

# ***HYE SHARZHOOM***

# ***Armenian Action***

# ***ՀԱՅ ՇԱՐԺՈՍ***



## 36<sup>th</sup> Year

October 2014

Vol. 36, No. 1 (127)

Ethnic Supplement to The Collegian

## President Castro Interviewed after First Year in Office



**President Joseph Castro**  
**ANDREW ESGUERRA**  
*STAFF WRITER*

Fresno State welcomed Dr. Joseph I. Castro as its new University President in August of 2013, replacing retiring President Dr. John Welty, who had served for 22 years. Dr. Castro, a native of nearby Hanford, California,

Photo: Cary Edmondson, University Photographer

sat down with *Hye Sharzhoom* to discuss the role of the Armenian Studies Program and his reflections on the Armenian community.

Growing up in Central California, Dr. Castro was both familiar with and an adamant proponent of the cultural diversity in the region, stating that it brings “something special, something unique” to our history. Prior to his presidency, interactions with Armenians in his hometown community resulted in fond memories of his mother’s hairdresser, friends, and, of course, the ever-present amalgamation of food and hospitality during visits to Armenian households.

Fast forward to the present day, as Dr. Castro sits in an office overlooking the speaker’s platform on Fresno State’s campus, where the Armenian Students Organization’s model of the Armenian Genocide Memorial

SEE [DR. CASTRO](#) PAGE 7

## Armenian Studies Program Armenia Summer Study Trip-May 26-June 11



Left to right: Alek Khatchigian, Andrew Esguerra, Lauren Chardukian, Marine Vardanyan, Suren Oganessian, Hovsep Nagapetian, Menas Arisian, Sarkis Manavazian, Connor Esraelian, Prof. Sergio La Porta, and Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, at Khor Virap, with Mt. Ararat in the background.

**MARINE VARDANYAN**  
*EDITOR*

This summer, a group of nine students, led by the faculty of the Armenian Studies Program, travelled 7,024 miles to live two weeks in the ancient land of Armenia. The group, self-dubbed the “Yerevan Eleven,” was the class of Armenian Studies 120 T: Armenia Today. Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian and Prof. Sergio La Porta led nine students, Andrew Esguerra, Hovsep Nagapetian, Sarkis Manavazian, Alek

Khatchigian, Suren Oganessian, Menas Arisian, Connor Esraelian, Lauren Chardukian, and myself on an educational journey, where they discovered the Armenia that should be experienced in person as well as in the classroom.

This trip was a once in a lifetime opportunity to witness in person what the Armenia students were raised hearing about from family members, church, and school. The course gifted the group with the opportunity to travel with

SEE [ARMENIA](#) PAGE 4

## Armenian Genocide Monument Planned for Fresno State Campus-Groundbreaking Nov. 2



A rendering of the planned Armenian Genocide Monument at Fresno State.

**MICHAEL RETTIG**  
*STAFF WRITER*

As the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide approaches

occasion. Although a century has passed since the Genocide took place, it continues to loom large in the Armenian conscious. With this in mind, Fresno’s

**Armenian Genocide Monument  
Groundbreaking Ceremony  
Sunday, November 2, 2:30pm  
Maple Mall, Fresno State**

**The public is welcome.  
Free parking in Lots P5, P6  
(near the Peters Business Building)  
agcfresno.org • facebook.com/agcfresno •  
fresnostate.edu/armenianstudies**

in 2015, the Armenian community of Fresno has come together to commemorate this solemn

Armenian community, under the auspices of the Armenian Genocide Centennial Committee

Rendering: Paul Halajian Architects

(AGC), has united to plan the construction of an Armenian Genocide Monument on the Fresno State campus, to be inaugurated on April 24, 2015.

The AGC is an umbrella association of representatives from the area’s religious, educational, social, and political organizations, working together to commemorate and raise awareness about the Genocide on its 100th anniversary. The centerpiece of their activities is the planned Genocide Monument.

The Armenian Genocide took place in 1915 as the Ottoman Empire tried to eliminate its

SEE [MONUMENT](#) PAGE 8

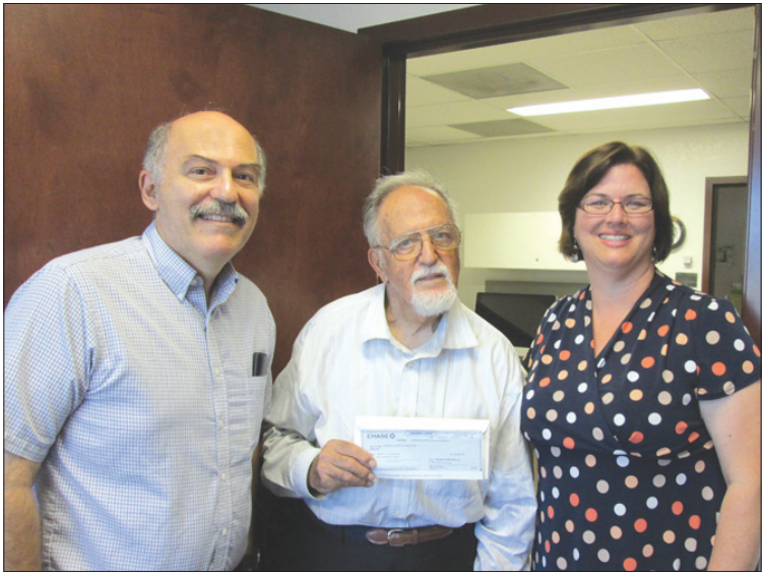
## Antoyan Endowed Scholarship Established in ASP

STAFF REPORT

Armenian Studies Program Director Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian is pleased to announce the establishment of the G. Franklin Antoyan Endowed Scholarship Fund at Fresno State. The Endowment, with an initial investment of \$25,000, will benefit students who are enrolled in Armenian or Armenian Studies courses at Fresno State.

Mr. G. Franklin Antoyan was born in Fresno and attended local schools, graduating from Fresno High School. He later left Fresno and worked for nearly thirty years for the General Services Administration in Stockton. After retiring he returned to Fresno to care for his mother.

Mr. Antoyan’s parents, George H. Antoyan and Alice Saroyan Antoyan, were both natives of Bitlis. George and his family immigrated to Fresno in 1906,



Left to right: ASP Coordinator Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, G. Franklin Antoyan, and Lee Ann Jansen, Director of Development for the College of Arts and Humanities.

while Alice’s family immigrated to the United States in 1921.

Mr. Antoyan became close to the Armenian Studies Program and to Fresno State while attending ASP lectures and events.

The Armenian Studies Program is grateful to Mr. Antoyan for establishing a permanent Endowed Scholarship Fund that will benefit generations of students.



Armenian Studies Program  
Book/Video/CD Archival Gifts

Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Prof. Sergio La Porta, and the Armenian Studies Program would like to thank the donors, authors, and publishers for the following books, periodicals, videos, and archival gifts, either offered personally, or to the Program.

**Lucille Apar,** Mariposa, California, for a variety of Armenian themed books and CDs.

**Armenian International Women’s Association,** Watertown, MA, for copies of two newly published translations of Zabel Yessayan’s works, *The Gardens of Silihdar*, tr. by Jennifer Manoukian (Boston, MA: AIWA Press, 2014), 173pp., in English and *My Soul in Exile and Other Writings*, edited by Barbara Merguerian (Boston, MA: AIWA, 2014), 118pp., in English. *The Gardens of Silihdar* is a narrative of Yessayan’s childhood and an account of Armenian community life in Constantinople. *My Soul in Exile* and other short stories addresses the role of women in society.

**Edmond Azadian,** Detroit, Michigan, for a copy of his book *Vahan Tekeyan: Banasteghsutiuneru Hatentir* (Yerevan: Tekeyan Cultural Association, 2012), 246pp., in Armenian. A new study of the selected poems of Vahan Tekeyan.

**Berge & Alice Bulbulian,** Selma, for copies of the book *Confessions of a Francophile*, by Aram J. Kevorkian (Taderon Press, 2002), 392pp., in English, a series of essays by the noted lawyer and journalist Aram Kevorkian; and for a copy of *Atlas of Historical Armenia* by H. K. Babessian (Los Angeles-Fresno, 1954), 326 pp., in Armenian.

**Archbishop Oshagan Cholyan,** Prelate, Armenian Apostolic Church of America (Eastern Prelacy), New York, for a copy of *Commentary on the Four Evangelists* by Step’anos Siwnets’i, translated by Michael B. Papazian (New York: Armenian Apostolic Church of America, 2014), 333pp., in English and Armenian. A translation of an important work, a commentary on the Gospels, reflecting the rich biblical tradition of the Armenian Church.

**Dr. Hayk Demoyan,** Director of the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute in Yerevan, Armenia, for the following books: *Sentinel of Truth: Gourgen Yanikian and the Struggle Against the Denial of the Armenian Genocide* by Tigran Kalaydjian (Yerevan, 2013), 119pp., in English; *Genocide of Armenians Through Swedish Eyes* by Göran Gunner (Yerevan: The Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute, 2013), 370pp., in English; *The Greek Population in the Ottoman Empire and the Asia Minor Disaster (1914-1923)* by Gevorg Vardanyan (Yerevan: Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute, 2012), 194pp., in Armenian, with an English summary; Volume 1 of the *Journal of Genocide Studies* (Yerevan 2013), published by the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute in Yerevan, 174pp., in Armenian and English; *The Status of the Armenian Deportees Settled in Syria as a Result of the Armenian Genocide and the Armenian-Arab Relations (1915-1924)* by Narine Margaryan (Yerevan, 2013), 171pp., in Armenian with an English summary; *Janachum yev Datapartum* (Recognition and Judgment) by Meline Anoumyan (Yerevan, 2013), 167pp., in Armenian; and *Ambassador Morgenthau’s Story*, translated into Armenian (Yerevan, 2012), 308pp., in Armenian, a first Armenian translation.

**Dr. Arda Arsenian Ekmekji,** Dean of Arts & Sciences, Haigazian University, Beirut, Lebanon, for her book *Towards Golgotha: The Memoirs of Hagop Arsenian, a Genocide Survivor* (Beirut: Haigazian University Press, 2011), 238pp., in English.

**Hagop A. Gagossian,** Pasadena, California, for a gift of CDs by noted singer Kevork Gagossian and for a memorial volume dedicated to Kevork Gagossian (1942-1969) (Beirut, 1974), 167pp., in Armenian and French.

**Shahen Khatchaturian,** Yerevan, Armenia, for a copy of his new book, *Hovhannes Aivazovski 1817-1900* (Yerevan, 2013), 143pp., in Armenian and Russian. This is the seventh in a series of monographs on noted Armenian artists.

**Armine Carapetian Koundakjian,** Los Angeles, California, for a gift of her two books, *The Repression of Armenian Repatriates During the Stalin Era* (Yerevan, 2012), 355pp., in English and *What was Written in Iran During Armenian Genocide Years* (Yerevan, 2012), 259pp., in English, Armenian, and Farsi.

**Jackie Shahbazian Kurkjian,** North Hollywood, California for a poster of a letter written to Kurkjian by author William Saroyan in 1969.

**Hagop & Knar Manjikian,** H. and K. Manjikian Publications, Studio City, for a copy of *Our Cross*, by M. Salpi, Volume 6 in the Genocide Library Series, translated by Ishkhan Jinbashian (H. and K. Manjikian Publications, 2014), 81pp., in English. M. Salpi (Aram Sahakian) was a medical officer in the Turkish army in World War I. He met many Armenian soldiers and officers who recounted to him the plight of their families following the deportation and massacres.

**Nor Or Publishing,** Altadena, California, for a copy of *Stories* (Badmevadzkner), by Antranig Antreassian, Vol. 1, (Yerevan, 2006), 423pp., in Armenian. A selection of short stories from the works of Mr. Antreassian.

**Cynthia Shulz,** Berkeley, CA, for two booklets on Soviet Armenia: *Armenia Today* (1977) and *The Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic*.

California State University, Fresno  
Armenian Studies Program

Spring 2015 Schedule of Courses

Course	Units	Time	Day	Instructor
<b>General Education-Breadth, Humanities, Area C2</b>				
• Arm 1B-Elementary Armenian (Class #30002)	4	10:00A-11:50A	MW	B Der Mugrdechian
<b>General Education-Breadth, Arts, Area C1</b>				
• ArmS 20-Arts of Armenia (Class #35678)	3	11:00A-12:15P	TuTh	B Der Mugrdechian
<b>General Education-Breadth, Area D3</b>				
• ArmS 10-Intro Arm Studies (Class #35776)	3	12:00P-12:50P	MWF	Staff
<b>General Education-Integration, Area IC</b>				
• Arm 148-Mastrpcs Arm Cult (Class #35678)	3	2:00P-3:15P	MW	S. La Porta
<b>Upper Division Armenian Studies Courses</b>				
• ArmS 108B-Arm History II (Class #30001)	3	9:30A-10:45A	TuTh	B Der Mugrdechian
<b>New Course-Upper Division</b>				
• ArmS 120T-Genocide in Film (Class #35710)	3	4:00P-6:50P	W	Kazan Visiting Prof.

For more information call the Armenian Studies Program at 278-2669 or visit the ASP office in the Peters Business Building, Room 384. Get a Minor in Armenian Studies. Check on requirements for the Minor in Armenian Studies in the current catalog: <http://www.fresnostate.edu/catalog/subjects/armenian-studies/armenia-mn.html>

HYE SHARZHOOM

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Give Your Way  
to the Armenian Studies Program

There are many ways to support  
the Armenian Studies Program.

1) A gift today could come through the donation of cash, stock, or goods.

2) The Armenian Studies Program can also be supported in the future in estate plans.

Regardless of how a donation is made, each gift impacts  
the lives of students and faculty at Fresno State.

Armenian Studies Program • 5245 N. Backer Ave. PB4  
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Tekeyan: Selected Poems-5th in Armenian Series



Photo: Ovsanna Simonyan

L. to R: Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, Dr. Tamara Hovhannisyan, Edmond Azadian, and Dr. Arpi Sarafian.

ARAMAYIS ORKUSYAN  
STAFF WRITER

A haunting chill overtook the audience as the bitter words, written by Vahan Tekeyan three years after the purging of the Armenian people by the Ottoman Turkish Empire, echoed across the auditorium.

“Send us to hell. Send us to hell again. You made us know it alas, all too well.”

Tekeyan’s words came to life as they were read aloud, stirring sentiments of a hundred years of suffering.

Vahan Tekeyan was a late 19th to mid-20th century Armenian poet and social activist. Regarded as one of the greatest Western Armenian poets, Tekeyan was one of few major poets to survive the Genocide. Consequently, the trials and tribulations of the Armenian people are deeply interwoven in many of Tekeyan’s works. However, many of Tekeyan’s poems also present a hopeful vision of Armenia and the Armenian people—a vision of peace.

Neglected for many years in the English-speaking world,

Vahan Tekeyan’s poems took center stage on the evening of September 19 as part of the Fall Lecture Series of the Fresno State Armenian Studies Program.

The focus of the lecture was to introduce the newly published *Vahan Tekeyan: Selected Poems* and to present a second book *Vahan Tekeyan – Hadendir*.

The lecture brought author and literary critic Edmond Azadian, Dr. Arpi Sarafian of California State University, Los Angeles, and Dr. Tamara Hovhannisyan of the Monterey Institute of International Studies to Fresno State. The distinguished speakers discussed the significance of translating the work of Armenian authors, the significance of Tekeyan’s work, and most importantly the significance of the newly published volume.

Although translating poetry exactly is an impossible task, Dr. Sarafian noted that “the effort to translate must be made whenever it is possible.” Drawing parallels to the classics, Dr. Sarafian highlighted Tekeyan’s “questioning of the benevolent and the divine being, his

indignation of man’s inhumanity to man,” as well as other universal concerns, that also offer invaluable knowledge of human nature and the human experience. For this reason, Dr. Sarafian emphasized that “it would be wrong to keep the beauty and the power of these concerns locked in the Armenian language.”

Dr. Tamara Hovhannisyan gave an in-depth analysis of the poetics of Vahan Tekeyan and discussed the emotional aspects of his work. Her remarks in Armenian, focused on the Armenian language *Hadendir*, written by Edmond Azadian, which has shed new light on Tekeyan’s life and work.

Yet there is perhaps an even greater significance in the release of *Vahan Tekeyan: Selected Poems*. Published as part of the Armenian Series of The Press at California State University, Fresno under the editorship of Professor Barlow Der Mugrdechian, *Vahan Tekeyan* is now the 5th volume in the Armenian Series. Moreover, unlike the *Hadendir*, which is written in Armenian and is aimed towards intellectuals and scholars in Armenia, Edmond Azadian pointed out that “the bilingual volume (*Vahan Tekeyan: Selected Poems*) is directed towards non-Armenians and to the Armenian young generation who are eager to learn and internalize their legacy in the culture of Armenian literature.”

Indeed with each new addition in the Armenian Series of The Press, more awareness of the Armenian culture is brought to the non-Armenian communities at Fresno State and the greater community, and a new medium is created by which the Armenian heritage can be preserved and passed on to the new generations of Armenians.

Yanikian Archives Donated to ASP



Photo: ASP Archive

Gourgen Yanikian  
STAFF REPORT

The Armenian Studies Program has acquired the archives of Gourgen Yanikian, donated by David D. Minier, who was the Santa Barbara prosecutor for the notorious murder case, involving Yanikian and two Turkish diplomats in 1973.

Gourgen Yanikian (1895-1984), a Genocide survivor who was born in Erzerum, was a prolific writer and an engineer.

He lived for many years in Iran before finally settling in Santa Barbara, California.

As a child he had been traumatized by the Armenian

Genocide, because had been an eyewitness to the murder of his brother.

In 1973, Yanikian was convicted of the January 27 assassination of two Los Angeles-based Turkish diplomats, after he lured them to his Santa Barbara hotel room.

After a trial that brought national and international press, Yanikian was sent to prison where he remained until paroled just months before he died.

During his trial, testimony from Genocide victims was barred, depriving Yanikian of an important argument for the defense.

The documents and writings that belonged to Yanikian were collected by the FBI and Sheriff’s deputies immediately after the murders.

There are three boxes of materials pertaining to Yanikian’s trial in Santa Barbara: Yanikian’s personal writings, his personal papers, and a transcript of the jury trial.

The archive is being catalogued and will soon be open for use by scholars.

ASP Friend Anne Elbrecht Passes Away



Photo: ASP Archive

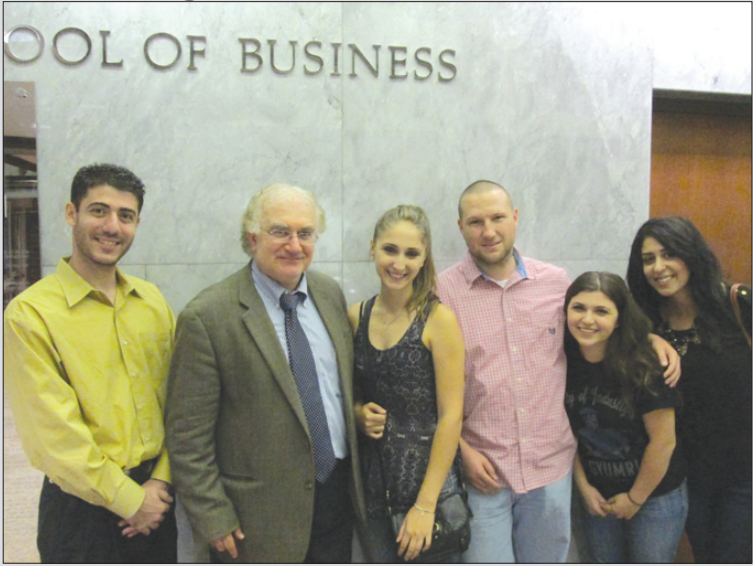
STAFF REPORT

Friend of the Armenian Studies Program Anne Elizabeth Elbrecht passed away on September 24, 2014.

She was born in Philadelphia on July 26, 1940, the first child of William C. Griffith and Alberta McKnight.

After completing a degree in library science at UC Berkeley, Anne joined the Peace Corps and worked in Ghana in west Africa. When she returned home at the

Prof. Simon Payaslian Discusses New England Armenians



L. to R: Hagop Ohanessian, Dr. Simon Payaslian, Marine Vardanyan, Joseph Kouchoukian, Tatevik Hovhannisyan, and Ovsanna Simonyan.  
Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

MARINA CHARDUKIAN  
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Simon Payaslian, holder of the Charles K. and Elizabeth M. Kenosian Chair of the Modern Armenian History and Literature at Boston University, spoke to a full auditorium of Fresno State students and the community on Friday, September 12 as part of the Fall Lecture Series of the Armenian Studies Program.

Dr. Payaslian spoke on “The Origins of the Armenian Community in New England and Construction of Armenian-American ‘Cultural Congruence,’” where he discussed how conflicting views of Armenian identity developed in the Armenian-American community of New England.

Dr. Payaslian began his talk by speaking about the earliest documented history of Armenian immigration to America. The focus of the lecture was mainly on Armenians who immigrated to the New England region from the 1880s to the 1920s.

As each wave of immigrants arrived, the established Armenians became more assimilated in the American society. However, for many, the preservation of their roots was an important priority.

Dr. Payaslian specifically discussed two newspapers published in the New England area, the Armenian-language newspaper *Hayk* and the English-language journal *Armenia*, contrasting their editorial approach as an indication of the varying opinions in the community.

*Hayk*, published in Armenian, strived to preserve the Armenian culture. “The early Armenian immigrants to the New World stressed the imperatives of *hayapahpanum* (preservation of

Armenianness) or *azgapahpanum* (preservation of the nation) against *otaratsum* (foreignization),” said Dr. Payaslian.

*Hayk* presented Armenia as the repository of traditional moral and ethical values. “Such an image of Armenia and the Armenian became all the more essential given the hostility the Armenian communities experienced from ordinary Americans,” asserted Dr. Payaslian.

*Armenia*, on the other hand, was a journal published in English, and focused on cultural congruence, or the idea that Armenians should seek to accommodate themselves to American culture as quickly as possible. *Armenia* was published by the Verakazmial (Reformed) Hnchakian Party in Boston from 1904-1913. The intellectuals who contributed to *Armenia*, strove to create a favorable impression of Armenia and the Armenian on their American hosts as a way of counterbalancing the prejudicial treatment they often received from the local communities.

Dr. Payslian stated that some immigrants wanted to make themselves more acceptable to the American public, and therefore conservative Armenian elites stressed the Christian roots of the immigrant community and extolled the virtues of the Armenian character.

*Armenia* became an important journal representing the best and brightest among Armenian intellectuals in the United States, and became, albeit briefly, one of the most respected journals in American political and intellectual circles.

Dr. Payaslian’s research presented interesting findings that could also be applied to Armenian Diaspora communities, such as that of Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley.

end of her two-year volunteer time, she took a library job at the State Law Library. There she met the love of her life, Richard Elbrecht.

Anne and Richard began to visit historic Armenia to photograph the remains of the Armenian culture that had existed there for two millennia. The 157 photographs are on the website of the Armenian Studies Program at California State University, Fresno, where they are available

to scholars and the general public.

While working, she attended California State University, Sacramento, and earned a master’s degree in history. Her thesis on the Armenian Genocide was published as a book, *Telling the Story*.

Anne and Richard were married for 25 years, until Richard died suddenly in 2008. Anne is survived by her daughter Jessica, two grandchildren and her friend Robert.



## Fresno State Alumna Dr. Zhanna Bagdasarov Returns to Teach Management at Fresno State



**Prof. Zhanna Bagdasarov**

**ARAMAYIS ORKUSYAN**  
STAFF WRITER

From Fresno State student to Fresno State professor, Dr. Zhanna Bagdasarov, now an assistant professor of Management, exemplifies what it truly means to be “Bulldog born, Bulldog bred!”

“I love Fresno State,” said Dr. Bagdasarov, “I mean I genuinely love Fresno State, I always have, which is why I did my undergraduate degree and my masters here, and then decided to come back and work here some more.”

Dr. Bagdasarov graduated from Fresno State in 2005 with a bachelor’s in Psychology and a minor in Armenian Studies.

She then completed a master’s degree in Psychology in 2007 and worked as an adjunct professor in the Psychology department teaching research methods, statistics, and experimental design until 2009.

“From the time that I worked as a part-time instructor, I loved teaching,” stated Dr. Bagdasarov. “I always knew that I was going to teach and I knew that I wanted to do it at the college level.” With this passion, she then went on to

complete a Ph.D. at the University of Oklahoma.

During her years as a Fresno State student, Dr. Bagdasarov was involved in the Armenian community. She served as Vice President and Secretary of the Armenian Students Organization, as a writer and editor for *Hye Sharzhoom*, and was involved in organizing the Film Festivals sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program.

“It took a lot of discipline,” said Dr. Bagdasarov, referring to the demanding task of being an editor for *Hye Sharzhoom* and an executive of ASO. “That discipline, I think, is what helped in graduate school.”

“Fresno State was really good to me,” Dr. Bagdasarov said, reflecting on her experience as a student. “The education I received was solid, I had really wonderful instructors, and I had a lot of mentors here that pushed me to complete the Ph.D.”

It is exactly this mentoring, guidance, and support that Dr. Bagdasarov wishes to bring to Fresno State. “I want to give back what was given to me,” she said. “I would like to be a role model for women who are interested in pursuing graduate degrees.”

Photo: ASP Archive

## ARMENIA, FROM PAGE 1

experts in Armenian Studies and apply all their knowledge from personal and educational history to understanding Armenia today.

We arrived in the bustling city of Yerevan on the evening of May 27, with Mount Ararat extending its warm welcome as it peeked out at us. The almost twenty hours of tiresome travel could not extinguish the excitement each student felt as they stepped onto Armenian soil, a momentous feeling for all.

We were taken to the Yerevan State University Guest House that is a quaint 3-story building with a lovely staff that easily befriended us. Each day in Armenia included interesting discoveries and activities. A walking city tour of downtown Yerevan, a bus tour to St. Sarkis Church and Victory Park, and a massive outdoor concert and fireworks show to celebrate the independence of the First Republic of Armenia was the first of many eventful days. The liveliness of the city with its buzz and mass of people



Photo: Barlow Der Mugdehchian

**ASP students at Mer Hooy-Our Hope.**

was a change from home, yet the students adjusted quickly and embraced the culture of Yerevan.

The group acquired a well-rounded experience by exploring all aspects of Armenia. We were able to get a taste of Armenian culture, history, politics, and social life all in a brief two weeks. We visited popular tourist sites both in the city and out in the different regions, and treaded off the beaten path for unique

experiences not everyone gets the chance to have.

With highly knowledgeable guides, we toured the museums of the Matenadaran, the Art Gallery and Historical Museum, the Cafesjian Modern Art Museum at Cascade, and even received an insider look at the new Arshile Gorky Museum in Etchmiadzin.

We attended the Gayane Ballet at the Opera to witness the talented performance of Armenian dancers, enjoy the richly romantic music of Aram Khachaturian, and appreciate the colorfully ornamented costumes and decorations. Our Yerevan adventures also included riding the metro, tasting *ponchiks*, the Armenian equivalent of a donut, though much more delicious, bargaining with sellers at Vernissage Market, and experimenting with new restaurants and cafes.

From north to south, the “Yerevan Eleven” traveled the country visiting major cities, historic sites, and monuments. In Southern Armenia, the group



Photo: Barlow Der Mugdehchian

**Students at the Armenian Genocide Memorial Grove with a tree, center, planted by ASP students in 2011.**

## Ohanessian Teaches Introduction to Armenian Studies Course

**LAUREN CHARDUKIAN**  
STAFF WRITER

Who would imagine that a few years after graduation that they would return to teach the same class they were once enrolled in? Fresno State alumnus Hagop Ohanessian did not.

heard. She also thinks that the class is unique because there are both Armenians and non-Armenian students, bringing diversity to the class. Accountancy major and Fresno State junior Joseph Kouchoukian finds Ohanessian’s enthusiasm for teaching very refreshing.



Photo: Marine Vardanyan

**Hagop Ohanessian, right, in Armenian Studies 10 class.**

After graduating from Fresno State in Fall 2009 with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration, with an emphasis in Real Estate and Urban Land Economics, Ohanessian completed a master’s degree in History, with an emphasis on Armenian history, in Spring 2014.

Ohanessian has once again returned to Fresno State, this time, to teach a course in the Armenian Studies Program. He is the instructor for Armenian Studies 10-Introduction to Armenian Studies, for the Fall 2014 semester.

Ohanessian received a Minor in Armenian Studies as an undergraduate and was also active in the Armenian Students Organization, serving as President. Last semester he was a Graduate Assistant for a history course, where he taught and lead a weekly discussion. Ohanessian had gained some experience in Spring 2014 when he filled in to teach several classes for an Armenian History course.

This semester Ohanessian is teaching a full class in a course that according to the Fresno State catalog, “examines issues of identity, ethnicity, immigration, genocide, and cultural heritage in the United States.”

Ohanessian’s goal is to engage the students through group discussions, using visuals such as informational videos and clips, and book readings, to aid him in instruction.

Carissa Alvarez, freshman and criminology major, appreciates the open atmosphere of the class, which allows one’s opinion to be

Both Alvarez and Kouchoukian have developed an interest in taking more Armenian Studies courses in the future. For Alvarez, the most interesting subject was the Armenian Genocide. Kouchoukian was fascinated in learning about the Armenians of the Diaspora.

Both students have interesting motivations for enrolling in the course. Alvarez has Armenian friends from whom she was able to learn about the Armenian culture, yet it was not enough. With Armenians being so prominent in the Valley, she found it beneficial to learn about them and their culture.

Kouchoukian’s motivation arose from his great-grandfather, who was a survivor of the Armenian Genocide. Kouchoukian was unable to learn much about his great-grandfather before his passing, but believes that by taking this class, he will grow closer to his great-grandfather and learn about what he went through.

As he continues to teach, Ohanessian will focus on connecting with the students and helping them “get a grasp of Armenian culture, heritage, and history.”

“I want to get students more interested in taking courses, because we have many interesting offerings in Armenian and Armenian Studies.”

For both the students and the instructor, the course is a new adventure of learning about Armenian culture and enjoying what each participant brings to the class.

**Hye Oozh - Saturdays 9:00 AM - Noon**

**90.7 FM-KFSR**

**Hye Oozh is 90.7 KFSR’s weekly program dedicated to contemporary and traditional Armenian music and culture.**

**Current Hye Oozh DJs:**

**Tatevik Ekejian • Vartush Mesropyan • Marine Vardanyan**



ASO Fall Semester Underway



The Armenian Students Organization held its first general meeting on Thursday, September 11.

STAFF REPORT

Halfway into the Fall Semester, the Armenian Students Organization has already planned and executed a series of exciting events for the students and community.

On Saturday, September 6, ASO members volunteered at the Kev Orkian Comedy Show, benefitting the Keyan Armenian School, assisting with the reception and ushering.

ASO celebrated Armenian Independence Day on Monday, September 22, setting up decorations, poster boards with fun trivia such as a “Did you know?” about Armenian contributions to America, and

face-in-hole photo stands of an Armenian man and woman in traditional clothing. Members passed out treats and spoke with the campus community to teach them about the 23-year-old Republic of Armenia.

On Saturday, October 4, ASO held its Annual Car Wash in the parking lot of Viktoria’s Place restaurant. Despite the unusual October heat, students actively participated and received great support from the community.

Upcoming activities include a Halloween trip to the haunted “Hobbs Grove,” and a “Movie Night.”

The month of November will be dedicated to a community service project.

New ASO Executive Officers Express Goals

TATEVIK HOVHANNISYAN  
STAFF WRITER

MARINE VARDANYAN  
PRESIDENT

**Why did you run for an executive position?**

Having served as an executive during my past three years at Fresno State, I found it only natural that I continued my involvement in the organization that has become such a treasured piece of my college experience. I ran for President because I was confident of the contributions I could make as a leader.

**Why is it important to be involved in the Armenian Students Organization?**

Involvement in ASO creates an environment for students to build relations with peers who share similar values, ideas, and most importantly, interest in Armenian culture. ASO is one of the best means of preserving the Armenian heritage, staying updated about Armenian news and issues, and strengthening the Armenian Diaspora.

**What are some of the ASO goals for this year?**

This year, we will be focusing on branching out and utilizing new methods of student outreach and community involvement. We want to make ASO a well-known name in the community and to



L. to R.: Ovsanna Simonyan, Vice President; Tatevik Hovhannisyan, Secretary; Marine Vardanyan, President; Haverj Stanboulian, Public Relations; and Lilit Grigoryan, Treasurer.

provide a valuable and enjoyable experience for our members.

OVSANNA SIMONYAN  
VICE PRESIDENT

**Why did you run for an executive position?**

I have always dreamed of leading and being a part of a group of people who are also passionate about the Armenian heritage and history. I really wanted to see more positive changes, involvement, impacting activities, and much more. I want to apply what I have learned to see ASO flourish and expand its boundaries.

**Why is it important to be involved in the ASO?**

We need to do our part and teach others, as well as ourselves, about Armenians. After all, we are the next generation of leaders and need to be more involved in our community in order to gain support from others.

LILIT GRIGORYAN  
TREASURER

**Why did you run for an executive position?**

I was an ASO executive member in 2012-2013 and I enjoyed being involved and making an impact not only on Fresno State students, but also on the entire Armenian community. I realized that I would love to become a part of this organization again.

**Why is it important to be involved in the ASO?**

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture is like a tree

without roots.” We, Armenian students live far from our homeland and some of us have never even been to Armenia. ASO gives an opportunity to get to know our country, culture, and people. ASO is our “small Armenia” in a foreign land.

TATEVIK HOVHANNISYAN  
SECRETARY

**Why did you run for an executive position?**

Being a leader for my fellow Armenian students and being able to educate the non-Armenian community at Fresno State is an honor. If I teach one person a day about something Armenian, I will be happy and satisfied as a leader and as a Fresno State student.

**Why is it important to be involved in the ASO?**

It is important because this way we keep our culture and tradition alive. Even though we live very far from our homeland, we still dedicate time to educate everyone about our great culture.

HAVERJ STANBOULIAN  
PUBLIC RELATIONS

**Why did you run for an executive position?**

I ran for the executive office because I want to make a difference in the Armenian community on campus.

**Why is it important to be involved in the ASO?**

It is important to be involved because it is a way for us to connect with our culture and history, meet other Armenians, and strengthen the Armenian community.

Students Present Various Aspects of Armenia for International Coffee Hour at Fresno State

EMMA SHALJYAN  
STAFF WRITER

Delicious food, traditional songs, and colorful paintings in a warm and friendly atmosphere... Does this sound at all familiar to you?

Fresno State students Ani Grigoryan, Lilit Grigoryan, and Emma Shaljyan were the guest speakers at the International Coffee Hour on April 8, 2014, to present on the beautiful and historical country of Armenia.

The room was decorated with some of my artwork, portraying vases, flowers, and fruits, with traditional Armenian rugs in the background, and also Armenian hand crafted church clocks, and a painting of Khor Virap with Mt. Ararat in the background.

The presentation started with a brief video about Armenia, followed by general information related to Armenia, educating people about the climate, religion, various churches, music, arts, food, traditional clothing, holidays, and traditions.

The goal of the presentation was to educate people about Armenia. Famous Armenian artists and musicians such as Ivan Aivazovsky, Martiros Saryan, Minas Avetisyan, Komitas, and Sayat Nova, were introduced. During the discussion about Armenian composers, popular Armenian traditional songs were played.

I sang a small piece from Komitas’s “Qeler, Tsoler” to introduce the audience to the beautiful and melodic songs of



Left to right: Lilit Grigoryan, Emma Shaljyan, and Ani Grigoryan presented the country of Armenia for the International Coffee Hour on April 8.

Armenia. The audience reacted very positively to the Armenian music.

The presentation would have been incomplete without discussing Armenian cuisine. It is not a surprise that Armenian food is much loved by so many people.

Armenian customs and traditions were discussed, including wedding customs, such as picking up the bride from her home with dancing/music, feeding the bride and groom honey while placing lavash on their shoulders, releasing doves after the church ceremony, the traditional bridal dance, and giving out “tarosikner” to the unmarried guests at the wedding.

The last section of the presentation was dedicated to Armenia’s capital. The audience was led on a tour of the streets of Yerevan, with photos of famous locations such as the Republic Square, Northern Avenue, Opera

House, Swan Lake, Yerevan State University, Victory Park, and the Matenadaran.

The presentation was followed by many questions, expressing more interest about Armenia.

“I always wanted to present at a Coffee Hour about Armenia, and I finally had a chance to do it,” commented Ani Grigoryan.

“Armenia is an ancient country, and we had a difficult task to help our audience understand us and our culture in such a short period of time. I think we managed to do that because I heard so many positive comments afterwards.”

At the conclusion of the presentation the audience was invited to try Armenian food, such as *yalanchi*, sweet *soujkh*, and *lahmajoon*.

There was a lively discussion after the presentation. We were very excited to answer all the questions and to continue discussions about Armenia.



ASO members at the Armenian Independence Day event.



## Birthright Program Attracts Volunteers to Armenia



Photo: ASP Archive

**Birthright volunteers at the Armenian border, with the ancient Armenian capital of Ani in the background.**

**MARINE VARDANYAN**  
*EDITOR*

Birthright Armenia. Two words that represent a program that is beyond description.

This summer, I had the amazing opportunity to experience Armenia in its entirety. Not as a tourist, but as an Armenian, returning to her roots on a journey of self-discovery and enlightenment. Birthright Armenia helped make my dream into a reality.

To return to Armenia with a purpose. To immerse myself into the Armenian life. And to build connections with young Armenians who share the same love, faith, and vision for the country.

Birthright Armenia is a wonderful program that empowers young Diasporans, ages 20-32, to travel to Armenia as interns and volunteers in their desired fields. Not only does Birthright Armenia connect the participants to internships, but they also provide opportunities to gain unique insight into Armenia through forums, socials, community service projects, language-lessons, and excursions.

From meeting with the Minister of Defense Seyran Ohanyan, to visiting the 21st

century Ayb School, to cleaning up a park in Hrazdan, and driving a tractor with a wagon full of Birthrighters through a village in Karabakh, Birthright Armenia truly made my summer an adventure full of bright memories and new lessons.

An incredibly special part of my experience was meeting and connecting with volunteers from all over the world, ranging from Germany, Egypt, Argentina, and more. We danced together, sang together, and learned together.

I encountered both Armenians and non-Armenians with fascinating stories and backgrounds, each unique, yet sharing the same passion for making a difference in Armenia. My journey with Birthright Armenia gifted me with long-lasting friendships that I will forever cherish.

Birthright Armenia also connected me to CivilNet, an organization that provides online advocacy news and journalism in Armenian and English, covering local, regional, and international stories.

As an intern, I was given the unique opportunity to work on a variety of assignments alongside journalists such as Maria Titizian and Salpi Ghazarian. Every morning I awoke with excitement

for what awaited me at my job. I strolled down Tumanyan Street towards Northern Avenue, happily aware of the sunlight, of the tall buildings, and active life surrounding me.

The assortment of tasks, the spontaneity of each workday, and the atmosphere of the office made CivilNet an ideal place that I grew to love dearly. On my first day, I was sent out to cover a protest at the Afrikyans Home, a historic site that the municipality recently demolished.

On my second day, I translated an Armenian video report about the border-village of Chinari, which regularly experiences Azerbaijani gunfire, and recorded the English voice-over. Afterwards, a viewer donated \$3,000 to the family featured in the video. I translated numerous articles and helped with several news stories, some which involved going out of town, for example to a village in Armavir province for a first-aid class and to the village of Teghut in the province of Lori.

CivilNet welcomed me with open arms and made my internship an eye-opening experience. My assignments, interactions, and adventures allowed me to uncover the issues in Armenia along with gaining real-life experience in journalism.

Birthright Armenia is a program that has much to offer, however, it's how one takes advantage of the opportunities that produces unforgettable and amazing experiences. Allow yourself to be inspired, expose yourself to the new and unknown, and trust in your ability to make a difference.

To all my Armenian peers, I encourage you to look into this Program. Whether it's for a few weeks or a few months—do yourself a favor by joining Birthright Armenia.

I promise that you will not be disappointed.

Learn more by visiting: <http://www.birthrightarmenia.org/en/>.

## Eench Ga Chga

HAVERJ STANBOULIAN • *STAFF WRITER*

### What is the best way to maintain Armenian identity while living in the U.S.?



**Seroun Mouradian**

**Senior**

**Major: Environ. Science**

I believe maintaining Armenian identity in the United States is dependent on speaking our language first and foremost, following the values our parents instilled in us, keeping the family close, going to Armenian church and to Armenian functions such as festivals and bazaars, and wanting to know and learn more about our culture and history.



**Garine Kendoyan**

**Junior**

**Major: Electrical Eng.**

Many of us consider ourselves Armenians just because we have the Ian or Yan ending in our last name. However, carrying an Armenian last name to identify ourselves as Armenians is not enough to maintain our identity. We need to know our language and history. We are Armenians today because our ancestors did the impossible to teach and pass the language to the next generation, so we should do the same to maintain and embrace

our identity. Also we should learn our history, our beliefs, and our cause, to know what makes us unique.



**Joseph Kouchoukian**

**Junior**

**Major: Accountancy**

The best way to maintain our Armenian identity is through practice. Being a part of our community and learning about the faith, food, history, language, and how to write in Armenian. You then will be able to visit Armenia as an Armenian.



**Sosse Kendoyan**

**Junior**

**Major: Biology**

One of the things Armenians take pride in is the language, as Armenian is not just like other languages. It is what has kept us surviving all these centuries. In order to maintain the Armenian identity in the United States or in the Diaspora in general, the only key is in our language.

*Photos: Barlow Der Mugerchian*

## Armenian Genocide Memorial Church Destroyed

**MARINE VARDANYAN**  
*EDITOR*

The news arrived at a time when Armenians around the world were in celebration. It was September 21, the 23rd anniversary of Armenia's independence. A day to celebrate the enduring nature of the Armenian people, a people who have persisted through great periods of subjugation, war, and massacres.

On September 21 reports were received that the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) had bombed the Armenian Genocide Memorial Church in Der Zor, Syria, leaving it in dismal ruins. Other recent insensitive and inhumane crimes by the well-funded terrorist group have been publicized throughout the media. Yet, the destruction of this important site, which served as a cultural heritage not only for Armenians but also the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), is a great loss that many are unaware of.

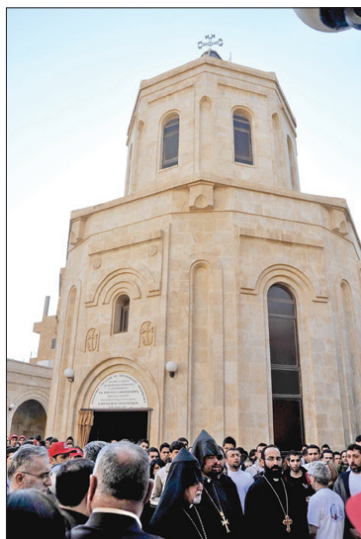


Photo: ASP Archive

**Armenian Genocide Memorial Church, Deir ez-Zor, Syria, as it looked in 1991.**

The Armenian Genocide Memorial Church served many purposes. It functioned as a church, museum, monument, and pilgrimage site where every April 24, Armenians gathered to commemorate the martyrs of the Genocide. Most importantly, it eternalized the memory of the countless Armenians who



Photo: ASP Archive

**The Armenian Genocide Memorial Church after it was destroyed on September 21, 2014.**

perished in the desert of Deir ez-Zor, where even today, human remains can be found. The desert of Deir ez-Zor was designated as a concentration camp for Armenians.

The Memorial complex served as a church, museum, and archive center.

The late Catholicos Karekin

II of the Great House of Cilicia consecrated the Armenian Genocide Memorial Church in 1991.

His Holiness Catholicos Aram I of the Great House of Cilicia stated, "Let the hands behind this terrorist act know that Deir ez-Zor, this sacred place of the victims of the Armenian Genocide,

commemorating the memory of our martyrs and symbolizing the fight of our people for justice, cannot be demolished from the memory of our people."

World leaders, members of the United States Congress, and many others have spoken out to condemn the barbaric action. The United State Embassy in Armenia issued a statement that read in part, "The U.S. Embassy Yerevan joins the government and people of Armenia in strongly condemning the destruction of the Armenian Church in Deir Ez-zor, Syria. This senseless act of destruction demonstrates yet again the utter disregard the terrorist organization ISIL has for the rich religious and cultural heritage of the Middle East."

For Armenians, the desecration and destruction of this site, especially as we approach the centennial of the Armenian Genocide, though devastating, will not hinder us from commemorating and educating about the Genocide.



Thank You Annual Fund Donors  
(received as of September 15, 2014)

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ARMENIA, FROM PAGE 4

went on a wine-tasting adventure in Areni that concluded with sweet *gata* and coffee-cup readings by Professor Der Mugrdechian. We visited Noravank Monastery and met with the local priest, who stressed the importance of preserving the monastery as a spiritual site.

Heading towards Tatev Monastery the group stopped at a small restaurant on the side of a mountain, where we lunched on *ghaurma* sandwiches before embarking on the remainder of the trip. Other out-of-town trips included Gyumri, Lake Sevan, Dilijan, and Lori Province in the north, where we hiked through the breathtaking scenery of Dsegh, toured the home-museum of famous writer Hovhannes Toumanian, visited Haghbat, Sanahin, and Odzun Monasteries, and experienced an authentic Armenian lunch at the home of Samvel Antonyan.

Not only did we gain an enriching cultural experience, but we also received exposure to the social aspect of Armenia through interactions with students from Yerevan State University, who gave us a tour of their campus, performed for us, and invited us out to an evening of Irish folk music, crayfish, a game called “Joy,” and discussions of similarities and differences in our educational experiences.

We also visited Mer Hooys, a home for social orphans. Several times during our two weeks, we interacted with the young girls at pizza parties, *perashki* cooking lessons, and debates. We helped them practice their English and in return, they practiced Armenian with those who were not as well versed. Despite the language barrier with our group members, the high spirits and friendly attitude of the Mer Hooys girls allowed for many hours of fun.

The course schedule also included a tour of the United States Embassy where we met and held a roundtable discussion with embassy officials. Students asked a range of questions, including the Embassy’s stance on the tension with Azerbaijan, the centennial of the Armenian Genocide, and relations with Russia. The opportunity allowed us to critically think about and assess the issues of modern day Armenia.

From meeting with Sister Yeghisabed of St. Gayane Monastery to chatting with schoolboys on a field trip from Kirovakan, the trip to Armenia exposed us to Armenians of all



Photo: Barlow Der Mugrdechian

The ASP Armenia Summer Studies Trip participants in front of the statue of William Saroyan in downtown Yerevan.

backgrounds, who exemplified the true nature of the Armenian people through their sincerity, friendliness, and hospitality. Many unforgettable moments were shared between the “Yerevan Eleven,” and along with the fun that came from singing Tata Simonyan’s “Anapati Arev” on bus rides, taking “selfies” at every major site, and trying the famous mulberry vodka, the course also helped each of us develop a renewed love for Armenia, one that is much deeper and real than any perception we had before the trip.

To view Mount Ararat in person, attend the beautiful service at the Cathedral of Holy Etchmiadzin, and walk among the ruins of the Erebuni Fortress were only a few of the surreal experiences that took place in the two weeks of the course. Many may have read about these wonderful sites and places, but the “Yerevan Eleven” were the lucky group who experienced it.

On June 11 the group said their goodbyes to all that had grown dear to them in Armenia. The streets, the shops, and the local people had all become cherished elements of Armenia. For many of the students, however, this farewell would not be their last.

Armenian Studies 120T: Armenia Today, impacted all of us in a life-altering manner, leaving us with tremendous gratitude for the amazing opportunity offered by the Armenian Studies Program.

Some excerpts from the student impressions of the trip follow:

Suren Oganessian

Seeing the land of my ancient ancestors, I felt like it understood me somehow, I connected to it on a subliminal level. There was no language barrier between myself and the land. I found comfort in

DR. CASTRO, FROM PAGE 1

stood as a reminder of the crowd that had gathered just hours earlier (on April 24) to commemorate those lost during the Armenian Genocide and to celebrate the lives of the survivors.

“The community is so strongly in support of [Armenian Studies] and the staff and faculty are so passionate,” stated Dr. Castro. “The opportunity in the classroom and outside the classroom for learning is exceptional.”

Recalling his conversations with attendees of the March 2,

2014, Armenian Studies Program 26th Annual Banquet, which honored the new university head and his wife, First Lady Mary Castro, Dr. Castro went on to praise the variety of courses, the Armenia study trips organized by Prof. Barlow Der Mugrdechian, the involvement and enthusiasm of community members he has spoken with, and the overarching benefit that the Program brings to the community.

Throughout the discussion of the classes and the opportunities that Armenian Studies offers Fresno State students to learn about Armenian language, history, art, and culture, President Castro did not shy away from stating that these had been successful toward realizing “the vision of the Program... and the vision of the faculty and the community members who work together and

thrive.”

“The vision and efforts of Armenian Studies to expand learning and [awareness] on campus, through providing study abroad opportunities, offering a variety of courses, and bringing esteemed guests and speakers in a Lecture Series are commendable,” said Dr. Castro.

“It is my vision for other departments on campus.”

“Innovations such as the construction of the forthcoming Armenian Genocide Monument on campus are also part of the Armenian Studies activities.”

“The Armenian community can look forward to the continued support of Fresno State for the Armenian Studies Program, which enriches students’ cultural perspectives,” said President Castro. “I am excited to see what the Program will achieve next.”

Armenians on the Internet

MICHAEL RETTIG  
STAFF WRITER

Armenia’s Famous  
Persons

<http://www.persons.am/en/>



The influence of Armenians around the world might seem surprising considering the size of the country. The Armenian people have had the ability to thrive in any society that they have adopted and have been able to add their unique threads to the tapestries of many different nations.

The website Persons.am makes it easy to see just how much of an impact Armenians have around the world. Persons.am provides a compilation of “Armenia’s famous people,” ranging from different categories such as scientists, musicians, artists, clergy, writers, and many more. The site conveniently lists the different categories so that the visitor is able to easily find Armenian contributors in different fields. One such category is labeled “Diaspora,” which highlights the influence of Armenians living abroad, such as William Saroyan and Charles Aznavour.

The site provides a detailed biography for each of the Armenians on the list, as well as photos and links for more information. Visitors to the site are also able to rate the Armenians whose achievements they most admire.

The Armenian nation may be small, but its people have always been great contributors to the societies in which they dwell. Persons.am proves to be a convenient source for introducing visitors to famous Armenians and their many contributions around the world.

before the trip was not that positive. The only real connection to Armenia that I had was to the Church. Now that I have traveled to Armenia and met some interesting people, my overall attitude has become more positive. I liked being in Armenia, whether it was in the city or driving up a mountain on the way to a monastery. The country had a calmness to it, while retaining a wildness, so unlike the structure that I have seen in California. I felt that I could spend a day in one of the park cafes sitting there, drinking my “Jazzze” coffee, and be happy watching the people and listening to the sounds of the city.

Alek Khatchigian

Visiting Armenia for the first time had a big impact on me. I had always heard about my own culture and history, by reading books or hearing tales, or by seeing pictures of places that I wanted to visit. But when you are there, standing in front of a church, it feels completely different. It gives you a different perspective, in a different way

than you would have imagined. In the end I was proud that I could visit my homeland at least once in my lifetime because we never know when we will be able to visit again. It was an amazing experience especially when you go with people you know and professors who are experts in almost everything related to Armenia, so you get the best explanations when you visit places.

Sarkis Manavazian

I think my favorite part of the trip and the entire aspect of Armenia is the history. It was very interesting to see the different historical sites. Even though I had seen them once before, I still enjoyed going back to the different sites and seeing them again. I did quite a bit of photography of the different sites. I would like to go back and photograph more of the social scenes and the people and get more of a perspective of the people rather than the common sites that most tourists photograph.

Lauren Chardukian

My attitude about Armenia



Edward Alexander	Bethesda, MD
Richard Asadoorian	Antioch
George & Mary Atashkarian	Moraga
Sarkis Babayans	Modesto
Richard G. Barberian, RPH and family <i>in memory of Penny Markarian Barberian</i>	Burlingame
David Sarkis Barsamian	Pasadena
Tarjian Bedoian <i>in memory of Heranoush Harriet Bedoian</i>	Sanger
Laura Asadoorian Blaney	Melbourne, Australia
Harriet Boghosian	Fresno
Karl DeKlotz	Fresno
Dr. Heratch O. Doumanian	Chicago, IL
Dr. Arda Arsenian Ekmeji	Beirut, Lebanon
Robert Enochian	Walnut Creek
Mary Hokokian	Fresno
Kathy Jenanyan <i>in memory of Bob Emerzian</i>	Fresno
Zephyr Kalunian	Folsom
Leo Keoshian, M.D.	Palo Alto
Hermine Keshisyan	Daly City
Jirair & Sossi Ketchedjian	Port Washington, NY
Hapet J. Kharibian	St. Charles, MO
Armine Koundakjian	Los Angeles
Brigitte Leloire	Lyon, France
Mike & Jackie Matosian	San Marino
Edward & Gloria Medzian	Hillsborough
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Leo & Marlene Pilibosian	Fresno
Edwin Sadoian	Fresno
Richard & Sharon Saroyan	Fresno
Nubar Tashjian	Oakland
Alice, Steven, & Philip Vartanian	Fresno
Christine Vartanian Datian	Las Vegas