

Analysis Research & Planning for Armenia

**ARPA Institute,
NEWSLETTER**

**ԱՐՓԱ ՀԻՄՆԱՐԿ
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**Շնորհալոր Նոր Տարի
եւ Սուրբ Ծնունդ**

**Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year**

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President's Message

For the past 25 years, ARPA Institute has been actively engaged in Analysis, Research and Planning for Armenia. Our work has involved analyzing every sector of Armenia and the Diaspora in order to assess and understand its fundamental problems and needs, and then address them, one-by-one, in order of priority. Our strategy has been to conduct research and evaluate all possible solutions to any existing problem and render judicious decisions.

It's true that our contributions may be a drop in the ocean given the challenges facing Armenia and the Diaspora. However, with the financial support of our community and the meticulous analysis, research, and planning of our experts, we have made a noteworthy difference, especially on the younger generation.

Our work has embraced the concept of active engagement, and we have been committed to proactive, positive action. ARPA has always been an advocate for intelligent investing in Armenia; not necessarily financial investments, but concrete initiatives that have improved and enhanced, institutions and structures. We had a one-day conference at the ARPA Institute 25th Anniversary Celebration Conference that addressed strategies for long-term development in Armenia and the Diaspora. Did we address all the issues? No way! However, we tried to bring forth the fundamental problems and make specific suggestions for future improvements. You can read the papers in English or Armenian on our website.

For more than two decades, we have been advocating for the advancement of science, engineering and technology in Armenia. We are firm believers that a modern country needs to have a strong base in all three of these sectors in order to become a viable and competitive economy. The world today does not tolerate mediocrity. You have to be the best to survive and thrive as an individual, let alone as a nation. Armenia has to strive for excellence in every sector in order to prosper and create a better life for its citizens. She should also strive to create an atmosphere for Diasporans to move to and live in the homeland. Unfriendly and hostile neighbors surround Armenia. We need to make the world understand that we are all behind her, not just through lip service, by demonstrating our commitment through engagement and action. We should beam our vision to the far-reaching future of advanced technology, high levels of education and science, and the development of a forward-thinking Armenia. This is why we are initiating a very important venture to create a new Nano-Technology Research and Development Center in Armenia.

All the work that ARPA has done over the past 25 years is because of and thanks to dedicated experts who have given their time, knowledge and expertise, sacrificed their home comforts, and even given their own financial resources to provide technical, scientific, educational, legal, economic, engineering, and charitable assistance. I thank them all, especially our beloved members who have passed on: the esteemed economist, Vartkes Broussalian, the pre-eminent political analyst, Jivan Tabibian, and the devoted physician, Sarko Tilkian. I truly believe that ARPA's mission was decades ahead of its time. Twenty-five years ago, the terms "high tech", "STEM", "business analytics" and the like were not part of our everyday vocabulary. Today we are introducing another visionary initiative with Nano-Technology Research and Development, which demonstrates that ARPA continues to be ahead of the curve in sustainable innovation for Armenia and the Diaspora.

We would appreciate any technical/expert assistance, as well as and especially financial assistance in order to achieve our goals. Be with us, join our important endeavors and help Armenia thrive and prosper. Let's make Hayasdan the most futuristic, the most advanced and the greenest of all nations in the world. Join us!

Please don't forget to make your tax-deductible donation to ARPA Institute.

ARPA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, ID No. 95-4423297.

Please cut and enclose this slip with your donation and send to:

Mr. Harold DeMirdjian, ARPA Treasurer
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Name & Address:

_____ \$50	_____ \$100	_____ \$250
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Thank you!

ARPA Institute 25th Anniversary Celebration Conference

Saturday, July 15, 2017, 10:00am - 5:00pm

Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Rd. Glendale CA 91208

Armenians and Armenia in the 21st Century: A Strategy for Long-Term Development

Please Click On the Title of the Talk for Its Corresponding Paper

- 10:30-10:40 **Introduction:** **Hagop Panossian**, Ph.D., President of ARPA Institute
Mihran Agbabian, Ph.D., Conference General Chair, USC, AUA
- 10:40-11:15 **Keynote Speaker:** **Yervant Zorian**, Ph.D., President Synopsys Armenia & Chief Architect,
Synopsys Corp, USA
Information Technology Research & Development in Armenia

Session I – Armenia

- 11:15-12:45 *Developing Armenia into a Viable and Sustainable Economy*
- Chair:** **Carla Garapedian**, Ph.D., London School of Economics
- Speakers:** **King Banaian**, Ph.D., Dean, School of Public Affairs, St. Cloud State U.
Economic development in Armenia: Steps towards more freedom
David Joulfaian, Ph.D., Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Armenia's prolonged transition
Tatoul Manasserian, Ph.D., D.Sc. in Economics, Founder, Research Center
ALTERNATIVE, Armenia
Utilizing national competitive advantages: Challenges and priorities
- Discussants:** **Ara Khanjian**, Ph.D., Ventura College, CA
Mark Chenian, M.S., Independent commentator/lecturer, Beverly Hills, CA
- 12:45-13:30 **Panel Discussion; Q & A:** Zorian, Banaian, Joulfaian, Manasserian, Mkrtchyan
- 13:30-14:30 **Lunch Break (Lunch made available)**

Session II – Armenia-Diaspora

- 14:30-16:00 *The social and political development of Armenia Vis A Vis Diaspora*
- Chair:** **Hasmig Baran**, Ph.D., California State University Northridge, CA
- Speakers:** **Razmig Shirinian**, Ph.D., College of the Canyons, CA
Development as a process of state-building
Hratch Tchilingirian, Ph.D., Faculty of Oriental Studies, U. of Oxford
Seeing the present from the future: Could Armenians be global with a broken homeland?
Irina Ghaplanyan, Ph.D., Professor at AUA, Political Analyst & Author
Consolidating diaspora and developing Armenia: A mutual road ahead
- Discussants:** **Edgar Martirosyan**, Esq., Prin. & Mng Counsel, Martirosyan Prof. Co., CA
Carla Garapedian, Ph.D., London School of Economics
- 16:00-17:00 **Panel Discussion; Q & A:** Shirinian, Tchilingirian, Ghaplanyan, Martirosyan, Garapedian

Conference General Chair

Mihran Agbabian, Ph.D., is Fred Champion Professor Emeritus of Engineering at the University of Southern California and President Emeritus of the American University of Armenia. He was elected to the US National Academy of Engineering (1982) and the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia (1990). Among the honors he has received are the University of California at Berkeley Distinguished Engineering Alumnus Citation in 1987 and the California Institute of Technology Award of Distinguished Alumnus in 2000. He currently serves as a member of the Science and Engineering Panel at USC. Dr. Agbabian is a highly respected scientist and community leader in Armenia, the diaspora and the world. He has received numerous prestigious awards and honors from the President of Armenia, the Armenian religious leaders, as well as other national and international organizations.

Conference Keynote Speaker

Yervant Zorian, Ph.D., is a Fellow and Chief Architect of Synopsys Corp, Mountain View, CA and President of Synopsys Armenia. Previously he was the Vice President and Chief Scientist of Virage Logic Inc, and a Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff at AT&T Bell Laboratories. He has authored more than 300 scientific papers, four books, holds over 30 US patents, and received numerous best scientific paper awards. A Fellow of the IEEE, he was selected by Electronic Engineering Times among the top 13 influencers on the semiconductor industry in the past fifty years. Dr. Zorian was the 2005 recipient of the prestigious Industrial Pioneer Award, and the 2006 recipient of the IEEE Hans Karlsson Award. He served as the General Chair of the 50th Design Automation Conference, held in June 2013, in Austin, TX. He is also a member of the AGBU Board of Directors, serves as the chair of AGBU Silicon Valley Chapter, and a trustee of the American University of Armenia. He is a Diasporan member of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia.

Title: *Information Technology Research & Development in Armenia*

Abstract: The rapid advancement in technology continues to change the life of mankind globally, thus increasing the dependency on technologists around the globe.

Technologists have traditionally made up one of the strongest aspects of the Armenian society. That is why Armenia had a long tradition of generating successful technologists and creating advanced technologies. Since the advent of market economy in Armenia there have been new opportunities arising for those with the willingness to look for them. This resulted in fast growing information technology sector in the past twenty-five years from 3 companies to 450. This keynote will address the current trends in the IT sector in Armenia, covering education,

research and development from startups to global multinationals. It will also discuss the ongoing growth challenges and opportunities and the roles of government, academia and industry to ensure potential growth.

Session I Speakers

King Banaian, Ph.D., is Dean of the School of Public Affairs at St. Cloud State University. He is also a professor in the Department of Economics at SCSU. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from the Claremont Graduate University. He is the author of two books and more than forty articles and book chapters discussing monetary policy and political economy. He has served as a consultant to central banks and governments in several developing countries, including Armenia. He is a senior fellow of the Center of the American Experiment in Minneapolis, MN. King was state representative in the Minnesota House for District 15B, 2011-13.

Title: *Economic development in Armenia: Steps towards more freedom*

Abstract: Despite a challenging external economic and political environment, the Armenian economy has grown almost 4% per year in per capita GDP. The economic freedom of Armenia is high in some areas, but challenges remain. Explored will be these freedoms, and a method to estimate the return on the investment in developing a better rule of law will be proposed. Work in this area could move Armenia closer to European levels of economic growth and prosperity.

David Joulfaiian, Ph.D., is an economist and an adjunct professor of economics at Georgetown University. He has worked on diverse areas of economics and public policy. His research on the behavioral effects of taxes, and on entrepreneurship, philanthropy, intergenerational transfers, savings, labor and work effort, and other topics, is published in the Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Political Economy, the Review of Economics and Statistics, the Quarterly Journal of Economics, the Rand Journal of Economics, the National Tax Journal, the Journal of Macroeconomics, and the American Economic Review, among others. He has taught at Georgetown University, George Washington University, Middlebury College, and Yerevan State University (Fulbright), and briefly served as a US Treasury technical advisor at the Ministry of Finance in Slovakia and that of Armenia. He received his PhD in economics, with concentration in Economic Development and Public Finance, from Northeastern University. He is the co-founder of the Armenian Economic Association.

Title: *Armenia's prolonged transition*

Abstract: Since its independence in 1991, Armenia's transition to a market economy has been subject to

numerous shocks. The latter include blockades and wars, as well as indirect shocks reverberating from regional and international geopolitical tensions experienced by its neighbors. Leading examples include its blockade by Turkey, instability in Georgia, sanctions on Russia, and global and regional economic crises. In addition, Armenia did little in the 1990s to allow for foreign investment or for greater economic engagement and integration of the Diaspora. Moreover, there are considerable social tensions and lapses in governance that limit the prospects of growth. Herein, reviewed will be some of the challenges Armenia has faced over the past quarter century and their effects on its economy will be explored. Among others, these include the reversion into a more agrarian economy (greater share of individuals engaged in farming), the disappearance of its past industrial base, immigration and demographic imbalances (more women than men), little in foreign investments and no meaningful migration from the Diaspora, reflecting on the absence of economic rights and legal protection.

Tatoul Manasserian, Ph.D., graduated with a degree in economics from Kiev (Ukraine) State University in 1984. He is a professor, Doctor of Economics and author of 10 monographs and more than 500 scientific articles. Since 1983, Tatoul has been teaching in universities in Armenia and abroad. From 1984-1989 he worked as a head of scientific team at the Scientific Research Institute of State Plans and Standards under the USSR State Planning Department. From 1989-1990 he was the chief advisor of the Chairman of the Armenia Chamber of Commerce and Industry. From 1990-1991 he was the general director of the A. Sakharov Fund. From 1991-1992 he headed the Resident Mission of Armentrade Canadian Company. For the next five years he was the president of Armentrade-California Consulting Company. From 1993-1997 he was a professor at Southern California Redlands University and 1997-1998 the head of the Training Center of the Armenian Development Agency. From 1998-1999 he was the chairman of the Economic Task Group under the Political Council of the RA President and from 1999-2000 president of the Armenian Tourism Development Union. For the next two years he was advisor and head of International Organizations Division in the RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2001-2002 he was the head of the International Division in the Emergency Department under the RA Government. From 2002-2003 he was the scientific director of the Center for Strategic and National Studies. In 2003, he founded Alternative Research Center. On May 25, 2003, he was elected to the NA from the proportional list of the Justice Alliance and has served on the NA Standing Committee on Financial-Credit, Budgetary and Economic Affairs. He was a member of the Justice Faction and has no political party affiliation.

Title: Utilizing national competitive advantages: Challenges and priorities

Abstract: Examined will be the national competitive advantages of Armenia under the consideration of the major challenges and opportunities in their utilization. The role of the government in a globalized economy under current circumstances will be investigated, including growing uncertainties, economic threats, as well as new priorities for the nation. The existing environment of government intervention in the economy to support the implementation of major projects and solve various issues related to the national economic competitiveness will be revealed. Among issues related to the utilization of national competitive advantages, it is considered more appropriate to discuss the following: 1. The role of the state in new challenges; 2. Nature of competitive advantages on a micro-level; 3. Opportunities in increased level of competitiveness on a macro-level; 4. Sources and criteria to define competitive advantages; 5. Internal barriers of utilizing competitive advantages; 6. External factors and challenges influencing the process of utilization of advantages; 7. The Role of economic threats; 8. Michael E. Porter's theory and new realities in Armenia; 9. Economic growth, economic development, and human development: isolated indicators or interrelated trends? 10. Investigating success stories: Singapore, China, Ireland, Chile; 11. Regional challenges; 12. Integration formats in regional economy: BSEC, EEU, others; 13. The role of regional conflicts in utilizing national competitive advantages: Artsakh, Abkhazia, Ossetia, others; 14. The role of regional actors: Russia, Turkey, Georgia; 15. Lifted sanctions against Iran and gradual liberalization of Iranian economy; 16. Dependence of national competitive advantages on infrastructure; 17. Economic diplomacy in service of utilizing national competitive advantages; 18. Diaspora, as an unexplored national competitive advantage of Armenia.

Session II Speakers

Razmig Shirinian, Ph.D., received his Ph.D. in Political Science and his MA in Political Philosophy from the University of Southern California. He has published two books: *Politics of Transnational Minorities: Social Welfare and Human Settlements* (English) and *Contemporary Political Thought* (Armenian) and numerous articles. Dr. Shirinian has taught political science at the California State University (CSU), Northridge; CSU, Fullerton; Cal-Poly, Pomona; and the University of La Verne. He is currently a professor at the College of the Canyons. He is a founding member and president of Scholars for Scientific, Educational, and Cultural Development, Inc. (SSECD), a charitable non-profit organization that aims to work with scholars in developing countries. He was a panelist in the

ARPA Panel Discussion on the Armenia-Turkey Protocols in 12-2009 and a member of the Board of Directors of ARPA since 2012.

Title: *Development as a process of state-building*

Abstract: The presentation will be prescriptive and will address the question of development in Armenia. It will attempt to clarify the fundamental implications of development and their close connection to the state-building process. The central argument is that development and state-building in Armenia are mutually complementary policy practices. They largely depend not only on how the broader regional situation evolves, but more directly, on its inward-looking political and socio-economic policies. Since its independence in 1991, Armenia's development challenges seem to be inherently ingrained within the country more than in regional politics. Noteworthy are government policies that have been insufficient to address and meet infrastructural needs and have not adequately fostered legitimate and sustainable institutions that can be responsive to the well-being of the people. The newly established parliamentary system seems to launch a new dimension and a more responsive institution with a promise to move in the direction of an endogenous and inward-oriented state-building model. More importantly, the concept of human development is also entailed in this model. This is a challenging but fundamental concept for Armenia and embraces diverse paths and incorporates different aspects of human life. It goes beyond the scope of economic development and aims at the social conditions of human beings as the main goal of development.

Hratch Tchilingirian, Ph.D., is a sociologist and associate of the Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Oxford, with a particular interest in modern and contemporary Eastern Christianity and Armenian studies. From 2002 to 2012 he taught and held various positions at University of Cambridge. He received his PhD from the London School of Economics and MPA from California State University, Northridge. His main research interests are in the field of sociology, diasporas, religion and inter-ethnic conflicts, with particular focus on the Middle East and the Caucasus. He has lectured widely and is the author of numerous monographs, academic studies and popular articles.

Title: *Seeing the present from the future: Could Armenians remain a global nation with a broken homeland?*

Abstract: The rhetoric of "One Nation [two halves]", "One Church [two heads]", "One people [many parts]" is not adequate in the 21st century. This often-repeated slogan has not improved the state of the nation in the last few decades. There are critical differences between Diaspora-centric views of Armenia and Armenia-centric views of the Diaspora. Is it possible to forge a set of

national values that would help address the needs of Armenia and Armenians in the probable as well as unpredictable future? Is it possible to find actionable solutions to national problems? These and other related questions will be discussed in depth during the lecture.

Irina Ghaplanyan, Ph.D., is a political analyst and a published author. She holds a doctorate degree in political science from the University of Cambridge. Her main areas of expertise are political leadership, states in transition, conflict resolution, gender, as well as security studies. Her previous education includes a Masters Degree in Diplomatic Studies from the Diplomatic Academy of London and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Relations from the University of Malta. Dr. Ghaplanyan has worked in a number of international organizations and think tanks around the world, including UNDP, Georgetown University, Chatham House, Eurasia Foundation, Hudson Institute, and many others. She has also been a catalyst for change in the field of sustainable business and social entrepreneurship in Armenia. Dr. Ghaplanyan has a number of academic and media publications, among which the most anticipated is the upcoming book titled "Post-Soviet Armenia: The New National Elite and the New National Narrative," due to be released in 2017, by Routledge Publishers in London.

Title: *Consolidating diaspora and developing Armenia: A mutual road ahead*

Abstract: Diaspora's engagement in the life of the Republic of Armenia has been on the political agendas of all the three administrations since the country's independence in 1991. It has been included in the National Security Strategy, a state level Concept on Armenia-Diaspora Partnership Development has been produced, and a Ministry of Diaspora formed. Yet, the government of Armenia has largely fallen behind the goals set out in the concept, the statutes of the Ministry and the National Security Strategy. Equally challenging has been the Diaspora's path towards building a meaningful relationship with the state. Diaspora has often been accused of the lack of a clear and unified vision towards Armenia. At the same time, Diasporic communities around the world have themselves been hurt by the lack of leadership and poor governance of the existing Diaspora organizations. More importantly, recent developments both in Armenia and the Diaspora have also revealed that the existing formalized platforms or networks (both in Armenia and the Diaspora) are not sufficient or are not 'up to date' to ensure proper engagement of both parties concerned. The civil societies on both sides of the fence have grown and matured and are now seeking more meaningful, more lasting and more importantly a cooperation or a relationship which entails a durable and a sustainable engagement. This paper

examines the challenges that both the Republic of Armenia and the Diaspora faced in the various attempts to strike a meaningful cooperation since the inception of Armenia's independence in 1991. In examining these challenges, the paper identifies and offers strategies for Diaspora's effective engagement in the processes of developing Armenia.

Session I Discussants

Ara Khandjian, Ph.D., holds a Ph.D. in Economics from The New School for Social Research, in New York City. He received his M.A. in economics at Queen's University in Canada and B.A. in economics at University of British Columbia. During the past two decades, Dr. Khandjian's general research interest focused on Armenia's economy. His current research interest is public finance and pension reform. He has lectured economics at different universities, including Hofstra, Saint John's, and New York University. He has also served as an advisor to the Minister of Economy of Armenia. He is professor of Economics at Ventura College, in California.

Mark Chenian is a Founding Member of ARPA Institute, Los Angeles; First Chairman of Armenian Business Forum, Yerevan; Cofounder of Medzamor Foundation, Los Angeles; Principal ArmTech Congress, Silicon Valley; Vice President of AGBU of America, New York; VP of Armenian Educational Foundation, Los Angeles; Board of Zoryan Institute, Boston; Board of Alex Pilibos Armenian School, Los Angeles; Board of Save Cyprus Council, Los Angeles, and member of several Think Tanks in US and overseas. He studied Physics, Economics, Finance and International Affairs. His interest is in Conflict Prevention/Resolution & Economic Undercurrents. As an independent commentator/lecturer, he has authored white papers and lectured on: "Cyprus in 1974", (1975); "Governance of Armenian Private Schools in US", (1978); "Relocate MEI from Cyprus to Los Angeles", (1981); "Armenia: A Free Economic Zone within the Soviet Union", (1987); "Reciprocal Misconceptions: Armenia and Diaspora", (1992); "Reopening Medzamor Nuclear Power Plant", (1993); "Think Tank: The Missing Element in Armenia Reality", (1997); "The Peace Dividend that Never Showed Up" (2003); "Defense, Health, Education and Housing: National Security Issues and Single Payer System/Pools as Solution", (2004); Major Shocks to the Armenian Communities in Diaspora: Egypt 1956, Lebanon 1975, Iran 1978: Lessons Learned?", (2008); "The Non-Response of the Region to President Obama's 'Manifesto's/ Speeches at Ankara and Cairo", (2009); "Aging Rulers and Succession Issues on the Near Horizon of Middle East", (2010); "Reflections and Evolution since Shavarsh Toriguan's 1973' The Armenian Question and International Law", (2015); "The New Generation of

Winemakers: From Hardware to Software: Challenging the AOC Establishment", (2016). For over forty years he was associated with major firms in the financial sector.

Armen Mkrtchyan, Ph.D., a native of Armavir, spent his early years in Armenia. He later moved to the United States to complete his undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of North Dakota, where he also received the most innovative engineering design and outstanding student awards. Mr. Mkrtchyan continued his education at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and earned his PhD degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics. He developed a patent pending unmanned aerial vehicle for precision agriculture and developed a software tool for optimizing time and cost of product development projects. After graduation, Armen Mkrtchyan was appointed as Assistant Professor in the College of Science and Engineering at AUA and Director of Entrepreneurship and Product Innovation Center. Currently, Mr. Mkrtchyan works as a consultant at McKinsey & Company focusing on high tech, automotive, and semiconductor industries.

Session II Discussants

Edgar Martirosyan has a BA (UCLA) in Political Science & International Relations (2004), and a JD (UCLA) School of Law (2008). Has served as a Staff Member for the Journal of International Law and Foreign Affairs at UCLA and as an intern for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia (2005). While at school he was a clerk for the California Attorney General's office, and as a judicial extern for the Honorable Stephen Reinhardt of the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. In 2007, Edgar was an external auditor for the Law Department of the American University of Armenia, and was invited back in the summer of 2008 as an Associate Teacher, where he formed and implemented an LSAT Seminar. He has worked at Dongell Lawrence Finney LLP as an Associate Attorney until 2005, then started his own firm. Edgar was on the ARPA Board of Directors.

Carla Garapedian is a filmmaker, director, writer and broadcaster. She directed Children of the Secret State about North Korea and was an anchor for BBC World News. After leaving the BBC World, she directed Dying for the President about Chechnya, Lifting the Veil about women in Afghanistan, Iran Undercover (Forbidden Iran for PBS Frontline World) and My Friend the Mercenary about the coup in Equatorial Guinea. Her feature, Screamers, was theatrically released in the U.S. in December 2006 and early 2007, and was on Newsweek's pick of non-fiction films for 2006/7. The Independent called it "powerful" and Larry King for CNN described it as "a brilliant film. Everyone should see it". The New York Times deemed it "invigorating and articulate," while the

Los Angeles Times called it "eye-opening". "Carla Garapedian is a screamer, too," said the Washington Post.

Banquet

Over 300 people attended the 25th Anniversary Celebration Banquet. Dr. Mihran Agbabian made an introductory speech, where he congratulated ARPA and its dedicated members for helping Armenia, especially in Science and Technology. That was followed by Dr. Armen Der Kiureghian's keynote speech, where he stressed the need for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) for Armenia, where the universities are losing students to humanities and IT. The honoree of the day was Mr. Zaven Akian who was being honored for his lifetime achievements as an entrepreneur, philanthropist and innovator/engineer. He was awarded the ARPA Institute Award for his assistance to ARPA over the years.

Distance Learning Seminars For Armenia During 2017

One of the main goals of ARPA Institute is to help the graduate students, young scientists, and faculty of the universities in Armenia increase their professional awareness and knowledge through on-line, real-time video-conferencing via the WebEx system. The objective of these seminars is transfer of current technology and information. In 2017, the following Distance Learning seminars and lectures were organized with the help of scientists and top engineers residing in the United States.

«Վերաքաղ թուաբանական և հաշուարկային մատեմատիկական մատեցումներ» by Dr. Bruce M. Boghosian

Ամփոփում Պիտի տրուի թուաբանական և հաշուարկային մատեմատիկական (mathematical and computational modeling) մատեցումներու ակնարկ մը, ուր պիտի շեշտուին թուաբանական և համակարգչային բնագաւառի (mathematical and scientific computing) պատմութեան ու կազմաւորման գործընթացի դրոյթը արեւմտեփ մէջ: Պիտի խօսուին համակարգչի գործիքային կազմաւորման (evolution of computer hardware), միայնակ լաշորդական գործարար սարքերէն (individual serial processors) սկսեալ, դէպի ծփացող կէտային հիմքերը (floating-point standard), վեքթորայնացման և զուգընթացման (vectorization to parallelization) կազմաւորումները և վերջապէս արդի բազմակորիզ գործարար սարքերու (modern multicore multiprocessors) կազմութիւնը: Նաև պիտի ներկայացուին համընթաց կազմաւորումը թուաբանական ալգորիթմներու (mathematical algorithms), ինչպիսիք են Սիմփլէքս ալգորիթմը, լծորդային աստիճանահակ (conjugate gradient) ալգորիթմը և Քիւրիլովի ներքնատարածք (subspace) ալգորիթմը, և վերջապէս արագ Ֆուրիէ փոխանցման (Fourier transform) և բազմաբևարային (multipole) մատեցումները: Այնուհետև պիտի ներկայացուի կարճ վերաքաղ մը

վերոյիշեալ մատեցումներով ցարդ լուծուած խնդիրներէն օրինակներ բերելով և խօսելով, մինչ այժմ արդի գիտութեան և հարտարագիտութեան վրայ անոնց ունեցած ազդեցութեանը մասին: Պէտք է շեշտել որ, այս դասընթացքը պիտի կեդրոնանայ թուային մատեցումներու և հաշուարկումներու բարձր մակարդակի, և որոշ չափով, հարևանցի վերաքաղ մը ընելու վրայ: Եթէ հետաքրքրութիւն կայ աւելի խորը թափանծելու թուաբանական և հաշուարկային նիւթերու մէջ, յառաջիկայ դասախօսաշարը կրնայ կազմակերպուիլ այդ ուղղութեամբ:

«Դիֆերենցիալ հավասարումների պինդ համակարգերի թվային մեթոդները» by Dr. Bruce M. Boghosian

Ամփոփում: Սույն երկրորդ հանգրվանի դասախոսությունը ընթացքում կներկայացվեն պինդ համակարգերի հատկանիշները. ի՞նչ պինդ դիֆերենցիալ հավասարում, լուծելու կարելի՞ է իմանալ արդյոք առանց այն և ի՞նչ է նշանակում հավասարումը համեմատությամբ: Իսկ վերջում կտրվեն պինդ համակարգերի սահմանումը ու թե ինչ թվային ալգորիթմներ են օգտագործվում պինդ դիֆերենցիալ հավասարումների լուծման համար:

Dr. Bruce M. Boghosian has been a Professor of Mathematics at Tufts University since 2000, and served as chair of Mathematics there from 2006-2010. He is also adjunct professor in the Tufts University Departments of Physics and Computer Science. 2010-2014, Dr. Boghosian served as the third president of the American University of Armenia, where he oversaw the creation, accreditation and inauguration of the undergraduate program at AUA. He worked at Boston University (1994-2000), Thinking Machines Corporation (1986-1994) and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (1978-1986). Dr. Boghosian received his BS in physics and MS in nuclear engineering from MIT, and his Ph.D. from the Department of Applied Science at the University of California, Davis. He has held visiting professorships and research positions at the Département de Mathématiques, Université de Paris-Sud in Orsay, the École Normale Supérieure in Paris, France; the School of Engineering at Peking University in Beijing, China; University College London; the University of California, Berkeley; the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy; the Schlumberger Cambridge Research Centre in Cambridge, United Kingdom; and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Dr. Boghosian is a fellow of the American Physical Society and a member of the NAS of Armenia. He is a Tufts University Distinguished Scholar and received its Undergraduate Initiative in Teaching (UNITE) award in 2002. In 2014 he received the "Order of the Republic of Armenia" from the Armenian Prime Minister, and the "Gold Medal" from the Armenian Ministry of Education and Science. Dr. Boghosian has over 100 publications, has

given nearly 200 invited talks, and holds one patent. He is on the editorial boards of the Journal of Computational Science, Physica A, Computing in Science and Engineering, and International Journal of Modern Physics C – Physics and Computers.

“Neuromodulation and Neural Prosthesis” by Dr. Artin Petrossians

Abstract: In the past few decades, the use of implantable microelectronic devices in human body to cure different diseases such as Parkinson’s disease, epilepsy, deafness, blindness etc. has shown enormous growth and remarkable technological achievements. All implantable biomedical microelectronic devices communicate with nerve cells of the body, where the microelectronics transfer electrical signals to the neurons through microelectrodes. The properties of the interface material are one of the most important parameters to be considered during the design of the device. Implants can also record neural activity for controlling artificial limbs and detecting epileptic activity. Electrodes are the functional interface between these devices and neural tissue. One of the largest challenges to date has been the size of all implantable microelectronics that has a major role on the efficiency, efficacy and the risk of the surgery. As a result, all medical device companies try to miniaturize the size of the devices and the microelectrodes to increase the performance of the implant and make them more precise and less invasive. However, by shrinking the size of the microelectrodes, the strength of the electrical signal must be reduced, to stay within the accepted safety limits. Inefficient electrode materials are a critical barrier to progress in the field of electronic implants in general, particularly as the field moves towards more electrodes per device, smaller electrode sizes, and closed feedback systems. An improved electrode material will have a significant impact on the capabilities of the devices and the effectiveness of treatment by enabling the use of microfabricated electrodes for chronic stimulation at higher charge density and by reducing stimulus artifact and increasing signal to noise ratio of biopotentials, thus improving detection of important biomarkers needed for stimulation and recording strategies.

Dr. Artin Petrossians obtained his Ph.D. in 2012 from the Mork Family Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, University of Southern California. He is currently principal investigator (PI), co-founder and chief technology officer (CTO) at Platinum Group Coatings, LLC and former adjunct assistant professor at the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Southern California. Dr. Petrossians’ research field is focused on the performance of brain implants and optimization of signals on the brain/machine interfaces. His current research is

directed to investigate the neural activities in Parkinsonian mice, rats and monkeys’ brains by using high-performance implantable electrode materials.

“Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA): A major health concern” by Dr. Lorig Panossian

Abstract: Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) is a breathing disorder that occurs only during sleep. About 30% of obese people have OSA and may have symptoms of snoring, waking up with gasping or rapid heart rate, nightmares and thrashing in sleep, and many brief periods of breathing pauses during sleep. The dangers of OSA include a higher risk of strokes and heart attacks, cardiac arrhythmia, uncontrolled hypertension, daytime sleepiness, poor memory and concentration. Luckily OSA can be fully treated with continuous positive airway pressure (a CPAP) machine used during sleep, and with significant weight loss.

Dr. Lorig Panossian is a Neurology physician and Sleep Medicine specialist in the San Francisco Bay Area, California, USA. She attended medical school at the University of California, San Francisco, where she received her M.D. degree, followed by Neurology residency training and then specialty training in Sleep Medicine. She also completed a laboratory research fellowship in sleep neurobiology and at the same time earned a Master's degree in Translational Research at the University of Pennsylvania. Currently she works at the Veterans Hospital in Northern California as General Neurologist and Medical Director of the Neurology Sleep Laboratory. There, she has taken on a leadership role and greatly expanded testing and treatment for sleep disorders including insomnia and sleep apnea. Dr. Panossian has published numerous scholarly articles in her field and presented her work at various international medical conferences. She also serves as treasurer for the Armenian Healthcare Association of the Bay Area (AHABA), which is a main branch of the Armenian Medical International Committee (AMIC), and she collaborates closely with ARPA Institute in their biomedical and scientific projects.

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ԱՐՓԱ Ինստիտուտը այժմ կ'ընդունի նորարարութեան յայտեր 2018

ԱՐՓԱ ՀԻՄՆԱՐԿԻ ՆՈՐԱՐԱՐՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՄՐՑՈՒՅԹ 2017 ՄԱՍՆԱԿԻՑՆԵՐԻ ՑԱՆԿ

1st Prize «Մոլիբդենի կարբիդի նանոփոշու ստացումը լուծույթների այրման սինթեզի եղանակով»

(Preparation of molybdenum carbide nanostructures by the burning synthesis of solutions)

Hasmik Kirakosyan, Khpchik Nazaretyan; Institute of Physical Chemistry, NAS of Armenia

2nd Prize «Արդյունաբերական գազերից SO₂-ի կլանումը վերափոխված բնական ցեոլիտներով»

(Industrial SO₂ absorption by the use of processed natural zeolite)

Lena Tangamyan, Norik Harutyunyan; Yerevan State University

3rd Prize «Արեւին հետեւող լուսազգայուն տվիչ» (Light sensitive sensor for tracking Sun's position)

David Aghabekyan, Volodya Aghdalyan, Minas Lakhoyan; National Polytechnic University of Armenia

4th Prize “Biohydrogen production by bacteria from various wastes containing organic carbon sources”

Satenik Mirzoyan, Heghine` Gevorgyan; Yerevan State University

4th Prize «Ունակային չափիչ սարք» (Capacitive measuring device)

Davit Nikoghosyan; National Polytechnic University of Armenia, Gyumri Campus

«Ատամնամաքիչ թել» (Dental floss)

Arman Tamiryan; Heratsi Medical University of Armenia

“Genetic test for prediction of schizophrenia development and efficient treatment”

Roksana Zakharyan, Andranik Chavushyan, Hovsep Ghazaryan, Sofi Atshemyan; Institute of Molecular Biology, NAS of Armenia

«Կարկտային ամպերի հայտնաբերման եւ չեզոքացման լազերային համակարգ» (Laser system for detection and neutralization of hail clouds)

Harutyun Dashtoyan, Hovhannes Dashtoyan; National Polytechnic University of Armenia

«Արեւի էներգիայի կերպափոխման լուսաէլեկտրական սարք» (Photovoltaic device to transform solar energy)

Gor Vardanyan, Alexander Drnonyan; National Polytechnic University of Armenia

«Հեռակառավարվող պայթյունների եւ դրանց էլեկտրասնուցման նոր համակարգ» (New system for remote controlled explosions and their electrification)

Gor Vardanyan, Janik Sevoyan; National Polytechnic University of Armenia

“One-step, cheap, ecologically clean and universal non-conventional nanotechnology for mass production of two-dimensional atomic materials”

Derenik Javadyan, Gayane` Shmavonyan; National Polytechnic University of Armenia

ARPA Institute Lecture Series and Panel Discussions During 2017

ARPA Institute organizes lectures and panel discussions on various topics related to Armenia or Armenians at the Aram and Anahis D. Boolghoorjian Hall of the Merdinian School: 13330 Riverside Dr. Sherman Oaks, CA 91403. We thank the Merdinian Board of Directors for allowing ARPA to use the facility free of charge. *If you plan to visit LA and are willing to make a presentation, please contact us at info@arpainstitute.org*

“The Role of Business in the Socio-Economic Development of Armenia: Beyond Simply Creating Jobs” by Nazareth Seferian

Abstract: The presentation featured the two concepts of Corporate Responsibility (CR) and Social Entrepreneurship (SE) to show how business can make (and, in some cases, IS making) a positive contribution to the development of Armenia. Both of these topics are not yet well understood in Armenia, but both have massive potential to accelerate development and help find solutions to many problems, in partnership with the government of Armenia and the non-profit sector. The key is to understand that Corporate Responsibility is not charity or philanthropy, and Social Entrepreneurship is not a trendy name for Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) work. Both concepts have business development and sustainability at their core, as well as the potential for creating new value for society and the environment. The talk presented good examples of CR and SE in Armenia, and also touched upon how individuals, both in Armenia and the Diaspora, can contribute to the development of these concepts in our homeland.

Nazareth Seferian has earned both a Master’s degree in Public Health and a MD degree. He has been working on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in Armenia for more than 8 years, responsible for CSR and philanthropy activities at the mobile phone communications company, Orange



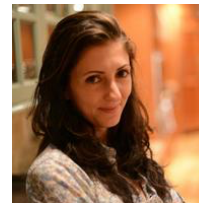
Armenia from 2011 to 2014, overseeing programs that impacted more than a hundred thousand people across Armenia. Currently a freelance CSR and Social Enterprise trainer consultant, Nazareth is part of a group of individuals who have founded a new organization in Armenia to promote the concept of sustainable business. He has authored two manuals on CSR in Armenian, as well as a guidebook on Social Enterprise. He also writes articles for the Responsible Business magazine, based in Lebanon. Besides a background in healthcare and community development, Nazareth Seferian holds a post-graduate certificate in sustainability business from the

University of Cambridge. Nazareth is also a Board member of the ARPA Institute, as part of the ARPA team in Armenia.

“From Egalitarian Poverty to Unequal Wealth: Lived Experiences of Armenia's Citizenry Since Independence” by Karena Avedissian

Abstract: How has independence affected the citizens of Armenia over the past 25 years? While Armenia has improved on nearly all development indicators since 1991, in reality, its benefits have been unevenly experienced. Despite some achievements, the last quarter of a century have seen the rise of deep social inequalities, high unemployment, corruption, and social dislocations, resulting in feelings of dissatisfaction among the population. The first years of independence continue to be a reference point for adults and youth alike in Armenia as they make sense of ongoing uncertainties. Using interview data collected in 2015-2016 and referencing interviews from 1993-1994, this study examined how lived experiences and attitudes about socio-economic and political realities have changed since independence. This information provided much needed qualitative indicators of state-building processes and how they have shaped the context of people’s lives in Armenia.

Karena Avedissian is a political scientist focusing on issues of democracy, civil society, and human rights in the former Soviet Union. She received her Ph.D. from the Centre of Russian and East European Studies at the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. Her research focuses primarily on politics and society in the former Soviet space, and in particular on Russia, on its North Caucasus republics as well as on the sovereign states of the South Caucasus. Her writing has been published in The Guardian, Open Democracy, Global Voices, Transitions Online, and Hetq. Dr. Avedissian is currently a Fellow at the University of Southern California's Institute of Armenian Studies and resides in Yerevan, Armenia.



“Smart Nation: A Blueprint for Modern Armenia” by Sassoon Grigorian

Abstract: At a critical juncture in its history, his book explores the challenges and opportunities for Armenia, with clear public policy recommendations. Armenia is a Smart Nation, it has one of the highest literacy rates globally, it is a recognized world leader in the strategy game of chess, Armenians have been credited with many innovations and inventions used today, and its future success will in part be determined how it can leverage its intellectual property. Armenia needs to take full advantage

of its smarts - whether it be in foreign affairs, leveraging the diaspora, propelling economic growth in regional areas, improving governance and combating corruption, addressing cultural issues, seeking a resolution not just management of the Nagorno-Karabagh conflict, and being a leader in the tech sector. The author mainly discussed his book of the same title. Ambassador Edward P. Djerejian, Director, Rice University's Baker Institute for Public Policy has described the book as "goes beyond data based analysis to cogent policy recommendations for decision makers. A highly recommended read at a critical geopolitical juncture in Armenia's history."

Sassoon Grigorian is a leading public policy professional in the technology space, notably commerce, payments and software sectors, and advised global businesses that have disrupted existing business models. With more than twenty years of public policy experience, Sassoon has worked for four Fortune 500 companies; one of the world's largest public affairs consultancies; and served as a political adviser in Government. He has served on numerous industry boards and associations, and has previously served on the Armenian National Committee of Australia board, and briefly as an intern in Armenia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Grigorian holds a Bachelor of Arts (Politics) from Macquarie University and Masters in International Relations from the University of NSW.



The following 3 presentations were part of the UCLA Graduate Student Colloquium and organized with the Naregatsi Chair in Armenian Studies, Dr. Peter Cowe.

"Can Intellectuals Give History A Push? Challenges of A Low-Autonomy Field in 21st Century Turkey" by Okan Dogan

Abstract: The research covered the debates in the Turkish public space about the recognition of the Armenian Genocide, with specific emphasis on a series of immense media events in the first decade of 21st century such as the 2005 Istanbul conference and the 2008 on-line apology campaign. Departing from the available accounts of the Turkish debate, in which the question of agency is not adequately taken up, offered was the contextualization of these events as political activism conducted specifically by intellectuals, employing concepts and methodological tools derived from the French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu's sociology of intellectuals, examines how the Turkish intellectual field has functioned in the production and dissemination of alternative historical knowledge and dissident political attitude on the Armenian issue. This approach necessitates the inquiry of the autonomy of the space within which the dissident Turkish intellectuals tried

to challenge the state's viewpoint. By doing that very inquiry, it was argued that in Turkey, intellectuals have so far failed to produce an alternative democratic approach to the Armenian issue that effectively challenges the Turkish state's position; and that much of this inability has to do with the restraints and pressures originating from the intellectuals' dependence on the Turkish state and the media, and constraining the autonomy of the intellectual field.

Okan Dogan is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Bilkent University, Turkey. His dissertation research draws upon the literature on sociology of intellectuals and sociology of knowledge, and focuses on the ways in which Turkish scholars and intellectuals have debated the Armenian Genocide in the country's recent history. He is expected to obtain his degree in 2017.

"Armenians in the British Intelligence Service during World War I: A Case Study of Thomas Mugerditchian and Arshak Safrastian" by Michael Rettig

Abstract: The multilayered identities of Armenians in British intelligence was explored through the lives of Mugerditchian and Safrastian, both of whom served as British dragomen, Vice Consuls, and Intelligence Officers. Through the course of their careers, Mugerditchian and Safrastian were able to assume a British layer of identity in addition to their Ottoman Armenian identities, thus inhabiting a unique middle ground between the Occident and Orient. Studying the lives of these Armenians provides interesting case studies into how and why they were able to identify as British on the periphery of the Empire and to what extent the British accepted them as such. A better understanding of what it meant to be "British" on the fringes of an increasingly diverse empire was explored. Identities on the periphery of the British Empire were often fluid, allowing Armenians such as Mugerditchian and Safrastian to claim British identities. However, these identities were contested the closer one got to the center of the Empire. Through the personal writings of subjects, as well as the memoirs of missionaries, diplomats, and locals who knew them and through research on the careers of Safrastian and Mugerditchian in the National Archives in London, and the attitudes their British superiors held towards them.

Michael Rettig graduated with his Bachelors of Art in History from California State University, Fresno in 2015. He is currently pursuing his Master's degree at the same institution. Michael was awarded the Calouste Gulbenkian Short Term Grant for Armenian Studies to travel to London for his research on his great great grandfather, Thomas Mugerditchian, and Armenians in British intelligence during World War I. He is currently the editor

of the Hye Sharzhoom, the Armenian student paper at CSU Fresno.

“Post-Soviet Yerevan: Changes & Developments After Independence” by Vrej Haroutounian

Abstract: The effects of post-Soviet independence on the urban landscape of Armenia’s capital city of Yerevan were discussed, viewing the urban landscape as a by-product of cultural, political, and economic value systems, and changes in the landscape were examined through empirical research. Rephotography, or repeat photography, of the same site during different time periods, was used to document the city’s physical changes over time, creating a “then” and “now” view. Semi-structured interviews with relevant stakeholders were used to gain a deeper understanding of local experiences and realities. Finally, thematic content analysis was the method of analysis for the data corpus. The literature review thoroughly addresses the ideologies, principles, and planning practices that influenced the urban landscape of Yerevan – including the Garden City Movement, the City Beautiful Movement and the City of Socialist Man – and provides an understanding of the ideals that would continue to influence the development of Yerevan until the end of the Soviet period. In addition, the process of globalization and neoliberal economic policies have had significant impacts on the urban landscape of Yerevan in the period following independence. There have been major areas of change in the urban landscape. These changes can be seen in the conversion of public spaces to profit-generating space, increase in automobile traffic, increase in advertisement billboards and signage, along with the gentrification of downtown Yerevan. Evidence for these changes can be seen both in the photographic record and in the semi-structured interview responses.

Vrej Haroutounian is currently a Landscape Architecture Ph.D. student at Edinburgh School of Architecture & Landscape Architecture (ESALA) within the college of Art. In 2012 after graduating from Cal Poly Pomona with a masters in Landscape Architecture he moved to Yerevan Armenia where he co-founded Four Peaks Landscape + Architecture studio. He regularly publishes his writing in numerous outlets about all things related to Armenia’s landscape. His current research interests are focused on spatial justice, post-Soviet cities, and the impacts of spatial justice on the built human and natural landscape.

“Armenian Nationalism: A Unifying or A Mythical Concept?” by Garabet K. Moundjian

Abstract: Most, if not all, of the written Armenian history since the Christianization of Armenia has been presented in the form of ultra nationalist exigencies. It is mostly parochial in nature, perhaps due to the mindset that such

an approach would be beneficial for the preservation of the state as well as Armenian identity and ethos. Academic research conducted in the last 50 years is still maligned by this syndrome of ultra-nationalism. It goes without saying that this attitude is not working and has created more issues than it has solved existing problems. The nationalistic trajectory of Armenian history was discussed and the shortcomings it has created throughout the centuries underlined. Also presented was the political division of the Armenian homeland between imperial powers, since the 16th century, and how the problematic issue of two identities within the nation, Eastern and Western Armenian, has been created. This was aggravated even further with the intra-Armenian divisions caused by the “Cold War”, and Armenians seem to be still living with the same divided mindset. Unfortunately, even with the 25 years of independence of the Armenian Republic, an all-encompassing “Armenian Ideology” that might unite most segments of the society has not been established yet. The presentation stressed how such an “ideology” can become a central approach for the formulation of a unified identity of Armenians. Moreover, analyzed was why a Euro-centric approach could not be beneficial for such identity building and why “thinking outside the box” is necessary for an alternative undertaking to succeed.

Garabet Krikor Moundjian was born in 1957 in Zahle, Lebanon. He has received a BA from the Institute Superior d’Armenologie, “Hamazkaine” Beirut, in 1983; a BA in History and Armenian Studies from the University of La Verne, CA in 1986 and an MA and Ph.D. from UCLA, Department of History in 1990 and 2010. His dissertation was on “Armenian-Turkish Relations, 1890-1909”. Since 1986 he has served in numerous positions, including Lecturer at UCLA and U of La Verne, and principal of Mesrobian Elementary and High School. He has authored chapters in books, textbooks and monographs, as well as research articles in Armenian studies. He serves on editorial boards of several newspapers and on the boards of several organizations. Mr. Moundjian is also a political editor and news commentator for the Horizon TV and has received many awards from Armenian and non-Armenian organizations. He is fluent in Armenian (Western and Eastern and Classical Armenian), Arabic (Literary language and Levantine dialects), Turkish (Modern and Ottoman Turkish) and French (Reading capacity). Garo is married to Nayeri Harboyan and they have two children, Hagop and Purag.



“The Roots of the Karabagh Problem” by Claude

Mutafian

Abstract: The Karabagh problem is one of the main issues for Armenia and the Armenians. The Azeri thesis is more or less the following: “our land was inhabited by the Albans, and Azeris are descendants from the Albans, so everything which was Alban now is Azeri, including all the monasteries like Gnadzasar, Dadivank, etc., Armenians have nothing to do with that”. Answering to these affirmations is easy, but it needs precise arguments, one has to know the roots of the question. A thorough historical survey is necessary to answer precisely to the Azeri propaganda. The presentation highlighted historical evidence like language, inscriptions, literature and culture. A few important questions were dealt with such as: Where does the name Azerbaijan come from? When did it apply to the territory, north of the Araxes? Who were really the Albans? What was their culture? What happened to them? What is the place of Shushi in the Armenian culture? What were the modifications of the demographic balance in Karabagh? These issues were addressed using projections of pictures and documents.

Claude Mutafian was born in 1942 in the suburbs of Paris. His parents were survivors of the 1915 Genocide. His studies led him towards Mathematics, which he taught for more than 40 years in various universities in France and around the world. However, his passion was always History. He published many books about different topics concerning Armenia, such as a *Historical Atlas of Armenia* (2001) covering thirty centuries. He organized various exhibitions, including *The Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia* (Paris, Sorbonne, 1993), *Roma-Armenia* (Vatican, Great Sixtine Hall, 1999) and *Armenia, the Magic of Writing* (Marseilles, 2007). His field of interest is essentially the Medieval period, in particular the relations of Armenians with Crusaders and Mongols. At the age of 60 he received a Ph.D. in History. His thesis was about *Cilician Armenia: The Armenian diplomacy in the Levant during the Crusades* (Paris-Sorbonne, 2002). The present two-volume study is an outgrowth of that thesis, extended to the whole Armenian world.



«Մարտիրոս Սարեանի Արուեստը XX դարի կերպարուեստի պատմութեան համատեքստում» Ռուզան Սարյան

Ամփոփում Սարեան իր մասնագիտական կրթութիւնը ստացաւ Մոսկուայի գեղանկարչութեան, քանդակագործութեան և հարտարապետութեան ուսումնարանում, վարպետութեան դասընթացն անցաւ Ռուս յայտնի գեղանկարիչներ Սերովի և Կորովինի արուեստանոցներում: Իր առաաջին ինքնուրոյն քայլերն արուեստում արեց որպէս

խորհրդապաշտ նկարիչ՝ ստեղծելով իր յայտնի «Երազներ և հեքեթներ» շարքը: Սկսած 1905 թ Սարեանի ներկապընակը դառնում է աւելի վառ և յագեցած, պատկերման ձևերը՝ պարզեցուած և ընդհանրացուած, բնութեան և իրականութեան արտացոլումը աւելի իրական և առարկայական: Ծանօթանալով ժամանակակից Ֆրանսական գեղանկարչութեան նորամուծութիւններին՝ Սարեան էլ աւելի համոզւում է, որ կերպարուեստի զարգացման իր նախընտրած ուղին հիշդ է և շարունակում է ընթանալ այդ ուղղութեամբ՝ հասնելով բարձր նուաճումների: Դեպի Արեւելք կատարած համբորդութիւնները լայն հորիզոններ են բացում նրա առջև և 1910-1913 թթ. ստեղծած իր գլուխգործոցներով նա իր մնայուն տեղն է գրաւում համաշխարհային կերպարուեստի պատմութեան մէջ: Արդէն 1910 թուականին նրա գործերը ձեռք է բերում Ռուսաստանի յայտնի Տրետյակովյան պատկերասրահը: Սարեանի մասնակցութիւնը մի շարք հեղինակաւոր ցուցահանդէսների Լոնդոնում, Հռոմում, Մալմյոում և Երուսաղէմում են բերում նրան: Սակայն Առաջին համաշխարհային պատերազմը, հայ ժողովրդի բնաջնջման փորձը, Ռուսական յեղափոխութիւնը, քաղաքացիական պատերազմը մեծապէս խոչնդոտում են Սարեանի համաշխարհային հանաչելիութեան շարունակմանը: 1924 թուականին ան մասնակցում է Վենետիկեան միջազգային ցուցահանդէսին, ներկայացնում արուեստում կերտած իր Հայաստանը և դարձեալ իր մասին խոսել է տալիս թէ՛ իտալական և թէ՛ ռուսական արուեստի գիտականներին, որոնք շատ բարձր են գնահատում հայ նկարչի ինքնատիպութիւնը և բացառիկ տաղանդը: Փարիզեան ցուցահանդէսում ձեռք բերած հաջողութիւնը նրան հնարավորութիւն է տալիս մասնակցելու Բրիւսելում բացուող ժամանակակից արուեստի թանգարանի բացմանը նուիրուած ցուցահանդէսին: Սակայն նա չի մասնակցում այդ կարևոր իրադարձութեանը, քանզի պետք է շտապեր վերադառնալ Հայաստան: ԽՍՀՄ վերադառնալուն պէս նրա ետևից փակւում է երկաթե վարագոյրը, իսկ Փարիզում ստեղծած իր նկարների մեծ մասն այրւում է Պոլսի նավահանգստում՝ նավի վրա բռնկված հրդեհի ժամանակ: Փարիզյան շրջանը շատ կարևոր էր Սարեանի յաջորդ ստեղծագործական փուլի զարգացման նոր ուղիներ փնտրելու հանապարհին: Անազատ և խիստ գաղափարականացուած երկրում, ինչպիսին էր ԽՍՀՄ-ն ֆոլիզմով արուեստի ասպարէզ մտած Սարյանը պետք է դառնար ռէալիստ, ուրիշ տարբերակ չուներ: Այս ընտրութեան առաջ կանգնած Վարպետը ետ է գնում դեպի իմպրեսիոնիզմ՝ ռէալիստական արուեստի լուսագունջ նվաճումներից մէկը, և այդ ելակետից Հայաստանում շարունակում է իր ուրույն ոճի մշակման գործընթացը, իւրովի զարգացնելով բնանկարի, նատիւրմորտի, դիմանկարի ժանրերը: Սարեանն արուեստում ստեղծում է իր հայրենիքի վառ կերպարը, բացայայտելով Հայաստանը ոչ միայն օտարների աչք նաև հայերի համար: Սարյանյան բնանկարների շնորհիւ Հայաստանը դադարում է գորշ, մոռալ գոյներով պատկերուած ողբի և տառապանքի երկիր լինել, այլ ներկայանում է իր բնության ողջ գեղեցկութեամբ և մոնումենտալ վեհութեամբ: Նրա արուեստը դառնում է Հայաստանի այցեքարտը՝

հանաչելի ամբողջ աշխարհում:

Ռուզան Լազարի Սարյան Բանասեր,

արուեստաբան, բանասիրական գիտու-

թիւնների թեկնածու 2014 թվականից:

Մարտիրոս Սարեանի տուն-թանգարանի

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Երևանում՝ Մարտիրոս Սարեանի ընտա-

նիքում: Աւարտել է Երևանի Պետական

Համալսարանի ռուսաց լեզուի և

գրականութեան բաժան՝ մուկքը: 1981-1994 թթ. և 1999 թ.

մինչ այսօր աշխատում է ՀՀ ԳԱԱ Արուեստի ինստիտուտի

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թ. Մ. Սարյանի կեանքի և ստեղծագործութեան մասին

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իմ Հայաստան» բնանկարների ցուցահանդէսը 2004 թ.,

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Ռուզան Մ. Սարյանի ստեղծագործութիւնների մասնակ-

ցութիւնն է ապահովել Նիդերլանդներում կազմակերպուած

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հանդէսներում: Հրապարակել է բազմաթիվ աշխատու-

թիւններ, գրքեր, կատալոգներ և ալբոմներ: 2006 թուականից

ՀՀ Նկարիչների միութեան անդամ է: 2009 թ. Ֆրանսիայում

Հայաստանի տարուա շրջանակներում Իսիլ-Մուլինո

քաղաքի պատմութեան թանգարանում «Մարտիրոս Սարյան

կամ Հայաստանի գոյներ» ցուցահանդէսի կազմակերպման

համար արժանացել է Ֆրանսիայի Հանրապետութեան

Արուեստի և գրականութեան ասպետի շքանշանին: Ռուզան

հեղինակ է բազմաթիւ հրատարակուած գրքերի, յօդուած-

ների և ժողովածուների:



“Defective Armenian: The Destructive Impact of Shaming Heritage Language Speaker” by Shushan Karapetian

Abstract: In a diasporic setting, where exposure to the heritage language (Armenian) is naturally limited,

speakers’ proficiency often remains underdeveloped and noticeably weaker than their dominant language (English). As a result, they may be subjected to teasing, ridicule, error correction, and criticism by more proficient speakers in the family and the wider heritage language community, which lead to internalized feelings of incompetence and fears of judgment. In addition to this first layer of shame for lacking proficiency in Armenian, there is a second degree of shame for their subsequent inability to fulfill the responsibility of transmitting Armenian heritage through the language. Powerful preservationist ideologies position language transmission as a moral obligation to ensure survival but inadvertently end up hindering the process. This presentation will explore the debilitating effects of shame on Armenian heritage language speakers in the U.S. context by demonstrating how both stunt heritage language development in different ways.

Shushan Karapetian received a Ph.D. in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures from UCLA in 2014, where she has taught Armenian Studies courses over the past seven years. This year she completed her tenure as the first Postdoctoral Fellow in the Armenian Studies Program, which entailed the expansion of her research on Armenian heritage speakers and the development and instruction of an entirely new course entitled Language in Diaspora: Armenian as a Heritage Language. Her dissertation, “How Do I Teach My Kids My Broken Armenian?: A Study of Eastern Armenian Heritage Language Speakers in Los Angeles,” received the Society for Armenian Studies Distinguished Dissertation Award for 2011-2014. Her research interests focus on heritage languages and speakers, particularly on the case of Armenian heritage speakers in the Los Angeles community, on which she has presented and lectured widely. Dr. Karapetian is also very involved with the Center for World Languages and the National Heritage Language Resource Center at UCLA, where she is Program Director of the Center’s High School Heritage Program, which offers language classes for heritage speakers of Armenian, Russian, Persian, Korean, and Japanese. She is currently serving on multiple committees in the Los Angeles Armenian community aimed at reforming Armenian language instruction and promoting the use of the Armenian language.



«Իշխանութիւն, հալածանք, և երկաթեայ դիմակ մը. Աւետիք պատրիարք Եղեղիազիի կեանքը և արևմտահայ պատմութեան հանդէպ նոր մօտեցում մը» Տանիէլ Օհանեան

Ամփոփում 1706 թուականին, ապրիլեան իրիկուն մը, Կ. Պոլսոյ և Երուսաղէմի պատրիարք Աւետիք Եղեղիազին ինքզինքը Միջերկրականին ալեկոծ ջուրերը կտրող նաւու մը

վրայ կը գտնէր: Իր մտքին մէջ, ան կ'երթար դէպի Պոլիս՝ ետ առնելու իր պատրիարքական գահը, որ քանի մը ամիս առաջ խլուած էր իրմէ: Սակայն նաւը զայն կը տանէր դէպի Արևմուտք, ուր բանտարկեալը պիտի ըլլար Լուդովիկոս Ժ-IV (Louis XIV) ֆրանսացի թագաւորին և առիթ տար, որ հարիւր տարի ետք ըսուէր, թէ այս գաւառացի վարդապետը գուցէ Երկաթեայ դիմակով մարդը (the Man in the Iron Mask) եղած ըլլար: Աւետիք միաժամանակ թէ՛ դերակատար էր պատմութեան մէջ, թէ՛ զոհը պատմական հոսանքներու, որ զինք կը կապէին օսմանցի դեկալարներու, կաթոլիկ եկեղեցականներու և ֆրանսացի դիւանագէտներու: Աւետիքի կենսապատումին փշոցաւ, այս հոսանքները պիտի քննուին և հաջորդ պատմութեան վրայ իրենց ունեցած ազդեցութիւնը պիտի լուսաբանուի: Դասախօսը առաջադրեց, որ այսպիսի դրուագներ մեզի առիթ կու տան պատմութեան մասին կանխադատութիւնները վերաքննութեան ենթարկելու:

Տանիէլ Օհանեան պատմագիտութեան դոկտորականի ուսանող, UCLA: Յետերկրորդական ուսումը սկսած է Թորոնթոյի Եորք համալսարան, ուր ուսանած է պատմութիւն և ֆրանսերէն: Ապա Պոլսոյ մէջ ուսանած և դասաւանդած է Պիլկի համալսարանի պատմութեան բաժնին մէջ, ուր ներկայացուցած է երկրորդ ատենախօսութիւն մը Պոլսոյ վաղ 20րդ դարու հայ համայնքի ժողովրդագրական վիճակին մասին: Ներկայիս գտնուելով Քալիֆորնիա, կը մասնագիտանայ վաղ արդի հայոց և օսմանեան պատմութեան մէջ՝ փրոֆ. Սեպուհ Ասլանեանի խորհրդատուութեամբ:



“Evaluating and Understanding Science in Armenia” by Hrayr Azizbekyan

Abstract: The presentation was an attempt to connect well known facts about the history of Armenia with their impact on cultural heritage of scientific, engineering and educational communities. It also presented the organizational structure and the latest modern developments in the R&D, IT and educational communities and infrastructure of Armenia. The potential for technology transfer opportunities were also presented. The importance of development of the scientific community was highlighted and cooperation scenarios of civil society, diaspora and organizational communities were discussed. A case study was shown taken from the Institute for Physical Research (IPR) of National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia (NAS RA).

Hrayr Azizbekyan is a researcher at the Matter Wave Physics Laboratory and the head of the Scientific Engineering Group of IPR NAS RA. He has studied theoretical physics in Yerevan State University, as well as in the Moscow Institute for Physics and Technology. He

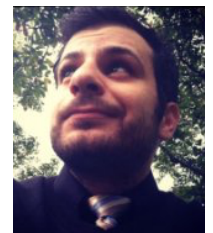


has a Ph.D. from the University of Lorraine and a Ph.D. from IPR NAS. Hrayr has extensive experience in programming and various engineering applications in industry. He also has experience in teaching and lecturing in public school program, International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and Yerevan State University. Dr. Azizbekyan's civic experiences include student chapter management of the Optical Society of America and The International Society for Optics and Photonics, active participation in events supporting science and education in Armenia, civil society platform building for the scientific community and the creation of platforms for the dissemination of science.

“Railway Politics: The Effect of Recently Inaugurated Baku-Tbilisi-Kars Railway” by Gegham Mughnetsyan

Abstract: Last month, after many years of construction, the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway project became a completed reality. Soon, many international outlets and area experts began to discuss how the project furthered the isolation of Armenia from global markets and the region. While true that Armenia is sidelined by this particular multinational project, the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway is a case study of current developments in global geopolitics and needs a major review and evaluation in order to understand the greater tectonic shifts in the region that are about to follow. These upcoming shifts will revolve around Central Asia, one of the last frontiers, with China and Iran at its two ends and Russia and Turkey competing for influence, one old-for colonial, the other for cultural, and along these crossroads runs the railroad, from one end to the other.

Gegham Mughnetsyan is a researcher at the USC Institute of Armenian Studies where his primary interest includes post-Genocide Armenian Diaspora, present-day Republic of Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. Mr. Mughnetsyan earned his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Berkeley, majoring in Peace and Conflict Studies, with a focus on US foreign policy toward Nagorno Karabakh, and he earned his Master's Degree from the American University in Washington DC in International Affairs, focusing on global governance, politics and security.



«Հայապահպանում և Հայկական դպրոցներու անհրաժեշտութիւնը սփիւռքի մէջ» Յովսէփ Նալպանտեան

Ամփոփում մ՝ Սփիւռքի հայկական ամէնօրեայ դպրոցները մօտիկ անցեալին և այսօր. վերջին 45 տարիներուն փակուած են 216 հայկական ամէնօրեայ վարժարան: Ամենաշատը Պէյրութի մէջ 44 դպրոց: Արևմտահայերէնի իրավիճակը, առանց հայկական դպրոցներու. եթէ լեզուն ինքնութիւն է, լեզուամտածողութիւն է և հոգե-

բանութիւն...ապա առանց ամէնօրեայ հայկական դպրոցներու մեծ ցանցի, կը կորսնցնենք մեր հետապնդած հայապահպանումը Սփիւռքի տարածքին: Փաստեր և տուեալներ այսօրուայ հայկական դպրոցներու մասին. այսօր Սփիւռքի տարածքին կը գործէ մօտաւորապէս 270 դպրոց: Հայկական ամէնօրեայ դպրոց կը յաճախեն դպրոցական տարիքի 2-2,5 տոկոսը միայն: Մենք կարիքն ունինք մեծ թիւով նոր հայկական վարժարաններու: Գրուած «Բաց նամակ»ը Սփիւռքի հայկական դպրոցներու փակուելուն և անհրաժեշտ առնուելիք քայլերուն մասին և անոր անդրադարձները. կայքերու վրայ կարդացած են աւելի քան 12 հազար հայորդի: Բայց հիմնական բարեսիրական միութիւններէն ոչ մէկ արձագանգ: Ինչո՞ւ պէտք է ստեղծուի «Հայկական միասնական հիմնադրամ»ը. հիմնադրամի մասին առաջին անգամ խօսուած է 2006 թ.ին: Ապա 2009-12 թթ. տարբեր հեռուստակայաններէ: Պէտք չէ յուսահատիլ: Մեծ աշխատանք կայ կատարելու, որպէսզի փրկուի նորահաս սերունդը, և տրուի անոնց ազգային դաստիարակութիւն:

Յովսէփ Նալպանտեան (M.A.) ծնած է Հալէպ 1958-ին: Աւարտելէ ետք տեղւոյն Հազար Նահարեան Կեդրոնական երկրորդական վարժարանը, 1989-ին կ'աւարտէ Երևանի

Պետական Համալսարանի հայկական բանասիրական բաժանմունքը: Այնուհետև աւելի քան 25 տարի զբաղած է մանկավարժութեամբ, դասաւանդած է հայոց լեզու, գրականութիւն, պատմութիւն, աշխարհագրութիւն, երեք տարբեր երկիրներու մէջ: Այժմ կը դասաւանդէ Մաշտոց գոլէճի և Պէվրլի Հիլզ

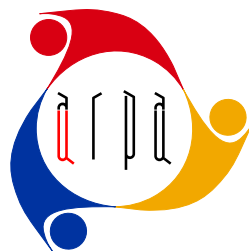
միջազգային լեզուաբանական ինստիտուտի մէջ: 2005 թուականին կը հիմնէ «Յովսէփ և Գարոլին Նալպանտեան» մատենաշարը, որ ցարդ հրատարակած է 28 հատոր գիրք: Վերջերս հրատարակեց «Հայկական պատմութիւններու» Բ. և Գ. հատորները: Նալպանտեան արժանացած է բազմաթիւ շքանշաններու՝ Սփիւռքի նախարարութեան «Մայրենիի դեսպան» և «Ոսկէ մետալ», Հայաստանի գրողներու միութեան «Գրական վաստակի մետալ», Հայաստանի Ազգային գրադարանի «Յակոբ Մեղապարտ մետալ» և «Մովսէս Խորենացի» պետական մետալ: 2016-ի Սեպտեմբերին Ստեփանակերտի Գրիգոր Նարեկացի համալսարանէն կ'արժանանայ «Պատուոյ Դոկտորի» կոչման: 2006-էն իվեր Երևանի, Գաւառի, Ստեփանակերտի համալսարաններուն մէջ կարդացած է 34 դասախօսութիւն, Սփիւռքի, Հայերէնի, հայ գիրքի, մեր կազմակերպութիւններու մասին:



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25րդ Տարեդարձ



Empower Innovate Transform
25th Anniversary

Blueprint For A Nano-Technology Research and Development Center in Armenia

A Nano-Technology Research and Development Center (NTRDC) is being planned to serve as an interdisciplinary facility to be established in Yerevan, Armenia, with the objective to encourage research and entrepreneurship in nanotechnology.

The idea is to create an environment whereby researchers in nanotechnology can commercialize their technology by proposing business plans for the successful creation of nanotech start-ups. The ultimate aim is to provide the means to transform Armenia's relatively advanced science and technology to a position of leadership in nanotechnology.

The NTRDC may bring scientists from across Armenia and even from the neighboring countries to carry out joint R&D on new materials and technologies. The long-term ambitious goal is to create an advanced fabrication and experimentation facility specializing in various areas, which may revolutionize medical diagnostics, genomics, cell biology, modern electronics & sensors, nanofabrication, energy harvesting & conversion, programmable matter and many other fields.

Donations to the ARPA Institute Initiative to Establish A Nano-Technology Research and Development Center in Armenia

		Zaven & Sonia Akian		\$25,000	
Lilas "Lela" Ashkarian	\$5,000	Raffi & Mirna Mesrobian	\$1,000	Ara Zeithlian	\$500
Helen Haig	\$5,000	Jordan Brysk, Lorig, Lara, Armen, Tamar, Baruir Panossian	\$1,000	Gaizag & Dzovig Zeitlian	\$500
TF Educational Foundation	\$5,000	Simon John & Arpi Simonian	\$1,000	Hovhannes & Mary Karakashian	\$322
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Nazareth Kevonian	\$3,000	Andy Torosyan	\$1,000	Ohannes Koulak Avedikian	\$250
Armenian Missionary Assoc. of America	\$2,500	Adour & Arsho Aghjaian	\$500	Vahan & Armine Garboushian	\$250
Armenian Engineers & Scientists of America	\$1,250	Peno Akian	\$500	Vahe & Seta Nalbandian	\$250
Mark Chenian	\$1,250	Hagop & Lina Aslanian	\$500	Phoenicia Restaurant	\$250
Harold DeMirjian	\$1,250	Art Bedroussian (Hampton Inn, Glendale)	\$500	Yerevan Polytechnic Institute Alum. Assoc.	\$250
Berj Kouyoumjian	\$1,250	Vahan Boghamian; Movses Shrikian	\$500	Ara & Seta Chutjian	\$200
Hagop Panossian	\$1,250	Alice Chalian	\$500	Stepan Simonian	\$200
Mihran & Elizabeth Agbabian	\$1,000	Dikran & Arpi Dalian	\$500	Sako & Sally Bedrosian	\$150
The Armenian Aintabtzy Cultural Assoc.	\$1,000	Krikor & Arsine Demirjian	\$500	Tamar Apelian	\$125
Anonymous	\$1,000	Marina Guevrekian & Mardiros Kazarians	\$500	Hrair Aintablian	\$100
Alec Baghdasaryan	\$1,000	Infinite Dental Wellness	\$500	Baklava Factory - Sweets	
Roupen & Graziella Berberian	\$1,000	Raffi Kendirjian	\$500	Carousel Restaurant - Raffles	
Harout Bronozian	\$1,000	Jora & Helen Manoucherian	\$500	Connect To Communication - Live Streaming	
Jim & Levon Broussalian & Cythia Tusan	\$1,000	Edgar Martirosyan	\$500	My Glendale Florist - Flowers	
Adrin & Sosy Gharakhani	\$1,000	The Nazerian Group	\$500	Remedy Liquor - Karas Wine	
Adam & Rita Kablanian	\$1,000	Rafi & Sako Ourfalian Law	\$500	Sarkis Pastry - 25th Anniversary Cake	
Vahe Karapetian	\$1,000	Ara Stepanyan	\$500	Tulumba Mama Sweets - Sweets	



Trip Report on ARPA Activities in Armenia **Hagop Panossian, Maro Aghazarian, Hrachoohi Boghossian**

Every year, Dr. Hagop Panossian travels to Armenia to take care of ARPA Institute business. The following Trip Report summarizes the important discussions and meetings:

August 18, 2017

Our Board members, Hrachoohi Boghossian, Maro Aghazarian, and Amur Margaryan met in the Meghety Cafe and discussed various need-to-do activities. At the same time we had Dr. Aram Manoukyan of the Institute of Radiophysics and Electronics of the NAS Armenia. He works in generating various nanomaterials, including graphene nano-tubes. His suggestion was to have/organize the Nano-Technology R&D Center in the YSU.

September 10, 2017

We had another meeting with the Team and a decision was made to call for a meeting on Wednesday evening in one of the conference rooms at AUA, where individuals/scientists who work in the area of nano-technology can present their research, the results they have achieved, the expectations they may have, and their needs as far as instrumentation, finances, etc. Decisions will be made according to the information gathered during the meeting. Maro Aghazarian was to send invitation to 12 scientists in this area and ask them to prepare briefings.

September 11, 2017

1. I attended the conference on “Future Armenia” organized by the World Bank. The Deputy Prime

Minister, Vache Gabrielyan, presented the various initiatives and programs the GoA has to advance to enhance the productivity and overall GDP of Armenia. There were two panel discussions that had experts from various WB and local organizations present their views on the various aspects of the economy/healthcare/agriculture/etc. of Armenia. It was a well-organized conference and I learned a lot of new information. At the same time, I had a chance to meet Mr. Gabrielyan and asked for an appointment to talk to him. I also talked to Nerses Yeritsyan, the Deputy Director of the Central Bank of Armenia.

2. I met with Prof. Aram Gevorgyan of the Polytechnic, who is the Director of the Institute of Energy. He presented the new activities towards the development of a curriculum for a Masters program in Management and Design of Energy Systems. This is being done through the European Union and all the funding is from the EU. However, he wants to use our Distance Learning program to have experts in the energy field present the latest developments in the industry.

3. I had a meeting with David Pakhchanyan and Avetik Keropyan and discussed issues of importance to the Defense Ministry.

September 12, 2017

1. I visited the Rector of the National Polytechnic University of Armenia, Prof. Vosdanik Maroukhyan. He reviewed with me the latest on-goings at the university and was especially enthusiastic about the new “Energy Efficiency and Conservation Laboratory”, donated

through the Tashir Group and Schneider Electric. The second and the third floors of the second building were being completely renovated and quite a few new and expensive instrumentation were being installed. Accompanying him was his very young Deputy, Gor Vardanyan (who was a participant in the ARPA Invention Competition this year). He seemed to be quite an active and enthusiastic person. They also showed a brand new building that is supposed to be the design and production center for remote-controlled drones.

2. I met with Armen Minassyan, the advisor to the Chairman of Planning and Urban Development Committee and Assistant Professor at the University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia. He was interested in helping formulate laws regarding building codes, similar to Title 24. He was also interested in cooperating with AESA and ARPA to work towards green energy in Armenia.

September 13, 2017

I met with Nerses Yeritsyan, the Deputy Director of the Central Bank of Armenia. The building is highly modern with a big and well-designed central court. We discussed the Nano-Technology Initiative and the possibility of placing it in the Physics Institute, since he is its Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He found that to be feasible and even practical. However, he presented some problems the Institute is facing.

September 14, 2017

We had invited all the scientists/researchers involved in Nano-Technology in Armenia to AUA and met with them in a conference room. There were 8 of them from 7 different centers. They each presented their activities, results, needs in instrumentation, and future prospects. There were very interesting activities, some of which could even become products with small investments. The meeting lasted 4 hours. The videos are placed on Youtube for everyone to listen to/see.

September 15, 2017

1. A meeting was held at the University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia. Present were the Rector of the university, Prof. Gagik Galstyan, the Pro-Rector, Prof. Etoyan, Armen Minassyan, Areg Gharabegian and Eddie Atoyan. Discussed were the energy efficiency and conservation course at the university and cooperation with AESA and ARPA. Areg, who is an advisor to the Minister of Nature Protection, reported that the UNDP has allocated \$6 million for the evaluation and implementation of green Armenia. The Rector agreed and they decided to evaluate their needs and accordingly define a program. Also discussed was the AESA initiative to donate a 10MW solar system to the UACE and place it on the roof of the university building. The rector would

have the energy needs of the university assessed and then let the Council know.

2. I met with Spartak of Instigate and made the payment for the new ARPA Institute website, which was built by Stepan in Artsakh. The payment was made after Stepan asked me over the phone to give the \$300 fee to Spartak.

September 16, 2017

1. I met with Hon. Ruzanna Muradyan, the Parliament Member who heads the Union of School Clusters in Armenia. Maro Aghazarian and I visited their office and saw the 24 projects that have been submitted by 24 participating schools this year. The quality of the projects were quite low. We discussed the event organized by the union on September 28, called “the EMBLEMS OF ARMENIA”. Students will present their exhibits and Ruzanna suggested for ARPA to participate and give awards to winners.

2. I attended a dinner organized by the Trade and Development Committee of Armenia at the Megerian Carpets. They showed the mill’s operations and numerous handmade carpets of all sizes. The event was called “All Countries Under One Roof” and the committee gave me an award for my contributions in Armenia.

September 17, 2017

I attended the Celebrations of the battle of Mussa Ler at the Mussa Ler Monument.

September 18-20, 2017

I attended the Armenia-Diaspora Conference and made a presentation on “Advanced Research Program For Armenia”. This was in the session titled “ՌԱԶՄԱՐ-ԴՅՈՒՆԱԲԵՐԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՄԱԼԻՐ. ԱՐԴԻԱԿԱՆԱՑՄԱՆ, ՀԱՄԱԳՈՐԾԱԿՑՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԵՎ ՏՆՏԵՍԱԿԱՆ ԱՌԱՋՆԹԱՑԻ ԽԹԱՆՈՒՄ”. The presentation was received very enthusiastically by the attendees, especially the Deputy Defense Minister of Armenia. A few people even expressed their high approvals for such a structure.

September 19, 2017

I called Dr. Khachatur Gasparyan, the Dean of the Medical School in Armenia, who was very interested in organizing on-line seminars. I informed him about Dr. Artin Petrossians’ visit to Yerevan and he immediately organized a presentation for his students at AUA. Dr. Petrossians presented his research on “Neuromodulation and Neural Prosthesis” to Dr. Gasparyan’s students. This was organized by the ARPA Institute as part of the “Distance Learning Program”.

September 20, 2017

I met with the Director of the Union of Information Technology Enterprises, Karen Vardanyan. Also present was Vahagn Poghosyan. We discussed the DIGITECH Expo, which is organized by Karen (UITE) and the

ARPA “Innovation, Invention and Entrepreneurship Forum”, held on the 30th on the DIGITECH premises.

September 21, 2017

I met with Dr. Armen Der Giureghian, the President of the AUA, in his office. He presented the needs and progress of the university and how most students want to go into IT, law and other non-science majors. We also discussed the possibility of having the “Nano-Technology Research and Development Center” within the AUA. His assessment was that “if we have a center in the AUA, then it should be useful and used by AUA”.

September 22, 2017

1. Dr. Artin Petrossians presented his research on “Neuromodulation and Neural Prosthesis”» at the Institute of Molecular Biology, organized as part of the ARPA Institute “Distance Learning Program”. According to Dr. Arsen Arakelyan, the Director of the MBI, the attendance and enthusiasm was great!

2. We had the ARPA Institute Invention Competition Awards Ceremony at the National Polytechnic University of Armenia. Present were all the participants and their advisors, Hon. Ruzanna Muradyan, the member of Parliament of Armenia and the head of the Union of School Clusters, the VP of the NPUA, Areg Grigoryan, as well as other guests. The Awards Ceremony went well and was recorded on video for Youtube. Five awards were given, a first place (\$2000), a second place (\$1000), a third place (\$600) and two fourth places (\$400 each).



September 23, 2017

I met with a group of experts in chemical technology from the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry. Discussions were mainly about potential products and how to go about marketing them.

September 25, 2017

I visited the Institute of Chemical Physics and met with Dr. Levon Tavadyan, the Director, Dr. Arkady Harutunyan, and Dr. Sergey Arsentev, who showed the Gas Chromatograph donated by ARPA, which was delivered from the NPUA to their Institute; he performed

a demonstration of the actual operation of the instrument. They also gave me a tour of their facility and presented their products. It is interesting to note that they had discovered there was no software for analysis of the test results in the GC and they had to develop it themselves.

September 26, 2017

I had a meeting with Dr. Amur Margaryan of the Alikhanyan Institute of Physics to whose lab ARPA had donated an Electronic Synthesizer to carry out his optical experimentation on Radio-Frequency Photo-Multiplier Tube. The RFPMT is a device he developed that can measure single electrons in one pico-second resolution, the shortest ever. Also present were scientists from the Glasgow University, Dr. John Annand, Dr. Rachel Montgomery and Dr. Ken Arville. Discussed were the potential applications of the RFPMT and the need for new instrumentation to complete the task. They were asked to write a complete proposal with a business plan that addresses the issues of research, development, implementation, and demonstration, as well as costs.

September 27, 2017

I visited the Candle Institute of the Linear Accelerator of Armenia, where laser, optical, electronics and other activities are taking place. They can measure laser pulses down to femtosecond resolution. The laboratory is really impressive and they apparently perform high-tech research. Dr. Vasily Tsiganov, the Director gave me a tour of the facility. The Nano-Technology Initiative was also discussed and his response was that the facility is open to all scientists in Armenia.

September 28, 2017

I attended the "Emblems of Armenia" Competition Awards Ceremony organized by Hon. Ruzanna Muradyan and the Union of School Clusters. It was a very well attended event with over fifty teams/students from schools all over Armenia. Students presented their impressions on the national symbols and emblems. Two token gifts were given by the ARPA Institute to students from the Lori region.

September 29, 2017

I met with Deputy Prime Minister Vache Gabrielyan and discussed with him the Nano-Technology Initiative, the School Science Fairs and the Invention Competition. His suggestion was to meet with Mr. Pegor Papazian, since the Government has plans to establish an independent laboratory in the TUMO Center for all scientists in Armenia to use.

September 30, 2017

The “Innovation, Invention and Entrepreneurship Forum” was held on the 3rd floor of the Mergelyan Institute, as the DIGITECH Expo was in progress. Around 35 people were in attendance. The main presentation on the subject

was given by Dr. Hrachoohi Boghossian, followed by the students who had won an award from the 2017 ARPA Invention Competition. The event went very well and there was a great deal of interest from the audience.

October 2, 2017

1. I had a meeting with Pegor Papazian, the head of the TUMO Technology Initiative. Apparently, there is a European Union-TUMO Initiative that will start development of a “Technology Center” in the TUMO facilities. There will be a \$10 million sponsorship from the EU to develop “Project-Based” technology applications that can both be productive and teach the students at the same time. He was first given an introduction to ARPA (which he said he was aware of) and was told about the ARPA Institute Nano-Technology Research and Development Initiative. His reaction was that if we can make it “demand-based”; that is, it can eventually produce something that has a marketable value, then it will be possible to house the center at TUMO. They will build a separate building specifically for this purpose. However, to start, it will be housed on the sixth floor of TUMO.

2. I had a meeting with the Rector of the NPUA, Prof. Vosdanik Maroukhyan and discussed with him the Nano-Technology gathering of the scientists working in that area. He was happy that the NPUA is being considered as well.

3. I had a meeting with the Vice Rector, Mr. Areg Grigoryan. We discussed similar issues related to the Nano-Technology and the letter to CSULA cooperation. He promised to follow up on it and deliver it as soon as possible. We also discussed the possibility of gathering the Polytechnic graduates in the US and organizing events where a high ranking official from the Polytechnic can attend and try to raise interest among the former graduates towards the NPUA. He will provide addresses for ARPA to try to organize the event.

October 3, 2017

Hrachoohi Boghossian and I had a meeting with the head of the Diaspora Section of the Ministry of Education and Science, Karen Mnatsakanyan. I also spoke with the Deputy Minister Davit Sahakyan. With the former, we discussed the details of how science fairs should be organized in the public school system in Armenia. He was told to organize a training session for trainers so that they could in turn train the teachers and principals in ways of organizing science fairs in their schools.

October 4, 2017

Dr. Lorig Panossian of Berkeley, CA gave a lecture to the students of AUA on Sleep Disorders and Neurological Issues. It was organized as part of the “Distance Learning

Program” of the ARPA Institute. The students and faculty were highly attentive and showed a great deal of interest.

October 5, 2017

I met with the Rector of the NPUA, Prof Maroukhyan, and discussed with him the possibility of writing a Letter of Intent to participate in technical cooperation between the NPUA and Cal State LA in Energy Efficiency and Conservation issues. He promised to write the letter and send it to ARPA as soon as possible.

October 6, 2017

I visited the office of the Union of School Clusters (USC) of Armenia and met with their President, Ms. Ruzanna Muradyan. We discussed the ways and means of implementing the first Science Fair in Armenia, which was planned to be held in the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia central building’s official hall on October 10. Details regarding the selection of judges, organizing the display boards, and performing the judging were discussed and arrangements were made. 11 Young Judges were called from various organizations to carry out the judging and evaluations of 24 projects from 24 schools in Armenia.

October 7, 2017

Dr. Levon Yepiscoposyan and his colleague physician were met, who wanted to get DNA samples from folks who had purely Mussa Lertsy or Kessabtsy parents. So, around 10 people were called upon who volunteered to give their blood samples for the research in population genetics of western Armenians that Dr. Yepiscoposyan is working on.

October 9, 2017

1. Dr. Lorig Panossian visited the Erebuni Hospital and their Sarko Tilkian Blood Bank (which was donated by ARPA and, yet, no sign is posted on it referring to ARPA). She spent some time with their physician experts discussing neurological disorders and sleep apnea.

2. Dr. Lorig Panossian and myself visited the Molecular Biology Institute and discussed various activities of research taking place at the Institute. We were then taken to the various laboratories where the scientists described their corresponding research activities.

October 10, 2017

All the selected judges of the first Science Fair were trained on how to carry out the judging of science projects by first evaluating the projects without the students and making notes and then by talking and quizzing the students. These steps should be taken in order to get the right impression as to the amount of work, the degree of understanding, the quality of the experimentation and the oral presentation of each student. At 3:00 pm the students and their parents arrived from

various regions of Armenia and the judges began the formal process of judging. At 4:00 pm the judges decided on what project should be given first, second, third and fourth places. The formal Awards ceremony started at 4:10 pm. After the opening remarks by Ruzanna Muradyan and the President of the NAS of Armenia, Dr. Radik Martirosyan, the winners were announced and 4 awards were given from the ARPA Institute, which were science experimentation kits for the winning schools, followed by awards from the NAS of Armenia. Each student was handed out a certificate of participation and books in science, given by the USC. The event was claimed to be the first ever science fair in Armenia and great way to improve attitudes in science among the school children in Armenia.

October 11, 20176

1. I had an interview with Maria Titizian, the Director/ Editor of EVN Magazine. She wanted to Podcast the interview and present the ARPA activities to the public,

which she characterized as “the most important activities among all Diaspora Organizations”.

2. Hrachoohi and I visited the “Physmath” school in Kanaker district of Yerevan, which is the most advanced public school in Armenia. All the teachers and the principal gathered in their hall and Hrachoohi spoke about ARPA activities and I gave the teachers an hour worth of training in “How to organize a school science fair”. There were a lot of questions and interest. The one hour training was not sufficient; however, the school teachers were said to be experts in organizing science competitions and they would be able to train other teachers so that more schools can participate in the science fairs.

3. Hrachoohi and I met with Armen Orujyan, the Director of the Fund for Armenian Science and Technology. Discussed were the FAST plans, as well as the activities of ARPA that could be in tune with their programs.

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