



Success at the 2025 Career Fair

The 2025 Career Fair, held on May 19 at Hellenic American University's Athens campus, brought together students, alumni, and top employers from across a wide spectrum of industries. With 14 participating companies, 200+ onsite interviews, and important connections made, the event proved once again to be a dynamic platform for career exploration and professional growth.

Whether launching their careers, considering a shift, or simply exploring the job market, students and alumni had the chance to engage directly with industry leaders—from business and informatics to clinical psychology, translation, and education. Participating organizations included CQS, Hellenic American Union, IASIS NGO, Interpretit, Lalizas S.A., Lexis Πληροφορική Α.Ε., ManpowerGroup Greece, Optimal HR, ORCO S.A., Plaisio Computers, Polyglossos Language Schools, Randstad Hellas, Roots Wellness Center, and Translate.One each offering valuable insights, interview opportunities, and real-world perspectives.

The event was officially opened by Provost Dr. Themis Kaniklidou, who welcomed the

company representatives and reaffirmed the University's keen interest in working closely with corporate partners to promote employability and support the industry in their search for talent.

Organized by the Career Development Office under the leadership of Ms. Domniki Diamantopoulou, the fair was designed not only to match talent with opportunity but also to help participants sharpen their career-readiness skills. As Ms. Diamantopoulou explained:

"At the heart of the services offered by the Career Development Office—both to students and alumni—is the smooth transition from the 'protected' academic environment to the realities of the job market. The annual Career Fair stands as the cornerstone of this mission, offering participants the chance to gain their first work experience or find a new job aligned with their goals and skills, join an internship program, learn about the demands of today's labor market, network, and practice their interview and soft skills. The event often serves as an excellent motivation to create an effective resume, refine career goals, or even redefine them for those further along in their professional journey."

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MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST

Your Lifelong Journey with Hellenic American University

On behalf of the entire faculty at Hellenic American University, it is my great pleasure to reconnect with you, our esteemed alumni. We remember with pride the time you spent with us, beginning a remarkable academic journey that we trust has expanded your horizons and helped you pursue your passions.

This year remained a critical one for our institution, one that will help us shape the future. We are able to move ahead with new offerings at the Nashua campus and will work hard to maintain the career-relevance of the Athens campus academics. We have graduated 100 students from Athens and Nashua combined, some of whom received graduate certificates and minors. As far as accreditation is concerned, the institution is preparing for the 2027 re-accreditation which comes with a comprehensive visit and the involvement of all stakeholders.

We hope you carry with you the core of our educational philosophy: that learning is not merely the accumulation of facts, but the joyous act of making connections. As you navigate your professional and personal lives, we hope you still see knowledge as a river, not a bucket—a dynamic force that never stops flowing. The diverse perspectives of your peers and professors were a treasure during your studies, and that spirit of connection is something we now cherish within our alumni community.

The foundation you built here is a lasting one. As a graduate of a truly American university accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), one of the leading accreditation organizations in the world, your degree carries with it global recognition and professional opportunity.

I encourage you to stay connected with the university and engage with the community, whether by attending events at our Athens

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Alumni Success stories



Pavlos Tsitsanis (MBA '25)

Coming from a small rural area in Northern Greece and a public school background, Pavlos Tsitsanis never imagined his career would one day span continents. His early ambitions were academic—after earning his degree in Geology from Patras University, he set his sights on postgraduate research and a life in academia.

But plans evolve. A position at a multinational mining company near his hometown—initially pursued for financial stability—became a defining chapter in his life. “That move proved to change my entire career and life,” Pavlos reflects.

What followed was a steady, purposeful shift from research labs to rugged exploration sites, from theory to practice. A passion for mineral exploration took root. “Being outdoors in the field or deep underground searching for metals resonated with my personality and nature,” he says. “Suddenly being a mineral exploration geologist felt very right—and very soon became my passion.”

The path forward wasn't handed to him—it was built through consistent effort and openness to learning. “As a young passionate geologist, I've embraced any opportunity to grow as a professional, taking over responsibilities that would make me a better scientist and professional.” Hard work mattered, but so did environment: “A high-performing operational setting, international mentors, visionary management, and ongoing professional development were key ingredients to thrive.”

Eventually, he took on a country manager role—leading a team, shaping strategy, and contributing to the

company's wider mission. But after three years in management, he felt it was time to expand his perspective. “I decided it was time to gain international experience, particularly on early-stage projects, as those are linked with a company's future growth.”

Today, he works as part of the Discovery Copper team in Europe, a division of one of the world's largest mining companies. His role is as wide-reaching as the geography he covers. “My duties are to generate, identify, and evaluate opportunities and projects that could fit the company's asset portfolio, reviewing the technical, commercial, and financial aspects.” His area of responsibility spans Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Asia Minor, the Caucasus, and the Middle East.

How did Hellenic American University's MBA fit into Pavlos's journey? He pursued it with purpose—wanting to complement his technical background with stronger strategic and managerial skills. After graduating from Hellenic American University, he was entrusted with new responsibilities. “As part of my professional development desire, management entrusted me with strategic business development tasks, combining my business administration background with my technical expertise.”

When asked about a standout memory from the program, Pavlos points to something surprisingly simple yet powerful: the classroom itself. “The realization of the power of brainstorming and open discussions over a subject... The diversity in cultural, social, and educational backgrounds provided a plethora of opinions and aspects that eventually came together into an outcome.”

That same blend of perspectives—practical, academic, strategic—also defines his view of success. In his field, it's about two things: discovering new deposits of economic value and expanding the resources of existing mines. “Throughout my career I have successfully expanded mineable resources, adding more tonnes into production and extending the life of a mine.” Now, he's in the process of establishing a subsidiary company in a new country to explore a promising opportunity his team helped identify.

But it's not just about minerals.

Leadership matters—especially the kind that drives change.

“The mining business includes many risks around the health and safety of its employees, and the only way to improve it is to be uneasy with old, inefficient, outdated, and effectively dangerous practices.” That same mindset, he believes, applies to culture: “It is up to young leaders like us to bear new ideas, reshape and modernize the way we conduct business. Continuous improvement, adaptability, accountability, and speaking up—these are the principles to fight for.”

And when in doubt? “Consider this,” he adds. “If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito in the room.”

So how does he stay motivated in a career that spans years, countries, and complex challenges? “Continuous learning is key to success—not just in geology but in any business or profession.” For him, staying open-minded and gaining exposure to new environments keeps things fresh. Still, he knows motivation has to come from within. “I consider that the motivation is sourced internally and is part of someone's personality.”

Pavlos is equally grounded when asked about what success means to him now. “Success for me is to be there for my family, my loved ones, my friends—to be there as a husband, as a father, as a brother, as a son, as a friend to provide and support through the life journey.” And professionally? “I consider myself very lucky that ultimately, I managed to make a living and a career doing what interests me the most.”

When not reviewing exploration data or flying between project sites, he turns to the past—his passions include history and politics, and he enjoys podcasts and books on the subject. Time outdoors also keeps him balanced. “Hiking and mountain biking help me blow off some steam and fill me with energy—although my time is limited lately,” he admits.

From a rural village to global leadership in mineral discovery, our alumnus's story isn't about shortcuts or grand declarations—it's about purpose, adaptability, and doing the work, step by step. In Pavlos's words, it all started with a simple move—one that changed everything.

SIGNATURE SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS

1. On February 5, the Bachelor of Music program at Hellenic American University organized an extraordinary evening at the Hellenic American Union Theater, featuring internationally renowned concert pianist Maria Garzón. The celebrated artist delivered a powerful and nuanced performance of Johann Sebastian Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, captivating the audience.

2.



On February 27, alumni, faculty, staff, higher administration, and friends of Hellenic American University gathered at Deos Athens for the 2025 Alumni Vasilopita Cutting—an evening filled with laughter, warmth, and reconnection. The event offered the perfect opportunity to catch up with old classmates, forge new friendships, and celebrate the spirit of community that defines the University's alumni network. In a festive atmosphere, the traditional "pitta" was shared, and this year's lucky coin went to Eleni Plemmenou (BSPsy '22)—adding a touch of extra joy to an already memorable night. This celebration was a reminder that, no matter how far we go, the Hellenic American University family always finds its way back together.

3.

On April 10, Hellenic American University co-hosted the presentation of the book *Greece–Albania: Truths and Shadows* by Mr. Alexandros Mallias at the Hellenic American Union Theater. Drawing from his extensive experience, Mr. Mallias explored the complex and evolving relationship between Greece and Albania—an issue central to his latest publication, released by I. Sideris Publications. The event featured a distinguished panel, including Minister Stavros Papastavrou, MP and academic Angelos Syrigos, and MEP Fredi Beleri, with journalist Lambros Kallarytis moderating. Mr. Mallias joined the conversation, offering insights from his decades in diplomacy. Co-organized with the Democratic Union of the Greek Minority «OMONIOIA», the Hellenic American Leadership Council (HALC), the Himarriot Union «HIMARRA», the Hellenic Institute for Strategic Studies (ELISME), and I. Sideris Publications, the event drew a large and engaged audience.

4.



On July 10, the new Alumni Board of Hellenic American University, in collaboration with the Office of Alumni Affairs, hosted the Alumni Summer Gathering at The Place by COCO-MAT.bike—a laid-back, stylish setting perfect for reconnecting. Alumni from a wide range of graduating classes and academic disciplines came together to share stories, enjoy drinks, and meet new faces within the extended University community. The event created a warm and easygoing atmosphere where memories flowed as freely as the conversation, and connections—both old and new—were strengthened under the summer sky.

Stay tuned for future events and workshops.
Check your mailbox, social media and www.haec.gr and www.hauniv.edu
for more details!

Dr. Sofia Kontossi *adjunct faculty member*



As an adjunct faculty member at Hellenic American University, Dr. Sofia Kontossi teaches in the Bachelor of Music (BM) program, where she brings a rare and multifaceted perspective to her work in the classroom, the concert hall, and academic research. As both a classically trained pianist and musicologist, her primary field of expertise lies in Greek art music, with a special focus on art song for voice and piano, both within Greek traditions and internationally. “That’s why,” she explains, “with the support of the BM Program Director, Mr. Ioannis Tselikas, I initiated the Collaborative Piano major.” This initiative stands out as the only university-level degree in Greece to specialize in voice accompaniment.

But how does one become both a dedicated performer and a committed researcher? In Dr. Kontossi’s case, it started at the age of five, when her grandfather bought a piano. “That was the moment when my sister and I discovered our musical talent,” she recalls. Although she didn’t come from a musical family, many of her mother’s relatives had strong voices—talent that remained untapped due to life’s difficulties. The piano opened a door that would never close.

She studied piano under Prof. Mircea Dan Raducanu at the Academy of Arts “George Enescu”, where her teachers in theory, harmony, and solfège also shaped her analytical mindset. These experiences laid the groundwork for her dual pursuit of a Ph.D. in Musicology from the University of Athens and a D.M.A. in Piano Performance from the Universitate de Arte George Enescu. The two paths, far from competing, complemented each other: one deepened her intellectual engagement with music; the other refined her expressive power on stage.

So, what keeps her going, decades into this demanding profession? “Playing the piano has always been a form of personal

expression and a deep inner need—and that need is becoming more pressing as time passes.”

One experience that profoundly shaped her was attending the Song Scholarship and Performance Program at the Vancouver International Song Institute. For three consecutive years, she participated on scholarship, gaining new insights into how music can be interpreted, taught, and felt. “It shaped the way I connect with art song as a performer and scholar,” she says.

She joined Hellenic American University in 2016, stepping in when a position for Ear Training and Piano Studio became unexpectedly vacant. “Due to my dual qualifications in piano and musicology, the current program director, Mr. Tselikas, suggested to the late, great composer Theodor Antoniou that I was the right person for the post.” Since then, her teaching portfolio has expanded to include Piano, Collaborative Piano, the Art of Accompanying, and the History of Music.

But what motivated her to become a teacher? “I really don’t know. I was born motivated,” she laughs. “I wrote it in my primary school report book in Year 2: ‘When I grow up, I will be a gymnastics teacher.’ I stuck with the specialty but changed the subject!”

She believes that teaching, especially in the arts, requires more than subject mastery. “A successful teacher is a mentor who inspires students to work hard and encourages them to dream big.” Rather than correcting mistakes immediately, she encourages her students to develop self-awareness and confidence in their own learning process. “I don’t usually answer questions directly: my aim is to guide students to find the answer by asking the right questions.”

What does success look like for her as an educator? “Memorable successes often come at unexpected moments, sometimes after students have finished their courses with me,” she shares. She’s received heartfelt messages from students thanking her for pushing them beyond their comfort zones, and one particularly proud moment came in February 2025, when Anastasios Panos, the first graduate of the Collaborative Piano Major, gave his final recital “to great success.”

Naturally, not every class runs smoothly. When asked about her most challenging moment while teaching and how she overcame it, she responds with humor and

candor: “(LOL!) Who said I did? It would take too long to explain, but, for the first and only time in my 25-year teaching career by then, I raised my voice. Now that I have gained more experience, I would do better.”

Dr. Kontossi’s calendar is never empty. She is currently preparing a recital of Greek art songs with mezzo-soprano Ioanna Vrakatseli, scheduled for performance in Romania and Crete. She’s also working on a critical edition of *Concertino* for violin and 11 woodwinds by Leonidas Zoras for the Hellenic Music Centre and is editing the next volume of the *Musicologica Balcanica* journal. Her roles also include serving on the steering committee of the Regional Association of Music of the Balkans and coordinating Erasmus+ programs that bring together musicians and scholars across borders.

How does she keep up with everything—and continue evolving? She credits much of her growth to working in different environments, staying in touch with technology, and engaging with other art forms. “I am currently taking a nine-month asynchronous seminar on AI in education,” she notes. She also uses tools like Blackboard and voice recording apps to support her students’ learning and practice. “Teaching in different environments and to different age groups helps a lot.”

Outside academia, Dr. Kontossi leads an active and creative life. “I very much enjoy playing the djembe drum,” she says. She also sings in the CompArte choir, swims twice a week, and is hoping to return to marathon running. “I miss trekking and would like to involve my children in it more.” One of her future hopes is to create a small musical group to perform in children’s hospitals, particularly in cancer treatment units.

What advice would she give to new faculty? “In 1993, when I was still a student at the Academy of Arts, my mentor and teacher of Ear Training, Iulia Bucescu, told me, ‘Always teach with love.’” That piece of advice has stayed with her. “We should not confuse high educational standards with rigidity towards students. Students need to feel that we ask a lot of them because we really care.”

Whether through her teaching, her research, or her music-making, Dr. Sofia Kontossi exemplifies the values of lifelong learning, deep inquiry, and sincere mentorship that define Hellenic American University at its best.

CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2025 WITH A WINE RECEPTION

To mark the milestone moment of the Class of 2025's graduation, Hellenic American University hosted a celebratory wine reception for the Class of 2025 following their graduation rehearsal. Held on June 25 at the Athens campus, the event warmly welcomed our newest graduates into the alumni community—an essential part of the University's spirit of connection and lifelong belonging.

Key members of the University were in attendance, including the Provost, faculty, staff, and representatives of the Alumni Association Board. Their presence underscored the message that graduation is not a goodbye, but a transition into a lifelong relationship with the University. Graduates had the chance to meet the Board, learn about alumni programs and benefits, and discover meaningful ways to stay engaged—whether through networking events, mentorship opportunities, or giving back to the community.

As glasses were raised in a toast to the Class of 2025, we celebrated more than just academic achievement—we welcomed a new generation into the ever-growing Hellenic American University alumni family.



CLASS OF 2025
CONGRATULATIONS
GRADUATES

2025

HELLENIC AMERICAN UNIVERSITY CELEBRATED ITS 15TH COMMENCEMENT ACROSS ITS TWO CAMPUSES



Commencements in Nashua, USA & Athens, Greece

With pride, reflection, and celebration, Hellenic American University marked its 15th Commencement this year, honoring the achievements of the Class of 2025 with two ceremonies held on both sides of the Atlantic. The graduation season began at the Nashua campus on May 7 and concluded with a memorable ceremony at the Athens campus on June 26.

This year's graduates—completing Doctoral, Master's, and Bachelor's programs—were joined by their families, faculty, and members of the University's executive leadership and Board of Trustees. The ceremonies offered moments of reflection, recognition, and joy as students stepped into their next chapter.

Earlier in the spring, at the Nashua ceremony, Maninderjeet Kaur (MBA) was honored with the Student Recognition Award for exemplifying the University's core values of maturity, responsibility, and integrity.

At the Athens ceremony, held on the University's downtown campus, Dr. Themis Kaniklidou delivered a powerful Presidential Address, highlighting the University's mission and the resilience, growth, and potential of the graduating class. One of the ceremony's highlights was the presentation of the Teaching Excellence Award to Arthur Antonopoulos, faculty of the Psychology Department, honoring his outstanding commitment to academic excellence and student development.

Valedictory speeches were delivered by Dimitrios Farmakis (MBA) and Eirini Gkini (B.A. in English Language & Literature), offering personal reflections on their academic journeys and heartfelt messages to their peers. Their speeches embodied the spirit of perseverance, gratitude, and hope that defined the Class of 2025. The role of Salutatorian was shared by Holly Patrick (M.S. in Psychology) and Marianna Louvrou (B.A. in English Language & Literature), recognizing their exceptional academic achievements.

Following both ceremonies, receptions were held, offering graduates a chance to celebrate this major milestone surrounded by professors, loved ones, and friends—capping off their academic journey with warmth, gratitude, and anticipation for what lies ahead.

As we look to the future, we celebrate not only the achievements of the Class of 2025 but also the enduring connection they now share as alumni—ready to lead, inspire, and contribute to the world as proud members of the Hellenic American University family.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025!

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Indeed, for some participants, this was their first experience in a professional interview setting; for others, it was an opportunity to consider a career shift, refine their goals, or receive constructive feedback from company recruiters. Many attendees walked away not only with new contacts but with renewed confidence, direction, and purpose.

Importantly, alumni have lifelong access to the services of the Career Development Office, making events like the Career Fair a continuing resource—whether they're seeking a first job, a new direction, or a stronger professional network.

The Career Fair is more than an event—it's a launchpad. And at Hellenic

American University, that launchpad remains open and accessible to our community, long after graduation.

Stay in touch with the Career Development Office!

Contact details: Tel: +30 210 368 0939

• Email: careers@hauniv.edu

An Invitation from the Psychology Club

Every graduation season brings an abundance of emotions. One could say that for those who graduate, it feels like a victory that has been brewing; a cherry that finalizes all the effort, sleepless nights, brainstorming, tears of joy and tears of sorrow shed over years of mental and emotional toil. For us that are watching proud students in their dress and cap walk across that stage with a smile that hollers "I DID IT!", we can't help but smile too. Not only for what they've achieved, and for where they are headed, but for our own achievements as well. There's something special about being part of a Psychology Department where success doesn't mean a straight path, but an unfolding one. As one cohort closes a door, another door opens. Meeting different faces who walk through doors is always inspiring, as we all carry our own questions, our quiet confidence, and our uncertainties, fears and hopes. The story doesn't stop at graduation as this is where it really begins.

This is why we, as the HAUniv Psychology Club, would like to extend an open invitation to all of those who have graduated. The Alumni of the Psychology Department, graduates of last year or decades ago, your journey matters to us and we are eager to hear your voice! We would love for you to return; to share your story, your experiences, your wisdom, and your learned lessons. We would be excited to see what you are currently working on, how you applied your knowledge after graduation or what you chose to add to it.

Current students wonder quietly, sometimes without even putting it into words: What happens next? How do I apply what I've learned? Will I find my place? Your experience, your passion, could not only answer all these questions, but perhaps, plant a seed of curiosity for the next breakthrough in our field. Hearing from you, who have walked this path before brings something to life in a way textbooks and lectures alone cannot. Your story about the twists and turns may be what students need most. Your story might have taken you into clinical practice, research, education, corporate settings, or using your psychology degree in a completely unexpected way. Your voice, however, adds a layer of richness to what our students imagine for themselves.

We hope that your stories will create a bridge between past and present students, and initiate a dialogue between who we thought we would be and who we are becoming. In those shared stories, students may find their own next steps, or at the very least, feel less alone in the asking.

So, to our alumni: The Psychology Club's doors are open! Come and tell us where life has taken you, as we sit together in community, exploring how this field of psychology will continue to contribute to our evolution through each of our lives. Reach out to the Psychology Club, @ Psychology Club. We would be honored to host you.

In the end, this journey is better when we walk it together.

Denia Gili (MSPsy '26),
Psychology Club Secretary

Your Lifelong Journey with
Hellenic American University
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or Nashua campuses, joining virtual gatherings or even mentoring a current student, sharing your career story or simply reconnecting with former classmates.

You experienced firsthand our commitment to career relevance. Our mission has always been to connect theory with practice through hands-on projects, case studies, and experiential learning. We are immensely proud to see how you have taken the practical, real-world applications learned in our classrooms and applied them to your own careers.

Your journey with us does not end at graduation. You are a vital part of our university's story and its future. We urge you to stay connected with the university and with each other. Your experiences, insights, and successes are an inspiration to the students who now walk the same halls you once did. Consider sharing your story, mentoring a current student, or joining us for alumni events.

Thank you for being a distinguished ambassador for Hellenic American University. We look forward to hearing about your continued achievements.

Warm regards,

Themis P. Kaniklidou, PhD

Provost & CAO,
Hellenic American University

COMING SOON...

TRANSFORMATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Message from Dr. Lindy Sannie McMullin

Our Psychology Department has got plans for ongoing research that may be of interest to our Alumni.

According to Mezirow (1996, p.162) "learning is understood as the process of using a prior interpretation to construe a new or revised interpretation of the meaning of one's experience in order to guide further action." This is what stirs the mind and brings us closer to realizing our potential as we plan.

The Psychology Department is dedicated to creating and upholding community and always focuses on changing times. Are you interested in research, or furthering your studies and training in psychology? Our plan to incorporate a PhD program with a focus on Psychology is slowly coming to fruition, as is our recent collaboration with experts in the field of EMDR and IFS, to offer a training program. These programs act as an incentive for all who wish to delve deeper into the understanding of their potential within, waiting to be accessed, and, they embrace ongoing personal and professional development.

Please reach out to the Director of the Psychology Department @lmcnullin if you are interested in furthering your studies in the field of psychology with us.



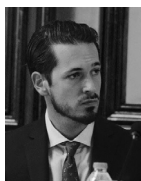
Faculty News



Lucena Gonzalez Eduardo, adjunct faculty member in the General Education program, has been part of the LEA (Literatura en Atenas) Festival committee since its founding in 2008. Recently, as part of the LEA events, on June 12, he coordinated the roundtable discussion «Γιατί να αφηγούμαστε ιστορίες στον 21ο αιώνα» (*Why Tell Stories in the 21st Century*) at the Cervantes Institute in Athens. On June 22, he directed the theatrical play “Doña Gramática” (1942) at the “Apo Michanis Theatro” in Athens. The LEA (Literatura en Atenas) Festival is the most important event in Greece dedicated to Spanish and Latin American literature. Since its inception in 2008—now celebrating its seventeenth edition—LEA has connected readers, translators, and writers through conferences, book presentations, and informal author meetings. The festival has also helped publish many of the most significant works of Hispanic literature, both classics and contemporary titles.



Dr. Alexander Nikolaou, adjunct faculty member in the B.A. in English Language and Literature, M.A. in Applied Linguistics-TESOL, and Ph. D. in Language and Communication programs, participated in the 15th International Symposium on Bilingualism, held in Donostia–San Sebastian (June 9–13), a leading international forum for research on multilingualism. Together with Dr. Jennifer Sclafani (Georgetown University), he presented a paper titled “Reflections on Heritage Language Success and Difficulties upon Homeland Return: Narrative Accounts from Greek Americans in Athens.” The presentation explored how return migrants recount their linguistic challenges and achievements, shedding light on how bilingual speakers manage shifting identities across borders. The event underscored the importance of interdisciplinary approaches to understanding language, migration, and identity—an area of growing interest in both academic and policy circles.



Cameron Bell, adjunct faculty member and director of civic engagement, organized a series of field studies as part of the University’s civic engagement initiatives during the spring and summer terms. He also represented Hellenic American University as a panel speaker at two major conferences: the Zagori Impact Investing Forum, held from May 15 to 17 in the city of Ioannina, and the 8th Edition of Circle the Med: The Mediterranean Forum, held on June 4 at the Acropolis Museum in Athens.



Ifigeneia Roulia (MAT ’12 & MACI ’13), adjunct instructor in the BAELL, MACI, and MAT programs, presented on the challenges, methods, and sources in glossary creation with her Hellenic American University translation and interpreting students at the Terminology Summer School in Timișoara on June 3. The event was organized by TermNet – International Network for Terminology and she was invited by its BoD President, Gabriele Sauberer, and Vice-President, Rodolfo Maslias. In June, she was chosen as team lead for the Mental Health and Wellness (MH&W) Program by Women in Localization. The program will offer online sessions every Friday from September 2025 to May 2026.



Dr. Eugenia Arsenis, assistant professor at Hellenic American University, continues to present her work internationally through performances and speaking engagements at conferences on film, theater, social and cultural issues. This year, she has been elected as the President of the Association of Fulbright Scholars, following previous terms as Vice President and Board Member. She was also recently elected at the Board of the Hellenic Association of Women in Culture and Tourism. She remains one of the founding members of the Culture Committee of the American - Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and, the Delegate of the Greek Director’s Guild at the Federation of European Screen Directors.



Dr. Kalliopi Kountouri and **Dr. Anastasios Kountouris**, adjunct faculty members, are co-authoring, and will be presenting a paper titled «Receptions, perceptions, representations and significations of “classical Greek” themes on public murals in Athens» at the international conference ‘Imagining of Greek Antiquity and the Performing Arts, Visual Arts and Cinema: Aesthetics, Identities, Ideologies’ to be held at the School of Drama, Faculty of Fine Arts, AUTH, in Thessaloniki, Greece, on September 27 and September 28, 2025.



Dr. Maria Agorastou, assistant professor and director of the Counseling Center, presented at the 9th World Conference on Research on Education, held at Dublin City University in Dublin, Ireland on July 25. She shared preliminary findings from her current research at Hellenic American University, titled “*The interplay of complex trauma, shame, and resilience in college students: pathways to healing and intervention.*”

Alumni News



Kathiriya Binalben (MBA '25), soon after completing her MBA studies, was accepted into the Doctoral Program in Business Administration (DBA) at EU Business School in Geneva, Switzerland. Her research focuses on human behavior in relation to organizations.



In May 2025, **Dimitrios Katsiklis** (MBA '22) was appointed as the new Director of Orthodox Marketplace by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America welcomed Mr. Katsiklis to this important role during a meeting at the Archdiocese headquarters in New York City. "The Orthodox Marketplace is not merely a store—it is a national ministry," said Mr. Katsiklis. "It exists to serve the life of the Church and to support our parishes and faithful with the tools and resources needed for Orthodox witness in today's world."



Dimitra Panagopoulou (MAT '25) recently joined Paspартu Translation Services, marking a significant step in her professional journey. She credits the MAT program for providing not only a solid academic foundation in translation and localization but also invaluable hands-on experience that prepared her to confidently enter the industry. She shared that the blend of theory, technology, and practice in the program has already proven essential in her new role. She also expressed deep

gratitude to Mr. Romaos, Director of the MAT and MACI programs, whose recommendation helped open this door, as well as to the professors, staff, and peers who made her experience enriching.



Vasiliki Lismani (MAAL-TESOL '21), English language teacher, IB English instructor, and teacher trainer with Burlington Books, was invited in May to present at the 1st Burlington Community Festival—an inspiring gathering of educators, experts, and students sharing ideas and best practices. Her presentation, titled "Engaging Students with Specific Learning Difficulties: The Role of Pre-Reading Activities," shed light on the often-overlooked challenges faced by students with Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs) in EFL classes. Moving beyond decoding, she focused on how these learners approach reading comprehension and offered practical strategies to support them more effectively. As Ms. Lismani shared, "It was a proud moment to actively contribute to the conversation on inclusive education and make a meaningful impact in the field."



Arthur Antonopoulos's (MSPsy '22) new novel, *Dark Salonica*, was recently released. In this novel, Ariadne flees Athens to rebuild her life in Thessaloniki—but the shadows of her past soon catch up. When her son is kidnapped by a cultural terrorist group hunting a priceless relic, Ariadne is forced into a race against time. As she searches the city's underground and unearths secrets tied to the Hagia Sophia, she must also confront the mystery of her partner's

sudden disappearance. Suspenseful and rich with historical intrigue, *Dark Salonica* explores what it takes to survive when history, myth, and danger collide.



Marianna Venardou (MAT '19) successfully completed a seminar on "Videogame Localization" offered by the translation private school Meta/φραση and recently began collaborating with CCC International as a manga translator, working from English to Greek on **globally popular manga series**.



Nick Kontos (BM '23) is continuing his musical journey with an exciting new chapter: he has joined the prestigious Juilliard School's Extension Division, where he is pursuing studies in music composition. He recently completed his first course, *Scoring to Picture*, and will begin *Orchestration* this fall. He describes the experience as inspiring and is excited to build on the strong foundation he developed during his time at Hellenic American University.



Eric Fishon (MBA '23) recently completed his Doctorate of Healthcare Administration from Virginia University at Lynchburg. In his mission to promote empathy, resilience, and self-acceptance, he also published a children's book titled *XTERMIGATOR KIDS & the Zoomy Frog*. The book introduces young readers to themes of inclusion and neurodiversity through the adventures of a lovable alligator detective and a frog with ADHD.

Share Your Good News!

Have you found a new job or been given a promotion? Gotten an article published or run a marathon? Moved to a new town or city? We invite you to share your news and accomplishments with the rest of the alumni community. Just email us at alumninews@hauniv.edu a short note about what you've been up to recently. We'd be happy to share your news in a coming issue of the Alumni Newsletter.

The Alumni Association Board

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