



NEW STAR

The Independent Student Newspaper



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Dear students!

AUCA is the place where part of your dreams can be realized and you can create whatever you want and be supported by community and university. Club is one the thing that can be first step in a way to your career. I just want to remind to all those clubs that have already registered. Please, do not immerse your hands in the beginning of the way and I recommend to the leaders of their clubs to finish all projects you planned to do.

Also want to bring to your attention that all those students who did not registered their club and did not present it in Club's fair, please you are welcome to do it now. If you would like to open new club, come to room 104, fill out the form and «Алга»!

I wish you prosperity, and patients!

**Good Luck,
Diana Takutdinova**

Dear AUCA Students

We would like to announce about coming Student Senate Elections 2013 which will take place on November 5.

If you want to start your candidacy and run, please come to room 104 and take the application form.

Registration terms are from October 3 till October 18.

Right after registration you should bring your filled application form back to the Student Coordinator (room 104) till 17:00, October, 18 and start your agitation campaign.

The last day of the agitation campaign is November 1.

The day before Elections (which is November 4) all promotional and agitation posters must be removed around the University by candidates and their observers.

Each candidate should have 2 observers, who will participate on vote-counting process.

For more information please address to Student coordinator (room104).

Why do students prefer to stay anonymous?

"You will find that AUCA is unlike other universities in the region. We are more "student-centered." At AUCA you, as students, are full members of the academic community. We encourage you to develop thoughtful points of view and to voice your considered opinions in the development of University policies and procedures".

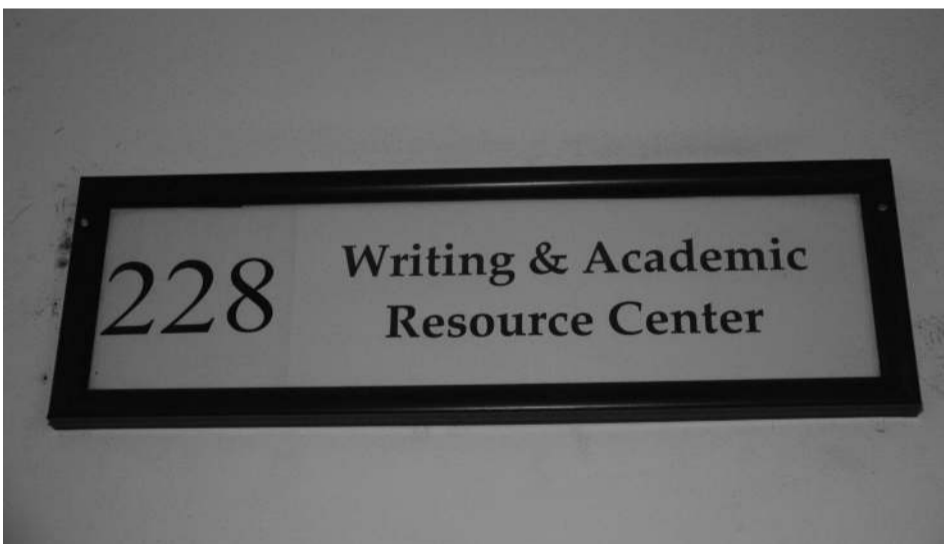
These words are written in AUCA student handbook. However, students are afraid to voice their opinions and prefer to talk about problems just to each other. Students want to stay anonymous when raising controversial issues because they "do not want to have troubles". Some New Star contributors are anonymous because they think that administration and professors could trouble their life at AUCA. For example, after a negative comment from a student, a professor can get ill-disposed to the student and make the student fail the course. Also a student might not want to complain because he or she does not want AUCA people around to see him or her as an enemy or an outsider. That's why students want to stay anonymous. It is a problem.

Students do not want their names mentioned in critical articles, even despite the fact that New Star provides protection of students' rights. Actually it probably means that students do not feel free at AUCA. There is no "student-centered" atmosphere. How can the university develop without open students' opinions? New Star allowed anonymous articles and comments in this issue to make students feel free in speech, but we hope that it's a temporary thing and soon the students will be ready to speak out.

Elina Turalyeva, JMC 112



WARC: How does it work?



Where is WARC located?

WARC's working room is 228.

What subjects are provided at the Center?

There are tutors for writing (FYS), mathematics, micro/macroeconomics and SPSS.

What is the Center's working schedule?

Writing and Academic Resource Center is providing sessions all the weekdays (Monday to Friday), working hours are from 10 am to 5 pm.

Who works at WARC as tutors?

The main idea behind WARC is that students get help not from professors (whom they can be sometimes afraid of), but from current AUCA students, who successfully finished the classes you need assistance in and who are ready to help you. Don't doubt if the tutor is able to help you or not, they all have passed through selection process. All writing tutors had to take a special course in order to become professional. As for math tutors – they all have recommendations from the Natural Sciences department.

How the work is going on? How many students attend one session at WARC simultaneously?

Another important part of the Center's work is that all the sessions are conducted one-to-one, in order to make a tutee feel comfortable. So the tutor will be focused only on your studying problems during the session.

How to sign up for a session?

At the working room of the center there's always a signup sheet. If you cannot find it or cannot get how to sign up exactly – don't be shy, ask tutors sitting there and they will help you.

WARC, Writing and Academic Resource Center, is an organization at AUCA established for assisting students struggling with studies. It seems to be very useful, but there is a problem of the lack of information provided to AUCA students concerning the working process in WARC. The consequence is that students are shy to come, do not know where and how to sign up for a tutoring session. At the same time, some professors force students to go to the Center. Let's make it all clear.

How many times a week can I attend sessions at WARC?

There is a certain restriction – one hour for one student per week. It allows providing help to all the students who need it.

What to do if I want to attend sessions regularly at the same time?

So if you like your tutor so much and the time is the most comfortable for you, you can visit the office of WARC's director, room 226, and ask for signing up as ongoing tutee. After this, your name will be printed in the signup sheet, and no one will be able to take your hour.

There's one important thing to mention: if you come to WARC and say "tutor, make the homework for me", you will be sent back to study by yourself.



**Good luck with your studies!
Yura Kim, ECO 111**

Незнание закона не освобождает от ответственности



Правила. Что это? Как гласит нам всезнающая старушка Википедия: «Правило – требование для исполнения неких условий всеми участниками какого-либо действия, за выполнение которого предусмотрено поощрение, а за невыполнение наказание»

В Registrar Office тоже есть свои законы, которые студенты и преподаватели должны исполнять. Registrar Office рекомендует всем нам

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Прочсть заголовков – не значит ознакомиться с письмом. Чтобы избежать тех вопросов, на которые есть ответы в письме, лучше прочсть внимательно.

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«Мы здесь плохие полицейские. Мы следим, чтобы установленные правила работали» - говорит директор учебного отдела, Асель Кыргызбаева.

Может быть, недопонимание, обида и злость на Registrar появляются из-за незнания правил и условий, которые находятся в открытом доступе на сайте auca.kg или же на двери самого Registrar Office?

«Все хотят быть «исключениями», но есть правила» - добавила Асель К. – «Кстати, двери в Registrar Office открыты всегда и для всех».

Вот такой ответ мы получили на заданные нами в предыдущем номере вопросы. Я не знаю, всех ли эти ответы удовлетворяют или нет. В любом случае, как ваш корреспондент, доведу до сведения, что Registrar Office намерен вывесить возле своих дверей «Ящик жалоб и предложений».

«Жалуйтесь», господа и «предлагайте». Нам в газету или сразу - непосредственно «Ящику».

Всем добра,
Анастасия Ласкина

Unwritten academic rules in student-teacher relationship

Relations between students and professors at AUCA are not fully regulated by appropriate documents. There have always been and there still are agreed norms, unwritten and rather customary rules, which you should know.

Attendance and late-coming. Attendance is crucial at AUCA. Attendance and participation in class discussions compose 10 per cent of your final grade for most courses. If you are absent for three or more classes with no reasonable excuse, it is usually enough for a failing grade.

However, “absence” does not necessarily mean that a student did not come to class – their late-coming can be counted as “absence”, too, and how late you might be to not get “absence” depends on your professor and his or her own rules. For example, Elena Skochilo, JMC department professor, marks her students absent if they are late for her class for 10 minutes or more.

Make-up classes. If some classes

are missed because the professor could not attend them, make-up classes might be appointed instead. However, a teacher is only supposed to make up those classes that have been or will be missed by this teacher by a reasonable excuse (disease, leave or emergency).

Some make-up classes are informal: for instance, a professor can ask students to meet for an extra class in case there is too much material left to be learnt (the professor is not paid for this classes, though).

Anyway, the main rule of make-up classes, according to Bermet Jakypbek kyzy from Registrar Office, is that “make-up class appointment must be always agreed with students”.

If a class is missed because the day it

is scheduled happened to be a day-off (holiday), class’s professor is not supposed to make the missed class up. Even if the professor decides to do so, students are not obliged to attend a make-up class like that.

Famous fifteen-minute rule. Long ago it was informally agreed among Soviet students that they could leave a class if a teacher is not there after 15 minutes since the class’s start. This rule still works in

post-Soviet countries.

What if a teacher is 15 minutes late, students leave and the teacher comes right after that? Can students be punished as for not showing up, i.e. get “absence”? When asked about this, Bermet Jakypbek kyzy clarifies, that there are no official rules on how late a teacher may be, but acknowledges students’ right to leave

after 15 minutes of waiting for a professor.

Nikolay Shulgin, AUCA Dean of Students and Performance Practicum professor, says, “If I know I will be late for my class, I always send someone to tell my students about this <...> I do not think a professor may punish students who did not wait for him or her for more than 15 minutes. It’s the professor’s fault.”

There are plenty of norms like these, misunderstanding of which may lead to conflicts between students and teachers. Basically, it is important to remember the main rule – mutual respect. Each student and each professor may have their own issues, but academic process should be regarded as collaboration between them with the high goal of education. At AUCA students may expect to be treated with as much respect as they themselves show to their teachers.

Sergei Viatchanin, JMC 110

English language issue



American University. Students from all over the world. Classes in English. But everything is not perfect as it might seem to a stranger who is in no way connected with AUCA. What is the problem? Surely almost all of you faced the problem when a professor gives lecture with the level of English that is inappropriate for an American University. At the same time, very often there is the opposite situation, when a sophomore or junior student cannot freely express his or her thoughts in English at classes. They mix English with Russian or make a lot of mistakes. It is forgivable when you are a freshman, but when a student is going to defend

a thesis on the senior year and he cannot even properly explain that “the language issue... mmmm... is the major issue in the way... to achieve... like... the goal in life” – this is a real problem.

I asked students and professors what they thought about the problem. Junior student of BA Department, Samat Kazmatov, thinks that foreign professors of AUCA have a very good level of English compared to local professors. “Situation with students is also almost the same. Only half of them have sufficient level of English proficiency. And may be especially this problem is the reason for their compelled leave from the university,” Samat says. In his opinion, the problematic issue refers to the lack of qualified professors with required level of English. Students have problems with language because of the annual reduction of entrance exams’ requirements. As a

result, each year AUCA gets fixed number of students who have low overall level of English language.

From the professors’ point of view, the situation is a little bit different. Görkem Atsungur, the European Studies department professor thinks that all English speaking professors of AUCA pay huge attention to improving their English language. And students, apart from freshmen, mostly have sufficient level of English proficiency. “Some freshmen need to study hard and improve their English. The thing is that all of our students are very lucky. They have a chance to attend lots of different conferences, summer schools and work-travel programs in their summer holiday.” Görkem Atsungur says. He also thinks that there should be strict requirements for attending classes in English. “We are working and studying at an American University and everybody must accept that our language of instruction is only English,” professor says.

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.” This quote of Frank Smith clearly explains that no matter what goal in life you are following, a good knowledge of not only the native language will relieve your life. So let’s learn English perfectly in order to open every door in our lives!



Nurzhan Kadyrkulova, JMC 111

CHEER FOR THE TOUCHDOWN!



The 29th of September became very memorable for AUCA cheerleaders, because they got a chance to have a debut on the field of Dordoi Stadium. In honor of AUCA 20th Anniversary there was held an international American Football game «Tamerlane Tomahawk» between two capitals, Bishkek and Almaty. The game gave a start to a new tradition to begin every year season with a match between those two.

Both teams performed very well, the spectators truly enjoyed the game. While “Snejnye Barsy” (Bishkek) were fighting for a victory against “Titany” (Almaty) there was a little war going on between cheerleaders of both teams. Even though there were only eight girls cheering up for “Titans”, they got overexcited and yelled at our girls. But AUCA kept it classy and instead of arguing with them showed resistance and confidence while cheering and supporting their favorites. “You were the most fun,” said Vladislav Rybalkin, #22, “Thank you for your support, it helped us a lot! Hope to see you with us for the next game in Almaty, you are very welcome to come with us!”. “Barsy” scored 22:0 and impressed everyone up on the tribunes.

Cheerleaders are the best when it comes to the support and showing their love both to audience and teams. This year a brand new club of Cheerleading school opens doors to 15 most enthusiastic young ladies. Being the only cheerleaders in Bishkek, AUCA girls have a big perspective to support Bishkek American Football League and get along with young athletes. However, the true love they will show on AUCA sport events, and they will give up their souls because we all know that the true spirit comes when you cheer up your people.

Cheers, Masha Savelyeva, JMC 112



ARE U DEAD?



With the energy of real hunters and with the power of real criminals students of AUCA got into new season of interactive game UDEAD. For those who find themselves above the average students and have no idea what the game is all about, there is a brief point of it: all participants are both catchers and victims. They have their target cards with the name of their victim that they have to find, at the same time they know their names are also on someone's target card. With the caution of predator, catcher has to kill the target when no one else sees it. Who kills the greatest amount of targets is the winner.

Last year the game was a sensation. This year game brought less excitement; moreover, a lot of students have been complaining about the fact that the winner happened to be the same person as the last year's, Nurbek Nurbekov. There were rumors spread that Nurbek had been cheating by asking other people to give him their cards, without actual killing, or that he even had made a deal with managers of the game and that is what led him to victory.

“I didn't do anything special. I just played the game,” said Mr. Nurbekov.

No excuses needed for being the best. The game is just about lying, intrigues, treachery and betrayals. It doesn't matter whether the rules were broken or not, the problem is way deeper. It is all about specific person and how far he or she can go for the prize. It is the game in which the phrase “The end justifies the means” might work as an excuse, as well as “Sorry bro, nothing personal, it's just a game”. However, it is very personal because it directly shows how material prize buys honor and honesty.

At the very critical moment you couldn't say frightful “UDEAD” to your friend. Don't be mad because you couldn't get your target, or you didn't do as well as you thought you would. At the end, it shows that your priorities in a face of your friends and relationships were higher than this game requires.

Masha “killed-in-the-bathroom” Savelyeva, JMC-112



VOLUNTEER FESTIVAL



On September 21 a Volunteer Festival was held in the Old Square in front of AUCA. The main purpose of this event was to engage young people to volunteer activity. The concert was conducted by our university with support of USAID, UN volunteers and Roza Otunbaeva. All registered guests were given free T-shirts and cups with the logo of volunteer campaign. Concert program included a few speeches and performances of Kyrgyz artists such as Kanykei and Oakland. Some of our students took part in the festival as volunteers.

But most of people did not really recognize the main purpose of the festival. When asked what the festival was about, Erlan Amiraev, AUCA sophomore said, "There were free T-shirts and free cups." Also some students complained that the loud music was disturbing their classes. "It was annoying," says Tansu Bilal, AUCA freshman.

"People should pay more attention to such events, but unfortunately majority of our society is not encouraged to be involved in community working," said Aida Madybaeva, AUCA freshman.

The information about this campaign and different volunteer opportunities can be found on the official web-site: www.volunteer.kg

Ruslan Aidarov, ICP 112

Yoga Marathon

This Saturday, October 5, AUCA conducted first Yoga Marathon in Bishkek. This event was organized by the AUCA Alumni Council. Yoga Marathon was held by experienced yoga trainer and our alumna Olga Tarabashkina. The main goal of the event was to raise money for the scholarships for talented students of AUCA. Because of the weather, warm and nice, the event was held in the Oak Park near AUCA. A group of volunteering professional instructors along with Olga Tarabashkina showed the basic set of moves for the yoga beginners. "Nice day, nice people and a nice way to spend your Saturday," said Ruslan Aidarov, AUCA sophomore. Participants also

were treated with the special yoga tea and sweets after yoga practice. Also, AUCA and the event's sponsor, Indian products store "Boudoir", held a raffle ticket lottery. Participants left the event with interesting prizes, having a good stretch and full of new positive emotions.

Erlan Amiraev,
IBL 112



Clubs at a glance

On September 12 the university hosted the annual Clubs Fair. As always, there were a lot of people in Bravo, and while the music was playing student were signing up for clubs. All clubs have shown to freshmen what they do, how to develop ideas in club. But there is one thing that our university has 27 clubs. However, only half of the clubs worked last year. Each club took \$100 from the Senate and just did nothing. At this time, we decided to conduct a little research and find out some of the clubs' plans for this school year.

Debate Club "Eloquent Crew":

The casting of newcomers was held on September 12, and since then twice a week newcomers attend trainings where they learn the techniques of debating.

Besides trainings, the program of their education includes the participation in different tournaments inside the university, between universities of Bishkek, and international tournaments.

Next tournaments: Newbie Cup и ICP Cup.

Newbie Cup – tournament, the participants of which are only AUCA students, and which is held to determine the strongest newcomers of our club. This tournament is organized by the president of the club, Nurmukhamet Karaev, and coordinators: Ekaterina Kim and Saltanat Urustemova.

ICP Cup – debaters from different universities take part in this event. The tournament will have two leagues: Russian and English. It is organized by an active participant of our club, Diana Konushbaeva.

One more event, but of international level – Manas Cup – will be held in the end of November. The strongest debaters from different countries will be participating.

Last year's team from AUCA, consisting of Yurii Piunov and Beknazar Dzhumabaev, reached Manas Cup's semifinals,

and Diana Konushbaeva reached quarterfinals with a team of Kazakh debaters.

Also, next spring The Bishkek League of Debates is waiting for our students. This tournament lasts one and a half months. AUCA students have been showing good results throughout years.

The most important event for our newcomers is the Generation of Winners (Поколение Победителей) – the tournament, in which all the newcomers of all active debate clubs of the city will debate. The winning university has the strongest potential among the newcomers for this year. Last season AUCA represented by

5) 3.11.13 – Donation of clothes (Aiganysh Kaparova, Erkeaiym Tazabekova)

6) 22.11.13 – Smaller World/Creativity without borders (Akim Yucel)

7) 29.11.13 – Food Distribution (Anastasiya Popkova)

8) 10/20.12.13 – Kindergarten Beauty Contest (Zarina Massanova)

9) 31.01.14/2.02.13 - Essay Contest (Anarbekim Nursultan)

10) 21.03.14 – Violin Concert (Akim Yucel, Anastasiya Popkova)

11) 13.04.14 – Streetball Tournament (AkimYucel)

continue doing our long-term social project which is about teenagers in free enterprise. The main goal is to introduce business and entrepreneurial methods to the minds of school graduates.

3) "Apashkin lunch" and "Manas trail" projects. This semester we will be working on the improvement of some existing projects. To know more about it or to propose your solutions to some of the social problems, please visit our Facebook account!

4) At the end of the semester we will have a presentation of the results to whole AUCA community. We will keep you updated!

Improvisation club:

The first and the main purpose of the IMPROvisation club of AUCA will be to make the first improvisation show in Bishkek in December 2013. IMPRO is the most difficult genre in the theater, that's why the cast will be ready only after few months of preparation. We will start rehearsals very soon and hopefully we will make it!

Japanese club:

This year, the Japanese club is going to do several projects. The first will be Halloween Party «Nightmare on fatal street», where we are going to make a real night of Halloween, the test of courage for guests, and bring a lot of snakes. Halloween Party will be conducted with the support of Unity Fund Club (30 per cent of the money collected by sailing tickets will go to charity). In winter we plan to gather Japanese delegation on Diversity week (with volunteers of KRJC). Not only will they help us with the performances, but also will give an opportunity to taste Japanese cuisine to the students of AUCA. Just as a group we will participate in the events dedicated to the Japanese culture and have fun spending time together.

Material prepared by
Nurik Asakeev, PSY 113

Ekaterina Kim and Aizhan Borubaeva won the tournament.

The success of active debaters of AUCA Debate Club in the International Academy of Debates also needs attention. Three debaters from AUCA – Diana Konushbaeva, Anisa Atalova and Saltanat Urustemova – got to the top 10 best teams among 40 others from 7 countries of CIS.

Rotaract Club :

WHOLE OCTOBER – TEACHING; ENGLISH LESSONS (Whole Club)

1) 5/12.10.13 – Park Day for Orphanage Kids (Altynai Akunova)

2) 9.10.13 – Charity Party (Anarbekim Nursultan) for further donations!

3) 17.10.13 – Orphanages' Football Tournament (Suorov Manas, Rakhmanov Erkin)

4) 24.10.13 – Poetic Competition (Anarbekim Nursultan)

Unity Fund

Club:

1) Trip to Kids Cancer Center. We have been gathering toys and later took them with us.

2) Orphanage visit next week (Svetlyi put', Aida will talk to their administration)

3) Flex Fair

I. Educational English Math Russian History/Culture Advisory Center (Career, Job, Education) People responsible: Aida, Takhir, Malika, Rahat, Kymbat, Akbar, Masha, Ira, Kunduz

II. Self-development Psychology Leadership Hygiene Etiquette Financial literacy People responsible: Aigul, Mirdan, Asel, Ainaz, Karlygach

III. Fun Poem evenings Competitions Postcards People responsible: ALL

Enactus (SIFE):

By the end of this semester Enactus AUCA team will be working on the following:

1) Team development. We will have lots of teambuilding, trainings, business games and other activities, which will help newcomers to get involved and learn enough to start their own projects.

2) TIFE project. This year we will

Sport classes



Sport classes remain mystical for most freshmen and even for some sophomore students. Why are we supposed to take sport classes when they are not even credited? Why are we attending jogging class though there is no attendance list? Why does Yoga, the most preferable sport class, have limit of 14 people in the group? The first thought is: «university administration is going crazy and makes students go crazy with such sport class system». Here are some comments from our students:

“I have not attended my mini-soccer class yet, I do not know where we

are having it.” (Sophomore)

“I want to be in Yoga class but I have only two options: chess or jogging.” (Freshman)

“It is really hard to wake up on Saturday morning. I have only one sport class and it is not really motivating me to get up.” (Freshman)

“This new sport system is very strange.” (Senior)

Before 2012 AUCA students were given 6 credits for sport classes. Now students have to attend 400 hours of sport classes during the 4 years of study. Ministry of education is supposed to be regulating one of the fundamental spheres in our country – EDUCATION. Our «caring» Ministry of Education established an order for university students to pass 400 hours of sport classes. Sport class system at AUCA faced some new problems:

1) Lack of students' motivation to attend sport classes, e.g. jogging class with university president Dr. Wachtel. Daniyar Karabaev, General Education department's program coordinator, explained why students are not enough motivated: “Our president hopes that all our students have conscience and will not miss the jogging class. However, administration argues that our mentality is not yet applicable to Dr. Wachtel's views.” Probably General Education department will insist on the attendance list. There is no motivation because there is no grade that affects students' GPA. Exceptions are the students who are lucky to attend sport classes with small number of people where instructors strictly control the attendance.

2) Not enough space for sport classes. Daniyar Karabaev also pays attention to this major problem: “University has only one Gym with two rooms (one small room is for bodybuilding section only). Sport sections have to share one room between themselves. That is very uncomfortable for the schedule. One room means limit in number of classes for each kind of sport activity that leads to small number of students in

groups. Some sections even have to rent sports ground.” General Education department says that the main problem is that our university does not have any space for doing sports. That is why only one third of students enjoy their sport classes, when others have to attend chess and jogging classes where you can hardly get an attention of the instructor because they are overcrowded.

However, there is positive news: “New campus is going to have its own playgrounds and rooms so it will be possible to expand number of students in a class,” says Daniyar Karabaev. General Education department also informed us that starting from the next year they are planning to have medical examination in order to check students' abilities to attend sport classes: “We will examine all the students for their ability to attend sport classes as it is done in state universities.” It is a very good policy to avoid falsification of medical certificates. The future of sport classes described by General Education department is quite positive even though we see lots of disadvantages caused by the order of Ministry of Education. Nevertheless, our university is trying to manage all the problems connected with these issues and our students have to face inconveniences because our government establishes hardly adoptable decrees.

P.S. Number of students attending sport classes:

Bodybuilding - 15

Basketball - 14

Football - 6

Mini - Soccer - 6

Shaping - 20

Shaping II - 10

Corrective gymnastics and massage - 5

Yoga - 20

Yoga II - 5

Table tennis - 12

Iaido - 10

Chess - approximately 300

Jogging - all freshmen who do not attend chess class



Kyzzhibek Batyrkanova,
ECO 112

‘NEW STAR’ MEETING! October 10, LUNCH TIME, ROOM #104

Dorm's machinations



A great many of students of AUCA live in the dorm, which is located far away from AUCA and it takes them approximately one hour to get in on time. It is not comfortable for those students who have classes at 8 a.m., and they cannot do anything to move anywhere closer to the university because AUCA made it mandatory for them to live in the dorm. Also, they are not getting the whole amount of money transferred to them for their

expenses from sponsors because AUCA is taking more than a half from their scholarships as a payment for small rooms.

Let's think logically. Last year the cost for living in the dorm was \$150 per month for one student living in a two-bedded room. This year the cost increased to \$165, BUT it is for one student living in a three-bedded room. However, if a student wants to live in a two-bedded

room, he or she should pay much more money: \$240, which is \$90 dollars more than it was the last year.

And here is a question: Isn't it right to increase highly the cost for living in the dorm only because students' sponsors could pay?

Short answer: Not at all.

Long answer: People responsible for the dorm probably are forgetting that certain amount of money that students are getting from sponsors is for their monthly living expenses, including:

- *transportation,*
- *everyday meal,*
- *clothes,*
- *books,*
- *personal needs*

There are some students that live only for sponsors' money without parents' help. And AUCA is taking approximately 65 per cent of their scholarships.

One of the students living in the dorm agreed to give comments but preferred to stay anonymous in order not to have any troubles: some students are scared to go oppose the administration or whoever responsible for the dorm.

Anonymous says: The payment unreasonably increased and it is not a good thing. There is no guarantee that the next year the cost won't be \$500. I would like to stay in the dorm for longer time, because of its specif-

ic, great students' atmosphere. But the administration makes it harder to stay and pay so much money.

Let's compare. The cost of living in the dorm for students is \$165 per month each in a three-bedded room or \$240 each in a two-bedded room, where there's only one kitchen for all students and the building is located far away from AUCA. It would be much more comfortable for students if two of them rented a flat nearby AUCA with its own kitchen and for approximate cost of \$140 for each student per month. The total cost for everything would be much lower comparing to the cost for the dorms' rooms.

The major thing is that AUCA had decided that all freshmen should live only in the dorm and it was mandatory, even if they could save their cash and rent the whole flat for much lower price.

Why is it mandatory to live in dorm? – You will ask.

It clearly seems that “somebody” is just trying to get students' money from sponsors. Most students will agree that living in the dorm in small rooms with one kitchen for the whole five-storey building, far away from AUCA is not worth paying \$165 to \$240 at all.

Anonymous

АУЦА – избушка на курьих ножках

Что является отличительной чертой той самой желанной «заграницы», куда мы все так яростно рвемся? Что является отличительной чертой иностранных вузов? Конечно, если не брать в расчет уровень ВВП, имидж этих университетов, то самой основополагающей чертой является комфорт. Да, именно комфорт! Те люди, те студенты привыкли к тому, что везде чисто, что вай-фай ловит на каждом шагу, что в университете как в музее. Что же творится у нас в АУЦА, в АМЕРИКАНСКОМ островке центральной Азии?

Приходишь в любимый дворец науки и сталкиваешься с терминалом, который мало того, что никогда не работает, так еще и взимает комиссию выше той, что взимается, например, в «Народном». Потом заходишь в туалет, где всегда бежит только ХОЛОДНАЯ вода и нет бумажных полотенец, даже нет адекватной альтернативы в виде человеческого электрополотенца (фен такой для рук). Дальше больше: заходишь в Bravo или Кичинет, где вот уже второй год изо дня в день готовят одно и то же, рацион не меняется ни при каких обстоятельствах, ни в жару, ни в холод. Я уже не говорю про то, что несколько студентов жаловалось на низкое качество самой еды, спешим это на случайный единичный случай. И что в итоге получается? Господа Администрация, почему, за такую высокую цену контракта за обучение, среднестатистический студент АУЦА

не видит того самого злосчастного комфорта как своих ушей? Почему до сих пор ничего не сделали с вай-фаем, который абсолютно отказывается работать? Почему до сих пор нельзя подключить горячую воду и поставить, наконец, современные средства сушки этих самых рук? Почему нельзя более тщательно следить за рационом питания наших студентов? «Еда в универе о д н о б р а з н а я особенно в Кичинете. Готовят без души, не досаливают», - говорит студентка третьего курса Ольга Шен.

Что касается терминала оплаты, то это совсем другой вопрос. Я специально обзвонила еще несколько альтернативных компаний и выяснила, что везде размер комиссии составляет 5 сом. В нашем же терминале он составляет 10 сом, а если сумма превышает 500 сом, то комиссия уже 20. И все бы ничего, если бы администрация нашего университета не ленилась бы контролировать бесперебойную работу этого самого

аппарата, но и тут комфорт нам только снится. «О терминале и сказать то нечего, он все равно никогда не работает», - мнение группы фрешменов, обедавших на заднем двореике. А может быть нам поставить

альтернативный аппарат и обеспечить честную конкуренцию, а не хулиганскую обираловку?

Недавно прошедшие пожарные учения достойны отдельного внимания. Система пожарного оповещения умоляла нас покинуть помещение в течение минут 10. Но никто и не подумал внять этим мольбам. Зато студент

наглядно увидели, что в должной мере мы не знаем, куда и как выбежать, что ни один член администрации и не подумал принять участие в эвакуации, и охрана в должной мере не проинструктирован. Думаю, что не только мне посчастливилось на личном опыте убедиться, что в этой самой «загранице» дела с этим обстоят лучше. Мою школу, состоящую из

2000 человек, при пожарных учениях эвакуировали за 5 минут (!). При этом каждый преподаватель принимал непосредственное участие в эвакуации, каждый студент заранее знал о месте сбора в случае пожара. Никому и в голову не пришло продолжить свой обед. Вы скажете, что это лишь учения? НЕТ(!) Это реальный тест, который обнажил еще одну бытовую проблему: в случае реального пожара, мы так и стоим, дожевывая свой недосоленный обед.

На все мои вопросы можно ответить примерно так: «Ну, вот будет у нас в недалеком будущем новый кампус, там и вспомним о горячей воде, фенах, разнообразном питании, о пожарной безопасности тоже вспомним». Можно еще сказать, что во всех университетах примерно так. Но(!) мы учимся здесь и сейчас, здесь и сейчас мы оплачиваем свое обучение, здесь и сейчас мы покупаем не только знания, но и все условия для получения этих знаний. АУЦА задал высокую планку соответствовать американским стандартам, но по бытовой части пока этого не видно. Так почему же оплата взимается своевременно, а таких элементарных удобств мы должны ждать и ждать? Вот и живем в деревянной избушке на курьих ножках, а не во Дворце Науки!

Грана Зия, JMC 112



How can we study in such noise?

Library is the only quiet place. At least I thought so. My opinion is changing dramatically. When I come to the library for doing my homework, it turns out to be very hard watching or writing anything there because there is a constant noise. The fuss, talking and laughing hinder me to concentrate on my assignments. I noticed that many students use the library as a place for meeting with friends and socializing with them. Well, communication is an integral part of everyone's life, but you might try to socialize while understanding that the guys sitting beside you may be reading, writing essays and they do not want to hear stories of yours, especially stories of how great last night was. «During the day I cannot do assignments

because here it's constantly noisy. I have to wait for evening, there's no other choice for me,» a first year student says. It's not the worst: the situation gets critical, when students in the library start using foul language.

Guys, please respect each other. We should not forget that the library has rules of conduct. Remember that a lot of students do not have computers or internet connection at home, so the library is the only place where they can do their homework.

Mir Mahamad Basira, ANTH 113

Психологический тест: узнай свой характер по четырем действиям

Что нужно сделать, чтобы протестировать себя:

1. Сложите руки в замок.

Если сверху окажется большой палец правой руки, запишите на листочке цифру «2», если левой - цифру «1».

2. Прицельтесь в невидимую мишень, закрыв один глаз.

Если остался открытым левый глаз, то запишите цифру «1», если правый - «2»

3. Положите руки на грудь крестом, и посмотрите, какая рука окажется сверху.

Если левая рука окажется сверху, то запишите цифру «1», если правая, то запишите «2».

4. Поаплодируйте.

Если сверху окажется левая рука, то цифра «1», если правая, то «2».

Результат теста (особенности характера):

«2222» - устойчивый тип характера, консерватизм, нежелание вступать в конфликты, спорить с кем либо;

«2221» - у вас самая яркая черта характера - крайняя нерешительность;

«2212» - вы коммуникабельны, всегда можете найти общий язык практически со всеми;

«2111» - вы непостоянны, делаете всё сами, не ищите поддержки;

«2211» - довольно нечасто встречающееся сочетание. Вы коммуникабельны, идёте на контакт, в тоже время имеете очень мягкий характер;

«2122» - вы - «технар», у вас аналитический склад ума и мягкость. Вы осторожно ко всему относитесь, в вас наблюдается некоторая холодность в отношении с окружающими;

«2121» - самое редкое сочетание - беззащитность, подверженность влиянию людей;

«1112» - вы эмоциональны, энергичны и решительны;

«1222» - довольно часто встречаемый характер. Вы эмоциональны, но вам не хватает упорства и настойчивости в решении жизненных вопросов, подвержены чужому влиянию. Вы коммуникабельны, и люди тянутся к вам;

«1221» - Эмоциональность, нехватка настойчивости, очень мягкий характер, наивность;

«1122» - вы дружелюбный человек, но в то же время немного наивный и простой. Вы склонны к

копанию в себе, анализу действий. Интересов много, но не на все хватает времени;

«1121» - вы очень доверяете людям, и у вас мягкий характер. Скорее всего, вы - творческая натура;

«1111» - вы крайне неконсервативный человек. Творчество занимает в вашей жизни далеко не последнюю роль. На многие вещи вы смотрите нестандартно. Сильные эмоции, выраженный индивидуализм, эгоизм. Вы упрямы и эгоистичны, но это не мешает вам жить;

«1212» - вы - сильный духом человек, можно сказать, упёртый, достигаете поставленных целей;

«1211» - вы склонны к копанию внутри себя, немного замкнуты, вам довольно сложно найти друзей, но духом сильны, в достижении поставленной цели вряд ли что-то может сломить вас;

«2112» - у вас лёгкий и непринужденный характер, вы спокойно находите новых друзей, заводите знакомства и часто сменяете увлечения.

Юра Ким, ESO 111

FAREWELL KISS TO NIKITA MENSHOV



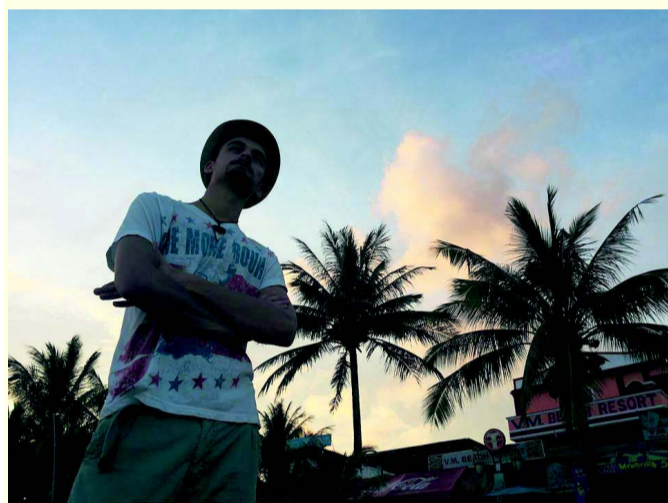
I do not say often to people that I love them, but I love people of AUCA. Some of them I love more, some of them I do not love, but generally I love them :)

You will be proud of me, AUCA

Nikita Menshov, senior of International and Comparative Politics department, active participant of student life throughout past three years, speaks of himself, what he likes and dislikes about AUCA and advises to AUCA freshmen.

NS: Nikita, how do you prefer to be introduced to readers?

Well, it's complicated. This summer I went to the Philippines to take part in an international theater play Ritual World. We did an exercise during our rehearsals – each one should have introduced themselves. Every time I used to say, "I am an actor, future director, a creative person looking for myself". Now I think I'd say I am an artist, an entrepreneur and an adventurer. It's more honest and I like it better.



NS: How would you define the AUCA spirit that we hear so much about?

You feel the AUCA spirit when you come to AUCA and you know that people here understand you. They are your soul-mates, your family. You come to AUCA and you don't want to leave. It's about an ocean of emotions, remembering which sometimes makes you cry.

NS: Has AUCA changed you? If yes and for the better, who are you grateful to for that?

It definitely changed me and absolutely the change was for the better. First of all, I am grateful to my friends, people around me – people I'm talking about know it's them. As well I want to express my thanks to Nikolay Shulgin (Dean of Students, art director of AUCA Drama Theater club – NS) and to Andrew (Dr. Wachtel, AUCA president – NS). They were very supportive.



NS: Is there something that disappoints you about AUCA?

When I entered AUCA I felt like studying here was about personal growth and fulfilling one's personality potential. Now I feel it's shifting more to academics. The system gets more bureaucratic, too. The Spirit is getting lost, students are forced to be more into studying, into their classes. I really think that sometimes a student should forget about studying for a while if there is some interesting extracurricular stuff to do. I was really sad when Miss AUCA contest was cancelled. I do not think academics should prevail at AUCA.



NS: Then what is the best about AUCA?

It's the atmosphere. I do not really know where it comes from, but it is there. Open, kind atmosphere, motivating to act and convincing you that you are something more than you think you are. I guess it stems from our liberal arts education. Students and teachers are equal, there's no elitism and we are taught that there's no wrong opinion. Teachers do not try to nail ideas down to our heads – we are rather motivated to think. And students themselves strive to independence. It all contributes to this unique atmosphere. I think AUCA is the best university in Central Asia. Last year's graduate, Aaron Choi, even told me that after so many countries he had been to he thought AUCA was the best university in the world. He doesn't think like this for nothing. Actually, I think that it's my mother and AUCA that made me the way I am.

NS: Are there people at AUCA you will miss?

I met wonderful people, some of them are just incredible. It's like I see their halos. Sveta Verchenko, Aidan Kadyr, Batyr Shabdanov, Zhenya Tsoi – just on the top of my mind. Sergei Viatchanin, too – he's interviewing me now and will not forgive if I do not mention him (smiles).

NS: What would you advise to AUCA freshmen?

To think with no borders, especially geographical borders, because there is no things like that. All the barriers are inside our head. Also, use all the opportunities and live your present moment.

NS: What do you wish to yourself and to AUCA?

I wish I never stop learning new things, I wish I will always be open-minded, think positively and never forget to live my present. I wish AUCA to keep its atmosphere, open new departments; generally – to grow. I wish there were more exchange programs so that more people from AUCA go abroad and more people come to AUCA from all over the world.

Because diversity of student body is awesome.



Sergei Viatchanin, JMC 110

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