

THE NEW STAR

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Fall Break

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As the time flew by, leaves turned into gold, and the fall break had come. It was the moment most students had been waiting for. For some students, that week was something special – a relaxing week. Some even went to their hometowns or abroad. However, for others, it was still a busy schedule, full of work and responsibilities. Some students planned that week in advance. Just to have some relaxing days, they went to new places such as Batken or spent a weekend in Issyk-Kul. Some of them went to another city to visit their family or friends. However, it was a little bit difficult for foreign students, because most of them were not able to visit their hometowns for some reasons.

Personally, I went through my programming course again and repeated the materials that I did not fully understand. Moreover, I focused more and prepared for the next part of the semester. For me, the break was a bit busy, but I hope that for others, they were able to do whatever made them happy. This was a small piece of advice for students to stay in study mode during such a lazy week: learn new things every day, and if your friends are not with you, call them. Tell them everything that happened to you during this time. Do not forget to review the materials you have studied so far. By contrast, that week was very overwhelming for particular students. It was all about their goals, volunteering, and other personal tasks.

One of the best moments of this break was the “Welcoming Party” in the dorm. The party was full of the emotions of students dancing, enjoying, and playing many fun games. It was something new for freshmen and NGA students because it was their first time having such a party in a dorm. After all those midterms, it was a chance for students to recharge and refresh their minds. Particularly, the dancing was unbelievable; everyone was dancing to loud rock music. Huge thanks to Farzon for being such a professional DJ. Also, huge thanks to the organizers and RSs for holding such an amazing party.

When the fall break ended, everyone returned to campus again, and university life became as usual—full of ambitious students. I hope this break was great for everyone, and this fall brought positive feelings to you and success in your studies. And do not forget to go out more in such a beautiful season.

Isroil Ismailov
LAS-125

“To live on beauty and plov”, an Uzbekistan travel story

This fall break, I was lucky enough to make “vacations” rhyme with “new destination.” From Tashkent to Khiva, passing through Samarkand and Bukhara, I discovered the warm hospitality, the delicious food, and the awe-striking beauty of Uzbekistan during ten days. On this land rich in history, I retraced the steps of the Silk Road, starting with the Uzbek capital city.

Tashkent was surprising due to its blend of traditional Timurid architecture, Soviet heritage, and assertive modernity. Taking the subway and walking in the city, I almost believed myself to be in Europe before being brought back to reality by the echoes of the Uzbek language, museums, bazaars, and theaters, but also parks and rivers; under the colors of autumn, one can easily get lost in the beauty of Tashkent’s perfect mix of nature and city. Barely enough time to taste the savourful national dish in the plov center, it was already time to leave towards a new horizon—namely, Samarkand. I never thought that I would be gaping at a monument for its beauty, but Samarkand’s Registan proved me wrong. Faced with this gigantic complex that surrounded and towered over me, I was drawn in by the elegant patterns and Arabic spiral writing in beautiful shades of blue and green. Even the sky put on a beautiful show at sunset, and I left Samarkand with a feast for the eyes and the mouth after tasting the delicious Uzbek samsa.

One question remained: could Bukhara and Khiva live up to the expectations? Unsurprisingly, the answer was “yes.” While the historic district in both cities felt very touristic, it didn’t take away the beauty of the strange meeting between silk and dust. Between the Bukhara 2025 contemporary art biennial “Recipes for a Broken Heart” and the old madrasas, minarets, and mosques, I was enchanted to find myself at the frontier of modernity and tradition. While amazed by so much grandeur, I thought it important to remind myself that these monuments were built with the sweat of millions of slaves—Bukhara and Khiva being the major slave trade centers of Central Asia for centuries. Honoring their memory then seemed like the least one could do. As I write these words on the road back to Bishkek, I have spent more than fifty hours on the road in only a week! Still, whether it was on the train, the bus, or in the car, I stayed delighted in front of the breathtaking landscapes passing before my eyes. As I reflect on my trip, a French proverb comes to my mind. In my country, people love to say “vivre d’amour et d’eau fraîche,” which literally translates as “to live on love and fresh water”—a poetic way to say that one doesn’t need much to be satisfied. After traveling to Uzbekistan, I would argue that “to live on beauty and plov” is another recipe for happiness.

Aldeguer-Roure Salomé
Exchange Student



Student Senate Elections: A New Chapter in Campus Leadership

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Half of the fall semester has already passed, and now our students are busy preparing for their midterm exams. However, there is an exciting event coming up – Student Senate elections, which unites all students at AUCA in order to take steps towards common well-being. The elections, organized by the Student Life Office, aim to give every student a voice in shaping university life and raise engagement in university life. But what is the importance of the Student Senate? How does it work and what is it determined for? This is an interview with the Dean of Student Affairs, Shahrudin Iminov, in order to find responses to some of the questions and break down the stereotypes that exist.

"Every year, candidates are mostly excited about the well-being of students – this is the main thing that motivates them to apply to the Student Senate. The Initiation Program for students is the beginning of their journey; they are the bridge between the students and the university administration. Of course, I know that there are students who do not find the Student Senate effective. The main reason why they think so is the fact that they themselves are not engaged in university life – they should start acting in order to start achieving the result. My advice for the candidates is that they should not give empty promises and be realistic because, even by small steps, they can still achieve their goals. I want all students to understand that AUCA gives equal opportunities to everyone, and we expect students to use all the resources in order to develop our community." The members of the Student Senate also engage with the university newspaper by providing monthly reports on improvements that have been reached by the Senate. The Editor-in-Chief of NewStar, Niloufar Rafat, shared some information about the role of NewStar in the election process.

"The University Newspaper raises awareness about elections not only among students but among university faculty as well. Our team tries to be as flexible as possible during the election season, but we cannot call the process of work stressful at that time. Usually, the results of Student Senate Elections are combined with articles about Initiation, where we congratulate the new members and wish them success in their work. I want the candidates to try their best to bring changes, take the opportunity, and be as active as possible because these activities are not only about AUCA – they are a life-changing experience."



It is also important what students – the voters – think about the elections and how familiar they are with this occasion. Thank you to Samira Sushonlo from TCMA-125 for sharing her thoughts and opinion.

"I have previously been familiar with the Student Senate as I was participating in my friend's Initiation in 2023. Student Senate elections are something that is widely discussed among students, so I found out about this immediately. Public debates between the candidates would probably increase the number of voters, as students will know more about the campaigns. I hope that this year the Senate will solve the issue of tissues in toilets and fix the chargers on the floors so students can use them. Also, it would be great if they would provide benches for students on the floors because there is a lack of sitting places on the floors. As a voter, I want candidates to be honest and not promise things they cannot provide because this will disappoint the students. Friendship is magic, and I hope that this magic will unite all students at AUCA."

The agitation of candidates will begin on October 17, 2025, at 12:00 pm after the deadline for registration and will continue until November 3, 2025. November 4, 2025, is a Silent Day, and the voting will be held online on November 5, 2025. I wish good luck to all candidates and expect every student to participate in the voting process in order to make AUCA a better place for all of us.

Farah Saranjomova
LAS-125



Autumn Integration

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The wind is whispering, soft and shy —
September's here beneath the sky.
A month of warmth, of tender grace,
Of golden dreams time can't erase.

I see it all in my AUCA dear.
So full of charm, so bright, so clear.
The campus glows in autumn's light,
A wonder, calm yet burning bright.

In Sierra's hall I sit and dream,
Of life and goals — they flow, they gleam.
Time rushes fast, yet I can see,
How autumn slows the world — and me.

This season stirs the heart inside,
Where thoughts and feelings intertwine.
Before my closet, lost I stand —
What shows my soul, what outfit planned?
What shades of autumn shall I wear,
To match its rhythm, soft and rare?

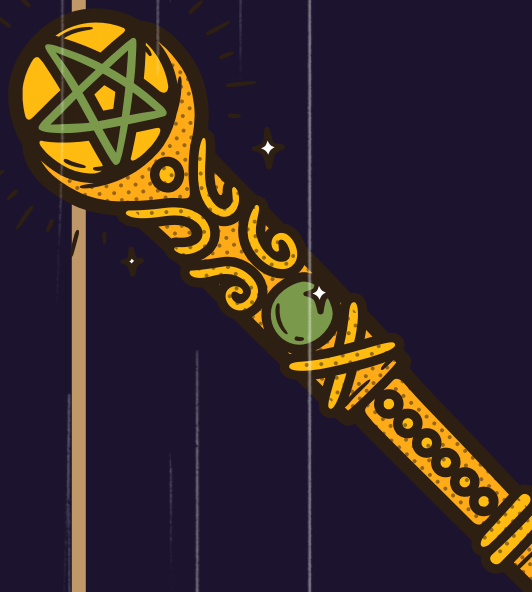
The air smells sweet — of rain and brew,
Of whispered peace, of something new.
The rain taps gently on the glass,
And autumn murmurs as moments pass:

"Breathe, my dear, and don't let go,
There's beauty hiding deep below.
Autumn's not farewell, but grace —
A quiet truth, a warm embrace."

And may this season, rich and kind,
Forever linger in my mind.
Though rain may fall and cold may grow,
A light within will always glow.

Through AUCA's halls I softly roam,
With friends and laughter — I'm at home.
In every window, golden gleam,
Here lives my autumn — my secret dream.

Sergekaalieva Sezim
PSY-123



What is your favorite place at AUCA?

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AUCA has become a second home for many students, as they spend most of their time at the university. New memories are created here, values and views are formed, and small moments gain significance. Some students prefer to be at certain spots because they find something there that makes them feel at ease or happy, whether it's the people there, the atmosphere, the location's purpose, or simply the beauty of it.

Many survey respondents chose sofas as their favorite places because our students enjoy relaxing and regaining strength in addition to studying. Indeed, they gather a large number of people, regardless of the floor. Sofas at AUCA are places where you can completely relax: lie down, sit comfortably with your things, spend time with friends, or, most importantly for students, sleep. Many love them because you can take a nap during the gap between classes or after them to recharge. During exam weeks, it is common to see students sleeping on the couches! Some students especially love the sofas located in the university coffee shops, such as Flask on the third floor or Sierra on the second. With the panoramic windows encompassing the front yard and the mountains, these spaces are perfect for studying or catching up. Students appreciate relaxation, but they also don't forget to study hard.

A place can be a favorite for many reasons, and one of them is physical activity. AUCA provides a variety of options, and some students find their outlet there. Those who enjoy staying active and finding peace after physical exhaustion love the third-floor gym, where team-based sports activities are held. Communication and cooperation among players are just as crucial as the games themselves. As a result, students come together in the gym because they share a passion for sports and a desire to use their time effectively. In addition to the gym, there is also the conference hall, or CH, where rehearsals of the Mirrors theater usually take place. Students who practice and get ready for performances create a close-knit community that helps one another all year long.

The most popular spots are still those where friends gather, even though students have a variety of ways to chill and favorite spots to do so. Among them, the study zones and stands on the fourth floor are the most popular. On the stands, people meet to watch their friends play, support them, and spend time together, while in the study areas, students assist one another with assignments, work hard in class, or simply chat. Each place at AUCA has its own unique atmosphere created by students. These places evoke positive emotions, make ordinary moments special, and turn the university into a space filled with cherished memories.

Nazbike Turgunaliyeva
JMC-124



The man who built a home for words

I still remember a lively professor, Khurshidsho Oonunov, from my NGA days. With bright eyes and boundless energy, he would always say, "Guys, come to the Literature Club! It's fun!" He was the one who created this cozy space, welcoming both students and professors. At the current time, the literature club of Khurshidsho is a big community with hundreds of guests from different corners of the world. But how did it all start? This article will tell you a story about the endless enthusiasm of a person who has never been ignorant of the students' needs around him.

The club's story actually begins far from the walls of AUCA, in the Pamir Mountains, in the city of Khorog. The professor started it while directing a preparatory program for Central Asian students preparing to study overseas. For many talented young people who didn't have access to advanced English programs or opportunities to study abroad, meetings like these—focused on reading, discussing books, and practicing English—the club provided a chance to open new doors. The Literature Club quickly became more than a place to practice English; it became a space for intellectual discussion, exploring different literary genres, and meeting like-minded people. When the professor moved to Bishkek, he noticed, "I saw a real need for extra practice, so I introduced the Literature Club to AUCA. I wanted the students to have a place where they can talk about books, share their experiences reading in English, and discuss challenges they face." Since then, it has continued to bring students, professors, and literature lovers together from Kyrgyzstan to Australia, creating a huge community where ideas, stories, and inspiration are shared.

Today, the Literature Club meets every Saturday from 12 to 2 p.m. If you are interested in literature, want to start reading or writing, or simply enjoy spending time in good company, you can find us on the fourth floor, always eager to welcome new members to our community of literature lovers.

Gerasimenko Polina
AMI-125



Writing Competition Winners With Collaboration with AGORÀ

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"Kyrgyzstan, I see you"

Do you know how to say "I love you" in Kyrgyz?
I now do: I see you.

When I first heard the words "мен сени жакшы көрөм", which literally translates as "I see you well", I wondered. How could a country known for its arranged marriage tradition express love in such an intimate way? The answer was simple: to love someone is to see their true self. An "I love you", a "je t'aime", or even a "te amo" are nothing more than simple words of affection. But where language can be forged, you cannot fake an act of devotion. Pay attention: past traditions may tarnish its reputation, but love is everywhere in Kyrgyzstan.

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Aldeguer-Roure Salomé
Exchange Student



The Women Who Led Kyrgyzstan Through Chaos

When people hear about nomadic countries, they imagine stern men on horseback, wielding bows and holding absolute power within their families. But I want to share something that makes Kyrgyzstan a unique country that sets it apart from not only nomadic nations, but also from all of Central Asia. I was born in the Alay region of Osh, a place known as one of the most nomadic corners of Kyrgyzstan. In Alay, life has always followed the rhythms of mountains – traditions are preserved, yet shifting slowly, as gradually and mysteriously as the mountains themselves.

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Kyrgyzstan in Central Asia

Nurmukhamed Abdumomun uulu

Kyrgyzstan is a wonderful country in Central Asia, surrounded by mountains. Like other Central Asian countries, Kyrgyzstan has its own incredible history and culture. However, I want to tell you specifically about the region of Batken, and what it is like to live there. First of all, Batken is the southern part of Kyrgyzstan, bordering Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. The population consists of Kyrgyz, Tajik, Uzbek, Turk, and Uyghur people, which makes it quite a multicultural region. People are always welcoming to foreign tourists coming from other countries. For instance, this summer, a couple of tourists came to my village from Spain, and we treated them to a meal in my uncle's restaurant. It was an amazing opportunity for me to meet with them.

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Ismailov Isroilzhon



To read more articles, follow this [link](#).

Club Fair: A Day Full of Energy and Opportunities!

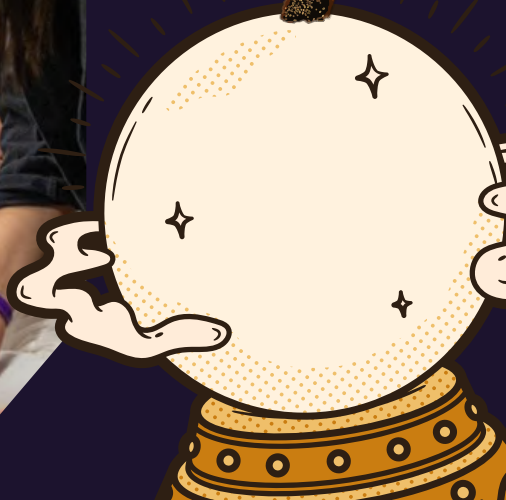


Our college recently hosted an amazing Club Fair, and it was truly one of the most exciting events of the semester! The fair brought together students from all programs to explore the wide variety of clubs our college has to offer. There are so many clubs to choose from: the charity club “Jalgyz Emessin,” the music and dance clubs, the decorations club, the debate club, and several sports clubs like volleyball, basketball, football, and chess. Each club had its own decorated table showcasing what they do.

The atmosphere was incredible. The music club played live instrumentals that set a fun and friendly mood. The sports tables proudly displayed shining trophies and medals, showing off their victories. One of the biggest highlights was the new hiking club—they even brought a real tent into the hallway! Nature lovers could sign up right on the spot. Everyone was vibing together. Students danced along with the dance club, while others stopped to listen to the music performances. The fair was full of laughter, movement, and inspiration. Many students signed up for not just one but several clubs, eager to try new things and make new friends.

This event reminded everyone how many opportunities our college offers to grow, create, and express ourselves. The Club Fair was more than just an event; it was a celebration of student life and community spirit.

Kudaibergenova Zhamilya
DMDT-1-24



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ISSUE PREPARED BY:

Editor-in-Chief:
Rafat Niloufar

Supervisor:
Iminov Shahrudin

Co-Editor:
Bolot Darika

Design & Layout:
Bolot Darika