам давно отошедшего: Не удержишь буреющий лист. Не поймать нам слова, раз слетевшие: Улетает листва. Ветра свист. Жёлтый лист всё кружился, кружился,

Он опал, бурей взвился...

Светлана Верченко

## Senator's Letter

Senate has been considered the crucial body in the life of students of AUCA, working to meet the demands of students and creating better conditions to develop academically. Today we want to greet the newly elected senators and call on them to perform their duties in a fair and objective manner.

So far, Senate held three internal meetings during which it considered the Senate's internal issues. Those issues involve appointing the student representations in AUCA Committees. Senate deemed important to have representatives in several committees, such as Student Intellectual Committee, Curriculum Committee, Academic Senate and Appeals Committee. Some important ideas about the representation in committees have been projected by the senators, since committees make decisions, which will affect the student life in the one or the other way. So, representation will serve as a bridge between administrative decisions and demands of the students. Students themselves can make proposals and suggestions, which they consider important to be lighted on.

The short term agenda of the senate's projects include improving service in the Kitchenette and Bravo. Students showed concern over the price, service, quality of food, installation of check machines and several minor issues, which should improve service in the kitchenette. Senate sent an official letter to the office of financial affairs in order to address these issues. Both kitchenette and Bravo have contracts with AUCA as commercial organizations, and the remedies they get from being in AUCA actually contribute to AUCA's budget and contribute to lowering the prices. In the nearest future, we are expecting improvements as our Vice President for Academic Affairs included in the agenda.

From now on, the appointed PR Committee will try to work out ways of communication between students and Student Senate. One of the options Senate is considering is the restoration of AUCA TV and Radio and broadcasting

Throughout the years that AUCA existed, Student reports on meetings and similar events held by Senate. The university newspaper will also be provided with data on the work and projects Senate is engaging in.

### **Charter Amendments**

Some of the students are short in knowledge about the legal guides that Senate functions by, which is the Student Senate Charter. (for a full version of the Student Senate Charter contact through student-senate@mail.auca.kg)

One of the significant amendments Senate has made to its charter this year is the changing of the election date. Before the current amendment was adopted; the second Tuesday of November was to be the date of elections. From now on though, Student Senate will be elected on the second Tuesday of April.

Such a change has been created for several reasons: First, it was deemed necessary to have one stable Senate composition for one academic year. Practice showed that if a new Senate was to be elected in November, it would be somewhat difficult for the senator to catch up with the existing state and begin working. A second and very important reason is that the administration of the university plans its activities in the beginning of the year, and not in November.

However, it is worth noting that moving the election date will not affect the function of the existing Senate until May.

Issues connected with the inauguration and official announcements of the Senate are being considered and will be solved soon.

It should be noted that the current Senate is different than the previous ones in many meanings. So far, it has been showing eagerness in being involved in major issues going on around the university. If there are any suggestions or complaints, you are always welcome to report them.

### **Akylbek Baltabaev**

### Экономический сканворд от Тюлегенова Турсуналы Асакеевича

Первому, кто предоставит все верные ответы - ПОДАРОК!

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90. Одна – яблоко, несколько – рок-группа. 93. Голо. 94. Тус. 96. Юбка для маленьких лебедей. 97. След корабля. 99. Река в Курляндии. 101. Получился айран, потому что

Прибавьте – «Й» и получите князя - основателя «М атери горо

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44. Цель. 45. Девять музыкантов. 46. Ленивость по-научному. 47. Снесла ... Курочка-Ряба. 49. Единица сопротивления. 51. Щедрый человек. 54. И ситец и мышца. 60. Баланс. 62. Крепость. 63. Инструмент электронщика. 64. Международная сеть. 65. Дискотека по-старому. 67. Компания вкратце (аббр.). . 68. И он в поле воин. 72. Дерево для производства кольев. 75. Пра-прадедушка компьютера. 77. Фирма «Байпак» производит .... 79. Большая сумка для коммивояжера. 80. Идти «...-Банк!» 81. Driver собачьей упряжки. 86. Река в Голландии. 88. Бумажные деньги. 89. Брюс Уиллис (или Анатолий Чубайс) по сути. 91. Меч сака. 92. Масло для лести. 95. Знаменитый советский фокусник. 98. Деньги ... - деньги. 100. Имя девочки. 102. Муза истории. 103. Уточнение внизу страницы. 105. Гибридный верблюд. 107. Искусство властвовать. 109. Нарядная ткань. 114. Ласковое прозвище американского полицейского.

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### Issue 7

# Farewell kiss to Elena Tsoy

Выпускница АУЦА, любительница Браво, фанатка Челси, студентка, мечтающая об Англии, будущий клинический психолог, и просто Елена Цой – человек, который скоро покинет alma mater и откроет для себя дверь в новую жизнь

### 1. Как известно, ты – international student с Таджикистана. Что привело тебя в АУЦА?

Качество образования, многонациональная среда этого университета, да и вообще, возможность учиться в новой для меня стране с незнакомой культурой и людьми, к которым я, кстати, успела очень привыкнуть за то время, пока здесь училась.

2. Каково это – осознавать, что ты выпускница, и вскоре покинешь этот университет навсегда? позитивная атмосфера. По лабам... Хм... хотя нет, по лабам скучать не буду – уж слишком много дней и ночей было проведено там в абсолютно вымотанном состоянии :)

4. Ты учишься на департаменте психологии. Если бы у тебя была возможность поменять департамент ты бы это сделала? Почему?

Нет, ни за что на свете. Я приняла решение о выборе будущей профессии еще будучи в школе, и ни разу в этом не усомнилась. К тому же,

читать Фрейда в оригинале, когда ты еще с Critical Skills не разобрался...

Если честно, на 4 курсе как-то не находится времени задумываться о подобных вещах со всеми этими незаконченными GenEdами, дипломкой, поиском магистратуры... В-общем, мысли заняты немного другими вопросами. С другой стороны, есть ощущение собственного роста и приятное осознание того, что эти 4 года были, возможно, одними из лучших в жизни благодаря АУКу.

### 3. По каким местам университета ты будешь больше всего скучать? И почему.

Хм, это наверное очень банально, но больше всего буду скучать по Браво с его вечной суетой и очередью за обедом =))) Буду скучать по нашей замечательной кафедре, где всегда царит дружелюбная кафедра психологии, на мой взгляд, одна из сильнейших в АУЦА с замечательными профессорами и хорошо продуманной программой. Так что мыслей переводиться не было никогда (и слава Богу!)

5.Кактыпредставляешь себя в будущем? (именно работа, какой вид психолога, где хотела бы работать)

В идеале, конечно, это работа в качестве клинического психолога или психологаконсультанта, частная практика в клинике. Ну, или исследовательская работа в той же области в какомнибудь ВУЗе, который может предоставить все возможности для научной работы.

6. Что, на твой взгляд, было самым сложным на твоем факультете?

Самым сложным, признаюсь честно, был курс Psychology of Personality, который ведет Махинур Асановна Маматова. Я все еще считаю что он сложноват для понимания студента 2го курса: читать Фрейда в оригинале когда ты еще с Critical Skills не разобрался... Но зато закалка на все последующие годы и после него уже ничего не страшно! :) 7. A что самым

запоминающимся?

Самым запоминающимся событием несомненно была моя практика в Колумбийском Университете в Нью-Йорке. Странно было после нашего малелького уютного АУКа оказаться в таком огромном и древнем университете... Зато возможности там конечно неописуемые! Плюс, я лишний раз убедилась в том, насколько высокое качество образования у нас на департаменте и в ВУЗе в целом. Мои Колумбийские супервайзоры просто поражались уровню наших знаний, хотя мы тогда только второй курс закончили и только!

### 8. В какую страну ты бы хотела съездить больше всего? Почему?

О, это легкий вопрос – в Англию! В частности, в Лондон! Своеобразная «голубая мечта» еще с детства. И как бы это странно не звучало, я обожаю пасмурную погоду, дождь, тучи, грозу – а этого как раз в Лондоне хоть отбавляй! :) А, и еще коечто, одно из главных причин – ярая фанатка Челси!!!

9. Представь, что просыпаешься ты осознаешь, что u сейчас 2006 год, mom самый, когда ты была freshmanom. Тебе дается неделя, а спустя семь дней ты возвращаешься в настоящее. Что бы ты хотела сделать за те самые семь дней, будучи опять фрешменом?

Хм, если честно не хочется что-то снова быть фрешменом... =)) Шучу! Я бы наверное уделяла больше внимания планированию свего времени, карьеры – короче говоря была бы посерьезней, а то сейчас понимаю сколько времени было потрачено ни на что. Хотя, бесконечные вечеринки, дискотеки, и hanging out это наверное неотъемлемая часть жизни каждого студента и я об этом не жалею. К тому же, я познакомилась и подружилась с уймой замечательных людей, с которыми думаю, буду дружить на протяжении всей жизни. 10. как бы ты хотела отпраздновать свой



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Хотела бы встретиться с лучшими друзьями и близкими в узком кругу в каком-нибудь уютном местечке, вспомнить прошлое, помечтать о будущем.

11. Как известно, у всех выпускников намечается фотосессия для scrapbook. В каком бы образе ты бы Спасибо моим родителям за то, что они самые лучшие на свете и о таких можно только мечтать. Моей семье за то, что всегда верили в меня даже когда я сомневалась в себе. Моей второй половинке за то, что он ценит меня и является надежной опорой. Моей лучшей подруге Ренатке за то,



### American Museum of Natural History

Printed in: MSC House Publishing House. Circulation: 800 Order Number: 2947 Independent Student Newspaper Registered in Ministry of Justice Kyrgyz Republic, Registration № 1449 выпускной, помимо официального commencement?

#### хотела сфотаться?

Не могу сказать что особо привязана к какому-то определенному образу... А в образе Елены Цой можно? :) 12. Что бы ты хотела пожелать студентам АУЦА?

Терпения, терпения, и еще раз терпения. Всему свое время. 13. Не всегда и не везде удается сказать то самое "Спасибо" людям, которые важны. Сейчас у тебя есть возможность сказать "Спасибо" людям, которые тебе дороги.

что она просто замечательный человек, который поймет меня в любой ситуации. Моим профессорам: Елене Ким, Елене Сергеевне, Махинур Асановне, Арону Абрамовичу, и всем-всем, у кого я брала пары за неоценимый вклад в мое развитие, за терпение, и за их высокий профессионализм. Моей группе PSY-106(Аселя Шаменкова, ты тоже в этой группе!) за то, что вы ребят просто классные, и я рада, что учусь с вами!

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#### Editors: Nargiza Ryskulova

Design & Layout: Lazarina Kuchmenova

Adviser: Lazarina Kuchmenova