



FALL 2007

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Anatolia Aids Greek Fire Victims

It was a Thanksgiving with a difference; or rather, a traditional Anatolia Thanksgiving, only more so.

In the latter days of August, after prolonged hot, dry weather, Greece was struck by devastating forest fires, in the Peloponnesian peninsula and on the Aegean island of Euboea. The fires destroyed 670,000 acres of forest, olive groves and farmland, and burned many villages, leaving 67 people dead. It was the country's greatest humanitarian and ecological disaster in many years.

Greeks and philhellenes worldwide responded with economic aid and other offers of help. At Anatolia the



George Lysarides, Vice President for Secondary Education (left), presenting Giannis Bourodimos, Mayor of Dirphion, with a small gift. A larger one is to follow.

impulse to help was immediate, and the response carefully planned. After deliberation, the school decided to assist a region in Euboea that had not received as much attention as regions further south. As it happened, the mayor of one of the affected towns in the area was planning to be in Thessaloniki in the latter part of November, at the time of the school's annual Thanksgiving dinner. Anatolia extended an invitation.

Every year at Thanksgiving Day morning assemblies, Anatolia students are asked to donate money to help others. The money typically goes to soup kitchens, orphanages, or the like in Thessaloniki; the student councils themselves decide, in consultation with their Deans. This year the councils decided to pool their donations for the benefit of the fire victims. A collection was also made at the annual Thanksgiving Day dinner the school provides for faculty, staff, local trustees, and their families.

The dinner itself, held in Ingle Hall, began with welcoming remarks by President Jackson and Executive Vice President and COO Dr. Panos Kanellis. Georges Lysarides, Vice President for



Southern Greece, August 25, 2007. The thick smoke rising in the top upper right of this NASA photo is coming from the region in Euboea which Anatolia is now assisting.

Secondary Education, then announced the intention of the school to purchase computers and other educational equipment for schools in the villages of Mistros and Theologos in Euboea. He introduced Mr. Giannis Bourodimos, Mayor of Dirphion, of which the villages are part, who movingly described the tragedy that had struck his town and expressed his thanks for the help that had been of-

fered, including Anatolia's. "It has been a comfort to us," he said, "to know that we have not stood alone."

Meanwhile, at ACT, another Thanksgiving dinner was taking place. The 44 American study abroad students provided turkey (with all the trimmings) for their Greek and international peers. This was the second such celebration, and it is fast becoming an ACT tradition.

George Bissell Passes the Torch to Jack Clymer

George S. Bissell, a member of Anatolia's Board of Trustees since 1965, is retiring from his post as Chairman after leading the Board for nearly three decades. John H. Clymer, a member of the Board of Trustees since 1981 and recently one of its Vice-Chairs, was elected Chairman at the Board's annual meeting in Boston on November 10.

Clymer is a Boston-based attorney specializing in the fields of estate planning, estate and trust administration, representation of charitable organizations, including foundations, and counseling owners and managers of private businesses. A graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, he is a partner in the law firm of Nixon, Peabody.

He is a director of Boston Private Bank & Trust Company and a director of the Eagle Tribune Publishing Company. He serves as Chairman of the Board of the Hyams Foundation, a Boston private foundation, and is a trustee of Sofia American Schools, an English-language high school in Sofia, Bulgaria. He is also active in



Jack Clymer



George Bissell

the Boston Bar Association, where he chairs the Investment Committee.

Asked how he sees the job of leading the Board, Clymer stated: "George Bissell has inspired and energized a multinational board of very talented and dedicated people during his tenure as Chair. I hope to help the Board build upon the foundations George has created so that Anatolia's schools become recognized as the best in Greece and on a par with the best that the

United States has to offer in education from kindergarten through graduate school."

The period of George Bissell's leadership has been marked by the establishment of the American College of Thessaloniki as a U.S.-accredited four-year college, the expansion of Anatolia into elementary and post-graduate education, and numerous building projects, including the Bissell Library on the ACT campus, which set a new standard for academic libraries in Greece. In 2004 Bissell was awarded the Silver Cross of the Phoenix by the Greek government for his dedicated service to the country, a rare honor for a foreign citizen. What has inspired his devotion to Anatolia for over four decades? "Belief in education," Bissell succinctly replies. "It's what the world needs most, and I have found it profoundly satisfying to be involved for more than half of my lifetime with Anatolia College, a truly great and unique educational institution." George Bissell will remain an active member of the Board of Trustees. All Anatolians salute his 42 years of service to the school.

ACT Hosts International Conference on Region's Future

Under the joint sponsorship of the prestigious Woodrow Wilson Center of Washington, D.C., and the Lucy Kulukundis Center for Balkan Studies at the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), two days of presentations and discussion on the theme of "Greece, the Western Balkans, and the European Union" took place in Anatolia's newly renovated Raphael Hall November 30 and December 1. The Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation provided the funding for the gathering, which drew scholars and diplomats from the U.S., Canada, and many European countries.



President Jackson with delegates to the Conference.

The aim of the conference was to bring together leading academic experts and practitioners to discuss the future of the Western Balkans and the role of Greece in the region. The two-day event produced concrete policy recommendations on a range of issues that included EU enlargement, foreign direct investment and economic reform,

regional governmental policies and their political implications. Experts from institutions such as LSE, Oxford, the IMF, the European Commission, the Madrid Center for Political and Constitutional Studies, the European Agency for Reconstruction, and the Universities of Pittsburgh, Bologna, Westminster and Kent, among others, presented papers. The final speaker, Dr. Gulner Aybet of the University of Kent, flew in directly from a major presentation at Chatham House in London, arriving minutes before her presentation and bringing the conference to a dramatic close.

The Woodrow Wilson Center is a non-partisan institute for advanced study and a neutral forum for open, serious, and informed dialogue. It brings pre-eminent thinkers to Washington for extended periods of time to interact with policymakers through a large number of programs and projects. The ACT event received media sponsorship from TO BHMA, and the proceedings will be published in book form by the Wilson Center.

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The Presidents of AICU institutions gather with guests at a meeting in Athens. President Jackson is seated, fourth from right. The Acropolis can be seen in the background.

Anatolia President Heads Up AICU

Anatolia President Richard Jackson was chosen as the new President of the Association of American International Colleges and Universities at its May meeting in London. Established in the 1970s, the AICU includes all colleges and universities outside the U.S. with full, free-standing American accreditation as independent institutions. Its members operate in Europe, Asia, and Africa and exchange views and resolve problems on matters of common concern. The American College of Thessaloniki is a long time member of a group that now numbers almost twenty institutions. "A primary AICU objective over the coming year," reports Jackson, "will be to reinforce the Association's brand as a standard of educational quality for American colleges and universities abroad in the face of misrepresentation by institutions claiming to be American but having neither American accreditation nor the high standards it signifies."

President Jackson Addresses Armenian Graduates

President Richard Jackson was the Commencement speaker at ceremonies for graduates of the American University of Armenia in Yerevan on October 7. Both the American University of

Armenia and Anatolia's university division, the American College of Thessaloniki, are members of the Association of American International Colleges and Universities, of which President Jackson is current President. "In thirty years as an American diplomat and now eight years as a college president in Greece, I have met and admired so many Armenians for their passionate embrace of life, for their sheer hard work and for their creative contributions in the

arts and in so many fields. Now, here I am in Yerevan, facing Mt. Ararat, the cradle of Armenian history and culture, and speaking to those who will help shape the future of this country," President Jackson began. He went on to cite the close ties Anatolia has had with Armenians past and present, and he paid tribute to the Armenian faculty members and students who had been so important to the school in its early years in Asia Minor.

"You are graduating today from a distinguished American institution, and I come to you from a comparable one in Greece," Jackson continued. "What

makes us unique and binds together graduates of these American institutions and others like them around the world? I would like to think that it is a strong belief in American education as a unique experiment that puts the individual student at the center of the learning experience, that emphasizes critical thinking, and conceives of education as a lifelong commitment." In his send-off President Jackson quoted William Saroyan, a favorite author, on the character of the Armenian people – and was greeted after the ceremony by a host of Saroyan's relatives who had been present.

High School News

A U.S. Summer Sampler



Sophomore Anatolia scholarship holder Clea Micho and classmate Constantinos Primerakis, pictured above, were two of 74 Anatolia and ACT students to study at one of more than twenty U.S. universities this past summer. The two participated in "STARS 2007", a 6-week science program run jointly by Washington

University, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and St. Louis University. STARS stands for "Students and Teachers as Research Scientists." The idea is to let promising science students practice science side by side with working scientists. Primerakis worked with Dr. Sonya Bahar, Director of the Center for Neuro-dynamics at UMO, on a project involving computer simulation of nervous activity during epileptic seizures. His paper, "Synchronization Dynamics of Epileptic Seizure Offset" won the Pfizer-Solutia Award for Excellence in Research announced at the Program's closing ceremony.

Meanwhile, an alumnus of last year's STARS Program, Michalis Michael, now a senior in the Anatolia I.B. Program, returned to the States along with three other Anatolians for the four-week Scientific Discovery Program at St. Cloud University in Minnesota. While there he learned that his research project of the prior summer, "The Physics of Bird Flight," will be published in the American science journal *The Physics Teacher*. For the second summer Anatolia Chemistry teacher Dr. Ilias Kalambokis led a team of Anatolians to Michigan Technological University. This year 22 students participated in the program, all getting exposure to hands-on American science teaching.

At Ohio State University, I.B. junior Ilias Giechaskiel was on his own, with a full scholarship to the Ross Mathematics Program. He is used to standing out: he received a Gold Medal in last year's Greek Math Olympiad. "I would recommend the program unreservedly to anyone with a serious interest in mathematics who is ready to dedicate eight weeks of his summer working hard on mathematical problems," he says. "Still, I would have to forewarn you that the program is very difficult."

Experiences such as these – and many others besides – don't come without hard work behind the scenes identifying programs, securing scholarships, filing applications, and assisting in the many details of travel to U.S. destinations. The effort is led by Eva Kanellis, Director of U.S. College Counseling.

"We throw a lot of bridges across the Atlantic these days," she comments. "When I see what our kids come back with, I know the energy we put into it has been worthwhile. Last year 50 students, this year 74 – our goal is 100. Stay tuned."

Anatolians Participate in the Second Ecumenical Conference

When Ecumenical Patriarch Vartholomaios honored Anatolia by extending an invitation for five of its students to attend the 2nd Conference of Orthodox Youth in Constantinople this past July, the school readily accepted. Anatolia has come to know the Patriarch well: he visited the campus and spoke to students in 2003, and two Model United Nations delegations to Turkish schools have called on him since.

The theme of the conference was "Members of the Church – Citizens of the World." Its aim was to bring together young people from the Ecumenical Patriarchate for an exchange of views, but also to reach out to youth from other Orthodox churches, numbers of whom were also in attendance. Speakers came from Europe, the U.S., and Australia to talk about subjects as diverse as the role of youth in the spiritual life of the Church, its philanthropic mission, and its relations with other religions. Also on the agenda were topics such as globalization, ecology, technology, delinquency, love, family, solitude, and sexuality. In the discussions of these subjects that followed the presentations, the five Anatolians were active participants.

The Patriarch was a gracious host, joining the conferees at mealtimes, when everyone had a chance to sample the famous "πρωλίτικη κουζίνα," the traditional cooking of Constantinople. Accompanied by Anatolia teacher of Religion Nikolaos Peristeropoulos, who served as escort for



The Anatolia team with the Patriarch and teacher Nikolaos Peristeropoulos at the conference center

the trip, the Anatolians were able to pay a personal call on the Patriarch and present him with a gift from President Jackson. They also visited with Archbishop Demetrios, an honorary trustee of Anatolia, and with the Archbishop of Crete, who was also present at the conference.

There was time, too, for visits to both sacred and historic sites: Aghia Sophia, several monasteries, the now sadly closed Theological School of Halki, and the Cisterns of Justinian. An unforgettable evening of Greek music of the East in the gardens of the Hyatt Hotel brought the conference to a close and called forth feelings of nostalgia, pain, admiration, and also hope for the city that Greeks simply call The City.

Yale Honors I.B. Teacher

Anna Petmeza '87, a teacher of Economics in Anatolia's International Baccalaureate Program, was singled out to receive a Yale University Teaching Award. The award recognizes exceptional secondary school teachers who have inspired high achievement in their students. Ms. Petmeza was nominated by recent Anatolia graduates Ifigenia Derekli '07 and Argyrios Tsiaras '07, both first-year students at Yale.

An inscribed memento and letter of congratulations from Yale were presented to Ms. Petmeza by Anatolia President Richard Jackson in a small ceremony on September 28. Among those attending were Angelos Billis '47, Anatolia Trustee, Governance Committee Chairman, and proud father of the honoree, Mrs. Billis, Trustee Dr. Stavros Constantinides, and school officials.



President Jackson with Anna Petmeza.

The Anatolian

The Anatolian is published twice a year by the Office of the Board of Trustees of Anatolia College, 130 Bowdoin Street, Suite 1201, Boston MA 02108

It is written and edited by Phil Holland and designed and printed in Greece by M. Diamantidi S.A.

Two Roads, and Yiorgos Chouliaras '69 Has Taken Them Both

He leads a double life – of the blameless kind. Yiorgos Chouliaras '69 has had a successful career as a Press Counselor in various Greek government postings – at the Greek Embassy in Ottawa, in Athens during the Olympic Games, at the Greek Consulate in Boston, and he is currently Press Counselor at the Greek Embassy in Washington, D.C.

At the same time he has led a literary life as a poet, editor, and translator. He's the author of *Δρόμοι της Μελάνης* (Roads of Ink) and five previous volumes of poetry in Greek, as well as numerous essays, in Greek and in English, on literature, cultural history, and international relations. Reviews of and translations from his work have been published in periodicals such as *Agenda*, *Grand Street*, *Harvard Review*, *Modern Poetry in Translation*, *Ploughshares*, *Poetry*, and *World Literature Today*. An excerpt from his memoir *America Is No Longer Here* is included in *Greece: A Traveler's Literary Companion*.

The Anatolian caught up with the Press Counselor as he was helping prepare for the participation of the Greek Foreign Minister in the recent Middle East peace talks in Annapolis.

How did you get started in your diplomatic work?

All outcomes combine choice and chance. My involvement in communication work is no exception. I know as a writer that, depending on which ele-

ments are emphasized, my career path may appear as either pre-determined or accidental. Neither is the case. We are simultaneously creatures of our environment and active agents of the shape that environment takes.



Yiorgos Chouliaras, right, with Matthew Bryza, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs

What are your duties? What are your days like?

As Press Counselor of the Embassy of Greece, my professional mandate is to coordinate media-related and communication initiatives involving Greece in Washington, D.C., and other parts of the country. Press officers seek to inform opinion leaders about Greek initiatives, policies, constraints, and achievements. At the same time, they inform policy-makers in Athens regarding developments in the U.S. Work schedules are extremely busy as you are constantly engaged with evolving situations on both sides of the Atlantic.

What appeals to you in this kind of work?

You cannot educate anyone regarding ongoing developments if you are not willing and able to educate yourself at the same time.

To reach out you must reach in, while you cannot reach anywhere without outreach.

Is there any link between your Anatolia education and the way you approach your job?

Quality education does not involve a set of facts, but a set of approaches or methods, and in this Anatolia excels.

Do you stay in touch with the school?

Going to Boston before coming to Washington was an opportunity to re-engage with alumni and students, administration, faculty, supporters, and

friends of the school. I've gotten to know President Jackson on his visits to both Boston and Washington, and was glad to be involved in setting up an Anatolia role at the recent Embassy dinner honoring incoming U.S. Ambassador to Greece Daniel Speckhard.

How is the school perceived in the places you've served?

Anatolia has a sterling reputation. It is incumbent upon those who are familiar with the school to share this perception.

You've been in Washington for over a year. What are the challenges and rewards of the U.S. capital?

Washington is more of a global village than anyone who has not lived here can imagine. By definition the epicenter of political power, D.C. can suffice everyday gestures with a global political hue. At the same time, villages, even global ones, combine charm with the contingencies of inbred cultures.

The biggest challenge is to remain creative against the onslaught of trained expectations. Fortunately, the sky is not a limit. Nothing can get higher than the capital.

When Experience Speaks

I have been doing this work for years and I have learned much.

Most of it is no longer true.

- Yiorgos Chouliaras, translated by David Mason and the author

"He said they were from the Parthenon..."



Senior Anatolia I.B. student Panagiotis Progios '08 has a keen interest in International Relations, and last summer he decided to do something about it. He won a scholarship to the two-week National Student Leadership Conference in

Washington, D.C., then headed to Boston, where with help from the Anatolia Summer Programs office he had secured a position as an Intern at the busy Greek Consulate.

This was no sinecure. With summer staff absences, Panagiotis was whisked into the Consulate's daily routine. He was in charge of the front desk four to five hours each day, greeting the public; he answered phones; he faxed papers. As time passed, he was given more responsibility: putting together the consular record of Greek citizens abroad, authoring powers of attorney, and, thanks to his excellent command of both Greek and

English, translating documents. "I always wanted to turn in an immaculate translation," he says, "so I would often take work home in order to finish it by the deadline."

All was not routine. "During my second week on the job," he reports, "a U.S. citizen brought in a sarcophagus and a broken marble lion's head that he said his father had removed from the Parthenon years before and which he wished to return. That made international news when it was announced by the Greek Ministry of Culture later in the summer. What's more, in late August I took part in a consular 'crisis mode' in response to the sum-

mer's destructive wildfires in Greece. Our entire team was placed on full alert while we apprised people of the situation. The Consul General was interviewed on local television, and I felt like I had done something especially worthwhile."

It wasn't all work, says Panagiotis. "Afternoons were my Boston touring time. I loved walking to Cambridge or spending afternoons reading in the Public Gardens, and having dinner with friends at Quincy Market. I got a glimpse of the captivating world of diplomacy and politics, and became more independent. I can't imagine spending my summer in a more productive way."

Leela Grammenidou-Petrakis '81 Lectures on the Business of Beauty

On November 8, top cosmetics industry executive Leela Grammenidou-Petrakis (AC '81, ACT '87) returned to her alma mater to give a talk entitled "Driving Growth and New Product Development in a Crowded Marketplace: From Idea to Launch." As General Manager of Neutrogena Cosmetics U.S., a division of Johnson & Johnson Beauty Care, Petrakis directly oversees all aspects of the brand's sales and marketing in North America.

After attending ACT in the mid-80s (when it was a two-year college), Petrakis took her B.S. at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She went on to graduate studies in Marketing and International Business at NYU's Stern School of Business.

She got her start in cosmetics by managing a Body Shop franchise in Greece and also distributed European fragrances and toiletries to beauty boutiques and department stores. Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson one year ago, Petrakis held positions of increasing responsibility at major cosmetics companies such as Clairol, Avon, Revlon, L'Oreal and Maybelline. She knows the 64 billion dollar beauty industry inside out.

If the overflow audience at ACT's Niarchos Technology Center had come to see how one of their own had made it to the top in a fiercely competitive industry, they were not disappointed.

They heard about the process of creating and marketing new products from someone who has done it with great success and whose skills as a presenter were state-of-the-art. She set the stage for her talk by saying that women were "crazy about beauty."

She asked the audience what product 97% of women take with them when they leave home. The student who answered correctly ("a lip-care product") was rewarded with a sample of Neutrogena Mineral Sheers tossed from the podium.

Petrakis went on to survey the American beauty business and Neutrogena's relatively new place in it. What sets her brand apart, she said, was that it stands behind its products and the claims made for them, which is why it is the number one brand recommended by dermatologists, as

summed up in the Neutrogena slogan: "Beautiful. Beneficial."

Taking Mineral Sheers as an example (for those who are out of the loop, this is a foundation make-up with a base of finely ground, pure minerals), she outlined the stages of the product cycle, from the crucible of innovation to the various phases of placing and supporting the product in the marketplace. She stressed the importance of cross-functional partnerships within the extended team responsible for the product, from testing to manufacturing to packaging, advertising, and tracking.

She also showed how Neutrogena had successfully launched a "viral" internet marketing campaign for the blush version of Mineral Sheers, with user-generated content built around "blushing moments."

Only a few members of the audience went home with beauty products, but everyone took away a powerful lesson in product development and marketing, from a living example of where an Anatolia education can lead.



Leela Petrakis and ACT students after her talk

The Anatolian caught up with Petrakis when she had returned to New York.

At ACT you said that "It all started with Anatolia...If it hadn't been for that..." What did you mean?

Anatolia gave me the confidence of a great education.

ACT was incredibly important as it exposed me to great teachers who were thinkers, believed in their students and gave their all to make us better in what we did.

Do you stay in touch with Anatolia/ACT and Anatolians in general?

All my friends in Greece are Anatolia graduates, as is my husband (Emmanuel Petrakis '77) and our immediate family. I have been in touch with President Jackson over the years, and my husband and I have supported fundraising efforts at Anatolia, as we both believe that it is

our responsibility to support education at home. [Note: Leela and Emmanuel hosted an elegant reception for Anatolia alumni at their New York apartment November 17 during President Jackson's recent U.S. trip].

What brought you back to campus for this lecture?

Thinking back to my MBA education, I have always believed that I learned



Leela Petrakis in her New York office

When ACT (SBALA) started operating I felt that I had a unique opportunity to continue my work in the family business during the morning hours while gaining business-related knowledge in the evenings.

Was there something in particular that attracted you to the beauty business and has kept you there?

Beauty is fun, exciting and ever-changing. It's a huge consumer industry around the world and has incredible sophistication in all aspects, especially in the area of formula technology and consumer claims.

You've had a very successful career. To what do you attribute your success?

I think "success" is a very big word and I don't really think of myself or my career in such terms.

I would say that I was able to grow my career through very hard work and commitment, by establishing strong relationships with my team and always maintaining a sense of humor and humility.

Where does "Greekness" come into your life?

In everything! It's my heritage, my cultural background, my language and of course my favorite food! And family, including our seven and a half year old daughter.

What advice would you give to an Anatolia or ACT graduate wishing to pursue a career in business?

Believe in yourself, work hard, love what you do and have fun doing it.

ACT & ALBA Win Nod from NEASC

The Spring 2007 *Anatolian* included the "stop press" announcement of the new partnership between ACT's MBA program and the ALBA Graduate Business School. Athens-based ALBA, established in 1992, is a highly regarded non-state, non-profit, research-driven educational organization which maintains close links with industry. ACT and ALBA have teamed up to offer an Executive MBA, MSc in Finance, and MSc in Business Management.

Now these programs have been accredited by NEASC, the prestigious New England Association of Schools and Colleges, the nation's oldest accrediting association. The accreditation procedure requires that each candidate school satisfy strict criteria that cover eleven areas, such as educational programs, technological and other resources, organizational structure, and the credibility and solvency of the candidate school. In addition, the ALBA-ACT Executive MBA has also recently

been accredited by AMBA (Association of MBAs). This achievement follows the accreditation that was received by all of the other MBA Programs offered by ALBA earlier this year, and reflects the quality and high standard of the course. The idea behind the ACT-ALBA Executive MBA is to develop strong managers for companies operating in Southeastern Europe and globally. Instruction takes one of three forms. Open-Enrollment Seminars, which are available to all executives, are subject-specific and address the latest management trends and developments in a certain managerial area. Company-Specific Programs are aimed at addressing a company's specific needs and challenges. Lastly, Customized Executive Management Programs, typically longer in duration, are designed to deliver a tailored solution that addresses the specific needs and challenges of individual companies.

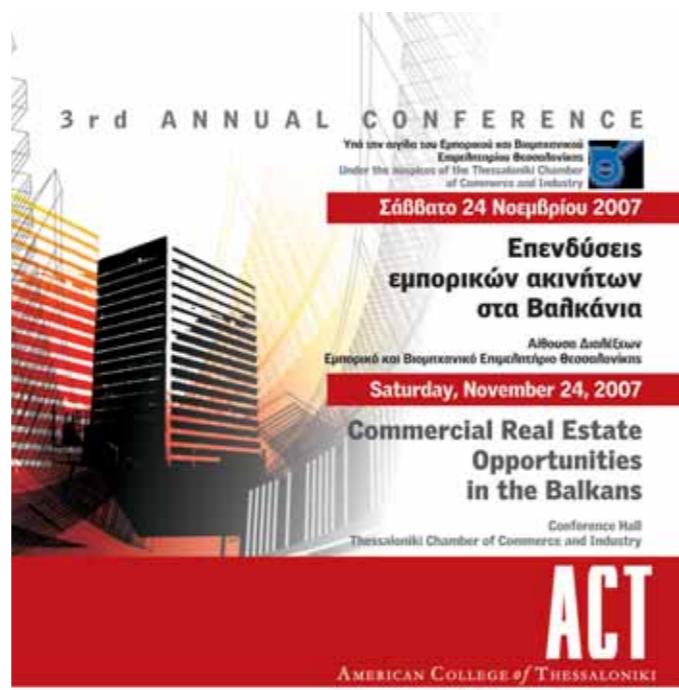


The Writing Center – Take Essay in Hand

Teaching students how to write clearly and persuasively is one of the goals of an ACT education. Frequent written assignments and oral presentations are woven into the fabric of all ACT courses. For many years ACT has maintained a Writing Center to assist students,

many of whom do not have English as their native language, in becoming better writers. The Center, open every day in the Bissell Library, operates on both a drop-in and appointment basis.

This fall a team of twelve peer tutors, eight of whom are American study abroad students, are volunteering their assistance to their fellow students. Faculty supervise the tutors and offer coaching of their own. From helping students research a subject, revise an essay, or simply write correct English, to rehearsing an oral or electronic presentation, the Writing Center staff provides individual guidance in a warm and friendly environment. Need math tutoring too? That can also be arranged.



ACT's 3rd Annual Real Estate Conference, held under the auspices of the Thessaloniki Chamber of Commerce and Industry, drew sizable crowds to presentations on the hot topic of "Commercial Real Estate Opportunities in the Balkans" on November 24.

Peter Balakian Lectures on Gorky



Dr. Peter Balakian, author of *The Burning Tigris* and Professor of Humanities at Colgate University, returned to ACT to present a lecture on "Arshile Gorky: From the Armenian Genocide to the Avant-garde" at the Byzantine Museum of Thessaloniki on October 2. Dr. Balakian's visit was organized under the auspices of the Michael S. Dukakis Chair in Public Policy and Service at ACT, in cooperation with the Armenian Cultural Association "Hamaskain."

Dr. Balakian suggested that to comprehend Gorky fully, one has to understand the Armenian cultural tradition from which he emerged as well as his own experience as a genocide survivor. "For all the explication and praise from critics, his paintings have tended to be seen through the narrowly aesthetic disposition of modernist critical practice. One cannot imagine writing about the poet and Holocaust survivor Paul Celan without noting his ordeal with the Holocaust; nor would one write about Picasso's 'Guernica' without situating the painting in the context of the Spanish Civil War. So too with Gorky and the Armenian Genocide." After sketching the Armenian artistic heritage that Gorky had absorbed from his childhood, Balakian presented moving and persuasive readings of Gorky's two versions of "The Artist and His Mother" as well as some of his seemingly abstract canvases that nevertheless suggest human suffering rooted in Armenian history.

High School Graduates 230



Elvina Venizelou '07 and George Georgiadis '07 on their way to the ceremony

With 230 seniors graduating from both lyceums and the I.B. Program, this was the largest Anatolia class on record. The ceremony itself was rich with tradition: the boys in dark suits, the girls in white dresses, the succession of greetings, speeches, songs, prizes, the awarding of diplomas, the taking of the Anatolia pledge, and the torch-led procession from the steps of Macedonia Hall through the crowd of parents, dignitaries, and well-wishers to whatever lies ahead. A full moon added to the effect.

It was Tola Georgiadou's final year as Vice-President for Secondary Education, and she sent the Class of 2007 off with customary eloquence. Dr. Nina Papavasiliou '88 (profiled in the Spring 2007 *Anatolian*) gave the Commencement address. Papavasiliou is Associate Professor and Director of the Laboratory of Lymphocyte Biology at Rockefeller University in New York City, one of the world's top biomedical research centers. "Trust yourselves," she told the graduates.

Fifteen members of the Class of 2007 are headed to the U.S. and sixteen to England for further study, and most of the remaining graduates learned later in the summer of their acceptance into many of Greece's most competitive university programs.



The MBA class of 2007 with faculty, administration, and presenters

MBA

The renovated Raphael Hall was the setting for the ACT MBA Commencement exercises, held October 13th, at which 23 graduates received their degrees. Besides faculty, proud parents, and friends, the gathering was marked by the presence of the U.S. Consul General, Mr. Hoyt Brian Yee, and scholarship donors Loukia Saranti, Vice President of Akritas S.A., George Diorinos, Technical Manager

of Northern Greece of 3E Coca-Cola, and Pantelis Anastasiadis, Assistant Manager of the Northern Greece Branch Division of Alpha Bank. Anatolia President Richard Jackson and MBA Program Director Dr. Nikos Kourkoumelis presided. Dr. Haris Eliades, Managing Director for Southeastern Europe at Goldman Sachs, addressed the graduates, and Dr. John Bilimatsis '54 presented the "John and

Mary Pappajohn Entrepreneurship Award" to Ms. Maria Choutou for her study "A. Choutos General Partnership Hotel-Tourism Services, utilizing photovoltaic station technology." Awards for academic excellence were presented to Ms. Tanja Petrovska and Ms. Milena Lukaroska by Mr. Diorinos and Mr. Anastasiadis. The two graduates also shared a \$2,000 prize graciously provided by Dr. Bilimatsis.

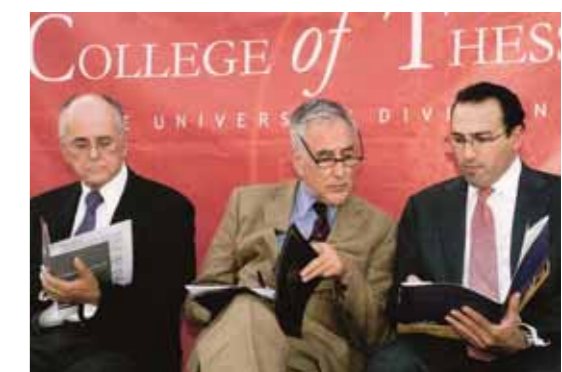
Anatolia Elementary

The 62 graduates may have been young, but their ceremony, held June 14 in the new Raphael Hall, did not lack for pomp and circumstance. President Jackson and Anatolia Elementary Director Nikolaos Arnaoutis both spoke, and the graduates enacted the history of Anatolia accompanied by songs and stories written for the occasion. 38 of the graduates have since entered Anatolia's 7th grade class.

ACT

The outdoor amphitheater in front of the Bissell Library was made for evenings like the one on June 29, which saw 73 seniors receive their diplomas under serene mid-summer skies. Dr. Panos Kanellis and President Jackson welcomed the graduates and guests, among them parents who had come from many countries to see their children receive their degrees.

The Commencement speaker was Anatolia Trustee Kyriakos Tsakopoulos, who accepted an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters on behalf of his father Angelos Tsakopoulos. The bestowing of the Philip and Marjorie Ireland Humanitarian and Public Service Award is always a highlight of the Commencement ceremony, reflecting as it does the core values of the school. This year it went to Nikolaos Papageorgiou, President of the Papageorgiou Hospital in Thessaloniki. In accepting the award, Papageor-



From left, Nikolaos Papageorgiou, Richard Jackson, Kyriakos Tsakopoulos.

giou surprised and delighted the crowd by announcing the gift of an endowment for scholarships for all divisions of the school. Valedictorian Maria Foka had the last word, and ushered in the graduates' new beginnings.

The Flag of Thyatira

A piece of Anatolia history has come home to Anatolia – where it had never been before.

It is an American flag bearing fourteen stars on a blue field, attached to six white and seven red strips of light wool cloth, with a cord to tie it to a pole. The stitching bears marks of haste. The colors are somewhat faded and moths have chewed holes in some of the stripes. This is a flag with a story – and it came with a storyteller.

The flag is the gift of Dr. Constance Cryer Ecklund, Professor of French at Southern Connecticut State University, and the granddaughter of Christo Theologos Papadopoulos, an Anatolia graduate of the class of 1893. Having decided that the flag should come to Anatolia, she presented it to President Jackson in the presence of the U.S. Consul for Thessaloniki, Elayne Paplos, and other guests on June 7 in the President's office. But before she did so, she told its story.

Christo Papadopoulos was born in Smyrna in 1864. He was orphaned by the age of 11 and came to the attention of Dr. Ernest Riggs (grandfather of Anatolia's third President), a prominent American missionary active in the Ottoman Empire. With Dr. Riggs' help he attended first Robert College in Constantinople and then its daughter institution, Anatolia College in Merzifon, where he studied Theology and Liberal Arts. The year after graduation he married Erasmia Derebey, herself a graduate of the American Girls' School of Bursa. They were to have six children together.

One of the aims of Anatolia College was to train "native laborers," that is, non-American evangelical ministers who would preach the Gospel and establish schools in cities and towns throughout Asia Minor, ministering



From left: Consul Elayne Paplos, Constance Ecklund, President Jackson.

But the storm clouds that had been gathering over the Armenian population of Asia Minor broke out in massacres in Sasun in 1894 and in Constantinople on September 30, 1895. Three days later, on October 3, the Sultan's troops rode into Ak Hissar, beginning their killing in the town's marketplace. Turkish friends of Rev. Papadopoulos had warned him of their coming. He summoned his parishioners to come and hide in his school. He directed Erasmia and her two sisters to sew an American flag out of any red, white, and blue cloth available, including the shirt off his own back. Christo and the three women worked all night long. By daybreak they had sewn a flag. What it lacked in stars it made up for in size and prestige.

When morning came, the flag was flying on the school's flagpole. The

commander looked up, hesitated, and whirled away with his troops. Later, the Armenians escaped into the countryside. The wave of massacres would reach Merzifon on November 15 and claim 200,000 Armenian lives within the year, but in Thyatira, at least some lives had been saved.

After also serving the Christian communities in Fatsa, Ordu, and Samsun on the Black Sea coast, Rev. Papadopoulos and his family emigrated to America in 1906-07, settling in Chicago, where he ministered to the city's immigrants. The flag went along with them and was often taken out and displayed at family gatherings. Rev. Christo Papadopoulos died in 1922, Erasmia in 1942. The flag passed to a daughter and was forgotten as the family began to lose touch with its history. At one point it was thought to have been thrown away, only to be discovered in an attic some years later and given to Dr. Ecklund, the sole grandchild, who was then trying to recover her family's heritage.

She wanted to find a safe place for the flag, and a place where it would be understood. She chose the school that had given her grandfather his vocation – the place that had been his spiritual home, now located in the country of his ancestors – and the flag is now on permanent display at Anatolia.

The story has a second act, and that is Dr. Ecklund's own. When she came to Anatolia to present the flag, she was also on a quest for further information about her grandfather, whom she had never known. She was not disappointed. In the school archives she found his name as it was written in Anatolia's enrollment book, along with his class picture. Reading through the *Missionary Herald* for those years in the Eleftheriades Library she came

across accounts by Riggs and former Anatolia President George White that mentioned her grandfather by name.

She traveled on to Turkey and to the places where Christo Papadopoulos had lived and worked, and to his alma mater, the now sadly dilapidated former Anatolia campus in Merzifon. In October she returned to Anatolia as a Dukakis Fellow, doing further research and giving a series of illustrated talks on the flag and its meaning for students at ACT, the I.B. Program, and Anatolia's junior and senior high schools. She urged students to learn their own family histories, and she praised the power of memory – and cloth. "It was cloth against terror," she said, "in the form of a flag raised by an Anatolian who put the lives of others before his own, one night and morning in 1895".



The Anatolia College Class of 1893. Christo Papadopoulos is standing at center.

chiefly to the Armenian and Greek Christian populations. After ordination, the Rev. Papadopoulos and his wife were sent to Ak Hissar (the Biblical Thyatira, where St. Paul had preached) in what is now Western Turkey.

Turkish troops arrived and demanded that the school doors be opened. Rev. Papadopoulos refused, saying, "This building and this village are under the special protection of the United States of America. Can't you see the flag?"



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