



# The Anatolian



WINTER 2010

Eleftheriades Library  
Turns 20  
➤ Page 3

A Charitable  
Institution  
➤ Pages 4-5

ACT Study Abroad  
Hits New Heights  
➤ Page 6

## Anatolia Launches Green Initiative



A view of the Anatolia and ACT campus showing the main entrance to the upper campus and the Bissell Library (left, background), Ladas and Compton Halls, Stephens Hall, and (at far right) Macedonia Hall.

“Anatolia has a wonderful legacy in its campus, an oasis of beautifully landscaped trees and other plantings in an increasingly urbanized Thessaloniki. But the truth is, we are nowhere near as environmentally friendly as we ought to be.” So noted President Hans Giesecke to the Board of Trustees at its fall meeting in Boston before presenting a plan of green initiatives to make Anatolia a regional leader and role model both in its ecological educational programs and in its management

practices. The Board approved the plan, which is now in the initial stages of implementation.

The plan calls for no less than uniting all divisions of the school, from Anatolia Elementary to the MBA program, behind the idea of environmental awareness and action. “We want to create a community ethos that is both more environmentally aware and makes improved use of campus resources,” says President Giesecke. “It should be one of things that defines what it means to be an Anatolian these days. It repre-

sents one of the ways we can contribute to the betterment of Greek society.”

At the elementary school the program is off to a flying start, thanks largely to the work of Eleni Andreadi '96 of Planet Agents, a local environmental NGO, and the combined efforts of teachers and school leaders. “The idea is to make our students agents in the movement for a better environment,” says Manos Agrodimos, Anatolia Elementary Director of Administration. “They make a pledge, they carry out missions,

and they earn badges. We’ve started with 3rd and 4th graders, using the so-called ‘flexible zones’ in the elementary curriculum for green activities an hour or two each week. Toss your soda can in the trash at your own risk. Our agents are everywhere.”

Thanks to work done by the Ecology Club in the past decade, the junior and senior high school division of Anatolia was designated by the Eco-Schools Program as a green school. A surge of activity also accompanied the Lindsay Environmental Project several years ago, involving tree-planting and clean-up activities. Now, chemistry teacher Ilias Kalambokis is leading the effort to take the school to the next level. He is himself a longtime proponent of “green chemistry,” which involves the responsible use of solvents and other chemicals. Besides instituting better recycling practices, from aluminum to batteries to electronic devices, Kalambokis foresees student construction of a solar oven, and, if that turns out well, of a windmill.

At the International Baccalaureate Program, the approach is deliberately student-centered. “We could impose certain practices,” comments chemistry teacher Eleni Antonakou, “but that would defeat half the purpose. We need to lead students to discover solutions themselves. They’re the ones making presentations at our morning assemblies and creating the materials for an awareness campaign.”

## Niarchos Foundation Challenge Met

The Summer 2009 issue of the Anatolian reported the terms of a major grant awarded to Anatolia by the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation in May of last year. The grant was made to help defray the cost of major renovations to Raphael Hall, the principal phases of which were completed in the spring of 2007. This was a challenge grant, however, and the main condition that the Foundation imposed upon Anatolia was that a matching amount be raised from alumni and friends of Anatolia who live and work in Greece.

The school had one year to meet the challenge. Such was the response from Anatolia’s supporters in Greece that it needed only six months. Not only that: with its Greek trustees

leading the way, Anatolia surpassed its goal by almost 25%. The Class of '57 and Thessaloniki’s Jewish Community also made major pledges to the total. “This was a textbook example of the way a foundation can both support a school and inspire support,” comments Maria Tsekou, Director of European Development. “And this is the first time Greek donors have been so specifically targeted. The results speak for themselves.”

In making the grant, the Foundation also wanted to honor former Anatolia President Jackson, with whom it had developed a close relationship over a decade in which it supported Anatolia in a variety of ways, beginning with a major gift to build and equip the Stavros S. Niarchos Technology Center in the Bissell Li-

brary. The Foundation asked that a plaque be placed in Raphael Hall recognizing President Jackson’s contributions to education in Greece. It was appropriate that the substantial sum raised at the June 18 fundraising dance to honor Jackson was applied to meeting the terms of the Niarchos Challenge.

Besides a newly energized Greek constituency, Anatolia is bestowed with a state-of-the-art Raphael Hall that sees intensive use for performances, conferences, and special presentations. Maria Tsekou: “We’re grateful both to the Niarchos Foundation and to all who helped us meet this Challenge. It was a great experience for Anatolia. Fortunately, other challenges lie ahead.”

continued on p. 2

## Boston gets together

Two events brought Boston-area Anatolians out and together this past fall. The first, on September 20, was an Alumni Garden Barbeque hosted for the second year in a row at the Milton home of Anatolia alumni Anna Greka '93 and Stathis Antoniadis '92. Fifty people attended, all with Anatolia stories to share. Trustees Peter Allen and George Antoniadis were present as guests of honor, and both spoke feelingly about their love for the school. The Honorable John M. Xifaras and Mrs. Marde Xifaras, Anatolia parents and supporters, also spoke to the gathering about their times in Greece and the special place that Anatolia has in their hearts.

Then, on November 3, Anatolia's Boston office and Project SAVE Armenian Photograph Archives, Inc. presented a lecture by Dr. Armen Marsoobian, Professor of Philosophy at Southern Connecticut State University, who this past spring semester was

a Michael S. Dukakis Fellow at The American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), the university division of Anatolia. The lecture took place at the headquarters of the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR) in Belmont, Mass. Dr. Marsoobian drew upon family memoirs, letters, and missionary accounts to trace his family's history from its early days in Sivas to their relocation to Marsovan, where his grandfather Tsolag Dildilian and his great uncle Aram Dildilian opened a photography studio and became official photographers for Anatolia College (see the Summer 2009 *Anatolian* for the full story). The event drew an overflow crowd of more than 100. Anatolia President Hans Giesecke was in attendance and introduced the speaker, while speaking himself about Anatolia's strong and continuing ties to the Armenian community, both in Greece and the United States."



Hosts Stathis Antoniadis '92 and Anna Greka '93 are third from left and right, respectively.

## The Harvard MUN 2010 -- this year with a taste of Venezuela



(from left) Katerina Stamatiou, Ioanna Soteriou, Constantinos Orphanides, Consul General for Greece in Boston, Marialena Rizou, Antigoni Bokoridou.

For more than ten years Anatolia has been sending a delegation (literally) of some of its top students to Boston to participate in the prestigious Harvard Model United Nations Conference. The conference is organized and run by Harvard undergraduates and annually attracts nearly 3,000 students from around the world for a simulation of the activities of the real UN. Students represent not their home countries but the ones assigned to them by HMUN staff. This year Anatolia drew Venezuela, a state which likes to make its voice heard, perfect for such a conference.

The conference itself lasted three days, but the Anatolians sojourned for eight. The rest of their time was spent in a whirlwind of visits and activities organized by the school's Boston office. Faneuil Hall and the Museum of Science; the Prudential Center and the Museum of Fine Arts; a tour of the State House, dinner with the Trustees, and a Celtics game (where they even made the JumboTron) were all on the docket,

not to mention visits to the Harvard and Northeastern campuses and skating on the Frog Pond on Boston Common. The week was rounded off with a reception at the Harvard Club of Boston, where Peter Canellos, editor of the *Boston Globe* editorial pages, was guest speaker.

Konstantinos Reppas, a junior in the Anatolia I.B. Program, says: "After so much preparation, our trip to the United States was exciting, eye-opening, and rewarding. We met students from all around the world, saw Boston's well-known tourist sites, and got to present our hard work at such a prestigious event."

Marialena Rizou, a junior from the 1st Lyceum, adds, "Coming to America for the first time after being at an American school for six years and seeing how my education translates in an American setting was very stimulating. I loved Boston, and the Harvard Model UN was a great challenge that will stay with me. I'm so glad I go to Anatolia and am able to have experiences like these!"

(from left) Thomas Michaelides, Trustee Bill Galatis, Eleni Bikou, Patricia Korfa, Leonidas Konstantopoulos



## Seeing the World the MUN Way

Model UNs are exercises in role play. Typically student-run, they offer opportunities to teenagers to transform themselves into diplomats for a few days and to tackle some of the world's toughest problems and disputes through dialogue and negotiation. Because students don't represent their native countries, they also come to see the world from fresh perspectives. And because the language of MUNs is English, second language students get a real workout in the global language.

For Anatolia, whose history and identity are both international, MUNs are a natural, and in the past decade they have become one of the school's most popular extracurricular activities, with more than a hundred students participating as delegates and officers every year, and still more helping out with Anatolia's own annual MUN session. MUNs have two phases: the study phase supervised by faculty advisers at Anatolia (the rehearsal, in other words), and the sessions themselves, which this year have taken

place in Paris, Athens, Istanbul, the Hague, and at the Farm School in Thessaloniki. Past conference destinations have included Dublin, St. Petersburg, Vienna, and Halleybury (England). A little tourism is typically included around the edges. And of course there is always Harvard, one of the world's oldest and most distinguished conferences.

For students coming from fifteen schools in Greece and six foreign countries, Thessaloniki and Anatolia will be the destination in mid-March when our school hosts its 5th annual Model UN. Many Anatolians cut their diplomatic teeth at the school's own conference, then work to be selected for international MUNs in the following years. Anatolia's policy is to make participation as broad as possible.

What it all comes to is that many Anatolia graduates can claim a global outlook and international experience, as well as the knowledge that they come from a school with international roots and a bi-cultural emphasis.

### Anatolia Launches Green Initiative

*Continued from Page 1*

IB Director Theodore Filaretos notes that an "environmental option" is available as a part of the IB's biology and chemistry courses and has proven so popular that a new Environmental Science course is now under consideration.

At ACT, students are mounting an environmental awareness campaign with the slogan "Don't Throw It, Show It." The idea is to stage an art exhibition later this spring in Thessaloniki's Aristotle Square of constructions made up exclusively of recyclable materials. The campaign will also involve activities in local schools, including Anatolia's own high school, and features a character called the Recycle Monster.

In the ACT Business Department, all instructors have been asked to develop sustainable business development modules for all courses. In addition, this year the Pappajohn Entrepreneurship and Innovation Fund, which will award \$10,000 in seed money to the best proposals, will have a special Green Business focus. MBA students have been invited to develop real-world research projects that integrate green business strategies with innovation and management perspectives, including the creation of new enterprises with a green focus and/or assessing the environmental impact of various businesses and their relevant corporate

social responsibility policies.

"The reality is that it's not easy being green, especially on the pocket-book," comments Yannis Tsozbatzoglou, Acting VP for Administration and institutional coordinator of the initiative. "I'll give you an example. Right now we burn diesel fuel to heat our buildings. Natural gas is available, but conversion will require a sizable initial investment. To justify the investment, we have to insulate our buildings better and target our energy use, and that means new windows in many buildings and new zone-controlled plumbing. Certain other things we are already changing, the amount and kind of paper we use, for instance. Whatever the hurdles, we are committed to making progress."

President Giesecke adds: "We want to adopt green practices not only for their own sake but to set an example to the students whom we're educating, and to involve them in the process. That's where the opportunity for greatest impact lies. I know it will take time and money, but the Board of Trustees and I are determined to take this opportunity to have an enduring influence over the physical appearance of the campus and the way it uses its resources for decades to come."

The Anatolian

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# High School News

## Eleftheriades Library Celebrates 20 Years

On October 12, the high school library had a birthday party. There were balloons, speeches, awards, and a beautiful big birthday cake much appreciated by the many Anatolia students who attended the mid-day celebration. There was a touch of fall in the air, and more than a touch of history.

It seems that wherever missionary schools were established in the 19th century, libraries were established too. Anatolia College had a library in Asia Minor, and its book collection moved with the school to Thessaloniki in the 1920s. When Anatolia settled into its current campus in 1934, it was a young refugee graduate of the class of 1930, Socrates Eleftheriades, who set up its new library in Macedonia Hall and became its Librarian; he had to set it up a second time following the German occupation of campus during World War II. His wife, Olga Mavrophoridou-Eleftheriades, taught Greek philology at Anatolia during this period.

The Eleftheriades moved to California in 1954, where Socrates served as Librarian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey and Olga taught Greek and published books for learners of Modern Greek. They did not forget Anatolia, however, and arranged to leave an estate to the school worth one million dollars for the support of the library and for scholarships. The new high school library, constructed in 1989 with funds from the American government's USAID Program and equipped by the Associa-



Anatolia Libraries Director Teresa Grenot with writing contest winner Alex Scragg '14

tion of the Friends of Anatolia, was named in their honor in 1995. Socrates Eleftheriades, then in his 80s, was present at the dedication ceremony.

The value and meaning of the Eleftheriades Library to the school was the theme of the anniversary celebration. Anatolia Libraries Director Teresa Grenot introduced the speakers to an audience of students and teachers seated in the library's spacious central square study area.

Executive VP and COO Panos Kanellis '66 spoke first, recalling his own experiences with the Anatolia Library when it was housed in what is now Tsipos Hall. Nowhere else in Thessaloniki was *Sports Illustrated* to be found, he related, and as the magazine was in English, "I was moved to learn English."

President Hans Giesecke spoke next, contrasting the classical model of libraries as repositories of knowledge with the contemporary idea of their being at the nexus of "swirls of information" retrievable on demand. He also emphasized the role of libraries in building enlightened communities. VP for Secondary Education George Lysarides spoke of the many uses to which the Eleftheriades Library is put on a daily basis and the degree to which it lies physically and educationally at the center of the school.

Two more alumni of the 1960s, Christos Plousios and Yannis Lalatsis, both of the class of 1967, now the Deans of Anatolia's two lyceums, evoked the idea of the particular culture of libraries, and they too endorsed the ethic of community that libraries create, even when not a word is being spoken by the users. Libraries were rare in the Greece of that period, Plousios remarked, and Anatolia graduates were a privileged group when they went on to university and had to do research.

Then it was time for the results of the library essay (or poem) contest, in which all students in 8th to 10th grade had participated. The theme:

the value of the library to you personally and to the school. Phil Holland, Chair of the English Department, announced the six winners and treated the audience to brief excerpts. "I cannot imagine Anatolia without this particular library... We are blessed to have such a library on this campus... The place is strangely peaceful; the mind relaxes in it... I have sung with the Chorale in the basement and met with my fellow members of the ACMUN India delegation around a table on the upper level... For those who are newbies and don't know their way around, there are always our great librarians, ready to help any lost soul find their way to knowledge." 8th grader Alex Scragg read a winning poem, concluding, "Twenty years have passed since its creation, the Eleftheriades Library, offering to everyone love and motivation." And then, to cap it all off, there was cake.



## Science and Tech Club Visits CERN

Some people said that when they switched on the Large Hadron Collider in Geneva, Switzerland, which is the world's largest and highest-energy particle accelerator, it might suck the world as we know it down into a black hole. It didn't. It did, however, attract a group of 19 Anatolians and their faculty advisers in the Science and Technology Club, Eleni Chatzimavroudi and Maria Karagouni, to visit CERN (the European Organization for Nuclear Research, home of the Collider) in early October.

The Anatolians were treated to tours and a close-up view of ongoing experiments like the ALICE and ATLAS experiments. The latter is a basic research project that uses state-of-the-art instruments to explore the fundamental nature of matter and the basic forces that shape our universe. Protons are accelerated in the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), an underground accelerator ring 27 kilometers in circumference. The particle beams are steered to collide in the middle of the ATLAS detector. The energy density in these high en-

ergy collisions is similar to the collision energy of particles in the early universe, less than a thousandth of a billionth of a second after the Big Bang. Examination of the debris of these collisions reveals information about fundamental particle processes.

There are thousands of people at CERN – from universities and collaborating institutions around the globe – who have been working on the LHC project over the past two decades, many Greek researchers among them. After the guided tour the students had the chance to visit Microcosm, an interactive multimedia display that explains



Hold onto your hats, those particles move fast... Anatolians spent part of their time at CERN underground, wearing safety gear.

CERN's diverse activities.

There was tourism too, in Geneva and nearby Lausanne. The medieval old town in Lausanne gave many students their first look at Gothic architecture. They also discovered that the Swiss insist on French in that part of their country. Such experiences build camaraderie. As one student said, "We came to Geneva in small groups, but we are leaving as a large one."

## The Once and Future Summer



Anatolians Daniel Efraimidis, Theodosios Fabrikis and Spyros Baltsavias participated in a summer program at Indiana's prestigious Rose Hulman Institute of Technology and took first prize in an engineering competition by constructing a model hovercraft.

ready 150 applications have been received. At Anatolia students are writing application essays and soliciting recommendations from their teachers. And thinking in mid-winter of summer.

The Winter issue of the *Anatolian* has to look with the face of Janus at Anatolia's burgeoning summer programs. The summer of 2009 broke records once again, with 149 students and nine faculty and staff members taking part in programs on US college and university campuses. The programs were diverse: from drama to science, from urban to pastoral settings, from Mississippi to Michigan and Maine to California, for junior and senior high school students. The strong euro helps; so does the tireless work of the US College Counseling and Summer Programs Office in identifying opportunities, supervising the application process, and arranging for scholarships. The result is that a sizable portion of Anatolia students have now had direct experience of the United States in culture, learning, and language. Many students write in their reports of life-changing experiences. Another summer awaits. Already



It's a different kind of class, and not only because it takes place for four hours on a Saturday morning. It's hands-on, experimental science, and the topics are cutting edge: Robotics, CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) and Forensic Science, Nanotechnology, Biotechnology, and Green Science. It's the brainchild of Anatolia chemistry teacher Ilias Kalambokis, who has seen what kind of subjects and methods excite Anatolians on summer science programs in the US. He and Robotics specialist Antonis Kanouras are the teachers, and students from Anatolia Elementary and the junior and high school are the students. The former have been building robots with specially designed Legos, the latter doing everything from solving mock-crimes to performing experiments that the brochure describes as never having been attempted before in Greece. One thing is certain: it beats watching cartoons.

## A Charitable Institution...

Anatolia is a charitable institution, that is, a non-profit organization whose mission is to serve a community broader than its student body. That already makes it a rarity among Greek private schools and colleges, most of which are run as for-profit institutions. But Anatolia goes one step further: it raises money not only to support its own programs, chiefly its scholarship program, but also for other charities in Greece. Many of its major annual public events, like the Christmas Bazaar and the Christmas Concert, raise funds for such purposes.

So do certain special events, and the philanthropic season kicked off at Anatolia with one of the latter, a Three-Kilometer Run in support of the Thessaloniki branch of the Make-a-Wish Foundation, a worldwide, non-profit organization that grants wishes to terminally ill children. The run was organized at the initiative of Christa Giesecke '11, a first-year IB student fresh from the US, where such events are not uncommon. But at Anatolia, nothing quite like it had been attempted before. Would Greek students lay out 10 euros (about \$15) for the privilege of running around campus on a track laid out by the organizers (official t-shirt included)? After some persistent and creative campaigning, on race day 220 students, faculty, and staff, including President and Susan Giesecke, took off at the appointed hour on November 18. Guides were posted along the route to keep the runners on track. The result: a lot of fun and more than \$2,000 raised for the Foundation.

Next, Thanksgiving arrived. It is an Anatolia tradition at morning assemblies on this day for students to make contributions to aid those less fortunate. Representatives of a Greek non-profit, the Source of Life, which promotes blood donation, spoke at one of the assemblies, and their organization was also honored at the school's traditional turkey dinner in the evening, where faculty and staff were invited to make their own contributions. Working with their Deans, the Anatolia student councils themselves decide which worthy causes should receive the money, an activity that introduces them to the culture of philanthropy.

Christmas brings another traditional Anatolia charitable occasion, two of them, in fact. The



After the 3k race, a group portrait with President Hans Giesecke and daughter Christa '11 at center.



V.P. for Secondary Education George Lysarides (right) with honored guests from "The Source of Life" at the Thanksgiving Dinner.



High school faculty, staff, and students ready to serve guests at the Christmas Bazaar.



Lifting their voices in song at the Christmas Concert, Anatolia Elementary students, members of the Alumni Chorale, and singers from the High School.





Scenes from the Drama Club's production of "Grease" (top) and the Greek Theater Club's staging of Dario Fo's "Claxons, Trumpets, and Raspberries."

annual Christmas Bazaar, held on Sunday December 13 in Ingle Hall, attracted a record 1500 paying visitors to coffee served by seniors and stands manned by faculty, students, and volunteers where one could buy everything from cakes and cookies made by junior high students (and their mothers) to a new puppy. The following day was the Christmas Concert, held at the Aristotle University Performance Hall downtown. In recent years this has grown into a multi-school and even multi-generational event, with participation by Anatolia Elementary, students and faculty from the junior and senior high school, and the Alumni Chorale. Proceeds go to the school's scholarship fund. The mood was festive, and the hall was filled.

Meanwhile, a clothes, toys, and books drive initiated by two eighth-grade students was reaching its climax. For two months, the students and a growing group of faculty, staff and student volunteers in the elementary school, the junior and senior high, and the I.B. program had been collecting items to be given to Thessaloniki refugee families, principally from Afghanistan, Somalia, and Iran. An impressive number of bags and bundles was presented to the refugees at a Christmas gathering on December 18. Santa would have been proud.

The giving season was not limited to Thessaloniki. The Alumni Chorale and two busloads of its fans travelled to Athens at the invitation of the Anatolia Athens Alumni Association to sing carols and other songs at the "Megaron Musikis," Athens' most prestigious concert hall. The funds raised went to support the annual scholarship offered by the Athens alumni to the school.

Lastly, as it has been doing since 1985, the Greek Theater Club donated the proceeds of one of its performances (this year, of Dario Fo's satire "Claxons, Trumpets, and Raspberries") to the St. Demetrios Children's Hospital, which overlooks the Anatolia campus. Children from the hospital were also guests at the performance. In addition, the revenue from one performance of the Drama Club's presentation of the American musical "Grease" was donated as a cash gift to relief work in response to the devastating earthquake in Haiti.

And that is what is meant by the phrase "Anatolia is a charitable institution."

## Profile: Vangelis Papatolis '09

First in his graduating class in Anatolia's 1st Lyceum and one of the top scorers in Greece on the rigorous Panhellenic university entrance exams, Vangelis Papatolis '09 began his Anatolia career by taking scholarship exams in Greek and Math in the northern Greek city of Kastoria as a 12-year-old almost seven years ago. He received high scores on both parts of the exam, and as is the usual practice, an Anatolia team of three teachers visited him at his home, located in the village of Vissinia (population about 100) on the road to Florina, to get to know him and his family.

English teacher John Gateley reported to the Scholarship Committee back at Anatolia that, "Vangelis attends the village elementary school where the sole teacher instructs nine children aged 6 to 12... His parents are farmers... he has two elder sisters, one now studying in the U.S. ... There is an air of commitment about this boy. However, he is not a grind and loves playing with the few friends he can find in the village. ... He speaks his basic English with confidence and is well-read for his age." Vangelis was offered a full scholarship to attend Anatolia and spent the next six years boarding at Anatolia's dormitory. "It was hard at first to be away from my family and friends, but I adapted. And the students and advisers in the dorm became a second family to me," he says.

He excelled as a student right from the start, but it was only last year that he decided what course of life he wished to pursue. It will be medicine, and he is now enrolled as a first-year medical student at Aristotle University in Thessaloniki. Besides a love of biology, it was the opportunity to help others that made up his mind for him. He displayed that same quality in the dorm, helping younger scholarship holders make the tough social and academic transition to Anatolia, and was chosen to receive the Pat Kastritsis Award at graduation "for his outstanding contribution to dormitory life."

To be among the top national Panhellenic scorers, you have to be good in all subjects, from the hard sciences to history and composition. It was his score in the latter that Vangelis is proudest of, as reflecting the greatest challenge to his ability to think and write on his feet. He says that it was particularly the habit of his Anatolia teachers of going beyond the textbook content of their lessons to explore "the general construction of the world"



Vangelis and his parents in a photo shot at their home during the visit by members of the faculty scholarship team in May 2003.

that he valued most about his school. Besides his Greek classes, he mentions studying Shakespeare and an elective in Psychology in the Anatolia English program as broadening experiences.

It's too soon to think about what might follow medical school, he says. Suffice it to say that Vangelis hasn't lost that "air of commitment" he had on the day that the team from Anatolia arrived at his door.

**... He says that it was particularly the habit of his Anatolia teachers of going beyond the textbook content of their lessons to explore "the general construction of the world" that he valued most about his school...**



At Commencement, from left, Vangelis displaying the Kastritsis Award, Trustee Petros Apostolides '53, and Tereza Platidou, physical education teacher and Director of the Boarding Department.

## Feeling Charitable?

The funds that enabled Vangelis Papatolis to attend Anatolia came from the school's general scholarship endowment. Other students attend on named or geographically restricted scholarship endowments. Still others have their fees paid by annual donations made by individuals or groups. When the school accepts (or a donor pledges to support) a scholarship student, the school and the donor undertake a six-year financial commitment – which may also be thought of as an investment with returns paid out over a human lifetime.

The school's scholarship funds, permanent and current, are one of the elements that give Anatolia its character and exemplify its purposes. They are the result of many individual decisions to support the education of outstanding students who would not otherwise be able to afford Anatolia. The school welcomes, or more properly, depends on the support of people like the readers of the *Anatolian*. Feeling charitable? Make a contribution to the Anatolia Scholarship Fund today.

It's as easy as visiting [www.anatolia.edu.gr/giving](http://www.anatolia.edu.gr/giving).

## Study Abroad Attracts Record Numbers



A group of ACT study abroad students visiting the monasteries of Meteora under the guidance of Stepan Parternian, Coordinator of Athletics and Student Activities, at left.

News travels fast in this digital age, and the word is out on the ACT study-abroad experience. It provides an excellent opportunity for academic work, individual growth, cultural immersion and travel in an accredited program that gives students just the right balance of inde-

pendence and personal guidance and support. The result: a record-breaking 145 study-abroad students from 33 US colleges and universities came to ACT this past fall, 66 of them through Northeastern University's freshman program. Another 80 have now begun second semester

study at the school's Thessaloniki campus.

Study abroad at ACT is best described as a "hybrid" experience in which students receive the instruction and support services they are accustomed to from a North American university while at the same time living in a dynamic and cosmopolitan southeastern European city with a distinctly Mediterranean flair. The program is not only growing by the numbers but in the range of what it provides to students. Besides offering small classes, personal contact with faculty, and top-notch information services, and besides sponsoring excursions and activities that bring American students into closer contact with Greek culture and their Greek and international classmates, study abroad now includes a growing service component.

A Service Learning program was begun last year as part of the Northeastern's Global Experience course, which requires students to complete thirty hours of service while at ACT. About half of the students work on the greater Anatolia campus, teaching English reading, writing, and speaking skills at Anatolia Elementary, assisting in the US Counseling Office, helping high school seniors with SAT preparation and college applications, and writing for the ACT study abroad newsletter. The other half have done exciting work off campus: creating digital storytelling videos based on their experience here; teaching

English to immigrants at the ARSIS Center for underprivileged youth; cooking in the soup kitchen of the Pylea church; volunteering at the Thessaloniki International Film Festival; and collaborating with A21 in an effort to raise consciousness of sex trafficking in Greece. Most ACT study-abroad students have volunteered before in America and are able to use their experience and English language skills in Greek settings, where they also interact with local people and get an insider's view of Thessaloniki.

In addition to the regular study-abroad contingent, the spring term will welcome three other groups of visiting students, from Columbia University, Brown University, and the University of Mississippi, for brief periods. They'll spend time on campus and stay with other study-abroad students in ACT's residence halls in downtown Thessaloniki. Volunteer activities are planned with the Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival in March and in helping organize the Alexia Foundation photojournalism exhibit and two-day, on-campus workshop, which is expected to also be one of the Festival's major parallel cultural events. The digital storytelling workshop of the fall term proved so popular that it will lead to further work in digital media in the spring.

And that will no doubt spread the word about the special qualities of ACT study abroad still further.

## Storytelling Goes Digital

It was bound to happen: a generation brought up on multimedia would want to express itself by combining the written and spoken word with still and moving images. The challenge to educators: to harness the new possibilities for storytelling afforded by new digital technologies and the student skills that have evolved along with them.

On December 7, 2009, in Raphael Hall, ACT hosted an evening-long conference, "Digital Storytelling in Advanced Education," to address this opportunity. An audience of teachers, students, and guests listened to and spoke with speakers from ACT, Northeastern University, and northern Greece in Raphael and others via videoconference at locations as remote as London, Utrecht, Cardiff, and Berkeley, California. The highlight of the evening came last: the showing of a series of short digital stories by ACT students and teachers.

President Hans Giesecke and Catherine Kay, US Consul General for Thessaloniki, opened the proceedings, both evoking the power of stories to shape human experience and cross cultural boundaries. Panel discussions and the videoconferences followed, with sample digital stories interspersed. Among others, ACT event organizers Arian Kotsi, Director of International Programs, Evi Papatheodorou, who led the ACT training workshops, Bissell Library Director Teresa Grenot, and Manolis Maou, Professor of Mathematics and Multi-



media Studies, all spoke. It became clear as the evening went on that the storytelling format that has developed involves the democratization of movie-making (though moving images are not required – a succession of stills will do). Part documentary, part personal narrative of discovery, the typical digital story is a "multimedia tale told from the heart," as one expert put it.

The format is surprisingly intimate. As for where such stories get published: the Internet, of course.

The digital stories presented during the conference, generally running from two to five minutes, involved a combination of voice-overs, sketches, animations, live video, stills, video clips, titles or subtitles, and music imported from various sources. The mode of presentation was informal, but the multimedia sophistication required to mix all these elements seamlessly into a narrative was considerable.

The ACT students shone in the mode. Besides living in an on-line world and exchanging video, pictures, and music with friends on a daily basis, the 18 ACT digital storytellers had benefited from a three-day workshop earlier in the term. Their stories, all different in style and delivered in a variety of American and foreign accents, often recounted the effects of encountering different cultures, including the one students have discovered in Thessaloniki. In addition to being shown on the screen in Raphael, the stories were distributed to members of the audience in the form of complimentary CDs.

Want to have a look for yourself? Go to the YouTube channel on the ACT website ([www.act.edu](http://www.act.edu)) or direct to <http://goo.gl/NfHd>.



## ACT MBA Graduates 30

The ACT MBA program held graduation ceremonies in Raphael Hall on October 10, 2009. The Commencement speaker was Dimitris Daskalopoulos (above at right), Chairman of the SEV Hellenic Federation of Enterprises, who advised the graduates never to lack the courage to innovate. He is pictured with three other captains of Greek industry also in attendance: Giorgos Mylonas, former President of the Federation of Industries of Northern Greece, Spyros Papaspiropoulos, and Vasilis Takas, another past President of the Federation of Industries of Northern Greece. The next generation may look different: 21 of the 30 MBA graduates were women, including the two at right, Olympia Argyropoulou and Vasilika Kalemkeri.



## And After ACT...

What do the Fletcher School of International Law and Diplomacy (Tufts University), the Walsh School of Foreign Service (at Georgetown), The Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (Johns Hopkins), the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Geneva), the European University Institute (Florence), the School of International Relations (St. Andrews), and the Department of War Studies (King's College London), have in common? Yes, they are home to the world's most prestigious post-graduate programs in international relations and diplomacy. And yes, in the past few years, ACT graduates have both applied – and been admitted – to these and other institutions of similar caliber.

"Fifteen years ago, when a graduate applied to LSE (the London School of Economics and Political Science)," recounts David Wisner, Chair of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences, "I got the distinct impression that her application was not given much attention. Now, all that has changed. In one recent year, nearly 10% of the graduating class undertook post-graduate study there."

LSE is not the only destination of choice. Within the space of three years Alvis Matlija (business), Ilda Zhulali (international relations), and Biljana Meskovska (also IR) earned full scholarships to study at the Harvard Business School, Oxford University, and SAIS Washing-

ton, DC, respectively. Chris Sfetsios, who took a job at the US Institute of Peace in 2006 after completing a BA in International Relations as a transfer student, recently gained admission to the Fletcher School, the Walsh School, and SAIS, among others.

To what does ACT owe this success? According to Joseph Gratale, Professor of History, it's "dedicated faculty who are passionate about their work in the classroom and in academia." On the recruitment end, the recent advent of a Merit Aid policy for academically talented students has also played a role. Nikos Kourkoumelis, Chair of ACT's Division of Business, touts the progressively evolving quality of ACT's academic programs and reports that the best ACT students in business have tended to stay on to do ACT's MBA, another indication of the school's strength.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Panos Vlachos has the gratifying task of overseeing this surge in post-graduate success: "We are all proud of the accomplishments of our students. The good news is that there is more to come." Indeed, a plan for new directions in academic offerings at ACT envisions an International Relations major morphing into an even more comprehensive program called "Global Governance." Within this new structure, the sub-fields of civil society, e-government, humanitarian studies, and world affairs are likely to be emphasized.

## Transitions

Congratulations to Dr. Panos Kanellis '66, until Dec. 1 Anatolia's Executive Vice President and COO, on his appointment as the first Greek President of the American Farm School, Anatolia's cross-town neighbor. Dr. Kanellis' first job at Anatolia was working on an Anatolia summer construction crew during his student days. After an academic and business career in the US and Greece, he became a professor of chemistry at ACT, and for the last twelve years had worked as the Executive Vice President of Anatolia overseeing all aspects of administration. Among other things, he oversaw the annual budget and the extensive renovations to Anatolia's facilities carried out in recent years, supervised the academic programs at ACT, and was the driving force behind the establishment of Anatolia Elementary, now the most sought-after elementary school in Thessaloniki.

It is not surprising that more than one person has been appointed to fill his shoes. Yanis Tsorbatzoglou '86 is the new Acting Vice-President for Administration, Panos Vlachos the new Acting VP for Academic Affairs, and Pavlos Floros the new Acting V.P. for Finance, all appointed from within Anatolia's ranks and bringing years of on-campus experience to their jobs. Anatolia is also presently recruiting for a VP for Institutional Advancement; the job description for this new position may be found at the Anatolia website



Panos Kanellis '66

(anatolia.edu.gr) under "Employment Opportunities."

Retired Anatolia President Richard Jackson is now President Emeritus, the title having been bestowed on him by Anatolia's Board of Trustees at its November 7, 2009, meeting in Boston. President Jackson has relocated to Florida, near Palm Beach, the home of a thriving Anatolia community he had visited last March.

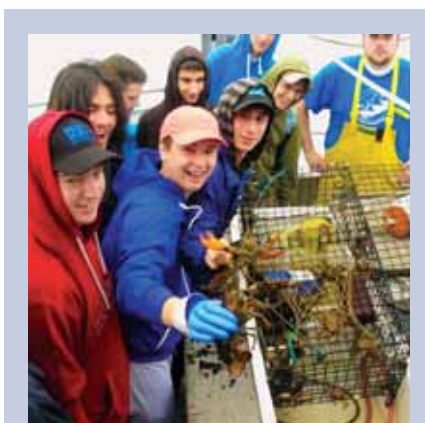
One transition is physical: the lower division (grades 1-3) of Anatolia Elementary is moving to new and larger quarters not far from the rest of campus on the grounds of the former Leonidas School. The new site offers some 5½ acres of space and plenty of room for physical expansion.

## In Memoriam Bill Drakos and John Jessup, Trustees

### Former Anatolia Presidents Pay Tribute

Alumnus, trustee and generous donor, Bill Drakos '38 was truly a man in full. Like Ulysses, whom he admired, he exemplified the roles in turn of father, husband, son, Hellene, warrior, leader of men, businessman, sailor, strategic thinker and more. His interests were global, spanning many countries and causes, yet linked by love of family, Hellenism, the sea, and life itself. Among the causes that he most loved and devoted himself to were Anatolia College and the Mystic Aquarium near his home in Connecticut. His dream, which he realized in his last year, was to make possible a dynamic partnership between the two institutions with a focus on protecting the environment and through education bringing the peoples of Greece and the United States closer together.

Bill Drakos was born in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1921, but as a boy returned to Greece with his parents and studied at Anatolia from 1935-1938. As an adult, he returned each year to



Anatolia students getting some hand-on experience of marine life on a Project Oceanology cruise during a 2009 summer program in Connecticut hosted by the Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration. The opportunity was created by Trustee Bill Drakos and the Anatolia Summer Programs office.

cruise the wine-dark Aegean and with his family to nourish roots in Lesvos. Anatolia too was a constant thread and link to a heritage that he prized. They say trustees should bring to Anatolia the three W's: work, wisdom and wealth, and Bill gave generously of each. He opened doors for me as President and went with me to speak with magnates such as the Chairman of General Maritime, Peter Georgopoulos, about the needs of his alma mater in Thessaloniki. In memory of his beloved sister, Effie Drakos Reilly, Bill gave a state-of-the-art computer laboratory at ACT, which he later expanded into

the central meeting area of the college, today known, at his request, simply as the "Effie Commons." In the category of wisdom, both I and Bill McGrew before me learned so much from him in long conversations about Anatolia at sea on his boat, around the kitchen table at his horse farm or at his beloved Watch Hill Yacht Club. As for work, Bill was always alert to opportunities for Anatolia, bringing speakers to campus like noted TV personality Hugh Downs or, direct from the seabed off Santorini, the marine explorer Robert Ballard.

Returning from Anatolia to the U.S., Bill studied at Wesleyan University and joined the Marine Corps, serving with distinction as an officer during World War II. He completed university at Yale after the war, showing independence as an exchange student at the University of Havana before most had even heard of study abroad. He went on to a brilliant business career and, at his death, was Chairman of Tri-Continental Corporation, which he had founded in 1960. Along the way, he became one of the nation's most respected shipping operators with deep civic and philanthropic commitments such as serving as a trustee of UNICEF, trustee and one of only two emeritus trustees of the Sea Research Foundation, founding member of the North American Marine Environmental Protection Association and long-time trustee of both Anatolia College and the Mystic Aquarium.

Bill leaves behind his wife and partner of 62 years, Photine or "Teeny," as she is affectionately known, and his sons Peter, Andrew, and James, daughters-in-law Shonah, Debra, and

Karen, and eight grandchildren, all of whom Bill has personally escorted to campus and introduced firsthand to the school of which he was so proud. To them, Anatolia offers its sympathy, and shares deeply in their loss.

-- Richard Jackson, President 1999-2009

Anatolia lost a close and devoted friend when John K. Jessup left this world in early December. John was a confirmed Philhellene who served our school as Trustee and adviser for many years.

After graduating from Harvard with honors, and preparing further at Yale for international service, John passed the demanding examinations to enter the U. S. Diplomatic Corps. There he opted for Greek language training, followed by assignment to Thessaloniki (1964-66). While serving here John developed a great attachment to this city and to its outstanding school, Anatolia.

After returning to Washington, D.C., John accepted appointment to Anatolia's Board of Trustees and for many years was an active supporter of the College. He and his wife Pam frequently hosted dinners to cultivate new donors for Anatolia. John lost no opportunity to travel to campus, on one occasion joining the annual senior climb up Mt. Olympus. He was proudly among those who reached the summit.

After leaving the diplomatic service for further study, obtaining a Doctorate in Education from the University of Massachusetts, Dr. Jessup pursued his later career as educational adviser to the U.S. Agency for International Development. He continued for years to return to Greece and to Anatolia and actively assisted the school. John will be sorely missed by all those who admired his youthful charm, his educational values, and his loyal attachment to Anatolia College.

--Bill McGrew, President 1974-1999

# Our American Cousins

*Anatolia has close and continuing ties to some of America's top liberal arts colleges*

The ideal of liberal education – a general education emphasizing the development of habits of rational thought and intellectual inquiry over the acquisition of practical skills – comes from Greece via Rome, and nowhere did it take firmer root in the modern era than in American colleges. Anatolia's connection to American liberal arts colleges has been a major and continuing influence in its history.

For Anatolia, in the beginning there was Williams College, founded in 1793 as the 21st institution of higher education in America (at a time when England still had only two). It was at Williams that the American missionary movement was born in 1806, which led in the course of the 19th century to the creation of schools and colleges worldwide. In Hawaii there was Punahou Academy, the future President Obama's high school alma mater, and in Merzifon, in the middle of the Ottoman Empire, there was Anatolia, founded in 1886 as a four-year liberal arts college by Williams graduate Charles Tracy of the class of 1864.

Both Williams and Tracy himself had been shaped by the vision of liberal education articulated and put into practice by Williams President Mark Hopkins, who also served as the President of the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions at the time of Anatolia's founding. In his inaugural address of 1836, Hopkins said "We are to regard the mind not as a piece of iron to be laid upon the anvil and hammered into any shape, nor as a block of marble in which we are to find the statue by removing the rubbish, nor as a receptacle into which knowledge may be poured; but as a flame that is to be fed, as an active being that must be strengthened to think and to feel -- and to dare, to do, and to suffer." It is fair to say that Hopkins pioneered the idea of student-centered higher education in America. When the largely self-taught Charles Tracy came to Williams as a 21-year-old junior in 1862, straight off a farm in Pennsylvania, Hopkins recognized his talents and took him under his wing. Not surprisingly, the early Anatolia bore resemblances to Tracy's

Williams, both in curriculum and architecture.

It was not only in foreign parts that Protestant colleges were being founded. The Midwest was fertile ground for new institutions where religion and the liberal arts went hand in hand, institutions like Grinnell College in Iowa, Carleton in Minnesota, and Oberlin in Ohio, all of which graduated men and women who were to play key roles in Anatolia's future development.

The most important of these connections for Anatolia was Grinnell. In 1890 Grinnell alumni George E. White and his wife Esther Robbins White (daughter of one of Grinnell's founders) joined the staff of Anatolia in Asia Minor. Grinnell was animated then, as it still is, by the ideal of service to one's fellow man. That ideal was exemplified in the lives of the



Mark Hopkins

next Grinnell couple to join Anatolia, its future President Carl Compton and his wife Ruth McGavren, who came to the school not long after White succeeded Tracy in 1913. It was when Anatolia moved to Thessaloniki, though, that the tide of Grinnellians reached its peak. Their names can be found in Appendix B of Compton's recently re-issued memoir, *The Morning Cometh* (available on-line at [http://www.anatolia.edu.gr/user\\_files /carlcomptonbook.pdf](http://www.anatolia.edu.gr/user_files /carlcomptonbook.pdf)).



Charles C. Tracy

Two more recent developments have kept Grinnell and Anatolia close. One was the creation in 1976 by Grinnell of the George E. White Scholarship, which supports up to one new Anatolian per year at Grinnell for four years. More than 20 Anatolians have held this Scholarship since its inception, two of whom, Manolis Maou '82 (Grinnell '86) and Georgia Proestopoulos '01 (Grinnell '05), now work at ACT and Anatolia, respectively.

When the Anatolia Board of Trustees advertised last year for a new President who would embody the "missionary spirit" of the founders, a member of the Williams College Class of 1978 recognized the allusion. He is now Anatolia's 10th President, Dr. Hans Giesecke. Giesecke comments: "What took me to Williams also brought me to Anatolia. At



Chapin Hall at Williams College

Photo courtesy of Williams College Dept. of Public Affairs

Williams I sought, and found, a sense of community in a setting of academic excellence, and I am charged with cultivating the same kind of environment here. I don't see my connection to Charles Tracy as coincidence at all, but rather as evidence of the continuity of the core values of American education across time and place, as exemplified and incubated by the alma mater I share with Anatolia's first President."

In recent years the tide of Anatolians pursuing higher education in the States has increased, and liberal arts colleges and universities are the favored choices. Yale and Princeton are the current favorites, but Anatolians are now studying at many other top liberal arts colleges, too, such as



George E. and Esther Robbins White

(in alphabetical order) Albion, Bard, Bates, Bennington, Bowdoin, Brandeis, Clark, Columbia, Davidson, Dickinson, Georgetown, Grinnell, Hampshire, Harvard, Haverford, Knox, Lafayette, Lehigh, Luther, Mt. Holyoke, Smith, and the College of Wooster. Anatolians are also attending more technically-oriented colleges like M.I.T., Rose-Hulman, and the Florida Institute of Technology, as well as a number of leading US universities, including Northeastern, with which the Anatolia's tertiary division, the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), has established such close ties.

At ACT, the flow is mostly in the other direction. The majority of ACT's study-abroad students come from US universities, all of which are many times

larger than ACT itself. That's part of the attraction for these visitors: here they can study in the more intimate environment typical of US liberal arts colleges, with small classes and personal contact with faculty.

When they go to study at liberal arts colleges in the US, Anatolians of all ages find themselves in educational settings whose ethos is familiar to them from their experiences here. As it should be: in the long view, it's the Greek model of education, as transformed by a North American context where student involvement and engagement in the learning process is paramount.



A winter sunrise at Gates Hall, Grinnell College. Photo copyright David Kennedy / [www.david-kennedy.com](http://www.david-kennedy.com)

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