A Difficult Summer for the American Board and the Foundation: Sally McCain and Güner Baykal leave us unexpectedly

Sally Ann Bliss McCain died on 24 July, 2001 in Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, following a cerebral hemorrhage. She was a commissioned minister in the United Church of Christ and a certified specialist in Christian education. Her particular focus has been in youth leadership and working with women, both with the International Women's World Day of Prayer and, more recently, with the women who lost their homes, husbands and livelihood in the 1999 earthquakes in Turkey. She was a recognized authority and avid promoter of a kind of Turkish women's folk art "iğne oyası" which silently communicated the Turkish peasant woman's world through the beauty of tiny handmade flowers.

Güner Baykal died of a traffic accident on 30 August, 2001 in Tarsus. He was the Chair of the SEV Board of Directors. Baykal was a Tarsus graduate (1958) and had studied Business Administration in Ankara. He had established his business in import and trading of wood and metal machinery after returning to Tarsus. He is the founder of the Tarsus Graduate Association. His children are also TAC graduates. He was a dedicated and a proud graduate and all SEV institutions owe a great deal to him for their achievements in the past years.
In Memoriam

“The silence of Sally’s absence is louder than any sound she ever made.”
Wallace Robeson

A good leader is one who quietly does her part and makes everyone feel they have done it. So did Mrs. McCain. She always gave support to her friends with her warm smile and caring attitude. She knew the magic of connecting people and being connected to people. We all admired her endless energy in providing help to earthquake victims and frequent visits to Kaynaşlı to provide work for the women of that area so that they could earn some money by selling handmade lace. can still see her piling the survivor-made scarves to be sold or doing her organizational work quietly in her office or accompanying her beloved husband, Mr. McCain, on his busy social occasions. I still see her as a positive, articulate, caring and understanding person, willing to take responsibility for herself and for others, she was poised, calm and quiet like an angel on earth and now forever free.

Tülün Büyükalkan
SEV/ABH Education Coordinator

Sally Ann Bliss McCain’s life is a treasure we all hold precious in our own lives. She complemented the work of her husband Alan McCain as ABH General Secretary in many ways. Sally was a calm, steady, quiet person who worked diligently behind the scenes to help many programs, events and organizations, function well. She served on the administrative and planning boards of three groups: The Turkish American University Women’s Association, The American Women of Istanbul and the International Women’s Club of Istanbul. She assisted in programs of refugees and migrants as they struggled for identity, home and hope. She served as financial manager for several projects and funds. She loved contact with the hundreds of Tarsus graduates who gratefully remember taking classes with her. Sally had a deep love for the artistry of “oya” needlework. As an authority on this craft, she developed an unusually complete collection of “oya” needlework, housing each design in a separate little case with name, place and use identified. As part of ABH social services to help rehabilitate those who had suffered in the 1999 earthquakes, Sally developed a microenterprise project to sell “oya” decorated scarves of Kaynaşlı women to people in Turkey and the United States. She has created an interest in many areas of the world in this lovely, unique art and cultural expression.

Sally was one of those rare persons who touches lives gently, with healing and affirmation. She was a focused and empathic listener whose genuineness helped others gain their own authenticity. Sally was a powerful influence for good in the SEV-ABH communities and beyond.

Dorothy Keller, SEV-YAY Advisor
The ironic tragedy of Güner Baykal’s untimely death is not lost to any of us. We share in the grief of his family and his wide circle of friends, fellow TAC alumni, Board members and Tarsus-ites. As Güner Bey and I were increasingly involved in the administrative affairs of the Foundation and its institutions, I learned to value his judgement. His heart was always in the right place, his work was selfless and tireless, and his contributions in a time of rapid and frequent change were very important.Personally, we enjoyed the fact that we are almost exactly the same age, and had recently been discovering our most important role in life - being a grandfather. His family will miss him; Tarsus will miss him; SEV will miss him. Allah Rahmet eylesin.

Alan McCain, ABH General Secretary

I cannot understand how such a sad event can take place on such a beautiful day. But Güner Baykal would be the first person to tell you that the weather is always beautiful in Tarsus and there is no more wonderful place on earth to be than standing on the campus of his school- Tarsus American College.

He was a beloved son, husband, father and grandfather. We all mourn the loss of our family member, our Abi and our friend.

Güner Baykal is one of those men who is larger than life. When a man is larger than life, there is no choice but for those closest to him to share him with others. His family was very generous in sharing Güner Bey with our larger TAC family and eventually, the SEV family. To Güner’s family, I say thank you for letting him share his life with us.

When Güner Baykal spoke of his school, the love was contagious, the excitement could be felt, and you craved to be part of it. And of course, his stories about his naughtiness in school are legends.

Güner always knew that our time is so short on earth and it is through the relationships with those we love that we gain meaning for our life and if we remember to love closely we can keep all our relationships alive as if they happened yesterday. Time does not change the memories, it just gives us more opportunities to relive them and to celebrate them.

We are forever grateful that the last day Güner Baykal visited on the TAC campus was a great day of joy, love and pride for him. On that day the new Chemistry laboratory donated by the family of Haldun Özberrak, 1984 TAC graduate, was dedicated to his honor.

Dr. Bernard Mitchell, TAC Director
John Heard completes 8 years as ÜAA Director - He will be Interim Director at ACI for 2001-2002

In June, John and Susan Heard were honored for their eight years of service at the Üsküdar American Academy. The Heards came to Istanbul in 1993 after many years of teaching in International Schools. They were looking for a new challenge and found ÜAA unique in that it is a school entirely for Turkish young people, but with its own international flavor. John Heard provided effective administrative guidence during very difficult years of significant changes at ÜAA. Some of the major changes included:

--The completion of the transition, which had begun in 1990, from an all girls school to a co-educational school

--The successful opening and development of the SEV Elementary School when the Turkish school system changed from a five-year to an eight-year elementary plan

--A multi-million dollar renovation program including several buildings on the campus and an extensive development of campus information technology resources

--The establishment in 1995 of the Turkish International Model United Nations Program at ÜAA which involves student teams from other schools in Turkey and from foreign countries (in December 2000 from China, Kuwait and Sweden).

John Heard also was the founding chairman of Istanbul’s annual "Autumn Teachers Conference"—a bilingual professional activity involving 125 presentations and 1000 participants. This grew out of his serving on the Board of Directors of the European Council of International Schools which, at his urging, held its first "regional" conference in Istanbul in 1996.

Susan Heard has served the school in a number of ways. She first taught in the Prep English Program and later also taught Orta II English. After several years of assistance in the school library, she became the head librarian in 1997.

Tayfun Durakçay appointed to be Principal of the İzmir SEV Elementary School

Tayfun Durakçay is pleased to return to the İzmir campus where he had served at ACI as a history teacher and Head of the Social Studies Department from September 1991 through August 1995. He comes to this position with 22 years of experience in education. Prior to his 5 years at ACI he had served in government Lises for 12 years and after ACI he was 3 years at the Bilkent University Prep School. Most recently he has been the Principal of the Özel Çakabey Elementary School for 2 years. In recent years he has attended over 20 professional development courses in Turkey and Europe. He states that on the basis of his experience and training he is ready "to meet the changing educational needs of the new century."

Melike Ateş has begun her new position, the Turkish Principal, at ÜAA

Melike Ateş is a graduate of ÜAA and returned in 1997 to be an English and drama teacher for three years and then during the past year she was an English teacher and administrator in the Üsküdar SEV Elementary School. Prior to coming to ÜAA she had been an English teacher in the Moran Private High School for 2 years and in the Doğuş Private High School for 14 years. In recent years she has participated in many professional development workshops and seminars in Turkey, Europe and the USA. She brings to her new position knowledge of the traditions of the school and valuable training and experience to lead the school into the coming years.
To Mr. Heard, who has completed his service as Director at the Üsküdar Schools to be the interim Director at the İzmir SEV/ABH Schools:

You stepped into the life of ÜAA at a time when we desperately needed a leader who would hold our hands and show the way to us through the jungle of change. How gracefully you led the way, not letting us stumble or lose faith. Those were the most difficult years that Üsküdar had to cope with. Our school had become a coed school and the little boys who we used to fondle because they were so cute were growing and neither teachers nor the administrators were well-equipped for tolerating these new creatures on campus. Uniform changes, policy changes, "yönetmelik" changes, and the 8-year elementary education and sharing the campus with the Elementary School were the major challenges of your years and all these changes were accomplished among the dust and confusion of renovated buildings each year.

We all believed in you and trusted you while you acted as a magician showing everyone that miracles were happening. How you created that loving and caring atmosphere in a school that was struggling to be one of the best schools! While creating harmony and unity at school, you challenged each one of us to do our best. You helped each teacher and administrator reach his or her utmost potential. It was you who opened doors of opportunity to teachers to have them trained in Turkey or abroad and who pointed out the value of professional growth.

Your soft, gentle, caring attitude set a good model for students and teachers. Due to your open-door policy you were accessible to everyone. You always unselfishly gave all your time and energy to people who worked with you. Last but not least, you are the architect of the Autumn Teachers' Conference, which has been continuing successfully for four years now.

For all these reasons and many more, we appreciate your efforts and thank you. We wish you health, success, and good luck at the İzmir American Collegiate Institute and İzmir SEV Schools. So welcome to İzmir!

Thank You Note

We would like to thank two very special administrators who resigned from their posts this spring: Nilgün Erdine, the Turkish Principal of ÜAA and Myriam Levi, Principal of İzmir SEV Elementary School.

Nilgün Erdine, an outstanding science and chemistry teacher, had served also as the Academic Dean for two years before she became the Turkish Principal of ÜAA last summer. With her elegant style, she set a good model for the students and faculty of the school. Her contribution in preparing the academic "yönetmelik" related to the new "Lise" model (4+1) has been invaluable. We are very pleased that she will continue to be our chemistry teacher.

Myriam Levi was a chemistry teacher and later the Academic Dean of ACI before she was appointed to be the Principal of the İzmir SEV Elementary School. She has been a very effective leader as the school has continued to grow. Her contributions to the development of an excellent academic program are especially valued. We wish her well in her future work.

Tülin Büyükakalan,
SEV/ABH Education Coordinator
The Health and Education Foundation took an important step towards expanding the Üsküdar SEV School in order to create more space for the Üsküdar American Academy. The former “Yeni Ufuklar Koleji” property was purchased at the end of the 2000-2001 school year to be called the “Üsküdar SEV Beylerbeyi Campus.” The summer of 2001 has been a year of intensive renovation for the Foundation; among other projects the new building had to be rearranged to meet our needs and standards. For the 2001-2002 school year grades 1-4 will be held on the new campus, while the kindergarten and grades 5-8 stay at the Bağlarbaşı campus along with the Üsküdar American Academy.

Üsküdar SEV Elementary School Hosts SEV Science Fair
This year for the first time the SEV Schools’ students gathered for the SEV Science Fair, enjoying the miraculous world of science with their fellow students from sister schools. The excitement of scientific inquiry, experiment, analytical thinking and the pride of achievement was in the air at the Üsküdar SEV Elementary School.

Üsküdar SEV Elementary School Students are in Ankara

Üsküdar SEV Elementary School students visited the old Grand National Assembly building and Atatürk’s Mausoleum during their stay in Ankara in April. They also had the chance to meet Uluç Gürkan (Member of the Parliament) and İstemihan Talay (Minister of Culture and MP) who are both TAC graduates.
American Board Sponsors Social Service Seminar at ACI İzmir

A dream came true for Ümid Erküçük and Betty Frank on 7 April, 2001. That was the day of the İzmir ACI Social Service Seminar. Ümid and Betty had been hoping to host a seminar that would inspire students from both government and private schools to organize social service clubs. When the terrible earthquakes of 1999 struck the Istanbul area Drs. Robert and Dorothy Keller visited many of the projects that were developed to aid victims of the earthquake. They talked to the graduates of the American Board Schools who were involved in these projects. The graduates told them that participating in social service clubs and projects while at the American Board schools, had influenced the course of their lives and their desire to serve.

These testimonies inspired Ümid and Betty to organize a Social Service Conference. The Amerikan Bord Heyeti agreed to sponsor the conference. Mr. McCain suggested that rather than having one guest speaker the conference have a number of adults who were involved in social service either as volunteers or professionals. Students would get to talk informally with these people who might become role models for them.

Güler Erdur, Turkish Principal of ACI and Turkish Literature teacher suggested that these role models, or guest experts, be called "Konuk Uzman." Many wonderful people came to the conference as "Konuk Uzmanlar:"

GUEST EXPERTS AT THE ACI SOCIAL SERVICE SEMINAR (In alphabetical order)
Şebnem Oktay Altindaoğ, (ACI graduate) Founding member and public relations executive of the İzmir Multiple Sclerosis Society of Turkey.
Prof. Dr. Sevil Güveze Atauez, (ACI graduate) Hacettepe University, Dept. of Social Work. Her interest is in street children. She has set up a shelter for street children in Gaziantep and worked with shelters in other cities. Currently she is doing research on child labor in Gaziantep.
Zerrin Balkaya, Ender Children’s Development and Education Center, Psychologist. She works with special children.

Hünsel Beleli, (ECEV) Aegean Contemporary Education Foundation, Volunteer. ACI graduate, Esra Uğurbil, accompanied her.
Prof. Dr. Benal İnceer, Ege University, Dept. of Clinical Psychology. She is the founder of the Barboros Children’s Home.
Dr. Robert Keller, (1953-58, 60-64 taught at Talas; 1956 worked in a Summer Recreation Program at ACI) currently Education Advisor to the SEV Education Department.
Leyla Keskiner, (ACI graduate) Amerikan Bord Heyeti and SEV Public
Relations. She was at the conference to do public relations work. She has done much volunteer work with earthquake victims.

Dr. Ender Uzundemir Marangoz, (ACI graduate) Ender Child Development and Education Center (Çocuk Gelişimi ve Eğitim Merkezi,) Founder and Director. Her school serves special children.

Sally McCain, Amerikan Bord Heyeti missionary. Her interest is in enabling village women.

Sinem Ünel, SEV Board of Directors Member, (ACI graduate) currently volunteers as a member of the SEV Board of Directors.

EVENTS AT THE SOCIAL SERVICE CONFERENCE
The conference took place in the Naomi Foster Library Media Center and was attended by 50 students and 16 teachers from various schools. After an introductory session in which Betty Frank and Ümid Erkücükl explained the purpose of the conference and introduced the guest experts and the teachers and administrators from the different schools, the students, teachers and guest experts divided into smaller groups for discussion and inspiration.

Özel Yüzyıl Lisesi presented a photographic exhibit and slide show on the 1999 earthquakes in Turkey. Then the students met in their same groups without any adults to make plans and write reports.

Sally McCain showed the adults the scarves decorated with "oya" that she markets for women from Kaynaşlı.

After a delicious lunch in the Bristol Teachers’ Dining Room the group got on buses and went to the Basin Sitesi Huzur Evi (Old Folks Home) to visit the residents. After that the buses took the group to the Şato Restaurant with its beautiful view of the Konak Harbor. Everyone had drinks and chocolate cake and certificates were given out. A student from Konak Vali Vecdi Gönlü Lisesi Gülsah Yaman was very moved by her visit with a gentleman from Basin Sitesi and recited a poem about her experience.

The ACI students wrote a report on the conference in Turkish which is being distributed to all the participants. The report listed the different kinds of local clubs that can be formed, discussed the special problems that government schools have in forming social service clubs, how to raise money to support social service clubs, and how to motivate students to join social service clubs. This brief report is available from Betty Frank (efrank@aci.k12.tr) or Ümid Erkücükl (uerkucuk@aci.k12.tr).
ACI Education Club: Where Students Experience Teaching

Kerime Arsan (ACI’70) English teacher and 25 ACI students established a new social work club at the school in the 2000-2001 academic year: the ACI Education Club. They have a threefold aim: to raise money to give out scholarships to elementary and secondary school students, experience teaching English to public school students and to raise money to increase the physical standards of the school they had picked: Eski İzmir İlköğretim Okulu in Uzundere. The club members have a division of labor: Each weekend, 10 ACI students practice active classroom teaching to a group of 45 elementary students who are divided into 4 sections. They follow the curricula and the textbook used in the classroom in cooperation with the Eski İzmir İlköğretim Okulu 5B’s class teacher. The ACI students design and prepare their teaching strategies under Kerime Arsan’s supervision. ACI had to get permission from the Ministry of Education for these English Courses to be free of charge. The sections have an hour and a half of class separately and then come together to share what they have learned that day for another half hour. The elementary school students do dramatic acts with and learn songs from their ACI “ağabey” and “ablâs”. The other 15 members of the club actively work to carry out fund-raising campaigns: Their motto is “Damlaya Damlaya burs olur.” The international faculty also helps this fundraising activity through an auction where they auction goods or services at Christmas time to the highest bidder and donate the money they have raised to the social service clubs at ACI. This year, with some of this money the ACI Education Club was able to repair the bathrooms at Eski İzmir İlköğretim Okulu.
Community Service Makes a Difference at TAC

This year a primary goal at TAC has been to revive the spirit of community service. The response by faculty and students has been fantastic!

The sophomore class Social Action Committee has returned the traditional Bookmobile to the TAC community. Students have currently collected over 2,000 books. With ABH assistance they purchased a van and began loaning books to Tarsus area and village public schools. When going to a school, students will also take sports equipment along with them and will organize sports and games. Students will then leave the balls and other items with the school children as a gift.

The Social Action Committee has also developed partnership with a local “Saturday Club” sponsored by the wife of a TAC graduate. Here students help tutor in Math, Science and English. Many members of the Saturday Club are children who work and live on the streets of Tarsus or the surrounding area. They work during the week to earn money to survive and gather on Saturdays to improve and expand their minds and spirits. TAC students are currently bringing them books and school supplies and will soon provide the group with chairs, benches, desks, and tables found in the basement storage areas of TAC. These are repaired, cleaned, painted and made ready for donation by our TAC students.

All of this work is supported by dedicated teachers and administrators who also tutor at the Saturday Club and help provide basic needs such as clothing and shoes for the children. Another project by guest faculty is to teach as volunteers at a local night school where 18- to 30 - year old students eagerly study English. Guest faculty are also planning to begin English instruction to local public school teachers who in turn will share their skills at the public schools.
Health Opportunities For People Everywhere: HOPE

Didem İnanoğlu, M.D, an Üsküdar graduate (1987) and valedictorian of both her ÜAA class and the class of 1993 at the Marmara University School of Medicine, tells her story of social and medical services in the wider İzmit area. Her contact address is dinano glu@yahoo.com

After the two devastating earthquakes in 1999 that struck the Marmara region and left thousands of people with physical and psychological impairments, Project HOPE, a U.S. based non-profit organization was invited to Turkey to start the Marmara Initiative. This project resulted in the establishment of the İzmit Rehabilitation Center in İzmit, Turkey.

As the program director of Project HOPE Turkey, I feel this is just a beginning for us. I know there are a lot of opportunities for us to expand our good work and to continue with our mission which is reflected in our name: Health Opportunities for People Everywhere.

Founded in 1958, Project HOPE conducts international medical training and health care education programs all over the world. Our philosophy is simple: Go only where invited and help people to help themselves. In the last 42 years, over 6,000 health care professionals and educators have volunteered their services in support of Project HOPE’s mission. Currently, Project HOPE provides approximately 100 million USD worth of resources to about 30 countries each year.

As a doctor working with Project Hope, I fulfill my own mission in life. Furthermore, serving people in need is what I am trained to do as a professional. Starting back in high school years, I have always adopted ways to help people who are less fortunate and in need. At Üsküdar American Academy (then known as AAG: American Academy for Girls) I spent most of my time working for orphans and handicapped people or nursing home residents. As a Social Services Branch member, later president, I learned how it feels to share and help. After my graduation from ÜAA in 1987, I decided to go into medicine. The Marmara University Medical School provided me with the essential
knowledge and skills I needed to learn this profession; however it was much later, after my training in the U.S., that I felt I attained all it takes to become a "professional". First, I completed my residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Medicine, then my fellowship in Spinal Cord Injury at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. These six years in essence helped me to expand what I already had, a new perspective in life that went back to the ÜAA years.

In September 2000, when I joined Project HOPE and moved back to Turkey, I felt like I was starting where I left off.

Now as the Project Hope Turkey team, we train Turkish health professionals in areas that are lacking in Turkey. Our goal is to improve the health care system in ways to make it be high quality, state-of-the-art, and sustainable. Towards this goal, we bring experts from abroad and arrange for a wide variety of training activities. As I said before, İzmit Center is our first project in this matter; however it is never meant to be the only one. Through further public-private partnerships, we aim to contribute resources and expertise to bring long-term, systemic solutions to healthcare problems in Turkey.
Construction at Üsküdar Campus over the Summer
Huntington Hall is being renovated

Huntington Hall, where the main offices and the
auditorium are located, has been serving the
Üsküdar American Academy since 1958. It is
registered with the Highest Council of Monuments
and Monumental Buildings as it is a representa-
tive piece of the Republican architecture.
Although it had served its purpose for many
years to the school community, over the course of
years, as the school grew in population and
development in stage and computer technologies
the building urgently needed renovation.
The outer façade of the building is being kept
while the inside is rebuilt to meet the school's
needs. Since we are not allowed to change the
dimensions of the building, the auditorium's audi-
ence capacity will not be affected greatly.
However, the space is being rebuilt as a multi-
purpose auditorium with all kinds of audio-visual
and other technical possibilities to serve the new
generations of the school as well as the
alumni/aee.

Balconies are constructed at each side of the
pipe organ which is an important symbol imbed-
ded in all ÜAA family members. The balconies
are planned to emphasize the organ. These bal-
conies will increase the audience
capacity by 46 seats. The auditorium will have
better acoustics, and a much better back stage,
to encourage students' participation in stage per-
fomances as well as to increase the joy of being
an audience.
The ground floor will remain as offices, with a
new reception area. The floors, doors, windows
and stairways will be renewed, the building will
be strengthened, and will be ready to serve
Üsküdar American Academy for many more
years to come.
TAC and SEV First Annual Festival of the Arts

The event featured the Hacettepe Conservatory performing Vivaldi’s “Four Seasons,” as well as dramatic and ballet performances by the SEV Elementary and TAC International Student Theater Association’s students. Later a dinner reception for musicians and guests was hosted by the Mitchells at Robeson House. Sally McCain was the protocol representative for the American Board.

TAC has now established an Executive Fine Arts Committee with founding members Aykut Toros and Martha Mitchell. This committee will help promote, assist, and enhance fine arts experience for the TAC, SEV Elementary and Tarsus Community. The Ankara and Tarsus alumni Associations proudly joined together to sponsor the First Annual Festival of Arts in the Stickler Hall auditorium on May 30, 2001.
The Third Annual ACI Oscar Awards Ceremony was held on May 4, 2001 for the Lise 3 video film projects. As you all know, the Lise 3 year, especially the Spring semester is a period of anxiety for the senior students. This film project supervised by the English Department enables students to have a last opportunity to explore the campus, use their English language skills, establish and/or strengthen their friendships and add more precious memories that will be cherished in the years to come. It also enables the students to stop worrying about the upcoming university entrance exam and keeps them busy with something other than exam preparations so they can be productive for a couple of hours a week. The objective is to produce 10-15 minute films in English.

The classmates vote to choose the best film of the class and only those films are entered in the finals for the ACI Oscar Awards. This year there were 5 films from the 5 Lise 3 classes: The Eve (L3 E) was a horror film with original music composed by Yalçın Kayalar; The Caretaker (L3 D) was a psychodrama while the other films, Entrance Forbidden (L3 C), Turning Point (L3 B) and Zingearella (L3 A), were comedies.

One of the students states: “This was probably the most exciting, and original project that I was involved with during all of my ACI years. It is an extraordinary source of pride to see that the best films which made the finals are enjoyed by our fellow students as if they are some Box office films.”
2001 ASHA (American Schools and Hospitals Abroad) Workshop in Alexandria, Virginia

Alan Greco and Stacy Couto from FABSIT (Friends of the American Board Schools in Turkey) and Zehra Sunbay, Assistant General Coordinator, from the SEV office attended the workshop in Alexandria, Virginia.

The objectives of the workshop were to review the procurement procedures and to develop performance indicators and measurements. 73 attendants from 20 different countries attended the workshop.

The ASHA program was established under the Foreign Assistance Act in order to allow the President of the United States to provide assistance to schools, libraries, and centers for medical education and research that are located outside the U.S. These institutions must be founded and sponsored by U.S. citizens and serve as study and demonstration centers for ideas and practices of the U.S. Currently AID annual funding is $17 million for the year 2001.

The American Board Schools and the Gaziantep American Hospital are eligible for this and have been recipients of ASHA grants for various projects. The last project funded by ASHA is the Video-Conferencing system for the 2000-2001 school year which will be in effect by the end of September 2001. For the year 2001 TAC and ACI applied for ASHA grants. Tarsus applied for an amount of $295,000 for construction of a dormitory at the newly purchased Sadik Paşa Konağı and Izmir requests $500,000 for the renovation of the Beacon Hall Auditorium.

SEV Scholarship for the University Students Continue: Won’t you sponsor a student?

We are continuing the scholarship campaign this year. We like to thank those of you who had responded our call and contributed in our efforts to support university students who are in need and hope that this year some more graduates will join the campaign.

We should keep in mind that a bright future is only secured by educated persons.

Those of you who are interested in supporting a university student can contact Mehtlika Yaylı or Leyla Keskiner from (212) 514 15 74.

Thank you for your support.

Ayça Uygur, ACI '01

geçen bir sınavın ardından çalışmış olmanın verdiği pişmanlıktı kivrandağız zamanlarla bile yaşanlıkların her seye değdiğini! Ne de olsa insan hatalarıyla vardır. İste biz tüm bunlarla, yaptığımız tüm hatalarla, yanlış seçimlerle kendimizi tanımayız, kabullenmeyiz, ve ne olursa olsun sevmeyi öğrendik. “Ben varım, değerliyim, yaptığım ve hatta yapmadığım şeylerden sorumluyum” demeyiz, koşulsuzca kendini ve başkalarını sevmenin, yine koşulsuzca kendine ve başka insanların saygınlığı olmanın bir zayıflık olmadığı, tam aksine “insaniyet” denilen ve her insanın
Every class leaves its footprint on our school. Every class leaves a legacy for which they are remembered. I believe that the class of 2001 will be remembered as one of the most diverse groups of young people to come through our school based on interest and abilities. They range from unbelievably talented musicians, to frighteningly powerful academicians, to excellent athletes, to very passionate and caring friends. Yet they were able to excel in their area of interest and be supported as individuals.

In addition perhaps the greatest legacy of this will be the manner in which they molded the "Abi/Abla" relationship of our school into a relationship of support.

Their development of an academic tutorial program with fantastic involvement is the most visible example but throughout this year their patient and adult interactions with other students both at TAC and SEV has allowed us to move to a future where we cannot only allow but where we will truly depend on the guidance and support of older students to the younger students.

Dr. Bernard Mitchell, TAC Director

"For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.

For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.

For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.

For beautiful hair, let a child run his or her fingers through it once a day.

For poise, walk with knowledge you’ll never walk alone.

People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anybody. Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you’ll find one at the end of your arm."

During your time at TAC, I know you have discovered, that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.

As you leave from your TAC home tonight please remember us and return home to TAC often.

Please think back to your TAC days with fondness, to your friends with love, and remember your teachers with the greatest respect.

Travel safely through your lives.
Bugün okulumda kendimi canlı bir tarih gibi hissetmekteyim. Üsküdar Amerikan'ın küçük, sıcak, bir kız okulu olduğu devirlerde, ön kapının yanındaki yıl değirmenini, Sabancı Spor binasının yerindeki eski Çam Konak ve altındaki 8. sınıflarını derslik olarak kullanılan yatakhaneleri, şimdiye kadar yuva bölümünün yerindeki yatılı öğrencili camasırhanesini, ilk okul binasında, Sükran Günlerinde camdan içeri hindilerin gizlice salverilmesi adet haline gelen Müdür ve Türk Müdür odalarını, zencefilli bisküvi, çikolatalı kek ve brownie kocku sıcak çay odasını, kravat çeketi ve önden muhakkak dört pilikası bulunan üniformamızı, oturumuz, kalkmamız, yemek servisinin kurallara bağlı olduğunu ve mis gibi erik tatlısı ve apple pie kocka yemek haneyi, eski laboratuvarı ve özellikle, çeşitli dedikodulara konu olan, çok sevilen bir müdürümüzün cinayete kurban giden erkek arkadaşı olduğuna inandığımız fakat ancak geçen yıl çıkan Sufyan Oyohon tarafından plastik olduğu açıklanan laboratuvarımızın meşru iskeleti Yusuf'un unutmamışım imkan yok.


Yıllar yılı biraz da rekabet duygusu ile kadınların liderliğini vurgulayan okulumuz artık kadın/erkek aynı yapmayı sadece liderliği vurgulayan bir kimliğe dönüştü. Biz, kuruluşu 1860'lı yıllara dayanan, gerek Osmanlı İmparatorluğu gerekse Cumhuriyet döneminde eğitimimize dünyasında ekol sayılan bir kurumun mezunlarımız.

Bu ekolün özelliği nedir?
Yapıcı ve yaratıcı,
Diş a dönük,
Duyarlı,
Duygusal olarak kendini iyi ifade edebilen,
Sıcak, dost
İşbirliğine, yardımlımsrayı anılan,
Övgüyle şarmayan, övgüsünü esirgemeyen,
Güvenilir,
Toplumsal çıkarları kendi çıkarlarının üstünde tutan,
Bilimsel düşünen,
Demokratik yaşam anlayışını hak ve sorumluluklarını ayırmaksizin benimseyen ve koruyan,
Atatürk ilke ve inançları doğrultusundan ayrılmayan,
Liderlik vasıflarına sahip bireyler. Özet olarak bize her iyi tanımlayan iki özellik:
1. Sevgiye dayanan insan faktörü
2. Becerise dayanan liderlik faktörü

Seymeyi bilme, her insanda sevillecek yönler olaçağını varsayıp, insanlar arası ilişkileri bu anlaşıma yakışmak tüm insanların temel gerekşimleri SEVGİNIN kaynağını zenginleştirecek, çevresini bilen kişilerin daha yaratıcı, daha etkin ve daha mutlu kişiler olmasını sağlayacaktır. İnsanın insan olduğu için sevmek bir Üsküdar Amerikan geleneğidir.

Esin Hoyi, ÜAA '58, Speaker of the Day, Robert College Turkish Principal
New Teachers for the SEV/ABH Schools have
Orientation in İstanbul, August 13-16

Twenty-five new teachers, for the SEV and ABH
schools, gathered in the evening of August 13 on
the Üsküdar American Academy campus to begin
their orientation program. They were welcomed by
Whitman Shepard, Director of the Üsküdar schools
and by Tülin Büyükalkan, SEV Education
Coordinator and Coordinator of the Orientation
Program. They enjoyed meeting their colleagues
from other schools and others along with a barbeque meal, music and dancing during the evening.

The next morning they were welcomed by Alan
McCain, ABH General Secretary and Ziya
Köseoğlu, SEV General Coordinator as they began
the three day program of lectures and Turkish les-
sions. Lecture-discussion topics included “The
Turkish Education System,” “Cultural Differences
and Adaptation,” “The Political Scene in Turkey,”
and “The Economic Scene in Turkey.” Turkish les-
sions for 1 and 1/2 hours each day focused on
basic everyday topics.

Following lunch in the ÜAA cafeteria each day,
there were sightseeing trips to major historical sites
in the afternoons and dinners in the evenings. The
Bosphorus Dinner Cruise was especially popular.
Dinner at the 400-year old soup-kitchen of the
Süleymaniye complex, Darülziyafed, included a
presentation of representative Anatolian folk
dances and the dinner the last evening offered a
lovely view of the Bosphorus and the old city from
the roof of Katibim Restaurant in Üsküdar.
The new teachers included 7 for İzmir, 6 for
Tarsus, and 12 for Üsküdar. Several spouses of
teachers were present and one couple had their 9-
month old daughter, Jessica, who became the cen-
ter of attention wherever she went. The teachers
came from both Canada and the USA and many
have overseas teaching experience in international
schools, the Peace corps, etc. They all were
pleased to be now in Turkey and have expressed
their appreciation for the opportunity to meet their
colleagues from other schools and to have become
acquainted with the SEV/ABH personnel at this
orientation. They gave their thanks to the
Orientation Program Committee: Tülin Büyükalkan,
Coordinator, Dorothy Keller, Robert Keller, Çiğdem
Fromm, Leyla Keskiner, Tülin Kenber, and Mehlika
Yaylalı.
Gaziantep Amerikan Hastanesi Poliklinik Açılışı


Eskiden Hemsirelik Okulu olarak kullanılan binanın atıl durumda ve poliklinik hizmetleri için gerekli altyapı bulunması göz önune alınınca bu tarihi bina poliklinik olarak yeniden tefsir edilmiştir.

Haziran ayında hizmete giren bu poliklinik sayesinde ayakta tedavi gören hastalarla, yatakar tedavi gören hasta birimleri birbirinden ayrılmış; Hastane bağımsız bir Acil Servis birimi kavuşmuştur. Hasta kayıt kabul ve arşiv ile hasta bekleme salonu ihtiyacı karşılayacak taze-de ve çago uygun olarak düzenlenmiştir. Fiziki koşulların elvermesi nedeniyle tam zamanlı çalışacak doktor sayısında artış mümkün olmuştur. Bu da poliklinik sayımızın ve dolayısıyla hasta sayımızın artması yani daha çok insana daha kaliteli hizmet verebileceğimiz anlamına gelmektedir.

Dr. Tayfun Özsefer, Başhekim

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Thank You Note

Dr. Shepard has contributed enourmously to Gaziantep American Hospital and its community since his arrival in 1996 when he became the first American in 20 years to hold the position of Medical Director. Although not doing “hands-on” medicine, he brought vast administrative experience and contacts with the international medical community and provided significant initiatives at the hospital. Those initiatives include: the development of the diabetes center, the only one of its kind in the southeast region where diabetes is widely prevalent, with its eye clinic; the new intensive care unit; the new central oxygen system; a greatly improved x-ray/imaging department, a complete endoscopy service; and the contact relationship with the “Emekli Sandığı” which helps the hospital achieve its mission to provide free or reduced cost care to lower and middle income families. He was proud to follow in the footsteps of his father, Dr. Lorrin Shepard, and his grandparents, Drs. Fred and Fanny Shepard, in medical service in Turkey. Our heartfelt thanks go to him as he returns to his home in Maine.
McCain Family Establishes a Time-Specific Scholarship Fund for those Parents affected by the Economic Crisis

Dear Colleagues:

During these days many of our Turkish neighbors and colleagues are struggling to figure out how to get through the days and months ahead.

From time to time we have needed a helping hand to get us through financial troubles. Many people around us are in precisely that condition right now. In particular, we are concerned about those students in the ABH and SEV schools whose education might be interrupted because of their families’ temporary financial embarrassment.

We don’t have a lot of money ourselves. But we are calling on our partners in SEV, in FABSIT, in BOYD and the other Graduates’ Associations, and within the school communities to match our personal $1,000 “drop in the bucket.” Together, we could put together a fund that would really make a difference.

We propose a fund for one-time grants-in-aid, available to cover an amount up to the first installment (taksit) of the 2001-2 school year. The application details will be uncomplicated; those who wish to repay when times are better may do so, to each school’s scholarship fund. Whatever money we can gather will be spent to help families in temporary financial need.

If you are willing to help us help these young people continue on their way through our school, you can contribute in the following ways:

In Turkish Currency to Yafiafbank, Mercan Branch, acct. no. 2007139
for Sağlık ve Eğitim Vakfı

In US Currency to Yafiafbank, Mercan Branch, acct. no. 4010108
for Sağlık ve Eğitim Vakfı

In the United States donation checks can be sent directly to FABSIT,
14 Beacon Street No. 708, Boston, MA 02108 with a note of explanation.

Thank you very much for considering this opportunity to help in this time of financial crisis.

Sincerely yours,

Sally Ann McCain

Alan McCain
Sevgili Hocam,


Öğrencilerinizden birinin es Nergis Ataman’ın yazdıklarına canlı gönülken katılıyor insan mektupları okudukça “Özelleştirilmiş öğrencininiz milleti, vatansver, Atatürk İşler olmaları, dünya ve yakın çevrelerine ilgi duymaları, ekonomi ve politika konularında siziyle yaşaçağın kadar sizden yakınlık görmüş olmaları bence sizin mesleki başlarınızdır.”


Leyla Keskiner, ACI ‘85