SEV Trustees Meet

The Health and Education Foundation Board of Trustees met on November 20, 2000 at the Sabancı Center, in Istanbul. The İzmir Schools’ Directors presented to the Trustees how they are implementing SEV/ABH Schools’ Mission Statement on how to build self-confidence in students.

There were elections for new Board of Directors members. According to the Foundation’s Charter, 1/3 of the Board of Directors’ members should be renewed biennially. Muhteşem Ekenler, Prof. Dr. İltar Turan, and Sevim Öztalatçı resigned from their posts. Erhan Dumanlı, M.D., Sinem Ünel and İbrahim Paksoy are the new members of the Board of Directors. You can find more information about our new Board members on the following pages.
Announcement

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Kenneth Frank as the Superintendent for the SEV Elementary School, SEV Preschool and American Collegiate Institute in Izmir. Mr. Frank is currently serving in this capacity on an interim basis.

Ken and Betty Frank were appointed by the UCBWM in the fall of 1982, as mathematics teacher and librarian, respectively. They had previously served in Zambia and in a Navajo Indian School in New Mexico. Their children, Irene and Ian, were born in Izmir. Irene, valedic- torian of the ACI Class of 2000, is a student at Scripps College in Claremont, California, where her mother also studied. Ian is a 9th grade student in ACI.

Ken holds a degree in chemistry and math from Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, California and a masters degree from Claremont Graduate School of Theology. He has recently published, with Professor Adil Özdemin of Ege University, Visible Islam in Modern Turkey, a comprehensile overview of the Muslim faith, as it is practiced in Turkey. His fluency in the Turkish language, his deep concern for Turkish people and their education, and his long history with ACI and its neighborhood make him an ideal leader of the schools' entry into the 21st Century.

Similarly, we are pleased to announce the appointment of Whitman Shepard as the Superintendent for the SEV Elementary School and Üsküdar American Academy in Istanbul. He will begin in 2001-2002 academic year. Mr. Shepard is presently the Lise Principal of Robert College in Arnauvitköy, Istanbul, where he has worked for 18 years.

Mr. Shepard is the son of late Dr. Frederick D. Shepard and Mary Alice Shepard, who were career missionaries of the American Board and its successor, the UCBWM. He was born in Aleppo, grew up in Talas, Izmir and Istanbul, and taught at Tarsus American College as well as with the U.S. Peace Corps in Swaziland. He is a graduate of Middlebury College in Vermont and holds a Masters Degree in Education from Harvard University. Mrs. Bengü Shepard is also on the Robert College staff; their daughter Naze, is a freshman at the University of Chicago.

We are grateful for Mr. and Mrs. Heard’s eight years of devoted service to the Üsküdar Schools. Mr. Heard has provided effective leadership as Director of the Schools during some very difficult years of change: the graduation of the first coeducational class, the establishment of the eight year elementary school, the opening of Morgan Hall, and the renovation of other school buildings. Mrs. Heard has been both an English teacher and librarian. We wish them success in their future.

The New Governing Body for SEV

At the Board of Directors meeting in Ankara on December 17, 2000 the members elected their chair, vice chair and comptroller. According to this election the new Board of Directors and their posts are as follows:

Güner Baykal (Chair)
Mehtem Gür (Vice Chair)
Ibrahim Paksoy (Comptroller)

Şükrhan Çelebi
Erkan Dumanli, M.D.
Doç. Dr. İlhan Dülger
Prof. Dr. Aykut Toros
Sinem Ünel
Mehmet Yalnız

A brief information on the new Board Members is provided below.
Güner Baykal

The new Chair of the Foundation is a Tarsus graduate (1958). After Tarsus he studied Business Administration at the İktisadi ve Ticari İlişkiler Akademisi in Ankara. On his return to Tarsus he established his own business in import and trading of wood and metal machinery. He is the founder of the TAC Graduate Association. His wife worked as a Home Economics teacher at the School. His children are also Tarsus graduates, his daughter Yeşim being among the first girls to attend Tarsus between 1979-1983. He worked as the Comptroller in the previous Board of Directors. Güner Baykal is also on the Board of Directors for SEV-YAY and is responsible from the administration of our publishing company.

Sinem Ünel

Sinem Yücel Ünel was born in İzmir in 1962. The youngest member of the SEV Board of Directors graduated from ACI in 1980, after which she completed Law School at Dokuz Eylül University. After getting her degree she worked as a lawyer. Since 1991 Ünel has been working as a legal consultant at the Central Bank of Republic of Turkey, in İzmir. She is married and has a son who is a 1st grader in İzmir SEV Elementary School.

İbrahim Paksoy

The comptroller of SEV Board of Directors was born in Adana in 1949. İbrahim Paksoy is a graduate of TAC in 1968, and received his B.S., M. Eng., and MBA degrees at Cornell University. Currently he is the General Coordinator and Vice-Chairman of Paksoy Ticaret ve San. A.Ş. as well as the Chairman of the Board of the Granpak A.Ş. He is married and has two daughters, Zeynep, a freshman at Cornell and Oya, a junior at TAC.

Ertan Dumanlı

Ertan Dumanlı was born in Palu, Eşrefoğlu in 1940. He is a graduate of TAC (1958) just like his elder brother Ertuğ, and younger brothers Erdal and Erhan. After TAC he studied medicine at İstanbul University and later became an Ear Nose and Throat specialist. He worked at SSK Okmeydani Eğitim Hastanesi until he retired in January, 2000. He still works as an ENT specialist at İstanbul Memorial Hospital as the chair of the ENT Department.

Ertan Dumanlı is married to an Üsküdar graduate, Gülsen Kiralp Dumanlı (1961); they have two daughters and two grandsons. His daughters İpek Dumanlı Sevsevil (1986) and Damla Dumanlı Şen (1989), are also Üsküdar graduates. One of Dumanlı’s grandsons, Ozan Sevsevil is a student at Üsküdar SEV Elementary School.
Bir polisiye yazarı: Celil Oker


Tarsus’tan bir de polisiye yazarı çiğsin dedim kendi kendime...

Çiplak Ceset

Celil Oker

Bin Lotluk Cezet

Celil Oker


Şimdi Semih Frircioğlu her Amerika’da gelip görüşüğümüze yerlere yathıyoruz guılmekten. Hayatın ciddi yanlarını hafifte, hafif yanlarını ciddiye alan adamlar olmaktan mutlu olduğumu hissediyoruz. Üstelik ortalıka bu kadar ciddi adam varken, bizim gibi insanlara gerek olmuyunu, Tarsus’un yetenince bizim gibi adam yetişkinliği bildiğin bir olsun bir olmayacak olmali öğretmeye çalışıyorum her şeyden önce. Malum, her marjinlendik gibi insanlarının çoşgalmasını ister.
Education Conference in Kuşadası

American Board and Health Education Foundation held an Education Conference in Kuşadası during October 5-7, 2000. Teachers, administrators and graduates from SEV/ABH Schools and guest speakers discussed the past, present, and the future of our schools as well as looking at new methods of education. Dr. Dorothy Keller writes her impressions about the conference and sums up all the discussions, pointing out the ideas and themes that were generated from them. Dr. Dorothy Keller works for SEV-YAY as a Consultant Editor.

During this two day conference we have focused the energy, enthusiasm, wideranging skills and optimism of highly competent professionals from the SEV/ABH Schools on the rich heritage of the ABH Schools, on the vigorously successful present of those schools and on their promise and potential for a bright and important future. We were awed by the commitment of the early missionaries to establish quality educational programs so that Turkey's youth could serve their country well. May we also, like them, "seek to find what good can be done and by what useful means" (as Prof. Dr. Robert Keller cites in his lecture on ABH History). We appreciated the history of education in Turkey (Prof. Dr. Ayla Oktay) and changes occurring in education in the U.S. (Ken Arnold). We contemplated the complexities of pursuing bicultural and multicultural education, recognizing the need to develop and use indigenous models for understanding culture, not simply blindly adopting western models (Prof. Dr. Güzver Yıldırım). Dr. Kral gave us many ideas for using English language teaching as a vehicle to also teach peacemaking and conflict resolution skills. Whitman Shepard demonstrated how to adapt curriculum when the number of years for education must be changed.
Mr. and Mrs. Keller are enjoying an informal conversation with Mr. and Mrs. Kral in the evening.

During workshop sessions we shared approaches to on-campus as well as wider community volunteer work and resource use (Betty Frank and Alan McCain); methods for quality ESL curriculum development (Lisa Adams and Lee Corey); a look at the importance for a whole person of after school sports and physical education (Kivanç Peştev); the impact on personal and student development of cultural diversity (Robert Keller); the philosophy and applications of early childhood education using active involvement of the child in self-guided learning approaches (Emi Gelardin); the graduate outcomes sought (Prof. Dr. Betül Aydin); the use of teaching another culture to actually raise awareness of one's own culture (Prof. Dr. Ayşe Lahur Kirtunç) and the value configuration which guides our schools, including responsible leadership, service, integrity, interdependence, life-long learning and more (Tülin Büyükalpkan).

Six ideas/themes emerge from the conference:

1. APPRECIATE OUR HERITAGE TIME LINE. We will honor our precious heritage from the ABH past, celebrate the dynamic present as SEV leadership guides the schools, and anticipate and work for a daring and visionary future.

2. BUILD AND USE THE IMPORTANT SEV/ABH VALUES SO THAT WHOLISTIC EXCELLENCE, NOT SIMPLY ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IS PROVIDED. These include the values and interpersonal skills of empathy, genuineness, respect for all persons, the ability to be appropriately challenging as well as supportive, commitment to equality and justice, work for a peaceful world and other life enhancing values.

3. BI- and MULTICULTURALISM MAY NOT ONLY INCREASE SKILLS FOR WORLD LIVING, BUT IT CAN ALSO INCREASE ONE'S APPRECIATION FOR AND USEFULNESS IN ONE'S OWN CULTURE AS WELL. Although it is not at all a clear picture, some theorists suggest that both intellectual functioning and cultural skills are increased through learning well a second language and its culture. The learner becomes a more insightful, compassionate, adaptable and strong person.

4. SHARING TOGETHER AS SEV/ABH SCHOOLS PROVIDES SYNERGISTIC BENEFITS. Sharing together as the community of SEV/ABH Schools, under the guidance of the SEV Education Department, has the promise of synergistic strength which "going it alone" as disparate institutions does not offer.

5. REGULAR REFERENCE TO THE SEV/ABH SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT CAN ENHANCE ALL ASPECTS OF OUR WORK WITH STUDENTS. The mission statement is carefully crafted to reflect heritage and to build for solid future. Reading this statement frequently can inspire us to improved administration, teaching and extracurricular work.

6. CONSIDER WELL AND REGULARLY USE THE MEANING OF THE SEV ACRONYM. The SEV acronym is not an accidental collection of letters. It suggests the underpinnings which give meaning and direction to excellence in education. Our graduates should be responsible, honorable, ethical persons who are capable of caring lovingly for their families, their communities, their nation, their environment and their world. I would like to thank conference planners and moderators Tülin Büyükalpkan (SEV/ABH Education Coordinator) and Alan McCain (ABH General Secretary) for such a well planned, well managed and useful conference.

Dorothy Keller, Betty Frank, Sally McCain, and Ruth Bridgcock
Önce Şubat Bitti


Bu Alma Mater sayısı biraz yaratıcılığın desteklenmesi ve bestenmesi üzerine oldu. Sadece sanatta değil her alanda geliştirilmesi gereken bu özellik Börd Okulunun felsefesi gereği tüm mezunlarımızın bir ortak özelliği galeri.


Bence bir başka okulda değil de ACİ’da okumus olmanın bana en önemli katkısı, sahne de neyimi için teşvik edilmem, yeteneklerimin takdir edilmesi ve ancak ifade edildiğinde ve paylaşıldığında yeteneğin bir anlam taşıdığını göremem olduğu. Orta 3’deyken Talent Show programlarında birisi sadece bana ayrımsız. Bir assembly saati boyunca sadece ben sahnedeydim. Bunun o yaşta bir çocuk için ne önemli bir itici güçlü olduğunu düşündüm. İstanbul'da bir çocuk için ne önemli bir itici güçlü olduğunu düşündüm.

Bu arada Okul'daki kulüp çalışmalar sona ermiş, Türk Halk Müziği ile ilgilenmeye başladım. Koro Şefimiz Tuygun Dik-

Okulda da sınıf arkadaşları eşliğinde piyano çalıyordu evlenirken de


ACİ akademik mukemmelmeyeti yanında öğrencileri sunduğu sahne, kültürel ve toplumsal etkinliklerde biraz “farklı” birer birey olarak yetiştilerdir. Okul et- kinlikleri dışında kendi arama zorlu dar bir durumda olma durumda.” Kültürlü Noel etkinliklerine katıldılar. “Edebiyat, müzik, tiyatro içi geçmiştir Lise yıllarımızda. Kültür Kolu çalı-

malarımızın kolay kolay unutulduğu saniyorum. Edebiyat öğretmenimiz Sevil Usterci’nin öncülüğünde Şairler Güru etkinliklerini başlatmıştır.

Ayşe Emek ile Orta 1’de tanıştım ve o gün bu gündür benim için vazgeçilmeyi destekledik. Bir gün “Bir gece şeylerin alışkanlığı altına” diye başlayıp bir şehir geldi, Nasıl bulduğunumu sördü. Ben hislerimi sözlere ifade edemeyeceğimi bana zaman verirse bunu ona söyle. Ifade edemeceğini söyledi. Bu benim için

Lise yıllarında Ayşe beni Maria Rita Epik ile tanıttı. Düşünün, yazan, yaşayan, üretilen, ürettiklerini sahneye çıkıp paylaştıran bir kadın müzişen olarak Maria benim için bir idol'du. İlk bestelemelerim dinleyip beni cesaretli hale getirdi, yapıcı eleştirel ve dostluklarıyla müzik yaşa-mında bir yapıcı taşıydı.


şarkımı verdim. 9 da 9 isimli bir çalışmamda "Aşk Zamanı" isimli bir single çıkartım. Türkiye'de ilk defa denen bir "completion" albümde yer alan şarkımı da ilk kez çalmıştı ve gerçekten geceyleştirdim.


İletişim adresi: eceulker@hotmail.com
Korkut Beriker Library Opens

On November 3, 2000 the Beriker Family who donated the splendid new library to TAC were honored. The library is located on the ground floor of the newly renovated Stickler Hall. It was donated in the name of Korkut Beriker, a TAC graduate of 1943. His son, wife, and daughter-in-law joined students and dignitaries for the ceremony in the auditorium followed by the official ribbon cutting. The new library has the latest in computer, video, audio, and other technologies as well as the largest collection of English and Turkish books and periodicals in this region of Turkey. At the ceremony TAC students Aras Belgin and Nazli Menemencioğlu, presented the speech below.

It is our honor to stand in front of an audience which represents all the best in the traditions of TAC. Since 1888, our school have seen greatest changes and it is delightfully exciting to announce the most recent yet the most remarkable change: The inauguration of the Korkut Beriker Library. When you damage the root of a tree, it can no longer continue to grow. Not only it stops growth, but the enormous branches of the tree turn pale brown and the vivid green fades away. The tree is dying. As what a root to a tree is, our library, on the base of the most noble and the oldest building on campus, provides the base for knowledge and wisdom. The former libraries have already functioned for this purpose. The new Korkut Beriker Library constructs even a stronger hold for our school. Although quite strange as it may seem to an outsider, the Beriker Family has showed us again where we belong. In the memory of Korkut abi '43, his family was kind enough to donate to the school and finance the whole expenses for the new library. No one is immortal, except those who leave something behind. Korkut abi is now among those sacred people of TAC, whose sacrifices will always inspire our minds, and whose name will always remain in our hearts. Those who do not keep up with the light of the future are destined to sink in the dark. That is why the Korkut Beriker Library is equipped with the highest norms of technology and the newest publications. The new computers allow us to search, from queries, and compile reports on the widest coverage digest networks online. The rich periodicals shelf delivers us the most current news, the latest technological improvements, the most attractive hobbies and much more. Above 15,000 volumes of books, and a huge archive; Korkut Beriker Library is another bold step towards the bright future of TAC. A library may seem as a collection of books to an ordinary person. However, someone who truly belongs to TAC should have already noticed how TAC library means something different. Since its foundation, the library was the unique place for tutoring our younger brothers and sisters, where we felt the purest form of helping and sharing. There are countless times when we stayed in the school for Model United Nations, Science Fair, and Destination Imagination. The legendary study halls, full of
success and "mavra" stories were also held in the library. Whether it is old or new, our library has always been a warm place and will undoubtedly remain so. When we come back after years, with our gray hair and wrinkled skin, we won't be able to avoid our tears as we see a young TAC student studying exactly from a book we have once used. It is our honor to once again thank all those people who have worked for the new library, and its new era. Like the uprising academic success, notable social accomplishments, the Lounge and the positive campus environment. Korkut Beriker Library is another diamond in the new legend of TAC. For their efforts and contributions, we would like to extend our thanks to all people who worked hard for the new library. Allow us to express our gratitude to the Beriker Family who made the new memorial Korkut Beriker Library possible through their generous grant.

Ülkü Çukuroğlu Visits Üsküdar SEV Elementary with Eren İnönü

On November 3rd, the Üsküdar SEV Elementary School hosted two important guests: Ülkü Çukuroğlu, Atatürk's adopted daughter, and Eren İnönü, İsmet İnönü's grandson. The guests talked about Atatürk and İnönü and their childhood memories about these historic heroes. Hearing about the human side of these famous people in the history books was very captivating for the students. Ülkü Çukuroğlu attended Üsküdar American Academy between the years 1944-1948. She started as a prep student and left after finishing the middle school. She was registered at UAA with the student number 96.
AAA Conference in Izmir

The American Collegiate Institute, Izmir, hosted on its lovely campus a second Arts and Academic Conference on 1 and 2 December, 2000. Educators from seven SEV/ABH Schools, from 24 other elementary and/or lises, and from several universities provided information and inspiration for nearly 320 persons who attended the meetings. SEV/ABH Education Department worked closely with the Steering Committee to support the conference with speakers from different universities, who came without remuneration.

Following the opening ceremony, Prof. Dr. Ayşe Lahur Kirtunç gave the Keynote address first in Turkish, then in English. Her address was a very inspiring challenge to teachers. Below you can read a shortened version of her speech.

During the two days of the conference, nearly 90 presentations were provided for groups, ranging from 5 to over 30 persons, with about one fourth in English or in English and Turkish. Teachers shared their best ideas for teaching at both the elementary and secondary levels. A special feature of the conference was the ten presentations which were provided for those who are guidance counselors in both elementary and secondary schools. Over ten book publishers and several computer-based instructional resources had displays in the campus library which provided those attending the conference with an opportunity to see some of the best educational resources currently available.

The good weather allowed persons to talk informally between sessions and while walking to and from lunch. The members of the Conference Steering Committee at the Izmir schools deserve special thanks for their hard work and careful supervision of this very worthwhile conference.

Peacock Feathers and Glitter: Creativity, Inspiration, and the Human Heart

Deja vu. This is a very strong case of deja vu. Because I stood upon this very stage more than 30 years ago and squinted and looked across the audience. The occasion was what we would call a "talent show" in those days. It was my turn. I had worn black tights and had tied the waist of a blue, pleated, chiffon skirt around my neck, so it opened up like sky-colored wings as I moved my arms. On my face was a blue mask I had made for the occasion, with lots of glitter glued on it. I had tied my long hair in a bun and --the final, killing touch-- had pushed 20 peacock feathers into my hair. "The Bird of Paradise" announced the master of ceremonies.

The friend back stage was so shocked that she forgot to press the button of the tape recorder. So, without my accompanying music, I leaped and danced across the stage, my peacock feathers fluttering on top of my head with every step I took, glitter falling freely from my mask, my blue chiffon wings fluttering across the sedate space of the school stage.

Had someone told me as I got off that stage that one day I would be standing on it as a teacher, I would have laughed it off. Being a teacher was too tame an occupation for me. Little did I know that one needs to be truly adventurous, in fact, utterly mad to become a teacher, for it is an occupation where you are in an almost god-like position, touching the destinies of many, if you'll excuse the blasphemy.

And here I stand now, varicose veins and all, having taught for 26 years. And 30 years ago, as I was leaping and dancing on this same stage, I was hoping that I would dance across the fragile surface of life wearing my peacock feathers. Like most of you here, I have danced across many classrooms, shedding glitter, touching the lives of thousands of young persons, brushing their eager faces with my multicolored feathers, giving them hope, providing them with courage and support and, yes, love. For without love, glitter and peacock feathers look phony; they lack the luster necessary for luring the young into adulthood. Without love, there is no communication, no
interaction, no teaching, no learning, no human contact. Classrooms become dull warehouses for shell-locked, inanimate souls. Teachers turn into mere taskmasters at best, responsible for stocking and taking inventory in that twilight zone where human flesh is stored.

But bring in that magical element LOVE into teaching and the teacher becomes a shaman, a sorcerer, a powerful caster of spells. Students start vibrating with inspiration and they have the courage to reach inside themselves and touch that potential that will help them grow and change and bloom.

This is what I would like to share with you today - the need to inspire our students as well as to teach them. For teaching is fairly methodological work and we have all been trained to do that well. What I want to say is this: Let us inspire our students so they can bring out the dormant creativity in themselves and learn to use it without inhibition. Creativity has the power to transform one's work, one's environment and one's fellow humans. Creativity is the most valuable intellectual and spiritual quality that a person has. Creativity lays the groundwork for tolerance of others and respect for diversity. A creative spirit will instinctively feel that a dogma restricts one's viewpoint because it promotes a set way of looking at the world, a tunnel vision, if you will. Creativity is therefore, the infrastructure of democracy because it asserts that within the uncertainty of fluidity lie the seeds of innovation, exploration and discovery.

After all this glorification of inspiring the students so they can let loose their creativity, let me share with you some pointers which I have gropingly found out over the years by trial and error. More error than trial, certainly, by sheer luck and by watching my own teachers.

Some students will be inspired by your honesty, some by your punctuality, some even by your posture. Many will be inspired by those gemlike occasions when you tell them about your childhood or youth. Some will be inspired by your willingness to show them that you also are a human being just like them, with problems and feelings and tears. Some will be moved by your denial to show such facets of your being. Some students will be inspired by your demonstration of knowledge, and others will be greatly moved by your refusal to see them as empty vessels into which your knowledge must be poured. Some will be inspired by your wisdom and many more will be affected when you profess that you are far from being wise. Tricky business.

Inspire them so they are sensitized to beauty as well as to suffering.

Inspire them so they are not disheartened by chaos but are challenged by it.

Inspire them so they can start out to their work with the best performance they can register, but will not fall into the trap and sterility of cruel perfectionism and procrastination.

Inspire them so they can be ruthless when laughing at their own folly and shortcomings, but can always find the compassion in their hearts to praise the good and the positive in others.

But, most of all, my dear colleagues and friends, inspire them so you become a role model in their eyes. I am not saying that in a facetious way or in a self-aggrandizing tone. It is critical that you inspire them for many other reasons but this is the most crucial reason for us all: Inspire them so the best among them choose to be teachers!

I say that emphatically because as a community, as a nation, we cannot afford to leave the education of our youth in hands and hearts that are less than the best. I know you will agree with me that as educators, your greatest reward has been and will be when one of your former students comes up to you and says:

"You have inspired me and I have decided to be a teacher- a teacher like yourself. A teacher who has the power to touch the human heart. A teacher who is not intimidated by others, or by love, glitters and peacock feathers."
Nationally Acclaimed Writer Visits TAC and SEV Elementary

Born in 1933 in Adana, Muzaffer İzgü lived as a very poor child who worked at a variety of difficult and unusual jobs. On November 23rd he returned to the Tarsus area as the now most famous writer of adult and children literature. His books are now published in such languages as Greek, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Dutch, German, Swedish, and English. His most recent award was the UNICEF United Nations award for being a writer who "writes adult books that children can enjoy." Muzaffer İzgü spent an entire day with TAC and SEV Elementary students to encourage writing and reading. He made formal presentations, visited classes, ate lunch with the children, and met informally with them in the garden. Students enjoyed having him autograph their books. Over 200 copies of his books were sold at this writer's workshop.

İzgü's visit is part of the "Reach Out to the Arts Program" held in the new Stickler Auditorium throughout the school year. A different author will visit our schools each month. An American playwright, Joseph Sutton, also provided a theatre workshop in December for our International Drama Clubs at both SEV Elementary School and TAC. Symphony events are also scheduled as well as lectures and other performances each month. The auditorium is used each day for a student or guest event.

Halloween Party at Üsküdar SEV

On October 31st, there was a Halloween Party where students dressed in costumes and paraded in front of a jury of teachers. Certificates for "the ugliest costume," "the scariest costume," and "the best make-up" were handed out at the end of the party. The other activities students took part in were apple-bobbing, musical chairs and mummy-making. Cakes and cookies were served at the end of the party which was organized by the Social Service Club.
ACI Grad ’78 Receives Distinguished Teacher Award at Bilkent University

Perin Özlin who has been teaching at the School of Tourism and Hotel Management was recognized with the Distinguished Teacher Award from among 1000 faculty members. The plaque was given during the graduation ceremony on June 14, 2000. Each year Bilkent students and alumni have the opportunity to honor teachers who have contributed exceptionally to their academic and intellectual development and whom they feel are worthy of recognition. The strictly confidential nominating procedure gives importance to the reasons stated for nomination not just the total number of votes.

Ms. Özlin says, “My life was changed by a phone call from the Vice Rector for Student Affairs on May 10th, two days before my birthday!” She continues, “Being an ACI graduate has always been a privilege in shaping my life due to two important factors: VALUES and VISION. The value education we were given has not only been a guideline for my being, but has also transformed the vision, creativity, and learning skills of my students. I have taught Management and Travel related courses for more than 10 years at Bilkent where the classes with “no boundaries” have always been a dynamic platform to stimulate my students’ innovative potentials. As a motivated and committed faculty member, I strongly believe in maintaining open lines of communication whatever the content of the course may be. Once this bridge is built, students do understand and enjoy the development of analytical thinking and an appreciation of knowledge. The point in effective teaching is to lead the students as facilitators rather than dominators.”

Ms. Özlin takes this opportunity to extend her most sincere gratitude to all the teachers at ACI for sharing the enlightening torch of our personal and intellectual development. God bless them all!

Ms. Özlin holds a position of acting Dean of Students at Bilkent University since September 1st.

Contact information: oztin@bilkent.edu.tr

Thank You

There has been an immediate response to our “Call for Interested Parties: Would You Like to Sponsor a Student” which appeared on the 12th issue. As a start we are happy to get eight graduates’ support in our effort to give out scholarships to university students. In addition to the forty scholarships the Foundation provides we were able to create funds for ten more students. We would like to thank

Sema Gökçen (ACI ’61)
Ali Zallak (TAC ’68)
Sevinç - Özdemir Aktan (TAC ’71)
Ejide Tank (ACI ’72)
Bekir Çilsal (TAC ’72)
Zehra Sunbay (ÜAA ’69)
Necat Toksoy (TAC ’46)
and ACI Class of ’89 (3 students)
for supporting us. We believe that education is the most important issue for Turkey; we need better educated people for a better world.
ABH/SEV Schools
A Critique of Today and Tomorrow

Deniz Akkuş Kanca was among the participants of the Kuşadası Education Conference, where the SEV/ABH Schools’ educators, graduates and administrators discussed the past, present and future of our schools. Deniz Akkuş Kanca wrote a long article presenting her views on our schools. Here we publish a brief summary of her article. Those who are interested can visit http://www.arayan.com to read the complete version.

With the recent changes both in the structure of ABH/SEV Schools and that of the Turkish society in general, ABH/SEV Schools need to revisit their mission statement and come to a larger public and explicit agreement as to the specific interpretation of the mission statement. I believe that it is vital to the long-term survival of the Schools to have clear and unambiguous answers to these questions:
What is our aim, who should we be?
Why is this aim important?
Who are the ABH/SEV Schools, currently? What are our current challenges?
What is our history and how does it fit in with who we currently are, who we should be?
How can we accomplish our aim?
I suggest that many of the conflicts the Schools currently face arise from different answers to these questions.

What is our aim, who should we be?
I believe we should aim to be Schools dedicated to educating the next generation of Turkey’s elite.
There are pragmatic reasons for this goal:
Survival.
Distinction from competitors.
So who’s the elite?
Statistically, often children of the economic middle and upper classes.
Statistically, educated above and beyond high school.
Able to reason, think independently, learn independently.

Responsive to and aware of the needs of the society they live in.
With leadership, communication and organization skills.
Ability to deal with a multi-cultural world.

Our aim, again, in practical terms:
We want to create the next generation of Turkey’s elite. To do this, we need to derive our student body primarily from the economic middle and upper classes. We need to send our students to higher education and we need to impart them with reasoning/learning skills, leadership, communication and organization skills and responsibility for their society. We also would like them to be aware of and at ease with different cultures.

Who are the ABH/SEV Schools currently? What are the current challenges?
The schools have historically met their goal of creating the next generation elite and have successfully adapted to changing times. We are, however, entering a realm where changes occur faster than ever before. Also, the success of the Schools has spawned many local imitations, which now compete directly with the Schools. We now face more pressure and have less time to adapt than we ever did in our history.
Current challenges:
Our student body is derived mostly from the upper classes due to the change in the economic structure of the Schools.

Deniz Akkuş Kanca (ACI ‘86) studied Electrical Engineering at MIT, and received a Masters Degree from Columbia University in the same field. She worked at Wall Street for seven years on trading technologies, derivatives modelling, and risk management. After coming back to Turkey she works as a freelance IT consultant.
We face pressure to forgo certain facets of our educational program. We find it harder to explain to our student/parent body our aims and methods, with a subsequent questioning of the raison d’être of our different environment and methods. We have problems preserving a bi-cultural environment in our schools. We face pressure to found more schools due to the current societal focus on quantity vs. quality. We have expanded and established schools from kindergarten through 8th grade, a new educational realm.

How can we continue to accomplish our goals?

We need to communicate our educational philosophy to our parent/student body.

Qualitative and extracurricular portions of the educational experience must be articulated and explicitly be made part of the educational program.

College placement needs must be met without lowering educational standards. A ratio of international to Turkish faculty needs to be established.

An endowment fund must be established. Tuition levels must be lowered to include the middle classes in our student body. The alumni network needs to be established and utilized.

SEV Elementary schools need to be actively integrated into the rest of the ABH/SEV Community. Establishing new schools needs to be placed on hold until enough extra resources are available to establish these schools without lowering ABH/SEV standards.

Legendary Teachers Visit Üsküdar American Academy

Nermin Kanuni, Azade Tekil, Seniye Pakali, Candan Efendigil and Güzin Teker honored the Teachers’ Day celebration at ÜAA on November 24, 2000. It is a great pleasure and honor for the students and teachers to meet some of the legendary teachers and feel connected to the wonderful heritage of ÜAA.
Why ABH Schools are so Unique
by Tülin Büyükkalkan SEV/ABH Education Coordinator

As a witness to the unique education given in the ABH Schools, I am proud to say that the universal values such as being fair, kind, trustworthy, helpful, and responsible still exist as an indispensable aspect of their education. These virtues were promoted when I began in the prep class of UAA and later as a teacher, dean and principal of the same school, until September of 2000. I was always committed to preaching and advocating them, knowing that moral education is an important dimension of excellence in education.

Another important dimension of good education is meeting the psychological needs of students such as the need for self-esteem, self-confidence, safety, security, a sense of belonging and the desire to achieve. Which one of us can deny the role of extracurricular activities in shaping our personalities? These activities provide ample opportunities which challenge students to stretch their abilities. Treating students as individuals rather than as a group and acknowledging what they have accomplished and how much effort they have put into learning help to build their confidence. As to academic dimension of education, ABH Schools do not only focus on subjects as sciences, math Turkish, and social studies, which may be a passway into the university, but they also emphasize subjects such as art, music, physical education, drama, and public speaking, which contribute to the development of the whole person. Learning English as well as their native tongue enables ABH students to have a licence to a good prospective career and an entry into a global village to explore other cultures and become mediators in promoting understanding and peace in the world. Acquiring just knowledge and skills is only one of the basics of education. In our fast-paced society, technological breakthroughs seem to occur daily. ABH students are lucky, as information technology is an internal part of their learning. Computer assisted teaching in almost all subject fields enriches the knowledge and skills gained in computer classes. CD-Roms, educational web sites, e-mailing, chat programs and web designs are everyday jargon of education in our schools.

In summary, while coping with changes and moving ahead with technology and new approaches in education, ABH Schools continue to teach and model the core values of dedicated past.

I would like to develop a current list of all educators from ABH Schools. Please submit your name, graduation year/school, subject, present job, home and business address, home and business telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address to my assistant Çağdem Fromm. Thank you in advance.

Fax: (212) 519 08 83
e-mail: cf romm@sevakf i.org
     cf romm2000@yahoo.com
Postal address: Sağlık ve Eğitim Vakfı
Rizapasa Yokuşu No: 50
34450 Eminönü İstanbul
Kellers are Enjoying Friends in Turkey Again!

We have been so privileged to be a part of four special gatherings of the American Board School graduates and teachers this autumn. They were times when we all enjoyed pleasurable memories and we celebrated together the important life values of loving friendship, integrity, community, service and hope.

The first was a gathering when Tom Goodrich was here in October continuing his study of Ottoman maps. We laughed and cried as we remembered pranks and "survival struggles" in the cold Talas winters. Mr. Goodrich had us all practice our "finger exercises" just as we had done decades before! Talas graduates and wives present were Ahmet and Handan Cingi, Doğan and Hüldan Dereli, Yücel and Fatma Akyürek, Gültakin Orhon, Atila and Aysel Pektaş, Metin and Yıldız Atamer, Yavuz and Meral Gömeç and Uğur Özoğlu.

The second event was with Mr. McCain and some alumni who were at Talas when he was there. Meeting at the Club, we discussed life's deeper meanings as well as plenty of jokes and laughter. Those present included Mustafa and Fatma Güvenli, Halim Akın, Mustafa Esen, Mahmut Kadioglǔ, Ahmet Ceranoğlu and Rifat Dedeoğlu.

The third occasion was a welcome for Adnan Ertaş at Büyük Külüb. Adnan is the founder and Artistic Director of an International Cultural Resource Center in Chicago. He entertained us and his classmates with stories of the days that we had shared at Talas and Tarsus. Those present included Atila and Ayşegül Pektaş, Ahmet and Handan Cingi, Doğan and Hüldan Dereli, Metin and Yıldız Atamer and Halim Mumoğlu. Teachers Recognition Day at the Üsküdar Academy when Dorothy enjoyed seeing several teachers who remember her mother, Mrs. Birge, was again a special occasion. One retired teacher, Güzin Teker, even remembered teaching geography and history to Dorothy when she was an Orta student at the English High School.

We are so pleased to be in Turkey again and share these and other experiences with former teaching colleagues and students. We were sorry that the Griswolds were unable to come for the meeting planned for them. We look forward to the gathering in Talas which has been postponed to next spring. We are very proud of the accomplishments and good work of those whom we knew so many years ago as "our boys" with special abilities and dreams for the future. Dorothy Birge and Robert Keller, Talas 1953-58, 1960-64.
Üsküdar American Academy Hosts
Two Important Gatherings This Fall


LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
At the ABH Schools Leadership Conference the executive members of Student Councils, Branch and Class presidents of the three schools, a total of 45 students, attended the meetings. It was a full day program starting at 9:30 a.m. with a welcome speech by Karabekir Akkoyunlu, President of ÜAA Student Council and opening speech by Mr. McCain, General Secretary of the American Board, followed by SEV/ ABH Education Coordinator Tülin Büyükakkan's speech. Thinking Styles. Üsküdar Schools' Superintendent John Heard also directed a workshop, Leadership and Goal Setting.

In the afternoon each student attended one of four workshops according to his/her interest. The workshops offered to the students were:

1. Improving the information flow between ABH Schools and organizing activities.
2. How to promote School Spirit?
3. How each Student Council operates and what is its role?
4. How to encourage participation in all activities.

During a tea break, students had the opportunity to meet some of the successful graduates of ABH Schools to give information about their vocations. The day ended with a late evening sight-seeing tour of Istanbul. All the students seemed happy and enjoyed themselves after a long but fruitful day. The next Leadership Conference will be held in September, 2001 in Tarsus.

TIMUN 2000
Every December, ÜAA welcomes about 350 students from different cultures and backgrounds. Schools from Russia, Israel, Greece, Hungary and America mix with Turkish students to participate in stimulating proceedings of international debate, and the camaraderie of fellow students from around the world.

ÜAA hosted the 6th Annual Turkish International Model United Nations Conference between December 7-10, 2000. MUN Conferences of this kind are held in many countries around the world, at different sizes. The ÜAA MUN Club is proud to be the only conference of this size and kind held in Turkey. Seven years ago, the Turkish MUN Conference began as a small Istanbul-based activity of three schools: Robert College, Koç Lisesi and ÜAA. It has since expanded into a large, international event. In the previous years many distinguished guest speakers including the Armenian Patriarch and ambassadors, UNICEF representatives honored the meetings.

This year ÜAA hosted 14 schools including the International College of Stockholm, Al-Bayyan Bilingual School of Kuwait, the International School of Prague, Tianjin College (Int. School of China), TAC and ACI, Robert College, Eyleen Gök, Yüzil İşıklı, Koç, and TED Ankara High Schools.

During the four days, students worked in seven different committees trying to solve various problems of the world that are also part of the UN agenda. This event not only increases our students' verbal and written English but also promotes peace and understanding between different cultures and different points of views. The conference gives students a chance to experience a smaller, more personal MUN format, to participate in debates and prepare them for a subsequent trip to TIMUN at the Hague, the Netherlands.

Thank You
A special thanks goes to Ahmet Odacito Tuğsuz for his donation of an IPIX camera to his Alma Mater, Tarsus American College. The camera and enables to create 360° pictures. The pictures can be viewed via internet, giving the viewer an opportunity to observe any given space from to bottom and side to side. The head office purchased a camera and started shooting pictures from all schools.