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Dreams and plans for my graduation

The end of this academic year is coming, and all I can think of are flashbacks to the beginning of the year. I feel that being a freshman is strange. In addition to trying to get used to a co new environment and getting good grades, we must also think about the exchange program and internship for our sophomore year. As a result, it is preferable to perform well in the first year of university and rest assured. As a freshman and future journalist who listens to other students' success stories carefully throughout the academic year, I want to accomplish a portion of my goals during my fourth year of undergrad and graduate with honors. Therefore, I ought to center my attention on what's most significant right now so that I may rest afterward. My goal is to become an independent, successful journalist, for which I will not stop pursuing education till I have my Ph.D. degree. However, until then, I need to work on my time management skills, which will make

my work easier and require more self-discipline. As well as that I should learn additional languages since I desire to travel around the world, and knowing more languages will help me to be diversified, informed, and have a deep understanding of various cultures. So, the more I think about my future, the more confident and passionate I am. As a well-known Afghan proverb states, "No pain, no gain." I think that nothing comes without a cost, therefore I may face some obstacles in the future. But I will overcome any difficulties because of my attitude and the goals I have set for myself. Altogether, Dear Reader! Never forget two facts: first, is that fate does not operate without working hard and taking risks in life. And second, nothing comes easy.

> Hoda Sadat JMC-121



Balancing Career and Fun: My Productive Summer Plan

Summer is a perfect time for students to develop and improve his/her skills and relax after a long academic year. It can be challenging to decide what to do during the summer break due to the availability of many opportunities. However, I am taking full advantage of summer break to boost my career prospects and enjoy some downtime.

As a software engineering student, I recently visited an IT company (EPAM) based in Bishkek that provides free training and internship opportunities in the summer. For this purpose, I am polishing the skills required for the internship, and shortly I will be able to join the summer internship program at such a company. It will help me work online during the next academic year. Furthermore, I am planning to establish a Google Developer Students' Club supported by Google at my university. The new learning skills

and internship will make me eligible to initiate this club.

Moreover, I am a member of the Sustainable Task Force at AUCA. To add to my knowledge of climate change and take active action, I want to apply for climate change short courses at climatefresk.com. This nonprofit organization will assist me in becoming a facilitator. Following that, I will be part of the climate movement and mark myself as an active social worker.

These activities will surely improve my resume and LinkedIn, which will further increase my chances of landing an internship or job in the future. Though it is crucial to focus on careerrelated activities, it is also important to allocate some time for fun and relaxation, such as attending concerts or festivals, going to the beach, and spending time with loved ones. I like to barbecue, so I would be happy to have this opportunity during the summer while having a picnic with my friends or family.

Kyrgyzstan is a beautiful country that has many natural sites, a rich culture, and a history. The best time to explore this beautiful country is during the summer break. Moreover, I will join the summer sports football team, and playing this game would keep me active and healthy during the break. By balancing my career-related activities with enjoyable ones, I can make the most of my days off and get back to university with refreshed feelings and energy.

Ahmad Ahmad Zai SFW-120

My Virtual Meeting Experience: **Artificial Intelligence and its** impact on society

A virtual meeting was held on April 1st, 2023, with students from universities such as AUN, AUFA, BRAC, PARAMI, and AUCA, to discuss the effects of artificial intelligence on individuals' lives. It was a new experience for me since I have never talked to a person from an East Asian country, whom I met during this discussion. The rise of AI as a novel technological development in human history has elicited diverse perspectives, which have been significantly influenced by the progress of artificial intelligence machines, particularly ChatGPT. The diverse viewpoints and sentiments expressed by individuals regarding Al were a source of great fascination to me.

First of all, one of the most remarkable perspectives posited by Sudipta Kumar Dhali is that artificial intelligence will assume a dominant role in the healthcare industry. One of the students asserted that this technology possesses the capability to analyze a patient's symptoms and subsequently produce a diagnosis with precise details. Nonetheless, a significant number of students rejected this notion and maintained a disagreeable stance. The argument that was put forth was that due to the complex nature of the human body's systems, it poses a significant challenge for artificial intelligence to provide an

accurate diagnosis. From a personal standpoint, I hold the view that the notion of AI replacing the role of a medical doctor is unfounded. Nevertheless, it has the potential to serve as a valuable instrument for medical doctors. Medical professionals may require a significant amount of time to diagnose a patient's illness. However, the implementation of this technology can expedite the diagnostic process and facilitate a more efficient understanding of the disease.

Moreover, before the meeting, I held a negative perspective due to my belief that artificial intelligence would displace a significant number of occupations. Subsequent to the meeting, my trust was established that AI could be a valuable asset. The exploration of extraterrestrial discoveries, such as the mission to Mars, has been a challenging feat accomplished solely by human beings. One of the peers, Saima Zadran, expressed that artificial intelligence has the potential to aid in hazardous undertakings that pose challenges for human execution. From a personal standpoint, I agreed with the notion that robots equipped with artificial intelligence microchips possess the potential to excel in risky exploratory missions such as a voyage to Mars. A durable and reliable solution is required for

operation in challenging environments such as nuclear facilities and other hazardous locations. Various proposals have been put forth suggesting that the utilization and insertion of Al into one's daily life are heavily dependent upon one's willingness to use it positively or negatively.

To sum up, the different viewpoints expressed during the online talk were educational to me. Initially, the notion that artificial intelligence would reign supreme in the medical sector was a novel concept for me. However, I have since gained knowledge that, while AI can be advantageous, it cannot attain complete dominance. Moreover, it has the potential to serve as a valuable resource for individuals seeking ways to stay clear of dangerous locations both on and off the planet. The ethical employment of artificial intelligence is dependent upon the actions of individuals who exercise its power for either constructive or detrimental purposes.

> **Arman Adabi** SFW-121

Maybe home

In search of a home, Where I can stay long, To find the peace that I never had I found pieces of me looking for each other. I wanted to find somewhere, Where I don't have to think about where I will be next. I found friends, & family, but We are too broken to stick together. We all knew what we had lost.

But

We didn't know what we were looking for.

Maybe home, peace,

or a Lost Soul.

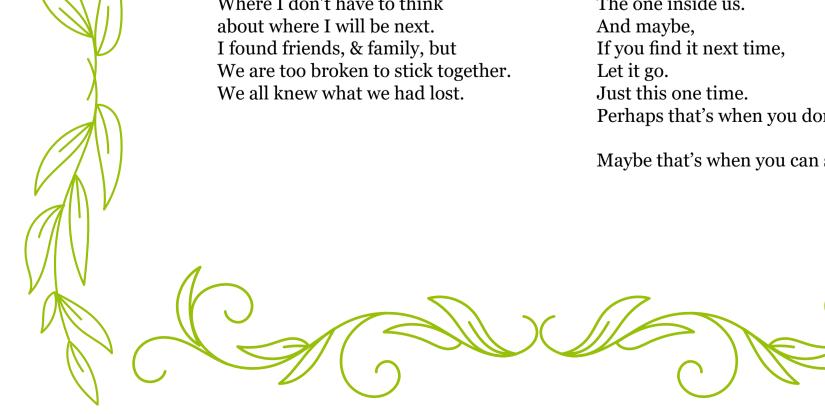
Perhaps we are looking for the pain,

The one inside us.

Perhaps that's when you don't have to look for something.

Maybe that's when you can stay long.

Arzoo Ataee LAS-120



Exchange Story

s we know, the American University of Central Asia provides exchange training to students at various partner universities around the world. It was a great opportunity for me to study abroad for a semester to gain new knowledge, experience, and emotions during my student life at the university. Last fall, I applied to participate in the OSUN Mobility Student Exchange program in the BGIA program. The application process is quite simple because you do everything in stages on a special platform for applying for participation in the program.

I applied to two exchange universities, but the priority was the BGIA program, which is located in Manhattan near the famous Time Square Center. This program is part of Bard College, but in addition to studying, it also provides students with internships in various internationally renowned organizations and companies during the semester in New York City. I attend four classes, where one of them is mandatory, and the rest are optional for students. As an exchange student, I study with representatives of different countries and racial groups, which makes the learning process multicultural and more interesting



I am an intern at "Charney Research", an organization that specializes in research, analysis, and surveys around the world. This institution has a very long history of cooperation with many well-known companies and organizations, such as UNDP, USAID, Samsung, the World Bank, Skype, Nokia, WWF, IPI, Financial Times, LG, NDI, and many others. I train about 20 hours a week but mostly work remotely like many of our students at BGIA. During the internship, I perform various tasks of my mentor, such as translations, presentations, spreadsheets, reports, graphs, analytics, etc. In addition, the BGIA program provides the opportunity to attend various events for free during the semester, such as football matches, theaters, museums, concerts, guest lectures, and many other events, which makes the semester rich and interesting for students. I would like to advise everyone to apply for BGIA because it is the best and coolest program at the American University of Central Asia.

> Zhanybai Sarybaev ANTH – 120

My Research Symposium Experience

uring the midterms I found an opportunity to do something exciting. So I packed my bags and jetted off to the United States to attend the "Undergraduate Research Symposium" in Pittsburgh. My name is Anipa, and I'm excited to share my experience at this international conference that covered everything from decolonization to the impact of movies on our lives.

At the conference, I presented my oral history paper that described the experiences of three generations of women who lived in the USSR and then in a post-soviet country. My Second Year Seminar Professor, Sarybaeva, supported my decision to continue working on this paper as the first draft of it was written for her "Women's History" course. She encouraged me, as well as the whole class, to apply for the conference. I was thrilled when I received an invitation to present my paper and was placed in a panel titled "Gender in focus," as my focus was on women.

During my presentation, I had 10 minutes to deliver my research and receive feedback from the discussant, an expert in the field of gender studies. I also received comments from the audience, which helped me improve my paper. This interaction allowed me to expand my research and learn from others in the field. I also attended other panelists' eye-opening presentations. The last panel, "Trauma in Central European History and Storytelling," was particularly interesting, and I got to discuss with the panelists and professors the difference between famous Disney movies and their Slovak versions as well as their impact on society.

I left the conference feeling inspired to learn more and grow because there is so much I want to explore and just know better. I encourage undergraduate students to apply because not only did this experience help me grow as a researcher but also allowed me to network with specialists in various spheres. Even more exciting, my work may be published on the University of Pittsburgh's official website!

After the conference, I stayed with my host family for about a week. During this time, I observed the city as an Urban Designer, tried all the food I ever wanted to try starting with fresh blueberries and finishing with steaks and tacos, and also got to visit and spend the whole day at their school. I made new friends and we had lots of fun as we hung out together, did some shopping, went to the Cheesecake Factory, and even had a sleepover.

I would like to express my gratitude to the University of Pittsburgh for providing me with a hotel room for three nights. I would also like to thank the Student Intellectual Life Committee as well as my department Liberal Arts and Sciences which granted me \$1500 for the airfare. I am thankful for this wonderful experience that helped me grow both professionally and personally. I encourage students to explore such opportunities and expand their knowledge and curiosity.





VOX POP: What would you do if you had to

work, but didn't need the money?



Ademi, LAS-SOC-117

"Well honestly, not having to work to fulfill basic survival needs opens you up to a variety of options. Since I won't need to worry about living from paycheck to paycheck, I can start doing work I enjoy. I would probably spend time reading and writing research on topics I'm interested in maybe do art and use whatever extra income I have for women's crisis centers here in Bishkek".



Daniel Tairov, SFW-119

"If I didn't need to work for money, I would devote my time to volunteering for causes that are meaningful to me. Volunteering is an excellent way to give back to the community and make a positive impact on the world. It is a fulfilling way to spend your time and it provides a sense of purpose and satisfaction that is hard to find elsewhere.

There are many different types of volunteering opportunities available, from working at a local soup kitchen to tutoring students. I would love to work with organizations that focus on environmental conservation and animal welfare, as these are issues that are close to my heart. Volunteering is not only beneficial for the causes that one is supporting but it is also an excellent opportunity to learn new skills, meet new people, and gain valuable experience. It can be a great way to network and connect with others who share similar interests and passions.

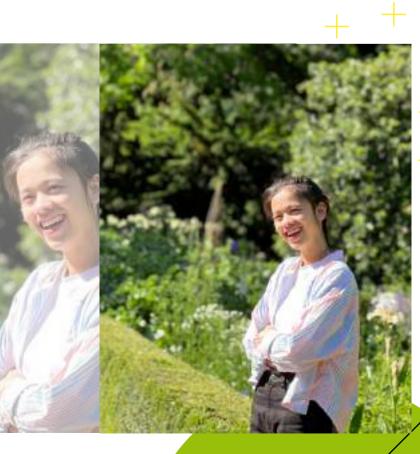
Overall, if I didn't need to work for money, I would use my time to volunteer for causes that I am passionate about. It is a rewarding way to give back to the community and make a positive impact on the world".



"If I had to work but didn't need the money, I would choose a job that aligns with my passions and interests. For instance, I might start a career in writing and create poetry and novels, or specialize in art history with a focus on the Renaissance era".







Tahmina Ustoeva, ICP-119

"I would be a gardener! I love Flora, I think I feel a lot happier and alive by the coming of spring, when life becomes greener, and trees and flowers bloom. Planting gives me joy and strength as it connects me with the Earth and gives me a sense of calmness and purity."

Farewell Kiss to Farkhad Raisi



The story of our friendship with Farhad is a little unorderly. It was the preparation for an orientation week, and we were all practicing the university's anthem when somebody poked me out of nowhere. "What the!?" I looked around, and there was a tall guy with his back turned, giggling and asking "Did she notice? Is she looking?..." There was another guy behind him, also giggling. Even though they were making it obvious, I acted as if I did not notice. It was pretty funny though.

And ever since then, Farhad makes me smile and laugh every day.

Talking about Farhad and his character, it is important to mention that he is a very focused and hardworking person with diverse interests. He's pretty good at football, professionally plays hockey, good at skiing and snowboarding, he pays very good attention to his studies, and this is just a small portion of his talents.

Farhad will soon be graduating. The university's going to miss him since he is one of the most loved students. But that's not a reason to be sad, we should all wish him a bright future, and success in his career and personal life. And everlasting happiness!

Maria Kurmanova ANTH-121

Farkhad is a very interesting individual. Farkhad is very focused and keeps his activities within his schedule. That is the kind of impression that he gives off. And yes, that is true. There's a good chance if you hear stories from students from his years in this University, the funniest and the most ridiculous ones would probably be about Farkhad and his best friend Ratibor.

I hope that after graduating, these two will keep a strong friendship. I really wish them to keep moving f orward in their adult lives, have a very successful future, and of course, help each other out in their journey.

Kurmanbek Kumashov LAS-119

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