



The NEW STAR

independent student newspaper

Issue 3

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Photos taken from Pinterest

New Year,
New You



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New Year, New You

New Year is like one big Monday. The starting point for your new life. With the onset of the next New Year, in a burst of emotions and New Year's happiness, gain courage, strength, and motivation to start a new chapter in their lives.

But this positive attitude doesn't always last long: people give up, forget their plans and goals, and go back to last year's routine. There is the fear of a blank slate, fear that a new life and a new you are impossible to achieve. And all this became you're used to thinking that your dreams are crazy or your goals are unrealistic. Consequently, you begin to disregard your desires and innermost dreams, thinking that you need to work in an ordinary, stable business, which, in the opinion of other people, is the best option. But this is not at all the case. Try to understand that you, like a robot, are used to running, always adhering to a schedule, following rules and obligations, and digging yourself into the depths where you lose your true self. But no matter how trite it may sound, life is fleeting. Nobody knows how many more New Years you will see, so please don't devalue your dreams and desires. Collect all your fears and let them go like a balloon into the sky. Only by letting go can you trigger changes in your life. New Year is a time of changes in everything, both in life and in you. Let me give you advice: give up everything familiar and boring; step over all your fears, leave behind all your doubts, and smile at the world around you!

The Borders Are Open for Tajik Students: What Are Your Expectations for Spring 2022?



We truly [forgot] what it means to be in class and communicate with people face to face. From the IG stories of our classmates, we see how they study at university, celebrate Thanksgiving, and make a snowman in front of the campus. We used to do it all together before [the] COVID crisis. On [the] one hand, I am excited about things I did in my first year on campus and I feel what it means to be a student. On the other hand, we are used to studying online now. It has become a part of life, and I think it will be hard to have great expectations from spring 2022 if we go fully offline. Yet I very much hope that spring 2022 promises to take us, Tajik students, through the feelings of being a real student again.

Kamilia Kurbonmamadova, LAS-118

It was the most exciting news when I heard that the borders are now open for Tajik students to enter Kyrgyzstan. Most likely, all Tajik students were excited about this news, as they are ready to return to offline learning as soon as possible, and I am not an exception. By the spring of 2022, I would like to be at the university in Bishkek with my friends and cannot wait to take part in all academic events that usually take place on campus. It would be great to fully immerse myself in the atmosphere of AUCA and continue studying in the traditional format. I think I am very inspired to participate and be a part of everything that will happen at the university in spring 2022.

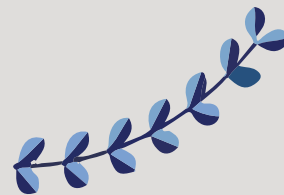


Aziza Dustmamadova, PSY-121



Since I will graduate in the spring of 2022, the upcoming semester promises to be interesting and fruitful in offline mode. It's interesting to study online, but I also like to socialize. Therefore, I miss the atmosphere of AUCA, face-to-face classes and working on projects with C5+1 NS. So, my biggest expectation is to return to Bishkek and enjoy my last semester at our beautiful campus.

Dilshod Hamroboev, TCMA-118



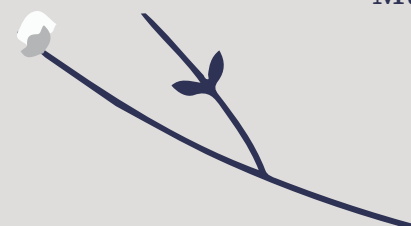
My expectations have been and remain unchanged since my first year. As my freshman year was fully online in the 2020-2021 academic year, I didn't want to lose another year behind the screen at home. My main expectation was to feel the true student atmosphere at AUCA and present my culture to others. Moreover, I met a beautiful girl virtually, so another reason is just to meet her in person and express my sincere gratitude and deepest love to her because she helped me a lot. I hope we will meet in-person.... More importantly, I would not have refreshed my expectations for spring 2022 if the borders hadn't opened up to Tajik students. The news was exciting, and I cannot wait to go to Bishkek soon.

Ozar Vohidzoda, ICP-120



I have been studying online for more than 1.5 years. Having got used to studying online, I was a little excited when I heard the news about the opening of borders and the transition to offline learning. [The] time has come, and we can finally come to AUCA and continue our studies in person, so in the spring of 2022 I expect to be in Bishkek and plunge into the unique atmosphere reigning at AUCA again: see all my professors, advisors and friends whom I have not seen for a long time. I expect to defend my thesis offline and graduate from university on a much-missed campus with my friends and family.

Muhammad Boymatov, BA-118





How I Won \$100,000 with My Business Idea !

This fall, I had the chance to participate in a business competition called Business Okul Ata, where I could win \$100,000 for my start-up. The competition was organized for the first time in the history of Kyrgyzstan. My business idea was processing and exporting dried fruits such as apricots, apples, and nuts, as well as exporting fresh apricots that are grown in greenhouses. Initially, 3,500 applications were submitted to the competition, among which only 100 were invited for an interview. On a big stage, each person had to present themselves and their business idea in 45 seconds. From there, only 20 participants had the chance to continue.

Each week, we faced a series of competitions where after each round two people were eliminated. All of the tasks included a demonstration of leadership skills, financial literacy, and stress management. For instance, once we were divided into two groups and given \$10,000 per group to launch a business on the theme of New Year in a short period of time. My group managed to cover all our expenses and earn \$1,200 within two weeks by creating a small start-up that delivered New Year gifts.

Each round of the competition required commitment and a creative approach. The tasks were different: launching a burger business, presenting our business idea, demonstrating public speaking skills, showing HR management tasks, completing tests for strategic plan assessment, meeting with a psychologist-criminologist, and more. We had to eat quickly, sleep in the office, and brush our teeth in the public bathrooms of malls. Fortunately, this commitment paid off. During one of the tasks, we were required to gather agents for a construction company that would be selling flats. There, I got the highest results, gathering 186 agents, three times more than any other participant.

After the final pitch, I got first place and won \$100,000, and a week-long, fully-funded trip to Antalya. However, before that, I had to work hundreds of hours recalculating my business plan.

Nurmukhamad Turkbaev
BA-118

Who Are Student Senators?



I am the head of the Public Relations Committee and member of the Institutional Review Board Committee in the AUCA student senate. I am a senior majoring in international and comparative politics as well as minoring in journalism and mass communication.

The duty of the student senate as a whole is the governance and management of relevant student activities and cooperation within AUCA. Mainly, the Public Relations Committee conveys essential news, updates, and policy issues relevant to students at AUCA. The senators serve AUCA undergraduate Master's students; they are supposed to advance their interests, give plausible solutions, and react to any mismanagement and violations while reporting and responding to fraudulence.

Abdul Ali Ismalizada
ICP-118

Recently, I have become a member of the Student Senate, chairman of the Public Relations committee, and member of the Student Intellectual Life Committee. I am happy to serve your interests in the Senate. In this article I will describe how exactly we can help you!

Communicate: The Student Senate primarily is not only the student affairs management body but also a bridge between the president and the students. We organize meetings where we discuss current issues of our University.

Protect: If there are any problems, misunderstandings, or rights violations in our university, students can always contact us. The issues will be raised at our meetings. The Student Senate consists of 11 people. Everyone is on a certain committee and performs their own duties. The Senate has a chair and a vice-chair. Other members are representatives of financial, social, hearing, education policy, and public relations committees.

Represent: The Senate represents the interests of AUCA students; therefore, we have a huge responsibility. All students can share their suggestions with us via email, and we would be more than happy to help resolve your issues together. Students have power. Remember that your voices matter.

Mirlan Zheenbekov,
PSY-119





“Шалость удалась”

Мика с мамой заготавливали новогодний ужин. Оливье и винегрет уже стояли на своих блюдах, мы накрыли их пленкой, чтобы они не заветрились. Папа вытащил шампанское и вино из шкафа, где хранились все напитки. Кто знал, что этот вечер будет значить для нее что-то большее, чем просто очередные проводы старого года? В кухне на столе лежали коробки со сладостями, которые обычно раздают в садиках и в школах перед Новым годом. Но они были уже полупустыми. Доказательства этих проказов лежали на каждой поверхности квартиры; фантики от шоколадок и конфет можно было найти в самых неожиданных местах. Озорные зачинщики таких шалостей бегали, мешались под ногами. В квартире уже месяц стоял запах цитрусов, однако сегодня он был особенно ощутим. Источники запаха - корки мандаринов - лежали на столе в каждой комнате. Звуки играющих детей смешивались со звуком телевизора, по которому шел всеми известный советский фильм "Служебный роман". Мужчины сидели в гостиной, разговаривая о своих делах, женщины весело смеялись на кухне, приготавливая блюда к подаче на стол. Среди всех этих звуков Мика услышала звон телефона. Это был он, человек, который находился в нескольких тысячах километров от нее. В динамиках прозвучал родной голос:

- С наступающим Новым годом, Бусинка!

Как твое настроение?

- Ах, было бы лучше если бы кое-кто был рядом, - вздохнула она, выкладывая фрукты на красивое блюдо. Ей было грустно оттого, что она не может провести этот праздник с Томи.

- Все возможно, Бусинка, особенно в канун Нового года. Нужно просто сильно захотеть, хаха, - доносился веселый голос.

- Хорошо, дорогой, я хочу, чтобы Дед Мороз привез вас на своих санях в город Б. и оставил возле калитки моего дома, - резко ответила Мика. Ей казалось, что ее молодой человек смеялся над ней и даже не расстроился из-за несостоявшейся встречи. Неожиданно, раньше положенного времени, загремел салют. Яркие огни вспыхивали, окрашивая в красный и оранжевый цвета свежеснеженный снег, лежавший под окнами. Шум привлек внимание всех родственников, они стали раздвигать шторы, чтобы увидеть ранний салют. Мика, не придав особого значения этому шуму, продолжала выкладывать фрукты.

- Может ты уже выглянешь в окно, Бусинка? Почему я вижу всю твою семью кроме тебя? - прозвучал голос.

Мика подняла глаза и увидела устремленные в нее счастливые улыбки родственников. Сердцебиение девушки участилось, она подошла к окну и выглянула из него. Ее любимый человек стоял с букетом ромашек и игрушкой в виде маленького дракона. Его улыбка знаменовала успех сюрприза, в телефоне послышался голос:

- Шалость удалась, Бусинка!

Aizada Sulaimankulova

ES-119



How to Reach Inner Peace



Why overthink something that's not even worth thinking of, why spend hours and hours worrying about something that does not deserve one tear from your eyes? Why beat yourself up over an event that has been passed? Life is not that long; you work hard today to have a comfortable tomorrow, and you stay awake the whole night to get a good grade without thinking about someone who is more important than this mundane life--yes that's you.

Sometimes we make our minds go crazy over for unimportant topics. There is an interesting skill that can train your mind to withstand all of these nightmares. That ability is the inner peace that helps us get rid of negative thoughts and ideas. Never forget what you are aiming for and go for it even if it is hard, even if it is far, even if it takes a long time. Don't think you're useless; don't think that the situation that you are in now will remain forever. No, nothing is permanent; be grateful for the present, and enjoy it. When you embark on the path of inner peace, no one can stop you. Sitting in a dark room and regretting what has already happened will never work and will not lead you to your real destination. On the contrary, all the negative thoughts will distance you from the goodness that you deserve.

When you feel tired, remember the non-stop effort that you put into every task with love, and when you feel you are not important, think of the ones who are around you and how you motivated them. When you feel unlovable, think of the distinguished characteristics that you have that make you unique, and when you feel alone. One day, you will see good results. Listen to your inner self; find your values and invest in them. I bet you will not regret it. Don't waste your energy by criticizing others and making your mind tired. No one will harm, but you. Love yourself with any craziness that you have, love yourself with any devil instincts that you have, love yourself for any mistakes you have done, love yourself with any shortages that you have. Be satisfied with all the loves that you have and always forgive yourself like you do for other's betrayal.

Bibi Mahdia Yari
ICP-121



AWAKE Sociology Club - Movie Day

A few days ago, "AWAKE" Sociology Club held a Movie Day, in which we discussed the popular TV show Squid Game. There was a sociological analysis of each character, their roles in the series, and its hidden meaning. The topic of our meeting provoked an active discussion involving all participants. We heard a lot of different and interesting opinions from both undergraduate and graduate students. In addition, we received a great number of positive comments from professors, who also contributed to the success of our event. New members of the Sociology Club were able to deepen their knowledge about this social science and see the way various sociological theories can be applied. It was quite a challenging beginning of their journey into the world of sociology. However, they showed true desire and determination to study.

After the formal part we had fun making acquaintances with each other and eating pizza. Such an activity helped us to create an informal setting comfortable for both learning and making friends. We freely expressed our thoughts and shared different stories and personal concerns with each other. That was the moment we felt unity among the members of the club, and we were reminded that our work is highly appreciated by others. It was a unique experience, since we could communicate with our peers and professors outside of class. We had a conversation not only like sociologists but also like ordinary human beings of different origins and backgrounds. Through such communication we could teach and be taught, and that is an essential part of every event held by AWAKE Sociology Club.

Aleksey Pak
SOC-120

VOX POP: If You Were Santa Claus This Year, What Would You Do?



“I would build schools and give books as presents. I would give out Christmas trees with toys and make online translations for children from all around the world. Also, I would make children believe in me.”

Ramina Ergeshova, BA-120

“I would give people with emotional burnout a ticket to a psychologist and a week's vacation in the Maldives.”

Askar Almazov, BA-120



“If I were Santa, then I would surely see that no children in Afghanistan were working to earn money, but I would send all the children to good schools so that they can study well. I would deliver books, craft-making kits, and rainbow-colored weaving kits, and I would give a peaceful hug to all the children.”

Aziz Muradi, SFW-119

“I would stop the war in my beloved country. No gunshots, no killings, no orphans, no bereaved families. I would make a peaceful land for all Afghan children whose only dream is peace.”

Muqbila Rahimi, SEDT-120



Prepared by Frogh Marz Shekan, JMC-120

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