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The Anatolian



FALL 2010

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A good time was had by all at the Anatolia Open House on April 25. More pictures on page 4.

Trustees Approve Strategic Plan

Over the past decade, Anatolia has become quite a complex, diverse, and dynamic cluster of educational enterprises," observes Anatolia President Hans Giesecke. "It was time to create a road map in order better to join together all of our educational divisions, from the rapidly growing Anatolia Elementary School, to our flagship High School, and The American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), now with both U.S. and European recognition of its degrees. Our aim is to forge an integrated educational community under the Anatolia aegis, and to take it forward according to a well conceived plan." Earlier this year the Board of Trustees lauded the planning effort, and at their May 29, 2010 meeting on campus, they endorsed its proposed course.

The plan was the result of a rigorous, interactive process led by President Giesecke and his cabinet that also included input from members of the Board of Trustees. Working from past statements of purpose and incorporating current realities, the President's team sought to define the common values, vision, and mission of the school as a whole, and to refine them with respect to the particular goals of each division. What the plan presents, says Jack Clymer, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, is a kind of skeleton which must be fleshed out with specific ideas and fundraising goals. "It will guide but not limit our thinking. It looks equally toward Anatolia's past and its future."

The plan asks: What vision unites Anatolia's three divisions? Its answer: an aspiration to academic excellence; an ambition for the school to serve as a role model in its delivery of instruction and management of resources; and the aim "to act as a torch-bearer of the humanitarian values bestowed upon it by its inclusive, faith-inspired history and tradition."

The ideal of promoting cooperation and understanding between the peoples of Greece and the

United States, long an aspect of Anatolia's mission, was reaffirmed. Across all its divisions Anatolia will cultivate American educational values within the context of the Greek educational system. "The American model campus will respect the environment, promote health, safety, and security, and maximize human potential." Innovative teaching and learning techniques, the promotion of social and environmental responsibility, and rich extra-curricular offerings will also characterize Anatolia at all levels as it moves into the second decade of the 21st century.

Among its key strategies to attain these ends, the plan includes a commitment to serve students of limited economic means and to build lifetime bonds with Anatolia alumni by "tapping their time, talent, and treasure;" to enhance programs focusing on social responsibility and civic leadership, and those promoting English-language activities and teaching; and to promote a campus culture that advances the personal and professional development of faculty and staff and that takes advantage of new technologies for both instructional and managerial purposes.

Giesecke adds: "Anatolia is now entering its 125th year.

Founded in the 19th century, it is more dynamic than ever in the 21st. Despite the many challenges that it has had to face, including a move from Asia Minor to Greece, there has been great continuity in its core values. Those values include faith in the shaping power of education, a commitment to building character and an ethic of personal responsibility, and belief in democracy, diversity, charity, integrity, and respect for others. In 1899 President Charles Tracy chose the words "Dare to Do Right" as the inscription on the annual portrait of the graduating class. That challenge is no less pertinent to us today, and we have chosen Tracy's words as the theme for our 125th anniversary year."



Greece's Economic Troubles Felt at Anatolia

In Greece it is known simply as "the Crisis." The global financial crisis that began in 2008 has hit Greece particularly hard, and Greece's economic problems have in turn had a ripple effect on European and even global finance. When credit became tight, Greece went scrambling to the European Union and the IMF for support. The country got it, but at a price, not merely in terms of the cost of future borrowing but through the imposition of fiscal controls that required Greece to take immediate measures to reduce its budget deficit.

Some might argue the measures were overdue. But the effects have been unsettling, as unemployment has risen, steep new taxes have been imposed, and a mood of austerity and uncertainty prevails.

Enrollment remains strong at all three of Anatolia's divisions, but the Greek government has dealt some blows to the school beyond in-

creased taxes on property, fuel, and other basic supplies. As it prepared its annual budget for approval by the Trustees in May, those new taxes were taken into account. The budget was lean, but balanced.

No sooner was the budget approved than the government decided to make a gesture to middle-class families and not merely to freeze but to roll back private school tuition to levels of a year ago. For a tuition-driven institution like Anatolia, this was a direct blow to the school's bottom line, in the amount of roughly €440,000 (about \$550,000).

"There is nothing we can do but make adjustments and operate in a leaner way," says President Hans Giesecke. "Our Board of Trustees requires us to have a balanced budget." Giesecke brought together the school's leaders and put

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Archimedean Volunteers at Rainbow Camp

It was a match made in Florida, and it led to a week-long volunteer experience at Anatolia's Rainbow Summer Camp for six high school students from the Archimedean Academy of Miami. The matchmakers were Yanni Poulakos of the Anatolia Boston office, who visited the Academy, and Eva Varellas Kanellis, Director of U.S. College Counseling at Anatolia, the founder and supervisor of the Rainbow Camp.

Archimedean Academy, founded in 2002 by a group of Greek-Americans as a public charter school, has since become one of Florida's top-ranked primary and secondary institutions. Its mission is to "initiate the young mind into the

art of thinking through the teaching of Mathematics and the Greek language." The students, over 90% of whom come from homes where Spanish is spoken, take a dual curriculum, not unlike Anatolia students, but in reverse. They study Modern Greek in immersion-style language classes and take mathematics in Greek as well as English. The school meets all Florida state curriculum requirements in other subjects. Admission is by lottery from among those who apply.

Most students at the school have never visited Greece. Would the visitors' Greek hold up in a real Greek setting? It did, impressing all they

conversed with, including a number of Greek journalists. Their mornings were spent assisting teachers at the mostly English-language camp, which enrolls 355 day students for two weeks at the end of June. With Anatolia alumna Katerina Xanthopoulou '99 and a teacher from the Academy, the visitors sampled Thessaloniki's museums and famous night life and slipped down to Athens and out to the beaches of Halkidiki before returning to Miami. As Maria-Camila Espinal told a local reporter, "Δεν θέλω να φύγω. Η Θεσσαλονίκη είναι καταπληκτική!" For non-Greeks and non-Archimedean, that means "I don't want to leave. Thessaloniki is awesome!"



Chresanthakes Named First V.P. for Institutional Advancement

Peter Chresanthakes has been appointed as Anatolia's first Vice President for Institutional Advancement, a new position at the school that brings with it a new formula for Anatolia's fundraising and public relations efforts. In the past, the head of Anatolia's Boston office spearheaded the school's fundraising, which was done largely in the U.S. The increasing importance of Greece to Anatolia's fundraising future, the increasing ease of electronic communication, and the wisdom of having a single headquarters, close to the President, for institutional advancement, led to the creation of the new position.

Chresanthakes knows Anatolia well, having worked as an instructor in the ACT Business School, teaching finance and entrepreneurship courses, since 2001. A Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), he has served as a business consultant and board member of a variety of financial start-up enterprises in the banking sector in both the U.S. and Greece. A Greek-American native of Chicago, he holds a B.S. in Marketing from the University of Illinois at Chicago and an M.B.A. from Penn State.

In his new role at Anatolia, he is responsible for the branding, marketing, and fundraising team whose aim is to maximize engagement and support from the College's many constituency groups and supporters. Working with the President and the Board of Trustees' Institutional Advancement Committee, he is responsible for steering these integrated initiatives to carry Anatolia's fundraising appeals to an ever wider circle of donors.

"Our first job," says Chresanthakes, "is to communicate what Anatolia is and why it is important to both Greece and the United States. Our second is to find the best ways to ask those who believe in its mission to support it in any way they can. Simply put, Anatolia gives a lot to the world; and we will be asking the world to give a lot to Anatolia."



George Lisaridis,
Vice President
for Secondary Education



Panos Vlachos, Ph.D.,
Provost and Vice President
for Academic Affairs for ACT



Yanis Tsorbatzoglou '86,
Vice President
for Administration



Pavlos Floros,
Vice President
for Finance (CFO)



Peter Chresanthakes,
Vice President for Institutional
Advancement

The President's Cabinet

In December of 2009 Anatolia President Hans Giesecke created a presidential cabinet as a vehicle for promoting effective decision-making at all levels of the school. The cabinet meets once a week or as needed to address issues such as planning, policies, public relations, and fiscal management across all divisions of the school. The members of the cabinet, some in new positions but all with years of experience at Anatolia, were formally introduced to the public on July 1 of this year. "After a year on the job as President of Anatolia, I can say that one of the institution's great strengths is the level of expertise and commitment embodied in the members of the cabinet. I am fortunate to be working with such a fine and distinguished team." Full biographies of cabinet members are available on the Anatolia website at www.anatolia.edu.gr under the "Governance" tab.



Rea Georgiadou-Samara '72,
P.R. Advisor to the Cabinet



Elena Charalabides,
Coordinator of the Cabinet

Athenians Gather (and Party)

There is nothing like a Summer Party at the Nasioudjik Estate to bring Athens Anatolians together in style. The June 11 event, hosted by George Nasioudjik '50, gave Athens alumni a chance to meet President and Susan Giesecke as well as to catch up with each other. Wonderful food and drink, live music, and special guests from Athens and Thessaloniki made for a memorable evening that lasted well into the night



Ilias and Daisy Adrianopoulou, George Nasioudjik '50, Ellen Miller.



Maria Tsekou '82, Ava Georgakopoulou '60, President of the Athens Anatolia Alumni Association, Susan Giesecke and Anatolia President Hans Giesecke.

Greece's Economic Troubles Felt at Anatolia

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the question to them: in what ways can Anatolia save money in the way it operates, and in what ways can the school generate more revenue?

The proposals that have been made are currently under study by a task force on efficiency in campus operations. "Like Greece itself, we are facing some fiscal belt-tightening," comments the President. "What matters is how we deal with it. I have confidence that we will find creative and humane solutions, in part with the help of our friends and supporters."

Hardouvelis Gikas '74, Alumnus of the Year

Each spring the Anatolia Alumni Association and the school together honor a graduate whose career exemplifies the values that Anatolia represents. This year's winner of the Alumnus of the Year award, Hardouvelis Gikas '74, is a particularly appropriate choice. Professor in the Department of Banking & Financial Management at the University of Piraeus, Greece, and Chief Economist and Head of Economic Research of the Eurobank EFG Group, he is one of Greece's most respected economic analysts and advisers.

He was born and raised in a mountain village in the Arcadia region of the Peloponnese – and at Anatolia. He came to the school as a 7th-grade scholarship student and lived in the Anatolia dormitory. He then studied at Harvard, earning two degrees in four years, and at U.C. Berkeley, where he received his Ph.D. in Economics. He subsequently combined an academic career in the States, becoming a full Professor of Economics at Rutgers University, with work as a research adviser and economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. He then returned to Greece, becoming Chief Economist at the National Bank of Greece and Director of the Economic Office of Prime Minister Costas Simitis during the time that Greece adopted the euro. He has published widely, and



Susan and Hardouvelis Gikas

his work on margin requirements has had a crucial impact on regulations governing U.S. stock index futures markets.

Accepting the award at the Board of Trustees luncheon on May 29, he spoke passionately about the effect that his years at Anatolia have had on his life. Adjustment wasn't easy for a boy "from the village," he said, but the lessons he learned at the school gave him the foundation on which he has built his life. Did he have any economic advice to offer? Yes: he said that Anatolia should continue to maintain its endowment in U.S. dollars and its operating funds in euros. He added that as family incomes in Greece are forecast to decline over the next several years, the College should be very careful about raising tuition and fee levels.

Jamie Merisotis Joins Board of Trustees

Jamie P. Merisotis, President and CEO of the Indianapolis-based Lumina Foundation for Education, the USA's largest private foundation committed solely to enrolling and graduating more students from college, was elected to the Anatolia Board of Trustees at its May meeting, which he was also able to attend. Long a champion of the idea that higher education enhances both society and individuals, Merisotis has worked for decades to increase educational opportunity among low-income, minority and other historically underrepresented populations.

A graduate of Bates College, on whose board he also sits, Merisotis grew up in a Greek family in Manchester, Connecticut. A research job at the College Board in Washington led him into the field of higher education policy. He was founding president of the Institute for Higher

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The Anatolian

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High School News

USAID Awards High School \$250,000 for Technology

Anatolia has received preliminary word from the American government's Agency for International Development (USAID) that the school will be awarded a grant of \$250,000 for enhancement of instructional technologies at the High School (grades 7-12). "USAID has been a steadfast supporter of our school for many years, and this latest award will transform the way teachers teach and students learn at Anatolia," comments President Hans Giesecke. The grant comes on top of a €20,000 donation from the Anatolia Alumni Association, also for instructional technologies, and another gift of nearly \$30,000

from a donor in the U.K. The total project cost is \$350,000.

The funds will be used to equip all of Anatolia's high school classrooms, including those in the I.B. Program, with interactive whiteboards, video projectors, and wireless internet connections. Some classrooms already have such equipment, but the most do not. Training for faculty in the use of such equipment is also planned under the terms of the grant.

"This award comes at an opportune time for us," notes Dr. Panos Vlachos, who in his role as V.P. for Academic Affairs and Provost of ACT also su-

pervises libraries and I.T. development across all of Anatolia's three divisions. "Students' lives are increasing 'wired' outside of school, and we need to adapt the way we teach to the way they are used to learning. Last year the Greek government initiated a program to put certain textbooks online and provide students with netbooks for use in class, and this is clearly where the future lies. Our teachers have been asking for more classrooms with these new capabilities, and now we're going to be able to deliver them." Installation of new equipment and training in its use will be taking place over the next 18 months.

Another Wave of Anatolians Heading to U.S. Colleges

Some twenty-five Anatolians will be enrolling as first-year students at U.S. colleges this fall at an impressive range of institutions. "Our students and their parents have been discovering that there are great American colleges beyond New England and the Ivy league," comments Eva Varellas Kanellis, Director of U.S. College Counseling. "We're also getting more visits here at Anatolia from more U.S. colleges. Our students are sought after. They're well prepared for academic success in an American setting. And they're winning substantial scholarships in cases of economic need."

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Summer in the U.S. 2010

One hundred forty-four Anatolians participated in summer programs and internships in the U.S. this past summer, with additional students also going to Spain, Germany, and Canada. The U.S. contingent stretched from sea to shining sea, including programs in California, Florida, Virginia, and New Jersey, and from north to south, from Mississippi and Georgia to Minnesota, Michigan, and New Hampshire. Some programs were new – such as the School of Cinema and Performing Arts at California's Occidental College – and some were Anatolia standbys, such as the Northfield Mt. Hermon Summer School and Camp Rising Sun, in Massachusetts and New York, respectively.

Some students attended classes, some did experiments in labs, one wrote stories under the trees at Kenyon College in Ohio, one shadowed a cardiologist at Columbia Presbyterian



Domniki Georgopoulou '11, Natalia Kappos '11

Hospital in New York City. Ten Anatolia teachers and staff served as chaperones, themselves getting a summer dose of American language and culture.

It isn't every day that Anatolians travel to South Dakota for any reason, but that is where two first-year I.B. students, Domniki Georgopoulou and Natalia Kappos, went to spend a month working as counselors in the month-long Ateyapi program for Native American children at a public school in Rapid City. It seems that (many moons ago) Director of U.S. College Counseling Eva Varellas Kanellis worked at the Pine Ridge Reservation near Rapid City, and through her friend Stephen Yellowhawk she arranged for the Anatolians to work at the school. They stayed in a dorm at the South Dakota School of Mines and took frequent day trips with their charges out into the Black Hills to swim in the lakes. They passed by Mt. Rushmore but got a good look at the colossal rock carving of Crazy Horse.

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It's Not What's Cooking, It's How...



Solar oven designers with Ilias Kalambokis and Eva Varellas Kanellis

You may not be in need a solar oven to prepare your dinners, but half the world – the other half – would greatly benefit if they had a simple cooking device that did not run on wood, gas, or other fossil fuels. "So design one. That was the challenge we put to all Anatolia students in April," says Chemistry teacher Dr. Ilias Kalambokis, the mover and shaker behind the project, in which other science teachers also took part. Some of the results could be seen at the Anatolia Open House on April 25, when an impressive lineup of solar ovens, all of different design, proudly cooked "loukanika" (Greek sausages) for the curious. All displayed oven thermometers inside and most did a fine job of slow-roasting their hot dogs. Or rather racing them against each other, as a prize for the most efficient oven was at stake.

The fun really began when Sky News Greece took note of a press release about the Open House sent out by the school. They sent a team for a look at some of those solar ovens, and soon there were Anatolians demonstrating their contraptions, and explaining how they worked, on national TV. As for the solar sausages, most got eaten when the Open House was over: delicious.

I.B. Art Show Impresses



Clea Micho '10



Leda Venieri '10

For the second straight year more than twenty I.B. students exhibited their work at the spring I.B. art show held in Ingle Hall. It's not a vanity show: besides admiring friends and relations, an external I.B. examiner comes to assess the exhibitors' work. In fact the mounting of the exhibit, done entirely by the artists themselves, contributes to their grade.

The visual arts program at the I.B. has become a popular choice for students in recent years, both as a higher level and standard

level subject. Each student needs to complete between 18 and 25 studio pieces and to compile an illustrated journal that is a record of their ideas and explorations, as well as their techniques, materials, and relevant reading during the course of their art studies. Fifteen of this year's 67 I.B. graduates are going on to some art-related field for further study in the U.S., the U.K., or Italy in areas ranging from architecture and painting to photography, interior design, environmental

design, fashion, and graphics.

"The standard Greek curriculum doesn't allow for the same depth of study in these fields, which is why some students come to the I.B. in the first place," says art teacher Christine Douris, who with colleague Phil Simmonds teaches I.B. art. "The program is studio-based, and it's quite rigorous." For any visitor to this year's exhibition – and there were many – the results on display spoke for themselves.

Special Events, Spring 2010

The period from late April to early June was filled with a number of special events at Anatolia, many coinciding with the May visit of members of the Board of Trustees. In chronological order...

Earth Day, April 22

It's been happening since 1970, but it was a first for Anatolia. And, as part of the school's campus-wide green initiative, students at all levels of Anatolia, from the kindergarten to the M.B.A. program, took part in Earth Day 2010. There were talks, demonstrations, contests, debates, exhibitions, and happenings all day long. It may have been a long time coming, but Anatolians united in trying to make sure it's not too late.

Dedication of Plaques in Raphael Hall, May 28



Ioannis Zervakis and Jack Clymer unveil a plaque honoring former Anatolia President Richard Jackson

In January 2009 the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation issued a challenge to Anatolia. The Foundation agreed to give the school a major grant toward the renovation of Raphael Hall if Anatolia could raise an equal amount from Greek donors living in Greece. Six months later the challenge had been met, and in the presence of Trustees, including Charlie Raphael, whose parents had given funds to build and to renovate the Hall, and former Anatolia President Richard Jackson, the Niarchos and matching donations were celebrated. The plaque placed by the Foundation specifically honors Jackson "for his dedication and commitment to education in Greece." Mr. Ioannis Zervakis, Assistant Chief Operating Officer of the Niarchos Foundation, spoke of the Foundation's esteem for Jackson and the school. President Hans Giesecke, Chairman of the Board Jack Clymer, and Vice President for Academic Affairs Panos Vlachos, who also directs the Niarchos Center at ACT, thanked the Foundation for its sustained and creative support for Anatolia.



Trustee Charlie Raphael beneath a plaque honoring his parents

Open House, April 25



President Giesecke and daughter Karah



On the last Sunday in April, Anatolia's High School opened its doors to the general public. Hundreds of parents and children visited the campus and had the opportunity to get information from faculty, staff, and student volunteers about the educational and extra-curricular programs offered by the school. They were also able to take part in a number of activities that were specially designed for the day. Four-seater bicycles and Segways were moving all over the campus, as well as an electric train. There was live music, a flying fox zip line, and games and crafts for younger visitors. The sun was out and a dozen student-built solar ovens were cooking hot dogs. Information sessions with school leaders and tours of labs and classrooms were also on the menu. The verdict: that was fun, let's do it again.

Ribbon Cutting at the New Anatolia Elementary School Facilities, May 28

When Anatolia Elementary was launched in 2003, it occupied a leased building near the main Anatolia campus. The school grew rapidly, leading to the upper grades moving to the former Pinewood buildings on the campus proper. When the opportunity arose for the lower grades to move into larger quarters at the former Leonidia Elementary School buildings nearby, Anatolia acted quickly to secure them a home. A ribbon was cut in the presence of Trustees on what was to be a summer of renovations, leading to the opening of the refurbished school in September. Among the speakers at the event were Stavros Constantinides, Vice Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the Facilities Committee, and Yanis Tsozbatzoglou, V.P. for Administration and overseer of Anatolia's Elementary Division.



Music Recital and Fundraising Dinner, May 28

The evening began in Raphael Hall with a superb recital by two distinguished alumni artists, George Emmanuel Lazaridis '96, piano, and Sofia Kianidou '89, soprano. They generously donated their services on the occasion of the visit by the Trustees. The concert, featuring a medley of songs and a spellbinding performance by Lazarides of Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition," was free and open to the public. Many of those in attendance then went down the hill to the Bissell Library for a gala fundraising dinner hosted by President Hans Giesecke and Susan Giesecke.

The dinner served both to raise money for the renovation of a high school athletic field and to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Michael S. Dukakis Chair in Public Policy and Service at ACT in the presence of Governor and Kitty Dukakis. The Governor spoke eloquently and sometimes humorously about Greece, America, and his ties to Anatolia, but the next speaker – his wife – may have outdone him. President Giesecke, Chairman Clymer, and David Wisner, Director of the Dukakis Chair, warmly thanked the couple for their support of the school.



Governor Michael and Kitty Dukakis



George Lazaridis '96





l. to r.: Constantinos Gavrides, General Secretary of the Pan-Pontian Federation of Greece, Anatolia President Hans Giesecke, Vartkes Kontaxian, President of the Armenian Community, David Saltiel, President of the Jewish Community, Kitty Dukakis, Governor Michael Dukakis, Jack Clymer, Chairman of the Anatolia Board of Trustees.

Dedication of the Hope and Remembrance Garden - Amphitheater, *May 29*

The day was bright with sunshine, but the mood was solemn as Trustees and guests gathered to dedicate the area adjacent to the Eleftheriades Library "to the memory of all Anatolians who were victims of human cruelty and brutality in the 20th century," in the words of the plaque set into a stone monument. Representatives of three groups who were victims of such cruelty to the point of genocide, the Armenians of Asia Minor, the Greeks of the Pontus region near Anatolia's first home, and the Jews of Thessaloniki, were present to lay wreaths. President Giesecke, Chairman Clymer, Governor Michael and Kitty Dukakis, and Ambassador and Trustee Leonidas Evangelides made remarks that recalled how closely and tragically the Anatolia family had been touched by the past century's human cruelty. But the resilience of the groups most affected, and of the school itself, was also recalled, and hope for a better future in this century was powerfully expressed.



Dedication of the Eleftheriades Library AV Amphitheater to Senator William Fulbright, *June 4*

It was the wish of an anonymous donor that a space at Anatolia be dedicated to one of the great figures in international education and understanding, former U.S. Senator William J. Fulbright. Anatolia made a particularly fitting place for such a commemoration, as the Fulbright Foundation has been operating in Greece since 1948, making it the oldest Fulbright program in Europe. In remarks to those assembled in the Library lobby, Artemis Zenetou, Executive Director of the Foundation's programs in Greece, noted that the Fulbright Foundation has sent 4,700 Greeks and Americans to each other's countries over the past 62 years. President Giesecke observed that Anatolia has been a direct beneficiary of the Foundation, and pointed out retired English teacher Alice Eppinga, who came to the school as a Fulbrighter in 1968 and stayed for 39 years. The most memorable words probably came from Senator Fulbright himself, who is quoted on two large panels now mounted inside and outside the Library amphitheater. A sample: "Education is a slow moving but powerful force. It may not be fast enough or strong enough to save us from catastrophe, but it is the strongest force available."

Trustee Jackie Florentin, Artemis Zenetou, President Giesecke, Panos Vlachos



Dedication of Ingle Classroom, *May 29*



David Saltiel, Jack Clymer, Angelos Papaioannou, Richard Jackson, Michael Dukakis

Anatolia's response to catastrophe has always been to rebuild and to re-dedicate itself to education. It was fitting that the Trustees and visitors should go next to the school's newest classroom building, the Ingle Annex, to dedicate a room, in the words of the plaque now fixed to the wall, "to the Memory of the More than Ninety Jewish Anatolia Students and Alumni Who Perished in the Holocaust." In moving remarks, President of the Thessaloniki Jewish Community, David Saltiel, and Michael and Kitty Dukakis, who had led the effort to raise funds for the classroom, spoke of the losses suffered by Anatolia and Thessaloniki's once large Jewish population in the Holocaust. The names of the lost Anatolians appear on the plaque. Former President Richard Jackson, at whose initiative the research into those who had perished had begun, was present to add his own reflections.



Richard Jackson

Homecoming, *May 30*

Anatolia sets aside one day each year for alumni to return to campus and gather with old classmates and teachers. This year the school itself organized the event, which drew an impressive number of older and younger graduates back to school for a day of activities and fellowship – and food and drink, under tents with tables allocated to the various classes and under the pines by Morley House – how they've grown!



Greek Government Recognizes ACT's Right to Operate

The Greek Ministry of Education has granted Anatolia's higher education division, the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), an operating license under a new governmental decree that recognizes the right of private post-secondary educational institutions to operate in Greece. This decision to grant the license was made only after the Ministry conducted a stringent review of ACT's facilities and academic programs.

The Greek government's relationship with private tertiary institutions operating in Greece is fraught with legal and political issues. Article 16 of the Greek constitution forbids the recognition of degrees other than those awarded by state-operated universities. But reciprocity agreements mandated by the European Union have forced the government's hand. The granting of operating licenses to qualifying institutions appears to be a step in the direction of future state recognition of degrees.

In the meantime, ACT is one of only a few institutions in Europe to be both U.S.-accredited (by NEASC) while having its undergraduate programs validated by the University of Wales, which, via Presidential Decree No. 38/2010, provides a pathway towards recognition for ACT graduates' professional rights in Greece.



Meet the Recycle Monster

"Recycle Monster" is not a creature but an idea - a new idea, where it's the monster that wins the battle for environmental awareness and sustainability. And the battlefield: ACT's home city of Thessaloniki.

Into the heart of the city, to Aristotle Square, trooped a group of ACT students and alumni on the weekend of May 8-9 to promote their message of environmental responsibility and action. The student-led initiative, which was organized under the auspices of ACT and the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe, began as a project in a politics course on civil society at ACT and was conceived by interns for the Michael S. Dukakis Chair in Public Policy and Service.

The May 8-9 event, called "Don't Throw It, Show It" was the group's public debut. With a "recycled fashion" show (featuring clothing made from discarded products), competitions for children to create art out of refuse, a recycling dance, art and craft workshops, a live art construction, and a centerpiece consisting of an entire living room made out of rubbish, the event provided not only environmental education, but also entertainment for all ages. Students, professionals, small business owners, artists, staff from private and public schools, and personnel from the municipality of Thessaloniki itself all came together, volunteering their time, money and expertise, to bring off a monstrously successful show on Thessaloniki's main civic stage.



ACT Milestones

1981: Anatolia founds the 2-year, post-secondary School of Business Administration and Liberal Arts (SBALA) to provide an alternative to state-run Greek universities.

1993: First 4-year Baccalaureate degrees in Liberal Arts and Science awarded.

1995: SBALA renamed the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), moves to Anatolia's North Campus.

1997: ACT accredited in the U.S. by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

1999: The Michael S. Dukakis Chair of Public Policy and Service established.

2002: Bissell Library opened. MBA Program begins.

2008: Undergraduate programs win European validation from the University of Wales.

2010: After careful review, Greek government grants ACT a license to operate.

Jamie Merisotis Joins Trustees

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Education Policy in Washington, D.C., in 1993. IHEP is an independent, non-partisan organization regarded as one of the world's premier higher-education research and policy centers. While at IHEP, Merisotis helped establish the Alliance for Equity in Higher Education, a coalition of national associations whose members represent more than 350 minority-serving institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

Merisotis also managed IHEP's global ef-

forts to leverage the social and economic effects of higher education, especially in southern Africa, the former Soviet Union and other developing areas. In 2006, he helped establish the Global Center on Private Financing of Higher Education, an IHEP initiative to address the growing role of private financing in expanding access to post-secondary education around the world.

"I got to know Jamie Merisotis when I served as President of Independent Colleges of Indiana," says Anatolia President Hans Giesecke. "He's a wonderfully warm, insightful, and dynamic individual who will be a great asset to the Board." Merisotis is married to Colleen O'Brien, herself a co-founder of IHEP and its first Policy Director. They have two children and reside in Indianapolis.



l to r: Trustees Carroll Brewster, Robert Uek, Jamie Merisotis

Summer in the U.S. 2010

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"It took me out of my bubble," says Natalia, who had been to the States only as a child. "The kids told us their stories, and we told them ours. Their lives have been tougher - there is a lot of poverty in Rapid City - but they're resilient."

"One day," as Domniki tells it, "as I was chopping onions for a Greek salad in Stephen's kitchen," Stephen's cousin invited the girls to the Sioux Sun Dance on the Rosebud Reservation. The Sun Dance is one of the high points in the tribal calendar, and not many white people attend. Domniki was able to go. She not only witnessed but participated in four days of dancing, drumming, and fellowship. When an elder found out she was from Greece, he asked, "So, you came over here to see the first Americans?" She answered yes, and was having an experience that few people anywhere have had.



Anatolians Head to U.S. Colleges

Continued from Page 3

Bard College in New York, the alma mater of this year's ACT Commencement speaker, has been a popular choice in recent years, and it led the Anatolia list with three matriculants. Two students apiece will be attending Johns Hopkins University, Davidson College in North Carolina, and the Rose - Hulman Institute of Technology in Indiana. Other technology choices include MIT and WPI. Also on this year's list were American University, Chapman University, Dickinson, Georgetown, and Grinnell, Lawrence University, Lehigh, Loyola Marymount, Northeastern, the Pratt Institute, Suffolk, Swarthmore, the University of Chicago, and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Commencements 2010

Three splendid June ceremonies marked the end of the school year – and a time of new beginnings – for graduates of Anatolia’s three academic divisions.

ACT

At ACT, Panos Vlachos, Anatolia Vice President for Academic Affairs and ACT Provost, along with President Hans Giesecke, welcomed the 47 graduates, their parents, and guests on a windy June 23 evening in the amphitheater in front of the Bissell Library. Greek journalist Alexis Papachelas delivered the Commencement address (see excerpts, back page). Papachelas was also awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters for his contributions to journalism.

Prizes were given for outstanding work in the Liberal Arts, Business Administration, History and International Relations, Computing, and Student Activities. The Borjan Tanevski Scholar was recognized, and the winners of the John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Award were announced. The Philip and Marjorie Ireland Humanitarian and Public Service Award went to anthropologist Aspasia Plantonaki, a 1995 graduate of Anatolia High School who has been serving as a Project Coordination Officer at the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.



Nikos Kourkoumelis, David Wisner, Archontis Pantisios, Valedictorian Aleksandar Krstikj, Alexis Papachelas, President Hans Giesecke, ACT Provost Panos Vlachos.



Anatolia Elementary

Ninety-five students graduated from Anatolia Elementary on June 14th, 59 of whom will be coming on to Anatolia. The graduation ceremonies for the sixth graders climaxed a two week period of public performances by students from all grades of the school in which singing, dancing, and the spoken word went hand in hand. At the graduation ceremony, almost as much English as Greek was heard, reflecting the increased emphasis that English has been getting at the school. School Director Nikolaos Arnaoutis and President Hans Giesecke encouraged the graduates to continue to flower at Anatolia and at the other junior high schools they will be going on to next year.



B' Lyceum Dean Christos Plousios, Christos Tsolakis



George Lisaridis



Anatolia High School

At the High School, Christos Tsolakis, Emeritus Professor of Greek at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, addressed the 241 graduates, including 69 from the I.B. Program, at ceremonies on June 30. The graduates also heard remarks from President Hans Giesecke, Vice President for Secondary Education George Lisaridis, and others. Prizes were given for academic, extracurricular, and athletic achievement, and for

progress in English. Graduating members of the cast of "Grease" let loose a few numbers from the show for a rousing musical interlude. The singing of "Morning Cometh" preceded the conferring of degrees, which were followed by the lighting of the torches, the graduates' solemn pledge, the Greek national anthem, and the passage of the graduates through the crowd and out into an uncertain world.

Alexis Papachelas Speaks to ACT Graduates

The following is a condensed version of the Commencement address that Greek journalist Alexis Papachelas delivered at the American College of Thessaloniki on June 23, 2010.

I thought very hard about what I should say today. Being a journalist, especially a Greek journalist, I consider myself an expert on pretty much everything, from astrophysics to geopolitics, so it was very hard to choose what to talk on. I decided in the end to talk to you about some lessons that I've gathered both from living abroad and also about my experiences of the last twelve years since returning to Greece after 20 years in the US. Let me first say that this country, and this area overall, is in transition. In my opinion it's a painful and never-ending transition but a transition nevertheless. The state and the society we have built since the fall of the junta here in Greece shows some serious cracks and deficiencies. You, as future members of the business and professional communities, and we as journalists, have the responsibility of moving this society forward, rather than expecting politicians or somebody else to do it for us...



“ This university, of course, is the most vivid proof of what can be done if we follow our dreams and really respond...”

I believe it is extremely important for all of us to remember, in whatever field you're going into or whatever country you're coming from, that Greece and the Balkans are not the epicenter of the world. Our world has become much bigger these days because of globalization, and very flat, as Tom Friedman says. These days what happens in New Delhi or Singapore affects very much our daily lives, just as things that happen in Greece in the economy affect the rest of the world in (to me) a very astounding way. We have to become much more cosmopolitan if we want to compete in this new global environment... Yes, I know that Greece

and we Greeks are a very charismatic country and people... but please, let us always remember that we operate within a much bigger world. Greeks, and not only Greeks but our neighbors as well, conquer the world when they understand it and adapt to it, and

they stagnate when they are afraid of interaction and choose to bask in the false glory of being better and different... And I also believe the same holds true for this city, which should play a more assertive and pre-eminent role in the business, education, and health sectors for the rest of the Balkans. This university, of course, is the most vivid proof of what can be done if we follow our dreams and really respond...

I would suggest that putting ego aside also helps... I know this is contradictory to our DNA, but I think it works. We should not be afraid to work with people who might be better than us and always remember that teamwork can-

not be replaced by anyone's personal skills or gifts, regardless of how charismatic they are. It's not easy, especially for us Greeks, who believe that if someone near us rises to the top he should immediately be dragged down, for fear of raising our standards. I do feel, however,



that it's important that as we mature as a society we become much more team-oriented and less insecure about honest and transparent internal competition. If there's one thing we desperately need here, it's standards and examples of excellence, positive role models, people and companies that we can look up to and get inspired by...

JFK told his fellow citizens in the US that you should not ask what your country can do for you, you should ask what you can do for your country. I personally have lost patience with ourselves, with the Greek businessman who behaves like a pirate or deliberately disposes his waste in the open and then complains

about the Greek state and the ever-demonized 'system'. I have lost patience with the average citizen who fails to create a fire-safe environment around his house and then complains about the lack of emergency response... The way this country goes depends

on what each one of us does every day. It depends on the values we project, on the way we make decisions, the way we treat customers, colleagues, and others.

I apologize if I have gone on too long, but you see, I spend my days with politicians and journalists who commit two of the greatest Greek sins, which are to take themselves too seriously and to think they know it all. I hope you will avoid these mistakes... We live in a very uncertain world, but I am sure you will do well. Thanks and good luck.

Note: The following signed editorial by Alexis Papachelas appeared two weeks later on the front page of the July 7 Greek and English language versions of *Kathimerini*, Greece's most influential daily newspaper. The title given the English version was "Greece Unbound."

A recent visit to a graduation ceremony at an American college in Thessaloniki gave me an unexpected insight into Greece's mistakes and missed opportunities over the past 20 years.

The college is a serious non-profit venture in the field of education and one of the few to have survived and prospered despite the obstacles. It bears no comparison to the dozens of other quasi-official colleges that have emerged in Greece without any sub-

stantial control. Interestingly, the top prize went to a student from Skopje. He spoke broken Greek and fluent English, explaining how he loves Greece and how the country offered him a unique opportunity to excel...

Most of the distinctions this year went to students from neighboring countries. They are the nascent Balkan elite that will start their professional careers having first spent some good time in Thessaloniki. I could not help but think of the damage caused by the lingering name dispute. It was easy, so easy, to conquer that country, as it were, with investments, offering scholarships to FYROM children. Greece has spent a great deal of capital that was needed to handle other, more serious threats. Now the country must reach a face-saving settlement or risk giving the impression that it is a small, vulnerable nation.

Instead of organizing tacky protests

against FYROM, Thessaloniki ought to have opened itself up to its neighbors, making itself a real entrepreneurial, educational, medical and tourist hub for the Balkans. At the same time, I cannot help but think that [Greek Prime Minister] George Papandreou made a big mistake in undermining the change of Article 16 in the Constitution which would have opened the door for the establishment of private, non-profit universities. The Prime Minister yielded to vested interests when he could have given the green light to innovative research centers such as those found in Turkey and Cyprus.

It's groundless fear and sentimentalism that have so often held us back. Greece can only extract itself from the crisis by breaking free of the complexes that have held it hostage to the mediocre universities and by turning itself into a modern service center for the broader region.



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