

The logo for United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) features a blue banner with the text "Sharing a Culture of Intellectual Social Responsibility" and a blue ribbon-like shape at the bottom. Above the banner, the text "UNITED NATIONS academic impact" is displayed in blue, with "UNITED NATIONS" in a smaller font and "academic impact" in a larger, bold font. A blue horizontal bar is positioned above the text.

UNITED NATIONS  
**academic  
impact**

Sharing  
a Culture  
of Intellectual  
Social  
Responsibility



## UNAI MEMBER ACTIVITY REPORT 2021

**The American College of Greece**

## Sustainability@ACG

Human activity undeniably impacts nature and climate with devastating consequences on the planet and all its inhabitants. As a leading educational institution, The American College of Greece (ACG) recognizes the environmental, economic, and social benefits of resource efficiency and commits to educate, inspire and empower its students, as well as faculty, staff, parents, alumni, trustees, and business partners, to develop a sustainability culture on campus, collaborating with the local community in promoting sustainability best practices.

Following US best practices and as also reflected in its President's 2025 vision, The American College of Greece is gradually developing an ever-growing number of sustainability best practices. ACG is committed to systematically addressing issues from sustainability focus in academic programs and research and reducing its carbon footprint while improving its energy efficiency, to enhancing its social impact and increasing transparency and accountability in its daily operations.

For all its relevant activity, ACG has been awarded the STARS Gold Rating, in recognition of its best practices in five categories: Academics, Engagement, Operations, Planning & Administration and Innovation & Leadership. ACG is the only academic institution in Greece to have received a distinction by the US AASHE – an internationally acclaimed association. Through its membership in the UN Global Compact, the UN Academic Impact and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), ACG has committed to always operate in support of the UN SDGs – and most importantly, Goal No 4: Quality Education.

At ACG we place a strong emphasis on providing our students – the leaders of tomorrow – with the knowledge, values, and experiences needed to navigate this everchanging environment while acting as engaged and responsible citizens and professionals, in order to help create a more socially, economically and environmentally sustainable world.

### The Office of Public Affairs

The Office of Public Affairs leads all sustainability-related activity in terms of operations and engagement, to advance sustainability on campus by:

- Strengthening the collaboration with and preparing the reports for various local and international organizations supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals;
- Working with other ACG departments on implementing STARS recommendations;
- Promoting new ACG policies;
- Organizing awareness campaign and social impact activities engaging students, faculty and staff;
- Organizing events on a variety of sustainability-related topics.

The Office of Public Affairs is working closely with the ACG 150 Center of Excellence in Sustainability (CoES), a pioneer Center focused on advancing sustainability in academics and conducting sustainability-related research.

### CoE in Sustainability

[The Center of Excellence in Sustainability](#) works within the academic, civic and private sectors to

- Promote environmental awareness, education for sustainable development and sustainability research on campus and beyond;
- Coordinate educational programs and activities while promoting experiential learning;
- Facilitate faculty and student collaboration between disciplines;
- Connect with other stakeholders and actors in the wider community in collaboration and coordination with the Office of Public Affairs.

The Academic Advisory Board of the CoE provides academic guidance and support enhancing the focus of academic programs in sustainability and related fields as well as promoting sustainability both on and off-campus. The Board also serves as a liaison between the ACG faculty and the Office of Public Affairs, which leads all sustainability at ACG initiatives.

## The American College of Greece & the UN Academic Impact

As of May 31, 2017, The American College of Greece is a member of the UN Academic Impact. ACG joined over 1000 academic and research institutions in more than 120 countries that are members of UNAI. **In Greece, ACG is the fifth academic institution to be a member and the only private one.**

In 2019 we submitted our first UNAI Member Activity Report for 2017 and 2018 (calendar years). In continuation of our commitment to at least 5 out of the 10 principles, we have organized and spearheaded activities and initiatives for 2021, as listed below.

***Tell us about what activities or projects your institution has undertaken in the past year to address at least one of the ten UNAI principles and/or one or more of the Sustainable Development Goals (type of project or activity, theme or topic, who participated or how many people were reached, results of the activity or follow up action to be taken)***

### **I. UNAI Principle: A commitment to human rights, among them freedom of inquiry, opinion, and speech**

#### **1. ACG Employee Engagement Survey**

In 2021, the sixth ACG Employee Engagement survey, measuring employee satisfaction, was disseminated to the ACG Community (faculty and staff), with a participation of 62%. This survey aims at receiving honest feedback that helps enhance the workplace environment at ACG and it is taken into consideration in the ACG's administration's short and long-term planning. It includes questions on leadership effectiveness, innovation opportunities, fair and equal treatment, workplace safety, the sentiment of pride, working conditions, organizational culture, etc.

SDG 3; SDG 5; SDG 8; SDG 10

#### **2. Deree Student Clubs & Academic Societies & Student Organizations**

[Student organizations](#) provide students with hands-on opportunities for enhancing their understanding of groups and how they operate. Students can acquire and practice leadership, communication and collaborative skills that are important steps in their personal and professional development.

Below you can find clubs and academic societies that aim at promoting the SDGs and contributing to creating a sustainability culture on campus: In 2020, the following clubs were created:

- ACG Sustainability Leaders:

The ACG Sustainability Leaders group founded in 2018, is a team of student volunteers who participate in diverse activities and events aimed at motivating, inspiring, and raising awareness towards a culture of Sustainability both on and off the ACG campus.

The ideal Sustainability Leader candidate is not necessarily the one with the most knowledge about sustainability. We are looking for people who are enthusiastic about learning about and promoting sustainable living. Sustainability Leaders participate in activities, such as the ACG Community Service Days, awareness-raising campaigns (e.g. #ACGgoesplasticfree and Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!), reforestation of Mount Hymettus, and many more!

- ACG SDG Student Hub (revamped in 2020 in line with UN SDSN Youth Greece collaboration): The SDG Student Program (Sustainable Development Goals Student Program), founded in 2019, is the official student Hub of the Greek charter of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network. The Deree SDG Student Program is part of the global network of student hubs, where students can come together to learn about, engage with, and take action on the Sustainable Development Goals. Currently, we are working closely with SDSN Greece and SDSN Youth Greece. Students that will be involved will have the opportunity to innovate towards working for the SDGs as the Network supports all student initiatives, forms partnerships with United Nations agencies, and network with prestigious people. By joining, the students will become members of the SDSN Network in Greece. The SDG Coordinator responsible for the Deree Campus, along with the Program's members, will have the opportunity to realize out-of-the-box events to promote all SDGs.
- Diversity and Inclusion Club: The Diversity and Inclusion Club was established to create an inclusive environment for all students to experience acceptance, and belonging and feel empowered to engage in the campus culture as a valued member of our community. The club aims to raise awareness around diversity issues and to inspire students to address and try to solve any problem related to them. Through various activities, the club attempts to make issues of diversity accessible, meaningful, and fun. Above all the main purpose of this club is to bring students with different backgrounds, characteristics, stories, personalities, and goals together to form a community that would value their differences and create an environment of inclusion open to everyone.
- Inside Autism Club: "Inside Autism" club's primary objective is to raise awareness about every individual that belongs on the autism spectrum. Its aim is to create a socially inclusive and friendly environment, and embrace the uniqueness of each individual, whether they are a member or not. Its members wish to work on the principle of open discussion and mutual exchange of ideas and perspectives in order to facilitate interaction between our members. They wish to

actively support people within the autism spectrum by organizing collaborations with corresponding affiliates and organizing fundraisers.

- **Rainbow Alliance:**  
The Rainbow Alliance is a club dedicated to creating a safe space for LGBTQ+ students and Allies of the community/movement at Deree, encouraging personal growth and exploration of one's identity. Anyone can join regardless of their gender or sexual orientation. The club also aims to organize events to support LGBTQ+ rights movements and educate the public on LGBTQ+ issues, creating a space where constructive discussions on the topic can be had, within and beyond the campus.
- **S.E.R.F. – Student Emergency Response Force:**  
Student Emergency Response Force, better known as S.E.R.F., is Deree's emergency response team. Organized in 1998, team members are trained to assist in emergency situations on campus (earthquakes, medical emergencies, and evacuations) and escort students from campus to transportation means. Team members are trained in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and first aid, self-defense, climbing/rappel, the use of scuba equipment, orienteering, wilderness survival, firefighting, using two-way radios, self-defense, and other areas. The spirit of the team is one of unity, service, and volunteerism.
- **Environmental Studies Society:**  
The Environmental Studies (ES) Society was established in spring 2012 and is a student-run organization that embraces all Environmental Studies majors and minors. The Society helps ES students gain practical skills and experience in environmental studies fields and solve problems they may be confronted with during their studies. The Society also aims to promote awareness of environmental issues at Deree-ACG in collaboration with the Center of Excellence in Sustainability, and other College entities. To meet its goals the Society organizes and supports academic events and activities such as lectures, panel discussions, film screenings and field trips and participates actively in College-wide events.

#### SDG 4

*\*Through each Club's, Organization's, and Society's operations, we are collectively tackling all SDGs.*

## **II. UNAI Principle: A commitment to educational opportunity for all people regardless of gender, race, religion, or ethnicity**

### **1. ACG Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy**

Greek Law and this Policy protect ACG Community members, in particular students, from discrimination, harassment, bullying, and victimization, and provide safeguards for the equitable treatment of persons with disabilities in a manner that appropriately ensures reasonable accommodations towards addressing the multiple disadvantages that they experience and enabling them to participate fully in College life (updated version: January 2020).

SDG 5; SDG 10

## 2. *ACG Safeguarding Policy*

ACG is committed to safeguarding students, faculty, and staff, as well as third parties involved in College activities, maintaining a campus ethos of mutual respect, care, and responsible action, and to providing a safe learning environment in which all students can learn and develop. The Policy particularly applies to current and prospective students under 18 years old, and vulnerable adults who are registered as students or prospective students as well as children/vulnerable adults who are connected to ACG directly or indirectly (revised version January 2020).

SDG 3; SDG 4; SDG 5; SDG 10

## 3. *Policy of Equal Opportunities*

The College is an equal opportunity employer, and does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, color, race, nationality, ethnicity, faith, disability, sex, marital status, or sexual orientation. The College strives to maximize valuable talent and potential, and eliminate unconscious bias, prejudice and stereotyping in the workplace.

SDG 5; SDG 10

## 4. *Education Unites Program*

Deree's commitment to providing quality educational opportunities to refugees continues. This is the 5th year of its Education Unites program, which provides full scholarships to refugees in Athens to allow them to obtain undergraduate and graduate degrees. Two students have graduated with MSc degrees from Alba - the business school of Deree. Three students have received MA degrees in Strategic Communication from Deree's graduate program. And one has graduated with a BA (highest honors) in Sociology from the undergraduate division, with one student slated to receive her BA in Finance in June.

The twenty students in the program continue to represent all the population groups present in the refugee communities of Athens and they are studying in diverse fields, including Biomedical Sciences, Philosophy, Graphic Design, Cinema Studies, Aeronautical Engineering, Psychology, IT, and International Business.

### **III. UNAI Principle: A commitment to the opportunity for every interested individual to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for the pursuit of higher education**

#### 1. *Scholarships & Financial Assistance*

Since its founding in 1875, The American College of Greece (ACG) has aided students needing help in meeting their educational expenses, thereby enabling students with demonstrated ability and promise to access a quality education, regardless of their financial circumstances. In 2021, over 8 million euros were given as financial aid (need-based and merit) to ACG students.

The [Financial Assistance Program](#) at ACG provides various levels of financial assistance based on need and/or academic achievement. The governing philosophy of our program is grounded in our belief that lack of funds should never prevent academically talented students from receiving a quality

education. Funding for financial assistance originates from the College's own resources and from the generous contributions of donors.

SDG 4; SDG 10

## 2. *SNF Scholars program*

In August of 2018, the **Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF)** transitioned its generous **SNF Scholars Program grant** from an expendable gift, into a **\$1.8M** endowment to **The American College of Greece** in perpetuity. This program in past years afforded Greek public university students US accredited and EU-validated programs in pursuit of a **minor** to complement their studies at the Greek University. At present, this has been accomplished by some 300+ **SNF Scholars** through the opportunity of parallel studies on the **Deree campus**. Research has affirmed through tracking recipients of this program that the initial grant had become a valuable asset, both to the scholars and Greece's economic potentials, while concurrently bridging public/private partnerships to new and available job market opportunities. In 2021, the program welcomed 378 new students, compared to 367 in 2020.

*“Being an SNF Scholar played a major role in broadening my perspective; expanding my network; turning me into a citizen of the world; helping me develop valuable soft skills; and thinking out of the box. The most important element of the SNF Scholarship experience is constant exposure to opportunity.”—Alexia Oikonomakou, SNF Scholar; School of Mechanical Engineering, National Technical University of Athens; Minor in Finance, Deree – The American College of Greece.*

Feeling the effects of the global financial crises for a full decade, many Greek public university students reflect the talent and abilities to excel in ACG's undergraduate programs, but due to their socio-economic circumstances, have found that dream financially challenging. **The Stavros Niarchos Foundation**, as part of its earlier **“Recharging the Youth Initiative,”** has committed to its overarching goal to raise and enhance the economic conditions in Greece. The **SNF Parallel Studies Program**, in tandem with a series of activities including **Mentoring** and **Internship** initiatives, aim to tackle the challenging unemployment rates facing the Greek youth of today. As of this year, this generous endowment will energize the goals and dreams of even more selected Greek scholars in perpetuity.

*“The SNF Program at DEREI moves its participants out of their comfort zone, it unsettles them, it alarms them. It acts as a constant reminder that perfection is quite not good enough and we have only managed to scratch the surface of it, that the sky is the limit but getting there in the first place is the tricky part.”—George Taliakis, SNF Scholar School of Architecture, National Technical University of Athens; Minor in Environmental Sciences, Deree – The American College of Greece*

What for five years has been a substantial and exclusive donation by **the Stavros Niarchos Foundation** – greatly appreciated by **The American College of Greece** for helping to spread its reputation of excellence and goodwill, will now be a part of its legacy.

SDG 4; SDG 10

### 3. *Parallel Studies Program*

Each academic year dozens of ambitious Greek public university students choose to pursue a parallel degree at Deree – The American College of Greece. Their goal is to make the best use of their university years, learn to operate in an international environment, acquire international work and study experience, and equip themselves best for the life challenges that await them. Such combined studies programs are made possible in large part by:

- the flexibility of class schedules at Deree
- the ability to earn Deree credits for a substantial number of the courses they attend at their public institution, and thus accelerate their Deree studies
- Deree’s affordability and its generous scholarship and financial aid programs for qualified students

Deree’s longstanding [Parallel Studies Program](#) offers Greek public university students the unique opportunity to attend US accredited and EU validated degree programs, while concurrently pursuing their Greek public university degrees. By gaining a Deree degree in tandem with Greek public university degrees, Deree Parallel Studies students gain access to the much sought-after international private sector career opportunities Deree offers while also accessing the widest possible range of academic and career options within Greece. In 2021, 1,149 students studied in parallel at Deree.

SDG 4

### 4. *Supporting two schools in Myanmar and Cambodia*

ACG has been supporting an [elementary school in Hway Hwe in Myanmar](#) in South-east Asia since 2018, through the organization “United World Schools” which operates in Cambodia, Myanmar, and Nepal, thanks to the generous donation of the honorary president of SEV (Hellenic Federation of Enterprises) and ACG Trustee. In fall 2019, 54 students were enrolled and 4 teachers from the community were trained and hired to teach at the school. The school, which opened its doors in March 2017, holds both morning and afternoon classes and is powered by solar energy. Students are taught subjects ranging from health and athletics to reading, writing, math, knowledge about animals and plants, etc. There are also additional evening classes for older children who have not had the opportunity to study in elementary school.

ACG’s support of the school has become even more significant during the Covid-19 pandemic, which left many children out of school, especially in countries where access to education is unfortunately limited. During the pandemic Project-Based Learning (focused on Burmese and Maths) and Covid-19 awareness messages continued and the school followed the distance learning method. The school closed down due to a military coup in the area and because of COVID restrictions. In November 2021, teacher Ju Mai Ra inspired and taught her 52 primary students to reach 548 more children and adults in nearby communities to share Covid-19 prevention knowledge and skills. Her job is vital to the prevention of Covid-19, now more than ever, in her community where she usually teaches primary education.

Since November 2021, ACG supports Ya Som is a new school built in January 2021, covering running costs for the school like the costs of the community teachers’ salaries, the resources, books and



pens and papers, any repair or maintenance work, the education officer salaries and the maintenance of the school wells.

SDG 4; SDG 10; SDG 17

#### 5. *Deree Professor represented ACG in the launching of the “Justice Initiative”*

Deree Professor Tinia Apergi (Psychology) represented Greece, as a scientific collaborator of ELIZA, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children on September 18-19, 2021 in Bern, Switzerland, where victims’ groups from all over Europe, as well as academics and NGOs traveled to launch the “Justice Initiative”. In her presentation, she discussed the current situation in Greece on issues of child abuse prevention. With this political initiative, abuse of children, especially in state and church institutions, is to be comprehensively dealt with for the first time in all European countries. This political initiative draws collective attention to a suppressed part of history and to the victims who are still suffering today because of the abuse and the lack of public recognition. At the end of the symposium, the representatives from all over Europe signed a joint declaration to promote public recognition of the injustice, reparations, and scientific reappraisal.

### IV. **UNAI Principle: A commitment to encouraging global citizenship through education**

#### 1. *ACG Study Abroad program (Inbound & Outbound)*

##### **Outbound**

The Outbound Study Abroad Program (OSAP), established in 2014, at Deree – The American College of Greece (ACG) offers students of all majors and minors access to an ever-growing network of exchange partner institutions across the world where our students are able to study for a semester, session or academic year and transfer credits earned abroad onto their degree. While on exchange status, tuition remains the same, and granted scholarships and financial aid still apply. In addition to Deree – ACG study abroad scholarships, further funding is secured annually from a number of foundations for eligible candidates. So far, 552 students have participated in the program. In 2021, 60 students participated in the Outbound Study Abroad Program.

Stanford, New York, Boston, San Francisco, San Diego, Shanghai, London, Rome, Seoul, and Berlin are only some of the places where our students have lived and gained world-class education and lifetime experiences. They have added value to their degree, grown personally and professionally, acquired global skills, and made friends for life.

Through this program students enjoy valuable benefits for their professional and personal life:

- Enrich their academic learning
- Cultivate cultural competence
- Build independence
- Develop flexibility and spur innovative thinking
- Enhance access to future job and graduate school opportunities

- Become ambassadors of their own country and culture
- Make great friends, travel to amazing places, and have fun!

### **Inbound**

Every year, students experience the famous hospitality of the Greek people, while studying abroad at The American College of Greece, the oldest American-accredited College in Europe and the largest private, independent, not-for-profit, non-sectarian, co-educational academic institution in Greece.

In 2021, 271 students participated both in inbound study abroad program. Due to the outburst of the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent restrictions, this number was much lower than in previous years. For context and to provide a more representative number, in 2019, 1,061 students took this opportunity to study abroad and broaden their horizons.

SDG 4

## **V. UNAI Principle: A commitment to promoting sustainability through education**

### *1. ACG Waste Reduction & Recycling Campaign: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!*

Launched in October 2017, the “ACG Waste Reduction & Recycling Campaign: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!” is an ongoing campaign, which aims at educating our community on the importance of proper waste management and the waste hierarchy and encompasses all events, activities, projects, and initiatives that fall into one of the three (or more) cornerstones of the campaign (reduce, reuse, recycle).

#### **Reusing @ ACG**

Aimed at educating our community on the importance of waste management and the waste hierarchy, ACG has launched its own community exchange platform Reuse@ACG, exclusively available to all ACG students, faculty, and staff. Following US best practices, the Office of Public Affairs has introduced one more “sustainable custom” to the daily lives of the ACG members (students, faculty, and staff) by launching a platform that aims at encouraging ACG members to reduce and reuse the number of items that they buy and throw away. Through this platform, items we no longer need are given a second life and our community has the opportunity to explore the option of second-hand ‘shopping’. The exchange platform is the product of Deree students’ work in the context of the Project-Based Learning Program.

In the context of this campaign, avoiding the creation of e-waste, as well as part of ACG’s community contribution pillar, in 2021, the College donated 59 pre-loved PC’s to four public schools, an NGO, and two public organizations.

A dedicated webpage for the campaign is available in order to further increase our Community’s awareness of the issue and provide them with all the necessary tools.

SDG 11; SDG 12; SDG 13; SDG 14; SDG 15

### *2. ACG Cares for a plastic-free future! The #ACGGoesPlasticFree Campaign*

In July 2018, the Office of Public Affairs launched the [#ACGGoesPlasticFree](#) institution-wide campaign in line with the EU Directive for the reduction and elimination of single-use plastic (SUP) items.

Joining our forces to the global movement, we aim at raising awareness on the harmful consequences of single-use plastic pollution and guide our community in making a successful shift towards eliminating single-use plastics from our campus and daily life.

Since 2018, we have organized a variety of events (e.g. ACG Plastic Free Challenge, ACG Plastic Free Day, etc.) and moved forward with bold actions to reduce our campus' plastic footprint (e.g. policy banning orders of single-use plastic cups at all offices, collaborating with on campus vendors to accept reusable containers, etc.).

A comparison between 2018 and 2019 shows a significant reduction in the consumption of SUP (water bottles, beverage cups, straws, plastic cups at offices) on campus (42% decrease). Due to COVID-19 restrictions and the temporary closure of the ACG premises, the subsequent data for 2020 is not available.

2020 Overview of actions:

- Addressing one of the most pressing environmental issues of our time and in the context of the [#ACGGoesPlasticFree](#) Campaign, The American College of Greece, through the Office of Public Affairs, in collaboration with the A.C. Laskaridis Charitable Foundation organized an [insightful event](#) on single-use plastic pollution trends and best practices, locally and globally, in February 2020. Adhering to ACG's commitment to reduce and gradually eliminate single-use plastic items on campus, this was the first 'certified' single-use plastic free event, supported by the A.C. Laskaridis Charitable Foundation. The event welcomed Kostis Hatzidakis, Minister of Environment & Energy (former), who delivered his keynote speech on Greece's national plan for the elimination of single-use plastic items and a plastic-free future to an audience of over 100 internal and external guests.
- The first campus-wide survey to calculate ACG's plastic footprint was sent out to the community (students, faculty, and staff) in Spring 2020. The survey was the product of a Deree-ACG student's work who was also a member of the student organization ACG Sustainability Leaders – the dedicated student volunteer group that helps advance sustainability on campus – in the context of the course "Sustainable Use of Resources and Waste Management". Key findings of the survey include:
  - 67% of the participants use zero single-use plastic water bottle.
  - 64% use zero single-use plastic items (plastic water bottles, plastic cups, plastic straws, plastic containers, plastic plates and cutlery).
  - The average individual plastic footprint amounts to 1.2 plastic items per week per person.
  - 87% of participants own a reusable bottle or cup.
  - 67% of participants bring their reusable bottle/cup to campus every day.
  - 60% is very familiar with the recycling system and how it is used on the ACG campus.
  - 55% is very familiar with the existence and the purpose of the [#ACGGoesPlasticFree](#) campaign.

In Summer 2021, we launched two more reusable items – a thermos cup and a set of bamboo cutlery – to help ACG members reduce their plastic footprint.

Renewing our commitment to raising awareness about the harmful consequences of single-use plastics and to reducing them both on campus and beyond, we are continuing our #ACGGoesPlasticFree Campaign.

SDG 6; SDG 11; SDG 12; SDG 13; SDG 14; SDG 15

### 3. *ACG Food Waste Campaign: 'Reduce Your Foodprint!'*

ACG is dedicated to [reducing food waste](#) both on campus and in the broader community. Since November 2018, the College has been collaborating with the NGO 'Boroume' (We Can)\*. In the context of our collaboration, we have adopted two farmers' markets – the ACG Farmers' Market initiative – where students, staff, and faculty volunteer on a weekly basis and save food that would otherwise end up in the landfill. This volunteer initiative is tackling the environmental and the social aspects simultaneously, by eliminating food waste and contributing to the local community, supporting the philanthropic activities of local charities. Since November 2018 we have gathered 9,932 kg of fruits and vegetables, equating to approximately 40,000 meals and to 18,870 kgs of C CO<sub>2</sub> saved. A total of 667 volunteer hours have been offered by members of the ACG Community. In 2021, despite the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions in Greece, ACG volunteers saved 3,548 kgs from the landfill and offered 202 hours of service.

As of October 2020, ACG is a member of the Alliance for the Reduction of Food Waste, a group of public authorities, well-known companies, food and service businesses from all areas of the supply chain, social impact organizations, and academic and research institutions, coming together to prevent and reduce food waste in Greece, aiming at raising awareness, educating the public, highlighting and disseminating best practices, exchanging knowledge and ideas, promoting research and innovation, promoting and donating any surplus food to social impact organizations, and, most importantly, advocating for public policy on preventing and reducing food waste and food loss in Greece.

In March 2021, The American College of Greece (ACG), through its membership, submitted its first report on food waste prevention and reduction best practices to the Alliance for the Reduction of Food Waste, the national effort led and coordinated by the NGO 'Boroume' with AB Vassilopoulos, under the auspices of the Hellenic Ministry of Environment & Energy. The 2021 report is divided overall in ten (10) best practices categories, such as educating and raising awareness about the issue, assisting in the donation of food to community organizations, and measuring and recording of food waste. ACG has been featured in this report with eight (8) out of the 57 actions included in the report, the highest number of best practices and initiatives submitted by a single organization.

In the academic year 2021-2022, in tandem with the EU Directive 2018/851 and subsequent national law, we are taking it one step further by launching a campus-wide campaign on reducing and preventing food waste. "The ACG Food Waste Campaign: Reduce your FOODprint!" aims at raising awareness about this critical issue and educating our community on best practices on how to save food.

On October 14, 2021, the Office of Public Affairs, Boroume, and Dipnosofistirion, in collaboration with the ACG Center of Excellence in Sustainability, organized the event “Love Food, Hate Waste: The importance of reducing food waste”. Serving as the kick-off event of the “ACG Food Waste Campaign: Reduce your FOODprint!”, an interactive discussion with experts was held while in parallel Deree students from the ACG Sustainability Leaders, the ACG SDG Student Hub and the ES Society showcased videos with tips on how to reduce food waste. The campaign will run during 2021-2022 and is spearheaded in the context of our membership in the National Alliance for the Reduction of Food Waste. Over 50 members of the ACG community participated.

SDG 1; SDG 2; SDG 10; SDG 13

*\*Boroume is a non-profit organization whose mission to reduce food waste and to fight malnutrition in Greece aligns perfectly with the ACG sustainability efforts in terms of social responsibility and community engagement.*

#### 4. *Liberal Education Program*

A vital component of the undergraduate experience, the [Liberal Education program](#) prepares students to become globally engaged twenty-first-century citizens with the knowledge, intellectual habits, practical skills, and socio-cultural sensibilities needed in a rapidly changing world. Liberal Education helps students develop essential competencies for success across disciplines and in life beyond college by cultivating open-mindedness, tolerance, problem-solving ability, intellectual curiosity and creativity. It also promotes thoughtful self-expression, an ethical compass, and responsibility to the local and global communities.

Competencies and Learning Outcomes include:

- Communication and Information Literacy
- Social Responsibility and Civic Engagement
- Cultural and Global Perspectives
- Ethics and Values
- Aesthetic Expression
- Scientific and Quantitative Literacy
- Integration

SDG 4

#### 5. *Environmental Studies Major*

Deree – The American College of Greece is the first independent educational institution in Greece to introduce an [Environmental Studies program](#). Launched in fall 2010, the program aims to develop students’ understanding of the root causes and multiple dimensions of environmental problems (ecological, social, economic and political) as well as options for effectively addressing these problems in an increasingly complex world.

SDG 4; SDG 6; SDG 7; SDG 11; SDG 12; SDG 13; SDG 14; SDG 15

6. *Biomedical Sciences Major (undergraduate, Deree – The American College of Greece)*

Biomedical Sciences (undergraduate): This wide-ranging, interdisciplinary and career-focused program, is designed to satisfy all pre-med requirements of US medical schools. [The BMS](#) is an undergraduate degree that helps students acquire a strong foundation in the life sciences, especially in the biomedical and healthcare fields. The use of integrative approaches to health and wellness will guide students to understand key aspects of health care and help them find solutions to some of the most crucial health issues of our time.

SDG 3; SDG 4

7. *MSc in Supply Chain Management (graduate, Alba Graduate Business School – ACG)*

[This program](#) prepares young graduates and early-career professionals for a successful career in the world of Supply Chain Business and Logistics. Students learn how to apply high standards of integrity, ethics, and social responsibility, and how to deploy the latest advances in technology and process design to create a sustainable supply chain, among other learning outcomes.

SDG 4; SDG 9; SDG 12

8. *MS in Organizational Psychology (School of graduate and professional studies, Deree – ACG)*

[The MS in Organizational Psychology](#) has introduced a course on Diversity & Inclusion showing its commitment to gender equality, human rights, and intercultural dialogue

Dr. Olivia Kyriakidou's (Program Coordinator) research focuses on diversity and inclusion at work with a special emphasis on gender equality. Her latest publications explore the impact of automation, artificial intelligence, and algorithmic decision-making on diversity and inclusion at work. More specifically, she studies how the use of AI perpetuates the societal biases that exist against certain underrepresented groups and intensifies their exclusion from work and organizations.

SDG 4; SDG 5; SDG 8; SDG 10

9. *Sustainability-related minors at Deree – The American College of Greece (undergraduate)*

- a. [Tourism & Sustainability](#): Consisting of five (5) courses, students who pursue this minor become knowledgeable on ecosystems and biodiversity, energy resources and pollution, environmental management principles, and sustainable management practices in tourism and hospitality.
- b. [Environmental Management](#): Students enroll in six (6) courses where they learn about ecosystems and biodiversity, contemporary environmental issues, environmental management, CSR, supply chain management, and other.
- c. [Environmental Studies](#): Through the five (5) courses of this minor, students gain knowledge on energy resources and pollution, biodiversity, environmental ecology, and other subtopics of environmental studies.
- d. [Sustainable Economics and Finance](#): Students enrolled in this minor are being educated in Principles of Microeconomics, Environmental and Resource Economics, Economic Development and Sustainability, Social Economy and Entrepreneurship, Sustainable Finance and Investing, and Corporate Governance and Accountability

SDG 4; SDG 6; SDG 7; SDG 9; SDG 11; SDG 12; SDG 13; SDG 14; SDG 15

#### 10. Sustainability Course offerings

A total of 115 undergraduate sustainability-focused and sustainability-inclusive courses are offered at ACG out of 426 and 37 such graduate courses out of 105, resulting in a percentage of 28.06%.

Out of the 24 academic departments, seven of them offer sustainability-related courses, resulting in a percentage of 70.83%.

Examples of such courses include the following:

- **BI 3215** - Environmental Health: The course discusses environmental health issues and possible approaches to control them.
- **HNS 2285** - LE Greening the Campus: An introduction to sustainability and the science of selected environmental issues. Through fieldwork, the students not only gain practical knowledge of sustainability but also strengthen the campus culture in support of environmental issues. The operation of a university has clear environmental impacts, and, in this way, it is a living laboratory for environmental science work. This course takes advantage of this and provides students the opportunity to learn about environmental issues, ways to improve our relationship with nature and the environment, and promote sustainability through actual fieldwork in their own college community. The course focuses on selected environmental topics/aspects and will be related to ongoing sustainability activities on campus.
- **AF 4045** - Corporate Governance and Accountability: This course explores the concept and role of corporate governance and offers a comparison of global governance systems. It examines the distribution of power within firms, risk management, audit, and global corporate governance. It also explores sustainability and ethics as issues pertaining to good corporate governance.
- **MG 4128** - Corporate Social Responsibility: This course provides a 'total systems' approach to integrating factors related to the workplace, human rights, the community, the environment, and the marketplace into core business strategies. It involves examination of the economic, environmental, and social dimensions necessary for sustainable businesses.
- **PS 4224** - Industrial/Organizational Psychology: A systematic analysis of the science of people at work. Topics include, but not exclusively, jobs requirement, selection and assessment, and the overall interface between the organization and its people. Personnel selection, evaluation, and training methods are assessed, whilst the roles of Job Satisfaction, Motivation at work, and Productivity in changing economic times are explored. Working conditions & job design factors are evaluated in the context of the psychological work contract and the Long Work Hours Culture. Organizational behavior and stress management issues are also covered.
- **SO 2004** - Social Inequality: This course examines the causes and consequences of social inequality, including theoretical background, social classes, and social mobility, illustrated through various substantive cases.
- **Sustainability Business Ethics & CSR** (Alba Graduate Business School – The American College of Greece): Understanding the ethical basis of human behavior is of fundamental importance for building commitment to organizational goals and for imparting integrity and a sense of the common good in organizational members. The course examines a broad array of matters relating to ethics. The course focuses also on sustainability, corporate social responsibility and

corporate accountability with further emphasis placed on business strategies that aim to create long term value and a positive environmental, social and economic impact. Actionable knowledge is achieved by applying theory in real life situations through critical analysis and debating on prominent cases and in class discussions on current trends and developments on sustainable business activities.

#### SDG 4

*\*Essentially, supporting all SDGs through the educational content and learning outcomes.*

### *11. Sustainability related events, projects, and initiatives at Pierce – The American College of Greece (Secondary and post-secondary education)*

#### *a. Pierce Leadership Academy: Preparing tomorrow's leaders*

The [Pierce Leadership Academy](#) at the American College of Greece is an experiential three-week summer program in leadership, for international and local students, 13-17 years old. The Academy's goal is to stimulate intellectual curiosity, expose each participant to fundamental concepts and pathways to leadership, and cultivate skills that are necessary for an aspiring leader, regardless of their sphere of endeavor. The program takes place in Athens, the city where the foundations of Western thought and civilization were first laid out. Five learning subjects, a holistic experience

What is leadership and what makes a leader?

In this program, participants will develop the confidence and skills required in order to make decisions as effective leaders. With three weeks full of courses, workshops, simulations, debates, and field trip adventures, the Academy is more than just a summer program, it is a holistic experience. Participants investigate areas of interest, becoming exposed to new subjects and academic disciplines, in order to better understand the workings of leadership. They are inspired to challenge themselves in meaningful ways that lead to self-discovery, personal growth, and responsible decision-making.

The summer program encompasses the following modules:

- Entrepreneurship
- Human rights, sustainable development
- From humanism to leadership
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics)
- Biomedical Sciences

#### *b. Honorary Award to the student business "Lifeprint" created by Pierce students!*



In December 2021, four Pierce students-members of the virtual business “Lifeprint” were awarded an honorary prize for their business during the 7th Award Ceremony of the Mobile Excellence Awards 2022, the most important award institution in the field of mobile apps.

Daphne Antoniou, Ariadne Papouli, Jasmin Samolada and Maria Tourni, along with the Economics teacher-advisor Mr. Panagioti Sfyris, received the award for the creation of “Lifeprint” within the framework of the Competition for youth entrepreneurship, Junior Achievement Greece. The Pierce students were presented with the award by the Secretary-General, Ministry of Digital Governance, and Professor Dimosthenis Anagnostopoulos.

The honorary prize concerned the initiative of creating an innovative student virtual business “Lifeprint” which serves a significant social-environmental purpose: for our daily actions to become more environmentally friendly, slow down climate change, and to offer affordable alternative solutions for our diet, transportation, purchases, energy, and tourism. Read more about “Lifeprint” in the following links:

[“Lifeprint” from Pierce in the final 10 best student businesses!](#)

[“Lifeprint” the student business – ally in the struggle against climate change!](#)

*c. We play with the children, we support “The Other Human”*

On Sunday, December 12th, 2021 at the Park Karaoli and Dimitriou in Vyronas, the B7 Lyceum students, along with their teacher-advisor Ms. Olga Palanta, distributed packaged foods to kids that were in need, supporting the work of the charity organization “The Other Human”. Our students took part in games and activities, with the aim for all the students to experience carefree moments and to offer hope, through solidarity and making a contribution towards our fellow human-beings! The students of B7 also did face-painting on all the kids, they offered them balloons and bracelets, played music on their guitars, in this way spreading Christmas joy and cheer. The Mayor of Vyronas particularly congratulated our students on organizing this event.

*d. European Basketball Week – Special Olympics at Pierce!*

First stop in the [European Basketball Week – Special Olympics](#) was the inclusive event at Pierce – The American College of Greece, on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in which athletes of **Special Olympics Hellas** took part in unified Basketball Games, with players of the youth team of Panathinaikos Academy and players from the Pierce Gymnasium and Lyceum.

Athletes with and without mental disability from all over Greece, once again, made a dynamic presence and competed together in the court, learnt from each other, did their best, were rewarded for their efforts, became friends and set an example of co-existence and solidarity!

At the event, President of the Special Olympics Hellas, Ambassador of Honor **Dionysios Kordellas**, President of the American College of Greece, **Dr. David G. Horner** and Senior Vice President of Administration & Pierce, **Mrs. Iliana Lazana** made a welcome address. The guests were welcomed by the athlete of the Special Olympics Hellas **Dimitrios Derventzas** and the Youth Leader of the Special Olympics and Pierce Gymnasium student **Angelina Kyroussi**. The Directors of the Gymnasium, Lyceum, and IB of Pierce received the respective Certifications and commemorative plaques and the event ended with the Basketball games, a dance performance by our students, and the Oath of the Special Olympics Hellas Athlete!

The event was actualized with the support of the Educational Program “Play Unified, Learn Unified” which was materialized by the Special Olympics, with a donation offered by the **Stavros Niarchos Foundation**.

*e. The Pierce Airgenics Robotic Team presented their device in the Olympiad!*

Airgenics is the robotic construction with which the Pierce students **Jasmin –Alexandra Samolada** (IB1), **Melina Xanthopoulou** (B6 Lyceum) and **Alexandros Chatzipanagos** (IB2) won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the National Final (OPEN Category) qualified to represent Greece in the final **World Robot Olympiad 2021 (November 18 – 21 2021)**. The presentation of the idea and the robot of our students took place on Thursday 18-11-2021, on the first day of the Olympiad.

The Airgenics is a powerbot which collects energy from the wind, the sun and the water and converts it to electric power. It is a vertical wind turbine of 1.80 m., which consists of three basic distinct parts, the turbine, the solar panel, and the hydro-turbine:

- The **turbine** follows the prototype of the **wind turbine** Savonius and it has a vertical axis. The Airgenics powerboat can be placed on the median strips of big streets and high ways so that the power that is caused by the ongoing traffic of the vehicles will return to the turbine.
- At the top of the frame there is a **solar panel** that moves according to the position of the sun, constantly collecting the solar energy.
- Given that the wind turbines will be placed outdoors, they will be exposed to the rain and consequently, they can utilize the **rainwater**. Due to the inclined surfaces, the water will be led to one of the two supporting columns which serve as a pipe simultaneously. When this pipe fills up, a valve will open and the water will be released with pressure turning a **hydro-turbine**, in this way generating hydroelectric energy. The water that ends up in a tank will be used either for the irrigation of the plants on the traffic island or for cleaning the roads.
- The **surplus of energy** can be used for the powering of the means of transport, such as tram and metro but also for the street lights (the led lights of the Airgenics will light up the streets), creating a system of generating electricity with a closed airway. It can be used for different purposes, if it is incorporated in the general system of electricity distribution.
- In addition, the Airgenics powerbots have the ability to collect data related to **congestion and road traffic**, with the addition of a camera with a prototype for recognizing images. They will observe the flow of vehicles and the traffic lights and they will transfer this information to a website/ application, which drivers can use in order to avoid the arterial roads with increased traffic. The benefit will be twofold: increased generation of electricity and reduced consumption of fossil fuels by the vehicles.
- **In the case that the strength of the wind** is high and there is a danger that the wind turbine will be damaged, a delay function will be activated. This is not a type of “brakes” as the aim of Airgenics is to collect energy non-stop, but there will be a motor located on the top side which will provide some resistance and thus will allow the turbine to rotate at a lower speed, continuing the production of energy!
- Lastly, the Airgenics powerbot will record and post the generation of energy, in real time, from each distinct part.
- The inspiration and the vision of Airgenics is the utilization of power for the conservation of the environment. Unexploited sources of energy **give solutions to environmental problems and lead to a “greener” future**.

- Good luck Jasmin, Melina, and Alexander on this journey of knowledge and contribution to make this world a better place.

*f. Pierce Innovation Academy | Creating a culture of innovation*

[The Pierce Innovation Academy \(PIA\)](#) brings together Pierce activities related to innovation, STEM, and entrepreneurship. The PIA projects unleash students' creativity and create a culture of innovation at the school. In the words of **Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**: *"Today, schools have to prepare students for jobs that have not yet been created, technologies that have not yet been invented and problems that we don't yet know will arise."*

Pierce Innovation Academy offers many diverse projects, including

- **Academy of Engineering:** Design and fabrication of solar-powered hybrid cars
- **Racecar Challenge:** a middle school race car program designed and offered by the Beaver Works Summer Institute at MIT
- **Aerodynamics and Flight Mechanics Club:** a project that combines fundamental theory with practical application that will cultivate a sense of aerodynamic design and understanding of flight

To learn more about the PIA projects and its cutting-edge facilities, click [here](#).

Parents, friends, alumni, organizations interested in providing critical philanthropic support that will empower young people to help build a better future, should consider becoming a member of the Pierce Innovation Society. The society is composed of individuals and organizations that aim to provide critical philanthropic support that will fuel all school innovation-related action.

For more information about how you can support the PIA and provide creative opportunities to students, [visit here](#).

*Pierce's Innovation Academy offers a range of intellectually stimulating and educationally rich activities that are a great complement to the more structured, course-based academic program.*

Alex Eleftheriadis, Partner at Big Pi Ventures, Chief Scientist at Enghouse

*The partnership between the Pierce Innovation Academy and SAS Tech / SW Group is mutually beneficial. It enables the communication and dissemination of current knowledge in the field of unmanned means, starting from the aerodynamic aeronautical sector to an organized and efficient educational organization that cares deeply about the services it provides to its students.*

Mike Spiridakos, CEO and President, SAS Tech/SW Group

*Entrepreneurship and innovation will be key elements of the potential future career paths of our kids. I am very excited that we have the chance to actively support Pierce College on its Innovation Academy program, which is enhancing students' mindsets towards those important elements.*

Christos Misailidis, CEO IWG & Founder The Jones

*g. 3 first Places achieved by Pierce students in the Robotics Olympiad FIRST GLOBAL CHALLENGE!*

Pierce Lyceum students **Gerasimos Vallianatos** (A Lyceum), **Protagoras-Efpolis Katsimichas** (B Lyceum) and **Anastasis Spanos – Kapantonis** (B Lyceum), [represented Greece in the Robotics Olympiad FIRST GLOBAL CHALLENGE “Discover and Recover 2021”](#) and achieved:

- **Gold Medal** in the Health field (First Global Challenge Award).
- **Silver Medal** for the “Panacea” project.
- **Bronze Medal** for winning 3rd place in the overall classification of the Olympiad.
- The team selected and competed in the category “Health”, as the challenges for our health continue to appear and develop. The solutions provided by the national teams had to aim for the improvement of accessibility, the efficacy, and the achievement of financially affordable health treatment, as the most significant keys to the improvement of world health.
- The robot “**Panacea**”, created by our students, is an autonomous domestic nurse which can measure the patients’ vital signs, inform the medical staff and sanitize a small space. Along with students from other schools, they created another robot called “**Heron**” which can move with precision along predetermined routes, to collect and transfer objects, to shoot balls and cubes at a distance, to carry its own weight, as well as a weather satellite, the “**Cubesat**”, which studies the data from the atmosphere and informs the station on Earth about possible wildfires!
- The Robotics Olympiad “FIRST GLOBAL Challenge” is a world organization of Robotics, Science and Technology, in which national teams participate from 190 countries, with youth aged 16-18. Our three students competed as members of the Greek National Team and achieved exceptional distinctions in the Olympiad, which was held remotely from June 27<sup>th</sup> to September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

#### *h. The Future of Plant Proteins” presentation*

**Dr. George Krintiras**, research scientist for the worldwide company Givaudan, based in the Netherlands, specializing in new technologies in the Food Industry, “visited” two B Gymnasium classes and presented [“The Future of Plant Proteins”](#). This visit was prompted by a text the B Gymnasium students had analyzed in class regarding the new trends in food production. Dr. Krintiras introduced the students to plant proteins, how they can be used to produce meat that has a similar taste and texture to regular meat, the methods that are used in the lab to achieve this, and finally the impact that our choice of diet has on the environment.

The presentation was followed by a Q&A session in which the students had the opportunity to ask questions about his career and what it takes to be a research scientist. The students wrote a reflection on this experience, and they sent Dr. Krintiras their responses.

#### *i. Pierce 2021 – Race for the Cure*

On Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> and Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 Pierce students and Faculty came together to put into action, our school’s motto “Non ministrari – sed ministrare”.

In collaboration with the **Physical Education Department**, the **English Department** and IB student – volunteers organized the Pierce 2021 [Race for the Cure](#) and, once again, supported the UNTOUCHABLES, the team of our late graduate’s, Emma Vernikou’s, NGO, PAMEMMAZI.

Students walked and ran on our school's track field during Physical Education classes on both days and raised awareness about the fight against breast cancer, by posting in their social media accounts, along with photos from their participation. Together we collected and donated € 1.722 to Alma Zois, the Hellenic Association of Women with Breast Cancer (<https://www.almazois.gr/en/>), and € 540 to PAMEMMAZI (<https://www.pamemmazi.org/en>).

*j. Outstanding Distinctions for Pierce students at MUN Conferences!*

**Tomazina Kontou**, B3 Lyceum student, will be Head of the Youth & Health Committee at The Hague International Model United Nations Student Simulation (**THIMUN 2022**). The Conference will take place online, from 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Pierce students, in recent years, participate with distinction in the MUN Conferences and especially in the THIMUN, holding Chair positions in the Committees and achieving great distinctions. At the following links you can see the participations and distinctions of our students in the world renowned [Hague International MUN Convention, in 2019](#), and [their distinctions in 2020](#) where for the first time, our students served in the positions of [two Committee Chairs!](#)

The **9<sup>th</sup> Model United Nations Conference** was held online at Campion International School on 2nd and 3rd October. 31 Pierce students participated, from which 6 were Chairs of their Committees. Distinction was achieved by **Chryssi Pantazi, Evangelia Giannopoulou, Emmanouil Kalathakis, Ioanna Karali, Aikaterini Livaniou, Myrto Skordili, Eleni Stroggylopoulou, Antonios Togias, Eleni Ioannou** and **Panagiotis Bouloutas**.

Nine Pierce students in outstanding positions in the **MUN (Model United Nations) Conferences**, after going through the interviews and making an excellent impression with their responses! The conferences will be held at schools in Attiki during the academic year 2021-2022.

Pierce Lyceum and IB students **Christopher Fotineli, Maro Tourni, Aria Varotsi, Vasiliki Vasileiou, Iliana Mavroeydi, Nefeli Garoutsou, Tomazina Kontou, Ariadni Papouli** and **Elena Ioannou** who, despite the fierce competition, stood out from their fellow-candidates and in September 2021, will assume the [roles of President and Deputy-President](#) on the Committees in the Simulation of the United Nations, in these events.

*k. Ariadni Papouli on the Student Advisory Board of the Diamond Challenge (Delaware University)*

The **IB1 Pierce student, Ariadni – Anthi Papouli**, last year's award-winner of the Competition for Youth Entrepreneurship Diamond Challenge ([Award "Waste and Recycling Innovation"](#) and a cash prize) will be a member of the [Diamond Challenge Advisory Board](#) for the Competition that will be held in the academic year 2021-22!

Ariadni was a candidate for this position. She went through an interview, and she will be the **first Member in the history of the competition of the Committee who is from Greece**. The Committee consists of 28 members – selected students from all over the world – who make a contribution with their opinion regarding the organization and the promotion of the competition internationally.

The competition, established in 2012, takes place in 35 countries, under the auspice of the Horn School of Entrepreneurship of the University of Delaware (<https://diamondchallenge.org/>) and since 2018, Pierce has hosted the [Greek Final Competition "Pitch Event."](#) In last year's competition, Ariadni – Anthi Papouli and Stephania Vasileiadou (A Lyceum students) came in **1<sup>st</sup> place in Greece with the**

student virtual business “Earthlips” and then went on to win the Award “Waste and Recycling Innovation,” in the online final, in the USA.

For the academic year 2021-22, Pierce will host the 4<sup>th</sup> Diamond Challenge Competition with the approval of the Ministry of Education.

#### *l. Presentation by iGEM NOUS on the subject of Synthetic Biology for Pierce students*

As part of their Biology class and with the guidance of their teachers Ms. M. Zonga and Mr. V. Stamatakis, Pierce A and B Lyceum students had the opportunity to attend [an online presentation – talk](#) by the interdisciplinary team **iGEM NOUS**, on the subject “Biology today, thanks to viruses.” More specifically, iGEM NOUS introduced and presented the concepts of **Synthetic Biology** to our students. The main member of the team is a **Pierce graduate (Class of 2018), Christos Mantis**, who is in his 3rd year of studies in the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics of the Democritus University of Thrace in Alexandroupoli.

The **NOUS** team is taking part in the International Competition iGEM 2021 and is organizing activities aimed at familiarizing students with Synthetic Biology and related scientific research. The team’s vision is to provide innovative solutions to everyday problems and, at the same time, to be a source of inspiration for further research. In its first time participating in the competition, the team’s proposal deals with the treatment of osteoarthritis. The therapy will be based on the use of a genetic circuit, the activation of which will result, on the one hand, in the secretion of cartilage degeneration inhibitors and, on the other hand, in the return of the joint to its original state!

#### *m. Lifefprint from Pierce in the final 10 best student businesses!*

[“Lifefprint,”](#) the student business of the Pierce Junior Achievement Club has qualified to the **final ten of the Panhellenic Student Virtual Business Competition**, which will take place online on Saturday, June 12, 2021. At the following link, you can see the [analytical presentation of Lifefprint](#).

The Lifefprint app is a Start-up business, designed by students of Pierce – The American College of Greece, as part of the SEN/JA Virtual Businesses Program, whose goal is to change all of our consumer habits, so as not to burden our environment – either directly or indirectly. The app is for people of all ages who, by using the app, are informed about the ecological footprint of the consumer habits and behavior of themselves and their families, they understand the consequences of their actions and are guided as to how to make conscious choices in their daily ecological behavior, products, and services.

In a playful way, the application offers environmentally friendly alternatives to everyday activities (best practices), so that users can improve their daily life and their footprint on the environment in areas such as **nutrition, transportation, purchases, energy, and tourism**.

The app rewards its users for implementing scientifically best practices in reducing the emission of pollutants with discounts on products and reinforces “**green behaviors**” with one additional financial incentive. It collects and promotes products and services that have environmental certification κ (ISO 14001, EMAS, Green key, etc.) and measures the user’s carbon footprint so that he can maintain the desired goal. It also functions as an information hub for users regarding new developments in issues of climate change and ecological actions that the user can take part in. Finally, it can become one more tool in the smooth transition of the state and of businesses to the Green Deal.



*n. Earthlips: Award at world final for Pierce student business!*

Two students of Pierce – The American College of Greece (**Ariadne – Anthi Papouli and Stefania Vasileiadou,**) won the [“Waste and Recycling Innovation” Prize](#), along with a monetary award, at the **Diamond Challenge** International Student Entrepreneurship Competition, organized by the University of Delaware in the USA.

This was **the first time a participant from Greece was awarded** and, for this year, is the **only award-winner in all of Europe**.

“**Earthlips**“, the student sustainable development enterprise, introduces a revolutionary idea in the beauty industry: a lipstick with ecological packaging which can be reused, without plastic that pollutes the environment. The lipstick itself is also user- and planet- friendly, as it was created from flower, fruit, and vegetable extracts. The prototype of the idea was created using the school’s 3D printers.

*12. ACG Institute of Public Health Lectures (2021 series)*

The [ACG Institute of Public Health](#) (IPH) organizes annual series of lectures on various Public Health topics. The lectures are addressed to health professionals, school teachers, scientists, as well as the general public, and especially parents interested in receiving up-to-date, scientifically proven information on crucial, current issues related to Public Health. All lectures are delivered once a month in Greek by leading medical and academic experts and they are open to public, free-of-charge.

The 2021 lectures included the following:

- Education & preventive measures to avoid severe accidents in children and adolescents
- Transfusion Medicine: Current challenges in blood safety and quality of blood in emergencies
- Sleep Disorders Medicine: The Advent of an Interdisciplinary Field
- Sleep Apnea Syndrome: A Clinical Entity Underestimated and Underdiagnosed
- Important Post COVID-19 Implications - Round table discussion
- Obesity and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Children & Adolescents
- Issues in Biomedical Ethics: Patient Autonomy - Doctor-Patient Confidentiality and Sensitive Personal, Data - Mandatory Vaccination – Euthanasia: ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

SDG 3; SDG 4

*13. Corporate Responsibility & Sustainability School 2021 (CSR-School 3.0)*

On June 10, 2021, CSR Hellas, in collaboration with the University of Crete, Alba Executive Development -The American College of Greece, and the Office of Public Affairs – The American College of Greece, organized an online High-Level Panel Discussion on “Education as a foundation for Sustainability”, thereby initiating the 3rd CSR-School.

From June 15 to July 22, 2021, CSR Hellas, the University of Crete, and Alba Executive Education, with the support of the Office of Public Affairs, organized the [3rd CSR-School](#). This advanced training program consisted of 12 four-hour webinars that welcomed prominent academics and practitioners covering a wide range of thematic areas, such as sustainable value creation, legal aspects of CSR,

circular economy, etc. 36 trainees participated in the CSR-School 2021 and were added to the growing network of CSR-School alumni.

[This initiative](#), which is the first full-fledged collaboration between a public and a private university and a business network in Greece, is set to continue on an annual basis with the fourth Executive Education program underway from September 30<sup>th</sup> -to December 09<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

SDG 4; SDG 17

*\*Essentially, supporting all SDGs through the educational content and learning outcomes.*

#### *14. Student-Run Endowment (SRE)\*\**

The Student-Run Endowment (SRE) was made possible by a generous endowment gift in the summer of 2019 from ACG Trustees, along with the support of the ACG/AUG Board of Trustees for the purpose of establishing a new student strategic investment fund in order to enhance student learning by providing ACG students with a real-world opportunity to invest and manage a fund of significant magnitude.

Management of the Student-Run Endowment continues to give students of Investment Analysis and Management courses invaluable experience of portfolio management in practice. This year the students' portfolio comprised sixteen stocks selected via fundamental analysis. The portfolio was purchased on November 3, 2021 and the amount invested amounted to \$87,500, approximately 50% of the SRE. As at December 31, the portfolio return on the invested amount was 2.78%, outperforming the S&P500 index return over the same period by 0.51%. By January 4, 2022, the total value of the SRE exceeded the milestone of \$180,000.

The 2021 Team continues to monitor the portfolio in the first months of 2022 as the total value of the SRE proves to be quite resilient considering the slash in the S&P500 following the turmoil in energy markets. The students look forward to delivering a presentation on their experience in the Athens meeting of the ACG Board of Trustees in June 2022.

SDG 4

#### *15. Deree Professor ranked in the top 5 nationally out of 280 fellow educators in the Coding for Sustainability*

Deree Professor Dimitris Makris (International Honors Program) ranked in the top 5 nationally out of 280 fellow educators in the Coding for Sustainability con-test organized by the British Council and Samsung in June 2021. All participants were provided with training on the MakeCode Microsoft platform and proceeded to submit their proposals in connection to the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals. His award-winning proposal "Earth+" envisioned a digital platform that would aggregate the user's impact on the environment by leveraging the physical-computing microbit sensor technology.

SDG 4

#### *16. Business Incubation Scholarships by Odyssea and Alba*

A group of 10 aspiring entrepreneurs from vulnerable and excluded communities in Greece received training and hands-on support to develop and implement their entrepreneurial ideas.

[The program](#), implemented by AHEAD - ALBA Hub for Entrepreneurship and Development and coordinated by the not-for-profit organization Odyssea, aims to help people who would not otherwise have access to this sort of advanced training and support, in order to set up their own new businesses. It



is addressed to people who are unemployed or in work suspension, and refugees or migrants with the right to live and work in Greece.

The incubation program includes a fast-paced training phase that focuses on the viability and desirability of the entrepreneurial ideas the participants will be committing to. Once the intensive training concludes, the participants are matched to their coaches and start working on their business ideas on an individual basis. Their incubation is enriched with seminars and mentoring, while they also receive technical support from lawyers, accountants, and other idea-related experts.

The incubation program is supported by US philanthropic organization NextFab Foundation, and coordinated and delivered by Odyssea and Alba.

SDG 4; SDG 8; SDG 17;

### *17. Join VentureGarden Athens and get your entrepreneurial idea going!*

VentureGarden Athens 2021, Alba's - ACG idea accelerator kicked off early October. The program was looking for committed entrepreneurs who either have a new business idea or are looking to transform their existing business. Having worked with over 380 aspiring entrepreneurs since 2014 in Athens, the program is designed to become a personalized guide to entrepreneurship.

The program is **free of charge**. VentureGarden starts with a targeted training phase that introduces participants to the key elements of entrepreneurial action. The intensive program consists of 8 classes based on the Value Proposition concept, and focuses on market research and understanding customer/user needs (Problem-Solution Fit). Following the training phase, interested and committed participants receive support from experienced mentors to achieve specific goals that lasts up to 3 months. Following the program's motto "**Helping People Grow Ideas**", it welcomes all individuals passionate about entrepreneurship who have a strong sense of dedication. You can join VentureGarden regardless of their age, sex, origin, and background.

VentureGarden launched in February 2014. It is delivered in Athens by Alba Graduate Business School, The American College of Greece. The program's founding sponsor is The Hellenic Initiative.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the program was offered online, using both synchronous and asynchronous training and networking tools.

SDG 4; SDG 8;

### *18. Sustainable Events Guidelines*

To enhance the College's commitment towards sustainability and President Horner's 2025 Vision, the Office of Public Affairs, launched the [Sustainable Events Guidelines](#) in an effort to further support sustainable development across all of its divisions in 2018.

The overall goal of these guidelines is to help reduce the environmental and financial cost of an ACG event, while maintaining quality and ensuring that the event caters to cultural and social diversities. The guidelines include key performance indicators (KPI's) which focus on policy, materials and waste, catering, and energy. The KPI's are evaluated and updated bi-annually in collaboration with our catering providers, so we can operate in unison and the guidelines are implemented effectively (most recent update in September 2020). The September 2020 update of these guidelines has been officially incorporated in the new events policy enforced in Fall 2020.

SDG 11; SDG 12; SDG 13

*19. ACG Community Service Days – Because ACG Cares!*

- a. In 2021, in the context of ACG’s long standing initiative and due to the elevated and urgent need for the replenishment of Greek hospitals’ blood supplies, we organized three emergency blood drives in the context of the ACG Community Service Days in March, July, and November. Two hundred and two ACG Community members (students, faculty, staff, and alumni) and friends collectively donated blood to four different Greek public hospitals.

SDG 3

- b. On Monday, November 29, 2021, in the context of the [Fall ACG Community Service Day](#) organized by the Office of Public Affairs, ACG members baked on campus sweet treats for a good cause. Our volunteers prepared and donated 165 individual packages of muffins and cookies for two local charities.

SDG 1; SDG2

ACG Community Service Day Spring 2021 – A ‘sweet’ volunteer initiative in support of the EMFASIS Foundation!

- c. On Monday, April 26, 2021, in the context of the [Spring ACG Community Service Day](#) organized by the Office of Public Affairs, ACG faculty and staff gathered at the Pierce Home Economics professional kitchen to prepare, bake and package sweet treats for a good cause. Our volunteers managed to bake and prepare 186 individual packages of muffins and cookies and gather a small monetary donation, which were delivered to the EMFASIS Foundation in the context of their Easter Campaign “No one alone” in support of people living in the streets.

SDG 1; SDG2

*20. Celebrating the Environment 2021: Reimagine, Recreate, Restore*

Addressing environmental issues and challenges through coordinated interdisciplinary approaches as well as the important role of environmental education were at the heart of the two-day event entitled [“Celebrating the Environment 2021: Reimagine, Recreate, Restore”](#), held by the American College of Greece in the context of the initiative ACG150 and the celebration of World Environment Day, on June 7-8, 2021. The event was organized by the Environmental Studies Program, the Department of Science and Mathematics, the ACG Center of Excellence in Sustainability and the Office of Public Affairs.

SDG 4; SDG 11

*21. ACG volunteers help restore a fire-stricken family business of ACG Alumni in Northern Evia*

On September 4, 2021, the Office of Public Affairs, in collaboration with the Office of Advancement and the Deree Student Emergency Response Force (SERF), led a group of 33 comprising alumni,

SERFers, ACG Sustainability Leaders, Pierce students and parents, and staff, who helped [restore the olive grove](#) and clean one of the destroyed houses at Eleonas Hotel in Rovies, Northern Evia, a family business, whose owners represent three generations of ACG Alumni. This initiative was kindly supported by UNISON GROUP who contributed the necessary equipment.

SDG4; SDG 17

## 22. *Higher education, sustainability and the SDGs: An interactive virtual discussion with Prof. Jeffrey Sachs!*

On Tuesday, March 30, 2021, ACG hosted the online event [“The Role of Higher Education Institutions in promoting the SDGs”](#) , organized by UN SDSN Greece in the context of their initiative regarding sustainability in higher education in Greece in line with UN’s Mission 4.7, in collaboration with ACG, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), and the Athens University of Economics and Business (AUEB). Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, President of UN SDSN, delivered the keynote speech while the Deputy Minister of Education (responsible for higher education) Angelos Syrigos delivered the welcome remarks. The Senior Manager for Sustainability, Office of Public Affairs and Dr. Stella Apostolaki, Associate Faculty – Lecturer I, Environmental Studies Program Coordinator – Department of Science and Mathematics, Chair of Academic Advisory Board of the CES, both participated in the event. Of special importance was the role of the three student SDG Youth Coordinators, from ACG, NKUA, and AUEB, who engaged in a thought-provoking conversation with J. Sachs.

SDG 4

## 23. *CLIMATHON Piraeus, 2021*

Six ACG Environmental Studies students won the 1st and 2nd prize awards in the [CLIMATHON Piraeus competition](#), November 20 & 21, 2021, Blue Lab – Municipality of Piraeus. CLIMATHON Piraeus was co-organized by the American College of Greece through the Center of Excellence in Sustainability (CoES), the Center of Excellence in Logistics, Shipping and Transportation (CoELST) and the Department of Science and Mathematics, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

CLIMATHON is an initiative of EIT Climate KIC and aims at the amplification of actions by municipalities and communities for climate change mitigation, adaptation and increase of resilience.

The ACG students, responded to the Challenge of ‘identifying innovative solutions and plans on Eco-mobility and sustainable urban planning for the city of Piraeus

SDG 4; SDG 11

## 24. *Partnership with the EC New Bauhaus Initiative*

[ACG is added as official partner in EC New Bauhaus Initiative](#) , under the efforts of the Department of Science and Mathematics, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Center of Excellence in Sustainability in collaboration with Faculty members from other Departments and Units of the ACG.

The New European Bauhaus initiative connects the European Green Deal to our living spaces. It calls on all Europeans to imagine and build together a sustainable and inclusive future that is beautiful for our eyes, minds, and souls.

SDG 4; SDG 11

#### 25. *Deree Sports Management Program supports the SDGs*

Two Deree Professors (Dr. Tzoumaka and Dr. Leivadi) of the Sports Management program are running a series of studies which involve sports tourism events (e.g., Zagori Mountain Run, Pefki Swimming Authentic Marathon etc.) to explore the economic impact that a major recurring event has for its hosting destination, mostly its contribution to the local economy. The project started in the Summer of 2021 and it will be updated annually

In addition, the Sports Management Society and Program is participating since 2018 in the annual “Peace & Sport” international organization’s “April6 Initiative (White Card Campaign)” with actions happening all around campus and in 2019, the society was nominated for the April6 Initiative of the Year (White Card Campaign). The list of nominees also included the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, the Alliance for Middle-East Peace [ALLMEP], the National Olympic Committee Pakistan, Fédération Internationale de Teqball [FITEQ], the Deporte para el Desarrollo, Croatian United Nations Association, the Associazione Sport e Società: Progetto Filippide. In the same year, SPM Society president Konstantinos Asimakopoulos was selected and participated in the 2019 Peace & Sport Young Leaders Forum as one of 15 young people from around the world.

SDG4; SDG 8; SDG 16

#### 26. *ACG Community Service Leave Policy*

Established in early 2020, the purpose of this policy is to allow employees (faculty and staff) to participate voluntarily in services for our community during their workweek. This supports the president’s goal to enable and empower faculty, and staff, to give back to the community.

*All SDGs – depending on the community service activity organized any SDG can be supported / enhanced*

#### 27. *ACG graduates commit to advancing sustainability outside campus walls!*

In a series of five consecutive commencement ceremonies, the ACG graduates of 2020 and 2021 (Deree, Pierce, Alba) walked proudly, holding their well-deserved degrees in hand, wearing the [ACG Cares green ribbon](#) that signifies their commitment to advancing sustainability.

The green ribbon was launched in 2019 as part of the [ACG Sustainability Graduation Pledge](#). This pledge highlights the commitment of our new graduates to use the knowledge, values, and experiences acquired while studying at The American College of Greece (ACG), acting as engaged and responsible citizens and professionals, in order to help create a more socially, economically and environmentally sustainable world.

This initiative is part of the [College's overall sustainability strategy](#), which includes a set of best practices to be followed at all ACG events, including the graduation ceremonies, and evaluates an event's sustainability score based on materials used and/or avoided and other key categories.

SDG 4; SDG 5; SDG 11

## *28. ACG gets recognized for its sustainability best practices*

In 2021, ACG, based on the data submitted in our more recent STARS report, was:

- recognized as a **top performer for its sustainability best practices** in the [2021 Sustainable Campus Index \(SCI\) of AASHE for the sixth consecutive year](#) in the categories (i) **Grounds** and (ii) **Purchasing. ACG is one of the only two institutions outside the US, Canada, and Australia to be included.**
- included in the [12th annual "Guide to Green Colleges" of Princeton Review for the fourth consecutive year](#). According to the Review, ACG is one of the 420 most environmentally responsible colleges globally out of the 835 schools surveyed during the academic year 2020 – 2021. ACG is the one of the only 3 institutions outside US and Canada to be included and the only one in Europe
- Included in SIERRA Magazine's [15th annual 'Cool Schools' list for 2021](#) for the third time. ACG was ranked 92nd among 328 international educational institutions. ACG cohabits the list with other prestigious colleges and universities, namely Columbia, Tufts, Carnegie Mellon, Cornell, Clarkson University, etc.

*All SDGs*

## *29. The ACG Senior Sustainability Manager appointed to AASHE's Advisory Council*

In January 2021, the ACG Senior Manager for Sustainability, Office of Public Affairs, and following a direct proposal from AASHE, [was appointed to AASHE's Advisory Council](#) for a two-year, renewable, term. The Advisory Council is an advisory body whose input often has a significant impact on staff and board decisions of AASHE. Members provide feedback regarding the development and implementation of AASHE's Strategic Plan and contribute to its variety of programs, such as advising on the STARS report technical development. Only three members represent educational institutions outside the US and Canada, such as ACG. Also, through her role she was selected by AASHE as a judge in AASHE's Sustainability Awards 2021, and she was chosen to participate in the AASHE Mentorship & Peer Collaboration Program for the second consecutive academic year. She has been selected as a mentor for two international academic institutions – CES University in Colombia and Texas A&M University in the US.

*All SDGs*

## **VI. UNAI Principle: A commitment to promoting inter-cultural dialogue and understanding, and the unlearning of intolerance, through education.**

- 1. The International Relations and European Affairs (IREA) program (undergraduate, Deree – The American College of Greece)*

The [IREA program](#) is offered by the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences of Deree – The American College of Greece, under the Department of History, Philosophy, and the Ancient World. As part of the program, students also acquire an understanding of how political thought and authority have evolved, as well as engage in discussion of issues – such as social justice, political liberalism, and individual liberty. Furthermore, students expand their general understanding of International Relations from historical, socio-cultural, political, and economic perspectives.

SDG 4; SDG 16

2. [Sociology program \(undergraduate, Deree – The American College of Greece\)](#)

[The program](#) offers a solid curriculum with a diversity of courses in the following areas: Globalization and Migration, Family, Gender and Health, Social Movements, and more. In conjunction with Anthropology, Sociology deepens understanding of the cross-cultural links among societies and thus appreciation of cultural diversity.

SDG 4; SDG 16

3. [International Honors Program \(undergraduate, Deree – The American College of Greece\)](#)

The Deree–ACG [International Honors Program](#) (IHP) offers motivated and academically-committed Honors students educational enrichment through interdisciplinary learning experiences and opportunities for independent scholarship. It seeks to develop students’ intellectual and civic leadership skills through dynamic teaching and student involvement that extend beyond the classroom. Several courses of the IHP program adhere this UNAI principle, including:

- **HHU 2225 Identity and Mobility in the Aegean: Perspectives from Greece and Turkey:** The course focuses on experiences of mobility and conceptualizations of identity in the Aegean in the context of historical, social, and cultural interfaces between Greeks and Turks. Emphasis on instances of displacement and intercultural contact between Greece and Turkey from the Ottoman times all the way to the present.
- **HHU 2230 Antigone’s Dilemma: Citizenship and Resistance in the Contemporary World:** This course uses Sophocles’ Antigone and its multiple readings, adaptations, and enactments, as a springboard in order to explore the problematic of communal belonging and individuality, especially in its contemporary manifestations. Antigone, an emblematic figure of civil disobedience, offers us a way to reflect on the underpinnings of citizenship, resistance, and ethical responsibility. The course invites an interdisciplinary engagement with Antigone, one that brings together philosophy, literary theory, aesthetics, political theory, and gender studies. Readings and material will be drawn from the humanities and art.
- **HHU 2219 What it Means to Be Greek: Perspectives of Greek Identity and Nationhood:** A historical treatment of the evolving ideas of Greekness from the Greek revolution to the present. The course explores changing notions of Greek identity articulated by both Greeks and non-Greeks. Focusing on different texts, from historical documents and literary works as well as films and electronic media, the course helps students explore different perspectives on Greek identity, articulated by both Greeks and non-Greeks. As a result, students develop awareness of the contingent and shifting nature of Greekness, and reflect on the ideological significance of representations of Greekness, both within and outside Greece.

- **HHU 2215 From Region to Nation: The Birth of Ethnic Identities in the Balkans:** The course focuses on the construction of ethnic identities in the Balkan region from the Ottoman times all the way to the present. It aims to guide students to reconsider their views on nationhood, while developing a more informed understanding of the uniqueness of the Balkan societies and cultures and the ways in which the historical origins of Balkan countries have shaped inter-state relations.

The Balkans are one of the most troubled regions in the world. A province of the Ottoman Empire until the 19th century, the Balkans became a theater of intense conflict as different communities struggled for territorial control in the wake of the Ottoman Empire's collapse. These conflicts were often existential in nature, which explains why readings of history differ among the national groups in the region, contributing to inter-state disputes. The course explores the historical origins of Balkan nations and the process through which their national mythologies were consolidated. It adopts a survey approach to examine identity issues based on language, origin and religion.

SDG 4; SDG 16

#### 4. *International Baccalaureate Program (Pierce – The American College of Greece)*

In the IB program, ACG professors have developed a new course, IB 4168 Cross-Cultural Management, which aspires to help students enhance their cross-cultural competence, i.e. their ability to interact with individuals from different cultures effectively. In particular, in partnership with four colleagues from four Global Liberal Arts Alliance (GLAA) institutions, namely Albion College (USA), USFQ (Ecuador) and Ashesi University (Ghana), ACG has developed a unique Global Course Connection through which students from our 4 classes are assigned to a global virtual team comprising students from all campuses with the purpose of conducting cross-cultural research on a management topic. The students are also attending a number of 'shared classes' offered synchronously to all students from all four campuses which enables students to acquire unique local insights and perspectives regarding the cultures of the four participating countries.

Our partnership is titled "Business Education in Liberal Arts Colleges: Fostering a Global Mindset," and is supported financially by the GLCA (Great Lakes Colleges Association) in the context of the Global Learning Program of the Global Crossroads Initiative. Our ambition is to establish a long-term partnership and, hopefully, expand it with the addition of more institutions from other world regions (e.g., South-East Asia) enabling instructors (and programs) to impart cross-cultural competence systematically and on an ongoing basis.

SDG 4; SDG 17

#### 5. *Training and quiz on ACG Non-Discrimination, Anti-Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Relationship Violence and Stalking Policy*

In the summer of 2020, all ACG faculty and staff were required to take a training followed by a quiz on the above policy. ACG is dedicated to adding distinctive and sustainable value to the lives of students and to maintaining a campus ethos of mutual respect, care and responsible action. This policy is grounded in the ACG Community's respect for diversity and commitment to inclusion and guarantees that each community member is treated fairly and with respect within an educational



environment free of discrimination, sexual misconduct, including sexual or gender-based harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation and relationship/dating violence, stalking, intimidation and retaliation against whistle-blowers who in good faith report prohibited conduct under the Policy.

SDG 5; SDG 10

### **Academic research currently undertaken at ACG and helping achieve the SDGs:**

Faculty members from both Deree and Alba actively engage in sustainability-related research projects.

For indicative numbers please see below:

- Number of employees engaged in sustainability research: 18
- Percentage of employees that conduct research that are engaged in sustainability research: 16.98
- Total number of academic departments that include at least one employee who conducts research: 24
- Number of academic departments that include at least one employee who conducts sustainability research: 5
- Percentage of departments that conduct research that are engaged in sustainability research: 20.83

Examples of research conducted in 2021 include the following:

**Apostolaki S.**, Berbel J., Casielles R., Consoli S., Diez Cebollero E., Fatone F., Intrigliolo D.S., Masi F., Schmidt G., Sereno Rosado A., Skunca D., Tsani S., (2021), White Paper - Finding innovative solutions to tackle water scarcity in Southern Europe, EIT Water Scarcity Project - EIT Climate KIC, December 2021, ISBN: 978-9-0903-5514-6

Tsani, S, **Apostolaki, S**, Koundouri, P. (2021). Policies and socio-economic tools for sustainable water management In Tsani, S., Overland I. (Eds.) The Sustainable Politics and Economics of Natural Resources. Edward Elgar Handbooks in Energy, the Environment and Climate Change, December 2021, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781789908770>

A) Energy Conservation and Efficiency of the Maritime Sector

**Kokosalakis G.**, Merika, X, Merika A., "Environmental regulation on the energy-intensive container ship sector: a restraint or opportunity?", Marine Policy, Vol. 125, 2021

**Kokosalakis G.**, Merika A., Triantafillou A., "Energy Efficiency & Emissions Control: The Response of The Second-Hand Containerships Sector", Energy Economics, Vol 100, 2021

Water resources conservation, water pipeline network leakage detection and optimum arrangement

Serafeim, A., **G. Kokosalakis**, R. Deidda, I. Karathanasi and A. Langousis (2021) Probabilistic estimation of minimum night flow in water distribution networks: large-scale application to the city of Patras in western Greece, Stochastic Environmental Research and Risk Assessment , <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00477-021-02042-9>

Serafeim, A., Karathanasi E., Papageorgakopoulos K., Stergiopoulos D., Deidda R., **Kokosalakis G.** and Langousis A., "Probabilistic modeling and uncertainty parameterization of real losses in the water distribution



network of the city of Patras in western Greece”, (Environmental & Water Resources Institute, (EWRI), ASCE, online, Milwaukee, WI, USA, 07–11 June 2021.

Serafeim, A.V., I. Karathanasi, C. Papageorgakopoulos, D. Stergiopoulos, R. Deidda, **G. Kokosalakis**, A. Langousis, (2021) A Non-Parametric Statistical Approach For Minimum Night Flow Estimation In Water Distribution Networks, IWA Digital World Water Congress, Copenhagen Denmark, 24 May - 04 June 2021.

Serafeim, A.V., **Kokosalakis G.**, Deidda R., Karathanasi I. and Langousis A., Practical Estimation of Minimum Night Flow in Water Distribution Networks: Large-scale Application to the City of Patras in Western Greece, EGU General Assembly, 19–30 April, 2021

Kay, A., Charles, T., **Vlachos, P.A.**, Reb, J. “Mindfully Outraged: Mindfulness Amplifies Retribution via Moral Outrage at Third-Party Injustice,” Working Paper (under 2nd round revision). (SDG 16)

#### Conferences/ Presentations in Webinars

1. Sarakinou G., **Apostolaki S.** 2021, "Factors affecting the populations of Sea Turtles, *Caretta caretta*: The Case of Greece", 17th International Conference on Environmental Science and Technology (CEST2021), Athens, Greece, 1 - 4 September 2021
2. **Apostolaki S.** Elshimi A., Chattopadhyay T, Maragou H. 2021, “Promoting education on SDGs via enhanced partnerships and collaborative structured actions at undergraduate level across three institutions located in three continents”, 9th World Sustainability Forum, 13–15 Sep 2021
3. **Apostolaki S.** Elshimi A., Chattopadhyay T, Maragou H. 2021, “SDG education via enhanced partnerships and collaborative structured actions across three institutions located in three continents”, AMICAL Conference, 14 July 2021
4. ATHENS UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS - Life Long Learning Institute (KEΔIBIM), Sustainable Education, in the framework of the educational program on Implementing the Sustainable Transition: Agenda 2030, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the European Green Deal, 3- hour lecture, March 22, 2021

#### Events

1. Roundtable Discussion on ‘Challenges introduced by Climate Change, COVID-19 Pandemic and natural disasters for sustainable cities’ was organized by the student organization BEST on December 13, 16:00-17:30, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA). Dr. Paraskevi Papadopoulou, Professor, Head of the Department of Science and Mathematics & Biomedical Sciences Program, The American College of Greece and **Dr. Stella Apostolaki**, Assistant Professor, Coordinator of Environmental Studies Program, Executive Director of the Center of Excellence in Sustainability – The American College of Greece.
2. Academic Seminar on ‘The start of a decade of new crises: Climate and Energy – the policy agenda’ organized by the student association SAFIA, December 9, 18:00 – 20:30 and was hosted by the American College of Greece. **Dr. Stella Apostolaki**, Assistant Professor, Coordinator of Environmental Studies Program, Executive Director of the Center of Excellence in Sustainability – The American College of Greece on welcoming remarks and introduction into the climate change facts for Greece.

Also, our students during their thesis explore topics related to certain SDGs. Examples can be found below:

1. Eleni Afouxenidou: “Happiness is a beautiful fruit that tastes of cruelty”. An examination of resilience protective factors among the Greek LGBTQ+ community.” (Graduate Psychology Program in Counseling

Psychology and Psychotherapy - Supervisor Deree Professor Ion Beratis MSc, PhD Assistant Professor of Psychology)

2. Ariagni Prokaki: “Attachment style and post-traumatic stress disorder symptomatology due to the COVID-19 pandemic in healthcare professionals” (Graduate Psychology Program in Counseling Psychology and Psychotherapy - Supervisor Deree Professor Ion Beratis MSc, PhD Assistant Professor of Psychology)

3. Konstantinos Kyvrikosaios: “Personality and the role of gender on subjective sleep quality.” (International Honors Program - Supervisor Deree Professor Ion Beratis MSc, PhD Assistant Professor of Psychology)

4. Romina Karkalou: “Exploring the relationship of emotional intelligence, resilience, and occupational stress in workers in Greece” (International Honors Program - Supervisor Deree Professor Ion Beratis MSc, PhD Assistant Professor of Psychology)

### **ACG 150 Research Center**

Starting in December 2020, the new by-laws of The American College of Greece Research Center (ACGRC), established in 2008, have been approved by the Greek Government. Following from that, ACGRC will act as a formal host for the College’s research activities supported by external funds, thus, supporting ACG faculty to submit proposals to the EU and other grants. The creation of the ACGRC represents a major step in promoting our faculty’s research activities and results from the College’s efforts under the ACG150 strategic plan to leverage education for economic and social impact.

### **Research, Technology & Innovation Network**

As part of the ACG 150 strategic plan, the RTIN seeks to combine the in-house research and innovation (R&I) potential stemming from ACG’s faculty, schools, departments, institutes, centers, programs and labs with an external network of collaborators and innovation players (corporations, investors, start-up clusters and incubators, funding agencies, innovation, and market fora and think-tanks, venture capital funds, standardization, and regulatory authorities, legal counsels, sponsors, and donors). The doors of RTIN are open to all ACG faculty, while it hosts a number of research fellows and members from ACG, as well as resident and visiting researchers that work on various research and innovation-oriented projects.

Virtually unlimited in theme and scope, the Network’s activities track the evolution of many science and technology (S&T) disciplines that shape our world. Some current areas that are addressed through the activities of current Deree and ALBA faculty include: information and communication technologies (next-generation networks including the Internet-of-Things, data science, artificial intelligence, cyber security, etc.), optimization and operations research, economics and finance, marketing, business and management, biomedical science and e-health, psychology and cognitive science, visual arts, literature, philosophy, history, and journalism.

For more information on [Sustainability@ACG](mailto:Sustainability@ACG), please visit our website:

<https://www.acg.edu/about-acg/sustainability-at-acg/>.

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