

**JOURNALISM
AND
MASS COMMUNICATION**

Department Highlights

JANUARY - MARCH 2021

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CAJVI 2021: JMC Chair Aizhana Dzhumalieva has secured a \$ 180 thousand U.S. dollar grant for three Journalism Institutes.

The second Central Asian Journalism Institute will be held **virtually** from **March 29 - April 23, 2021**.

It will provide early-career journalists and journalism students with the skills they need in their careers. The Virtual Institute will provide an interactive curriculum to develop participants' data journalism skills and experts from Open Data School Kyrgyzstan, storytelling with the famous "Gonzo Design." studio based in St Petersburg, source verification, and disinformation with Bellingcat specialists.

The Virtual Institute is open to participants from across Central Asia and aims to develop a cross-regional network of Central Asian independent journalists and media organizations. Participants will collaborate during the training and continue to engage with a broader network of regional journalists, including through the GOViral network.

The Central Asian Journalism Summer Institute is part of the Central Asia Journalism Program funded by the U.S. Department of State and in cooperation with Meridian International Center (Washington D.C.) and implemented by AUCA.



CAJSI 2019 Closing ceremony

Extracurricular activities with students and faculty:

JMC department has hosted a reunion for its students & faculty! On March 5th, after one year of virtual communication, the JMC department finally met each other offline and shared a beautiful evening! There was also a quiz held dedicated to the history of women's rights. JMC students Batma, Ajar, and Sezim, have won small prizes in it.



JMC faculty and students during the Reunion



JMC Faculty during the Reunion

Journalism Media Mentorship Program

At the end of February we have started the JMMP project which was a part of the OSI CIS and NGA grant that our department has won in January 2021. The JMMP program is designed for JMC students to become familiar with the industry while still studying. Each student will work on a personal project that will be published under the guidance of their mentors – professionals in the fields of reporting, multimedia and communication. Mentors will assist students as editors and will provide them with feedback. The mentors are:

■ **Anna Kapushenko**, Chief Editor at kloop.kg

■ **Tynymgul Eshieva**, Media Development Program Director at Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan

■ **Natalia Lee**, Editor at CABAR.asia

■ **Dina Maslova**, Kaktus.kg

■ **Mahinur Niyazova**, Chief Editor at 24.kg

On the **3rd of March** the department held the first press brunch, where the participants were introduced to each other and discussed further steps of the project. One of the participants has already published her first article in kloop.kg:

<https://kloop.kg/blog/2021/03/05/nelzya-zaderzhivat-grazhdan-dolshe-chem-na-48-chasov-dazhe-v-period-chp-konstitutsionnaya-palata/>



JMMP program participants at the press brunch

SILC grant

JMC Faculty Anastasia Valeeva has secured a research grant (3750 EUR) for the data project she's working on together with her master students as a part of 'Data Journalism' class. The project will inspect the state of schools in rural areas of Kyrgyzstan and will present the data in multiple formats.

UN WOMEN is cooperating with JMC

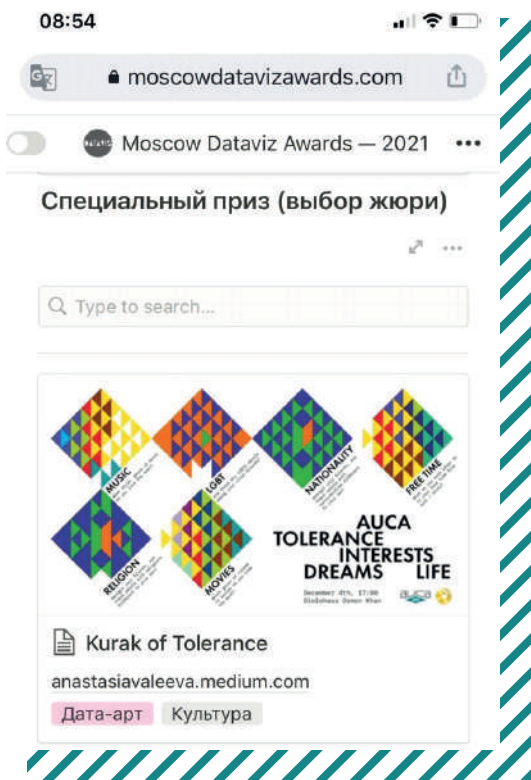
JMC Faculty Nurzhamal Karamoldoeva and **Anastasia Valeeva** on enriching the master course 'Gender and Media' with the modules on communicating gender statistics. By the end of the semester, students will create projects based on gender data that will be presented to a wider university community.

AMICAL small grants

JMC Faculty Anastasia Valeeva has secured a micro grant (478 EUR) for her master students to attend the world's biggest conference on data journalism - NICAR 2021. The conference will take place online, and the students will get the opportunity to attend the workshops and lectures by the renowned data journalists from around the world and interact with them. Additionally, the students will get access to all of the recordings and other conference materials for a year after the conference.

JMC's Data Art project "Kurak of Tolerance" received a special prize at the Moscow Dataviz Awards!

This project was created in the spring of 2020 by a small group of AUCA students, faculty, alumni and staff with the support of the AUCA Presidential Research and Educational Foundation.



"Kurak of Tolerance" is an art object based on a survey among the AUCA community. The research was conducted on topics of tolerance, interests, dreams and life of the members of the AUCA community. It was an actual kurak made in ethnic style.

Very soon this art object will decorate the walls of the university, it will be possible to examine it and recognize oneself in it.

The link to the project:

http://bit.ly/dataart_kurak

The JMC team participated in a Quiz night organized by the Institute of Media policy on the topic of freedom of speech.

The event took place in Bishkek on the 19th of February and was dedicated to the Institute of Media Policy' 15th anniversary. The JMC team consisted of the faculty, staff, alumni and a special guest Shamil Ibragimov, executive director of Soros Kyrgyzstan. We may have not won, but we did have a great time!



Tynymgul Eshieva, JMC faculty, together with the master students of TV, Cinema and Media Arts Faculty (TCMA)

and JMC (Danar Abdykerimov, Kyzzhibek Arstanbek kyzy, Zhumanazar Koichubekov) conducted an online training for the participants of the IWPR's Project **"Development of New Media and Digital Journalism in Central Asia"**. The audience consisted of students and teachers of Central Asian universities participating in the research about COVID-19 fake news. The session was about research content visualization tools.

<https://ne-np.facebook.com/IWPR.Kyrgyz/posts/1498749283654117>

Olga Tarabashkina, JMC faculty

and current PhD Candidate in Marketing with University of Adelaide, **submitted two manuscripts to the international journals**. First is titled **"Which Consumers are More Likely to Adopt a New Sustainable Product and How Does it Explain Climate Engagement?"** in the International Journal of Consumer Studies. Second is titled **"Inspired to upcycle: experimental study in Kyrgyzstan among consumers"** in the International Journal of Production and Consumption.

Katya Myachina, JMC faculty, is currently participating in OSUN's Experiential Learning Institute

where she studies ways of enriching the classroom experience of her students and connecting them with local communities and their needs. During this institute she works on developing a new curriculum for one of her Fall 2021 classes that will help her students to gain practical journalistic experience and connect to a local professional community.

