An Innovator on Campus

President David G. Horner, who took the reins of The American College of Greece on July 1, 2008, has made a big difference at all the institutions he has served. Now, five months into his presidency, he is on his way to doing the same thing at ACG. In an interview with ACG Magazine, Dr. Horner discussed the circumstances that brought him from Boston to Athens and how he views the role of the president at an institution like ACG.

Literature’s Aims

Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, president of Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, urged the hundreds of members of the graduating classes of Deree College, Junior College, and the Graduate School of The American College of Greece to make great literature a part of their lives and use it as a source of inspiration as they try to chart their course in the world.

Preventing Fires

Over the past several years, The American College of Greece has taken major steps to protect its campus and the surrounding forest of Mt. Hymettus from fire. During a recent exercise, Greek firefighters reminded members of the College community of some of the fundamentals of fire prevention and suppression.

Searching for the Writer in You

Alumnus Yorgos Kasfikis (DC ’04) returns to campus as an instructor with the School of Continuing and Professional Studies
This issue of The American College of Greece Magazine finds the College amidst a series of celebratory events, that collectively constitute Presidential Inaugural Year 2008-2009. The events mark the beginning of the presidential tenure of Dr. David G. Horner, who took the helm of the College on July 1, 2008.

The College is, in many ways, a model for Greek higher education. The events that have already marked and those that will mark this presidential transition are a lesson in how a serious institution that respects its history and its mission goes about selecting a new president, honoring its outgoing leader and securing continuity as well as forward-looking innovation.

President Horner's interview in this issue (page 4), is, in my view, required reading for anyone interested in the College and in the topic of leadership in general.

On page 38, you will find a popularized version of an award-winning article by a member of the College faculty. Our faculty regularly produce world class contributions to their areas of expertise. The ACG Magazine wants to become another forum for the presentation of such work, because we feel that it highlights the quality of the College's faculty and can prove useful to alumni as they go about their professions.

Once again, I would like to thank all those who contributed to this issue and, especially, all of you who take the time to offer constructive criticism so that we can keep making this publication better.

Harilaos H. Daskalothanassis
mediarelations@acgmail.gr
33,000 approximate number of alumni from all ACG divisions

1,700 companies and organizations in Greece and internationally that employ ACG alumni

22,828 men and women have graduated from Deree College up to 2008

4,803 alumni who have graduated from Junior College (a majority have gone on to graduate from Deree, as well)

8,362 have graduated from Pierce College

1,200 approximate number of Pierce College alumni who have also graduated from Deree College

96 prominent Deree College alumni have been featured in six “Success Stories” ads

8,362 number of alumni whose contact information was updated in the past 3 years alone

11,000 approximate number of alumni e-mail addresses collected so far by the Office of Alumni Relations

7,500 number of Deree Alumni Representatives (DARS) representing Deree College voluntarily around the world

215 books written so far by alumni and donated to the Office of Alumni Relations

41 number of Pierce College alumnae artists who participated in the 2006 exhibition “A Tribute to the alumnæ artists of Pierce College”
President David G. Horner, who took the reins of The American College of Greece on July 1, 2008, has made a big difference at all the institutions he has served. Now, five months into his presidency, he is on his way to doing the same thing at ACG. In an interview with ACG Magazine, Dr. Horner discussed the circumstances that brought him from Boston to Athens, and how he views the role of president at an institution like ACG.

An Innovator on Campus

By Harilaos H. Daskalothanassis

Photography: Spyros Panagiotopoulos
There is a popular saying that life is what unfolds while you are making other plans. Last winter, perched in his warm Boston office at the executive search firm whose academic division he headed, Dr. David G. Horner had no immediate plans to spend even a few days in Greece – let alone his foreseeable future.

But, unbeknownst to him, here in Athens and in the offices and homes of trustees of The American College of Greece around the United States, events and discussions were unfolding, and mental connections being made, that would align with Dr. Horner’s past to link the veteran educator to the future of the College. There was the search for a new president of the College which had proven fruitless until that point; the professional and personal association of Horner and ACG trustee Dr. Charles Cook – former director of the Commission on Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, which accredits ACG; Dr. Horner’s reputation as a higher education leader who had managed to turn around two institutions – the latest being North Park University in Chicago, Illinois, where he served for 18 years; the ad for ACG’s presidential search that appeared in the Chronicle of Higher Education, which Dr. Horner had seen as part of his own academic search work but had paid scant attention to; a teaching visit to Greece undertaken in the mid-1990s by Horner’s wife, Dr. S. Sue Horner, and a subsequent cruise the couple enjoyed around the Greek islands. The threads that make up the fabric of Dr. Horner’s appointment as President of The American College of Greece are multitudinous, and their individual significance became apparent only after the fact.

“Charles Cook, who was a member of the board’s search committee, called me and at some point in our conversation he said ‘David, this is a job I think you should take a look at,’” Dr. Horner recounted in a recent interview with ACG Magazine. Dr. Horner’s instinctive reaction was to refuse; his life was settled in his native environment of Boston after years of living in various cities around the United States. But, partly out of courtesy to Dr. Cook, he agreed at least to explore the opportunity in more detail. As he learned more about the College and the nature of the job, he became sufficiently intrigued to follow up with an extensive set of questions for Dr. Cook, and following that conversation and a discussion with his spouse, he agreed to put his name up for consideration.

Being a candidate for the presidency of a major institution like The American College of Greece is quite different from the average job search as we know it. It means that the institution interviews the candidate, but also the candidate interviews the institution. For a perfect match, both sides have to enter into the relationship eagerly and with a conviction that the strengths and ambitions of one side match those of the other. In this case, it also involved a family’s change of life plans, but according to President Horner, the moment he picked up the phone to call his spouse to ask what she thought, he had already anticipated the answer. “She thought for a moment and then said: ‘I think that would be quite fascinating.’” Dr. Horner recalls.

Horner’s candidacy also involved a visit to the College in March of this year, and that was what clinched it. “I was impressed and thoroughly amazed,” he told ACG Magazine of his first tour of the campus. “I now have the experience of giving campus tours to others, and those people respond inevitably the way I did,” he said. “They are completely impressed by the overall quality of the College - the facilities, the beauty and dramatic presentation of the setting, the artwork throughout the campus - it’s stunning, it’s one of the most distinctive and attractive campuses in the world.”

Sometimes it takes a set of fresh eyes to appreciate what most of us who study or work at ACG take for granted. But here it is from a man who has seen more than a few campuses around the United States: “If you ask me to name a campus, of approximately the same scale of operation, that has a more dramatic presentation than [the ACG campus] in the US or anywhere else in the world, I cannot tell you where that campus is.”

During his visit Horner was also impressed by the people. “I sensed real energy, a real passion for the College, a keen appreciation for what ACG has become during the presidency of Dr. Bailey, and at the same time an open, forward-looking spirit,” Horner said. The feelings of affection were mutual. Asked their opinion of various candidates that came to see the College, members of the College’s faculty and administration overwhelmingly preferred Dr. Horner.

With some months as the College’s president under his belt, one of Dr. Horner’s regrets is that ACG and its beautiful campus are not better known in the United States. “One of my personal objectives is that after the years of my presidency, ACG will be very well-known in the US and the next time we do a presidential search, there will be a flood of interested people who understand what an important institution this is, and what a great opportunity for leadership it offers,” he said.

David G. Horner grew up in the stable environment of a middle class town in Massachusetts, 50 miles south of Boston. His parents were immigrants – his father, an excellent soccer player whose playing skills helped him survive the Great Depression, was from Ireland, and his mother from Canada. He attended a private school for boys where he blossomed; he excelled in athletics, became president of the student...
government, and got lots of academic awards. It was there that he learned the value of a school environment that empowers students. He also learned something about himself that would apply to his later career: “I flourish in environments that are more personal – not 600 people in a classroom – it’s the personal relationship with the faculty that drew me to schools where you can be known, which is why I oriented my career towards those kinds of educational institutions.”

After high school, Horner attended Brown University and in his junior year transferred to Barrington College, a small institution in Rhode Island, which he was destined to lead just a few years later, when, at the age of 29, he became the youngest currently serving college president in America and probably the entire world. He graduated summa cum laude with a BA in philosophy and briefly flirted with a career as an entrepreneur (at age 21 he started an indoor tennis club with his older brother). But academia won him over when he received an assistantship to teach and to study for his master’s in philosophy at the University of Rhode Island. There he found an influential mentor in the person of Fr. William Paul Haas, a philosopher who had just resigned the presidency of Providence College, a sizable Catholic institution in Providence, Rhode Island. Horner shared an office with Haas, and the older man infused his disciple with his love of college administration. “He thought that the challenges of higher education in America required specific, professional preparation,” Horner recalled. It was Haas who suggested one such program in education administration: Stanford University, in California, one of the world’s great educational institutions.

Haas’ urging and Horner’s own interests and inclinations led him away from the classic academic path: professor, dean, vice president, president. “[Haas] said, ‘David, you know enough about philosophy; you will understand the academic side, but what schools are really going to need is someone who understands complex administrative issues in a sophisticated way, and you are not going to get that by being a professor.’” It was while he was pursuing his joint M.B.A. and Ph.D. in higher education administration and policy analysis at Stanford that Horner received a phone call, much like the one that brought him to The American College of Greece. He was just 29 at the time, and a former philosophy professor had nominated him for the presidency of his alma mater, Barrington College. Cognizant of his young age, he initially ignored the call, but then allowed himself to be convinced.

At Barrington, Horner proved several things to himself and to others: he could do the job of president, and he could do it well. Most of all, he discovered that he was comfortable thinking outside of the box and pursuing the unconventional, even the risky. “I do not know what it is about my personality, and it can be both a strength and a weakness, but the track record is pretty clear that I am willing to do some very unconventional things,” he told ACG Magazine. At deeply troubled Barrington he managed to stabilize the college and effect its merger with Gordon College of Massachusetts, which resulted in a much larger and stronger institution. Mergers were and are rare in American higher education, but this merger became the subject of a Ph.D. thesis at Vanderbilt University, which judged it very positively.

Two years after relinquishing his post at Barrington and after a stint teaching part-time at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education, he moved to the presidency of North Park University in Chicago, Illinois, in 1987. North Park “was not in a strong position,” according to Horner. Enrollment was down sharply (30 percent in the 3-4 years prior to his arrival there), the student demographics in America were discouraging, and morale at the school was low. Horner had to make some painful decisions to stem the bleeding, but, as he put it, “we were able to convey that the school did have a future and that if we would do some of those difficult things, it would take us in that positive direction.” And it did – exceeding even his most ambitious dreams in those early days. During Horner’s 18 years as president, North Park grew substantially in size, its campus was transformed, its programs greatly expanded. “It was a good run,” he says in retrospect. Once again an unconventional move was part of the equation: an innovative (some would say radical) tuition plan that boosted enrollment, improved student selectivity and enhanced operating revenue.

One of the basic things Horner has learned from his long experience as president is what Demosthenes preached to the Athenians two-and-a-half millennia ago: intentions matter, but the means to realize them are just as essential. Horner quotes Dr. D. Elton Trueblood, a noted 20th century American Quaker author and theolo-
gian who was chaplain at both Harvard and Stanford universities: “Holy shoddy is still shoddy.” In other words, as Horner paraphrases Trueblood, “You can have a marvelous mission, but if you do not have the resources behind it, you simply will never produce quality.”

“The American College of Greece,” Horner says, “because of its development over the years under Dr. Bailey’s leadership, has become a place that has a wonderful mission – bringing the best of American education to Greece – but it also has the physical and the financial resources to execute that mission at a very high level.”

Is this mission – bringing the best of American education to Greece – truly worthy? His answer comes as a wave of excitement: “Higher education is one of the very best things America has developed,” Horner responds. “To play a part in bringing that excellence back to Greece where it all began, where the Western intellectual tradition has its roots, has profound meaning for me.”

In looking at the educational landscape in Greece and internationally, President Horner sees two competing trends. One is the demand for greater access to quality education that can lift all people to a better standard of living, material and spiritual. The other is the desire to make education more affordable – and in the case of the traditional European model, free. But these two tendencies are in tension if not contradictory, Horner says: “To provide low cost (in the extreme, free), high quality education, a society must limit the people who are given access to education – otherwise it will bankrupt the society. If on the other hand, a society is committed to broad access to education, the only way to affords this is to limit the expense by reducing quality. So, if you are committed to the traditional European model (sometimes called the Scandinavian model), you face an unappealing choice between access and quality.”

Horner believes that a model similar to the one long established in the United States and increasingly in the United Kingdom, where public and private education co-exist harmoniously and tuition is charged to those who can afford it and subsidized for those who can not, not only avoids the choice between access and quality but also is fairer. Horner argues, “In an all-free system, society subsidizes even the studies of the very wealthy. But, education is both a public and a private good; it helps society – and that is why society must promote it – but it helps individuals as well. So why is it unjust for individuals to pay for some of the cost of something they are going to benefit from, especially if they can afford it?”

A strategic thinker and a person who trusts statistics and numbers as well as his “gut” – as he put it – Horner prefers to lead by building consensus around basic principles and moving speedily to the implementation phase. He spent last summer – he took over as president on July 1 – learning about ACG, and then, in early fall, in several open sessions, he presented for discussion with the College community a draft strategic plan, a nascent blueprint for how the institution will move forward. His openness surprised many, but, as he says, “educational institutions are not fertile ground for authoritarian leadership.” Everyone has to feel part of the process, and as many people as possible need to be on the same page.
President David Horner’s arrival on campus last July meant an additional benefit for the College: the arrival with him of Dr. S. Sue Horner (the “S.” stands for Sandra), President Horner’s spouse and an accomplished scholar in an area that has not been part of the traditional ACG curriculum: gender studies and religion. This fall, Dr. Horner was named scholar-in-residence of The American College of Greece, and in an interview with ACG Magazine she said that she looks forward to introducing a new subject to the College’s ongoing academic discourse.

The Cleveland-born Dr. Horner has spent more than 24 years as a presidential spouse, moving to several cities as her husband’s career developed. But that did not faze her. “I grew up in an airline family, so travel was part of my life from early on,” she said. So, even as her husband pursued his career, she always found opportunities to study, write and teach in the US and abroad. Being a presidential spouse can be a consuming experience, but Dr. Horner, a veteran, seems to have struck a balance that suits her own interests and her family.

Her academic background is as versatile as it is impressive: she holds a BA in Romance languages from Barrington College, a master’s in library science from San Jose State University in California, a master’s in theological studies from the Harvard Divinity School, and in 2000 she completed her Ph.D. in religion and American culture at Northwestern University, in Illinois. During an active career she has written extensively and taught at several universities.

Dr. Horner first came to Greece in the mid-90s. She spent a week here with students from the US who were taking a six-month course in Sweden. But it was not the weather or the landscape that impressed her most. “I was entranced by the sculpture,” she told ACG Magazine. “That is what made the strongest impression on me.” She spent hours at the National Museum, visited the Acropolis, saw the famous Charioteer of Delphi – “I was amazed that these beautiful objects even survived” — and then went to the Louvre and the British Museum to see the rest. “In a short period of time, I was able to see the Parthenon in its totality,” she said.

The Horners have two children, Marc, a financial adviser with UBS who lives in Chicago with his wife Christine and their four children, and Shanna, who studied art as well as culinary arts and now, along with her husband Brian, are the chef-owners of The Kennebunk Inn, in the historic town of Kennebunk, Maine.

An important component for a successful institution is to build what Horner calls “a community culture of mutual respect.” He says, “I think a college president has to do two major things. He or she has to advance the institution, whether that means building new buildings, growing the endowment, growing enrollment, or enhancing the institution’s reputation and prestige, and then the president has to do that in a way that retains the support of the various constituencies.”

In those constituencies he includes the governing board, alumni, students, faculty, staff, and external stakeholders, cognizant of the fact that individuals have many choices of where to study, donate money, work, or teach. “I think of colleges and universities as voluntary associations,” he says. “You can’t command the loyalty, the respect and the support of anyone associated with a college or a university. You have to earn these through the way you do your work. It’s not just about making the numbers go in the right direction, it’s about the people, the family that defines and surrounds an institution and about keeping this family with you not because they must be but because they freely and enthusiastically choose to be.”

A Roaming Scholar

By Harilaos H. Daskalothanassis

Dr. S. Sue Horner at the ACG campus.
Academic Excellence, Social Justice, Economic Development

Greece stands to benefit greatly from its American, non-profit higher education institutions

This article appeared in the July-August issue of Business Partners, the bi-monthly magazine of the American Hellenic Chamber of Commerce


ATHENS, Greece. - America is widely regarded as the world leader in higher education. The degrees earned in America’s accredited public and private institutions, both domestic and international, are respected and recognized around the globe. The American system encompasses 4,300 public and private institutions and enrolls 18 million students. Private, non-profit institutions, which account for 38% of the institutions and 20% of the enrollment, are regarded as essential to the overall quality of the American system for a number of reasons, including the following:

Pinnacles of Excellence and Advancement of Knowledge. The private, non-profit sector of American higher education features some of the most prominent “pinnacles of educational excellence” in the world and is responsible for some of the most important scientific discoveries and the most influential scholarship as well. For example, the latest Times Higher Education – QS World University Rankings listed 12 American, private, non-profit universities in the top 20 universities world-wide. Between 1999 and 2008, 48 Nobel Prizes were awarded to scholars from American universities; 28 of these awards were given to faculty from private, non-profit American universities with the remaining 20 going to faculty at public institutions.

Student-Centered Learning, Social Mobility and Social Justice. Surprisingly, students attending major public universities in America often come from more wealthy family backgrounds than those attending private, non-profit institutions. But, recent studies have shown that private, non-profit, higher education institutions produce a disproportionately high percentage of students who go on to earn Ph.D. degrees (especially in the sciences) and graduate more undergraduate students within four years, including students from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, than public institutions. These results are attributed to the personal, student-centered learning environment of private colleges and universities.

Economic Relief for the Public Sector and Economic and Cultural Development for Communities. America’s private, non-profit higher education institutions save the public sector billions of dollars annually in educational costs (i.e., the cost of educating approximately 3.5 million students), while giving parents and students the enormous benefit of educational choice. These institutions (along with their public counterparts) are also important catalysts for economic and cultural development in the communities in which they are located; one researcher describes them as “saviors of our cities.”

The American College of Greece, which comprises five divisions including Pierce College and Deree College, is proud to have offered education reflecting the best of American, non-profit education for the benefit of Greece since our establishment in Athens in 1923 at the invitation of Prime Minister Eleftherios Venizelos. The American College of Greece holds accreditation in the same professional association that accredits Harvard University, Boston University, Yale University, Brown University, Tufts University and other celebrated private as well as public institutions. Many of our 33,000 alumni, most of whom live in Greece, have been admitted for advanced study to the most prestigious institutions in the world and have contributed significantly in virtually every field of human endeavor.

We believe that Greece will only benefit from the recognition of American, non-profit, higher education institutions, which can demonstrate their educational quality as well as their willingness to invest in long-term service to Greece. Such recognition will make more fully available to Greece the advantage that America has long enjoyed from its vibrant, private, non-profit, higher education sector.

*David G. Horner and John S. Bailey are, respectively, president and chancellor of The American College of Greece.
The American College of Greece paid tribute to President John S. Bailey and his wife, long-time Cultural Affairs Director Irene Bailey, during an evening of poignant ceremonies on June 20, on the eve of Commencement 2008.

Ten days later, Dr. Bailey assumed his new duties as chancellor of The American College of Greece, after 33 years as president, and Dr. David G. Horner became the College’s new president.

During the tribute ceremonies, the Deree College library was named the John S. Bailey Library and the Open Air Theater was named Irene Bailey Theater.

The changes came following a decision of the College’s Board of Trustees, whose president, Peter Thun, was at hand to announce the decision and participate in the official unveilings.

Joining Thun were several current and former members of the College’s Board of Trustees. One of them, Jon Westling, former president of Boston University, delivered a moving tribute to President
Bailey, including him in the select group of university leaders who have transformed higher education over the past 150 years.

A portrait of President Bailey by the distinguished American portraitist, Ron Sherr, which was also commissioned by the Board, was unveiled during the library ceremony. The portrait is on display at the entrance to the John S. Bailey Library.

The naming of the Irene Bailey Theater was preceded by a concert of classical and American music, as well as by the screening of a video by Deree Professor Daniel McCormac recounting the long and transformative tenure of President Bailey at the helm of The American College of Greece.

Hundreds of guests from Greece and abroad, including President-elect David G. Horner and his wife Dr. Sue Horner, members of the faculty and the administration, alumni, and many friends of the College participated in the ceremonies, which ended with a moonlit dinner by the College’s Olympic pool.
Brown University President Is 2008 Commencement Speaker

Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, president of world-renowned Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, urged hundreds of members of the graduating classes of Deree College, Junior College, and the Graduate School of The American College of Greece to make great literature a part of their lives as adults and use it as a source of inspiration as they try to chart their course in the world.

Dr. Simmons’ speech was delivered at Commencement 2008, where the graduates, along with more than 5,000 members of their families and friends, gathered to receive their diplomas from the hands of Dr. John S. Bailey, who this year celebrated his 33rd and last commencement as president of The American College of Greece. On July 1, 2008, Dr. Bailey assumed his new duties as chancellor of the College.

At the ceremony, which took place on June 21 at the Peace and Friendship Stadium in Neo Phalero, President Simmons was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. Dr. Bailey was also awarded an honorary doctorate for his long service to ACG and to the cause of international education. A third honorary degree recipient was Theodore Lytras, a former provost of The American College of Greece.

Amb. Daniel Speckhard, the US envoy to Greece, also spoke to the graduates, paying homage to Greece’s commitment to education and telling them that at ACG they received the best education Greece and the United States have to offer.
Following is the full text of the speech by Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, president of Brown University, at the 2008 Commencement of Deree College, Junior College, and the Graduate School of The American College of Greece.

Good evening and thank you for welcoming me on this celebratory occasion. This is, I regret to say, my very first visit to Greece, a nation whose historical and literary traditions have lived in my consciousness since I was a young girl. This initial visit recalls for me the wonder I felt when I first awakened to the clarifying and liberating power of literature and the arts. Indeed, it is to that awakening that I owe the path my life has taken to this stage today. I could not be happier to be with you.

No serious student of Western literature and the arts has escaped the reach of classical Greek mythology, art, philosophy and literature. Long before the idea of a global consciousness arose, these great ideas and works were reaching across oceans and evoking recognition in vastly different cultures of the verities of mankind’s struggle. In the most commanding way, this early literature laid bare the errors and glories of man in his efforts to comprehend and secure his place in the world.

It is no wonder that, in all times, literature and the arts have been central to understanding and empowering social and political change. We saw the power of literature in pre-revolutionary France, in twentieth-century African liberation movements, and, indeed, in contemporary struggles for liberation and equality around the world. It was the potency of its impact that drew me to the study of literature and the ongoing evidence of its force that kept me bound to it through the years.

When I was a student at Harvard, the work of Aime Cesaire, a lion of French literature, saved me from turning away from this pursuit. At the time, having difficulty perceiving a meaningful role for myself in the social revolution taking place in the United States, I was being exhorted by activists to abandon the study of literature in favor of more practical pursuits. I needed, they said, to undertake a profession that could be more useful in solving immediate social problems. To a degree, this argument held sway. However, the discovery of Cesaire and other writers of the negritude movement caused me to rethink the validity of calls for a more activist strategy.

In reading his brilliant literary manifesto, Cahier d’un Retour au Pays Natal, I found reason to be more hopeful about what literature could achieve in improving society. Cesaire expressed what I felt and gave me a reason to continue my studies:

> for it is not true that the work of man is done
> that we have no business being on earth
> that we parasite the world
> that it is enough for us to heel
> to the world
> whereas the work has only begun
> and man still must overcome all the interdictions wedged in the recesses
> of his fervor and no race has
> a monopoly on beauty,
> on intelligence, on strength

“Literature’s Aims, Society’s Future”
This fearless “speaking truth to power” about the interdictions of life drew me in because it affirmed the place of literature in a troubled age. Cornel West, in “Black Strivings in a Twilight Civilization,” cites the critical voices of Ralph Ellison, James Baldwin and Toni Morrison, among others, in examining what he calls “the crisis of race” in America. Where better to find a map of the consciousness of a people than in the great literary works that arise from that consciousness? In that sense, reading literature has an immensely practical value, even if we agree that this is not its primary purpose.

Still, before I discovered Cesaire, awareness of the ability of literature to reveal insights into social and psychological dilemmas had lingered in my mind. Born before the United States civil rights movement began to address inequalities of race and gender, I struggled from my earliest years to understand the bizarre world into which I had been born—a world where my race limited everything I could do. But in studying literature, I was on an equal footing with every other reader, making it more evident to me that there were ways in which my freedom of movement and strength of intellect could not be constrained by segregation and discrimination.

Toni Morrison describes the power of writers in the following way:

“Writers are among the most sensitive, the most intellectually anarchic, most representative, most probing of artists. The ability of writers to imagine what is not the self, to familiarize the strange and mystify the familiar, is the test of their power.”

Writers inspired me in an appreciation for the magnificent heights and tragic depths of the human journey, and the courage to fight through the barbaric stigmas that were once a dominant feature of life in my country.

Many discouraged my study of literature. “Why,” they often asked, “do you concern yourself with literature when you are not free?” I persisted with literary studies precisely because of the elusive nature of freedom; for it was within literature that I could best imagine what that freedom could be. I also learned that, in the struggle for freedom, literature can be as trenchant as a sword. Paraphrasing Kafka, it can be an ax breaking the frozen sea that blocks our path.

At every moment of my life, it has been to literature that I have turned to clarify that path. For literature and the arts invite us in a multi-dimensional way to transcend the temporal and physical limitations of lived experience. We follow characters and their stories across the span of their lifetimes. Entering their hearts, souls, and minds, we are an omniscient presence in their midst, understanding their mistakes, their omissions and their triumphs. What a privileged place the reader enjoys and what a benefit he derives from this journey!

Unfortunately, some policy makers today have concluded that society can only advance through the support of science and technology. Literature and the arts are often erroneously deemed less important to the health and advancement of society. This conclusion fails the test of logic as it fails the test of experience.

The world today is understandably intoxicated with the power of scientific analysis and discovery. Science has given us breathtaking discoveries to which we owe longer life, improved tools, greater efficiency and ease of work, and a host of other advantages that make our lives better. Every day, science brings us new understanding of the world; the recent Mars mission is an example that reveals yet again that no matter how much we try, we will never exhaust the need to employ science to understand our world better.

Humanistic studies bring to mankind skills and knowledge of a different but no less important nature. As we create tools and substances that make life easier, we need to be able to imagine, at the same time, the wider implication of these advances on the experience of living. Science cannot teach us how to live life, how to love, or how to breathe meaning into the inexorable march of time. We may be able to make warfare with greater and greater devastation, but what will help us cope with the aftermath of that devastation: wasted, wounded lives; loss beyond human comprehension; and the difficulty of peace and reconciliation?

Some years ago, following the 9/11 tragedy in the United States, many business leaders in the environs of ground zero found themselves wrestling with a problem for which they were unprepared. Little in their rise to power and influence had prepared them for the challenges that they suddenly faced as leaders. The destruction of innocence and the fear engendered by incomprehensible hatred required something more than the technology needed to restore the stock exchange, subway and telephone service. They had to find a way to lead the healing and recovery of their communities of workers. Skillful and affecting expression of the stories of loss and devastation began the healing process. Knowing how to express grief in meaningful terms, how to speak of the horror experienced, and how to arouse hope in those buried in despair was the knowledge most needed in that moment.

Many of you will be leaders in a diverse global community. That will require that you navigate through frozen seas and unseen barriers. Whether you are engaged in the arts, business, social science endeavors, or scientific discovery, the beauty and insights that creative works offer can save you from error and help you lead others more ably.

You have had the benefit of an excellent education, but your learning will not end here. For decades hence, you will have the opportunity to discover new literatures and to grasp through the experience of the arts elusive differences among peoples. Take advantage of this ever-present source of knowledge, for it can enable you not only to discover more about yourself, but also to better reveal to others who you are. The need to understand ourselves and others is a lifelong, age-old pursuit that will never become irrelevant or be extinguished. As Marcus Aurelius noted, “To understand the true quality of people, you must look into their minds, and examine their pursuits and aversions.” Examining those pursuits and aversions is the very stuff of literature and the arts.

The study and enjoyment of literature, the humanities and the arts is a vast, diverse, fascinating and uplifting realm that, when taken hand in hand with science and technology, makes the world function better. As you leave this college, I hope you will draw upon this realm at every moment that you need it and that the act of doing so will empower you greatly. For this has been the case for me.

I wish you Godspeed, much success and boundless satisfaction in the years ahead.

Education for people with disabilities, a frequently neglected segment of the Greek population, was the subject of a lecture by former parliamentarian Dr. Eleftheria Bernidaki-Aldous which took place October 21 at the John S. Bailey Library. As chairman of the multi-party committee of the parliament for people with disabilities during the 2004-07 parliamentary period, Dr. Bernidaki-Aldous, was the driving force in compiling the committee’s report which formed the basis of legislation passed this fall by the Hellenic parliament.

The lecture was organized by the College's Eleftherios Venizelos Chair for Modern Greek Studies. Dr. Bernidaki-Aldous, a professor of classical literature at Deree College, is the Chair’s current holder.

The lecture attracted several current and former members of parliament who spoke in a spirit of bipartisanship about the various challenges facing the education for the disabled. Among them were Panayiotis Melas (New Democracy), chairman of the permanent committee of the parliament for social affairs; Thalia Dragona (Panhellenic Socialist Movement), a Pierce College alumna and professor at the University of Athens who is a member of both the special committee for equality, youth and human rights and the permanent committee for educational affairs; Dimitra Arapoglou (Popular Orthodox Rally), a deaf-mute parliamentarian who is member of the permanent committees for social affairs and educational affairs, and of the special committee for equality, youth and human rights; and Panayiotis Kouroumplis, a blind former member of parliament with PASOK.

Dr. Bernidaki-Aldous’ lecture was titled “Special Education in the Context of Equality: From Theory to Practice” and centered on the practical challenges of translating legislation into reality for the hundreds of thousands of Greek citizens with some form of disability and their families. The lecture’s thrust was that, in spite of the sometimes onerous cost of special education, in the end it can become a source of wealth for our society because it releases the creative energies of thousands of people who have been economically and socially marginalized.

Chancellor John S. Bailey of The American College of Greece opened the event by explaining the purpose of the Eleftherios Venizelos Chair, which was founded in 2003. The Chair honors the great 20th century statesman who invited the College to move to Athens following the Asia Minor catastrophe, and who was a driving force for the modernization of the largely agrarian Greek society and its educational system.

The evening was moderated by Haris Daskalothanassis, the College’s director of media relations and publications.

Photos 1-6: Dr. Eleftheria Bernidaki-Aldous; Dimitra Arapoglou speaks in sign language; Panayiotis Kouroumplis; Panayiotis Melas; Thalia Dragona; a view of the audience with Chancellor Bailey in the front row, second from left.
Knowledge and learning are widely recognized as key enablers of sustainability and development. The term “knowledge society” best describes the new context of our lives and work. The convergence of information technologies in different sectors and application domains brings the vision of a knowledge society ever closer to reality.

The notion of a knowledge society is also a key subject of research globally and a key term in the political discourse of our times. As the recent presidential campaign in the United States demonstrated, there are worries that countries whose educational systems are less than what is desired will fall by the wayside of history. And the 7th Research Program (FP7) of the European Commission distributes billions of euros for the analysis of requirements and the implementation of human-centric applications in almost every sector of human activity.

Some of these issues were tackled during the First World Summit on the Knowledge Society (WSKS) which took place in late September at The American College of Greece. The College sponsored and hosted WSKS, which was organized by Open Research Society, a non-governmental organization.

More than 300 participants from 43 countries attended the three-day conference at the Aghia Paraskevi campus, presenting 165 research articles on the cutting edge of research in the subject.

The presentations at WSKS 2008, covered the following five main tracks:

- Social & Humanistic Computing for the Knowledge Society - Emerging Technologies for Society and Humanity,
- Knowledge, Learning, Education, Learning Technologies and E-learning for the Knowledge Society
- Information Technologies - Knowledge Management Systems - E-business & Enterprise Information Systems for the Knowledge Society
- Culture & Cultural Heritage - Technology for Culture Management - Management of Tourism and Entertainment - Tourism Networks in the Knowledge Society
- E-government and E-Democracy for the Knowledge Society

In the opening session, Dr. Miltiadis Lytras, a part-time instructor of information systems at Deree College who is president of the Open Research Society and who served as general chair of the summit, presented what he described as the “knowledge society challenges” and also referred to the scientific achievements of WSKS 2008: 180 papers selected out of 300 submissions, resulting in three edited volumes to be published by Springer Publishers of Berlin and New York.

The three volumes are titled “Emerging Technologies and Information Systems for the Knowledge Society,” “The Open Knowledge Society: A Computer Science and Information Systems Manifesto,” and “Information Technology, Information Systems and Knowledge Management.”

WSKS 2008 had the support of 24 international scientific journals, which will publish special issues comprising papers presented in summit. Twelve of those journals are prestigious, ISI SCI/SSCI-listed.

In his address to the opening plenary session, President David Horner of The American College of Greece analyzed the role of the College as a leader in promoting the vision of a knowledge society by offering high-quality human-centric education, and enumerated a number of ACG initiatives. Dr. Horner thanked the participants, who came from 43 different countries, for their contributions.

Among the many speakers at WSKS, four stand out owing to their international reputation as leading thinkers on the subject:
Dr. John Carroll, Edward M. Frymoyer Professor of Information Sciences and Technology at Pennsylvania State University, who analyzed the role of scenarios in shaping the future knowledge society.

Dr. Robert Tennyson of the University of Minnesota College of Education and Human Development, who described the learning theory he has developed and analyzed a number of parameters that affect educational and learning performance.

Dr. Ambjorn Naeve, Director of the Knowledge Management Research Group at Sweden’s Royal Institute of Technology, who discussed with great enthusiasm the so-called “emulation society” and the need to look for real sustainable learning, so that learning outcomes will contribute to social and humanistic visions.

Dr. David Avison, president of the International Association of Information Systems (AIS) and professor of the ESSEC Business School in Paris, who analyzed the key role of information systems as a significant pillar of the knowledge society.

For three days the WSKS 2008 brought together academics, people from industry, policy makers, politicians, government officials, and active citizens that looked at the impact of information technology, and the knowledge-based era it is creating, on key facets of today’s world: the state, business, society, and culture.

The scientific and program committee honored 12 research articles with best paper awards, while ACG honored three keynote speakers for their contributions.

The Open Research Society also honored the keynote speakers with the Athena Lifetime Award for Ethos and Contribution to Episteme.

Following the event, the Open Research Society expressed gratitude to the College for its support of WSKS 2008, and particularly to President Horner, Vice President Vassilios Protopsaltis, Vice President Katerina Thomas, Associate Dean Lila Mordochae, and CIS Department Head Jenny Vagianou.

WSKS 2009 is scheduled for September 16-18, 2009.
UN Agency Unveils Foreign Investment Data During Press Conference at ACG

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development unveiled its World Investment Report for the year 2008 at a press conference organized in cooperation with The American College of Greece last September. It was the second year in a row that the UN agency chose to partner with the College for the presentation of the report, which is a comprehensive study of foreign investment flows during the previous year.

For the year 2007, the report showed that foreign direct investment (FDI) in Greece slowed down considerably, following a peak year in 2008. In particular, Greece attracted $1.9 billion in FDI during 2007 and dropped to 126th place among 141 countries in its ability to attract such investment. This came during a banner year for FDIs, which grew 30% globally over 2006. In 2006, two large corporate buyouts lifted Greece to $5.6 billion in FDI inflows. On the other hand, Greece showed continued strength as an investor abroad. Greek investments abroad grew 28% to $5.3 billion in 2007, most of them to the neighboring countries of Southeastern Europe.

The numbers reflect perhaps the last good year for FDI globally, just prior to the onset of the current financial and economic crisis.

In addition to data about FDI flows, each year’s WIR looks at a sector of the world economy in the context of investment flows. WIR 2008 focused on “Transnational Corporations and the Infrastructures Challenge.”

For this reason, the College invited Natasha Nistikaki, a special advisor to the general secretariat for communications of the Ministry of Transportation and Communication, to talk about the Greek government’s ambitious $2 billion program to install or improve fiber optic networks in most major Greek metropolitan areas.

Dr. Marina Papanastasiou, a professor at the Graduate School of The American College of Greece, who is also a research professor at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark, presented the outline of the report in her capacity as UNCTAD’s representative in Greece.

Drs. Annie Triantafillou and Dimitris Doulos, professors of economics at Deree College, spoke about the benefits of FDIs for the host countries. Dr. Doulos mentioned some of the impediments to foreign investments in Greece, namely corruption, bureaucracy, and an unstable tax regime. He noted that Greece trails most countries in some of the indices that affect FDIs, such as market size, labor cost and mobility, transparency, infrastructures, tax stability, and even political continuity.

Former minister Andreas Andrianopoulos, who now heads ACG’s Institute of Diplomacy and Global Affairs, also spoke about the problems Greece faces in attracting foreign direct investment.

Similar conferences took place simultaneously in all world capitals, where data was released to the press regarding each particular country.

Dozens of reporters from Greek media organizations joined ACG faculty, students and administrators for the presentation.

Valuable Certificate for MS in Finance Students

Eleven students of the Master of Science in finance program attending the Financial Statement Analysis course taught by Professor Lila Mordochae obtained the Certificate in International Financial Reporting (CIFR), in the last academic year.

This certificate is a web-based professional qualification developed and organized by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). CIFR is a qualification which recognizes exposure to and understanding of International Financial Reporting Standards and gives students who earn it a significant advantage in the workplace.

The students who took the CIFR exam successfully are: Fotini Argiropoulou (DC’06), Alexandros Ballis (DC’05), Dimitrios Chlaboutakis, Vassilios Karapanayiotis (DC’06), Konstantinos Paligiannopoulos (DC’03), Sofia Pasagiannidou, Stylianos Pologiorgis (DC’06), Dimitris Psariotis, Eletheria Roka (DC’02), Fioritsa Valeonti.

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To the applause of 22 former Greek Olympians and dozens of honored guests, The American College of Greece and the Hellenic Olympians Association – the official organization of Olympic athletes in Greece and a member of the World Olympians Association (WOA) – launched the College’s Olympian Scholarships Program during a dinner at the Yacht Club of Greece last June.

The program will benefit athletes who have been accredited to participate in an Olympic Games, by giving them the opportunity to pursue undergraduate studies at Deree College with full tuition scholarships. The Olympian Scholarships are offered in recognition of the College’s close relationship with the Olympic movement. The College served as a designated training site for the ATHENS 2004 organization and was the official training site for the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) during the 2004 Olympics in Athens. It was later named an official training site for the USOC. Several Greek Olympic athletes and teams have used the College’s facilities to train for major events. The College has instituted the Olympic Legacy Program to promote the Olympic spirit, and the Olympian Scholarships are one of the program’s components.

The first Olympian Scholarships are made possible, on the one hand, through gifts by Marfin Egnatia Bank and Mr. Evangelos Marinakis, President and CEO of Capital Maritime & Trading Corp., and, on the other hand, by equivalent matching funds provided by The American College of Greece. Mr. Marinakis was joined by Efthymios Bouloutas, the CEO of Marfin Egnatia Bank, as an honored guest at the dinner.

Among the guests were the Mayor of Piraeus, Panayiotis Fasoulas, himself an Olympian with the Greek basketball team, the Mayor of Aghia Paraskevi, Vassilis Yiannakopoulos, and the head of the Hellenic Stock Exchange, Spyros Capralos, also an Olympian in swimming.

Then ACG President (now Chancellor) John S. Bailey spoke of the College’s close ties with the Olympic movement and ideals and said that ACG places great emphasis on athletics because they are an integral part of a quality education. “We are proud to have contributed to the Olympic effort mounted by Athens in 2004,” Bailey said, adding that the participation in that effort of more than 1,000 members of the wider College community remains a source of pride to this day. Bailey also praised the HOA for its support for quality education for its members.

HOA President George Andreadis expressed satisfaction at his organization’s cooperation with The American College of Greece, an institution with a long history of service to Greek society.

Both speakers praised the donors for their support for athletes and education and expressed hope they would find more imitators.

Olympic gold medallist Sophia Bekatorou and ACG Executive Vice President Nicholas Jiavaras were the evening’s moderators. ♦
The ACG Student Government (SG), the representative body of the College’s undergraduate students, participated in the International Student Government Conference which was organized by John Cabot University in Rome. Deree student leaders joined their counterparts from Johns Hopkins University Bologna, the American University of Rome, and Touros College in Berlin for a three-day conference that included seminars, workshops and presentations on different aspects of student life.

Manos Moschopoulos, the ACG Student Government president, spoke about the College to the delegates and referred to ACG’s infrastructure, demographic data and accreditation, answering questions from other students.

ACG’s main contribution to the event was the presentation of the Student Emergency Response Force, a unique student organization under the auspices of the Office of Student Affairs, which trains students in the use of fire-fighting equipment, first aid and other emergency procedures and offers its services on campus when necessary.

The host university’s students were also interested in finding out more about Deree’s very successful Debating Club and how they could set up their own competitive debating teams. The SG members also illustrated how cooperation with the College administration can be smooth if the two entities operate in a complementary way.

Members of other college student governments discussed various issues that arise in their cooperation with their respective administrations.

The conference also provided a forum for the advisors of the participating student governments to discuss their own issues. In this context, ACG Director of Student Affairs Chris Koutras detailed his role as a liaison between the students and the ACG administration.

In his opening remarks, Franco Pavonecchio, JCU-Bologna president, described student governments as advocates, organizers, controllers and overall institutional memory, and pledged to open his campus’ doors to student leaders again in the near future.

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The American College of Greece Magazine, Fall 2008 - Winter 2009
Firefighting Drill at The American College of Greece

On September 18, 2008 high ranking officers of the Hellenic Fire Department based in the Gerakas region visited the College for a seminar on fire prevention and suppression addressed to ACG students, administration and staff. The seminar, which included a lecture as well as practical exercises, took place at the Pierce College Theater and outdoors at the Aghia Paraskevi campus.

“Existing school measures are very good, but one must also know how to use them calmly and without fear,” said Fire Department representatives after the drill. The presentation also stressed the importance of civilians’ contribution to the protection of the environment from fire.

During a fire drill both students and staff had the opportunity to practice extinguishing a fire. Student Giannis Karvounas, who is captain of the Student Emergency Response Force (S.E.R.F.) team and was participating in such a drill at the College for the second time, noted that the previous seminar had been purely theoretical. “I am happy that this year’s training also included actual hands-on practice,” he added, thanking both the College and the Fire Department for the valuable experience.

Such exercises are useful for the College because of its proximity to the forest of Mt. Hymettus and the existence of thousands of pine trees on the campus itself. During the summer fire season, members of the SERF team and members of the College staff regularly patrol the campus to spot any fire outbreak. In the past, these patrols have prevented several minor emergencies from developing into major catastrophes.

ACG Takes Steps to Prevent Fires

Over the past several years, The American College of Greece has taken major steps to protect its campus and the surrounding forest of Mt. Hymettus from fire.

The College also has established channels of cooperation and communication with municipal authorities, the fire department, the police department, the Demokritos scientific research center and the nearby Eastern Mediterranean Military Command for better co-ordination of actions during a fire emergency on the western slope of this beautiful mountain, which is essential to the well-being of the Greater Athens area.

Here are some of the measures:

An extensive, campus-wide firefighting system that draws on the College’s own water resources – including its own well and the thousands of tons of water in the Olympic-size swimming pool – has been set up. The system is capable of providing a full defense against any fire on campus, which is heavily forested. Fire extinguishers are also located throughout the campus, giving the College the ability to fight localized fire outbreaks.

A corps of volunteers and staff is mobilized for round-the-clock fire-watch shifts in times when the danger of forest fires is heightened. They, along with the College’s professional security personnel, are able to provide early warning during forest-fire season, and alert the authorities in a timely fashion. They also act as deterrence to would-be arsonists.

The College regularly clears underbrush in the forested part of the campus to make it harder for fires to start and to minimize the strength and speed of a fire if one does start.

In recent months, the head of the 4th Athens Fire Brigade Division, the mayor of Aghia Paraskevi, and the Commander of the Eastern Mediterranean Military Command have praised the College’s contribution to the prevention and suppression of fires in and around the College.

During the catastrophic late-summer fires of 2007, College personnel used College equipment in putting out two fires just off the campus.
Art critic and historian Athina Schina presented works of the distinguished Greek painter Achilleas Droungas during a gathering at the Special Collections Room of the John S. Bailey Library last May.

The presentation, which was backed by a documentary about Droungas’ life and work by Babis Plaitakis, attracted a special guest: Hellenic Parliament President Dimitris Sioufas came to the College to admire Schina’s lecture and Droungas’ work. Schina is the curator of the Hellenic Parliament’s large art collection.

Deree College students from the class of Professor Efi Halivopoulos attended the presentation and took part in a discussion with the artist and the art critic.

After the presentation, Sioufas said that he was impressed by such events as the one organized by the American College, and praised the students for their ability to carry on a high-level discussion on art, history and mythology.

Japanese ceramics exhibit

The Japanese Ambassador to Greece, Takanori Kitamura, visited the College on November 14 to inaugurate an exhibition of ceramics from the Meiji period, organized at the Special Collections Room. The Ambassador toured the exhibition along with ACG President David G. Horner and Executive Director of Special Collections Dr. Yannis Fikas.

The ceramics on exhibit are part of the collection of Sophocles Karayannis. Students from Deree and Pierce Colleges joined other guests at the opening. Among them were Mr. Karayannis, members of the ACG faculty and administration, the first secretary of the embassy, Tomotaka Yoshimura, and George Spanos of the Greek Association of Koryu Bugei.

The opening also featured examples of the famous ikebana flower arrangements created by the Greek chapter of the Ohara School of Japan, which is headed by Ms. Hara Papadopoulou.

Ambassador Kitamura, in his remarks, thanked the College for staging the exhibition and added that such events contribute to a better understanding of the rich Japanese culture among young people in Greece.

The Continuity of Greek Literature

Last June’s thirteenth annual Kimon Friar Lecture was an exploration of the continuities (and discontinuities) of Greek literature from ancient times to the present. Professor Vassilios Lambropoulos, this year’s lecturer, held his audience captive as he explored his topic, “Reflections on Tragedy in Greek Post-Modern Fiction,” by using examples from famous as well as relatively obscure – or even unpublished – works by modern Greek authors.

Dr. Lambropoulos is eminently qualified for the task: he is a lifelong student of modern Greek literature and has been C.P. Cavafy professor of Modern Greek at the University of Michigan since 1999, teaching at the university’s Departments of Classical Studies and Comparative Literature. His teaching work includes courses in modern Greek language, literature, criticism and culture, as well as literary theory and comparative literature.

During his lecture, Lambropoulos showed that the sense of tragedy, which first entered literature in early Greek writings, continues to connect even post-modern Greek writers with their ancestors. His approach is reflected in his own works: Lambropoulos is currently writing a book on the notion of hubris in modern theater.

The Kimon Friar Lecture series in Modern Greek Art and Letters was established in honor of Kimon Friar, one of the pre-eminent Greek-American personalities of the 20th century. Born in Asia Minor in 1911, Friar was taken to the United States at an early age, and made his mark as a poet, anthologist, editor and teacher. Friar first came to Greece in 1946 and embarked on a long career as a translator that reached its peak in 1958 with the publication in English of Nikos Kazantzakis’s The Odyssey: A Modern Sequel. Subsequent translations of Elytis, Ritsos, Sinopoulos and scores of other Greek poets, together with essays and articles on a variety of topics, helped stir worldwide interest in modern Greek culture.

Numerous honors and awards in Greece and the US recognized Friar’s contributions to the world of letters. He died on May 25, 1993, leaving a significant part of his papers to The American College of Greece, in whose collection they are preserved today.

Professor Hariclea Zengos of Deree College’s English department prefaced this year’s Kimon Friar Lecture.
Business Week 2008 Tackles Sustainability

Last spring’s Business Week 2008 focused on the topic: “Sustainability Today is Business Tomorrow.”

Sustainability is an issue that has begun to dominate public debate since the middle of this decade, as environmental problems begin to accumulate and the environment’s ability to sustain human activity has come into question. Sustainability is defined as the design and implementation of human activity with a long-term perspective and is applicable to a variety of domains, including economic development, food production, energy and social organization.

The Business Week annual forum is organized by the business academic societies of The American College of Greece, and its purpose is to bring professionals and researchers from industry and academia in contact with students of business disciplines to address emerging practices in the business world.

Sustainability – along with corporate social responsibility – is, today, one of the strongest trends in business internationally.

The four-day proceedings were split between the Aghia Paraskevi and Downtown campuses, with speakers from both industry and academia presenting a range of emerging issues and prevailing business practices.

The speakers at Business Week 2008 were Notis Mitarachi (DC’95), Director of Research, Fidelity Investments International, UK; Nikos Avlonas, General Director, Centre for Sustainability and Excellence; Alexis Komselis, Special Projects Supervisor, DRM Stylianou; Rudolf Hänssler, former Executive Director of the Office of Operations of The American College of Greece; Dr. Pavlos Dimitratos, Professor of International Business, Athens University of Economics and Business; George Saliaris Fasseas, Managing Director, OgilvyOne Worldwide, Athens; Pantelis Vogiatzis, Project Manager, Institutions and Regulations, Endesa Hellas SA; Mariza Melliou, Head of Methodology Standardization and Training Subdivision, Internal Audit, National Bank of Greece; Dr. Thanos Stubos, Head of the Environmental Research Laboratory at the NCSR Demokritos; Isidoros Tiano, owner of F.L. Clover; George Vassilaras, Operations and Quality Director, FoodService and Entertainment Division, Vivartia SA; Dimitrios Michopoulos, Corporate Affairs Director, Vodafone Greece; John Kavlieros, After-Sales Manager, BMW Hellas; George Drakopoulos, General Manager, Association of Greek Tourism Enterprises; Rena Koumantou, Vice Chairman, Greek Network for Corporate Social Responsibility; Michael Vastardis, General Manager of Park Hotel, Athens, and Dr. Dorothy Racho-vides, former research fellow at the Digital World Research Centre of the University of Surrey, UK.

The opening remarks were delivered by Professor Lila Mordochae, associate dean of the School of Business Administration at Deree College.

Professor Evgenia (Jenny) Vagianou, who teaches Information Technology at Deree College, coordinated Business Week 2008.
Let the games begin! No, this was not the Olympics, but rather the 2nd International Sports Festival, hosted by The American College of Greece at its Aghia Paraskevi campus last March 20-22.

Over 600 student athletes came together to compete in men’s and women’s basketball, volleyball, soccer, tennis, table tennis and swimming. These young men and women came from Egypt, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirates and Greece, and represented eight international educational institutions.

In addition to the intense competition on display in over 60 team games and 49 individual matches, students had a chance to mix socially at the Festival Greek Night activities. There, participants were treated to a super performance by the Deree Oriental Dance class, in addition to the rich buffet of Greek specialties.

As usual, the Deree and Junior College teams fared well in competition. The Junior College basketball team took first place in an exciting final against the Lebanese American University that ended 101-93.

After going undefeated in qualifying soccer competition, the Deree team lost a heartbreaker to the American University of Sharjah, 1-0. Although the team was distraught after the game, the players took solace in the complimentary comments from other schools on their superb play throughout the festival.

There was also a second-place finish from the Deree men’s volleyball team, which came within a point of taking the championship in the final set against the American University of Beirut. Deree women finished second in volleyball and basketball.

At the awards ceremony, schools were presented team trophies and individual medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. A special presentation was made in the 1st International Hall of Fame category. Two students from each school were recognized for their athletic excellence and sportsmanship.

The hall-of-famers were:

- **Omar Banakat and Salma Kassem** (American University in Cairo)
- **Ramo Osman and Shada Nasr** (American University of Beirut)
- **Tarek Mahmoud and Dima Smaira** (Lebanese American University-Beirut)
- **Rachad Mikati and Chrystel Jalkh** (Lebanese American University-Byblos)
- **Fares Bakir and Magda Samouil** (American College of Thessaloniki)
- **Hani Hlayhel and Rajaa Chatah** (University of Balamand)
- **Mohammed Ismail and Reem Ghaleb Khalayli** (American University of Sharjah)
- **Christina Vasiliadou and Antonis Antonopoulos** (The American College of Greece)

**4 Countries, 8 Schools, 600 Athletes**

Top: Athletes from the Lebanese American University (left) and the American University of Cairo (right). Left: The Deree soccer team (in blue) plays against the American University of Sharjah.
Swimming and Water Polo Teams

Swim and water polo teams are basic to most aquatics programs. Now these exciting and demanding sports have become part of the Deree College intercollegiate athletic program.

Under the watchful eye of coach Troy Marthinsen, College swimmers are put through a rigorous two-hour workout, twice a week for each team. Students are learning techniques, skills and strategies that coach Marthinsen has taught for many years as an assistant head coach at the University of Alabama.

The College swim and water polo teams have an excellent opportunity to capitalize on the ACG’s world class aquatics facilities. The swimmers’ goals are to improve individually while enjoying the team experience.

Wellness Experience 2008

Did you know that laughter stimulates the immune system and makes the heart stronger? Perhaps you are interested in finding out more about how to better cope with migraines or stress headaches. Or maybe you are curious about the benefits of using natural products and alternative therapies.

Members of the Deree College community had the chance to speak to professionals in the fields of healthcare, nutrition, beauty, fitness, environment, safety and natural products at the Wellness Experience organized in May by the Wellness Center under the direction of Christina Drakonakis. The exhibition featured 29 stations where exhibitors provided free health and beauty check-ups and advice, product demonstrations, informative handouts and free samples of their products. Below is a list of the stations that participants could visit.

Natural Products. Visitors to this section learned how to recognize certified quality products, including organic foods. They were also able to taste organic honeys and received free samples of natural skin care products.

Health. Two computerized questionnaires helped visitors determine their level of health, while people who suffer from headaches had access to information that might be relevant to their condition. Booths addressing the issues of stress, substance abuse, learning disabilities, and AIDS drew many participants. There were also health screening booths that tested hearing, blood pressure, blood cholesterol and blood sugar.

Nutrition. The several healthy-eating stations were a favorite not only for the valuable information that was available, but also for the health foods and drinks that were handed out.

Safety. With the help of the Aghia Paraskevi police, students learned about the dangers of drinking and driving. Another station demonstrated first aid and CPR techniques.

Environment. The Wellness Experience also covered the environment in which we live and work. The documentary Planet Earth was shown and handouts on composting and forest fires were distributed.

Fitness. Physical education class demonstrations showed the numerous avenues available to students who want to exercise. Athletic wear was also on display at the fitness booth.

Beauty – skin-type diagnoses and appropriate products for different skin types were indicated. Free skin care samples were handed out to visitors.

Visitors walked away armed with bags full of free samples, information leaflets and the knowledge that wellness encompasses a wide range of disciplines all interacting with one another and all affecting how we experience life. Wellness is a lifestyle choice we make each time we sit down to eat, exercise and choose the environment in which we live, work and play. Wellness is also influenced by the choices we make about destructive habits and how we deal with challenges in life. Healthy lifestyles can be practiced by anyone who decides to make the commitment.

Part of the message of the Wellness Experience is the increase awareness about alcohol (top), tobacco (above), and other substance abuse.
Athletics

Exercise Classes for Faculty and Staff

The health of an organization’s workforce is a paramount consideration for decision-makers. Workers who exercise regularly benefit in terms of reduced stress, increased productivity and enhanced energy.

With this in mind, the Office of Athletics offers ACG faculty and staff an opportunity to participate in credit and non-credit physical education classes. The courses run the gamut of physical requirements, ranging from low-intensity yoga to high-intensity cardio hip hop.

The Office of Athletics has also initiated a new exercise class called Abs, Glutes and Legs for faculty and staff. The class operates separately from the office’s other offerings in that it is exclusively for faculty and staff and takes place during non-working hours. These two characteristics have been important motivating factors in increasing faculty and staff participation.

The Office of Athletics welcomes their participation because it contributes not only to their well-being, but also to the well-being of the College.

Body Pump Class

For those of you who think that lifting weights is for big, muscular men, ask women taking Andromachi Katsafadou’s Body Pump class.

Three times a week, participants in the class experience a total body workout, going through a series of exercises with light weights. A pleasant musical backdrop facilitates the workout by helping to create an environment different from the normal clanking of weights associated with weight-lifting.

By following the basic exercise principle of overload, participants increase bone density, improve posture, firm and strengthen muscles, and enhance cardiovascular fitness.

Fun in the Sun

July 25 was the kind of beautiful summer day that many people take advantage of to enjoy the beach. Things were no different for thirty-two Deree students on that day.

But it was not the balmy weather that attracted these students to Schinias beach. It was the ever popular annual intramural beach volleyball tournament. For five hours students played the demanding sport to determine winners in the men’s and co-ed competitions. In between matches, the exhausted players had the chance to rejuvenate themselves with a dip in the refreshing waters of the Aegean.
Do you want the opportunity to...

☑ expand your Professional Network?
☑ give your résumé to over 100 top employers, all at once?
☑ interview with at least 20 different companies with available positions in just one day?

If you answered “YES!” to any of the above, submit your résumé by DECEMBER 15, 2008 to careerevents@acgmail.gr and take part in Career Forum 2009!

CAREER FORUM
One week... unlimited opportunities!

March 30 – April 2, 2009

Organized by the Office of Career Services - Tel: 210 600 9800 exts. 1314, 1313 & 1311

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF GREECE
What is the best way to land a good job?
Diligent networking, most experts will tell you.

Networking: the new, old way to get a job. Anyone you ask who is in the know will tell you that, for over a decade now, networking has been considered the best way to get ahead in your career. Human resources professionals refer to networking as the best way to make your career grow. Networking will get you the buzz on new job offers. Networking will help you make the right acquaintances. Networking will open doors that otherwise would remain closed – or even unknown.

"Network" is today's job-seekers' mantra.

According to Webster's Dictionary, a network, as applied to human beings, is a group or system of interconnected or cooperating individuals. A good interpretation of this would be that networking is the use of this group or system to achieve a desired result. In our case, that would be securing a new position. But how do you identify who is part of your group or system of interconnected or cooperating individuals?

The fact is, everyone you have ever met is part of your network. Your active network comprises any contact that could lead you to an intriguing job opening, a way to advance your career, or even other valuable contacts. Don’t forget, though, you are also part of your contacts’ networks. To make your network stronger, you must be a valuable member of your contacts’ networks, too, by offering your help whenever they need it; recommend someone you know they could add to their active network or give them an insight they will find useful. Remember: one hand washes the other. Offer support to gain support.

The following groups of individuals could prove valuable members of your network:

Business associates. Just because you have left one place of employment for another doesn’t mean you can’t maintain your contacts; stay in touch to stay informed about what is moving in the market.

Professional associations. Don’t join just to have your name show up on the roster; actively participate to make other members – who are also professionals in
your field, and as such, possibly future colleagues, employers or even employees – notice you.

**Family and friends.** This group can open doors you never thought possible. They know you well and are willing to help you out. But be careful! Having them in your active network doesn’t mean you can demand a position from them based on your relationship. They can help you make the right contact, forward your resume to the right person, or tip you off about great opportunities they’ve heard about, but you will have to land the job on your own merits. Always keep your friends and family up to date on your career aspirations and goals.

**Professors/Instructors.** Whether past or present, your professors were – and in most cases probably still are – active professionals in the field in which you are interested in establishing a career.

**Fellow Alumni.** High school or college friends from the past are present and future colleagues. There are over 33,000 alumni of The American College of Greece, quite a network in itself.

**College Career Office.** Just think, its network is almost entirely staffed by human resources officers that want to hire someone. Is there a better network to be part of when looking for a job?

To become part of the ACG Office of Career Services network is easy: contact us to develop a targeted resume, sign up for Placement Services, and make a point of participating in the largest annual networking event for Deree College seniors and alumni, the Deree College Career Forum.

Once you have registered for placement and networking opportunities, remember to be an active member of the network and maintain contact with the Office of Career Services, updating them regarding your career goals and current employment status.

Networking will get you working if you

- build your network
- keep the people in your network updated on your career progress
- stay actively involved with your network.

And remember: every time you interact with members of your network, you could be interviewing for a job. ♦

*Ms. Laiou, is Coordinator of Career Events at the ACG Office of Career Services*

For more information and details on how to participate in ACG career networking events and placement programs, contact the Office of Career Services at 210 600 9800, ext 1311, 1313 and 1314, from 8:00 to 17:30, Monday through Friday, or by e-mail at career@acg.edu
For years, the American College of Greece has been one of the brightest spots in the cultural life of Athens. Arguably, no other venue in the Greek capital, and most likely in all of Greece, stages the quantity and variety of quality events seen at the College. The year that is about to expire, 2008, was no different. Concerts, theater, musicals, opera, movies, and book presentations made for a lively series.

Just as important as performances by well-established artists, some of them ACG alumni, were several performances by Dereec College students and faculty, which turned out to be clear demonstrations of the quality of cultural talent that exists within the College itself.

Performances like *Laughing Through Our Tears*, a compilation of excerpts from contemporary Broadway musicals performed by the musical theatre performance class under the direction of faculty members Efi Minakoulis and Cindi Trent; Thornton Wilder’s *The Skin of Our Teeth*, performed by students under the direction of faculty member actor/director Philippos Sofianos; or *Chrysothemis*, a musical written and composed by Olga Emmanuel with choreography by Cindi Trent, surprised audiences with the skill and professionalism of ACG’s own artists.

They complemented top notch performances by musicians like Dimitris Toufexis, Tatiana Papageorgiou and Christine Tokatlian, all members of the Deree faculty, actors Spyros Fokas and Mary Vidal, and dozens of others, whose talents made for an interesting cultural year.
Opposite page, from top: Christine Tokatlian and Titos Gouvelis present a piano duo concert; Natalia Miroshnikova performs with her son Christopher Miroshnikov; a scene from Laughing Through Our Tears. This page from top: a scene from Thornton Wilder’s The Skin of Our Teeth; Kinithras Chorotheama performs Maria Salliani’s Tziz Neoplasmatic Hysterias; Pierce alumna Mary Vidalis with Spyros Fokas in Lorca’s Dona Rosita.
A Young Woman’s Story Sung

Olga Emmanuel had been nursing a nearly secret passion for music and the theater. Some of her colleagues had suspected something, given her regular membership in the College’s choir or her dedication to her studies as an undergraduate at Deree College. But no one had actual proof of her commitment – let alone her talent – until last May when her bittersweet musical Chryssothemis was performed at the Pierce College Theater. That same evening, Emmanuel presented for the first time the CD with the play’s music.

The show’s songs told the story of a young woman, Chryssothemis, following her on her journey from childhood to adolescence to adulthood. Emmanuel said that the story had been built around songs she had written over a period of more than twenty years, and had been inspired by events similar to those portrayed on stage. Chryssothemis was the name she had given randomly to a little girl she wrote a song for in 1994, while the last song was based on a poem she had written as far back as 1969. “Two hearts electrified in a train” was part of a poetry collection published by her uncle, Caesar Emmanuel, in 1929.

The four lead singers (Rosa Poulimenou, Vangelis Maniatis, Sofia Kapetanakou, and Vangelis Angelakis), all professionals of the classical repertoire, sang and acted admirably. Myrto Beri as young Chryssothemis gave sweet performance, while her sister Nefeli appeared as a convincing flower girl in “Monastiraki.” Deree College graduates Anthy Viachogianni, Danae Karakosta and Victoria Colusian, and students Elena Moschaki, Manos Petropoulos and Michelle Rush participated as extras along with Theodoros Mandazelis and Stefanos Economou, students of the Veaki School of Drama. Maria Kokka of the ACG choir also participated and impressed everyone with her non-amplified voice.

The direction, choreography and stage and light design were the work of Cindi Trent, who has been part of the Deree dance program for more than twenty years. Nikos Sanios, who did the orchestration for all songs, and sang both “mother” and “son” in the startling rap “I’m fed up,” monitored the sound, and played live between songs during scene changes.

The video clips were filmed and edited by Professor Nikos Falagas and students Alexis Kypridimos, Barbara Manana, Elias Syrakis and Olga Stefanidou, of his CN 4645 class.

Emmanuel is set to retire from ACG in January 2009 to devote her time and energies to composing and writing. In addition to music, she has written three books, poetry and a libretto for an opera. Chryssothemis was distributed to record stores by Music Post in October.

US band brings jazz sounds to campus

Twenty-three young American musicians aged between 19 and 25, all members of the Gettysburg College Jazz Ensemble, performed jazz classics on the College lawn on a balmy afternoon last May. They were led by music professor Buzz Jones, who founded the band over 25 years ago, and who still leads it as it tours frequently in the United States and Europe. Many of the orchestra members do not even study music. They join this unique ensemble out of sheer passion for the big band jazz sound. Such attachment to music on the part of non-music majors is a characteristic “byproduct” of a liberal arts education at an institution such as Pennsylvania’s Gettysburg College, according to Jones.

The band performed pieces by Duke Ellington, David Mann, Lester Young, Fats Waller, Dave Brubeck and other greats.

The audience made up of students, faculty and staff of The American College of Greece duly appreciated the midday concert, a welcome diversion in an ordinary working afternoon.
Faculty notes

Eugene Ralph Aldous
Professor II, Management
Attended, by invitation, the 20th anniversary of the Oxford Round Table held at The Queen’s College, Oxford, England in August 2008. The Round Table discussions focused on trade liberalization and its consequences for human rights. He served as discussion leader for the papers “Fairer Trade and the Human Right to Development” and “Media and Technology: Towards a Monoculture.”

Ioannis Anastassakis
Instructor, Music
Published, in English, the book The Art of Tremolo, Mel Bay Publications, 2008. This comprehensive dissertation presents an exhaustive analysis of the different tremolo patterns and examines and outlines the diverse variations of the tremolo technique as evidenced in the evolution of the Classical and Flamenco guitar.

Directed and organized the 1st Greek Guitar Power Electric Guitar Festival of Larissa, held at the Art Stage Theater, Larissa, May 10-11, 2008.

Directed and organized the 1st Athens Electric Guitar Festival, at the Mantzaros Conservatory, March 1-2, 2008.


Published the article “Greek Axe Attacks, Part 2” in Rock Hard, vol.2, issue 4, 2008.

Published the article “Greek Axe Attacks, Part 3” in Rock Hard, vol.2, issue 5, 2008.

Made the presentation “Elaborate Paths of Continuous Instrumental Improvement for the Resolute Electric Guitarist” at the 1st Athens Electric Guitar Festival, at the Mantzaros Conservatory, March 1-2, 2008.

Made the presentation “Contemporary Electric Guitar: The Evolution of Art vs. Technique” at the 1st Greek Guitar Power Electric Guitar Festival of Larissa, held at the Art Stage Theater, Larissa, May 10-11, 2008.

Attended the “Musikmesse 2008” conference, held in Frankfurt, Germany, March, 2008.

Attended the “Muzart 2008” conference, held in Athens, April, 2008.

Evagelia Andreadou-Samara
Preceptor, Sociology
Presented the paper “Socioeconomic Determinants of Common Mental Disorders,” based on her research leading to a Ph.D., at the Faculty Research Seminar, held at the American College of Greece, February 25, 2008.

Attended the international conference organized by the Hellenic Sociological Society and the Sociology Department of Panteion University, entitled “The contemporary relevance of Max Weber’s work” and held in Athens, May 30-31, 2008.

Nikolaos A. Antivachis, Ph.D.
Adjunct Professor, Management


Co-authored the paper “BPR in Public Organizations or Cultural Transformation: Two Sides of the Same Coin,” presented at the 4th National Conference of the Hellenic Society for Systemic Studies, held in Ioannina, Greece, May 2008. The paper was co-authored by G. Konstantas and V. Angelis and published in the conference proceedings.


Harry Athanassopoulos
Adjunct Preceptor, Management, International Business and Computer Information Services
Was re-elected International Associate Director of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association for 2008-2009.

Participated in the annual AFCEA annual symposium, TechNet-Europe 2007, held in Helsinki and Stockholm in October. ACG business students and alumni also participated in the event. Students have been participating in the event for five years running.

Panos Avramidis, Ph.D.
Visiting Professor I, The Graduate School
Co-authored the paper “Corporate Social Responsibility: Attributions, Loyalty, and the Mediating Role of Trust,” published in the Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science (Impact Factor 2007: 1.18). The paper co-authors were Dere ACG faculty member Pavlos Vlachos, Ph.D., Argiris Tsamakos and Adam Vrechopoulos, Ph.D., of Athens University of Economics and Business.


Andreas Boukas
Professor III, Mathematics


Gave the talk “The *-Lie Algebra of the Renormalized Higher Powers of White Noise (RHPWN)” at the 11th Workshop: Non-Commutative Harmonic Analysis with Applications to Probability, held in Bedlewo, Poland, August 17-23, 2008. The conference was co-sponsored by the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education, the Banach Center (Institute of Mathematics, Polish Academy of Sciences), the Institute of Mathematics of the
University of Wrocław, the Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science of the Wrocław University of Technology, and the Institute of Theoretical Physics and Astrophysics of the University of Gdansk.

Elias Camouzis, Ph.D.
Professor I, Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Chairing a session at the 14th International Conference of Difference Equations and Applications.

Published the following papers in the Journal of Difference Equations and Applications:


Co-authored the paper “A Non-Linear System of difference Equations Linking Mosquitoes, Habitats and Community Interventions” in Communications of Applied Nonlinear Analysis, volume 15. The co-authors were Tamara Awerbuch-Friedlander, Richard Levins, Edward Grove, Gerasimos Ladas and Michaela Predescu.


Iliana Christodoulou-Varotsi, Ph.D.
Adjunct Professor, Business Law


Organized, in her capacity as national expert for Cyprus for the EU-funded project Training and Reporting on European Social Security, a seminar intended for the stakeholders involved in the application of Regulation 1408/71/EC on the coordination of social security systems in the European Union. The seminar was held in Nicosia, Cyprus, July 7, 2008.

Dimitris Doulos, Ph.D.
Professor II, Economics
Co-authored the paper “The Impact of EU Structural Funds on FDI” presented at the 65th International Atlantic Economic Society Conference, held in Warsaw, Poland, April 9-13, 2008. The paper co-author was Odysseus Katsaitis.


Spyros Gangas, Ph.D.
Professor I, Sociology

Despina Gavrilis-Alexandris
Adjunct Preceptor, Marketing

Attended the annual XENIA conference on “Greek Gastronomy as an element of Cultural Legacy and Tourism Development,” held in Athens, November 23, 2007.

Attended the annual SEV conference on “Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Modern World,” held in Athens, January 28, 2008. Bill Gates was the keynote speaker.


Made the presentation “Conceptualizing Relationship Marketing in the Context of the Tourism Industry,” at the Faculty Research Seminar, held at the American College of Greece on March 19, 2008. The presentation was based on a paper co-authored with Dr. Sofia Daskos and published by ATINER in 2007.

Co-authored, in English, the chapter “Conceptualizing Relationship Marketing in the Context of the Tourism Industry” in the book Issues on Tourism Policy, published by ATINER in 2007. The chapter co-author was Dr. Sofia Daskos.

Effie Halivopoulou
Adjunct Preceptor, Visual Arts
Presented a solo exhibition of painting and video entitled “Entropy in Transit” at the ArtBeat Gallery in Brussels, September 20 - October 16, 2008. The exhibition was held under the auspices of the Greek Embassy in Belgium.

Anastasia Houndoumadi, Ph.D.
(Professor III, Psychology) and Lena Pateraki, Ph.D.
Adjunct Professor, Psychology
Co-authored the Dictionary of Psychology, which comprises 7,100 English-Greek and Greek-English terms and descriptions in all
areas of research and application, including coverage of concepts, processes and therapies across all the major sub-disciplines of psychology. The dictionary also includes biographical notes on major psychologists. Published by TOPOS, Athens, Fall 2008.

Evdokia Karayanni, Ph.D.
Professor III, History
Published, in Greek, the historical novel ΛΟΝΤΑΡΙΑ, IAMBOS Publications, May 2008. The novel is set during the times of Macedonian King Philip 2nd, father of Alexander the Great.

Gregory Katsas, Ph.D.
Professor II, Sociology


Attended the 4th Annual International Conference on Migration organized by the Institute for Migration Policy and held in Athens, January 28, 2008. The theme of the conference was “How the State and the Society of Citizens Can Cooperate Successfully for the Integration of Immigrants.”

Was responsible for the 1st International Conference on “Mediterranean Studies” organized by the Athens Institute for Education and Research and held in Athens, March 20-23, 2008.

Headed the scientific committee for the 2nd International Conference on Sociology organized by the Athens Institute for Education and Research and held in Athens, May 12-15, 2008.

Antonis Kliatas, Ph.D.
Professor I, Organization and Management
Won the Highly Commended Award at the Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2008 for his co-authored article “Managing Employee Empowerment in Luxury Hotels in Europe,” published in the International Journal of Service Industry Management, vol. 18, issue 1, 2007. The article co-authors were Dr. Peter T. van den Berg of Tilburg University, The Netherlands, and Dr. Celeste P.M. Wilderom of the University of Twente, The Netherlands).

Sylvia Koutsomitopoulou
Professor II, Management
Attended the EFMD annual conference, hosted by the Norwegian School of Management in Oslo, Norway, June 8-10, 2008. The theme of the conference was “Does Management Education Really Matter?”


Vasilios Lazarou, Ph.D.
Adjunct Professor, CIS
Co-authored and presented the paper “Employing Agents towards Database Applications Testing at the 21st International Conference on Tools with Artificial Intelligence (ICTAI’07), held in Patras, Greece 2007. The paper was co-authored by Spyridon Gardikiotis and published by the IEEE Computer Society Press.


Kostas Levetas, Ph.D.
Preceptor, Management
Received his Ph.D. in management from Panteion University, June 2008. His thesis, “Total Leadership Systems,” focused on developing a self-sufficient and self-adjusting holistic leadership model that ensures balanced performance of a system.

Anastasia Logotheti, Ph.D.
Professor II, English
Chaired two “Training” panels at the European Writing Centers Association Conference 2008, held at the University of Education, Freiburg, Germany, June 19-22, 2008.

Presented the paper “Just the Two of Us: Coordinating Writing Centers across Schools and Campuses” at the European Writing Centers Association Conference 2008.

Presented the paper “Cutting History: The Teacher as Story-telling Martyr in Graham Swift’s Waterland” at the Teacher, an international conference held at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, July 2-4, 2008.

Presented the paper “Desire Tells Stories: The Postmodern Lover in the Recent Fiction of Ian McEwan and Graham Swift” at The Novel and Its Borders, an international conference held at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, July 8-10, 2008.

Helena Maragou, Ph.D.
Professor III, English
Contributed the chapter “Greek ‘Anti-Americanism’ to Political Consequences of Anti-Americanism,” Routledge, August 2008.

Published, in Greek, the paper “American Studies in Greece: Opportunities and Challenges.” The paper was included in a collection of essays published jointly by the Hellenic Association of American Studies and the University of Thessaloniki in 2008.

Presented the paper “Louisa May Alcott and the Nineteenth-Century Cult of Sensation” at the NMLA, held in Buffalo, NY, April 2008.


Anna Moni
Preceptor, Italian
Received her MA in e-learning from the University of Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy, June 2008.

Paraskevi Papadopoulou, Ph.D.
Professor II, Biology

Attended the 59th National Conference of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, held in Athens, December 7-9, 2007.

Attended the 33rd FEBS Congress - 11th

Since 2007, has been receiving research training in Polymerase Chain Reaction, PCR, Reverse Transcriptase, RT, and cancer cell cultures from Dr. G. Voutsinas at Dimokritos Biology Research Institute in Athens.

Dimitra Papazoglou, Ph.D.
Adjunct Professor, English
Presented the paper “Love and Patience: A Reading of Ian McEwan’s On Chelsea Beach” at the Third International IDEA Conference: Studies in English organized by Ege University in Izmir, Turkey, April 16-18, 2008.

Eleni Patra, Ph.D.
Professor II, Management, Business Administration


Ioanna Patsioti-Tsacpoundis, Ph.D.
Professor II, Philosophy


Angeliki Pollali, Ph.D.
Adjunct Professor, Art History


Karolina Siskos
Adjunct Preceptor, Accounting & Finance
Was admitted as a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants on February 29, 2008.

Attended the conference “The Irish Economy Case Study – Background to its Recent Success,” held in Athens, March 31, 2008.

Vassiliki Stephanides
Professor II, Business Administration


Conducted the weekend seminar for educators entitled “Interpersonal and Intrapersonal Communication”, in Limoges, France, May 24-25, 2008.

Emmanuel Varouhas
Professor I, Computer Information Services
Attended the Applied Assessment Seminar organized by AAC SB International in Tampa, Florida, from June 26-28. He was exposed to examples of best practices from within and outside the field of management education.

Dr. Anna Visvizi
Adjunct Professor, International Business and European Affairs
Presented the paper “At the Crossroads of Interdisciplinarity and Specialization in the Socio-Economic Sciences: The Case of the EU studies” at the 40th Anniversary Conference of the Socio-Economic College of the Warsaw School of Economics, held in Warsaw, Poland, October 23-24, 2008. The same paper was published in a series of post-conference publications.

Participated in Halki International Seminars, an event gathering scholars, diplomats and politicians. The theme of this year’s event was “Regional Flashpoints and Transatlantic Policies.” Organized by ELIAMEP, the seminar was held on the island of Halki, Greece, June 25-29, 2008.

P. Vlachos, Ph.D.
Instructor, Business
Co-authored the paper “Corporate Social Responsibility: Attributions, Loyalty, and the Mediating Role of Trust,” published in the Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science (Impact Factor 2007: 1.18). The paper co-authors were Dereck ACG faculty member Panos Avramidis, Ph.D., Argiris Tsmakos and Adam Vrechopoulos, Ph.D., of Athens University of Economics and Business.

Received the Best Paper Award for the co-authored paper “The Moderating Role of Customer-Technology Contact on Attitude towards Technology-based Services,” at the 16th European Conference on Infor-
This past summer I had the opportunity to teach advertising campaigns and media planning to Deree College students as a visiting professor from Queensborough Community College of the City University of New York.

As the past is prelude to the present, my Greek heritage from my ancestral roots in Chios motivated me to teach in Greece so that I could better understand my heritage. Coming from the dynamic mosaic of cultures in New York, I found my experience at ACG, and in Greece itself, unique and inspiring. The beautiful campus and hospitable faculty and staff, both of which are treasured aspects of their hard-working grandparents from Greece, have evolved into an event that I always have my cultural heritage with me, but also consider, from my working and living experience in New York City and Japan, that we live in a shrinking, global, multicultural environment wherein many cultures are to be appreciated and become a part of the fabric of our life. Indeed, it has been reported by Time magazine that my generation and my students’ generation will be more engaged with the world’s many cultures than previous generations, as evidenced by the goods and services we use, the languages we speak, and the ever-growing sense of cultural relativism.

A good example of the intensifying intertwining of nations is the Olympics. The Olympics, invented by the innovative Greeks, have evolved into an event that now involves the participation of virtually the whole world. As America has given opportunities, economic and educational, to my family, whose Greek heritage strengthened their motivation to succeed, I, in turn, reciprocally hope that my teaching in Greece gives my students a greater chance to succeed.

My teaching at ACG has made the wheel come full-circle from the emigration of my hard-working grandparents from Greece to my return to Greece to make a contribution to the ACG community. It was an experience I look forward to repeating.

*Angela Poulakidas is a member of the faculty at Queensborough Community College in Bayside, New York. She taught advertising Campaigns and media planning at Deree College during the summer of 2008.
Employee Empowerment in European Luxury Hotels

By Dr. Antonis Klidas*

This is a summary of an article published in the International Journal of Service Industry Management in January 2007. The article won the Highly Commended Award at the Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2008. Co-authors, along with Dr. Antonis Klidas, were Dr. Peter van den Berg (Tilburg University) and Prof. Dr. Celeste P. M. Wilderom (University of Twente), both from the Netherlands.

Since the 1980s industry and academia have shown growing interest in the notion of employee empowerment. In services and hospitality, empowerment is seen as the notion of devolving decision-making authority and responsibility to frontline employees for control and enhancement of service quality and customer satisfaction during service delivery. Empowerment has become especially important for services and hospitality, where frontline employees need the authority to respond promptly to the individual needs of the increasingly demanding customer in often unpredictable service situations. Such situations typically occur in the upscale sector of the hotel industry, where a highly demanding clientele and high standards of service quality require empowered (frontline) employees.

Empowerment requires employees to engage in discretionary behavior, without referring first to a higher authority, aiming at meeting or exceeding customers’ expectations during routine and especially non-routine service situations. Examples are: bypassing routine procedures or bending the rules to please customers; taking immediate action to resolve customer complaints, even if the complaint is not directly related to their area of responsibility – so-called “complaint ownership”; making financial concessions (e.g., reducing customers’ bills), so as to pacify complaining customers and ensure satisfaction; using creativity and doing “whatever it takes” to please customers, even beyond what is expected of them; and, generally, exercising discretion in their dealings with guests. In short, empowerment reflects the demonstration by employees of independent decision-making, initiative and creativity to enhance customer satisfaction.

In our study, we offered a model for implementing employee empowerment. Specifically, we examined the importance of: (1) training, especially in customer care; (2) the provision of performance-related...

“Employees are more likely to make independent decisions for the benefit of the customer when they perceive the values of their organization as supporting service quality and customer satisfaction.”
rewards, or the extent to which rewards depend on individual performance; (3) the promotion of a customer-oriented organizational culture, that is, a culture oriented towards service quality and customer satisfaction, and (4) management style, specifically the extent to which managers support employees in the exercise of initiative and decision-making. Our model was tested through empirical research carried out among 356 frontline employees of 16 upscale properties of an international hotel chain spread across seven European countries: Italy, England, Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden and Greece.

The results provided support for the contribution of a customer-oriented culture and an empowering management style on employee empowerment. Regarding customer-oriented culture, our results suggest that employees are more likely to make independent decisions for the benefit of the customer when they perceive the values of their organization as supporting service quality and customer satisfaction. The results also underlined the importance of an empowering management style. Specifically, our study confirmed the idea that frontline employees are more likely to exercise discretion and initiative in their interactions with customers when they have the encouragement, support, trust and confidence of their superiors. In addition, such “empowering” behaviors also provide (directly or indirectly) signals to employees about what is valued in the organization and what management expects from them.

Contrary to expectations, no support has been offered for the effect of training. This result indicates that training employees to effectively master the demands of their job tasks is not decisive as to whether the employees will eventually exercise discretion during service delivery. It may be that training is important in enabling employees to engage effectively in independent decisions and actions during service delivery, but whether employees will actually do so depends on other factors. Put another way, when it comes to empowerment our results suggest it is not the well-trained frontline employees who demonstrate discretion and initiative, but the ones that have the backing of their managers and a customer-oriented culture.

Finally, our study did not confirm our expectation that performance-related rewards contribute to employee empowerment. We attribute this result to the absence of incentives targeting frontline employee discretion at the hotels studied. In particular, the available individual performance-related rewards targeted almost entirely “up-selling” (e.g., room nights, liquor) and, hence, would not lead to empowerment.

For services and hospitality this study has highlighted some key interventions that are needed for effective employee empowerment. Regarding the processes studied we recommend:

- Customer-oriented culture: Management should consistently strive to institute a culture strongly oriented to service quality and customer satisfaction. This requires an important strategy for those service and hospitality organizations that strive to build a competitive advantage through the provision of exceptional service quality. In order to effectively implement employee empowerment these organizations need to instill a customer-oriented culture and ensure that their managers “talk the talk” of the empowerment rhetoric.

“Contrary to expectations, training employees to effectively master the demands of their job tasks is not decisive as to whether the employees will eventually exercise discretion during service delivery”

Contrary to expectations, training employees to effectively master the demands of their job tasks is not decisive as to whether the employees will eventually exercise discretion during service delivery. This was not the case in any of the hotels studied.

In conclusion, employee empowerment is an important strategy for those service and hospitality organizations that strive to build a competitive advantage through the provision of exceptional service quality. In order to effectively implement employee empowerment these organizations need to instill a customer-oriented culture and ensure that their managers “talk the talk” of the empowerment rhetoric.

*Dr. Antonis Klidas is a Professor of Organization and Management at the Graduate School of The American College of Greece*
Appointments

The American College of Greece has a well-deserved reputation as one of Greece’s top employers. It offers its employees great opportunities to develop fulfilling careers. The College is also a major employer of its own graduates, with approximately 190 alumni on its staff. Following is a list of new additions to, and promotions in, the College’s administration:

Marika Andreadis was appointed Manager, Business Office, in September 2008. She joined The American College of Greece in 1992, working for the VP for Finance. In 2002, she became Assistant to the Controller. Ms. Andreadis, who was born and raised in New York, holds a BS in Business Administration from Deree College. She is married and has two children.

Matina Apostolopoulou was appointed Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Principal at Pierce College. She holds a BA in Business Management from Leeds Metropolitan University in the U.K. Since her graduation, she has held administrative positions in the private sector at various companies, mostly in the marketing industry. She joined The American College of Greece in October 2006.

Katia Avramidou was appointed Administrative Assistant in September 2008. She joined The American College of Greece in September 1994 and has served in various administrative position since then. In 2007 she moved to the office of the Associate Dean of the School of Business Administration. Avramidou holds an Associate Degree in Executive Secretarial Studies and Training from Deree College. She is married and has two sons.

Nicky Bardani was appointed Payroll Coordinator effective September 1, 2008. Bardani joined The American College of Greece in January 2007. She holds a tychnion with honors in Economics (specialization in operations research and systems analysis) from the Athens University of Economics and Business. During her twelve year career, she has held the positions of financial and personnel manager for a company in the healthcare sector and was a payroll officer for EFG Business Services of the EFG Eurobank Ergasias Group. Bardani is a member of the Economic and Scientific Chamber of Athens.

Vassiliki (Vicky) Bouzi was appointed Executive Coordinator of Admissions effective September 1, 2008. Ms. Bouzi joined The American College of Greece in January 2007 as Coordinator of Undergraduate Admissions at the Downtown Campus. She holds a BS in marketing from Deree College. After her graduation, she held positions in the client services sectors of several companies, mostly in the finance industry. They include foreign exchange dealer, stockbroker, portfolio manager, and subscriptions manager for an international political and financial magazine. Immediately prior to joining ACG, Ms. Bouzi was a client trainer and services executive for Reuters Hellas.

Claudia Carydis Benopoulou (PC ’81, DC ’84) was appointed Executive Director of Communications and Alumni Relations in November 2008. She holds an MA in Int. Relations and Communication from Boston University and a BS in Business Administration from Deree. She joined ACG in 2005 as Exec. Director of Alumni Relations. Previously she had worked in marketing and communications for several companies, including Publicom Hill & Knowlton, NetMed Hellas and City Press, as well as at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Her responsibilities will now include ACG internal and external communications, while still covering the Alumni Relations operation. She is married to Dr. Yiannos Benopoulou and they have two boys, age 10 and 6.

Stavroula (Vivi) Consta was appointed Director of the Student Success Center and the Registrar’s Office in September 2008. Ms. Consta joined The American College of Greece in December 2006. Following her graduation from Pierce College, Ms. Consta earned a BSc in mathematical sciences from Bath University in the United Kingdom and went on to earn an M.Phil. degree in medical statistics from the University of Wales, College of Cardiff. After completing her studies in 1992, she started working in the field of market research as a statistics consultant first for IRI Hellas SA and later for Opinion SA. Before joining ACG she was a data analyst for SPSS BI Greece. Ms. Consta is married and has one child.
Elias Hatzis was appointed Coordinator of Human Resources Administrative Services effective September 1, 2008. Hatzis holds an MA in contemporary European studies from the University of Sussex and a BA in international relations with a minor in Business Administration from Boston University. In February 1997, he completed a Stage with the Directorate General XIX-Budgets of the European Commission. He started working at The American College of Greece in November 1998. In January 2001, he was transferred to the Office of Human Resources, where he has been working since.

Niki Kladakis was appointed Senior Administrative Assistant to the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Born and raised in Canada, Kladakis graduated from the University of Toronto with a BA in psychology, and a minor in sociology. She worked for Bell Canada before moving to Greece in 1993. She joined the College in 1994. She is married and has a daughter.

Maria Kritikou was appointed Admissions Officer in September 2008. She joined The American College of Greece in January 2006, as a member of the staff of the Office of Enrollment Management of the Graduate School. Following her graduation from Deree College with a BA in communications, she held the position of amenities assistant at an Athens 2004 Olympics Project run by Coca-Cola and TUI Hellas Tourist Company, where she was later hired as a personal assistant to the director providing administrative support for the sales and supplier relations departments as well as planning and organizing incentive trips.

Maria Laiou was appointed Executive Coordinator of the Office of Career Services in September 2008. A 1995 Pierce College alumna, Laiou joined the American College of Greece as a staff member of the Office of Career Services in October 2003 and was promoted to Coordinator of Career Events of the same office in September 2006. She received a Bachelor of Arts in communication from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, in 1999.

Dina Paraskevopoulou was appointed Senior Administrative Assistant to the Office of Cultural Affairs effective September 1, 2008. She first joined the staff of The American College of Greece in September 1994 and has worked in Cultural Affairs ever since. She holds an associate degree in office technologies and management from Deree College. She is married with two children.

Hildegard Provata was appointed supervisor of the Pierce College Theater effective September 1, 2008. Ms. Provata was born in Wilhelmshaven, Germany, and moved to Greece in 1980. She joined the College in 1990. She has studied accounting and finance in Germany. She is married to Vassilis Provatas and they have three daughters age 30, 28 and 26.

Katerina Thomas (Ph.D., Professor III, Archaeology and History) was appointed Academic Vice President ad interim, and Dean of Undergraduate Faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences effective April 2, 2008. Dr. Thomas received her Ph.D. in classical archaeology from Brown University, her MA in the same field from Tufts University, and her BA with honors from Brandeis University, all in the United States. She joined The American College of Greece in 1987. She has extensive archaeological experience. Since 2004 she has been collaborating with a Brown University team excavating the Tongobriga site in Portugal.
ACG ALUMNI
WANTED
by the Office of Alumni Relations

DEAD OR ALIVE AND KICKING
Keep us posted about your news and current contact info

Tel.: 210 6009800, ext. 1370, 1380
Fax: 210 6009601
alumni@acgmail.gr, alumni@acg.edu
www.acg.edu

THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF GREECE
It’s (y)our call. (Yes, we can!)

As plans for various alumni events are being finalized I realize that another exciting academic year is upon us. To start with, as you might have already read, the academic year 2008-2009 has been officially named “Presidential Inaugural Year 2008-2009” in celebration of Dr. David G. Horner’s assuming the presidency of The American College of Greece. This is of particular interest to the alumni of this institution, as a number of events will provide you with additional opportunities to return, reconnect and reunitewith fellow alumni and former professors, as well as meet with ACG’s new president.

For years our College has been committed to the advancement of education offered to Greek and international students. Having the chance to meet more and more alumni as time goes by, I cannot help but feel the dynamism and the potential of such a diverse and unique social and professional network which today stretches all over Greece and the world.

Nor can I stress enough the importance of alumni staying connected to our institution and getting more and more engaged with its mission. In fact, the extent of alumni participation and support will determine the extent of the success of our efforts to further advance this institution. I believe I speak on behalf of all of us when I say that advancing education should be considered a most cherished investment for the future of our nation as a whole. And you, our alumni, can help us enhance the opportunities for current and prospective students so that they can experience an education even better than the one we were privileged to get.

So come aboard this most rewarding journey, first by joining us in events like the **cocktail reception for alumni residing in Thessaloniki** on November 21, the **ACG ART Gallery grand opening** on December 3, our **alumni Christmas Party** on December 11th, the **inauguration of our new president** on March 7, and the **ACG Alumni Gala Dinner** in May 2009. Make sure to check our website (www.acg.edu) on a regular basis for more information on dates and venues.

Even more, help us make it all bigger and stronger by making a contribution, either of your time and ideas, or by sponsoring our activities. It will be for the benefit of both our institution and ourselves as alumni! The time is now, and it's our call!

Best regards,

Claudia Carydis (PC’81, DC’84)
Executive Director of Communications and Alumni Relations
ccarydis@acgmail.gr

P.S. The Closing Thoughts column in this issue (page 72), written by our fellow alumnus Demetris Zentos (DC’95), conveys what I think of as “the ACG alumni spirit.” Thank you Demetri for sharing your feelings with us and our fellow classmates!
Dozens of alumni/former athletes reunited for a day full of sports and fun at the 3rd Deree College Sports Homecoming, which took place on September 27 at the Aghia Paraskevi campus.

The homecoming focused on team sports: soccer, basketball and volleyball were on the competition menu, with men participating in soccer and basketball and women in basketball alone. There was also a mixed volleyball game between men and women alumni.

Fired up by the competition and with smiles on their faces from reconnecting with old friends, participants afterward gathered at Goody’s, the College’s cafeteria, and enjoyed a BBQ and refreshments. ACG President Dr. David G. Horner awarded alumni athletes their medals. In his short address Dr. Horner said that he considers it a privilege to have the opportunity to work with the College’s alumni in the future.

“Being part of an intercollegiate team makes you see the contribution it can make in the life of students,” President Horner added. “I’m looking forward to meeting and working with you, our alumni, since you are part of the resources we need to advance the College in the years ahead. Your involvement is very important in the American tradition of education.”

Alumni volunteers Marilena Stravolomou, Aris Fotopoulos, and Alexia Tsalopoulou, as well as DC Ambassadors Oliver Bailey, Christina Tsalopoulou and George Theocharis proved invaluable to the success of the sports homecoming.

Intersport, the large Greek sports equipment retailer, sponsored the T-shirts that were distributed for free to all alumni-participants, while George Vassilaras (DC’92), operations and quality director of Vivartia SA’s Goody’s division, made it possible for the alumni-athletes to use Goody’s for the purposes of the event.

Participating alumni were welcomed by Executive Director Claudia Carydis on behalf of the Offices of Athletics and Alumni Relations and the College’s administration.

The ACG Latin Group, under the direction of Latin dance instructor Maria Nomikou, gave a spicy performance which was cheered by all present.
ACG Alumni: Save the date!
Join us for a Xmas Party

**WHEN:** Thursday December 11, 2008 at 20:30

**WHERE:** Eleven Bar - Restaurant  
Kifissias & Ag. Konstantinou Str.  
Maroussi

**WHAT:** Donation to the ACG Scholarship Fund  
€ 20 per person  
(open bar and finger food included)

Limited space - Buy your tickets now!  
For reservations contact tel.: 210 6009800, ext: 1370, 1380  
email: alumni@acgmail.gr, www.acg.edu

CU @ "Eleven" on the 11th

Office of Alumni Relations: We Stay Connected!
Alumni Services at ACG

In recent years, The American College of Greece, has been expanding its services to its alumni and adding new items to the list. Following is a list of the most important of those services, along with contact information. The College will continue to add new programs that benefit its alumni.

Career Services
Alumni seeking employment or in the process of changing career paths can register with the Placement Services program. They can also submit their resume in order to participate in the annual Career Forum.

In case an alumnus/a is interested in recruiting ACG students or fellow alumni, he or she can post the job position with Placement Services, conduct general recruitment through Career Forum, or highlight career opportunities during a company presentation!

Alumni can also share their experiences in the job market with current students by participating as guest speakers at career-related events.

Those of our alumni who are thinking about pursuing graduate studies can visit Career Services to get advice on the application process.

All career-related services are free of charge. For information contact the Office of Career Services at 210 600 9800/9, Ext. 1311 & 1313 or e-mail career@acg.edu

Library Services
Library services for Deree, Junior, and Graduate School alumni differ from those for Pierce alumni. Deree/Junior/Graduate School alumni have access to the Deree and Downtown libraries and services for an annual fee of only €30. Those registered for the program have full access to the print and electronic resources at both libraries and can borrow up to two books for a period of one week. Photocopy services are also available for a fee. The printing of documents is free of charge.

Pierce alumni have access to the Pierce Library only; the membership fee is also €30. Those registered have full access to that library’s print and electronic resources and can borrow up to two books for a period of one week. Printing of documents is free of charge and photocopy services are available for a fee.

For information contact 210-6009800, ext 1348, or e-mail library@acg.edu

Learning Difficulties Services
The Hallowell Diagnostic and Counseling Center for Learning Difficulties offers assessment and treatment to young people and adults. For more information regarding help for conditions such as dyslexia, attention deficit, and performance anxiety. For information contact the Center at 210-6009800, ext. 1030 or e-mail: hallowell@acgmail.gr

Chapel Services
The College’s idyllic Byzantine-style chapel of the Three Hierarchs is open to alumni for the conduct of marriages and baptisms. For information contact the Office of Public Affairs at 210-6009800/9, ext. 1109.

Alumni Center in Plaka
The beautiful neoclassical building that The American College of Greece owns on 17B Ipirou Street, in Plaka, can be used to host selected alumni events and also serves as a downtown daily meeting place for our alumni from any of the four divisions who wish to visit it. The Center’s regular operating hours are Mon.-Fri. 9:00 – 17:00. For information contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 210-6009800/9, ext. 1370 or e-mail: alumni@acgmail.gr

Reunions
The Office of Alumni Relations regularly organizes reunions, as well as sports homecomings, receptions, exhibitions, presentations of books by alumni and other events for ACG graduates. In order to be notified of such events, alumni must update their records in the alumni database by contacting the Office of Alumni Relations at 210-6009800/9, ext. 1370 or e-mail: alumni@acgmail.gr

Transcripts, Degrees
Alumni who need a copy of their transcript or a certified copy of their degree may contact the Student Success Center at 210-6009800-9, ext. 1326, 1333, 1334 or e-mail ssc@acg.edu and they will be helped on the spot.
On one of the rainiest days (and nights!) of the whole year, the Office of Alumni Relations welcomed about 300 alumni and former and current faculty members to the Deree College Reunion of the classes ’90-’95, held at the Deree Gym on March 20, 2008.

The event offered alumni from those years an opportunity to visit their alma mater once again, many for the first time since graduation. It also provided them with an opportunity to reconnect with fellow classmates and friends.

The gloomy weather affected turnout but did not dampen the spirits of those that made it. Soon, the gym was full of smiling faces and the joyful sounds of old friends reuniting.

“My perspective as an instructor and a business trainer has helped me realize that Deree College alumni constitute a strong network of people. Wherever I go as a trainer, I always come across a familiar face that will smile and say a friendly ‘hello’ and I will discover a Deree College alumnus or alumna writing his or her own success story,” said Ioanna Konstantinou, (PC ’86, DC ’90), a CIS professor at Deree, during her welcoming remarks.

“Deree College played a paramount role in both my career and my life. I am full of great memories from my years here [...] In this gym we came for orientation and registration, here we shared enthusiasms and big career dreams, and in this gym we graduated,” said Notis Mitarachi (DC ’95), a former president of the student union: “The majority of graduates have moved on to leading universities and prominent positions in the professional world, making us all proud of being Deree graduates [...] As an alumnus I must emphasize how important it is that we remain close and supportive of our alma matter. It is important to ensure that Deree remains a leading college, benefiting more generations of students and – why not? – our own kids too.” Mitarachi was invited as guest speaker and flew to Athens from London just for the occasion.

Executive Vice President Nicholas Jiavaras and Executive Director of Alumni Relations Claudia Carydis welcomed the guests on behalf of the College administration. Special thanks should go to the members of the organizing committee, Ioanna Konstantinou (PC ’86, DC ’90), Despina Gavrili (DC ’94) and Makis Billionis (DC ’95), who worked hard to make the reunion a success.
DC ’90–’95 Reunion

What a great idea to organize this reunion! I was very excited to be back to DePaul campus; to the gym, where I was a cheerleader; spent lots of time here in the past. It has been a fantastic occasion to meet with my old friends. Thank you for inviting me. Looking forward to the next reunion.

Renee Popovich

[Note: The text above is from a handwritten note and includes a signature that reads “Renee Popovich (note student)”.]
Familiar faces with smiles reminding us of memorable times at school. It’s great being back in school!

Marios Vassilakis
DC ’91

Same faces, some more worn yet the smiles never fade.

Hania Andrew
DC 1994

I feel very happy back here again. Everything looks the same but nothing is the same.

Halee Swanson
DC 1993
Alumni

Henkel Gives Deree Students Real World Experience

The spring 2008 semester marked the second time that Deree College students had the opportunity to work on real world problems courtesy of Henkel Hellas, the Greek subsidiary of the German home products giant. Students of the IMC class of Professor Stephanos Lianos met with the Marketing Director of Henkel Laundry & Home Care, Konstantinos Bersos (DC ’83), and worked on a brief delivered by Henkel both at the Aghia Paraskevi and the Downtown campuses. The brief focused on the recent launch of Dixan Active Ashes laundry detergent.

The students worked on the project until the end of the spring semester and presented the results of their labor at the Agia Paraskevi auditorium. Junior College Dean Kathleen Rys, Professor Stephanos Lianos and Mr. Bersos were present to evaluate the group assignments, which were all judged as very competitive. The project provided students with a great opportunity to work on a real case study, since Dixan Active Ashes had been previously rolled out successfully in the Greek market.

The successful cooperation between Deree College and Henkel Hellas is continuing during the fall 2008 semester with a new project on a different Henkel brand. ♦

Breakfast Meeting in Plaka

About 20 DC alumnae met at the Alumni Center in Plaka last February for an informal get-together over breakfast. It was the first meeting of its kind, organized by the Office of Alumni Relations for a small group of women graduates of the College, for networking purposes. The guest list included professionals from a wide range of sectors in business and the arts. Associate Associate Dean Lila Mordohae (PC ’69, DC ’73) of the School of Business Administration addressed the gathering and opened it up for a lively discussion touching upon a variety of topics. Professor Sylvia Koutsomitopoulou (PC ’66, DC ’70), who heads the Management Department, Vice President for Human Resources and Executive Director ad interim of Administrative Support Services at ACG Iliana Lazana (DC ’91), and Sophia Leoussis (DC ’78), general secretary of the Alumni Association, were among the participants. ♦
Searching for the Talented Writer in You

Alumnus Yorgos Kasfikis (DC ’04) returns to campus as an instructor at the School of Continuing and Professional Studies

By Zinovia-Christina Liapi*

Assembled and responsible both in my professional and my private life.

After studying psychology at Deree and working for several non-profit organisations, Kasfikis turned his attention to another part of himself: his need to write, a need he had been nursing since he was 14 years old.

“I started off by writing poetry and lyrics during mathematics class in high school,” he said. “Later, at Deree, I wanted to be a writer and have psychology as my hobby, not the other way around.”

So he changed course, and studied for a master’s degree in scriptwriting at London Goldsmiths University, from where he graduated with distinction. With no less than the iconic film director Pedro Almodóvar – one of his idols – as his inspiration, Kasfikis decided to become a professional scriptwriter. He saw scriptwriting as the ideal vehicle for his twin loves, writing and psychology, and as a way to contribute to the art of filmmaking, which he loves.

The art of writing can be taught

When not writing scripts for movies or music videos, Kasfikis teaches seminars like “Psychology for scriptwriters,” “Movies and mental illness,” “Script editing I & II,” and “Creative writing workshop” at ACG’s School of Professional and Continuing Studies. Many of the topics he engages have never been taught in Greece or even in Europe. Kasfikis finds SCPS an ideal place to develop such innovative approaches, a place adventurous enough to give a seemingly odd idea a chance to prove itself. He credits SCPS Director Vicky Vassilakou-Lambrou with giving him the opportunity to experiment with his own courses.

Kasfikis mystifies his scriptwriting students by using examples from personalities as diverse as Aristotle, Linda Aronson, Charlie Kaufman and Alan Ball.

“Psychology helps to create a script that works,” he told ACG Magazine. “To make a story come alive, the writer must understand human behavior.” With the help of psychology a writer will learn to create convincing motivation, believable identity development, and archetypes that produce authentic screen moments. Through films a person can comprehend psychology. “Nothing conveys information or evokes emotion quite as clearly as our sense of vision,” Kasfikis insisted. “As a consequence, films are a powerful medium to understand psychology. A person can both enjoy a film and learn about psychological phenomena.”

In contrast to poetry, writing can be taught, Kasfikis said, but added that there are no “easy shortcuts to glory. “Hard work is equally essential to talent,” he said. “Many distinguished writers have come from the ranks of the hard-working.” In the case of scriptwriting, which is by nature the most scientific form of writing, hard work and attention to detail are even more essential. “The slightest misstep lets the movie go astray,” Kasfikis added.

His class rosters comprise a varied group of people from all walks of life: communications graduates who want to turn to scriptwriting, people who try to discover the depth of their talent and their commitment to writing, or even people who just want to spend an afternoon doing something creative. But time and again great surprises have come from where he least expected them. “There are students I am particularly proud of,” Kasfikis concluded. People like the Deree communications graduate who, after completing all Kasfikis’ classes, is continuing her studies at the Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute in Los Angeles.

*Zinovia-Christina Liapi works for the Office of Communications and Alumni Relations of The American College of Greece (zcliapi@acgmail.gr)
During the summer and fall of 2008, Deree College continued its Success Stories advertising campaign, with rounds five and six of the very successful series, proudly featuring another 32 Deree College alumni who have distinguished themselves in a variety of careers. The campaign has proved to be an excellent testimony to the quality education offered at The American College of Greece while increasing public awareness about the diversity of programs offered at Deree College.

Following, in alphabetical order, are the alumni who were featured in the two ads. We thank them all for their participation and their continual commitment to and support for their alma mater.

Christos Alexandrou, Singer-Performer-Vocal Coach, Evangelos Antzoulatos, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Associate, Dept. of Brain & Cognitive Sciences-Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Angelyn Balodimas-Bartolomei, Ph.D., Professor of Comparative International Education, School of Education, North Park University, US, Chryssi Douka, Director, KPMG, Eleni Drossou, Marketing & Business Development Manager Flocafé, Vivartia SA, Katerina Gagaki, Communications and Public Relations Director, ANTENNA, Constantinos Gregoriades, Managing Director & Chief Investment Officer, Global Wealth Management, Fotini Geromalidou, Managing Director, Wunderman SA, Athanassios Gyftakis, Director Business Unit Property, Athens International Airport, Haris Karaoulonis, M.A., ECP, Psychologist – Psychotherapist, Partner & Trainer, Greek Biosynthesis Center, Angelos Karayannis, President and CEO, Karayannis Group of Companies, Secretary General, American Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, Michael Katounas, Vice President, Middle east Coverage, Investment Banking, Credit Suisse, Sofia Kouzinopoulou, HR Director, International Engineering, Yahoo-London, Alexandra Manou, Senior Consultant, Achieveglobal, Yolou Mercouris, Group Account Director, LOWE Athens, Sofia Nicolau, Group Manager, Mass Market (IW), Microsoft US, Ismene Pampouca, Tax Technology Europe, BP Hellas SA, Loukia Papadaki, Actress, candidate for Parliament, Athanassios Papadimitriou, Information Technology Director, Creta Farm Group Of Companies, Mariella Patiki, HR Manager, Boutari Wineries SA, Stathis Sahinis, Managing Director, LMG, Leadership Management Group SA, Nestos Sarafoglou, Marketing Manager, Wholesale Banking Marketing & Support Division, EFG Eurobank Ergasias SA, Nikos Sofianos, CEO, Shelman Sofianos Floors SA, Nassos Sopilis, Composer / Producer / DSP lab Studios, Theodore Stathopoulos, Deputy General Manager, Karamella, Total Communication Company, Andreas Syrigos, Group Human Resources & Administration Director, Creta Farm Group of Companies, Christine Thomas, Founder & Director, The Flopsy Bunnies Playgroup, Engligh Nursery and Kindergarten, George Tsopelas, Director, Mc Kinsey & Company, Mary-Irene Triantafyllou, Marketing Director, EMERY WINES, Vicky Varfis, Deputy General Manager, Elounda SA Hotels & Resorts, Manolis Vrontis, General Manager for Sales, Asia, BIC, Miranda Xafa, Alternate Executive Director, International Monetary Fund, Washington D.C.◆
Participate in the 2009 elections for the Alumni Association Board

Join the ACG Alumni Association to ensure a comprehensive representation of alumni interest and help us achieve the Association’s goals.

The Alumni Association elections will take place March 16, 2009. Six new board members (three from Deree College and three from Pierce College) will be elected to the 12-member board by the Association’s General Assembly. Only registered members are eligible to vote or stand as candidates.

To find out how to become a member of the Alumni Association please contact the Alumni Association office:
Tel.: 210 770 7507 (12:00 – 16:00)
Fax: 210 770 2210
E-mail: saake@otenet.gr
3 Kartali St, 115 28 Athens, Greece

Association Promotes Member Networking

On March 14th, 2008, the Alumni Association organized a party for all Deree College alumni at T-Palace of the King George Hotel on the occasion of the 6th Annual Networking Cocktail. The Networking Cocktail aims to bring together Deree alumni, strengthen ties among them, and encourage the exchange of work and business experiences. This year’s event proved a great success thanks to the organizing committee, especially fellow alumnus Terry Marsellos (DC ’01). The event was sponsored by the companies El Petrol, Remax, Red Bull, V. Theodosiou Optika, Skl integrated, and Discobole.

On June 24, a few days after Commencement 2008, the Alumni Association also organized a welcome party at the club Island in Varkiza, for the DC graduating class of 2008 and welcomed new alumni to the ACG alumni family.

Photos from the 6th Annual Networking Cocktail.
Above: (from left) DC ’97 alumni Zeta Tzioti, George Karabelas, and Stamoulis Pavlou
Right: (from left) Vicky Syrigou, Sofia Leoussi, Panagiotis Milopoulos, Zeta Tzioti, Efi Xanthaki, Terry Marsellos, Liana Kallierou, Nancy Milopoulos, Olga Pavlidou
Deree has been a lot more than a College to me. It has been the place where I was first able to study what I really wanted. Three years before the start of my studies, I was struggling to enter a Greek university and, after a huge effort, I succeeded in securing a place at a school I was not interested in. So, instead of spending my life doing something that would make me miserable, I left the Polytechnion and came to Deree to study psychology. I shall never forget my first impressions going up the road to register... the grass, the nice buildings, the clean surroundings, the helpful staff! This definitely seemed to be a very different place from the one I was coming from. Here I found an academic environment that actually valued and rewarded achievement. Instead of me having to struggle in order to learn, the faculty and staff really helped and advised me. The library was way better than the one at the Polytechnion. There was more in store for me, though. The College rewarded me for my high CI with scholarships, which enabled me to work less outside and study with even greater enthusiasm. I also made real friends, partied really hard and had a student life as student life should be! And after a great graduation, I went to Sussex University for postgraduate studies in clinical psychology, only to find that my level of undergraduate studies was at least as good as theirs. Sure we had some things to complain about at Deree, things like overpopulation or class schedules. But above all, Deree provided me with knowledge, a critical mind, confidence in myself and the momentum to move towards my goals. And that is exactly what an academic institution should do for its students. So when, thirteen years after my graduation, I arrived on campus to teach my first seminar at the School of Continuing and Professional Education, it really felt like returning home after some time away.◆

Haris Karaoulanis (DC ‘90)
MA, ECP,
Psychologist-Psychotherapist,
Partner & Trainer,
Greek Biosynthesis Centre

Deree College. One institution, thousands of graduates, each one pursuing a different career. We are all connected, though, by a common bond far greater than common studies and interpersonal relationships. We are connected by a philosophy that defines us as professionals and guides our career development. This is why I strongly believe that my studies at Deree are a valuable asset for me and have contributed mightily to my career. My studies gave me team spirit, and armed me with the ability to work effectively under pressure, to meet deadlines, to set high standards for everyday tasks, to seek multiplicity, to adapt to new things, to develop proactive thinking and to read the business environment correctly. That’s why whenever I have the chance I select new colleagues from among Deree alumni.

Like many of my fellow Deree students, I started my career while still in college. It was a tough and very demanding period for me. But I was rewarded later in my career. I entered the business world quite early and had the chance to work for three companies with a fine reputation in the marketing research sector. Later on, I pursued a masters degree at Leicester University in the UK. Today, I am account director at MRB Hellas, handling major multinational and local accounts. I have the chance to work with the top management of my client companies on very challenging market issues, from product performance and brand positioning to strategic corporate planning, and so far I have gained extensive experience and insight into many fields of social research and communication platforms.◆

Zoe Tritsarolis (DC ‘97)
Account Director
MRB Hellas
Lessons on Leadership and Career Planning

Dr. Venetia Koussia, (DC’85), visited the Aghia Paraskevi campus in May 2008 to speak to students majoring in economics or accounting and finance about “Life & Career Planning” through the perspective of her company, Manpower SA.

Dr. Koussia is the managing director of Manpower and has been with the company for seven years. Members of the Deree College faculty like Professors Annie Triantafyllou and Avraam-Albert Arouh, Junior College Dean Kathleen Rys and Dr. Koussia’s colleagues, Katerina Kyriakopoulou (DC’93), Dimitra Papadopoulou (DC’02) and Maria Edipidi (PC’98, DC’02) also attended the lecture that took place in the Events Hall of the Center for the Arts.

In a brief but insightful presentation, based on the principles that the people of Manpower work with, Dr. Koussia discussed issues like leadership, decision-making, vision and career management in the ever changing world of work. With quotes like “Study what you like to become, not what is needed from you” and “The best leader is a mature person according to Aristotle,” Dr. Koussia urged students to explore themselves and the world around them as much as they can before they decide on their life’s path. “Companies will always look for employees with degrees but companies will always hire the committed ones, the ones that are first and foremost at peace with their own selves,” she concluded.

Alumnae Nadia Georgiou (left) and Efi Cotsapas (far right) met with their former coach, Arthur Christopher and fellow alumnae basketball players Assistant Dean Annie Triantafyllou, and Executive Director Claudia Carydis over lunch during a visit to the Aghia Paraskevi campus on July 2, 2008. It was the first time all four women got together in 24 years.
Alumni Back on Campus

Apostolos Panagiotopoulos (DC '98) came back to campus to visit the Office of Alumni Relations and update us on news from the Facebook “front.” Apostolos was also a member of the soccer team in this year’s Sports Homecoming.

Vasiliki Milios (DC ‘84), dropped by the Office of Alumni Relations in mid-July to reconnect with former classmates currently working at ACG. Ms. Milios’ two children are currently students at Pierce College.

Annita Palimeri (PC ‘85, DC ‘91) visited our office this summer with her two daughters, updating her records and introducing us to the “Global Management Challenge,” a corporate strategy contest addressed to university students and business executives.

Deree College Alumnus lends a hand at ACG performances

Nassos Sopilis graduated from Deree College in 1996 with a BA in music. He holds a piano diploma and a master’s degree in music from the City University of London, including graduate degrees in music technology and composition, and has worked with pianist Dimitri Toufexis and composers Iannis Xenakis, Dr. Simon Emmerson and Dr. Dennis Kam.

Sopilis has been working in the field of music composition and production for the past eight years and has composed music for theater, TV, film, and advertising. He is currently the owner and director of the music production studio DSP Lab. He has worked with writers such as Evgenios Trivizas and Xenia Kalogeropoulou; and directors such as George Michalakopoulos, Thomas Moschopoulos, Angelos Frantzis and Panagiotis Seferidis. In cinema, his music was part of award-winning films by Kimon Tsakiris and Stavros Kaplanidis. Sopilis has also written music for TV shows for ERT, Mega, Alpha and ANTV television as well as for many advertising campaigns for companies like Coca-Cola and Fanta (including the TV spots for the Olympic Games of Athens 2004). His other work includes the music themes for the ceremonies of the Film Festival in Thessaloniki, the Ermis Awards and the Greek National Tourism Organization’s International campaigns.

The young composer’s plans for 2009 include the composition of music for the International Tour of Cirque du Soleil.

Since his graduation, Nassos has kept returning to the ACG campus, helping his alma mater as a volunteer. Since 1997 he has helped in several shows performed at Deree College such as “Jesus Christ Superstar”, “America On Broadway”, “From Hollywood to Broadway”, and “The Last Five Years”, writing all the arrangements and sheet music and conducting the orchestras and casts. He has also assisted maestro and pianist Dimitri Toufexis at several commencements. During his last visit he worked with Deree College dance instructor Cindi Trent in music editing and sound engineering for the musical Laughing Through Our Tears, which was the final examination of the special topic course Musical Theater Performance Skills.

Nassos spent a great deal of time working with the students, guided them along as they learned how to sing and perform with the microphones, perfected the sound production, and supervised the engineer on the sound console for the two dress rehearsals and the performance, giving them the opportunity to see a Deree graduate in his professional realm.

The performance of Laughing Through Our Tears took place at the Pierce College Theater on May 31, 2008. In a letter to the editor, Ms. Trent wrote: “…It is with pleasure and pride that I inform you of my sincere appreciation and gratitude to Nassos Sopilis. I thank him for his sincere interest, professional expertise and hard work during all these years that I have had the honor to collaborate with him during my personal projects. May I also add that he is to be commended for his contributions to other Deree performances and projects, as I am sure Mr. Toufexis and other music area faculty would agree. I applaud Nassos for the loyalty and love he has shown for his alma mater.”
Anthony-Alexander Mouratides (DC ‘98) visited the Office of Alumni Relations early in the summer of 2008 to update his records and inform us that he has established a successful facility management company. “I would like to express my gratitude for the positive influence that The American College of Greece has had on my ventures both professional and personal,” he said.

Eri Kehagia (DC ‘91) visited the Office of Alumni Relations on June 19, 2008, toured the campus and learned about the various programs and new facilities that have made the College such a different place since she graduated. Eri was also one of the alumni who participated in the dinner held at the Yacht Club of Greece where the College announced its Olympian Scholarships Program.

Urging Freshmen On

Orientation Day, on September 4, marked the beginning of 2008 fall semester. President David G. Horner, along with members of the College’s faculty and administration, welcomed freshmen at the packed Pierce College Theater. The guest speaker on the festive occasion was Spiros Mavrogalos (DC ‘91), who spoke to incoming students about the educationally and personally fulfilling voyage they were about to embark on.

“I feel Deree College is like home. Every day I passed here was something new, something different,” he told freshmen. “The choice I made to study here paid off fully and it still gives me a lot of pleasure and satisfaction.” He concluded his speech with a quote from a Harvard University professor: “Focus on ideas; don’t lose sight of how special this time in your life is. It’s a time to learn.”

Shortly after their graduation in July 2008, Emmanouil Papakonstantinou (DC ‘08, management), left, and Dimitrios Papadopoulos (DC ‘08, marketing) were back on the Aghia Paraskevi campus to meet fellow classmates and dropped by the Office of Alumni Relations to update their records, learn about alumni services, and express their interest in joining the Alumni Association.

Professor of Comparative International Education at North Park University in Illinois, Dr. Angelyn Balodimas-Bartolomei (DC ’79), left, and Columbia University Associate Professor of Anthropology, Dr. Neni Panourgia (DC ’81) met for the first time at the Office of Alumni Relations last summer. Their visit to Greece during the summer holidays provided us with a unique opportunity to organize this get-together as well as to reconnect with both of our distinguished alumnae. Dr. Panourgia had been previously featured on the cover of the third issue of the ACG Magazine, while Dr. Balodimas-Bartolomei had been featured in our latest Deree College ad campaign as one of our alumni “Success Stories.” Here, Dr. Balodimas-Bartolomei (left) with Dr. Neni Panourgia (right).
Chryssoula Nikolopoulos (DC ’72) graduated with a BS in business administration in 1972. She pursued a successful career as a supervisor in the purchasing department of two major Greek companies, the Hellenic Chemical Products & Fertilizers Co, member of the Bodosakis Foundation (1972–1995), and Gener SA, the construction company (1995–2005) that the environment ministry and the 2004 Olympic Committee assigned to construct the Canoe-Kayak Rowing Center in Schinias. However, the stressful pursuit of success made her reconsider her career choices and explore alternative, holistic career paths. Four years ago, she turned to alternative healing therapies based on oriental philosophy and the pursuit of knowledge of the inner self. For more information on the seminars she is offering you can visit her website at www.shamballawisdom.gr. In addition, Chryssoula maintains the website www.reikicenter.gr along with her sister. The site covers topics related to philosophy, healing and occultism. You can contact Chryssoula at xnikolo@otenet.gr.

Christos Calogirou (DC ’81) was born in Cyprus. Receiving a BA in business administration in 1981 and an MBA in 1983, he joined www.bestcyprusproperties.com in 1985. An active member of Cypriot society, he has been involved in sports and journalism and with the Red Cross, Round Table, Opera Society and Estate Agents Association committee. Secretary of the Deree College Alumni Association in Cyprus, he is married and the father of two teenagers. He believes that people can achieve a lot without having to sacrifice values and principles, and that the best way to make new, lifelong friendships is through the job we do. He always says, “It is important to be able to look people in the eyes after a business transaction.” Christos can be contacted at chris@bestcyprusproperties.com.

Anna Scarlatou (DC ’81) graduated with a BA and majored in psychology and history. In 1983, at a very young age, she obtained an MBA from Philadelphia University (former PCT&S) in Pennsylvania, with a concentration in

ABBREVIATIONS

DC  Dereese College
JC  Junior College
PC  Pierce College
GS  Graduate School

Class Year is defined as the year of each alumna/us’ commencement ceremony
international management and management of human resources. From 1984 to 1986, she attended the MA program in organizational communication and mass media at the University of Delaware. From 1981 to 1986 she was a member of ACG’s DAR group in the states of Delaware and Pennsylvania. Her outstanding career commenced in 1988, when she came back from the USA and started working as Recruitment and Internal Communication Manager and, later, as Training and Development Director of the Human Resources Division of Citibank. From 1995 to 1997, she was responsible for Strategic Marketing and Sales of Investment Products. In 1997, she joined EFG Eurobank, where she held the position of Head of Selection Training and Development until 2006. It is worth noting that over the years she interviewed and hired many ACG graduates. In 2007, she joined Emporiki Bank as Deputy General Manager responsible for Selection, Training and Development and, in 2008, moved to Emporiki Credicom, where she currently holds the position of Organization and Development Director. Anna is the Vice President of the Greek Chapter of the American Society for Training and Development and teaches organizational communication in the HRM graduate program at the Economic University of Athens. She lives in Athens and likes reading and travelling. She is married and has two children, a daughter studying at Pierce College and a son who has just started his studies at Deree College.

You can reach Anna at scarlatou.a@credicom.gr

George Argyropoulos (DC’85) was married to Lia Klapsidis on May 1, 2008 at the Pantanassa church in Johannesburg, South Africa. George is managing director of Cruises International and a dedicated Deree Alumni Representative (DAR), and Lia is a physiotherapist. They have four daughters, Eleni, Ioanna, Aliki and Stamatina from their previous marriages. The Office of Alumni Relations wishes them all happiness!

1984

Katerina Tsatsaroni (DC’84) graduated with a BS in business administration. In 1990, she obtained an MS in mass communication from Leicester University in the UK. She is currently a Special Consultant to the Deputy Merchant Marine Minister. She is married to Dr Michalis Vlachakis (who has a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Metsovio Politechnio). They have a five-year-old boy named Nassos and live in Voula. You can contact Katerina at kats@hol.gr

1985

Vivian Mitropoulos (DC’85) graduated in 1985 with a BS in computer information systems. During her college years, she was a member of the Friendship International Club and served as President of the Student Council. She holds an MBA from Nottingham Trent University and is Manager of the International Affairs Division of Hellenic Exchanges SA. She lives in Athens with her husband, George Katsoulis, and their two children. You can contact Vivian at v.mitropoulos@helex.gr

1988

Vicky Sela (PC’80, DC’85) graduated from Pierce College in 1980 and obtained a BS in business administration. She is a Team Leader of the Imports Department at the head office of the National Bank of Greece, and lives in Piraeus with her husband Nikitas Zachariou, and their child. You can contact Vicky at vselan62@yahoo.gr or sela.vasiliki@nbg.gr

1990

Maria Margaritis (DC’90) earned a BA in psychology and obtained an MS in applied occupational psychology in 1992 from the University of Wales - College of Cardiff in the UK. In June 2008 she graduated from the interactive psychotherapy
Erie Kechagia

MA course at Middlesex University (in association with the Athens Synthesis Centre). She is the Global Retail Advertising Manager at Shell International and lives in Vrilissia. You can contact Maria at m.margariti@shell.com

Marianna Papadopoulou

(PC ’85, DC’90) graduated from Pierce College and obtained a BS with high distinction in marketing management and management and organisational behaviour. She then received an MBA from Imperial College, University of London. After pursuing a successful career path in various marketing fields at Hasbro Hellas, Elbisco SA (K. Filippou Group) and Katselis & Partners (Marketing Manager of Katselis & Snackers’ Place retail chains), she was recently appointed Marketing Manager of Metro Group (Metro Cash & Carry, My Market). She also lectures on marketing for distance learning MBA programs in the UK. Marianna can be reached at marpap13@gmail.com

1991

Elli Economides-Hadjicosta

(DC ’91) received a BS in marketing management and obtained a general MBA from the Cyprus International Institute of Management in 2005. She currently works at the Central Bank of Cyprus and lives in Nicosia, Cyprus, with her husband Marios Hadjicostas and their child.

Erie (Eleftheria) Kechagia

(DC ’91) earned a BA in psychology and went to obtain an MA in counseling psychology from Keele University in the UK in 1993. She completed the prevention of drug abuse and enhancement of mental health training program of the Erevnitiko Panepistimiako Instituto Psychikis Ygiinis in 1999. She has been running her two private practice offices in Athens (since 1994) and in Livadia-Viotia (since 2000, two days a week) in the fields of counseling psychology, teenage and adult psychotherapy and parenting groups. Erie is keen on traveling, reading, dining, bowling, facebooking and being among good friends. Her website address is www.psychiki-ygeia.gr and she can be reached at erie@ath.forthnet.gr

Her favorite sayings are: “We are happy, but we don’t know it,” “No pain, no gain” and “You learn nothing when you talk.”

Maria Papastratigaki

(DC’91) graduated with a BA in dance. She holds two master’s degrees, an MA in dance movement therapy from City University (Laban Centre for Movement and Dance), obtained in 1995, and an MS in child forensic studies from the University of Leeds, obtained in 2003. She lives in Aghia Paraskevi. You can contact Maria at papastramaria@ath.forthnet.gr

Panagiotis Tsinopoulos

(DC ’91) graduated with a BS in management and organizational behavior. He currently works as a Country Representative for Coltene Whaledent in Switzerland and is married to Natasa Tararaki.

You can contact Panagiotis at ptsinopoulos@yahoo.com

1992

Catherine Demesticha

(DC ’92) graduated with a BS in marketing management. She lives in Vrilissia and is a Branch Manager at the Eleftherios Venizelos Airport branch of Piraeus Bank. You can contact Catherine at demestichaek@piraeusbank.gr

Natalie Tsaldarakis

(DC’92) has just been appointed Coordinator for Higher Education Music at Canterbury College. The appointment, which involves teaching music performance to undergraduates and coordinating all aspects of music performance, also in collaboration with Canterbury University, comes after a successful concert season that included recitals at renowned St-Martin-in-the-Fields and St John’s, Smith Square, with husband and pianist Panayotis Archontides (Deree ‘97), premiers of piano solo works by Greek composers in London, and a guest appearance on Carole Finer’s live radio show Sound Out (Resonance FM 104.4, Southbank, London). Natalie was also a guest speaker at Career Day presentations at University of London’s Royal Holloway and Goldsmith’s College. Natalie graduated in 2007 with her second master’s degree in music from Royal Holloway, where she researched British pianism in the early 20th century under the guidance of such famous musicologists as Nicholas Cook and John Rink. Her research allowed her to interview famous pianists Martino Tirimo, Philip Fowke, Yoni Solomon, the Contiguglia duo and Stephen Hough.

1993

Poppie Alifraghi

(DC ‘93) graduated with a BS in business administration, majoring in marketing management. During her college years, she was a member of the basketball team. In 1997, she completed a post-graduate diploma in...
PR at Stirling University and, in 2001, an MBA in PR at the Ecole Superieure Libre des Sciences Commerciales Appliquees. She is the director of the firm the PR side, and Director of the Mayor’s Office in the municipality of Vyronas, in Attica. She is married to Panagiotis Dimitropoulos and they live in Kareas. You can contact Poppie at popafri@otenet.gr

Constantinos Limnidis (DC ’93) received a BS in computer information systems and marketing and obtained an MBA from Cardiff Business School in 1994. A Marketing Director at Info-Quest SA, Constantinos lives in Paleo Faliro with his wife, Mina Gdisi. You can contact him at costasmina@yahoo.gr

Maria Pigadioti (DC ’94) graduated with a BA in English and was a member of the Karate Club during her college years. In 2005, she obtained an MBA in finance from the University of La Verne in the USA. Maria worked in the area of human resources for Allied Domecq plc and for OTEplus, the consulting arm of the OTE Group of Companies. She is currently a Human Resources Manager at the Piraeus branch of the Royal Bank of Scotland. She is the mother of a young girl and married to Alexandros Anagnostopoulos. They live in Metamorfossi. You can contact Maria at pigadioti@gmail.com

Rania Toutountzakis (DC ’94) graduated with a BA in English literature. She is the owner of the Toutountzaki Rania Foreign Languages School, where she teaches English and French. She lives in Palaio Faliro with her husband Nikos Marmaras and their son. You can contact Rania at toutran@yahoo.gr

1995

Tally Hatzakis (DC ’95) earned a BS in marketing management. She then pursued a brief career in advertising, where she worked as account manager, before continuing her studies abroad. She obtained an MBA with distinction from Aston Business School in the UK, and a Ph.D. in information systems management from Brunel University in the UK. She is currently pursuing a successful academic career with international publications in the field. She is a member of the Academy of Management, the British Computer Society, the European Group of Organizational Studies and the First International Network of Trust. Her expertise on change and IS management has enabled her to act as adviser to organizations within different sectors: retail, transport, banking. You can contact Tally Hatzakis at tally.hatzakis@brunel.ac.uk.

Michael Protolatis (DC ’95) graduated with a BS in accounting and finance. In 1996, he obtained an MS in Management from Boston University. He currently works for Ethnikí AEEGA, NBG Group as a Unit Manager and lives in Pálea Penteli with his wife, Sophia Georgiakakis. You can contact Michael at michael.protolatis@gmail.com

Aristotelis Dimitropoulos (DC ’96) earned a BS in marketing and business administration. He is the Key Account Manager of Nestle Waters Direct Hellas SA, a subsidiary of Nestle (the world’s leading food and bottled water company). Nestle Waters Direct Hellas SA bottles and distributes bottled water directly to customers’ homes and offices. Nestle’s image and reputation for consistently delivering quality is a cornerstone of its success. The international brands of Nestle Waters are familiar on tables throughout the world: Perrier, Vittel, Contrex, S. Pellegrino, Acqua Panna and ΚΟΡΗ. Today, Nestle Waters is a thriving business...
with headquarters in Paris. In 2006, it sold its 72 brands of bottled water worldwide, with CHF 9.6 billion in sales.

Aristotelis lives in Athens with his wife Georgia; they are expecting a baby soon. He loves tennis, soccer and swimming. You can contact Aristotelis at adimitropoulos@aquaspring.gr

Peggy Theodorou (DC’96) graduated with a BS in management and organizational behaviour. She has been working in the banking sector for more than 15 years in various positions in the areas of human resources, quality management and marketing. Since 1999, she has been with Millennium Bank, initially as Human Resources Director, and as Quality Director since 2004. She is married to Dr. George Zoumis. They have two children and live in Markopoulo, just outside of Athens. You can contact Peggy at Peggy.Theodorou@milleniumbank.gr

Peggy Theodorou (DC’96) graduated with a BS in management and organizational behaviour. She has been working in the banking sector for more than 15 years in various positions in the areas of human resources, quality management and marketing. Since 1999, she has been with Millennium Bank, initially as Human Resources Director, and as Quality Director since 2004. She is married to Dr. George Zoumis. They have two children and live in Markopoulo, just outside of Athens. You can contact Peggy at Peggy.Theodorou@milleniumbank.gr

Maria Roussakis (DC ‘97) earned a BA in sociology and worked as a journalist before beginning her career as an award-winning children’s book writer. She has published 12 books in the United States and Greece. She is married to Filippos Villas and they have three children. You can visit her website at: www.mariasbooks.com

Maria Strintzi (DC ‘97) received a BA in psychology in 1997 and then obtained an MS in marriage and family therapy from Northwestern University in Chicago in 2002. She has had her own private practice in Athens since 2004, working with individuals, couples and families dealing with interpersonal problems. She has also worked as a family counselor for children with learning difficulties. Maria recently completed a seminar on creative writing and is keen on pastry making and dancing. You can reach Maria at marstri@otenet.gr

Chrysoula Dali (DC ’98) graduated with a BS in business administration with a concentration in marketing and management. While in college, she was a member of the Marketing Society. She is currently an Investment Executive at Citibank International plc and lives in Thessaloniki with her husband, Ioannis Kolokythas. You can contact Chrysoula at dchryssa@hotmail.com

Constantinos Charalambous (DC ’99) graduated with a BS in marketing and, in 2000, obtained an MS in marketing
from the University of Surrey. He is a Marketing Manager at Mytilinaios SA. He and his wife, alumna Vasiliki Mytilineou, live in Athens. You can contact Constantinos at charalambous@mytilinaios.com

Carolina Geogatou (DC ‘99) received a BA in psychology and obtained an MS in public relations from Stirling University in 2002. She has been pursuing a promising career in the communications field for the past six years. She commenced her career with a two-month internship at the Red Consultancy in London in 2002 and then returned to Greece, where she served as the Head of Alumni Relations at Ziridis Educational Organization (2002-2003). She moved to Civitas in 2004, where she worked as a Project Manager for a year. Carolina has been working for ING Greece since 2005 as Head of Internal and External Communications and ING Renault F1 Manager, and was recently appointed Corporate and Communications Officer at AIG Greece. Dimitris is married to Anna Moukiou (DC’99, AAS Degree in Secretarial Studies), an HR Assistant at Coca Cola Hellas, and they live in Pefki. You can contact Dimitris at dkontogi@gmail.com

Vasiliki Mytilineou (DC ‘99) received a BS in marketing and obtained an MA in marketing communication from Bournemouth University in 2000. She is the General Manager of Mytilinaios SA, and lives in Athens with her husband, alumnus Constantinos Charalambous. You can contact Vasiliki at vmytil@mytilinaios.com

Antonis Antoniou (DC ’00) obtained a BS in accounting and finance and is co-owner of L. Antoniou Home-Made Pastries and lives in Rafina. You can contact Antonis at aantoniou@ath.forthnet.gr

Evangelos Tsilidis (DC ’00) Having graduated from Junior College with the President’s Award for Highest Academic Achievement, Evangelos Tsilidis earned a BS in business administration, with a double major in marketing and management.

The following year, he obtained an MS in information systems and technology from City University in London. After completion of his military obligations, he worked for half a year at Elbisco Commercial SA before moving to Nestle Hellas SA, where he stayed for approximately three years. He is currently working as a Lancia brand manager at Fiat Group Automobiles Hellas SA in Argyroupoli and lives in Kato Patissia. You can contact Angelos at atsilidis@hotmail.com

Antonia Kouka (DC ’01) graduated with a BA in arts and sciences. In 2005, she obtained a PG diploma in humanities from the University of Manchester in the UK, majoring in learning disabilities. She is the co-owner of the K. Fotopoulos – A. Kouka firm. She lives in Neo Iракlio with her three-year-old daughter Areti and is engaged to George Karaboulas. You can contact Antonia at taniakouka@gmail.com

Panos Michalarogiannis (DC ’01) graduated with a BS in business administration. While in college, Panagiotis worked for more than three years for the Office of Student Affairs. He was also a member of the Ambassadors and an active member of the Management Society. In 2003, he obtained an MBA in corporate finance from the University of Leicester. He lives in Athens and is a First 2001

Marina Georgaki (DC ’01) graduated with a BA in business administration, majoring in marketing management. A few months after graduating, she was hired by Yiotis, one of the biggest food companies in Greece. She first worked as a Junior Product Manager and, in 2003, was promoted to Product Manager. She enthusiastically recalls that ACG provided her with the accoutrements to face her every-day job tasks and challenges and to help her start her own medical products company, SANIMED, in September 2005. Marina is keen on dancing, a hobby she started while she was a student at ACG, and is currently learning Flamenco. In July 2008, she got married.

Don’t Forget...

Let us know if a fellow classmate does not receive our magazine. Send us his or her e-mail address at alumni@acg.edu so we can make sure we all Stay Connected!
Business Bank Relationship Manager at the First Business Bank FBB. You can contact Panos at michalarogiannis@yahoo.com

Katerina Psareli (DC ’01) graduated with a BS in business administration, majoring in organizational behavior. She started her career at Ernst & Young SA as a Human Capital Consultant, staying for three years before moving to Adecco SA as a Senior Consultant providing recruitment and outplacement services to clients. She is currently a Recruitment Supervisor at Germanos AVEE. She married Apostolos Kapatos last September and they live in Athens.

You can contact Katerina at katerina.p sareli@gmail.com

Thalia Vouvonikou (DC ’01) received a BA in sociology and obtained an MA in human resources management from the Leeds University Business School in the UK in 2002. She commenced her career the same year in the HR Department of Inform P. Lycos SA, where she was a Recruitment and Development Coordinator. She then moved to the HR Department of First Data International SA in 2005, where she worked as a Human Resources Generalist, as Recruitment and Staffing Supervisor and as an HR Executive (short-term assignment in Frankfurt, Germany). In 2007, she moved to Hellas On Line SA, where she held the post of HR Manager; she is currently an HR Manager at Henkel Hellas SA. Thalia lives in Melissia. You can contact her at tvouvonikou@yahoo.gr

Despina Andrioteli (DC ’02) graduated with a BA in economics and was a member of the Economics Society while in college. She is currently a Financial Analyst at Nestle Hellas SA and lives in Athens. You can contact Despina at d.andrioteli@gmail.com

Elena Dourou (DC ’02) graduated in 2002 with a BA in accounting and finance; she obtained a chartered accountant certificate (ACCA) in 2006, and a certified internal auditor certificate (CIA) in 2002. She is an Internal Audit Manager at Piraeus Bank and lives in Vrilissia with her husband, Dimitris Koulopoulos. You can contact Elena at douroue@piraeusbank.gr

Irene Spentzou (DC ’02) received a BA in English Literature in 2002 and is currently pursuing a second BA in European Cultural Studies at the Hellenic Open University via distant learning. She is also an English teacher at alumna Gogo Kabio tou– Liapi’s foreign languages center in both Inofita and Dilesi, where alumna Georgia Demertzoglou (DC’02) also teaches. Irene is married to Nicholas and they live in Oropos with their daughter Maria and she is expecting her second child. Whenever she has the chance she travels abroad with her husband and experiencing different kinds of cultures. So far she has been to Paris, Prague and London. You may contact Irene at mousounitsa@yahoo.gr

Fond Memories

What stands out in your memory from your years at ACG? Your fellow alumni would like to know. Share favorite stories by submitting them to the Office of Alumni Relations (e-mail: alumni@acg.edu, fax: 210 600 9601).

Please Note

All information contained in the “Class Notes” Section has been obtained either from Alumni Update Forms sent to the Office of Alumni Relations or from publicized reports that are part of the public record. All personal data obtained by the Office of Alumni Relations is kept exclusively for the College’s needs in accordance with the relevant law (N. 2472/1997). Information may be published in publications of The American College of Greece, unless otherwise indicated by the individual. In case of an omission or erroneous information in your individual item in Class Notes, please send us the correct information and we will note it in our next issue.

Life is More than Work

Recently married? Had a child? Just published a book? Were honored for your achievements and contributions? Participated in an African safari or learned how to sail? Got a promotion at work or started a new company? Your fellow alumni would like to know! Fill out our Update Form and send it to the Office of Alumni Relations by e-mail at alumni@acgmail.gr, or by fax at 210 600 9601.
Anna Peleti (JC ’00, DC ’03) graduated from Junior College and went on to Deree College, where she obtained a BA in psychology. From January 2003 to June 2006, she worked as a Student Assistant for the Office of Alumni Relations. In June 2006, she left her job to accompany her husband, Thodoris Kagkas, to Evros, where he had been stationed by the military. Anna and Thodoris have a daughter, who was born on March 27, 2008. (Anna: Congratulations from all of the ACG community on the birth of your daughter and every success in your new full-lifetime time job!)

Antonios Tsatsakis (DC ’03) graduated in 2003 with a BA in economics. He went on to study in Italy, where he obtained an MA in internal economics and management from SDA Bocconi in 2004. He recently became a Deree Alumni Representative (DAR) for Canada. He currently lives and works in Toronto at Nortel Networks, in the field of Global Marketing. You can contact Antonis at atsatsakis@yahoo.ca

Violeta Xanthouli (DC ’03) received a BS in marketing management and international business and, while still a student in January 2002, started working at Grant Thornton Business Consulting as a Marketing Consultant. She stayed there for just under two years, and in November 2003 she moved to Microsoft, where she held the position of Channel Marketing Specialist at the sales department. Her duties involved focusing on to-partner and through-partner marketing as well as on the channel’s readiness to sell Microsoft products and technologies. Since January 2006, she has been working in Microsoft’s Entertainment & Devices division and is responsible for all product marketing activities for the Xbox 360 range of products and for PC Games. Apart from her work, she likes to play basketball, both with the Deree Alumni Team and with colleagues and friends whenever she gets the chance. She is also keen on scuba diving. Her latest endeavor is a distance MBA at Warwick University, which she started pursuing in January 2008. You can contact Violeta at xviolet@hotmail.com

2004

Elena Sbokou (DC ’04) graduated with a BA in art history and continued her studies in the UK, where she obtained an MA in curating contemporary design from Kingston University in 2005. She lives in Athens and is a Design Curator at i4d Ltd, the first 20th century design and decorative arts gallery
in Greece. You can contact Elena at elsenart@gmail.com

Eleftherios Bibakis (DC ‘05) graduated with a BS in business administration, majoring in management and accounting and finance. He is currently pursuing an MS in finance at London School of Economics and Political Science and expects to graduate in June 2009. He lives in London and is an EU Projects Coordinator at the Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Trust. You can contact Lefteris at e.bibakis@lse.ac.uk

Vuk Djukic (DC ’05) graduated with a BS in international business. During his college years, he was a member of the Student Union and a member of the basketball team. He currently lives in Belgrade and works for Sinteza Invest Group as a Financial Analyst. You can contact Vuk at vukdjukic@hotmail.com

Tina Doumani (DC ’05) started working towards an associate degree in applied science in executive secretarial studies in 1998. After completing that degree in 2001, she went on to study at Dereere College, where she majored in international business and European affairs and earned a BS in business administration. She worked in several administrative assistant positions at The American College of Greece until July 2004. Later she became personal assistant to the regional manager of GFK Market Analysis, and now is also personal assistant to the director of the Celebrity International transportation company. She lives in Glyka Nera with her husband, Michael Siamos, a Pierce College classics teacher. You can reach Tina at tinadg19@yahoo.gr

John Hamilos (DC ’93)

Our friend and 1993 Dereere College graduate, John Hamilos, passed away on April 6th 2008, in a tragic accident. His sudden loss has left all of us who knew and loved him in awe. John’s wife, his mother and his younger sister were devastated, especially since his death came so soon after his wedding.

We will always remember John smiling his way through all difficulties, being at the center of fun throughout our student years, and being the serious professional and wonderful colleague he was at Procter & Gamble.

We will always remember you John.

John Nikolaidis (DC ’92)

On behalf of his fellow classmates and colleagues

Catherine Kallergis (PC’ 89, DC ’97)

Our dear friend,
You may have departed for good, yet within us your presence is livelier than ever.

We are fearful because we weren’t given the chance to take you in our arms to say goodbye and remind you how much we loved you and cared for you, yet we hear your voice reverberating in our ears, reminding us that the only reasonable reaction to life’s absurdity is not silent tears but loud, crazy laughter.

Our minds can only make sense of your absence by pronouncing it unfair, yet our hearts know that you have set off on your great journey to a gracious realm that you deserve far more than the plane of gross material existence that you have left behind.

Our whole beings grieve as we won’t be able to share any more precious moments of life-affirming joy with you, yet our sorrow is lessened in the knowledge that in your newfound realm you have surely found abundant joy in the peaceful contemplation of the Creator’s Infinite Artwork.

May your gentle soul ascend to Grace and be nurtured within a Higher Love that is pure and unconditional. May your memory be everlasting in the hearts and minds of those who were fortunate enough to be your friends.

Her friends and fellow classmates

Help Future Leaders

Want to help today’s Dereere College and Pierce College students and future fellow alumni? Volunteer to offer career advice in your area of expertise, and help prepare a new generation of leaders. For more information call the Office of Alumni Relations at 210 600 9800, ext: 1370.

In Memoriam

DC Yearbook ’93

DC Yearbook ’87
OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS: We Stay Connected!
Update Form

Section I - Personal Information

Name - Surname _______________________________ Male ☐ Female ☐
Date of Birth ___________________ Father's name ___________________ Mother's name ___________________
Spouse's Name - Surname _____________________ Is this his/her an alumnus Yes ☐ No ☐
Children: Yes ☐ No ☐ Years of birth: ________________________ ________________________

Section II - College Information

Division: Pierce Upper Division ☐ Pierce ☐ Junior ☐ Derec ☐ Graduate School ☐
Graduation year(s): __________ Degree: __________ Major(s): __________
During your years at ACG were you:
A member of the Ambassadors: Yes ☐ No ☐
An active member of a club/council: Yes ☐ No ☐ If yes, in which one:________________________
A member of an athletic team: Basketball ☐ Volleyball ☐ Soccer ☐ Other: ______________________

Section III - Permanent Address

Street ___________________________________________
City __________________ State ______ Postal Code ______ Country ______
Telephone Number(s) ____________________________ Mobile/Phone ______ E-Mail Address ______

Section IV - Further Education (If any)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>University-Country</th>
<th>Graduation year</th>
<th>Major</th>
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Section V - Work Address (If any)

Company Name ____________________________ Position ____________________________
Street __________________ Number __________________
City __________________ State ______ Postal Code ______ Country ______
Telephone Number(s) ______________________ Fax __________________ E-Mail Address ______

May we use this new information for our Alumni Directory and any future alumni publications? Yes ☐ No ☐

Thank you for helping us keep our records updated
Ημερομηνία ____________________________  Αντρας   □  Γυναίκα □
Ημερομηνία Γέννησης ___________________  Όνομα Πατρός ___________________  Όνομα Μητρός ______
Όνομα Μαθήματος Συζύγου _______________  Είναι και εκλίνου/η απόφοιτος/η  Ναι □  Όχι □
Παιδιά:  Ναι □  Όχι □  Ημερομηνίες Γέννησης ___________________ ___________________

ΠΕΔΙΟ II- ΣΤΟΙΧΕΙΑ ΚΟΛΛΕΓΙΟΥ
Σχολείο:  Pierce Upper Division □  Pierce □  Junior □  Dere □  Graduate School □
Χρονιά Αποφοίτησης: ____________________________  Πτυχίο: ____________________________  Κλάδος: ____________________________
Κατά τη διάρκεια της φοιτητικής σας υπήρξατε:
Μέλος των Ambassadors:  Ναι □  Όχι □
Ενεργό μέλος DC club:  Ναι □  Όχι □  Αν ναι, σε ποιό: ____________________________
Μέλος Αθλητικής Ομάδας:  Μπάσκετ □  Βάλλει □  Ποδόσφαιρο □  Άλλο: ____________________________

ΠΕΔΙΟ III- ΜΟΝΙΜΗ ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΗ
Οδός ____________________________  Αριθμός ____________________________
Περιοχή ____________________________  Νομός ____________________________  Ιθα Κώδικας ____________________________  Χώρα ____________________________
Γραμματόσημο ____________________________  Κινητό ____________________________  E-Mail Address ____________________________

ΠΕΔΙΟ IV- ΜΕΤΕΧΩΠΑΙΕΣΥΗ
Πτυχίο ____________________________  Πανεπιστήμιο-Χώρα ____________________________  Ετος Αποφοίτησης ____________________________  Κλάδος ____________________________

ΠΕΔΙΟ V- ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΣΗ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑΣ (αν υπάρχει)
Επιστημονική Εταιρεία ____________________________  Όνομη ____________________________
Οδός ____________________________  Αριθμός ____________________________
Περιοχή ____________________________  Νομός ____________________________  Ιθα Κώδικας ____________________________  Χώρα ____________________________
Γραμματόσημο ____________________________  Φαξ ____________________________  E-Mail Address ____________________________

Μπορούμε να χρησιμοποιήσουμε αυτές τις πληροφορίες για το Alumni Directory καθώς επίσης και για οποιαδήποτε μελλοντική δημοσίευση στο περιοδικό του Κολλέγιου?  Ναι □  Όχι □

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US KEEP OUR RECORDS UPDATED
Tel. 210 600 9800 ext. 1370 - Fax 210 600 9601 - alumni@acg.edu - www.acg.edu
ACG CONFIDENTIAL...

Questions you always wanted to answer but were never asked!

Your best attribute as a student at Deree?
I cannot decide, either not going to a Greek university or being a member of the women’s basketball team. Difficult choice…

Your favorite course?
Financial Statement Analysis

Your least favorite course?
Anything that had do to with Economics

Your favorite professor?
Professor Mordochae

Your closest buddies at the College?
Katerina, Penny, Ioanna, Rena

A long-term friendship that started during your College years?
Rena

Your most embarrassing moment as a student?
During my first match with the women’s basketball team when playing against members of the faculty I was hit and knocked flat on the floor by one of the professors.

Your most cherished spot on campus?
Any place that had to do with exercise and eating – i.e., the gym and Wendy’s!

Your favorite thing to do in your free time as a student?
This is a very difficult question, hanging around the gym?

The most valuable asset your Dereeducation gave you?
Networking and WBA (not publicly available information)

What do you miss most about College life?
Carefree-ness

What do you regret not having done during your College years?
Nothing, I always did whatever I wanted to do.

If you could change one thing about your time at Dereed, what would it be?
This is so easy: nothing!

Your motto in life?
You can conquer everything with a smile

Marianna Polykrati (DC94), is Group Treasurer of Vivartia S.A. She holds a Master of Science degree in finance from the Boston College Carroll Graduate School of Management. Polykrati is also a member of the Deree alumni basketball team.

ACG Confidential submits randomly selected graduates – men or women, younger or older, from all walks of life – to a standard questionnaire about their experiences at the College and the way the College shaped their course in life. Through these stories and recollections emerges a tableau of common experiences as well as unique individual moments that make the College a special part of each graduate’s life story.
When I first heard the term “Greek-somethings” a couple of years ago from some friends, I found the terminology incredibly witty and to the point. As a Greek-American born in Boston and raised in Athens - a true “Greek-something” - I have been blessed with a dual soul by living in both these beautiful nations. A life of constantly combining different lifestyles, migrating through diverse traditions and of course gaining the best of both countries’ educational systems. Do I regret a moment of this struggle? Not one bit!

Having graduated from Greek public high school, I entered Deree College during the unforgettable 90’s (the yearly “Slave Bazaars” and the “Back to the Beach” Tuesdays on the College lawn will be embedded in my memory forever) and in 1995 I returned to Boston for my postgraduate studies. It was a good time to study in the US. The internet boom and the dot.com era pushed me into an MBA with an IT focus, but it was the banking industry that won me at the start of my career. Retail banking and back office operations gave me the chance to work within financial institutions of a global scale and helped me build a valuable business network that would later assist my return to Greece for work.

Needless to say, Deree was always there by my side! Athletics alumni (Soccer Blue Dogs, I salute you) playing 5x5 on weeknights; fellow alumni with whom I spent long sleepless nights in Boston preparing for those stressful case study deadlines; and even more Deree Alumni cooperating efficiently and helping deliver the most successful post-war Greek project: the Athens Olympic Games!

No contest, Deree has always been there by my side!

When I drew upon my banking operational experience to move into the project management arena and work for the Athens Organising Committee (ATHOC), it was a fellow alumnus who trusted me and introduced me to ATHOC. Moving later to London to work on further integration projects it was once again Deree alumni that made sure to welcome me to this new country. And last but not least, the greatest proof of how our college is everywhere is when in 2003 I married fellow alumna Marianna Skliri. Marianna, has not only been my best companion during these latest international endeavors, but has been another great ambassador of the College by working successfully in the City in an executive position for an American bank that is a global leader in wholesale financial services.

Any doubt? Deree: always there by my side!

Despite my international blood and the bug in my system that excites me when working on international transformation programmes (of, the UK government, a global retail organization, a European banking consortium, and the Dubai government), I think it is very important to keep your roots in mind. Remembering where you come from gives you a solid base that helps you understand what is important in life. It provides you with valuable experience on which you can base crucial decisions, both professional and personal. It differentiates you from colleagues who do not understand what “international” truly means; and it always gives you a reference point when considering where home is – again both professionally and personally.

Especially in this day and age, when we are all living through testing historic events and the financial crisis has cut through international borders as if they never existed, it is more important than ever to understand how interconnected we are, yet how differently each market reacts to this crisis. To realise the personal characteristics that make us unique as individuals yet to be able to comprehend the common threads that connect the global business world, are very challenging activities and important success factors for all young professionals like myself. Thankfully, I believe that one never stops learning these success traits and can constantly develop as a professional and as a human being; And this it something I strive daily to accomplish.

Want to guess where I was taught that from, also...?

* Demetris Zenetos (DC ’95) is senior consultant of PIPC (Global Holding Company Ltd). He is married to Marianna Skliris (DC ’02), an assistant vice president/ client service manager at JP Morgan Chase.
33,000 alumni and growing!