

**News From the Society****The Society's Move to CSU Fresno**

This year, as most of our members now know, the Society for Armenian Studies moved its Secretariat from The Armenian Center at the University of Michigan, Dearborn, to the offices of the Armenian Studies Program at Californian State University, Fresno. This is in keeping with the steady growth of the Armenian Studies Program at Fresno, the details of which are set out elsewhere in this issue. It is hoped that this will be the source of a long, fruitful, and mutually advantageous association.

The Secretariat wishes to thank Dennis Papazian for his years of dedicated service to the Society, and for his e-mail dissemination of information relevant to our field, a most valued service since the *Newsletter* comes out but three times a year and much of our information on lectures and conferences appears after they have taken place. Thanks are also due to Dr. Papazian's assistant, Mr. Gerald Ottenbreit, for his dedicated work on our Journal.

The editor apologizes for the late arrival of this issue of the *Newsletter*, a result of the move of the society's headquarters.

**Society for Armenian Studies  
Annual Business Meeting  
Minutes  
Saturday, November 17, 2001  
9:00-10:00 PM**

1) SAS President Barlow Der Mugrdechian called the meeting to order at 9 p.m.

Executive Council members present: Levon Chorbajian (treasurer), Peter Cowe (vice-president), Robert Hewsen (at large). A sign-up sheet was circulated of the ten members in attendance.

2) The agenda proposed for the meeting by the president was approved.

3) The president informed the meeting that the Executive Council had approved the minutes of the 2001 annual business meeting and these had been published in the Newsletter.

4) Treasurer's Report: Levon Chorbajian noted that the Society has over \$13,000 in its account, primarily because no

journal was published in 2001. The Society's financial state in general was quite healthy after receiving dues payments, donations, and funds from the sale of reports and papers. Only a few bills were currently outstanding, amounting to about \$2,000, which would accordingly leave a balance of about \$11,000 at year's end. (treasurer's report submitted and published in the Newsletter).

5) Membership Report: The president noted that the Society's secretariat had moved in January from the Armenian Research Center at Dearborn to the Armenian Studies Program, Fresno, while the balance on hand was transferred to Fleet Bank in Massachusetts in March. Currently, since membership records are going to be maintained in Fresno, members are asked to send renewals there, after which the president will pass on checks to the treasurer for deposit.

As of November 1, the Society has 221 members (139 regular; 19 student; 27 retired; 36 supporting). Over the last year our one institutional member had been dropped after neglecting to maintain membership over the last few years. Similarly, ten members who are four years in arrears and have been contacted on various occasions by letter, e-mail, and personal call will be informed that their membership has expired.

6) Journal Report: The president reminded members that the last number of JSAS was published last year as the last in the series under Professor Dennis Papazian's editorship. Currently, the search for a successor continues. Acting on Dickran Kouymjian's timely initiative, as an interim measure to maintain continuity of publication, it has been determined to put together the next volume by building on materials already in hand. Forty-five books had been sent for review: Peter Cowe is to check their current status and coordinate submission for publication. In addition, there are four articles approved and others have been promised. New submissions will be sent to JSAS board members for peer review.

Prospects are good for bringing the volume to publication by the end of next year.

The president will be in overall charge of efforts to send the volume to press.

7) Newsletter Report: The president stated that three issues of vol. 25 had been prepared this year and were sent to a list of almost 500 recipients at an overall annual running cost of \$2,263.26. They could also be viewed on the CSU Fresno Armenian Studies website. This was the fifth year that Barlow Der Mugrdechian had served as editor and he is now

being succeeded by Robert Hewsen, who can be contacted with material for the *Newsletter* this year at Fresno.

8) SAS Executive Council actions: The president informed the meeting of two important decisions, which the board had taken on their behalf over the last year.

- i) The board had unanimously approved raising the level of travel reimbursement for SAS sponsored panel presentations by members from outside North America from \$200 to \$300. The rate for presenters from North America remains at \$200.
- ii) A new category of membership had been approved for scholars from the Armenian Republic, who would possess voting privileges and receive the newsletter (but not the journal) for an annual fee of \$10.

#### New Business

9) Elections: The president announced that the terms of Peter Cowe and Dickran Kouymjian on the executive council had expired. Members had sent in seventy-eight acceptable ballots. The candidates elected to fill the two vacancies are Garabet Mourdjian and Christina Maranci.

10) Nominations Committee: Levon Marashlian and Anahid Aramouni Keshishian were proposed and accepted as members of the new nominations committee. Aram Arkun was also proposed as the third member.

In 2002 the terms of Robert Hewsen and Richard Hovannian would expire, and so there would be two vacancies to fill. No candidates were proposed from the floor.

11) SAS graduate student prizes: The president reminded those present about the two prizes offered annually:

- i. Paper presented at a scholarly conference (to be submitted in finalized form by the end of February 2002), which would be reviewed by the SAS executive council.
- ii. Article submitted for publication in the next number of JSAS, to be reviewed by the editorial board.

Correspondence concerning both prizes should be addressed to the president.

12) SAS Roster: The president informed members that the latest version of the roster should be ready by the end of 2001. It would also contain the constitution and other information on the Society.

13) Directory of Armenian Studies Programs: Since there are now already fourteen Armenian Studies chairs or positions in the USA, it was decided to compile a listing of the various programs and their offerings for publication. Robert Hewsen is directing this project.

14) Acknowledgements: On behalf of the Society, the president expressed his appreciation for the contribution of the two retiring members of the executive council; to Professor Dennis Papazian for his singular service as JSAS editor and in hosting the secretariat at his research center, and to Gia Aivazian for her assistance in arranging the Armenian component of the MESA FilmFest.

15) Standing Committees: The SAS by-laws call for the creation of standing committees, which might encompass areas such as development and panels. The president called on

anyone interested in serving in that capacity to contact him. He reiterated that, in addition to MESA, SAS is affiliated with the American Historical Association (AHA) and the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS) and can field panels at their meetings also.

16) MESA 2002: Next year's meeting will be in Washington, DC and the deadline for submission of panel abstracts is February 15. It was determined to make a special effort to have Armenian Studies represented, perhaps with a plenary session involving the Armenian Embassy or other governmental figures. The need for collaboration with the local Armenian community was underscored.

It was highlighted that there have been two important changes in MESA's policies with regard to panels:

a) sponsorship by affiliated organizations like SAS does not guarantee that the designated panel will be accepted by the MESA organizational committee, but simply adds the moral weight of the society's support.

b) the previous appeal mechanism has been abolished, so that MESA committee rulings are final.

17) First World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies: Mainz, Germany, September 8-13, 2002. The President conveyed to the meeting the gist of a letter from Prof. Jos Weitenberg, president of the SAS sister organization Association Internationale des Etudes Arméniennes, to the effect that he was open to collaborate on creating joint panels of Armenian interest for this important scholarly forum. It was decided that the president should be in touch to determine more concretely what form of collaboration SAS could take part in.

18) Vote of thanks with a warm round of applause was awarded the president in recognition of his enthusiastic involvement and dedicated leadership over the last year and his excellent editorship of the Society Newsletter over the last five years.

19) The president adjourned the meeting at 10:07 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by ad hoc secretary Peter Cowe.

#### Society for Armenian Studies Dues

Dues for membership in the Society for Armenian Studies are now payable.

For membership information, please contact the SAS Secretariat, at Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno, 5245 N. Backer Ave, M/S PB4, Fresno, CA, 93740-8001 Telephone (559) 278-4930 or email [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu)

**SAS Financial Report**  
**October 18, 2000 through February 20, 2001**  
**(up to transfer April 12, 2001-SAS bank**  
**account transferred to fleet Bank in Boston)**

Category Description	
<b>SAS BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>4,057.13</b>
<b>JSAS Income:</b>	
Advertisements	80.00
Journal Sales #10	105.00
Journal Sales #11	25.00
Journal Sales #8	45.00
Journal Sales #9	25.00
Total JSAS Income	280.00
<b>JSAS Expenses:</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>SAS Income:</b>	
<b>Donations</b>	
Bedros Afeyan	60.00
Edward Alexander	10.00
Joseph Alexanian	10.00
Artin Arslanian	10.00
Cynthia Avakian	10.00
Anny P. Balakian	10.00
Hovhannes Beazian	35.00
Cesar Chekijian	60.00
Seta B. Dadoyan	10.00
Lillian Etmekjian	10.00
Armen Garabedian	10.00
Ara Arthur Gelenian	20.00
Vartan Gregorian	85.00
Janet Karleen Hall	25.00
Sarkis Karayan	10.00
Jerry Keshian	70.00
John Brady Kiesling	10.00
Robert O. Krikorian	5.00
Matthew Jendian	5.00
Gary Lind-Sinanian	20.00
Ann Lousin	50.00
Jack C. Mardoian	10.00
Ina Baghdantz McCabe	10.00
Adrienne Haroutunian	
McOmber	60.00
Arpena Mesrobian	10.00
Jirair Moughamian	110.00
Helen Parnagian-Corrigan	70.00
Denny Stavros	35.00
Levon Topouzian	85.00
Total Donations	925.00
<b>Dues</b>	<b>4,120.00</b>
<b>Interest Income</b>	<b>189.92</b>
<b>Maps Sales</b>	<b>80.00</b>

Mazda Donation	2,500.00
Occasional Papers	37.00
Reprint Series	6.50
<b>Total SAS Income</b>	<b>7,858.42</b>
<b>SAS Expenses:</b>	
Mazda Press	2,500.00
Travel Expenses	
Robert H. Hewsen	200.00
Total Travel Expenses	200.00
Total SAS Expenses	2,700.00
<b>SAS ENDING BALANCE</b>	<b>9,495.55</b>
(Last account activity: February 20, 2001. The account was closed on April 12, 2001, and the balance of \$9,495.55 was transferred to Fleet Bank of Boston.)	
<b>SAS Financial Report</b>	
<b>April 12, 2001-November 30, 2001</b>	
Balance on hand April 12, 2001:	9,495.55
<b>SAS Income:</b>	
Levon Chorbajian	25.00
(Deposit for opening SAS bank account)	
<b>Donations</b>	
Marco Brambilla	20.00
Fr. Dajad Davidian	45.00
Haig Der Manuellian	45.00
Joseph Kechichian	10.00
Robert Mirak	10.00
Sam Sarkesian	5.00
Robert Thomson	30.00
subtotal	190.00
<b>Sale of Occasional papers</b>	<b>132.50</b>
Dues	5,610.00
Total Income	5,932.50
<b>SAS Expenses:</b>	
Bank charges	19.50
Dues statement bill	371.47
Winter 2001 Newsletter	802.52
Fall 2000 Newsletter	541.48
MESA room rental fee	150.00
SAS stamp for checks	14.69
Checkbook	99.05
Deposit correction	40.00
Levon Chorbajian	25.00
(Reimbursement for opening bank account)	
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,063.71</b>
<b>SAS balance (as of 11/30/2001)</b>	<b>13,364.34</b>

## Conferences

### The Armenian Communities of the Black Sea-Pontus Region. May 4-5, 2002, Dickson Auditorium, University of California, Los Angeles. The Tenth in the Series Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces.

**Program: Saturday, May 4, 2002**  
**Morning Session, 9:30AM -1:00PM**

1. *The Black Sea Armenian Coastal Communities: An Introduction*

Richard Hovannissian, UCLA

2. *Armenians on the Black Sea--The Pontic Shore*

Robert Hewsen, California State University, Fresno

3. *Contacts between Armenia and Pontus in the Pre-Christian Period*

Richard Wilkinson, London

4. *Armenia, Armenians, and the Black Sea to the 7th Century*

Babken Harutiunyan, Erevan State University

5. *The Byzantine Province of the Armeniakon in the 7th and 8th Centuries*

Mikael Nichanian, Universite de Paris IV

6. *Armenian Connections with Medieval Trebizond*

Abraham Terian, St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, New York

**Lunch Break. Afternoon Session, 2:00-5:30 p.m.**

7. *Armenian Communities in the Southern Crimea in the 16th Century*

Oleksandr Halenko, National Academy, Kiev, Ukraine

8. *Foundations of Hamshen and Armenian Descent Myths: Parallels and Interconnections*

A. Elizabeth Redgate, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne

9. *The Islamization of the Hamshentis/Hemshinli*

\*Claire Mouradian, CNRS (Centre d'études du monde russe, soviétique et post-soviétique), Paris

10. *Armenian Manuscript Illumination during the Dark Ages: The Images of Hamshen*

Christina Maranci, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

11. *History and Identity among the Hemshinli*

Hovann Simonian, University of Southern California

12. *Homshetsma: The Language of the Hamshen Muslim Armenians*

Bert Vaux, Harvard University

**Sunday, May 5, 2002: Morning Session, 10:00-12:30 (Session in Armenian)**

1. *Azzi-Hayasa on the Black Sea? Another Puzzle of Armenian Origins*

Vartan Matiossian, Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires

2. *Armenian Architecture and Town Quarters in the Pontus Region*

David Kertmenian, School of Architecture and Construction, Erevan

3. *The Artvin-Artanuch District and Its Monuments*

Aleksandr Kananov, Research on Armenian Architecture, Tbilisi

4. *Trebizond, the Genocide, and the Postwar Turkish Courts-Martial*

Avetis Papazian, Los Angeles, formerly Institute of History, Erevan

**May 5, Afternoon Session, 1:30-5:30 (Session in English)**

5. *Minas Pzhshkian and the "History of Pontus"--Pontosi Patmutiun*

Marc Nichanian, Columbia University

6. *The Black Sea Armenian Communities in the 19th Century*

Bedross Der Matossian, Jerusalem and Columbia University

7. *Revolution, Reform, and Repression: The Armenians of Trebizond in 1895*

Barbara Merguerian, Armenian International Women's Association, Boston

8. *The Fate of the Black Sea Armenian Communities, 1908-1915*

Simon Payaslian, UCLA

9. *The Competition for Trebizond, 1916-1920*

Richard Hovannissian, UCLA

10. *Armenian Pontic Communities in Abkhazia and the Kuban*

\*Igor Kuznetsov, Kuban State University, Krasnodar

\*Dr. Mouradian and Dr. Kuznetsov were unfortunately unable to appear.

**Élites urbaines et savoir scientifique dans la société ottomane (XIXe-XXe siècles). Istanbul, 21, 22, 23 mars 2002.** Inst. Français d'Etudes Anatoliennes. Nuru Ziya sok. 22-80072 Istanbul. (two papers of interest: May Davie "Manouk Avedessian (1841-1925), alias Bechara al-mouhandis. Itinéraire békrouthain d'un ingénieur ottoman à la fin du XIXe siècle." Anne Kazazian, "Transformations et permanences dans la condition de notable Meguerditch bey Margossof (Trieste 1840-Le Caire 1919), un notable arménien d'Egypte." Meropi Anastassiadou commente le texte d'Anne Kazazian.

**Une Journée d'études Arméniennes. Friday, Feb. 15th, 2002. Universite De Provence Centre D'aix. Ufr Erlaos (Etudes Romanes, Latino-Américaines, Orientales Et Slaves). Département Langues Diverses. Section d'arménien. On the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of Armenian Studies at the University of Provence.**

**PROGRAM**

1. *L'enseignement de l'Arménien à l'Université de Provence*  
Paul Garde (Prof. émérite, Université de Provence)
2. *L'histoire de l'Arménie par les cartes*  
Claude Mutafian (M/Conf. Paris Nord)
3. *L'art pictural arménien: panorama historique*  
Chahen Katchadrian (Dir. Gal. Nationale d'Arménie)
4. *La parenté basque – arménienne: Le défi d'une théorie oubliée*  
Vahan Sargsyan (Prof. Université d'Etat de Erévan)
5. *L'Arménie avant l'Arménie*  
Rémo Mugnaioni (Chargé de cours en assyriologie, U.P.)
6. *L'alphabet arménien: ses caractéristiques*  
Christian Touratier (Prof. de linguistique, U.P.)
7. *Langue et identité*  
Robert Dermerguerian (Prof. Univ. de Provence)
8. *A propos de la mythologie arménienne et persane.*  
Parviz Abolgassemi (M./Conf. Univ. de Provence)
9. *Aïvazovski, peintre de la marine*  
Chahen Katchadrian (Directeur de la Galerie Nationale d'Arménie)

**Caspian Symposium March, 11-13, 2002:  
"The European Union and the Caspian Sea Region in Dialogue Sustainability; Environmental Policy and Caspian Region Development.**

Location: Technische Universitaet Berlin, Berlin, Germany  
Contact: Caspian Project Gilan (CPG). E-mail: [pjgilan@gp.tu-berlin.de](mailto:pjgilan@gp.tu-berlin.de)

The international symposium was organised by the Caspian Project Gilan (CPG) of the Institute of Urban and Regional Planning (Institut fuer Stadt-und Regionalplanung) at the Technical University Berlin, with the support of the: Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation Germany (BMZ) Dept. for Int'l Scientific Co-operation - University of Gilan,; Rasht/ Iran. German-Kazakh Society Berlin (DKG); European Academy of the Urban Environment Berlin (EAUE)

The symposium was a joint meeting of high ranking experts from different fields like members from scientific institutions, private companies, business associations and other key institutions from Europe and the Caspian Sea states. The main topics in the sessions were:

1. Political role of co-operation; 2. Economic developments and perspectives for the Caspian; 3. The Caspian Transport Network; 4. Nature conservation in the Caspian Region; 5. Regional development in the local centers; 6. Refinancing of Environmental Policy - The role of the oil and gas developments in the Caspian Regio; 7. Environmental impact assessment (EIA) for Caspian infrastructure projects; 8. Establishment for a common and open scientific database of the Caspian.

**Symposium Agenda:**

The Caspian Project Gilan organised such a symposium to promote the relations between the European Union and the Caspian Sea States in Germany for the first time. Technical University Berlin to bring together a great number of participants from the five Caspian Member States, the Baltic Sea States and the European Union of different academic, economic and political institutions related To the Caspian region development.

**Fordham Psychology Association & Armenian American Society for Studies on Stress & Genocide (AASSSG) Present a symposium Cosponsored by the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ISTSS), NY Chapter. Identity & mass trauma: Slavery, genocide, holocaust.**

Monday, April 29, 2002, at 7: 00 PM, Fordham University, Keynoter: Professor Peter Balakian; Featured Speaker: Mr. Akin Birdal, Honorary President, Human Rights Organization, Turkey, Vice President, World Human Rights Organization, France. Panelists: Prudence Cumberbatch, Professor of Africana Studies, Brooklyn College, New York; Joyce Apsel, PhD, JD, President, Int. Assn of Genocide Scholars, New York University; Chairperson: Professor Anie Kalajian, Visiting Professor of Psychology, Fordham University, New York.

Professor Peter Balakian will receive the AASSSG 2002 outstanding achievement award.

For inf. contact Dr. Kalayjian: Tel: (212) 636-6346, Fax: (201) 941-5110; e-mail: [AASSSG@aol.com](mailto:AASSSG@aol.com)

**CECOB/ASN Special Convention, Italy, June 2002. "Nationalism, Identity and Regional Cooperation: Compatibilities and Incompatibilities."**

From: Charles King [kingch@georgetown.edu](mailto:kingch@georgetown.edu)

Centro per l'Europa centro orientale e balcanica with the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) convened a special convention at Bologna University Forlì Campus, Italy, 4-9 June 2002. The CECOB/ASN Convention featured several dozen panels on the Balkans, the Baltics, the Caucasus, Central Europe, Central Asia, Russia, Ukraine,

Turkey, as well as thematic panels on nationalism, conflict resolution, democratization, demography, language issues, geography, interpretations of history, ethnicity in film and literature, and theoretical approaches to the nation. It will be the largest international scholarly convention on the European continent for experts on nationalism, identity and regional co-operation of Central Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union and the Balkans.

**The Armenian Research Institute is set to hold its Armenian Research Turkey Convention at the National Library in Ankara on April 20-21.**

The institute, which was established by the Eurasian Research Center, will bring together at the convention over 100 Turkish scholars and writers who study Armenia. The convention will feature presentations on Armenia and the Armenians in their historical, legal, religious, cultural and psychological aspects, as well as explore the nation's place in the world arena and in international terrorism. At the end of the two-day gathering, the participants will release a declaration of consensus. The Armenian Research Institute publishes a quarterly journal in Turkish and English called Armenian Studies.

**MESA Panels 2002, Washington, D.C.  
November 23-26**

**I. Sacred and Secular in Dialogue Under the Armenian Kingdom of Cilicia (13th-14th centuries)**

Chair: Robert H. Hewsen; Panel:

David Bundy

*Synod of Sis (1243)*

Peter Cowe

*Esayi Nchec'i and Dialogue with the Latins*

Christina Maranci

*Alexander Romance*

Abraham Terian

*Oath administered at the Coronation Rite*

Discussant: Dickran Kouymjian

**II. Confronting Past and Future: the Armenian Case  
Sponsored by the Society for Armenian Studies**

Chair: Richard G. Hovannisian, UCLA

Richard G. Hovannisian, UCLA

*Armenian Memories of Life and Conflict in the Ottoman Empire*

Rubina Peroomian, UCLA

*The Challenges of the New Century to Capture the Genocide in Art and to Encompass the Echoes of the Surviving People's Collective Psyche*

Joyce Apsel, New York University

*Human Rights and the Internet: Pedagogical Challenges*

Henry Theriault, Worcester State College

*Denial, Absolute Positivism, and a Response from Ibn Khaldun*

Dikran M. Kaligian, Boston College

*The Role of the American Media in the Armenia Case*

**Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN)  
Seventh Annual ASN World Convention**

**April 11-13, 2002**

Harriman Institute, Columbia University, New York.  
Phone: +39/0543/21995; Fax: +39/0543/376879; e-mail: prgchair@spbo.unibo.it.

**Caucasus: Ethnic Relations, Human Rights, Geopolitics, Tbilisi, October 26-27, 2002**

(From: Levan Urushadze <iacerhrg98@hotmail.com>)

Dear Colleagues,

I inform you, that in October 26-27, 2002, in Tbilisi will be held the IV Annual Conference of the International Association "Caucasus: Ethnic Relations, Human Rights, Geopolitics" (IACERHRG).

Main themes of the Conference: 1. "The question of National Self-Determination and double standards"; 2. "The International Criminal Court (ICC) and the ethnocide of the Chechen people"; 3. "Human Rights situation in the Caucasus."

Maximum participants, 100.

Languages: Georgian, English, Russian.

Time limit for lectures: 20 min.

Deadline for registration (Name and forename, organization, position, degree, gender, age, nationality, street address, city, postal code, phone, fax, e-mail, area of interest): October 1, 2002. Registration fee: 50 USD.

Deadline for abstracts (1-1,5 pp.): October 1, 2002.

The rooms in the hotel "Morkinali" (per night - 20 USD) will be reserved by the Organizing Committee.

Unfortunately we can not cover expenses for travel and accommodation. I cordially invite you to participate in the Conference.

Dr. Levan Z. Urushadze

Chairman of IACERHRG

Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia, May 24, 2002

IACERHRG, G.Tsabadze Street 3-32, Tbilisi 380012, Republic of Georgia.

Tel/Fax: (995) 32 348651

E-mail: iacerhrg98@hotmail.com

Web Site: <http://www.geocities.com/iacerhrg/iacerhrg.html>

**Misc. Panelist needed to speak on Kurds**

A friend of mine runs a NGO associated with the U. N. She is having a panel discussion on Karabakh, Abkhazia, and the Kurds. The person should NOT be a national of any of the three groups, should hopefully have first hand experience in the designated area, live in proximity to New York, and be willing to speak for 15 minutes and then participate in a panel

discussion. If you know of such persons, please inform me —Dennis Papazian <papazian@umd.umich.edu> Dearborn, MI 48128-1491; 313-593-5181; Fax 313-593-5219; Home Fax 248-641-0128

NOTE: Tel. numbers, fax numbers, and e-mails addresses are given for conferences that have already taken place in the event that anyone wishes to contact the organizing institutions for further information, proceedings, etc.

**The Society for Armenian Studies Newsletter  
is now  
on the World Wide Web**

[www.csufresno.edu/ArmenianStudies/  
SAS Newsletter.htm](http://www.csufresno.edu/ArmenianStudies/SAS%20Newsletter.htm)

**The following issues of the SAS Newsletter  
are now on the web:**

**Vol. XXV, No. 3 (60)  
Fall 2001**

**Vol. XXV, No. 2 (59)  
Spring 2001**

**Vol. XXV, No. 1 (58)  
Winter 2001**

**Vol. XXIV, No. 3 (57)  
Fall 2000**

**Openings**

**Editor of the *Journal of the  
Society for Armenian Studies***

The Society for Armenian Studies is taking applications for the position of editor of the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*.

Prospective candidates should send a letter of inquiry and a plan of publication to the President of the Society for Armenian Studies, Barlow Der Mugrdechian, 5245 N. Backer Ave. PB4, Fresno, CA, 93740-8001.

**Call for Papers**

**The Armenian Communities of Smyrna/Izmir and Asia Minor to Cappadocia/Caesarea, November 2-3, 2002, Dickson Auditorium, University of California, Los Angeles. The Eleventh in the Series Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces.**

The 11th in the UCLA International Conference Series on Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces will feature the Armenian communities of Smyrna/Izmir and Asia Minor, including Adabazar, Bardizag, Ismid, Kutahia, Konia, and the important early Christian centers in the region of Cappadocia/Caesarea/Kaiseri.

You are invited to submit a one-page abstract on a subject relating to the Armenian presence and experience in these regions, including history, religion, economy, society, education, literature, and other relevant aspects.

Please submit your abstracts by May 15, 2002 so that there will be time to referee the submissions and prepare a final program by July. Please send your abstract by e-mail to Richard Hovannisian at [Hovannis@history.ucla.edu](mailto:Hovannis@history.ucla.edu)

**The Hebrew University of Jerusalem will jointly host an international symposium concerning Anatolia in Transition: The Mongol Invasion and its Aftermath. 24-25 June 2002.**

The Department of Indian, African, and Armenian Studies and the Department of Middle Eastern Studies of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem will jointly host an international symposium concerning “Anatolia in Transition: The Mongol Invasion and its Aftermath.” The symposium will address the situation of the various peoples living in Anatolia and neighboring regions during the Mongol period as well as changes in the material cultures of the area. As Armenia and Armenians played a significant role in the region at this time, a large segment of the symposium will be dedicated to the effects of the Mongol invasion upon Greater Armenia and Cilicia. The results of this inter-disciplinary symposium will enhance our perspective and understanding of life on the Anatolian plateau and its environs during this complicated time. In addition to the faculty of the Armenian Studies Program of the Hebrew University, prominent Armenologists from Armenia and Europe have been invited to participate in the symposium.

**St. Nersess Armenian Seminary in New Rochelle, NY is pleased to announce the following as part of the celebrations surrounding the 40th anniversary of its founding.**

An international symposium entitled "Liturgy in Context: Worship Traditions of Armenia and the Neighboring Christian East," will be held Sept. 25-28, 2002 in the facilities of the Rye Hilton Hotel and the St. Gregory the Illuminator parish of Harrison, NY. While the main focus of the symposium is the Armenian liturgical tradition in all of its aspects, specialists in the neighboring Byzantine and Greater Syrian liturgical rites have been invited to provide a comparative perspective. Furthermore, historians and experts in patristics, sacred art, architecture and related disciplines will offer the contextualization necessary to appreciate the place of liturgy within the greater Christian culture of Armenia and its neighbors. In this way the topic at hand will be analyzed in its geographical and inter-disciplinary contexts. There are places in the schedule reserved for non-invited speakers. Anyone wishing to present a paper of 20-30 minutes in length on a related topic is invited to contact the St. Nersess Armenian Seminary by May 10, 2002. The Symposium will be open to the public. Persons wishing to attend are also encouraged to contact the seminary for details. St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, 150 Stratton Road, New Rochelle, NY 10804, tel: (914) 636-2003, fax: (914) 636-3564; email: [info@stnersess.edu](mailto:info@stnersess.edu).

## Lectures

### The Armenian Studies Program, California State University, Fresno.

The ASP at CSU, Fresno presented a triple lecture titled "Armenia: the Current Economy" given on Thurs., Feb. 28th by Yerevan State University professors: Armen Yeghiazaryan (has extensive experience in private and government positions) is former Minister of Economy (1993-1995) of the Republic of Armenia and since 1999 has been Chairman of the Union of Banks of the Republic of Armenia; Narek Martirosyan (who has been chief advisor to the Minister of Finance of the Republic of Armenia and has been involved in the drafting of the main economy of the Republic for the period 2000-2003); and Alexander Chilingaryan (who teaches management at Yerevan State University and has been trained in accountancy), who discussed the current economy of the Republic of Armenia. They are visiting Fresno State as part of the NIS College/University Partnership Faculty and Development Program.

For more information please contact the Armenian Studies Program office at 278-2669.

**Arman Boudaghians** of the Iranian Centre for Armenian Studies, Tehran, spoke in Armenian on The Armenian Community in Iran and Armenia-Iran Relations Today. Friday, 15 February 2002, under the auspices of Haigazian Univer-

sity Department of Armenian Studies. Dr. Boudaghians has a doctoral degree in Armenian history from Yerevan State University and has taught Persian in the same institution of higher learning. He later worked as a researcher on Caucasian affairs in a number of Iranian research institutions. He is the Founding Director of the Iranian Centre of Armenian Studies.

**Levon Chookaszian**, UNESCO Professor of Armenian Art History, Yerevan State University, "The Image of Secular Power in Armenian Art." February 4, 2002, Alice Peters Auditorium, University Business Center, California State University, Fresno.

**Nina G. Garsoian**, "Janus: The Formation of the Armenian Church from the 4th to the 7th Century," at Tufts Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Tues. October 16, 2001, sponsored by the History Department, The Darakjian-Jafarian Chair of Armenian History, and the Tufts Armenian Club.

**Robert H. Hewsen** presented the Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan lectures on Armenian history at California State University, Fresno, on the first Tuesdays of October, November, and December, 2001. The three lectures were devoted to the Conversion of Armenia to Christianity and covered the following topics: Armenia on the eve of the Conversion; Agathangeghos as a historical text, and the grassroots conversion of Armenia. On March 19, 2002, Prof. Hewsen, gave a separate lecture at the University dealing with his trip to Karabagh eighteen months earlier.

**Michael C. Lemmon**, former ambassador to Armenia and present Dean of the School of Language Studies, Foreign Service Institute, Department of State, delivered the 10th annual Vardanants Day Armenian Lecture on Monday, April 22nd, 7:00 in the Mumford Building of the Library of Congress. The title of his lecture is: *Reflections on Armenia's Place in the Region and the World*.

**James R. Russell**, Mesrob Mashtots Professor of Armenian Studies at Harvard University, presented a series of four lectures in May, 2002, on Armenian literature and Near Eastern Cultures at the NAASR Center in Belmont, Mass.

**Thomas Samuelian** spoke in London on his new book *St. Grigor Narekatsi: Speaking with God from the Depths of the Heart*, Feb. 22, 2002. Centre for Armenian Information & Advice (CAIA) Hayashen, 105a Mill Hill Road, Acton, London W3 8JF; Tel. 020 8992 4621; Fax 020 8993 8953; e-mail [info@caia.org.uk](mailto:info@caia.org.uk); website [www.caia.org.uk](http://www.caia.org.uk)

## News Items

### Albanian Palimpsests

In recent years two manuscripts were discovered at St. Catherine's monastery at the foot of Mount Sinai. These mss. were in Greek but are actually palimpsests, for beneath the Greek were the traces of a still readable Armenian text that had been scraped off to enable the parchment to be reused, and under that an earlier removed text that can also be read with modern photographic techniques. This original text has now been determined to be written in the alphabet of the Caucasian (or Caspian) Albanians, a vanished Christian people of southeast Caucasia, and appears to be a biblical text. If this is correct then scholars now have at their disposal the first example of a text in the Albanian language, whose alphabet, said to have been invented by St. Mesrob Mashtots, was only discovered in 1938.

### Ancient burial site found in northern Armenian town

A Bronze Age burial site has been discovered in the Papichal area of the town of Noyemberyan in northern Armenia. It was excavated by a local resident, Gamlet Gulkanyan, while working in his garden. Remnants of people and animals, as well as ceramic items characteristic of the Bronze Age, were found at the depth of 1.5 meters. Relics of archaeological interest had many times been discovered earlier on Gulkanyan's plot. Clay mugs, bronze arrowheads and various adornments were often found by other local residents, too. Novemberyan residents hope that some day, archaeologists will get to thoroughly study this ancient settlement, and hence, the history of their town. (From rouben@aaainc.org) Arizona State University Summer Program Russian Aid East European Studies Consortium, Yerevan, Republic of Armenia, July 29 - August 16, 2002

### The Arizona State University Russian and East European Studies Consortium invites you to participate in a three-week, two-credit practicum in Yerevan, Armenia.

**July 2002 - August 16, 2002.**

The Yerevan Practicum serves as a natural extension of the ASU Summer Sessions eight-week intensive Armenian language course in the Critical Languages Institute, held on the campus of Arizona State University, July 3-26, 2002. Located in the heart of the Caucasus region, with a stunning view of the majestic Mount Ararat, Yerevan is the capital and largest city of the newly independent Republic of Armenia. One of the oldest cities of the world, with a population of roughly one million, Yerevan offers a wide variety of educational and cultural opportunities, and a friendly and safe

social environment. The city is dotted with ancient churches, monuments, restaurants, cafes, and other recreational facilities. Eligibility: The Yerevan Practicum is open to all ASU and non-ASU undergraduate and graduate students, as well as to non degree students. Normally, participants in the Yerevan Practicum will have completed at least one year of intensive Armenian language study at ASU in the eight-week summer Critical Languages Institute. The deadline for applications, to be accompanied by a non-refundable \$300 deposit, is February 4, 2002. Applications received after that date will be considered on a space available basis. Financial assistance may be used for this overseas study. Students should apply through their own universities. Academic Program: Utilizing instructors from the ASU Critical Languages Institute, the Yerevan Practicum will expand language skills and introduce participants to the culture of ancient and modern Armenia. Formal classroom language instruction each morning is combined with local excursions to historic sites. Students participating in the three-week Yerevan Practicum will receive two ASU credits. FLA 494 Yerevan Practicum (2 credits). Living accommodations: Students are housed at the Yerevan State University foreign guest house located in the city's historic center. Rooms are double occupancy with amenities. Breakfast is included and other meals are prepared on request. Meals are part of the estimated program cost. Cost of the program The estimated cost of \$1,500 includes: program fees, housing, meals, excursions, and local roundtrip transport from the Yerevan international airport. Not Included: roundtrip airfare from Phoenix to Yerevan (APEX fares run approximately \$1,400), passport costs, books, and personal expenses. Tuition for this two-credit practicum has been waived by ASU Summer Sessions. Applicants are encouraged to apply for NSEP/Boren fellowship support. For more information and application forms, contact: Carol Withers, Russian and East European Studies Consortium, Social Sciences Room 206, P.O. Box 872601, Arizona State University Tempe, AZ 85287-2601; Office: 480-965-4188; Fax: 480-965-0310; E-mail: Carol.Withers@asu.edu; Web: <http://www.asu.edu/ipo/reesc>

### Armenian publication series

Cambridge Scholars Press Ltd. has launched a new series of studies in Armenian culture. The first book in the series will be of interest to enthusiasts of Armenian, literature, poetry, and music: *Old Armenian Songs: A Nineteenth Century Compilation* by Ghewond Alishan. (ISBN: 1-904303-00-5). This title may be ordered from any UK bookstore (e.g. Amazon.co.uk, or Waterstones.co.uk) and a number of US bookstores, or directly from the publisher: Cambridge Scholars Press, Ltd., 79a manor Way, Uxbridge UB8 2BG, UK. CSP welcomes mss. and proposals for any books which may be included in the series. For more information see: [www.cambridgescholarspress.com](http://www.cambridgescholarspress.com) or e-mail George Williams (gwilliams@cambridgescholarspress.com).

## The Black Sea and Caspian Sea Collaborative Research Program

IREX is pleased to announce the Black and Caspian Sea Collaborative Research Program, funded by The Starr Foundation. Application deadline is May 1, 2002. Description: Grants will be awarded for collaborative research projects focusing on regional issues of practical relevance and current interest to the corporate and policymaking communities. The region is defined to include: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, and Ukraine. Technical Eligibility: Minimum of three researchers per application; at least one US citizen and/or legal permanent resident; at least two citizens and current residents of two different countries of the Black and Caspian Sea region as defined above; all researchers must hold graduate degrees equivalent to master's level or above. Selection Criteria: potential contribution and impact to Black and Caspian Sea regional studies; practical relevance to corporate and policymaking communities; demonstrated need for collaborative research; Professional achievements of researchers; clarity of research goals and methodology; reasonableness of the proposed budget; feasibility of the proposed project; and demonstration of serious preparatory work/collaboration. Grant Provisions: Grants not to exceed \$25,000; and eligible expenses include: travel and associated expenses, research expenses, stipends, honoraria, materials, and publication expenses. Application and Review Process: application deadline: May 1, 2002; all applicants will be notified of their status by July 2002; research projects may begin on or after August 1, 2002 and must be completed before July 31, 2003; finalists will participate in a program workshop August 2-4, 2002. To download applications or for more information, visit the IREX website at <http://www.irex.org/programs/black-caspian-sea/index.htm>. Or contact: IREX/Washington Tel: (202) 628-8188; Fax: (202) 628-8189; [collabgrants@irex.org](mailto:collabgrants@irex.org)

**Books in Bytes:** Disc helps preserve literary treasures for all. By Zara Chatinian (Armenia Week Reporter; forwarded by Dennis Papazian). A new "digital library" is helping to preserve great works of Armenian literature and make them available to the general public. More than 150 books, poems, and translations dating from the Fifth to the 18th Centuries are collected on a single CD-rom. It also contains biographical details of the authors and a sophisticated search system for examining the texts. The use of information technology not only safeguards priceless works for future generations to enjoy but also makes them available to anyone with a computer. As a result, it will greatly facilitate the study of and research into Armenian language and literature.

The project is the culmination of three years work by Hovhannes Kizoghian and Meruzhan Karapetian, executives of the Digital Library of Classical Armenian Literature. They brought together a team of 30 professionals in history, literature, linguistics and computing to compile the disc.

Karapetian, a history professor, selected the most significant pieces from 13 centuries of Armenian classical literature for inclusion in the digital library. The undertaking was made possible thanks by a \$250,000 donation from 95-year-old Alice Ohanasian, who lives in Massachusetts, USA. Haroutune Armenian, president of the American University of Armenia, contacted Ohanasian and presented the proposal to her. The task of preservation was long and laborious, with data having to be entered in computer memory manually - scanning software for Armenian fonts did not appear until the end of 1999. Another difficulty was automated spell checkers could not be used because the team was anxious to retain the original language of the writing. So linguists had to proof each piece manually. But the team's dedication won public recognition in 2001 when President Robert Kocharian presented the project with the Presidential Prize for Information Technologies, worth \$5,000. The President presents prizes each year for the most outstanding contributions in different fields. The group is now planning to extend its work to cover Armenian literature and culture in the 19th and 20th Centuries. But first it must find the money to continue the project. Karapetian and Kizoghian say they probably need a further \$250,000 to complete their work because the literature of the 19th and 20th Centuries is far more extensive - perhaps ten times more. Karapetian says, for example, that there were about 20 daily Armenian newspapers at the beginning of the last century in Izmir and Polis, Turkey. There is a collection of each issue of all these newspapers in Vienna at the Mkhitarian Congregation.

"Can you imagine how tragic it would be if something happened to this? Without these sources we cannot judge the history and development of the Armenian community, there will be no information on the people, their lives, traditions and problems," says Karapetian. The same can be said about newspapers published in southern Iran that served the Armenian population during the early part of the 20th Century. Future editions of the CD will also include information on philosophy, medicine and other specialized fields. The same team of experts was responsible for producing the digital library on the Internet. The site ([www.digilib.am](http://www.digilib.am)), which has the first search tool for Armenian sites, contains much of the same information as the CD - both the site and software are in Armenian. The CD is on sale for \$150 and can be obtained via the website or through the American University of Armenia in Yerevan and the AUA's headquarters in Oakland, California. "Those who are interested can obtain our CDs in any language they want," says Karapetian. He has been disappointed, however, not to receive feedback so far from the various academic departments of Armenian language and studies around the world.

## Heritage Western Armenian course at UCSD

Students at the University of California, San Diego can now take an undergraduate credit course in Heritage Western Armenian. Initiated in Fall 2001 by Dr. Maria Polinsky, Chair

of the Linguistics Department, it is the first heritage language course at this university. Heritage Western Armenian is designed for students with a background in Armenian who are seeking to improve their oral and written expression. The emphasis is on language functions needed for successful oral communication, basic grammatical structures, reading, and writing. Also included are presentations on Armenian music, dance, art, history, literature, and food. Although the class is Armenian and English-only speakers are welcome. The instructor, Araxy Tatoulian, is fluent in both Eastern and Western Armenian and is widely acclaimed as an imaginative and inspiring teacher. For more information you may email Dr. Polinsky at [polinsky@ling.ucsd.edu](mailto:polinsky@ling.ucsd.edu) or Mrs. Tatoulian@juno.co (Linda Godson, UCSD Department of Linguistics, Diego, California, 858-638-0930 godson@ling.ucsd.edu)

## Communications

### A colleague needs help.

Because of a computer disaster, John Greppin needs the software program Multi-Lingual Scholar (the company that produced the software is no longer in business). If anyone has it please contact John A. C. Greppin at [j.greppin@csuohio.edu](mailto:j.greppin@csuohio.edu) or call (216) 687-3967 (day) or (216) 932-6673 (evenings).

### Translator needed:

Richard Kloian has a book on Darman (Temran), a village history, which he wants translated. The original author was Soghomon Bohigian of Fresno. Apparently Soghomon's heir is a certain Haig Bohigian. Richard Kloian would like to make contact with him and with any other families who trace their roots back to Darman. Richard, as all of us, treasure these village histories which tell us much about how our ancestors lived. He is also looking for a translator (aren't we all) who will translate for love and not money. Please contact me at my address above or Richard directly.

Dr. Dennis R. Papazian  
 Professor of History  
 Director, Armenian Research Center  
 The University of Michigan-Dearborn  
 Dearborn, MI 48128-1491  
 313-593-5181  
 Fax 313-593-5219  
 Home Fax 248-641-0128  
 URL [www.umd.umich.edu/dept/armenian](http://www.umd.umich.edu/dept/armenian)

### Information sought:

Dorothea Bedigian, a Research Associate at the Missouri Botanical Garden and Washington University, St. Louis, is seeking any information, scientific, historical, literary, or cultural, concerning the use of the sesame plant among the Armenians Celebrating 1,700 years of the Armenian Church.

### Library of Congress Armenian Country Page

The analyzed title page I recently sent and all those which I have issued since 1995 will (et'e Asuats kama) slowly be mounted on the Armenian Country page of our Division. For the present, about 50% of our periodical holdings are now listed on the page. For the page itself, see <http://www.loc.gov/rr/amed/nes/cty/cai/caihome.html>; for the periodical holdings <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/amed/nes/cty/cai/caiunion.html>; for the first edition of our Armenia portal page, <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/international/amed/armenia.html>.

Levon Avdoyan

Armenian and Georgian Area Specialist. Phone: (202) 707-5680; FAX: (202) 252-3180; Email: [Lavd@loc.gov](mailto:Lavd@loc.gov)

Near East Section/AMED

The Library of Congress

Washington, DC 20540-4820

### Book Exchange: Hay Jhoghovrti Patmutiun, Vol. IV for Vol. II

Condition is pretty good, no significant flaws. I would like to trade this for a copy of Vol. II from the same multivolume series. Alternatively, if someone has an extra copy of Volume II which they would prefer to sell outright, I would be interested. I am also interested in obtaining copies of Vols III and IV of the Deghanoonneri Bararan (Dictionary of Toponymy) published in Armenia in the 1990's. Anyone who can help is invited to contact me by e-mail. Thanks.

Levon Saryan ([lasaryan@aol.com](mailto:lasaryan@aol.com))

### K. Bardakjian publishes new book

Kevork Bardakjian (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor) has published his latest book *A Reference Guide to Modern Armenian Literature, 1500-1920, with an introductory history* (Detroit, Wayne State University Press, 2001) is a comprehensive guide to Armenian writers and literature over the past five centuries. It combines features of a reference work, bibliographic guide, and literary history, and records the works of almost five hundred authors, who wrote both in Armenia and in the Armenian communities of the Diaspora. A lengthy introduction outlines the background of the literary, cultural, social and political realities of Armenian life. Of particular interest is a thematic discussion of the works of more than one hundred and fifty poets, historians, monks, and others who have written since the sixteenth century. An extensive bibliography and an index round out this impressive book, which Wayne State has been printed in a handsome format, with high production values.

### National Library of Armenia Publishes New Book

The National Library of Armenia has published *The Armenian Book (1851-1900)* (N. Voskanyan, et al, Yerevan), the first volume of a planned four volume series to cover all Armenian printed books up to the current year. The cost is \$50 per book. Contact is [nla@arm.r.am](mailto:nla@arm.r.am)

## News of Members

**Talin Babikian** (SAS Student member) is currently in her third year of study in a joint PhD/MPH program in Psychology and Biostatistics. She is part of a research team studying HIV/AIDS related behaviors among students in Yerevan, Armenia and presented part of the study results at the Armenian Medical World Congress in Toronto (July 2001). Currently, she is consulting with Karine Markosyan, PhD, MPH, a fellow at Emory University, on an experimental safer sex behavioral intervention for commercial sex workers in Yerevan,

**Kajak Y. Balekjian**, now retired from the Library of Congress is currently pursuing the completion of *A Brief Comparative Etymological Dictionary: An American Research Study Compilation on Faith, Linguistics, and Armenian Studies. Parts 2-3*. Part 1 was published in 1998.

**Nélida Boulgourdjian-Toufekjian** (Buenos Aires, Argentina), participated at the Colloque international interdisciplinaire Euro- conference, in the Ecole Française d'Athènes, about "Armenians and Greeks in Diaspora. A Comparative Approach", that took place in Athens, October 2-7, 2001. Her paper was *The Armenian Associations in Buenos Aires and the Role of 'Notables.'*

She wrote an article about this international conference: *Armenian and Greeks in Diaspora*, in Sardarabad, November 7, 2001.

**George Bournoutian** has a new book to be published soon: *A Concise History of the Armenian People* (500 pages), which brings Armenian history to 2002. Bournoutian is almost finished his *Journal of Zak'aria Agulets'i, Annotated Translation with Commentary*. Bournoutian was again voted the best teacher and scholar at Iona for the fifth time in a row. (As a result of these pub-

lications, he is now the foremost authority on Armenia in the West on Armenia in the century prior to the Russian occupation of the early 19th century.—Ed.). Bournoutian just returned from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Burma, and Thailand, and was in Brazil during Spring Break.

**Carnegie Samuel Calian** (President of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary), has published *The Ideal Seminary, Pursuing Excellence in Theological Education*. Louisville, Ky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.

**David Stephen Calonne** (Wayne State University). Publications:

"William Saroyan and the Beat Generation," Ararat, Spring 2001, Vol. XLII, pp. 42-48. Conferences and Meetings: "G.I. Gurdjieff and the Armenian Quest in Kars and Ani," International Conference Series on Historic Cities and Provinces: Kars and Ani, UCLA, November 2001.

"From Nayiri to Hayasdan: Yeghishe Charents' Armenia," Symbolic and Practical Dimensions of the Territorial Discourse in the Middle East: A Comparative Analysis, European University, Florence, Italy, Dec. 16-19, 2001.

"The Armenian Genocide: Leonardo Alishan and the Struggle with Trauma," Generations of Genocide Conference, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, London, England, Jan. 26-27, 2002.

**Barlow Der Mugrdechian**, (Armenian Studies Program at CSUFresno), took on the full responsibilities of the Program during the year-long sabbatical of Director Dickran Kouymjian, (2001-2002) teaching classes, coordinating lecture series, welcoming visitors, and launching the TV program "Hye Talk." The full range of activities of this most active program are detailed elsewhere in this issue. In Spring, 2002, Der Mugrdechian spent nearly three weeks in Armenia.

**G. M. Goshgarian**, an independent translator, has made an English translation of selections from the unpublished

version of Kurken Mahari's *Burning Gardens* as well as an English translation of selections from Zabel Yessayan's *In the Ruins*, published in Marc Nichanian's *Writers of Disaster*, (Princeton, Gomidas Press, 2002).

**Robert H. Hewsen** (Rowan University, N.J. Emeritus) served as Visiting Professor of Armenian Studies, at the University of Chicago (Spring, 1999); Visiting Professor of Armenian Studies at Columbia University (Fall, 1999), Lecturer in Armenian Church History at St. Nersess Theological Seminary (Winter, 2001), and as Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor of Armenian studies, California State University, Fresno (Fall, 2001). In the Spring of 2002, he continued as visiting professor at CSU, Fresno, replacing Prof. D. Kouymjian during his sabbatical leave. Dr. Hewsen has also been invited to teach a course on the Caucasus under Russian and Soviet Rule at UCLA (spring quarter, 2002). Dr. Hewsen's recent publications include: 1) *Armenia a Historical Atlas* (336 pp.; 278 maps. (University of Chicago, 2001); 2) [Editor]

*Ashkharhatsoys (Ashxarhac'oyc'). The Seventh Century Geography Attributed to Ananias of Shirak. A Facsimile Reproduction of the 1881 Venice Edition of the Long Version of the Text, of the Unique Manuscript (Venice No. 1245) upon Which It Was Based, and of the 1944 Yerevan Edition of the Short Version, and with an Introduction by Robert H. Hewsen* (Delmar, NY, Caravan Press, 1994).

The terms of the grant for the publication of Prof. Hewsen's atlas required that 150 copies be distributed gratis to institutions in the United States and abroad. This enabled the atlas to be sent to many specialized libraries in Europe and elsewhere (especially in the Caucasian republics), whose current budgets might preclude their purchasing the volume. More than half the print run of 2500 copies was sold in the first six months after publication.

**Richard G. Hovannisian** (AEF Professor of Armenian History, UCLA). On November 9, 2001, the Armenian educational foundation (AEF) honored Richard G. Hovannisian, first AEF Professor of Armenian Studies at UCLA at a jubilee banquet attended by several hundred community leaders, academics, and dignitaries of Church and State, as well as family members, friends, colleagues, and former students. California State Senator Charles Poochigian served as Master of Ceremonies. Professor Hovannisian is one of the founders *inter alia* of the SAS as well as of the Armenian Assembly. In the course of the banquet, Archbishop Vatche Hovsepian presented Dr. Hovannisian with the Medal of Saints Sahak and Mesrob and an encyclical from His Holiness Karekin II, Catholicos of All Armenians. Bishop Moushegh Mardirossian awarded the Knight of Cilicia Medal and an encyclical from His Holiness, Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia.

**Isabel Kaprielian** (CSU, Fresno), has been promoted to the rank of full professor and to the position of Professor of Modern Armenian and Immigration History.

Articles:

"Marriage and Love in America," *Ararat Quarterly*, Vol. XLII, No. 167 (Summer 2001) 4-7. Special issue on intermarriage.

"Intermarriage in the Diaspora: Integrating Armenians or Alienating 'Odars'? *Ararat Quarterly*, Vol. XLII, No. 167 (Summer 2001), 25-27. Special issue on intermarriage. Adapted from an article in *Voices of Armenian Women*. "Armenian Refugee Women: the Picture Brides," *Ararat Quarterly*, Vol. XLI, No. 166 (Spring 2001), 15-39. Adapted from article in *Journal of American Ethnic History*.

"Schooling and Ethnocultural Communities in Canada: Alternatives for Planning a Post-Modern Century," *Ethnic Studies Review*, Vol. 22, (1999). 20-43. Co-authored with Stacy Churchill.

"Armenians," in *Canada at the Millennium A TransCultural Society* (Toronto: Heirloom Publishing, 2000). "Diana Apcar: Writer, Diplomat, Humanitarian," in *Hye Sharzhoom*, May, 1999.

*The Aftermath of Genocide: Armenian Refugee Children: the Georgetown Boys*, lecture presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Historical association, Sherbrooke, Quebec, 1999. Presentations:

"Quest by Armenian Canadians for Reparations after WW I," presented at the Canadian Historical Association annual conference, Quebec City, 2001. "Mixed Marriages and Family Solidarity," presented at the Armenian Relief Society 90th Anniversary Conference, Yerevan, Armenia, 2000.

"The Armenian Genocide," keynote address at the Genocide Commemoration in Hamilton, Ontario, April, 2000.

"Genocide Survival and the Role of Protestants", Keynote Address at First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Fresno, 1999.

"Diana Apcar: Woman of the World; Woman of the Century." Keynote Address at the 20th anniversary banquet of the Berkeley Armenian Alumni. Berkeley, 1999

"The Aftermath of Genocide: Armenian Refugee Children: the Georgetown Boys," presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Association, Sherbrooke, Quebec, 1999.

"William Saroyan, Immigration, and the Protestant Connection. 6:30 Friday, April 19, Henry Madden Library Solarium.

**Anahit Aramouni Keshishian** (UCLA) for the last five years: A paper, *Ani and Kars in the post Charents Armenian literature*, presented on R. Hovannisian's last conference on Ani And Kars; compiled and edited the new issue of *Moutk*. (80 pages, (bilingual), containing fifty entries mostly by UCLA Armenian students (currently preparing *Moutk 2000*). Taught contemporary Armenian literature and text translation from classical Armenian to

modern, at the Armenian Studies summer courses at the University of Ca Foscari. Venice, Italy, August, 2001; presented Prof. Levon Zekiyan's book *Mosaic of Identity* in Venice, August 18; currently part-time instructor in Armenian language at Glendale Community College.

**Aram A. Kerovpyan** (Paris France)

Publications:

Book: *Manuel de notation musicale arménienne moderne*, *Musica Mediaevalis Europae Orientalis*, vol 2, ed. +Walter Pass and Christian Hannick, (Tutzing, Germany, Hans Schneider, 2001)

Article: "Die Künstlerisch Ausführenden des armenischen Kirchengesanges," in: *Armenische Liturgien*, ed. Erich Renhart and Jasmin Dum-Tragut, Graz-Salzburg, 2001.

Conferences and meetings:

The role of Constantinople in Armenian music during the 19th century. Meeting Istanbul "1900/2000-A century of Music, Royaumont Foundation, France," 2001, June 7-9.

"New Perspectives in the Teaching of the Armenian Oktoechos", International Symposium on Armenian Spirituality, Ecumenical Institute, Bossey, Switzerland, 2001, June 25-July 1.

"The Transmission System of Armenian Church Music," *Storia Religiosa dell'Armenia*, Fondazione Ambrosiana Paolo VI, Varese, Italy, 2001, Sept. 4-8.

"The Transmission System of Armenian Church Music," 1700th Anniversary Conference, Armenian Cathedral of Paris, 2001, Nov. 23-25, Nov 30-Dec. 2.

Other: The Centre for Studies of Armenian Liturgical Chant, AKN, directed by Aram Kerovpyan, released its first CD, sung by its members: "Penitence and Resurrection-Armenian Liturgical Chants," on the label AL SUR.

References: CDAL274, distributed by Next Music, France. Consultez nos pages sur/See our pages on: [www.kotchnak.org](http://www.kotchnak.org); [www.akn-chant.org](http://www.akn-chant.org)

**John Brady Kiesling** (United States State Department kiesling; jb@state.gov). Rediscovering Armenia – *An Archaeological Touristic/Gazeteer and Map* set for the *Historical Monuments of Armenia* available via Amazon.com thanks to the efforts of Raffi Kojian to have it printed. This covers the Republic of Armenia in unique detail.

**Dickran Kouymjian** (Berberian Chair, California State University, Fresno). In April served on the jury of Belgium's prestigious Francqui Fund award, given annually to the country's single outstanding scholar. The meetings took place in Brussels with a jury of non-Belgian scholars including two Americans other than Dr. Kouymjian, three from England, two each from France and Germany, and single scholars from the Netherlands, Sweden and Taiwan. The award is for one million Belgian francs and is the only Belgian prize given annually by the king himself. This year's winner was Prof. Philippe Van Parijs, a specialist in political philosophy at the University of Louvain-la-Neuve.

In May and June Prof. Kouymjian was invited by Professor Bernard Coulie, Director of the Oriental Institute of the Catholic University of Louvain at Louvain-la-Neuve, to present a series of six seminars to doctorate students of the Institute on the general subject, "Topics in Armenian History & Art : The Search for an Identity." Beginning with two sessions on the Armenian genocide of 1915, he explored the question of cultural identity in the diaspora. The other topics were on architecture, codicology, manuscript illumination, and the minor arts. The three-hour seminars were also regularly attended by Louvain faculty.

For several years Prof. Kouymjian has been helping the Catholicosate of Cilicia in Antelias, Lebanon organize a major one week international symposium on Armenian Spirituality on the occasion of the 1700th anniversary of the Proclamation of Christianity in Ar-

menia. His Holiness Catholicos Aram I asked Dr. Kouymjian to coordinate the event with Rev. Fr. Nareg Alemezian. The meeting held from June 25 to a July 1, 2001 brought together a who's who of scholars, theologians and high church dignitaries in Bossey, Switzerland, just outside of Geneva where the World Council of Churches has its Ecumenical Institute.

The conference was presided over by His Holiness Aram, who not only attended every session and lecture, but had comments and questions on every paper presented during the six days of sessions in the isolated retreat overlooking Geneva's famous Lake. Also attending and presiding at one of the session was His Beatitude Patriarch Mesrop Mutafian of Istanbul. Other senior clergy included Bishop Yeznik of the Armenian Diocese of Russia, Bishop Khajak of Canada, Bishop Kegham of Greece, Fr. Prof. Levon Zekyan of Venice, and representatives of the Armenian Catholic, Armenian Protestant, Russian Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Coptic and several European Protestant churches. Scholars from the Middle East, Europe and the United States were present, among the latter group were Robert Thomson formerly of Harvard now at Oxford, Abraham Terian of the St. Nercess Theological Seminary, Peter Cowe of UCLA, and Michael Connolly of Boston University. Aram Catholicos asked Prof. Kouymjian to give the Keynote address "Sources and Specificity of Armenian Spirituality" at the opening of the conference. The talk presented both an historical perspective for the six-day conference and more importantly a number of important problems facing Armenian Christianity today through a series of questions directed to the church heads gathered at Bossey. Throughout the gathering there were continual references to the questions he posed in his paper. Dr Kouymjian presented a second paper in the section devoted to artistic creation in the church entitled "Armenian Spirituality and the Arts: Architecture, Painting and Litur-

gical Metalwork." He exposed some of his recent research on St. Gregory and especially on Armenian liturgical vessels.

In August, Dr. Kouymjian went to Geneva for a meeting at the Musée d'art et histoire on the organization of an exhibit on Armenian altar curtains from the collection of Holy Etchmiadzin. The exhibit, originally scheduled as part of the celebration of the 1700th anniversary at the Textile Museum in Lyon, France, but delayed for technical reasons, will open at 2004 at Geneva's famous Rath Museum.

In early October the professor traveled to Los Angeles for two exhibits, one a major artistic event devoted to the famous fourteenth century Gospels of Glajor (now the property of UCLA) sponsored and held at the J. Paul Getty Museum, and the other an exhibit entitled "Modern Icon: Contemporary Artists and the Legacy of the Armenian Illuminated Manuscript," held at the Brand Library and Art Center in Glendale from September 15 to October 20, 2001, for which he wrote a preface to the exhibit catalogue.

Later in the month he traveled to southern Italy, where the University of Lecce organized an international conference entitled "San Gregorio armeno e il suo culto nell'italia meridionale" (Saint Gregory the Armenian and His Cult in Southern Italy). He presented a paper entitled "The Armenian Iconography of St. Gregory the Illuminator," discussing in detail with the aid of some 60 slides the different ways Gregory was depicted in Armenian art and how we are to interpret the great variety of images. During his stay in the Apulia region he was able to visit other sites devoted to St. Gregory, including the church of St. Gregory in the city of Nardo, where he was allowed to photograph an hitherto unknown right hand relic of St. Gregory the Illuminator preserved in the treasury. According to him, there are now four right hand reliques of the founder of the Armenian church, on which he is preparing a separate study. Professor Giusto Traina, one

of Italy's foremost young classical scholars and an authority on early Armenian history and texts, organized the conference. Dr. Kouymjian had invited Traina to participate in the international symposium on the father of Armenian history, Movses of Khoren, that he had organized in Paris ten years ago, the proceedings of which were published last year.

In October Prof. Kouymjian was invited by the five members of the Nobel Prize Committee of the Swedish Academy to nominate a candidate(s) for the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2002.

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**Vartan Matiossian** (Universidad del Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina): Articles: "Earliest Armenian Coins and

Newest 'Interpretations,'" *Banber Erevani hamalsarani* (Erevan), 2, 2001, 102-106 (in Armenian); "'Our Lampless Road' (On the Interpretation of Eghishe Charents' 'Book of the Road')," *Haratch - Midk ev Arvest* (Paris), November 2001, 1-3 (in Armenian); "Newly-Discovered Pages of Nicolas Adontz's Correspondence," *Hask* (Antelias), June-July 2001, 513-517 (in Armenian); "Shahan Natalie's Letters to Kostan Zarian", *Horizon Literary Supplement* (Montreal), January 2002, 1-7 (in Armenian).

Review: "An Essential History of Armenian-French Literature," *Haratch - Midk ev Arvest* (Paris), January 2002, 2 (in Armenian).

He published, among others, the following essays: "The New English Translation of Raffi's 'The Fool,'" *Haratch* (Paris), September 27, 2001, 2 (in Armenian);

"A Noticeable Example of Intellectual Dishonesty," *Haratch* (Paris), September 29-30, 2001, 2 (in Armenian); "The Play 'Beast on the Moon' in Argentina," *Haratch* (Paris), October 10, 2001, 2-3 (in Armenian); "An Open Correspondence on American Armenology," *Horizon Literary Supplement* (Montreal), October 2001, 6-10 (in Armenian); "From Los Angeles to Ani and Kars," *Haratch* (Paris), December 27, 2001, 2-3 (in Armenian); "'Una bestia en la luna': la dimension universal de una tragedia," *Sardarabad* (Buenos Aires), January 23, 2002.

He translated into Spanish an article by the late Karekin I, "Reflexiones en el 1700. aniversario de la conversion de Armenia al cristianismo," "Sardarabad" (Buenos Aires), August 8 and August 15, 2001, 7. He delivered the paper "Charents: Mourning the Loss of Kars" at the UCLA International Conference Series on Historic Armenian Cities and Provinces: Kars and Ani, Los Angeles, November 10-11, 2001.

**Sylvie L. Merian** (Pierpont Morgan Library) curated a small exhibition of thirteen manuscripts and printed books titled "Armenia Illuminated: Old Treas-

sures and New Acquisitions," at the Morgan Library in New York. Five new acquisitions were highlighted in this exhibition which was displayed from Sept. 2001 to Jan. 2002. She published "Un feuillet appartenant à la collection Feron-Stoclet acquis par la Pierpont Morgan Library de New York" in the *Revue des Etudes arméniennes*, vol. 27 (1998-1999).

**Dennis R. Papazian** (Armenian Research Center, University of Michigan-Dearborn) contributed entries in *Making It in America: A Sourcebook on Eminent Ethnic American*, ed. Elliott Robert Barkan (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2001) on Alex Manoogian, Cherilyn Sarkisian, and William Saroyan, pp. 217-218, 333, 334-335. Reviews: Richard G. Hovannisian, ed., "The Armenian People from Ancient to Modern Times," A. Elizabeth Redgate, "The Armenians," in the "Canadian Journal of History," XXXVI (April 2001), pp. 209-211, 212-213.

Richard G. Hovannisian, ed., "The Armenian People from Ancient to Modern Times" and of A. Elizabeth Redgate, "The Armenians" appeared in the "Canadian Journal of History" XXXVI (April 2001), pp. 209-211, 212-213

Paper on "Modern Genocide: The Curse of the Nation State and Ideological Political Parties" at the Völkermord: Geschichte und Prävention (Genocide: History and Prevention) conference in Vienna, Austria, on November 8, 2002. Vartanantz lecture at the combined Armenian Church Diocese / Knights of Vartan Vartanantz Day program on February 7, 2002, at the Kavookjian Hall in New York City. Contributed entries on Alex Manoogian, Cherilyn Sarkisian (Cher), and William Saroyan to "Making It in America: A Sourcebook on Eminent Ethnic Americans," ed. Elliott Robert Barkan (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2001), pp. 217-218, 333, 334-335.

Lectures:

Vartanantz lecture at the combined Diocese of the Armenian Church of America/Knights of Vartan Vartanantz

Day program on February 7, 2002, in New York.

Papers:

"Modern Genocide: The Curse of the Nation State and Ideological Political Parties" at the Völkermord: Geschichte und Prävention (Genocide: History and Prevention) conference in Vienna on November 8, 2002.

Honors:

Named a general editor and member of the Editorial Board of the H-Genocide e-mail list based at Michigan State University (<http://www.h-net.msu.edu>).

Dr. and Mrs. Papazian held a fund raiser in their home for Senator Carl Levin, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

**Rubina Peroomian** (UCLA) served on the committee for the celebration of the 40th anniversary of Prof. Richard G. Hovannisian's contributions to the field of Armenian Studies, the 40th anniversary of Armenian Studies at UCLA and the 15 anniversary of the AEF Chair in Modern Armenian History at UCLA. She spoke at the banquet presenting the honoree as the scholar (November 9). She took charge of the publication of the commemorative booklet (96 p.). Participated in the UCLA International Conference on Kars and Ani, November 10-11, and presented a paper, "Kars in the Armenian Liberation Movement." Her review article on Thea Halo's Not Even My Name: From a Death March in Turkey to a New Home in America, A Young Girl's True Story of Genocide and Survival, was published in Journal of Genocide Research (2001), 3 (3), 497-501.

She was the keynote speaker at the event marking the 111 anniversary of the ARF (December 9, 2001, Tehran, Iran).

**Hilary Richardson** (University College Dublin), presented a paper "Christian Armenia and Ireland: Parallels in Early Christian Art, at the conference Christian Armenia as a Crossroads of Civilization, Yerevan State University, Sept. 19-21. Her recent publications

include "Biblical Imagery and the Heavenly Jerusalem in the Book of Armagh and the Book of Kells" in *Ireland and Europe in the Early Middle Ages. Texts and Transmission*, ed. P. Ni Chathain and M. Richter, Dublin, 2000; and "The Cross Triumphant: High Crosses in Ireland," in *Ogma, Essays in Celtic Studies in Honour of P. Ni Chathain*, Dublin, 2002, pp. 112-117.

**Dora Sakayan**, Prof. of German Studies (McGill University, Montreal), has edited: *Semiotics and Language teaching. Theoretical Principles and Practical applications. Selected Papers Presented at the II Conference on semiotics and Language Teaching held at Yerevan State University*. Ann Arbor, Caravan Books, 2001; and *Metaxi pyros, xifous kai thalassos* [Between Fire, Sword, and Water]. Greek trans. of Dr. Garabed Hatcherian's diary *My Smyrna Ordeal of 1922*. (Montreal, Arod, 2001).

Articles:

"On Newer Trends in Foreign Language Teaching." In *Semiotics and Language "The Original Manuscript of Johannes Lepsius now on the Internet,"* in *Nor Or Weekly* (January 8, 2002). She has also organized a conference on Romance-Germanic Philology and the Teaching of Foreign Languages at Yerevan State University in October 2002.

**George N. Shirinian**, of the Zoryan Institute, published "The Armenian Massacres of 1894-1897: A Bibliography." *Armenian Review* 47, no. 1-2 (Spring-Summer 2001): 113-164.

**Lorne Shirinian** (RMC, Canada) will deliver a paper at the Generations of Genocide conference in London, England, on Jan. 27. His paper is titled "Narrative, Memory, and Identity in the Armenian Diaspora." Dr. Shirinian has been named Director of the Internship Programme on Genocide and Human Rights at the Zoryan Institute. The program will run from August 6 to August 16, 2002, and will be given at Victoria University at the University of Toronto.

Anyone interested can get information by visiting the Zoryan Institute web site: [www.zoryan.org](http://www.zoryan.org). The web pages should be up by mid-February.

**Ricardo Tacuchian** (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) (composer and conductor), has built a catalog of some 150 titles of concert music, and has published 80 papers in Brazilian musicological journals. A life member of the Brazilian Academy of Music and a full professor at the University of Rio de Janeiro, in February, 2000 he was in residence in the Bellagio Study and Conference Center, Italy where he wrote his second string quartet "Bellagio," sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation; and July, 2000 saw the NY premiere of his Toccata Urbana (for ten instruments), commissioned by the North/South Consonance November, 2000 saw the premiere of the Third String Quartet in the Teatro Filodrammatici in Milan, Italy.

**Harold Takooshian**, was elected president of the International Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association for 2002.

**SAS Annual Meeting**  
(in conjunction with the MESA 2002 Conference)

**Saturday, November 23, 2002**

2660 Woodley Rd., NW  
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel  
Washington D.C.

The SAS annual meeting will be held on Saturday, November 23, the first day of the MESA Conference. Members will be notified by email and mail of the time of the meeting.

## Necrology

### Dr. Edward Atayan (1912-2001) An Appreciation

By Dora Sakayan

McGill University

With Edward Atayan's untimely death on January 1, 2002, the Armenian nation suffered a great loss. Dr. in 1984, Corresponding Member (1986) and later regular Member (1996) of the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia, and Member and Vice-President of the Philosophical Academy (since 1993), Professor Atayan was a highly respected scholar and administrator who will sorely be missed. Edward Atayan was born in 1932 in Yerevan, Armenia. He graduated from the Yerevan Pedagogical Institute for Foreign Languages in 1953, specializing in the French language, and completed his graduate studies at the Yerevan State University in 1956, where he specialized in general linguistics. During the nearly five decades that would follow, he dedicated himself to the education and training of younger generations by holding teaching and administrative positions at various institutions of higher learning, and mainly at the Yerevan State University. There he worked in the Departments of Romance-Germanic Philology, General Linguistics, Language Typology, Russian Language and Methodology, serving for some periods both as professor and chair. The list of courses he taught is long, and their variety indicative of the breadth of his erudition. The list includes "General Linguistics," "Introduction into Linguistics," "History of Linguistics," "Contemporary Theories in Linguistics," "Philosophical Foundations of Language," as well as a great number of subjects dealing with the theory and history of the French language. His research spanned an even wider spectrum, covering topics such as general linguistics and language philosophy, but also semiotics, semiotic psychology, philosophy of freedom, nation and national character, etc. Several of his monographs and articles are regarded as great contributions to the internationally held linguistic and philosophical theories. Here are some of his works: *Aspects of the Organization and Functioning of the Language World*, Yerevan, 1976; *Inner Organization and Outer Reference of the Language World*, Yerevan, 1981; *Language and Extralinguistic Reality: An Essay of Ontological Comparison*, Yerevan, 1987; *Freedom as Idea and as Reality*, Yerevan, 1992; "Freedom and Symbolization" in Garun 1992, vol. 8-10; *The Sickness of the Healthy: Characterization and Typology of Non-Freedom*, Yerevan, 1997; "The world without signs, the world of signs, the mixed world (our world). Three mental experiments of semiotic world-modeling" in *Semiotics and Language Teaching*, Ann Arbor: Caravan Books, 2001.

Since most of his publications were in Russian, Atayan's theories quickly gained acceptance throughout the former Soviet Union, and from there reached a broader readership around the world. Atayan received international recognition particularly for his views on freedom and liberty.

Besides his thorough knowledge of Armenian and Russian, Atayan could read Latin and had a perfect command of French, Italian, German, and English. This allowed him, not only to read internationally known works in semiotics and language philosophy, but also make a great number of them accessible to Armenian readers. Thus, a significant part in Atayan's rich legacy includes high-quality Armenian translations of works by Voco, Leibnitz, Rousseau, J. Harris, Schiller, Fichte, Kant, Schelling, Hegel, and Humboldt.

Atayan's scholarly achievements are overwhelming and his merits as an educator will long be remembered, but above all he will be remembered as an extraordinary human being and a prominent citizen. For anyone who had the good fortune of discovering his personality, Atayan's name was synonymous with courage, sound reasoning, and most important of all, compassion. Under Armenia's rather difficult circumstances of the last decade, the "Atayan phenomenon" was somewhat of a leading force among the Armenian intelligentsia. There was not a single pressing problem in cultural affairs that would not be submitted to Atayan's good judgement with the full expectation that he would suggest the best possible solution. "Atayan is our inquisitive mind, our throbbing heart, ..." this is how his struggling colleagues, writers, and artists would speak of him. During our last meeting in 1999 at his Yerevan residence, I was impressed by the throng of people soliciting his advice. Despite his failing health, Atayan devoted close attention to everybody, ready to help with whatever he could.

Atayan was a distinguished and sophisticated person, a great humanist, and above all a great lover of his country, Armenia, and its people. During the Soviet rule, he was preoccupied with the human rights condition of his countrymen, their dignity, and their liberties. He rejoiced when Armenia declared its independence, and intensely lived through the vicissitudes of the new-born Armenian Republic. Despite some disappointments, he remained optimistic, drawing his strength from the Armenian youth, his students, whom he saw everyday at the university, and later regularly at his home when his health began failing. His profound attachment to his students and his dedication to the gifted ones was remarkable. I remember him saying: "If you see today's students, you will be stunned. What a bright mind they have! What a grasp! And what a vivid imagination, the heights of which I sometimes cannot reach. We never had such students. This is what freedom does. This is the youth of the 21st century; they are going to rebuild our country." It is comforting to see Edward leaving us with such thoughts. It is a pity, however, that he will not see his dreams come true.

Farewell, dear Edward! Rest in peace, and thank you for passing on the mission to which you devoted your life to all those who loved you — family members, friends, colleagues, students, and all your countrymen. It will be carried forth.

## Squibs

### Medieval Jewish Cemetery in Armenia (From Armen Aroyan)

Bishop Abraham Mkrtchyan of Armenia was strolling through thick brush in the southern Armenian region of Eghegis, where no Jews had been known to live, when he came upon four-foot high pillars inscribed with Hebrew letters. After the bishop's discovery, a Jewish expert in Armenian affairs, Michael Stone, was called in from Israel to examine the basalt pillars, which were embedded in muddy earth. Near the pillars, the scholar discovered 70 tombstones inscribed with Hebrew letters dating from the 13th and 14th century—the first physical evidence of a Jewish community in Armenia before the 19th century—comprising one of the oldest Jewish cemeteries in the Diaspora. The discovery surprised Mr. Stone, a professor of Armenian studies at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He said Jews were not known to have lived in that region of Armenia. A historic account placed a few thousand in central Armenia during the first century B.C.E.—“We didn't know that Armenia had a Jewish community,” Mr. Stone said. “We saw a hint here or a word there, but nothing from this period. There is a shivering-down-the-spine feeling standing in Armenia and staring at these beautiful Jewish inscriptions.” Mr. Stone, a translator of some of the Dead Sea Scrolls, recently completed a visiting professorship at Harvard Divinity School, where he taught Jewish thought of the Second Temple period. The gravestones bore Hebrew inscriptions of names, excerpts from the Bible and epitaphs which evidenced their writers' knowledge of rabbinic law, according to Mr. Stone. The stones were decorated with flowers and animals, he said. An expedition led by Mr. Stone this past May discovered that the masonry of the tombstones was similar to that of the headstones of the princely family of Eghegis, indicating that the Jewish community was long established there. Some stones had been stolen from the cemetery and used in nearby watermills, signifying that the Jewish community was long gone, Mr. Stone said, “We knew about the Jewish community in Georgia, Azerbaijan and Iran, but Armenia was a black hole. “This fills out the history of the Jewish people in that area.” The excavations, now completed were done under a joint agreement between the Hebrew University's Armenian Studies Program and the Institute of Archaeology of the National Armenian Academy of Sciences and were financed mostly by the Charles and Agnes Kazarian Foundation, London School of Economics and Political Science, Department of Government, Houghton Street, London, WC2A 2AE.

### Armenian Studies Programs in the United States - I

In the next few issues of the Newsletter an attempt will be made to detail the activities of the various Armenian Studies programs that currently exist in the United States, Canada, and abroad. Chairholders and directors of such programs are asked to submit program descriptions for inclusion in the series.

#### The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno

With the establishment this past year of the Armenian Chairs at California State University, Northridge and at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, there are now fourteen major programs in Armenian studies available to students in the United States, whereas forty years ago there were none. Of these, one of the most active has been the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, founded in 1977 under the directorship of Prof. Dickran Kouymjian. Under Professor Dickran Kouymjian's guidance and with the assistance of Barlow Der Mugrdechian, the program now serves an average of 150 students per year with an elaborate program of courses in Armenian history, language, and literature. The Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno offers courses on Armenian history, literature, art and architecture, film, the writings of William Saroyan, the Genocide, and contemporary issues. Courses in Armenian language and literature and in Armenian history and immigration, taught by Armenian Studies faculty, are listed under the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and the Department of History. The Minor in Armenian Studies, prepares students for teaching careers in one of the 25 Armenian schools in the United States, for administrative positions in Armenian cultural, social and benevolent organizations, for study and volunteer work in the Armenian Republic, or for graduate work in Armenian doctoral programs at UCLA, Harvard, Columbia, Tufts, the University of Michigan or Oxford University.

Besides its course offerings, the Armenian Studies program maintains an active Armenian Student organization that publishes a well-edited paper, *Hye Sharzhoom*, and which holds various social functions throughout the year. The Program brings in a regular series of speakers, has held several conferences, sees to the development of the Armenian collection at the University's Madden Library, and maintains its own growing collection of books, videotapes, recorded music, and slides of Armenian art. The Program holds an annual banquet, and each summer takes a group of students to Armenia for intensive study in Armenian language and culture. In 2000 the program hosted Catholicos Aram of the Great House of Cilicia (Antelias) and in spring, 2001, Karekin II, Catholicos and Supreme Patriarch of All Armenians.

Recently, the Program established the Henry S. Khanzadian Kazan Visiting Professorship that brings to the campus each fall a specialist in one field of Armenian Stud-

The first Henry S. Kanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor was Richard G. Hovannisian, who taught a course on the Armenian Genocide (2000); the second was Robert H. Hewsen, who taught on the Conversion of Armenia to Christianity (2001). In addition to their courses, the visiting professors present three lectures on a single topic to public audiences, lectures that will be published as monographs in the near future. Applications for the visiting professorship for 2003 will be solicited in the Fall.

#### **The Haig and Isabel Berberian Chair of Armenian Studies**

The Berberian Endowed Chair provides financial support for a distinguished Armenianologist. The endowment honoring the Berberians, was established by their son-in-law and daughter, Dr. Arnold H. and Dianne Gazarian. Other friends of the Armenian Studies Program have made significant contributions to this endowment.

#### **The M. Victoria Karagozian Kazan Endowment Fund for the Armenian Studies Program**

Thanks to a generous donation by Henry and the late Victoria Kazan, the university has received a special endowment to support general Armenian Studies Program activities and financial resources for research, publications, and conferences related to Armenian studies.

#### **Pete P. Peters Endowment**

In 1998, Mr. Pete Peters, a long-time supporter of Armenian Studies, offered the university a substantial endowment exclusively for helping with the Program's outreach activity. For the first few years proceeds from the endowment will be used for student scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. The Program supports the Armenian Students Organization, the student and program newspaper Hye Sharzham/Armenian Action, and the Armenian Studies Program Lecture Series.

#### **International Exchange Program**

Thanks to an exchange agreement between Fresno State and Yerevan State University, qualified students can study up to one year in Armenia while registering and paying tuition in Fresno Scholarships. Students working toward a minor or simply enrolling in Armenian courses are eligible for scholarships administered by the Program. These include the Charles K. and Pansy Pategian Zlokovich Scholarship; the Nerces and Ruth Azadian Memorial Scholarship; the Yervant, Rose, and Hovannes Levonian Educational Grant; the Pete P. Peters Endowment; Koren and Alice Odian Kasparian Scholarship; and the Alice Peters Scholarship and the Norma and Bob Der Mugrdechian Armenian Studies Endowed Scholarship Fund. Annual renewals are assured for students who continue to enroll in Armenian studies courses. Full tuition scholarships and research-assistant grants are also available.

The Harry and Mary Topoozian Armenian Studies Merit Scholarship Fund:

This fund was recently established by a gift from Mr. Harry

Topoozian. An Outstanding Achievement Scholarship will be awarded to a student who has excelled in scholarship, leadership, and community service. Any student enrolled in Armenian Studies courses is eligible. The Armenian Students Organization is more than 20 years old and has been one of the most active student clubs on campus.

The month of April marks the Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. The Minor in Armenian Studies requires completion of 24-26 units of courses in Armenian Studies. See the new 2001-2002 catalog for details. Students studying for the minor are eligible for scholarships and special travel to Armenia.

#### **The Faculty:**

Dickran Kouymjian is Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies and Director of the Center for Armenian Studies. He has directed the Armenian Studies Program since 1977. In 1986 he was named Outstanding Professor of the Year at CSUF. In 1998-99 he was the first recipient of the new Provost's Awards for Excellence in Teaching and Research.

Barlow Der Mugrdechian has been a Lecturer in the Program since 1985. In 1995-96 he received the Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching (Faculty Service).

Richard G. Hovannisian was the first Henry S. Kanzadian Kazan Visiting Professor in Armenian Studies for (Fall 2000 semester)

Robert Hewsen, Professor of Russian and Byzantine History (Emeritus) at Rowan University, New Jersey, was the second Kazan Visiting Professor for Fall 2001.

For further information contact:

Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Armenian Studies Program  
5245 N Backer Ave PB4, Fresno, CA 93740-8001

Email: [barlowd@csufresno.edu](mailto:barlowd@csufresno.edu); ASP Office: 559-278-2669; Office: 559-278-4930; FAX: 559-278-2129. Visit the Armenian Studies Program Web Page at

<http://www.csufresno.edu/ArmenianStudies>

#### ***Journal for the Society for Armenian Studies***

Back issues of JSAS (volumes 2-11) are now available through the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno.

Please contact the Program at 559-278-2669 to order your back copies. The cost is \$20 per volume plus shipping.

#### **SAS Rosters Available**

2002 SAS Rosters are also available at a cost of \$5 per copy. Contact the Armenian Studies Program at CSU Fresno.

## SAS Newsletter

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The Editor of the SAS *Newsletter* invites members to submit articles relating to Armenian Studies, news items about their activities, opinion pieces, or letters to the Editor. The deadline for the summer 2002 issue is August 15, 2002.

SAS members receive the *Newsletter* as part of their annual membership. Inquiries concerning SAS membership, dues, or publications should be directed to:

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**SAS Executive Council (2002)**

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Editors Note:

**Summer Issue, August, 2002**  
**Deadline for Submissions:**  
**August 15, 2002**

**Fall Issue, November, 2002**  
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**Winter Issue, January, 2003**  
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**January 15, 2003**

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