

Alumni Association

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Education:
the best gift
a friend
can give

Editorial

by Nikos Papagiannopoulos

Dear Alumni,

The end of another academic year finds Hellenic American University strengthening its position in Greek higher education and sustaining healthy growth with new curricula and enhanced study programs.

As you will have the chance to read in this newsletter, the article on our NEASC accreditation provides useful insight regarding the accreditation process and its significance. Furthermore, the article on the Hellenic American University Campus in Manchester, New Hampshire, gives us a look at the University's presence on the other end of the ocean, thanks to which the University can provide a global educational experience.

You will also find an article on HAU's latest initiative for alumni and their friends and family- a special discount program for alumni to continue their education at Hellenic American University. For the first time, the University is extending this offer to the friends and family of alumni as a way of helping them acquire qualifications to further their careers in these difficult times.

In the distinguished Alumni section we have the honor and pleasure of welcoming Mr. Dimitris Monachos, who sets an example of

how personal determination coupled with strong academic skills and guidance can transform a student into a pioneering professional in the new economy. Dimitris also confirms the value of teamwork and the importance of learning by the professional experiences of others, which HAU so successfully endorses in its curriculum.

An article providing information of the Open Week event (May 19th – May 23rd) for the Master of Arts in Translation and the Master of Arts in Conference Interpretation can also be found in the newsletter.

Finally we are looking forward to expanding the Hellenic American University Alumni family with the new 2014 graduates who we will officially welcome into the Alumni Association in October.

The Board of the Hellenic American University Alumni Association wishes a great summer for you and your families.

Best regards,
Nikos Papagiannopoulos,
President HAUUniv Alumni Association

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"Alumni, Friends & Family"

The Alumni society is an integral part of Hellenic American University. Acknowledging the importance and value of the relationship between the University and its Alumni, Hellenic American University has decided to give its Alumni the opportunity to continue their studies affordably, extending this offer to their family and friends as the University believes that everyone deserves the opportunity to receive a quality education.

The benefits of extending this offer to family and friends is twofold: financial support for those who are interested in obtaining a quality education, and also, promotion of the University and all it has to offer by those who know all the benefits firsthand.

Regardless of whether you wish to obtain another degree, spread the word on this opportunity and what Hellenic American University has to offer.

 Leonidas-Phoebus Koskos, Esq., President,
Hellenic American University

Decoding Accreditation



I was asked to expand on my brief note to alumni, published in the previous Alumni Newsletter in regard to our institution's achievement of accreditation through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). Using the word "achievement" in my previous sentence was purposeful as accreditation is indeed an achievement for an institution of higher education such as ours. This statement is particularly valid in our context as a relatively new institution, "achieving" accreditation in the earliest possible timeframe. By that I mean that the earliest that an institution can request candi-

dacy for accreditation is after its first students have graduated, with the challenging and laborious process of candidacy being a multi-year engagement. So, our institution reaching this milestone just nine years after its foundation is remarkable and possibly a world record, especially in the rigorous world of higher education accreditation of the United States of which we partake. Accreditation in this rigorous world is a means of assuring and improving higher education quality. An institution that has successfully completed an accreditation review has provided proof that it has in place the needed instructional, student support and other services to assist students to achieve their educational goals. I cannot overemphasize in this context the role and key contribution of our entire community in the accreditation endeavor. Alumni, faculty, staff, students, administrators, and our Board of Trustees all played important roles in our effort, as community involvement and engagement is a cornerstone of a successful bid. It is important to note that accreditation is both a process and an outcome. Accreditation as a process means the reviewing of colleges, universities, institutions and programs in order to judge their educational quality. This focuses on how well institutions

serve students and society. The result of the process, if successful, is the award of "accredited status." This is the outcome of accreditation. All accrediting organizations, such as NEASC, our accrediting organization, create and use specific standards, as abovementioned, both to assure that institutions and programs meet threshold expectations of quality and to assure that they improve over time. These standards address key areas such as faculty, student support services, finance and facilities, curricula and student learning outcomes. Accreditation means that alumni, students and the general public can expect that a school lives up to its promises. It means that students and alumni can have confidence that a degree or credential has value, and that the public can have confidence in the substance of an institution or program. So, our "accredited status" is a big deal. It is a big deal that should make us all very happy and very proud of our institution and our community. It should motivate us to continue to work hard and even harder in the future as an institution that continues to innovate and improve itself perpetually, using our existing institutional vision as our guiding light in realizing a world class future.

Dr. Triant Flouris, Provost

Hellenic American University Campus in Manchester, New Hampshire

Hellenic American University's campus is located in downtown Manchester, New Hampshire at 52 Concord Street. It is a short walk away from Manchester's Mill District, an area that hosts shops, restaurants, cafes, art galleries, museums, and entertainment venues, as well as a thriving business community. Manchester is approximately an one-hour drive from the New Hampshire seacoast and Boston, Massachusetts.

Early on in its history, Hellenic American University signed an agreement with the New Hampshire Institute of Art, which granted Hellenic American University students use of certain NHIA facilities including the Teti Library and dormitories. Through this cooperation, students not only have access to additional resources, but have a chance to meet and make friends with students from the New Hampshire Institute of Art.

Our faculty and staff in New Hampshire, just as those at our campus in Athens, work closely with students offering individualized support throughout the course of their studies. Regardless of what side of the Atlantic we teach on, we strive to provide an educational experience that is global in outlook, career relevant and interculturally informed.

Andrew Stoltz, Marketing Coordinator
Hellenic American University

Classroom



Academic Building



Success story: Dimitris Monachos, a multitasking-gamer businessman

My career choices were pretty much determined at a really young age. To this day I remember telling my parents when I was 11 years old that I was going to become a video game programmer. I wasn't one of the kids that always had a console or anything like that at home. Just a PC. If memory serves me right, at the time I was "allowed" to play video games on that PC for an hour a day.

Over the next few years, I developed a really good relationship with technology and especially computers, to the point where I could troubleshoot small problems or malfunctions. But what I wanted most was to create a game that I could play with my friends and other people around the world.

I wasn't a good student in high school (mainly because I was kind of a rebel and hated being told to do things that didn't interest me), but always good enough so as not to jeopardize my plan of studying at a university, where I would make my life-dream come true.

But there was no institution of higher education in Greece that offered a degree in game programming, so I had to make a decision: either leave my friends and my life in Greece behind or stay here and make the best out of my choice and pursue my dream in a different way. As a person whose friends are the most important thing in his life, it wasn't long before I made my decision.

In the fall of 2008 my research led me to HAUUniv. I was just 18 years old and I needed the best university at the time to be taught the skills and techniques of being a programmer. At HAUUniv, I didn't only learn how to be a programmer but I also learned how to be prepared for what comes after university. I learned a number of things about myself because I was surrounded by a variety of other cultures, had to work in teams, and had to learn how to manage my time and schedule among other things. Prior to that, all I knew regarding work and studies was that "if you want something done correctly you have to do it yourself". At HAUUniv I learned to trust other people, as I would see later in my life that this is something I have to do with my co-workers now. After 4 years of study and 1 year of absence due to army obligations, in the summer of 2013 I successfully finished my studies.

It felt like I was 18 years old again. I had no obligations and no job. However, I had one new thing: tools. I had the tools I needed to resume my quest and keep on pursuing my dream. But I knew that if I wanted to proceed to the next step, I shouldn't rely only on that. I always believed that during the worst of times, the greatest of opportunities arise. And that's what the universe gave me- I was lucky enough to find a really good opportunity and buy my own company at the age of 24. When that happened, I knew I shouldn't stop my studies there. I immediately applied for a Master's degree at HAUUniv, and at the same time set up my business.

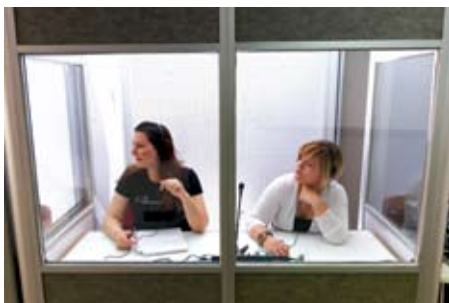
Eight months later, I find myself to be a multitasking businessman, with my own education and programming company, working alongside my best friend who is also my first co-worker. My company teaches computer skills and we are a certified examination center, working on three different software applications. We design websites for other people and I am really glad to have finally achieved my dream. Although it's very early, I have also started working on my first, very own video game and as of February 1st 2014, **I am the proud owner of GGA (Greek Gaming Academy) the very first gaming academy in Greece.**

None of these things would have happened without HAUUniv. It is where I received the right tools and experience to get me where I am today, and is where I continue to learn and grow.



Be a Translator and Interpreter for a Day!

It is our pleasure to announce that we have started accepting applications for the 2014-2015 academic year for the Master of Arts in Translation and the Master of Arts in Conference Interpretation. In this context we invite you to share this information with your friends, colleagues and relatives. Many interested in the programs joined the MAT and MACI classes during the Open Week event (May 19th – May 23rd) and experienced what it's like to study at Hellenic American University. All those who attended had a chance to discuss with current students and meet with the academic coordinators to further address their professional and academic aspirations.



The Master of Arts in Translation (MAT) has been especially designed to meet the growing need of the translation industry for translators of high caliber. Equally, the Master of Arts in Conference Interpretation (MACI) is meant to cover the urgent need for professional Conference Interpreters, capable of working in a multilingual, global environment. Both programs have a wide interdisciplinary spectrum which makes them ideal for candidates from different backgrounds such as linguistics, business, law and political science. Also, both programs' curriculum is fully tailored to meet the needs of candidates who wish to pursue a career as in-house or freelance translators and conference interpreters, employed in:

- National and European institutions
- Translation & interpreting agencies
- Newspapers and other media institutions
- Subtitling companies
- Multinational companies

To make an appointment please call us at: 210-3680951 or 210 3680943.

Give Blood – Save Lives!!



Dr. Georgia Valaoras, Adjunct faculty member

On April 23, 2014 Hellenic American College, in cooperation with Hellenic American University and the Hellenic American Union, held another extremely successful Blood Drive, collecting approximately 40 units. Blood donated is credited to a blood bank account created for members of our community and their families who may need a blood transfusion at any given time. Since our HAUniv Community Blood Account was initiated in December of 2009, no member of our community or their loved ones have been denied blood when they needed it for an emergency or elective surgery. By collecting blood in advance of need, we avoid the stress and inconvenience of trying to find donors during an already difficult time. **The Alumni Association of Hellenic American University is a vital part of this community and is invited to donate blood in the name of the HAUniv Community Account.**

In time of need, they are welcome to request blood for themselves and their families.

The next HAUniv Community Blood Drive will be held in November 2014. In the meantime, Alumni wishing to donate may do so at Gennimatas General Hospital. Make sure to specify that the blood should be credited to the Hellenic American University and Union account.

Gennimatas General Hospital - 154 Messogeion Avenue

Mondays – Friday: 8:00-18:00 Saturday: 8:00 – 14:00

The hospital is short walk south from Ethnikis Amina (National Defense) Metro Station. Parking is easily available on Saturdays and it is quieter! No appointment needed.

To find out more, please contact Claudia Lolos at clolas@hauniv.edu.

Editorial team

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- Katerina Hassapi, Member (Art Director)
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