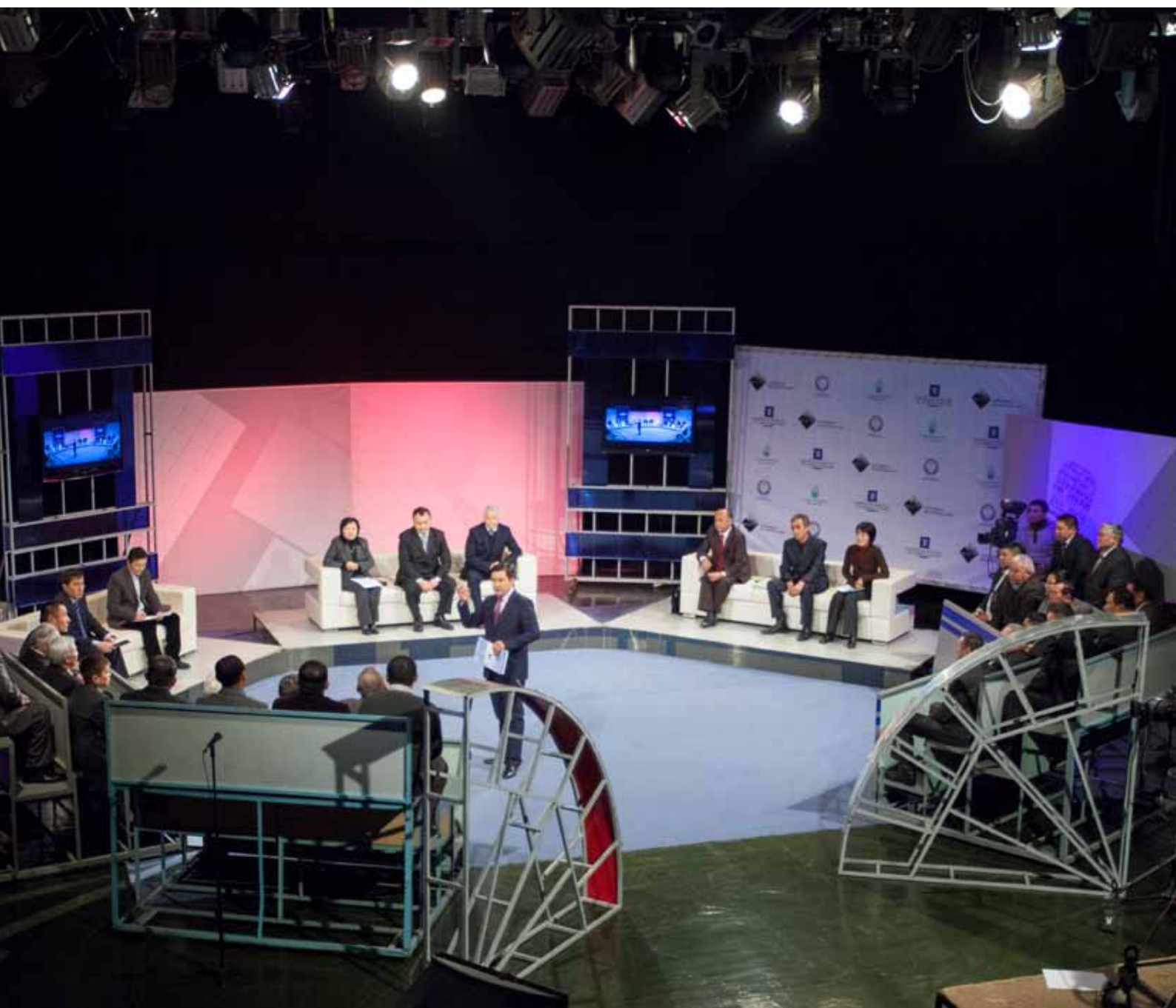


UNIVERSITY
OF CENTRAL ASIA



 VOL.1 No.1
News

January - March 2013

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Cover photo: A novel aspect of UCA's collaboration with the Kyrgyz government to organise a round-table with local self-government was the Bear Pit discussion at the Kyrgyz National Television and Radio Broadcasting Corporation studios, which was re-broadcast twice to national audiences.

The First Word

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *UCA Q-News*, the University of Central Asia's (UCA) quarterly magazine. *Q-News* presents its readership with *Quick Quarterly Quotes* and news bites from the University. Providing an overview of UCA's recent activities and achievements, the magazine brings you highlights from UCA's key news channels; including the *UCA Newsletter*, event announcements, press news and photo galleries. These resources are also available online at: <http://www.ucentralasia.org/news.asp>.

UCA Q-News is categorised into the following sections, and stories are presented chronologically:

- **News:** provides updates of current events, new partnerships and recent achievements;
- **Research and Learning:** highlights academic and scholarly activities at UCA;
- **People:** showcases UCA-affiliated individuals; and
- **Construction:** includes updates on the progress of UCA campuses and facilities.

UCA Q-News is UCA's latest initiative aimed at strengthening communication between the University and our diverse partners and stakeholders in Central Asia and beyond.

We hope readers enjoy this publication, and welcome your suggestions and feedback!

Nisar Keshvani
Head of Communications
nisar.keshvani@ucentralasia.org

The University of Central Asia (UCA) was founded in 2000. The Presidents of Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Kazakhstan, and His Highness the Aga Khan signed the International Treaty and Charter establishing this secular and private University; ratified by the respective parliaments, and registered with the United Nations. The Presidents are the Patrons of UCA and His Highness is the Chancellor. UCA's mission is to promote the social and economic development of Central Asia, particularly its mountain societies, while at the same time helping the different peoples of the region to preserve and draw upon their rich cultural traditions and heritages as assets for the future.

The UCA Communications Unit was created in 2011 to:

- Ensure the University's core messages are conveyed in alignment with its mission and vision;
- Build a coherent and strong UCA identity worldwide;
- Ensure consistent branding of UCA communication products; and
- Provide strategic communications expertise for stakeholder engagement.

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Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of International Year of Mountains



'Market place' visitors learn more about innovative mountain projects.

The University of Central Asia (UCA) supported the 'market place for sustainable mountain development good practices,' organised by the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS) Central Asia Hub, in celebration of International Mountain Day 2012, which also marked the 10th anniversary of the International Year of Mountains.

Mountain Partnership members from Central Asia, Altai and Dagestan participated in the Bishkek event on 11 December 2012, with support from the MPS Central Asia Hub, which is hosted at UCA's Mountain Societies Research Centre, in partnership with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation Country Office, the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) and the Aga Khan Development Network in the Kyrgyz Republic.

The event demonstrated the increasing and effective role of civil society in addressing the challenges facing mountain communities in Central Asia. Various booths highlighted the diverse and innovative work and products of MP members and AKDN. AKF's innovative kindergartens that operate in yurts during the annual migration by herders to high altitude summer pastures or jail-

oos were showcased in a mini yurt at the event.

"The Mountain Societies Research Centre (MSRC) is pleased to be a part of this event, which highlights best practices in sustainable mountain development in a dynamic and interactive 'market place' setting. MSRC is committed to informing the policy and practice of sustainable mountain development through evidence-based research. Our partnership with Mountain Partnership demonstrates the unique synergy between academic research and the practical application of sustainable practices in mountain communities" said MSRC Director, Dr Horst Weyerhaeuser.

Joint initiatives by the MPS and MSRC in 2012 were highlighted. New publications in both Russian and English were available, including the special issue of the journal Mountain Research and Development on Central Asian Mountain Societies in Transition, guest-edited by MSRC researchers, and the report on Sustainable Mountain Development in Central Asia: From Rio 1992 to Rio 2012 and Beyond report, developed by MPS, MSRC and the Zoi Network with support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

"Our partnership with Mountain Partnership demonstrates the unique synergy between academic research and the practical application of sustainable practices in mountain communities."

National Round Table on ‘Local Self-Government in Kyrgyzstan’ with Kyrgyz Government



The Bear Pit discussion was broadcast by the Kyrgyz National TV and Radio Broadcasting Corporation.

Effective local self-government is critical for democratic governance and economic growth. This was the theme of a National Roundtable on *Local Self-Government in Kyrgyzstan: State and Opportunities for Development* organised by University of Central Asia's (UCA) School of Professional and Continuing Education on 19 December 2012 in Bishkek.

The round table was supported by the *Promoting Stability and Economic Opportunity in Kyrgyzstan* project, a two-year initiative to develop the capacity of local government officials, funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and administered by UCA and the Aga Khan Foundation, Kyrgyz Republic. The project has also supported three regional roundtables and training for *aiyl okmotu* (local government) personnel and the State Agency's staff through SPCE's Local Economic and Community Development Certificate programme.

The round table was attended by Vice Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, Tairbek Sarpashev, members of parliament Esengul Isakov, Kurmanbek Dyikanbayev, Abdimutalip Kochkorbayev; and the Deputy Head of the State Agency for Reconstruction and Regional Development, Shukrat Sabirov, and experts from the Apparatus of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Sixty village council heads, who had participated in

“The University of Central Asia is committed to supporting efforts to build capacity in good governance at all levels in the region.”

previous regional events organised by SPCE, also attended, contributing their superior understanding of issues, which made for lively discussion.

In his opening address, Dr Bohdan Krawchenko, UCA Director General noted, *“The University of Central Asia is committed to supporting efforts to build capacity in good governance at all levels in the region. Our professional development certificate programme for civil servants provided unique access to information and networking opportunities. This round table builds on UCA's 2012 series of round tables with leaders of the 495 village districts of Kyrgyzstan to assess their needs and highlight opportunities for professional development.”*

Vice Prime Minister Sarpashev highlighted the importance of local government and the financial independence of local institutions, *“Most of our people live in rural areas, so it is important for the Government to foster regional development,*

which, in turn, depends on the professionalism and integrity of local officials.”

He went on to say that, despite budgetary constraints, the Government hopes to increase salaries of local officials, and *“will support constructive local initiatives that increase the efficiency and effectiveness of local self-government.”*

These sentiments were echoed by local government representatives; *“We have to improve the professional level of officers in local administrations, and we have to increase their pay to retain them,”* said O. Tamayev, Head of the Kara Jal Village Council, in Ak Suu Raion, Issyk-Kul Oblast.

Mrs U. Narysbayeva, Advisor to the Director of the State Agency for Construction and Regional Development, introduced the draft 2012-2017 *Medium-Term Development Strategy for Local Self-Government*. Mr J. Bakirov, Head of the Department for Regional Monitoring and Development, noted that the Strategy would define further development of local self-government and create an enabling environment for citizen participation in local government.

A novel aspect of the event was the Bear Pit discussion organised at the studios of the Kyrgyz National Television and Radio Broadcasting Corporation, and rebroadcast twice to national audiences.

Emily Harrison

Journalist and Media Training Project at World Bank Workshop

The University of Central Asia (UCA) presented the outcomes of its *Budget Reporting for Journalists and Media Training* project at the World Bank-hosted *Information Matters – Transparency and Accountability in the Kyrgyz Republic* (IMTAK) Project completion workshop on 19 February 2013 in Bishkek.

Administered by the World Bank and financed by the Global Partnership Facility, IMTAK aims to build the capacity of media to ensure transparency and heighten awareness of budget processes. The workshop was attended by IMTAK participants as well as dignitaries, including Member of Parliament, Kurmanbek Dyikanbaev.

UCA’s School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) implemented the 18-month *Journalists and Media Training* project under IMTAK to improve journalists’ ability to analyse, present and disseminate accurate fiscal and budgetary information in the Kyrgyz Republic. A key finding of the project, which engaged 210 journalists, was that journalists tend to cover the topics they are most knowledgeable about, revealed SPCE UCA Director, Gulnara Dzhunushalieva.

“...to help participants build a core set of skills and a comfort level with the subject matter.”

“Economic journalism is still a fairly new concept in Kyrgyzstan and many journalists are unfamiliar with budget terminology and topics. This project was designed to help participants build a core set of skills and a comfort level with the subject matter. Over the long term, we expect to see an increase in the number of articles covering important budget-related issues,” she said.

To further support the engagement of journalists and promote consistency and high quality reporting on public finance, UCA published the *Russian-Kyrgyz-English Glossary of Terms and Concepts in Public Finance and Budget Process* in April 2012. With definitions of over 500 terms and concepts, the glossary meets a critical need for Kyrgyz journalists to access standardized public finance and budgeting terminology for media use.

Katarina Czarniak

Civil Service Training for Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Finance



Ms. Ayday Kurmanova, State Secretary, Kyrgyz Ministry of Economy and Dr Bohdan Krawchenko, Director General of UCA at the signing ceremony.

The University of Central Asia signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic on 19 and 25 March 2013 respectively, to promote cooperation and capacity building for civil servants. Under the MOU framework, UCA's School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) will deliver its Local Economic and Community Development (LECD) certificate programme to Ministry staff.

First developed in 2011, the LECD programme covers four fields of knowledge: local economic development and finance, community development, and English and Kyrgyz for civil servants. SPCE adapted its original LECD curriculum to meet each Ministry's specific training needs.

The revised curricula were jointly approved for the Ministry of Economy by Ms Ayday Kurmanova, State Secretary of the Ministry of Economy and Dr Bohdan Krawchenko, Director General of UCA, and for the Ministry of Finance by Mr Almaz Baketaev, State Secretary of the Ministry of Finance and Dr Krawchenko.

The programme will be supported by the *Promoting Stability and Economic Opportunity in Kyrgyzstan* project, a two-year initiative to develop the capacity of local government officials, funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and administered by UCA and the Aga Khan Foundation, Kyrgyz Republic. The project has also supported regional and national roundtables on local self-governance.

SPCE, Khorog Holds Spring Graduation Ceremony, Graduates 35 Afghan Learners



The UCA SPCE graduating class of Spring 2013.

The University of Central Asia's School of Professional and Continuing Education (UCA-SPCE) held its eighth graduation ceremony on 26 March 2013 at the Khorog Theatre, Tajikistan. Attended by provincial and national government officials, ambassadors of the United States, Germany, United Kingdom and Turkey, and representatives of UCA and the Aga Khan Development Network, the ceremony celebrated the accomplishments of 200 SPCE graduates. The event also commemorated the holiday of Navruz, a festival with Persian cultural roots marking the arrival of spring, and included a cultural performance by the students from Qurbonsho Noyobshev Music School, Khorog.

"Just as we welcome new beginnings during Navruz, we are proud of our graduating students, and wish them success as they use their newly gained knowledge in their future work," said Robert Wheeler, UCA Chief Operating Officer.

Students received certificates recognising their successful completion of courses including Accounting Technology, English for Academic Purposes, Bookkeeping/Cashier, Conversational Russian, Conversational German and French, English for Business, Conversational English and Training of Guides. Students who had successfully taken London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) exams received LCCI Certificates, and records of professional development were presented to Information Technology (IT)

and English teachers from SPCE's outreach programmes. Vocational certificates were awarded to a newly trained group of plumbers, as well as to 24 village mason-masters who attended SPCE courses with support from the European Commission Directorate-General Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection –ECHO (DIPECHO).

The ceremony also recognised SPCE's third graduating class of Afghan students who successfully completed advanced level courses under the Cross Border Vocational Education in Badakhshan (CVEB) programme, a joint initiative of UCA, Aga Khan Foundation USA and the United States Agency for International Development. Her Excellency Susan Elliot, Ambassador of the United States to Tajikistan, congratulated the 35 Afghan and 22 Tajik CVEB graduates, and said, *"The CVEB initiative, now concluding its second phase, embodies the core tenants of the New Silk Road Initiative, encouraging cross-border cooperation and development."*

These sentiments were echoed by Isror Isrorov, Deputy Governor of Gorno-Badakhstan Autonomous Obast, *"The 35 graduates from the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan are receiving qualifications that will enable them to improve their lives and contribute to their country's prosperity. We see this opportunity as a way to strengthen friendship and brotherhood between Tajikistan and Afghanistan."*

UCA Builds GIS Capacity in Central Asia

The University of Central Asia (UCA) is working to strengthen the capacity and use of Geo-Information Systems (GIS) in Central Asia. UCA Senior Research Fellow Dr Bettina Wolfgramm, a Senior Researcher at the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), University of Bern, served as project coordinator of a 2010-12 partnership between UCA, the Kyrgyz Slavic Russian University, the Tajik Agrarian University and CDE. The partnership was designed to strengthen capacity in geo-processing for natural resource monitoring in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

Through the partnership, which was funded by the Scientific Cooperation between Eastern Europe and Switzerland (SCOPES), UCA developed technical and training resources and supported the participation of Central Asian scholars in conferences and advance degree programmes.

Workshops on GIS education, training and research, and GeoData management were held, and modules of a CDE training manual were translated into Russian.

UCA also participates in the Trans-European Mobility Programme for University Studies -



GIS training workshop participants utilising geodetical equipment.

Geoinformatics: Managing Energy, Resources, Environment (Tempus-GEM) to develop and implement an international, interdisciplinary postgraduate curriculum in Geoinformatics, with a focus on Central Asia. The project is coordinated by the Centre for Geoinformatics, University of Salzburg and the Austria-Central Asia Centre for Geoinformatics.

Afghan Students Pursue Advanced English and IT Training at UCA, Khorog

Twelve young learners from the rural areas of Afghan Badakhshan and Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast (GBAO), Tajikistan arrived at the University of Central Asia's (UCA), School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) in Khorog, Tajikistan to pursue advanced courses in English and Information Technology (IT) in October 2012.

The advanced learners were part of a corps of 84 scholarship recipients of SPCE's Cross-Border Vocational Education in Badakhshan Phase II (CVEB II) project, implemented by UCA and funded by the United States Agency for International Development and the Aga Khan Foundation USA.

CVEB II aims to foster cross-border co-operation and job creation through training according to current labour market needs.

CVEB enrolls Afghan and Tajik students in English classes to encourage cross-cultural learning. In CVEB II, students are undergoing SPCE's new English for Academic Purposes course, a comprehensive and intensive programme that prepares students for admission to university and to teach English, incorporating the latest teaching methodologies. The advanced level learners will also develop advanced knowledge and critical thinking skills, while engaging in discussion clubs with their Afghan and Tajik peers.

Farid Safarmamad

Senior Research Fellow appointed Foreign Member of Tajik Academy of Sciences



Dr. Ilolov, President of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan (right), presents Professor Karim-Aly Kassam with the Certificate of Membership (Academician) to the Academy of Sciences.

University of Central Asia's (UCA) Senior Research Fellow and Cornell University Professor Karim-Aly Kassam is no stranger to Central Asia and its academic institutions. Dr Kassam has spent the last seven years researching the Pamir Mountains of Afghanistan and Tajikistan, working closely with UCA and the Academy of Sciences, Republic of Tajikistan.

It is no surprise he was elected Foreign Member (Academician) of the Academy of Sciences, Republic of Tajikistan. Dr Kassam was also appointed English Language Editor of the Academy's Journal of the Biological and Medical Sciences. The ceremony took place during the annual meeting of the Academy in Dushanbe on 12 December 2012.

The election was followed by a presentation by Dr Kassam to the Academy, entitled Knowledge as Hope for the Challenges of the 21st Century, based on research with indigenous communities at high latitudes and high

altitudes, including the Pamir Mountains of Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

Dr Kassam presented findings demonstrating neglected connections between climate change and food security; medicinal plants and conservation of plant biodiversity and health; sacred sites and ecological sustainability; and indigenous knowledge and science.

"I am extremely honoured to have been elected to the Academy of Sciences," said Dr Kassam, "It is an important milestone, not only for me as a scholar and friend of Tajikistan, but also for the young Central Asian scholars and the University of Central Asia, with whom I work. I look forward to continuing and expanding my fruitful partnership with the Academy, contributing to rigorous and ecologically sound action-oriented research that can be applied to addressing the quality of life of mountain communities in the region."

Sia Nowrojee

"It is an important milestone, not only for me as a scholar and friend of Tajikistan, but also for the young Central Asian scholars and the University of Central Asia."

English Instructor Wins Dissertation Prize at University of Birmingham



UCA Senior English Instructor Tojiniso Olimnazarova teaching Afghan and Tajik learners.

With over 13 years teaching experience, UCA Senior English Instructor Tojiniso Olimnazarova, recently completed her Masters in Education at the University of Birmingham, with a dissertation entitled Using Multiple Languages in English as a Foreign Language in Classrooms in Tajikistan.

She was awarded the Best Teaching English as a Foreign Language Dissertation Prize for dissertations which demonstrate significance, originality and methodological rigour. Tojiniso was also nominated by the University for the British Council's English Language Teaching Masters Dissertation Award, recognising work with the best potential for impact.

Tojiniso's research focused on using students' full linguistic abilities to teach English. *"There is widespread belief in current discourse that when teaching English, only English should be used. I agree that teachers should try their best to do so, but when students are challenged, there are other ways to help them understand and grasp concepts,"* she said.

Observing English classes at UCA's School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) in Tajikistan, Tojiniso confirmed that using

"Her work, rooted in a solid understanding of theory has great practical significance. It is an example of the kind of scholarship we wish to promote."

other languages helped her students understand English. *"All our teachers are local. We share common languages with our students. For many of us, English is our fourth language. Our native language can also be a resource for teaching, especially at the lower levels,"* Tojiniso asserted.

"We are very proud of Ms Olimnazarova and her accomplishments. UCA is only as strong as its staff. Birmingham professors noted that Tojiniso wrote an exceptional piece of research that showed the pedagogic possibilities of flexible bilingualism, as teachers and students use Tajik, Russian, and a local language Shughni, to learn English. Her work, rooted in a solid understanding of theory has great practical significance. It is an example of the kind of scholarship we wish to promote." said Dr Bohdan Krawchenko, UCA Director General.

Emily Harrison

Investing in Young Professionals as Future Leaders in Development



AKFC Fellow Emily Harrison with the Naryn Mayor's Office football team, during the inauguration of UCA's Naryn sports facilities in August 2012.

The competitive International Fellowship Programme of the Aga Khan Foundation Canada (AKFC) selects candidates from diverse academic backgrounds and matches them with development organisations around the world to expose them to the field and contribute to the mission of the host organisation. Cross-cultural learning and expertise exchange are inherent to the placement. *"These extraordinary young Canadians bring skills, dedication and enthusiasm to their host organisations,"* says Khalil Z. Shariff, the CEO of AKFC. *"But they receive as much as they give. The experience they gain during the programme is an important stepping stone in fostering global citizenship in their personal and professional lives."*

Two AKFC Fellows are currently hosted at UCA and another at the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF), Kyrgyz Republic.

Drawing on his experience as a student and instructor in diverse academic settings, AKFC Fellow Khalid Kurji contributed his ideas and learnt new skills as he participated in various aspects of UCA's planning and development, including academic and strategic planning. UCA colleague and AKFC Fellow Emily Harrison brought a background in development and Canadian refugee policy from Tanzania to the UCA Communications Department, where she worked as an analyst. *"Being able to work with all University programmes has given me a better understanding of UCA's scope. I am thrilled to be able to*

contribute to building communications capacity within UCA, and also highlight the considerable accomplishments of staff and researchers across the three countries."

AKFC Fellow Tamana Zamir is hosted by UCA's sister agency in Bishkek, AKF, Kyrgyz Republic. With AKF, she supported grassroots community initiatives, ranging from greenhouse establishment to 'travelling Jailoo kindergartens' for Kyrgyz herder families. *"I was made to feel part of the team from day one. I have had the opportunity to work directly with communities; engage in and help lead trainings; and carry out data collection and assessments. The skills and knowledge I have gained in monitoring and evaluation are significant,"* she said.



AKFC Fellow Khalid Kurji discussing baseline educational assessment with UCA colleagues.

Promoting Stability and Economic Opportunity in Kyrgyzstan



"I enrolled in the programme to learn skills that would help me expand my bakery business. The programme was an eye-opener for me to understand the basics of business planning and to build additional skills in marketing and accounting."

- Gulmira Toktosunova

A native of Naryn city in the Kyrgyz Republic, Gulmira Toktosunova worked as a teacher for most of her adult life. After retiring from teaching five years ago, Gulmira, 45, decided to set up a bakery as an alternative means to support her family. "I have five children. I knew I needed to continue to support myself and my family," said Gulmira.

Gulmira's bakery is located in the heart of Naryn city. She and her staff of eight produce several different varieties of bread, such as the traditional Kyrgyz bread lepyoshka, for Naryn town citizens.

In the fall of 2011, Gulmira enrolled in the Entrepreneurship programme offered by the University of Central Asia's (UCA) School of Professional and Continuing Education. The Entrepreneurship programme, delivered with support from the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) Kyrgyz Republic and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, helps Naryn-based entrepreneurs develop skills in marketing, business communication, and business plan development. "I enrolled in the programme to learn skills that would help expand my bakery business," said Gulmira. "The programme was an eye-opener to understand the basics of business planning and to build additional skills in marketing and accounting."

In the Kyrgyz Republic, many start-up entrepreneurs have difficulty accessing microcredit due to the specific conditions and high interest rates (regional average of 23%) set by microfinance institutions in the region. In May 2011, UCA and Kyrgyz Investment and Credit Bank (KICB)

signed a Memorandum of Understanding to support entrepreneurs in Naryn with low interest loans. Through this MoU, Norwegian funds provided the \$25,000 collateral for the establishment of a revolving loan fund of \$25,000. KICB provided an additional \$25,000 of collateral, raising the total amount of the revolving loan fund to \$50,000. These small loans are designated to support the top business plans of Entrepreneurship programme graduates, providing these graduates with access to capital from KICB to realize their business proposals.

For Gulmira, the small loan programme gave her the opportunity to raise the standards of her product and, in turn, improve her output. Today, Gulmira produces nearly 1,000 loaves of bread per day, "My goal is to produce high-quality products for the people in Naryn town," says Gulmira. "When I took a KICB loan, I was able to grow my bakery business. Today, my products are successfully supplied to a local school, kindergarten and hospital."

The project Promoting Stability and Economic Opportunity in Kyrgyzstan is being implemented by the Aga Khan Foundation, Kyrgyz Republic and the University of Central Asia. The project falls into two categories: Professional and Vocational Training and Rural Infrastructure.

Overall, the project contributes to promoting stability and social harmony through improvement of livelihoods in the country.

UCA Participated in Public Meeting with Naryn Community



UCA Director General Dr Bohdan Krawchenko addresses the Naryn community, with Zalkar Kamalov, Deputy Director SPCE, and Kanatbek Muratbekov, Authorised Naryn Representative of the Government.

“We want to keep the community apprised of its progress as UCA moves into its next phase of campus development.”

The University of Central Asia participated in a public meeting organised by the Naryn Oblast Administration for the Naryn community on 6 March 2013. UCA Director General Dr Bohdan Krawchenko, supported by Grant Robertson, Director of Construction, presented its campus development plans, to the Naryn community.

“Since its inception, UCA has worked very closely with the Naryn community. We have community members who have been trained by our School of Professional and Continuing Education, and community members who worked in construction. At this juncture, we wanted to keep the community apprised of its progress as UCA moves into its next phase of campus development,” said Dr Krawchenko.

During the public presentation, Dr Krawchenko introduced the University’s academic programmes, and highlighted its various construction developments since 2006. Key milestones includ-

ing the completion and handover of the Naryn State Road to the Kyrgyz Government in 2010; the official opening of the School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) town campus in 2011; and the inauguration of the football and tennis community facilities in 2012. From 2006, UCA has also planted 60,000 trees, plants and shrubs, installed lighting on the State Road, stabilised the riverbank, and provided water and electricity to the Tosh Bulak village.

As it completes its final campus master plan, UCA will begin site works, including building drainage, extending its equipment storage facilities, and building a workforce facility of international standards for its future construction staff, explained Dr Krawchenko. These preparatory works will be completed in the coming months.

“Given the harsh building environment, UCA is also investing in heavy duty building machinery such as tractors, tipper trucks, mobile cranes, and a batching plant,” said Mr Robertson.

The University shared with the Naryn community its overall master plans with 3-dimensional images of its start-up phase academic and dormitory buildings to help them visualize how their hometown will be transformed in a few years’ time.

Nisar Keshvani

UCA Public Lecture Series

January-March 2013

The UCA Public Lecture Series highlights emerging research in and about Central Asia and supports UCA's scholarly and academic programmes. http://www.ucentralasia.org/public_lectures.asp

- Agricultural Productivity, Poverty and Export Potential in Talas Oblast of Kyrgyzstan, Kanat Tilekeyev, Research Fellow of the UCA Institute of Public Policy and Administration and Graduate Fellow with the UCA Central Asian Faculty Development Programme, 24 January 2013
- Food Security and the Agricultural Cooperation Agenda in Central Asia with a Focus on Tajikistan, Shokhboz Asadov, Senior Researcher at the UCA Institute of Public Policy and Administration, 31 January 2013
- Financial Support Obligation in Kyrgyz Kinship Networks, Altyn Kapalova, Candidate of Science Candidate, Department of Ethnology, Kyrgyz National Academy of Science, 7 February 2013
- Social Work Development: Fundamental Trends in Modern Kyrgyzstan, Dr Nurgul Musaeva, Head and Associate Professor, Social Work and Practical Psychology Department, Bishkek Humanities University, 8 February 2013

In our next issue, read about:



Central Asia Musical Traditions Course Teaches and Inspires



Prof. Vasiliy Kisunko's donates unique book collection to UCA Library



Institute of Public Policy and Administration Launches Expanded Edition of English-Russian Public & Economic Policy Glossary



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