



UNIVERSITY
OF CENTRAL ASIA



SPECIAL ISSUE: CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

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News

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Cover photo: The construction team at UCA’s campus site in Naryn, Kyrgyz Republic, installs the batching plant where concrete will be mixed and manufactured.

Photo on page 13 by Stephen Winick, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress

The University of Central Asia (UCA) was founded in 2000. The Presidents of Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Kazakhstan and His Highness the Aga Khan signed the International Treaty and Charter establishing this secular and private University, which was ratified by the respective parliaments and registered with the United Nations. UCA was established to offer an internationally recognised standard of higher education in Central Asia and prepare graduates to contribute leadership, ideas and innovation to the economies and communities of the region. UCA brings with it the commitment and partnership of the Aga Khan Development Network.

The First Word

2013 was a landmark year in the University of Central Asia's (UCA) development.

Campus construction was officially launched in Naryn, Kyrgyz Republic, with the target to enroll our first class in 2016.

Preparatory works are underway at all three of our campus sites. In last issue's photo spread, we featured developments in Tekeli, Kazakhstan. A huge effort is ongoing in Khorog, Tajikistan to clear the campus site of rocks and sustainably generate raw material for construction.

Don't miss the On Location gallery which gives you a bird's eye view of the Naryn campus progress and discover how UCA's construction benefits communities adjacent to the campus site.

In an ongoing outreach effort, the University is engaging Naryn youth to introduce them to future career options and opportunities UCA will offer once our campuses open.

The stories in this issue put the spotlight on these exciting developments, and feature some of the people who make them possible.

Other highlights include the graduation of 200 SPCE and AKHP learners in Dushanbe; a new agreement between UCA and the Kyrgyz Russian Slavonic University; and UCA publications presented to the Library of Congress.

As we head into 2014, we wish you a very Happy New Year.

We look forward to bringing you more exciting news from our locations across Central Asia in the year ahead.

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In our next issue:

UCA and GIZ Bring Mobile Digital Library to Naryn and Ak-Talaa Districts in the Kyrgyz Republic



Social Entrepreneurship Contest Winners Receive Awards



MSRI Background Paper Series provides comprehensive research reviews



New Governor of Naryn Visits Campus Site



and more...

160,000 Cubic Metres of Rock Being Cleared at Khorog Campus Site



Heavy equipment and a complex network of conveyor belts move and transform rock at the Khorog campus site.

To prepare the Khorog campus site for construction, up to 160,000 cubic metres of rock is being cleared and crushed. The cleared land will house campus buildings and the crushed stone will be used as raw material in the construction of the buildings and other infrastructure.

The campus will include academic, athletic and residential facilities surrounded by landscaped parks. The design and building process will employ best practices in campus and seismic design, construction methods and environmental sustainability.

The stone removal and crushing process is controlled from an on-site operations centre, and is time and labour-intensive.

“The challenge is not only to clear the land of the rocks, but also to reduce the size of the rocks into storable, usable material to yield two positive results; a cleared construction site and readily available raw material for construction,”

explained Hofiz Mirzonabotov, Construction and Facilities Division.

“Transforming and using the rock we clear is a sustainable way to build in such a challenging environment,” added Grant Robertson, Director of Construction.

The rock is cleared and transferred onto a vibrating screen at a rate of 120 cubic metres per hour. It is then moved through a series of screens and crushers, reduced in size and sorted.

The crushed rock is cleaned to remove soil and other waste. This is done with water from the Khorog River which is recycled and used in the campus nursery.

The rock is then stored, ready for use as base material for roads and buildings, manufacturing of concrete and general construction of the campus. Once this process is complete, UCA expects to proceed with detailed campus design and site preparation works.

Sia Nowrojee

”The challenge is not only to clear the land of the rocks, but also to reduce the size of the rocks into storable, usable material...”

Phase I Construction of Naryn Campus Launched



Grant Robertson, UCA Director of Construction, discussing campus development at a panorama point overlooking the campus site.

The University of Central Asia (UCA) launched Phase I construction of its main campus in Naryn, Kyrgyz Republic. The launch took place at a media briefing at UCA's Naryn Town Campus on 27 September 2013. The event was attended by the Vice-Governor and Vice-Mayor of Naryn Oblast, UCA contractors, and local and regional media.

Director General Dr Bohdan Krawchenko provided an overview of University academic programmes and campus plans. The briefing was followed by a walk-through of the main Naryn campus area and an exhibition of campus design and architecture.

“The government is pleased to acknowledge the Aga Khan Development Network’s economic impact on Naryn. UCA has 180 young people working in construction and we look forward to more economic opportunities. There is an increase in intellectual stimulation in our area, due to the School of Professional and Continuing Education (UCA-SPCE),” said Ms Chinara Abdraimakovova, Naryn Oblast Vice-Governor.

The Naryn campus master plan and concept design were conceived by award-winning architecture firm Arata Isozaki & Associates and detailed

“UCA has 180 young people working on construction and we look forward to more economic opportunities. There is an increase in intellectual stimulation in our area, due to UCA-SPCE.”

Vice-Governor of Naryn Oblast, Ms Chinara Abdraimakovova emphasised the partnership between Naryn and UCA.





UCA Director General Dr Bohdan Krawchenko speaks at the briefing.

design and construction documentation were prepared by AECOM.

Site preparation involves building enabling infrastructure and staff facilities. UCA has already planted 60,000 trees and plants which will be replanted around the campus. Green and gabion walls have been built to stabilise the adjacent Naryn River bank. In 2012, UCA opened international standard sports facilities.

In 2014, AECOM will complete its detailed campus design. The structural sub-contractor will then build individual structures to house Phase I

facilities; an academic block (including a library, classrooms, laboratories, a dining hall and faculty housing) and dormitories.

Construction will be completed in spring 2016, followed by testing and commissioning. In 2016, the Naryn campus will welcome UCA's first undergraduate class.

The UCA Town Campus has already established UCA as a presence in Naryn. The 3,000 square metre facility houses UCA-SPCE, with state-of-the-art learning technologies, laboratories, classrooms and a library.

Nisar Keshvani

Community Development and Economic Opportunity

UCA has undertaken construction initiatives that provide both brick-and-mortar benefits and economic opportunities to communities adjacent to its campus sites.

In Tajikistan, UCA is designing a two-lane road giving residents of Dasht village unprecedented year-round access to the Dushanbe-Khorog-Murgab intercity road. The road will be built in compliance with local construction codes and best international practices. Crushed rock from the Khorog campus site will be used in construction and proper drainage and lighting will be installed.

In the Kyrgyz Republic, work on public facilities

around the campus site included diverting high voltage power lines when a portion of the Naryn State Road was routed off the site. The diverted portion of the road was completed with a foot-path, street trees and lighting, and presented to the Government. Telecommunication lines were also diverted onto the site. A secure water supply was provided to Tosh-Bulak village. In Naryn town, UCA developed Naryn Central Park.

In 2014, over 20 works packages for construction initiatives on the Naryn site will be procured. The majority will be tendered to Kyrgyz contractors who will be obligated to employ minimum levels of local staff.

Naryn Construction and SPCE Staff Participate in Mayor's Cup



UCA teams with their certificates.

In October and November 2013, the Naryn Mayor's Office hosted its annual Mayor's Cup, a multi-sport challenge for local organisations. This was the first time University of Central Asia (UCA) teams placed in the top three in basketball and football.

In the past, UCA only participated in the football competition. This year, UCA's School of Professional and Continuing Education (UCA-SPCE) and Construction and Facilities Division together with fellow Aga Khan Development Network agency, Mountain Societies Development Support Programme, formed men and women's basketball and volleyball teams.

They also competed in mini-football, table tennis and chess contests. The UCA teams faced

14 teams from Naryn State University, local government, banks and other organisations.

"Joining the Mayor's Sports Challenge made us feel connected to the Naryn community and many others from different organisations," said Salamat Ismakeeva, Human Resources Assistant, who was part of the women's basketball team.

Watching her staff receive certificates, Anara Duisheeva, UCA-SPCE Campus Head, smiled and said, *"Our competitors were surprised by our abilities as first-time competitors. Our construction and UCA-SPCE teams have shown that they have other talents beyond building our campus and teaching!"*

"Joining the Mayor's Sports Challenge made us feel connected to the Naryn community and many others from different organisations."



The UCA men's basketball team in action.

Naryn Students Learn about Landscape Architecture and Visit UCA Campus



The landscape design of the Naryn campus includes outdoor recreational and learning spaces.

On 9 October 2013, 50 students from Naryn visited the School for Professional and Continuing Education (UCA-SPCE) Town Campus to learn about landscape architecture and the University's main Naryn campus.

The students, aged 10 to 15, attended a presentation by Kirree Jenkins, Associate Director of Landscape Architecture at AECOM, UCA's campus executive designer. This is the second presentation for youth hosted by the University of Central Asia (UCA) and AECOM. The first focused on engineering and UCA campus design.

Jenkins spoke about landscape architecture and presented the design for the UCA campus. She explained how it was inspired by the Naryn River and how locally sourced stone and timber will complement the surrounding mountain environment. Jenkins described how natural and architectural elements work

together to create a calm and intimate environment. The UCA design includes open green areas for outdoor activities and riverside teaching areas.

"The students asked if AECOM would improve their landscapes in Naryn. I told them to speak to the local government and ask them to get in touch with us!" said Jenkins. The students also asked about admission to UCA, the expected number of students and courses to be taught at the Naryn campus.

Following the presentation, Jenkins said, *"It was rewarding to make a contribution to the futures of young people in Naryn as a member of the UCA Executive Design team. It was great to connect with the students."*

On 16 October 2013, 60 Grade 7 students from UCA-SPCE's Academic Achievement Programme visited the panoramic view-

"By helping young people in Naryn understand the process of building the University, we hope to open their eyes to new career options and raise awareness of the opportunities UCA will bring."



Naryn students engage with Kirree Jenkins, AECOM Associate Director of Landscape Architecture.



The visiting students enjoy the UCA soccer pitch.

point, which offers views of Naryn town and the UCA campus site. They then toured the construction site, and tried out their skills on UCA's world class tennis and soccer courts.

These activities were organised by UCA to introduce youth to UCA as the campus is being de-

veloped and reflect the University's commitment to engaging the Naryn community. *"By helping young people in Naryn understand the process of building the University, we hope to open their eyes to new career options and raise awareness of the opportunities UCA will bring,"* said Grant Robertson, Director of Construction.

Campus Development at a Glance



Naryn, Kyrgyz Republic

Construction has begun of a three storey academic building and two dormitory buildings. The academic building will house a library, classrooms, laboratories, a dining hall and faculty housing. Previously constructed international standard sports facilities are already open to the public. In 2016, the campus will open its doors to UCA's first undergraduate class.



Khorog, Tajikistan

The campus site is located 2,100 metres above sea level. To prepare the site for construction, rock is being cleared and crushed. It will be used for multiple purposes in the construction of the campus. Once this process is complete, detailed campus design and site preparation works will begin.



Tekeli, Kazakhstan

Extensive grading works have been undertaken to prepare the site for construction. Design works are ongoing for the campus access road, site drainage and retaining wall design. Detailed campus design and site preparation works are next.



Panoramic view of the concrete batching plant and stone crusher location.



Inner workings of the batching plant.

Naryn Campus Construction in Progress

Since the official launch of construction in September 2013, construction crews have been working to beat the winter weather. They are preparing the site for construction and building facilities to support site workers. The stone crusher and batching plant are located at the edge of the campus site. The plant has been installed, power and water are being connected, and foundations are being laid for site facilities.

Mikhail Romanyuk



Backfilling the water supply system.



Installing formwork for pouring concrete foundations at the batching plant.



Construction of the concrete batching plant.



Mixing concrete for the foundations of the welfare facility, which will include food service, sanitary and health facilities for staff.



Pouring the foundations of the welfare facility.



The batching plant, where concrete is mixed and manufactured.



Installing culverts for the water supply system.

5th Graduation Ceremony Celebrated in Dushanbe



The 2013 SPCE and AKHP graduates after the ceremony in Dushanbe.

“UCA-SPCE gives its graduates the skills to excel and be the best in their profession. Even after graduation, this can be achieved through further cooperation with UCA-SPCE.”

More than 200 graduates from the Aga Khan Humanities Project (UCA-AKHP) and School of Professional and Continuing Education (UCA-SPCE) were recognised at UCA’s 5th Graduation Ceremony at the Ismaili Centre, Dushanbe on 21 September 2013.

“UCA’s programmes in Dushanbe demonstrate the importance of the University having a presence, and our commitment to meeting critical educational needs, in the capital. UCA will be expanding our programmes in Dushanbe in the near future,” said Dr Bohdan Krawchenko, UCA Director General.

In his keynote address, Mr Malikov Tavakal, Head of the Social Sphere Department, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Tajikistan said, *“UCA-SPCE gives its graduates the skills to excel and be the best in their profession. Even after graduation, this can be achieved through further cooperation with UCA-SPCE.”*

Fifty secondary school and university students were awarded certificates for completing AKHP’s integrated Humanities in English course which uses an interdisciplinary approach and AKHP’s innovative curriculum.

“Our programme exposes students to a range of information, ideas and skills. When they graduate, they are well-placed to pursue further studies and to provide intellectual leadership in their communities,” said Dr Sharofat Mamadambarova, Head of AKHP.

SPCE graduates included students completing internationally-benchmarked professional programmes. Twenty students received the Professional Certificate in Accounting Technology (ATC), which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards.

Graduates also included students who completed various English programmes. Twenty-one graduates received a Certificate of Achievement in English for Business Programme, based on the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) curriculum. UCA-SPCE is a registered LCCI examination centre, and four graduates received the LCCI Certificate.

Sixty students, including civil servants and employees of the State Forestry Department, received a Record of Achievement in Conversational English. Finally, 49 students received a Professional Certificate in English for Academic Purposes.

Khairisho Shonusairiev

Cultural Heritage Publications Presented to the Library of Congress



Dr Köchümkulova presents UCA publications to Cathy Kerst of the Library of Congress.

Cultural Heritage and Humanities Unit Coordinator Dr Elmira Köchümkulova attended *Cultural Heritage Archives: Networks, Innovation and Collaboration*, from 26 to 27 September 2013 in Washington DC. Organised by the American Folklore Center of the Library of Congress, the event brought together global experts to discuss ethnographic archival thought and practice.

Dr Köchümkulova presented the Library of Congress with two critical Central Asian ethnographic collections published by the UCA Cultural Heritage Book Series.

The first included three volumes of *The Musical Arts of the Pamirs* by Nizom Nurdjanov, Fayzulla Karomatov and Bahriniso Kabilova. This was published by UCA and The Christensen Fund.

This series is widely viewed as the most comprehensive work on Pamir music and heritage to-date and is the culmination of 40 years of field work. The second collection was the two-volume *Kyrgyz Küüs: Analysis, Thoughts, and Opinions* by Asan Kaybilda uulu, with accompanying CDs, presenting over 20 years of archiving and ethnographic research on Kyrgyz komuz music.

“UCA’s efforts to preserve cultural heritage are integral to our mission. We do not view cultural heritage simply as something of the past, but rather as a dynamic resource; an asset for the future. Capturing existing knowledge is a critical step in generating new dialogues and narratives on cultural heritage and identity in Central Asia,” said Dr Köchümkulova as she presented a poster on her work to archive Kyrgyz oral traditions.

“At UCA, we do not view cultural heritage simply as something of the past, but rather as a dynamic resource; an asset for the future. Capturing existing knowledge is a critical step in generating new dialogues and narratives on cultural heritage and identity in Central Asia.”

Finance Division Hosts Financial Information System Training



Trainer Said-Soleh Saidmusalamov explaining the iSCALA system to participants.

In September 2013, the Finance Division organised a financial information system training workshop in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. The eight-day training was conducted by Said-Soleh Saidmusalamov, Financial Information Systems Coordinator and Mirambakhsh Khudobakhshov, Financial Controller.

The workshop was designed to enhance knowledge of the iScala financial management system. It was attended by staff from Aga Khan Education Services (AKES), the Aga Khan Lycee, the Aga Khan School and Aga Khan Health Services in the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan.

Since each institution has different requirements, the Finance Division re-configured the programme to fit the needs of each organisation. Participants were taught to install and use the

programme based on those variations. At the end of the intense week of training, they were tested on their knowledge of the system. UCA continues to provide online support.

“Our participants expressed special appreciation for Soleh’s contribution and the support he gave us,” said Firuza Ogoeva, Finance and Administrative Manager of AKES, Tajikistan and Kyrgyz Republic.

The workshop reflects UCA’s commitment to mutual support within the Aga Khan Development Network. *“Serving as a trainer helped me learn, and helped us improve our use of iScala in Bishkek. We are always happy to help other institutions; it is important to share our knowledge with partner agencies,”* said Saidmusalamov.

Savannah Hallworth

“We are always happy to help other institutions; it is important to share our knowledge with partner agencies.”

Tajikistan Instructors to Attend Kyrgyz Russian Slavonic University



UCA Director General Dr Bohdan Krawchenko and KRSU Rector Nifadiev Vladimir Ivanovich at the signing ceremony.

On 20 November 2013, the University of Central Asia (UCA) and the Kyrgyz Russian Slavonic University (KRSU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for UCA instructors from Tajikistan to pursue a Masters in Management degree.

Within the MoU framework, UCA's School for Professional and Continuing Education (UCA-SPCE) will recruit 10 instructors to complete a Masters in Management with a specialization in Small Business Management at KRSU. The programme will emphasise course delivery methodology, while building a core understanding of key concepts in small business management. Upon completion, instructors will receive a Russian and Kyrgyz diploma.

The trained instructors will then go on to

develop UCA-SPCE's new Small and Medium Business Management Programme.

"Strengthening small and medium enterprises within Central Asia will enhance economic opportunities in the region. With KRSU's support, the Tajikistan trainers will be able to develop a robust programme with UCA-SPCE and play an integral role in supporting small and medium business owners," said Gulnara Djunushalieva, Director of UCA-SPCE.

The programme is supported by the *Small and Medium Enterprise Growth Project for Central Asia* initiative of the United States Agency for International Development and the Aga Khan Foundation, in cooperation with UCA. The \$1.5m initiative aims to strengthen small and medium enterprises in Tajikistan and enhance economic development in Central Asia.

"With KRSU's support, the Tajikistan trainers will be able to develop a robust programme with UCA-SPCE and play an integral role in supporting small and medium business owners."

Gender and Employment Survey and Social Cohesion Project Launched

IPPA Gender and Employment Survey Launched

On 11 November 2013, Institute of Public Policy and Administration (UCA-IPPA) researchers, Drs Roman Mogilevskii and Kanat Tilekeyev, launched the fourth cycle of panel surveys in IPPA's *Gender and Employment* project, on the position of women in Kyrgyz and Tajik labour markets.

MSRI Director Attends UNFCCC Conference

From 9 to 18 November, Dr Horst Weyerhaeuser, Director, Mountain Societies Research Institute (MSRI), participated in the *Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* in Warsaw, Poland. On 10 November, he participated in a planning workshop with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation to develop a 5+5 year Global Mountain Development Programme with the Mountain Partnership.

Social Cohesion Project Inception Workshop

From 4 to 6 November, UCA and AKF, Kyrgyz Republic hosted an inception meeting in Bishkek for the *Social Cohesion through Community-Based Development* project. The four-year project focuses on gathering evidence to measure the effectiveness of community-based development to improve social cohesion in the Kyrgyz Republic. It is funded by the World Bank and is being implemented by UCA in collaboration with AKF, Kyrgyz Republic and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

AAP Students Learn about Aga Khan Development Network

On 1 November, UCA-SPCE Naryn hosted a presentation on AKDN and UCA for its Grade 7 AAP students.

UCA-SPCE Director Presents on Social Entrepreneurship in Kazakhstan

From 31 October to 1 November, School of Professional and Continuing Education Director Gulnara Djunushalieva attended a conference commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the International Academy of Business in Kazakhstan. She presented on *Social Entrepreneurship in Kyrgyz Republic*.

UCA-IPPA Senior Research Fellow Participates in Central Asian Trade Forum

From 9 to 10 October, Dr Roman Mogilevskii, UCA-IPPA Senior Research Fellow, participated in a *Central Asian Trade Forum III*, organised by the United States Agency for International Development, in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Participants discussed export competitiveness of Central Asian countries including regulations, trade and business development.

Kyrgyz Oral Traditions Highlighted at Central Eurasian Studies Conference

Dr Elmira Köchümkulova, Coordinator of the Cultural Heritage and Humanities Unit, presented on *The Bearers of Oral Tradition: Recording Kyrgyz Koshok; Funeral Laments from Kyrgyz Women* at the 14th Annual Central Eurasian Studies Conference. The conference took place from 3 to 6 October at the University of Wisconsin, USA.

Senior Research Fellow Attends Challenges in Central Asia Conference

Senior Research Fellow Dr Sunatullo Jonboboev served as chair of a panel on *The Role of Central Asian States* at the annual *Security, Economic and Social Challenges in Central Asia: A Region Between Cooperation and Competition Conference*, from 3 to 6 October in Dortmund, Germany. He also presented on *Tajikistan: Security, International Relations and Economy* with Gulbahor Iskanadarova of the Tajik Technological University.

Hofiz Mirzonabotov: Following His Dream through UCA's Development



Hofiz Mirzonabotov, Resident Project Manager briefing Lakshmi Venkatachalam, Vice-President (Private Sector and Financing Operations), Asian Development Bank at the Khorog campus site.

“UCA allowed me to contribute to the development of Tajikistan.”

Hofiz Mirzonabotov's career path has reflected both his own dreams and the evolution of the University of Central Asia (UCA) as an institution. *“You could say that as the University has evolved, so have I,”* said Mirzonabotov in a recent interview.

Mirzonabotov was born and raised in Khorog, a community facing numerous economic and social challenges. Despite this, his parents educated their four children. Mirzonabotov and his siblings graduated from Khorog State University (KSU).

However, attending university did not necessarily lead to professional choices. Mirzonabotov explains, *“In 1995, after the civil war, there were no educational choices in Khorog. One couldn't even travel to Dushanbe to study. Motivated students attended KSU which offered limited areas of study.”*

Mirzonabotov's passion was engineering but his best option at the time was to enrol at KSU and pursue Linguistics.

In 2000, His Highness the Aga Khan signed a Treaty with the governments of Tajikistan, Kyrgyz Republic and Kazakhstan to develop UCA, with campus sites located in mountain communities. For Khorog, this

meant a new university. For Mirzonabotov, it meant rekindling his dream of working in engineering.

“I distinctly remember someone from UCA coming to Khorog to establish the School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE). I knew then that I wanted to be a part of it,” Mirzonabotov said. He joined UCA as its first employee in February 2002 as an administrative assistant. He later became office manager and bookkeeper.

Looking back, Mirzonabotov remembers, *“It was a dynamic place to work. You really had to think outside the box to ensure learning was effective. We used to broadcast lectures over local radio, so that anyone could access the information.”*

Although Mirzonabotov excelled in his position, his true passion - engineering – persisted within him. In 2004, recognising his potential, UCA supported Mirzonabotov to study Project Management at Bradford University, United Kingdom.

This enabled him to become Resident Project Manager in UCA's Construction and Facilities Division in 2008. He is now overseeing preparatory works at the Khorog campus site.

Emily Harrison

News Bites

UCA Staff Receive Kazakh Awards



Dr Bohdan Krawchenko, Director General, and Raikhan Sissekenova, Representative for Government and Public Relations, received the Union of National Business Ratings awards in Kazakhstan. The awards honoured organisations working in Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. They recognised achievements in the areas of social responsibility, gender balance, tax payment, employee benefits, job creation, partnerships with government and community relations.

Mountain Partnership and UCA Celebrate International Mountain Day

In celebration of International Mountain Day, the Mountain Partnership Hub hosted two events in Bishkek. On 10 December, a Food Revolution event took place at Avenue 71 café to highlight efforts to revolutionise diets in mountain societies. On 11 December, UCA hosted a panel discussion on *Mountains: Key to Sustainable Future*.

Kyrgyz Writer Aitmatov Remembered

On 25 November 2013, the School of Professional and Continuing Education (UCA-SPCE) Naryn hosted an event commemorating the 85th anniversary of the birth of Kyrgyz writer, Chyngyz Aitmatov for its Academic Achievement Programme (AAP) students.

IPPA Launches Project on Small and Medium Enterprise Development

From 21 to 22 October, Institute of Public Policy and Administration staff participated in a planning workshop in Osh, Kyrgyz Republic for the *Small and Medium Enterprise Development in Alai and Chon Alai* districts project. The project is supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and implemented by Helvetas and the Aga Khan Foundation Kyrgyz Republic. UCA will support the research and evaluation component of the project.

UCA Joins Multi-Agency Initiative in Tajikistan

Dr Kanat Tilekeyev, UCA-IPPA Research Fellow, Dilovar Butabekov, Deputy Director UCA-SPCE, and Katarina Czarniak, Deputy Head Development and Donor Relations, attended a workshop on *Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Growth for Central Asia*, in Dushanbe, Tajikistan from 9 to 10 October. Organised by the United States Agency for International Development Central Asian Republics and the Aga Khan Foundation, USA, the workshop launched a one-year \$1.5m multi-Aga Khan Development Network agency project focusing on strengthening SMEs in Tajikistan. UCA-SPCE and UCA-IPPA will implement training and research activities.

Tajik and Swiss Musicians Present Master Class at UCA-SPCE Khorog

To commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the Tajikistan Swiss Cooperation Office, Swiss musicians *Anderscht* and Tajik musicians presented a master class at UCA-SPCE Khorog on 4 October, followed by a performance at the Khorog Youth Centre.

Looking for an informed perspective on timely policy issues?

The Institute of Public Policy and Administration (IPPA) Occasional Paper Series is a peer-reviewed series designed to enhance dialogue between policy makers, the public and educators. Experts engage in research and discussion highlighting topical issues and best practices in areas such as institutional capacity in public engagement and policy analysis as a profession in government.



The first two papers in the series are available at: <http://www.ucentralasia.org/ippa.asp>

UCA Public Lecture Series

October-December 2013

The UCA Public Lecture Series highlights emerging research in and about Central Asia.

- *Remittances and the Human Capital of Children: New Evidence from Kyrgyzstan during the Revolution and Financial Crisis, 2005–2009*, Katherine Anderson, Vanderbilt University, USA, 8 October 2013.
- *Political Developments and Education in Afghanistan, 2002-2013: Challenges, Opportunities and Expectations*, Yahia Baiza, Institute of Ismaili Studies, United Kingdom, 10 October 2013.
- *The Institutional Framework of Government Economic Policy Coordination in the Kyrgyz Republic: Reality and Future*, Tolkunbek Abdygulov, Economy and Investment Department, Office of Government, Kyrgyz Republic, 28 November 2013
- *Trade and Economic Relations Between Ukraine and Countries of Central Asia: State and Opportunities For Development*, Olga Safronova, UCA-IPPA and National Academy of Public Administration under the President of Ukraine, 13 December 2013.

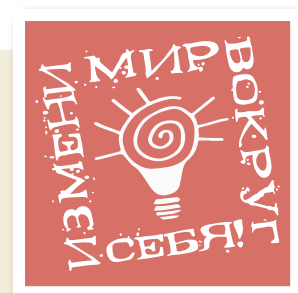
Full details: http://www.ucentralasia.org/public_lectures.asp

Change the World Around You!

Do you have a vision for change in your community? Are you ready to turn your ideas into reality?

The University of Central Asia, Aga Khan Foundation, Coca-Cola Company and Coca Cola Foundation are pleased to announce the second Change the World Around You! competition. We are seeking youth (19 - 28 years old) in the Kyrgyz Republic and Kazakhstan with original ideas to solving social problems in their communities. Finalists will attend a two-week social entrepreneurship training programme and up to six winners in each country will receive funding of over \$2,000 to implement their projects.

The application deadline is 18 December 2013. For more information: <http://www.ucentralasia.org/news.asp?Nid=606>





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