

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

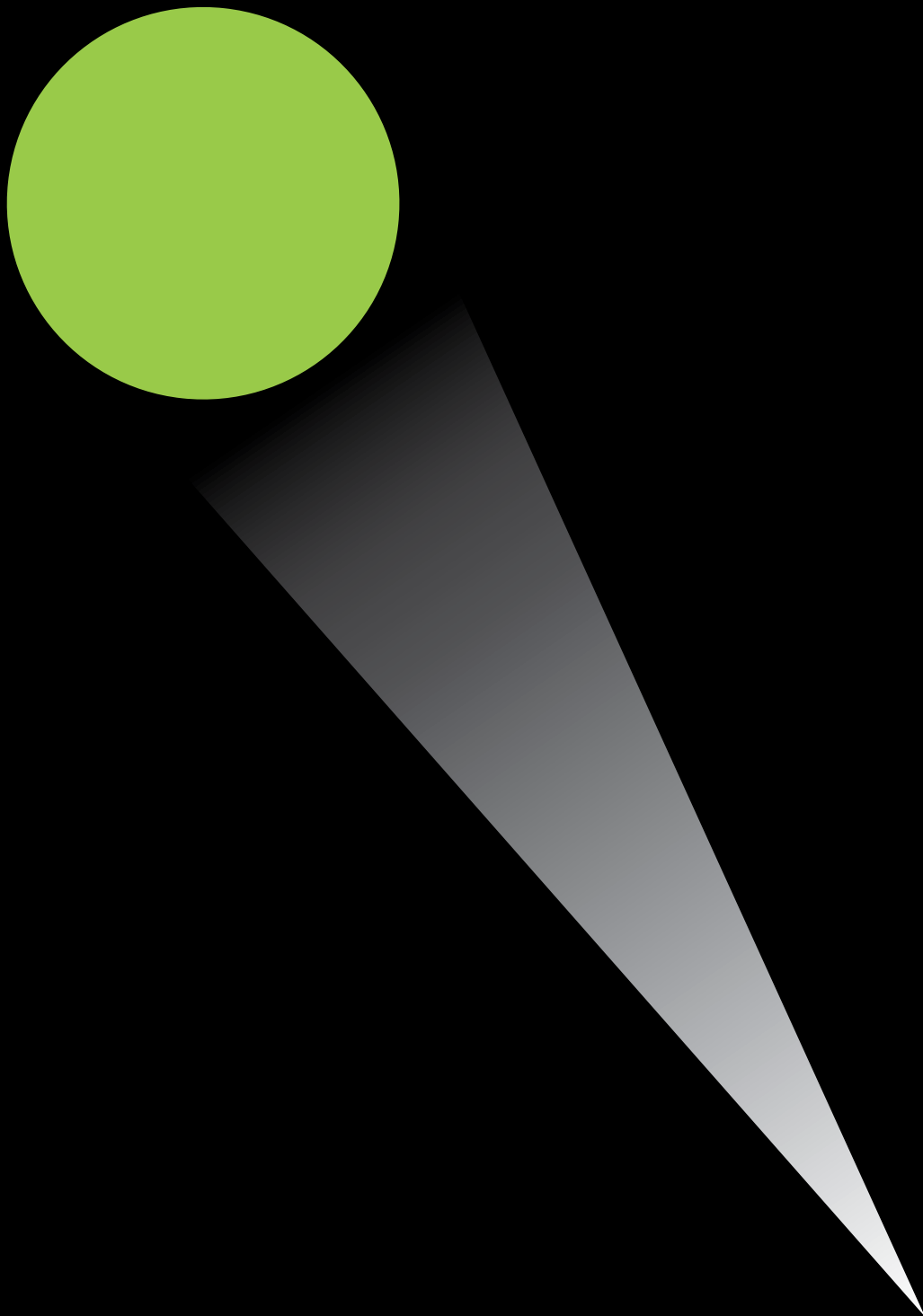
KIMEP UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 2 - JANUARY 2013



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Dear KIMEP Alumni,

Welcome to the second edition of KIMEP University's alumni magazine!

I hope that you find this magazine interesting, as well as a reminder of your fond memories of KIMEP. The friendships and contacts that you made at KIMEP will last a lifetime. This magazine will allow you to keep up with your friends and classmates, and find out what is new at your alma mater.

The whole KIMEP community recognizes the vital importance of strong bonds with our alumni. Your continued support and engagement with KIMEP means a great deal to our current students and everyone else here on campus.

Let me close by expressing how proud I am of your many achievements in your many different fields. Your success brings honor to KIMEP, and I am so happy that our university is represented by so many illustrious alumni. May you continue to be an inspiration for generations of KIMEP students to come!

Yours sincerely,

Chan Young Bang

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The 20th Anniversary Gala Reception: Celebrating Excellence

KIMEP University organized a gala reception dedicated to its 20th anniversary at the Central State Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Friday, March 30th, 2012. The reception launched a photo exhibit depicting KIMEP University over the years, which lasted for 10 days. The event gathered over 250 corporate partners; representatives from universities and schools; government officials; KIMEP professors; and alumni. In addition to viewing the professionally displayed or printed photographs, visitors also had an opportunity to see KIMEP's trophies and plaques for academic and extracurricular awards.

The evening was formally opened by Dr. Chan Young Bang, president of KIMEP University and Dr. Hartmut Fischer, KIMEP University Board Member and past president of the University. "KIMEP today is connected to many internationally important universities that have recognized KIMEP University for the quality of education which it delivers to its students", commented Dr. Fischer. "Above all, my thanks go to President Nazarbayev and Dr. Bang for their initial vision, which has become a reality to the benefit of the people of Kazakhstan".

Guests present enjoyed live music performed by a classical orchestra, a catered buffet and a seven-layer cake, which was presented with rousing cheer by alumni present from each class. ■



KIMEP Gains University Status

The 20th anniversary has brought a number of changes to KIMEP. The Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research officially became KIMEP University in 2012. University status will allow KIMEP to expand its academic programs, particularly at the master's and doctoral level. This is crucial to KIMEP's strategic goal of building a world-class university. KIMEP's academic partners and the corporate community were thrilled with the news.

"I am very pleased to learn that KIMEP has been granted university status. This achievement fully confirms our very positive experiences in our scientific collaboration and student exchange, notably our dual master's degree program. It also demonstrates that high level, internationally-oriented education is advancing in Kazakhstan," noted Dr. Franz Hubert from Humboldt University in Berlin. "KIMEP, a pioneer in the sphere of education since the 1990's, continues to remain a leader in this sphere, setting high standards in the field of business education. We wish you and your faculty and staff further success in your activities that are so vital for society," said Rinat Shayakhmetov, Advisor to the Chairman of the Board, RBK Bank. ■

KIMEP University: International Accreditation

The Asian Forum on Business Education (AFBE) team visited KIMEP University in August 2011 to examine Bang College of Business (BCB) programs and undertook an extensive process of review, consulting with all stakeholders – students, faculty, managers, alumni, and employers of graduates and staff. In September 2011 the MBA and BSc programs were accredited by the AFBE. In February 2012 the Executive MBA program was accredited by the AFBE.

AFBE accreditation indicates that the BCB is a strong business school in the Asian region, with a substantial regional reputation and presence

in Asia. It has standing comparison with institutions in China, Korea, Singapore and Malaysia among others. AFBE accreditation is yet another signal to the business community that BCB graduates represent the best source of well-trained employees.

The next step is to achieve the 'gold standard' of global business school accreditation – AACSB and EQUIS. The AACSB is the most esteemed accreditation agency for business schools in the world. This level of accreditation – the ultimate one – would represent even further progress toward KIMEP University's goal of becoming a truly world-class business school. Other KIMEP University Colleges are actively pursuing International accreditation as well. ■



New Opportunities – Dual Degrees Around the World



KIMEP University is developing strong dual degree programs with some of the world's most famous universities. The principle of dual degree programs is that students study for part of the program at KIMEP University and part of the program at one of the partner universities, whereby credits are recognized by both universities. Upon completion, the students receive diplomas from both institu-

tions. All classes are taught in English. This provides our students with the opportunity to obtain an international diploma at one of the leading universities in the world and a KIMEP University diploma, the leading university in Central Asia. This will increase the students' employability after they graduate and provide them with more and better job opportunities, both in Kazakhstan and abroad.

Currently KIMEP University offers dual degree programs with Humboldt University Berlin, Germany (MA Economics); University of Glasgow, UK (Master International Relations); IESEG School of Management, part

of the Catholic University of Lille, France (MBA/MIB); EM Strasbourg Business School, part of University of Strasbourg, France (BSc Business & Accounting/Bachelor in European Management); Yonsei University, South Korea (Master International Relations, and MA Economics).

KIMEP University is finalizing dual degree agreements with Cass Business School, part of City University London, UK (MBA/MSc Finance & Accounting) and University of Dundee, UK (LLM). KIMEP University is planning to open many more dual degree opportunities for its students and is currently negotiating with more than 10 leading universities all over the world.

For more information please contact the International Relations Office at exchange@kimep.kz or visit office 409, Dostyk building. ■

Professional Associations: Dynamic Partnerships with KIMEP

KIMEP became the first institute of higher education in Kazakhstan to join the Kazakhstan Petroleum Association (KPA) in December 2011. The association unites more than 50 leading Kazakhstani and foreign companies from 20 countries, which are involved in the oil and gas industry of Kazakhstan, including KazMunaiGas, Tethys, Tengizchevroil, and CNPC International.

"We believe that our membership in the association will open a whole new window of opportunities for KIMEP. We will build upon and expand our network of companies in the oil and gas sector. Our students will gain new possibilities for internships and career placement, and our faculty will have the opportunity to collaborate on joint research projects, conferences and trainings with major companies in the field," commented KIMEP Associate Vice President for Advancement Mr. Ronald Voogdt.

KIMEP University is also a member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Kazakhstan and the European Business Association of Kazakhstan. The American Chamber of Commerce in Kazakhstan serves as the voice of the U.S. business community by creating an open forum to exchange information, ideas, and gain experience doing business in Kazakhstan. European Business Association of Kazakhstan (EUROBAK)

is a non-commercial organization representing the European business community in Kazakhstan. KIMEP is proud of its active involvement in both of these groups. ■

"I am pleased that KIMEP has become the first institute of higher education to join our association. With its outstanding faculty, programs and facilities, KIMEP is committed to laying the foundation for a vibrant economy and building business opportunities throughout Kazakhstan"

Yerzhan Bilyalov, Executive Director, Kazakhstan Petroleum Association





Fall Alumni Reunion

KIMEP's annual alumni reunion was held on the evening of Friday, November 25th, 2011 in the University's newly renovated Sports Center. Alumni came to the university to catch up with old friends and professors, and to see how their alma mater has changed since their time as students.

The event has become one of KIMEP's favorite traditions. Along with the alumni, the guests also included the faculty and staff. KIMEP's President, Dr. Bang, opened the evening with welcoming remarks, focusing on one of KIMEP's most important goals: strong ties between the institute and its alumni. The atmosphere was friendly and lively.

Irina Druzhinina, MBA 1996, commented, "Events like this are a good way to renew lost contacts and to find old friends. I have met my classmates with whom I studied with for 2 years. We have known each other since 1994, when we entered KIMEP and started studying MBA and we still communicate with each other so long after graduation. And for current students, I really want to say that KIMEP is a great opportunity to get a great education that prepares you for a great job."

Kazkommertsbank and Etihad Airways were the sponsors for the alumni reunion event and provided generous prizes, including 2 tickets to any Etihad Airways destination in the world! The lucky winner of the tickets was Azamat Sergaliyev, Bsc 2010! KIMEP is always proud of its alumni, and aims to enhance their presence in the life of the University in collaborative and creative ways! ■

Rakhmet Scholarship Fund

The RAKHMET Scholarship Fund was established in 2010. This is a fund designed for KIMEP Alumni to support students in need, and contribute to the education of tomorrow's leaders. The fund financially supports needy students, who demonstrate excellence in academic merit. The first recipient of the Rakhmet Scholarship is 4th year student and KSA Vice President Darmen Koktov. Darmen was selected by current alumni ambassadors for his academic and extracurricular excellence during his studies at KIMEP University. If you wish to contribute to the fund, please contact KIMEP's Corporate Development Department at cdd@kimep.kz or +7 727 270 42 26. ■



Alumni Success Stories

Since 2006 the Department of Quality Assurance and Institutional Research (QAIR) is annually publishing success stories of alumni in the regular KIMEP Fact Book. In the Fall of 2011 QAIR published a separate "Outstanding Alumni Stories of Success: Inspiring by Example" Booklet, featuring the compelling stories of professional achievements of KIMEP University's prominent alumni.

The links to these publications can be found here:

<http://www.kimep.kz/about/about/publications>

If you would like KIMEP to highlight your professional or community service activities, we will be happy to include your profile in alumni-related publications. Please contact cdd@kimep.kz to participate. ■



Services for Alumni

KIMEP is proud of its Alumni. The success of the University depends primarily on the success of its graduates. KIMEP is pleased to offer the following list of benefits for its Alumni, and encourages alumni to take advantage of the following services.

- 10% discounts for the trainings of Professional Development Programs (PDP) of the College of Continuing Education of KIMEP, as well as foreign language courses and preparatory courses for the children for the admission to KIMEP
- Free access to the information resources of the KIMEP Library labs,
- Access to the KIMEP Sports Center
- Rental of the conference halls of KIMEP with 10% discount for the conferences, trainings, and seminars

Career and Employment Center offers its services to help alumni to find good candidates among KIMEP graduates for work or students for internships opportunities. Alumni looking for jobs can utilize the center services as well! ■



Alumni Chapters and Alumni Ambassadors

KIMEP launched the 'Alumni Ambassadors' program in February 2011, identifying outstanding alumni volunteers from each graduating class from 1994-2010. Alumni Ambassadors are an important link between KIMEP and their classmates, informing them of events at the university and encouraging their active participation in university life. Ambassadors serve on KIMEP's advisory board, participate in the university graduation, and contribute to the strategic development of the university. KIMEP is pleased to currently have alumni ambassadors active in Almaty, Astana and Atyrau. If you are interested in becoming an Ambassador, please contact cdd@kimep.kz ■

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Alumni Chapter in Atyrau

The first meeting of the Atyrau based KIMEP alumni chapter took place on August 10, 2012 in Armada restaurant. The idea of the meeting was to re-unite alumni working in various sectors of the economy of this leading oil and gas region of Kazakhstan.

Another goal of the meeting, as many of our senior graduates occupy top level positions in companies, was to help fresh graduates with the hiring process and job placement.

The idea to bring Atyrau alumni together was given by the Astana Alumni Chapter activists Sauranbayev Murager and Kerimbayeva Saltanat. Salpekov Alibek (alum BSC-2008, MBA-2009) and Azhigaliyeva Almagul (alum BSC-2008) organized the Atyrau re-union party. We expect to hear more on further activities from Atyrau Alumni Chapter in the near future. ■

KIMEP around Kazakhstan: Highlight on Astana Alumni Chapter



After work, on a Monday evening, we had a small meeting with the Astana KIMEP IR Alumni. All of us have started working in our own sectors and are quite satisfied with how our careers have progressed thus far. We all realized that our professional careers truly started when we first came to KIMEP. We had so many memories of our favorite classes, professors, exams, group mates, friends, and even the essays we wrote, and projects we have done. We talked until late in the evening, laughing and discussing politics from our new perspectives, and we remembered our favorite IR theories and its implications in real life and many other things that would probably sound weird and unfamiliar to the people around us in the cafe.

The best thing about our meeting was not only sharing our fun memories of our past at the University, but what a fun and exciting future we have yet to see.

Thank you KIMEP, for such an amazing and endlessly interesting group of friends!

I currently work as an Astana Economic Forum coordinator in the Association of Eurasian Economic club of Scientists. ■

Best Regards,
Assem Konkakova



KIMEP graduates in Astana

Astana being the capital of the state and capital of the Kazakhstani people's hearts is attracting more and more young professionals aspiring to achieve high goals in prospering the country. And KIMEP graduates, famous for their ambitions and initiative nature, are the first who hurried up to make their own contributions into the construction of the new city, new policies and new attitudes and new society of the future.

Therefore, not surprisingly Astana has become a home for so many KIMEP graduates attracting young specialists from all over the country. Bachelors and Masters of public administration and law, IR, economics, business administration, and journalism, everybody has found a home here for their creative ideas and the most enterprising plans. Applying extensive knowledge and skills granted by professional Faculty at their Alma Mater, unique experiences obtained in vivid social life that we were lucky to have, they work for a better future for their families, society and therefore the country in general. In Astana, they realize themselves in multiple spheres either in public sector or in personal entrepreneurial projects. However, despite the tough working schedule and severe and capricious Astana weather, every KIMEP graduate cherishes memories of common and

unforgettable KIMEP student life; they still keep in touch with each other forming in such a way the KIMEP Alumni Association in Astana. Previously, KIMEP Alumni meetings used to be organized systematically by the elder generation of graduates, and famous KIMEP activists. Then, such meetings stopped for almost two years. Now the graduates of 2008-2010 years took the initiative and organized the third meeting of KIMEP Alumni in Astana. Like everything great in this world, the very first meeting after the two year break was organized spontaneously. During the month of May a group of close friends and colleagues initiated a





meeting in one of the lounge bars of Astana. Unexpectedly, this evening revealed that so many graduates are living in Astana or are in the process of moving there.

The second meeting was held on the 8th of July 2012, in one of the finest locations in Astana, the outdoor stage of Saltanat Sarayi Palace. The event was organized at the request of those who could not attend the previous meeting. Graduates organized a show with funny games, entertainment, a lot of music and dancing. This meeting brought together not only young graduates, but alumni representatives who finished their studies between 2004 and 2012. But the main guests of the meeting were representatives of KIMEP Administration, Dr. Mostafa Golam, the Vice-President for Academic Affairs, and Mr. Petr Krepak, Director of Government Internship Program. Dr. Golam came to Astana for a ceremony dedicated to the conclusion of the 2012 Internship of KIMEP students in the Parliament of the RK, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economic Development and trade of the RK. The culmination of the evening was a huge cake in the form of the KIMEP logo.

While keeping in mind the lessons of their KIMEP instructors, the Alumni in Astana are trying to diversify not only their investments, but their entertainment as well. Recently, the Alumni met outside Astana, and decided to unwind by playing paintball. Players divided into two teams – boys and girls. Of course, KIMEP friendship wins in the end! The paintball game was quite exciting, and, no doubt, it was printed in the hearts of graduates as a funny and very memorable event.

I, on the behalf of all members of the KIMEP Alumni in Astana, would like to invite you to our meetings, where you would have a unique opportunity to meet your old friends, group mates, and many new people, to experience that original and miraculous KIMEP spirit that put us aside from others, moves us forward and encourages us to achieve our best endeavors.

Murager Sauranbayev, BAIJ, Graduated 2009, Alumni Ambassador in Astana. ■

Alumni Spotlight Interview with Sergey Nigai

KIMEP MA in Economics, Class of 2007 **Sergey, your education and life have taken you all over the world! Tell us a little about the different places you've lived and degrees you've done.**

In 2001, I began my undergraduate studies at the National University of Uzbekistan. At that time I had a very vague idea of what I wanted to do in life, so unsurprisingly my first major, International Economic Relations, sounded just as vague and unclear. If I had to name the biggest turning point of my career it would have to be the academic year of 2002-2003 which I spent in the US. I was fortunate enough to become a finalist of the UGRAD exchange program and studied for a year in California State University, Bakersfield. This all happened ten years ago but



I still remember my excitement when I attended classes taught by professors who were both excellent lecturers and passionate researchers. I decided that's what I wanted to be. Since then it's been a long journey of going towards that goal. I came back to Uzbekistan in 2003 and got my BA degree in 2005. I decided to do masters in KIMEP for

very particular reasons (mentioned below) and spent two years in Almaty. I went on to do a graduate degree in the University of Virginia and took PhD courses there during 2007-2009. I had to stop for a year which I spent working in the University of Virginia as a researcher. In 2010, I was fortunate enough to get a research spot at ETH Zurich where I started writing my doctoral dissertation. I got my PhD in October, 2012.

How did KIMEP fit into the picture? In retrospect, what stands out from your KIMEP education? Was it the social activities, the dormitory, the academics? Was there anything specific at KIMEP that helped you with obtaining your doctoral degree?

Getting into a top PhD program either in the US or Europe is not an easy task, especially for someone from Central Asia. Standardized tests such as GRE or GMAT matter but in no way are they decisive. Good scores are necessary but certainly not sufficient. Admission committees look for stellar recommendation letters (preferably from someone they have heard of, through publications, conferences etc.) and, perhaps even more importantly, a degree from a well-known institution. Frankly speaking, the latter two are almost impossible to get in Central Asia. I chose KIMEP because it was one of the few institutions at that time that had faculty with western degrees and a full-time western-style masters program in economics. A simple fact that we used the very same books and covered the very same curricular as masters programs in the US made it simpler for admission committees to assess my application. Also, it was extremely helpful that I got recommendation letters from English speaking faculty who had western degrees. Another decisive factor for me was the funding offer from KIMEP. At that time, there were several scholarships available for students from Central Asia that covered tuition and guaranteed a spot in the dormitory. I really think that these scholarships were a great way to attract good students from the whole CA region. I cannot say enough good words about friendly atmosphere in KIMEP. Faculty were very helpful and approachable. They shared their experience and gave good advice on how to continue my further studies. MA in Economics class of 2007 was a great group of people from all over Kazakhstan and Central Asia and I definitely enjoyed two years that I spent at Abaya-Lenina. Almaty will always have this special place in my memories as one of the greatest cities that I've lived in.

Any tips you'd give to current KIMEP master's students or other alumni thinking of doing a PhD?

It is unfortunate that job market for PhDs is quite limited in Central Asia. I think a lot of people who could be very successful in academia choose industry simply because they see very limited financial potential in doing a PhD. But in today's globalized world job markets are no longer local. So the only advice I can give is to get education that will help you get a job that you'd enjoy and, perhaps, give current local average starting salary a bit less weight. Markets change and I do think that in the next decade or so we will see an increased demand for scientists versus managers in Central Asian countries. If you've decided that you do want to do a PhD then start early. Selecting schools, taking exams, getting recommendation letters etc. requires time. Make sure you have a very detailed plan of the application process. Apply to as many schools as you can, the marginal cost of an additional application is very low so there is no reason to apply to only one school. I find it funny when people have a dream school in mind and refuse even considering other places. The truth is that it is easier to reject multiple admission offers than having none.

Where will we be able to find you in the world now?

I plan to stay in Switzerland, in the alma mater of Albert Einstein and dozens of other Nobel Prize winners, for at least a few years and continue doing academic research, and teaching. I do not know where life will take me from there, as I've already mentioned, job markets are international and I am quite open to the idea of working in other parts of the world.

Final thoughts to share with other KIMEP alumni?

I often hear from my friends that they hate their jobs. I cannot imagine doing something that I hate for 40 hours every week. In fact, I've had many chances of getting a well-paid industry job that I'd absolutely hate. I believe that this is a tragedy of our generation; we are told that in order to be successful we need to be managers, lawyers, accountants, economists etc. This is a complete myth! If you love your job you will be successful in every aspect of your life. ■



Hi there! I am Victoria Tazhmagambetova, MBA 2011 Graduate! The Alumni of KIMEP University may know me by my work as a KIMEP Alumni Association Coordinator. Last year we have launched the first edition of KIMEP Alumni Magazine. This year I am as the KIMEP University alumna, the one of a big Alumni Society also take a part in a creation of the second magazine!

I do not have extraordinary achievements in my career path at the moment. Still working at the KIMEP University Corporate Development Department. However, I have some changes in my personal life. Currently, my duties in Alumni Association are performed by another person as I am on a maternity leave! Recently I gave a birth to a wonderful little girl, and would like to share my happiness with you! So, now I am a mother of two wonderful kids! ■



Dear KIMEP Alumni!

Please allow me to take the opportunity to congratulate you on your successful career! We, the faculty members and administrators of KIMEP, are very proud of you. You are making a tremendous contribution to the business and public sectors of Kazakhstan. Your efforts are leading the way for the economic and socio-political development of this great nation. We wish you continued success in your career, and we hope you can achieve more in the coming years.

At KIMEP, we are making continuous improvements to the education that we provide, while also gaining international recognition for our programs. As part of this effort, various programs are in the process of obtaining accreditation by international agencies.

I am thrilled to inform you that the Asian Forum on Business Education recently awarded our BSc and MBA programs Level II (regional) accreditation. We are looking to receive Level III (international) accreditation in the near future. This would mean that KIMEP programs match the quality of the very best universities in the world! Through the accreditation process, we are improving the curricula of all programs. At the same time, we are increasing the amount of learning assessment and on-campus quality control.

In BCB, we are always looking to offer new programs that will prepare graduates suited to serve the growing industry demand for specialized experts. To that end, we are currently preparing the license applications for two new programs: an MSc in Accounting with ACCA preparation and an MSc in Finance with CFA preparation. These programs will focus on the learning materials of the ACCA and CFA certificate programs. In designing the curricula, we will seek assistance from



the international bodies overseeing these programs to make sure that our courses meet their high standards.

Students of these programs will be able to “kill two birds with one stone.” Once they complete the program, they will receive a Master’s degree. At the same time, they will be fully prepared for the exams of the ACCA and CFA programs. These prestigious professional certifications are highly regarded in the industry.

We hope that these two programs will start in the fall semester of 2013, and we promise to keep you informed about further exciting developments at your Alma Mater.

Again, I wish you more success in your personal and professional lives. Please, keep in touch. GO KIMEP!!!

Sincerely,

M Mujibul Haque

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, BCB





KIMEP Executive Education Center offers dynamic programs that allow professionals to further upgrade their skills and gain a competitive edge in the labor market. EEC invites and will be glad to see you among the members of the Marketing Club “Navigator”, HR Club or Professional Certification Program in Corporate Governance, CFA, ACCA preparatory courses.

HR Club

KIMEP hosts the HR Club to keep current with the latest ideas and best practices in human resource management. HR Club aims to provide comprehensive integration of HR managers working in different industries to connect and network, and learn and share knowledge in HR trends. The club's meetings discuss HR challenges that companies face and collectively seek solutions. ■



Marketing Club “Navigator”

KIMEP’s Marketing Club “Navigator” strives to provide the local business community with a unique opportunity to enhance their knowledge and expertise via a wide range of regularly scheduled courses and seminars. The mission of the Marketing Club is to build a platform for working professionals to enhance their knowledge and understanding of modern marketing practices and other essential professional skills. We also strive to provide the Club’s members with the exclusive opportunity to network with representatives from some of the most distinguished companies of Almaty and also the chance to interact socially with their professional peers. ■



ACCA course

The ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) is one of the largest and fastest growing international accountancy bodies with more than 500,000 members and students. To get ACCA qualification students need to pass 14 exams (F1-F9, P1-P7). The ACCA program is mostly designed for those who aim to become a highly qualified professional in any sector of business. No previous knowledge of accounting or finance is required to become an ACCA student. All that is required is the motivation to make a significant investment in time to achieve success in your future career. No matter if you are a university graduate, or already working professionally in business, ACCA provides routes into the profession for everyone. ■

CFA course

The CFA Charter is the most prestigious globally recognized designation in the investment management industry. The CFA is a recognition of excellence in investment knowledge and the highest ethical standards recognized worldwide. Preparatory courses are led by Donald Hoskins, CFA – a professor with extensive experience in investment management at leading firms on Wall Street who received his CFA Charter in 1988. ■

Professional Certification Program in Corporate Governance

With the support of PetroKazakhstan, KIMEP Executive Education Center in cooperation with the Kazakhstan Independent Directors Association (KIDA) is pleased to present the first Professional Certification Program in Corporate Governance offering two levels of certification, Certified Corporate Governance Professional™ (CCGP™) and Certified Corporate Governance Director™ (CCGD™). This certification program includes lecture and master class of corporate governance featuring the leading industry experts; embedded case studies providing better insights into the topics; frequent guest lectures from the acting members of Boards of Directors, Independent Directors, representatives of national companies and regulatory representatives; continuous assessment of knowledge and skills through tests, open-ended questions and discussions. ■

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ALUMNI IN STUDENT RECRUITMENT

Alumni in student recruitment

The Undergraduate Admissions Office would like to thank all alumni for their dedication to the University and their willingness to give their time and talents. Also, the Undergraduate Admissions Office would like to express its gratitude to KIMEP alumni for their help in organization of recruitment events during the Academic Year of 2011-2012.

Our staff is eager to work with all of the alumni volunteers to ensure students are informed about their higher education opportunities and to find the “best fit” for them.

Twenty alumni took part and led interactive sessions in different recruitment events in the 2011-2012 seasons such as: Open House Days in different cities including Central Asian regions, New KIMEP Family Day in Almaty, Principals’ Reception in Astana and Atyrau, and Sunday English clubs at KIMEP.

The Undergraduate Admissions Office would like to welcome alumni to join us in the following year’s recruitment season. We know that the potential for alumni participation is unlimited in scope and invaluable in its ability to contribute to a successful recruitment, therefore, we would like to call for alumni participation by the following means:

- Recommendations-Alumni can recommend potential applicants or where to go to get ideas about prospective applicants. Please e-mail the name of the potential KIMEP student and his/her contacts to the following email address uao@kimep.kz
- Recruitment Events-Alumni can deliver impressive speeches or simply make a good impression to reinforce the idea of lifetime commitment to KIMEP University.
- Our recruitment geography is broad and diverse and we would like to call for alumni who are interested in becoming a “regional contact” for Undergraduate Recruitment and Admissions. “Regional contacts” may also be willing to host an event at their home or place of business.

If you are interested in participating in the recruitment activities in next year’s recruitment season, let us know at www.kimep.kz/undergraduateadmissions/alumni or contact Natalya Miltseva, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, at +7 (727) 270 43 20 or uao@kimep.kz ■



Replace Yourself Project

Dear Alumni! The Undergraduate Admissions Office would like to thank you for being active in the project “Replace yourself”. For two years in a row the Office of Undergraduate Admissions provided newly admitted undergraduate students with a postcard signed by KIMEP alumni with our best wishes and guides for the new students as a part of the acceptance package. The main objective of the mentioned above project was to stimulate enrollment of the newly admitted students by establishing personal connections between KIMEP alumni and their followers.

We truly appreciate your time and willingness to support this initiative and call for more active participation. The postcards are available for signing and located in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions of KIMEP University. If you are interested to sign the postcard, which will be given to newly admitted students, contact Natalya Miltseva, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, at +7 (727) 270 43 20 or uao@kimep.kz

Thank you once again, and let’s make the difference in admissions and enrollment processes together! ■



facebook

Elizabeth Linder, Facebook Corp.,
Tech Forum 2012 speaker



Tech Forum 2012

KIMEP University was proud to host the Tech Forum Central Asia 2012 (TFCA) from June 14-16, an international forum taking place in Kazakhstan for the first time. The forum was kicked off by representatives from BBC, i2i, yVision and Facebook, who presented their views on "Tech for Social Good." The event gathered over 100 participants from Central and South Asia. Young bloggers and NGO representatives met to discuss the intricacies of social entrepreneurship and the possibility of using information technology and the Internet for the benefit of society. ■

US Ambassador visit

On January 27, 2012, US Ambassador Kenneth Fairfax addressed students and faculty on U.S.-Kazakhstani relations and his diplomatic career. The Ambassador's speech followed by a Q&A session, during which he answered questions about elections in Kazakhstan and the United States, the situation in Syria, and lessons he learned from his life. Nearly 500 members of the KIMEP Community came together in the Great Hall to listen to the Ambassador's lively and fact filled presentation. ■



Stanislav Ignatov, Tech Forum 2012
participant



Kenneth Fairfax – Ambassador of
the United States to Kazakhstan.

Chairman of the National Bank Visits KIMEP

The Economists Club of KIMEP University organized a guest lecture titled "Economy of Kazakhstan and financial crisis" by Dr. Grigoriy Marchenko, Chairman of the National Bank of Kazakhstan. This was a great chance for KIMEP students to talk to such a prominent leader in the business world. The lecture took an informative and interactive approach. Some of the questions Dr. Marchenko discussed with students were: financial crisis and its impact on the Kazakhstani economy and financial sector, the financial crisis in Europe, national IPO, and regulation of banks, the inflation process in Kazakhstan, and pension reform and insurance annuities. ■



Grigoriy Marchenko – Chairman of National Bank of Republic of Kazakhstan

Nelson Mandela Day

KIMEP hosted Nelson Mandela Day for the first time this year. Mr. Ahmed Kathrada, a longtime comrade of Nobel Laureate Nelson Mandela, gave a guest lecture and shared his experiences and wisdom with the KIMEP community on June 14, 2012 in the New Academic Building.

Ahmed Kathrada was a leading figure in the struggle against apartheid led by Nelson Mandela. A member of the South African's Indian Muslim minority, he began his involvement in the fight against apartheid while still in his teens. He came to play a leading role in the African National Congress (ANC), the main organization that campaigned to end apartheid. In 1963 he and other leading members of the ANC were accused of treason and put on trial, in a case that attracted international attention and condemnation. Along with Nelson Mandela and other ANC leaders, Mr. Kathrada was sentenced to life in prison.

During the lecture participants got an opportunity to hear all of the life experiences first hand and see the documentary film about Mr. Kathrada's life. ■



Ahmad Kathrada – a leading anti-apartheid campaigner and a comrade of Nelson Mandela

Bologna Conference

"The Bologna Process: A Vehicle for the Modernization of Higher Education" conference took place at KIMEP University on March 2-3, 2012, and brought together over 100 representatives of leading higher education institutes throughout Central Asia, local and international education experts, and representatives of the Ministries of Education.

Ronald Voogdt, KIMEP's Associate Vice President for Advancement, expressed confidence that the conference contributed to the development of the country's higher education system: "It is crucial for Kazakhstan's HEIs to be on par with institutions around the world, so that they better serve the needs of the Republic and its citizens. International validation is crucial to spur positive change. The conference will provide concrete direction on how to work toward this goal".

The Bologna Conference gave an opportunity for leading Kazakhstani and Central Asian Universities to learn how to: become an internationally-recognized university; prepare for international accreditation: assessment, documentation, site visits; implement international best practices in quality assurance systems and processes. ■



Bologna conference participants – top administrators from local universities.



International Summer School 2012

By Zhamilya Utarbayeva,
Summer School and International Grants Coordinator

The International Summer School (ISS) started on July 16th, 2012 with 15 innovative courses taught by KIMEP and visiting faculty from the US, Switzerland, UK, Turkey and Hungary. Students represented incredible geographic diversity, with 46 representatives from the US, Korea, France, the Netherlands, Serbia, Azerbaijan, China, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and other countries.

Students and the visiting faculty have a great opportunity to explore KIMEP University, Almaty and Kazakhstan. One of the last year's alumni from Switzerland, Edi Studer, continued his career in Kazakhstan as an intern in the Swiss Embassy in Astana.

This year with the cooperation of American Councils for International Education KIMEP integrated a new course for the ISS curriculum called "Energy Management in Central Asia". This course was co-taught by KIMEP faculty Gavin Kretzschmar (accounting perspective), Assel Rustemova (political perspective) and Nygmet Ibadildin (economic perspective) and attracted 11 students from outside KIMEP, including from South Korea, Japan, USA and a Chinese student from Yale University Shaxuan Shan (one of the ISS scholarship winners). One of the course participants, Mariko Tsunokake shared her opinion: "My experience in ISS was quite interesting. Taking lectures about energy management in Central Asia let me learn about Kazakhstan from new perspectives, and by weekend excursions, I was fascinated by the beauty of the nature in Kazakhstan. Thanks go to KIMEP for organizing this great summer school!"

Another interesting course is "Trade policies and law – WTO" taught by Dr. Cedric Dupont, professor and director of executive education at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, an international authority on WTO. Cedric Dupont is one of the authors of the Oxford Handbook on the World Trade Organization. He is a specialist of international political economy with a focus on trade and monetary integration processes and related governance issues.

Despite the short period of study, ISS summer school students are also welcome into the KIMEP alumni community. They felt the KIMEP atmosphere and spirit, and continue to get together in different parts of the world long after their KIMEP experience. As for me, when I was in Astana last spring, I met ISS students from Eurasian National University named after L.N. Gumilyov and it was so nice to know that they promote KIMEP University and ISS for their friends and relatives, because now they have a taste of KIMEP.

My advice to KIMEP alumni is this: if you feel that you miss KIMEP, you can become a student of the ISS for 3 weeks and revive your student experience for a short period! Study interesting courses taught only during Summer School!

The ISS 2012 attracted brilliant visiting faculty and for them it's also an amazing academic and cross cultural experience. Some of them shared their opinion about the International Summer School:

Dr. Hartmut Fischer, University of San-Francisco, USA: "I like the mix of international and KIMEP students. The number of international students has grown. The faculty members are very committed and there are very interesting courses such as the one in Oil and Gas, the course on Entrepreneurship, the course on the WTO or I dare say my own on the World Economy. The excursions bring students and faculty members together and the spirit is wonderful. I love it and I love how the International Summer School is evolving into a very unique place, which attracts students from around the world. Keep on going!"

Dr. Deniz Atik, Izmir University of Economics, Turkey: "It has been a very enriching experience for me to spend 3 weeks in Almaty, which is a beautiful city. KIMEP University in particular is a very valuable institution for the country, which provides education in international standards. I was very much impressed how enthusiastic my students were with the class in ISS 2012 program. They were very hard working and motivated for success. I also learned a lot about all the good sides of Kazak culture from my students. They were very kind and respectful. I have no doubt that they will be very successful professionals in the near future. I hope to come back and spend more time in this beautiful country again".

Dr. Roger Baran, DePaul University, USA: "I have been very impressed with the backgrounds of the MBA students in my CRM and Social Networking Course. They have taken extensive courses in the area of marketing and have command of the most pressing issues in areas such as globalization vs. localization, social media and consumer behavior. With such backgrounds one can move ahead and cover new material instead of reviewing marketing fundamentals. This is a refreshing change from what one sometimes experiences in the backgrounds of students in other MBA programs".

Dr. Tape Brahmasrene, Purdue University North Central, USA: "This is my second time teaching in the ISS program. However, I was still very excited when I found out that I would be teaching at KIMEP again. The enrollment in international financial management this time has more than doubled since last summer. I have high expectations for student performance and anticipate only positive effects on my teaching. KIMEP students have risen to my expectation. Overall, students are well prepared and commit to the course. They actively participate in discussion and display intellectual curiosity. Everyday, I go to teach. But at the end of the day, I realize that I learn from students as well. As one said, 'Those who teach, learn.'"

Dr. Mustafa Mirik, Texas A&M University, USA: "Having the perfect combination of taking part in an academic program and getting to know the country, people, culture, KIMEP University, faculty, students, and support staff was the my greatest experience during the summer school 2012 at KIMEP University, Almaty, KZ. KIMEP University is very compatible with its counterparts in the western world. We were not only in the middle of an incredibly beautiful and dynamic city, Almaty, but also we were greatly supported by very friendly and distinguished professors, staff, and students at KIMEP University. Students are eager to learn, very active and ready to grasp as much information as possible in both class and outside the class session. We made kind and warm friends with KIMEP permanent and visiting faculty. The dining is amazingly tasty and diverse from many parts of the world. I had an incredible experience at KIMEP University Summer School 2012. I wish the three weeks summer school hadn't gone by so quickly." ■



Fresh Alumni Spotlight: Olga Mun (2011)



A year after her graduation from KIMEP, we checked in with one of the university's most active students, Olga Mun. Olga has remained busy as ever traveling the globe in pursuit of educational and volunteer opportunities. Read on about this outstanding young alumna!

Q: A year after graduation, what are some of your most vivid memories from your time at KIMEP?

A: Apart from hot academic debates during the lectures, I think of the activities of the Diplomatic Briefing Club (DBC). It is a great student club with a focus on diplomacy. DBC members organized student conferences and charity events.

Q: What have you been doing since graduation, and how did your KIMEP education help prepare you for your current activities?

A: During the year after graduation, I served as a Head of Protocol of the largest student-organized Model United Nations of Germany, Hamburg Model United Nations (HamMUN). Model United Nations is a student conference, a simulation of the General Assembly Meeting of the United Nations. As a part of the HamMUN delegation, I have attended European Model United Nations in Maastricht, the Netherlands. While in Europe, I have participated in several congresses and conferences in St. Andrews, Scotland and London, England. I learned a lot about the European Union during our trainings in Brussels, Belgium. Currently, I am preparing for a summer school at Cambridge University, England.

KIMEP played a crucial role in my current academic and professional standing. I feel confident and competent working with the best students from all over the world. Thanks to KIMEP, I was involved with the work of the United Nations in Kazakhstan and received not only academic, but a professional experience as well.

Q: Any one star professor who you remember most? Why?

A: Professor Alessandro Frigerio. He is a true example of what a perfect professor should be: not only is he a wonderful scholar, but a candid person, who is very passionate about his work with students. He attended all of the student conferences (big or small) that the Diplomatic Briefing Club had organized! Nargis Kassenova is, also, a great professor. It is hard to name only one professor! Many of the faculty in the College of Social Sciences are exceptionally good and world-class, believe me, I have studied in more than three countries in several continents!

Q: How do you see your professional path in the future?

A: I am planning to work in the field of development, with a focus on international education. This year I have received a scholarship at a prestigious American university, Lehigh University, to pursue my graduate degree in the field of international education. My future university has a strong partnership with the United Nations. After all, a visit to the United Nations Headquarters will be only an hour drive away from the University! So, I am planning to get a lot of experience and come back to Kazakhstan.

Q: What are the global issues you'd like to work on?

A: Education. For me, educated youth and the society will build a better world with more understanding and respect to each other. The world is moving towards a "sustainable development": a development with no harm to the environment, with a focus on building tolerance among cultures and equal opportunities for each of the world's citizens. I believe that education is a key component of a sustainable development of any country.

Q: Anything else you'd like to share with the KIMEP community?

A: KIMEP is a great starting point for innovative ideas. Students, faculty and staff should cherish those ideas and make them a reality for a better future of the local, regional and global community. ■

**I WISH ALL THE
BEST TO KIMEP
– A BRIGHT
STAR IN THE
CONSTELLATION
OF HIGHER
EDUCATION
INSTITUTIONS
GLOBALLY!**



Legal Clinic

KIMEP University's Legal Clinic is a non-profit organization at KIMEP University designed to provide legal aid and counseling to socially vulnerable people. The Legal Clinic provides its services free of charge. Legal aid is rendered by students of KIMEP University's School of Law under supervision of faculty members of the School. The Legal Clinic offers legal services in civil, administrative, family and labor law. ■

Central Asian Tax Research Center

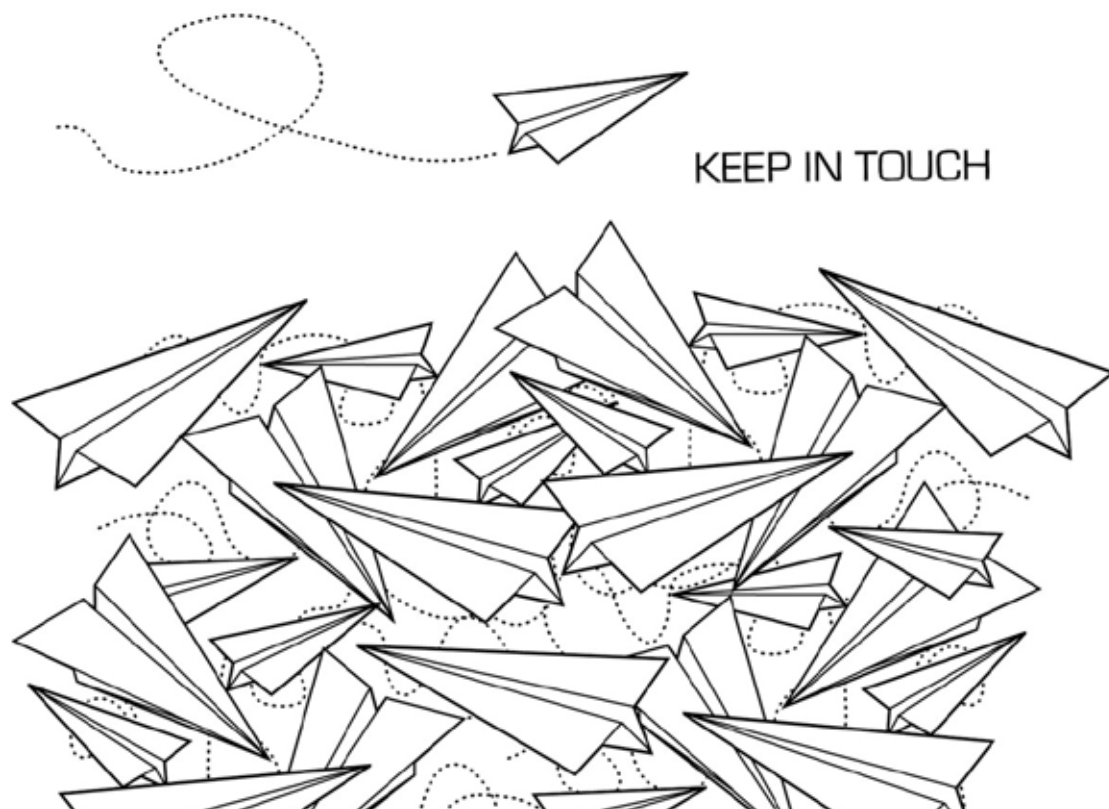
Central Asian Tax Research Center (CATRC) is a specialized academic unit engaged in tax-related research and hosted by the School of Law at KIMEP University. The members of CATRC perform the tax-related research and analytical work, mainly focused on Kazakhstan and Central Asian countries, and to a certain extent on CIS countries and Eastern/Central Europe. CATRC seeks to fill an untapped niche of taxation education in Central Asia. It seeks to position itself as a tax research and knowledge hub for Central Asia as well as a place for professional development, networking, and last but not least, a consulting facility for corporate and government entities. ■

Business Advisory Council

The KIMEP Business Advisory Council (BAC) operates under the guidance of and in partnership with an 18-member Council made up of executives from leading companies operating in Kazakhstan. BAC has several specific functions. These include gathering effective feedback from the business community, bringing the business education offered by KIMEP in compliance with the needs of the business community, ensuring that the graduates of the Institute are ready to make a positive contribution to their employers, and evaluation of the efficacy and relevance of business education programs offered by KIMEP. Businesses involved in the Council also have much to gain. They will become more aware of current trends of education and how these trends facilitate improvement of operations of organizations and their personnel. They will also be able to play an active role in shaping the education of their future employees, while building stronger partnerships with KIMEP.

Companies represented on the Business Advisory Council include: Deloitte & Touche, Ernst and Young, HSBC Bank Kazakhstan, Eurasia Foundation, Kazkommertsbank, Kz Petroleum Association, K-Cell, Procter&Gamble, Chevron Munaigas, Kazakhstan Independent Directors Association, KEC, Asia Tea Company, Huawei – Almaty, Glad Pharm, Eurasia Bank, and KPMG.

If you or one of your company representatives would like to serve on the Business Advisory Council or on KIMEP's Center for Entrepreneurship Council, please write to cdd@kimep.kz. We welcome your service and expertise! ■



Ways to keep in touch

Have you changed your address or telephone number?

Keep us informed and we'll keep you updated on the latest alumni happenings. Stay connected through telephone + 7 727 270 42 26 or drop us an email at cdd@kimep.kz. Build your professional networks and connect with Alumni through KIMEP official pages on Facebook, Twitter and Vkontakte. ■

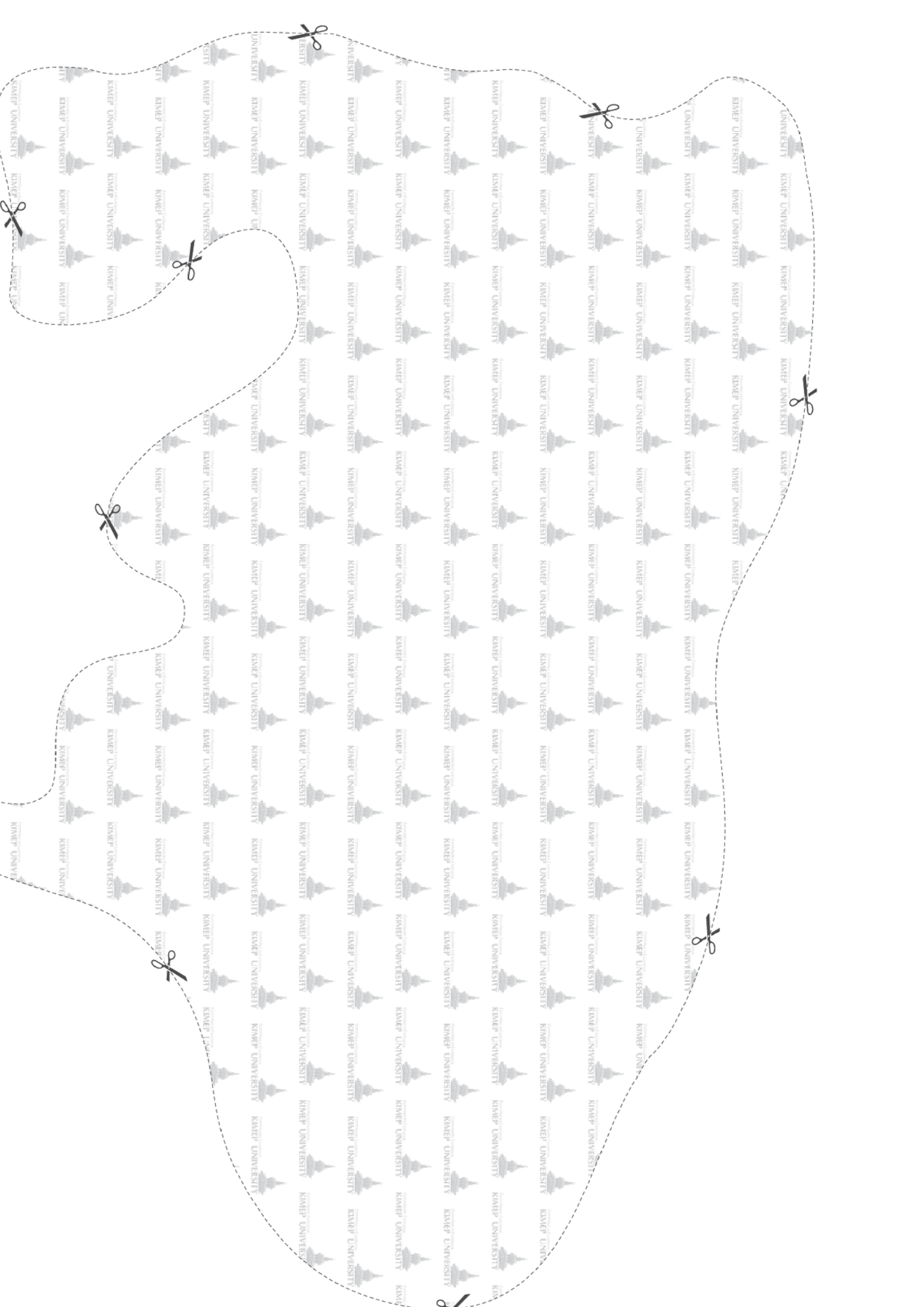


KIMEP and You – Deepening your Relationship with Your Alma Mater

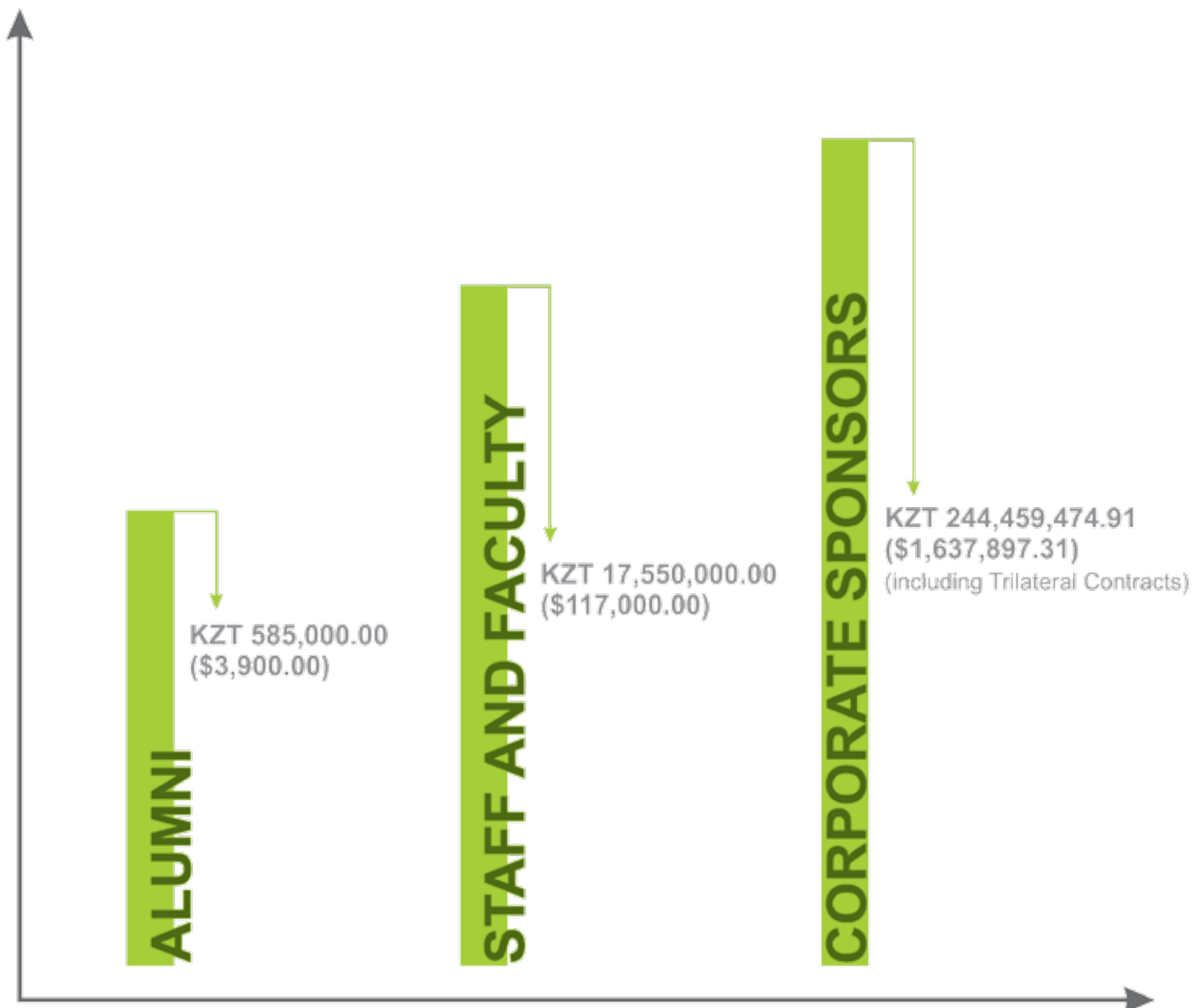
There are many ways to collaborate with KIMEP University. Whether you would like to enhance the library's collection of academic resources, contribute seed funds for KIMEP's research centers or assist our students to achieve their dreams of participating in international conferences, a range of opportunities exist to support the institution. The gift can be named after your company, your class, or however you would like to capture your contribution to KIMEP. Corporate Development Department staff can assist you with your personalized gift to improve KIMEP's services for faculty, students and the community. Interested? Just write to cdd@kimep.kz ■

Pin your location!





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170 STUDENTS RECEIVED
EXTERNAL SCHOLARSHIPS
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– KIMEP ALUMNI



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