

NEWSLETTER

**A NEW
MILESTONE
FOR U.S.-CAEF**
PAGE 1

**LEADING THROUGH
NEW EXPERIENCES**
PAGE 3

FIRST JOINT U.S.-CAEF CASE CUP
PAGE 4

**FELLOWS
ARRANGE 1ST
NATION-WIDE
ACCOUNTING
COMPETITION
IN KYRGYZSTAN**

PAGE 3

ISSUE #

30

STUDY ABROAD
PAGE 11

**REGIONAL
INTERNSHIP
PROGRAM**
PAGE 13

**U.S. EXPERIENCES OF
CAPSTONE INTERNS**
PAGE 15

**ALUMNI
SPOTLIGHT**
PAGE 18

**ALUMNI
UPDATES**
PAGE 25

(ON THE COVER: UULZHAN AITNAZAROVA, ZHYLDYZ APYSHOVA & SHAISLAM SHABIEV)



ABOUT THE PROGRAM: Established in 2007, the U.S.-Central Asia Education Foundation (U.S.-CAEF) Enterprise Student Fellowships is a merit and financial need-based scholarship program for undergraduate studies in business, economics and technologies at the American University of Central Asia in Bishkek (AUCA) & KIMEP University in Almaty. U.S.-CAEF provides educational opportunities for academically gifted students from Central Asia to cultivate a principled entrepreneurial environment in the region that fosters the growth of free enterprise and open markets. In September 2019, the U.S. Department of State provided \$4 million to continue the program. The program is governed by the U.S.-CAEF Board of Directors and administered by American Councils for International Education.



A NEW MILESTONE FOR U.S.-CAEF

September 2019 marked a new milestone for U.S.-CAEF. **The U.S. Department of State** provided \$4 million to continue the U.S. Central Asia Education Foundation (U.S.-CAEF) Student Enterprise Fellowship Program, which will allow students from Central Asia the opportunity to complete undergraduate degrees in **business, economics** and **technology** in the context of business and economic growth in Central Asia at the American University of Central Asia (AUCA) in Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic, and **will support 75 students over the next six years.** In addition, it **will fund 22 regional internships at international and local companies in Central Asia** for fellows entering their junior year of study, which allow them to strengthen their practical skills and expand their professional networks.

The award includes funding for 15 students who began their studies at AUCA in September 2019. The new cohort of Enterprise Fellows includes citizens of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan, as well as five students from Uzbekistan, who are the first from their country to attend AUCA through U.S.-CAEF. ►



Freshmen fellows at AUCA Orientation 2019

“It is a time for the U.S.-CAEF Family to celebrate. The continuation of the program is a direct consequence of the successes of current Fellows and Alumni. Your achievements convinced the U.S. Department of State of the value and importance of extending U.S.-CAEF.”

As a Board, we are grateful to you, American Councils, our partner universities and, most especially, the people of the United States, and its Department of State which have made the continuation of the U.S.-CAEF program possible.”



PEGGY GRIEVE,
VICE CHAIR OF THE U.S.-CAEF
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A NEW MILESTONE FOR U.S.-CAEF

CONTINUED

The U.S.-CAEF Program is eager to welcome the new cohort to its existing group of inspiring fellows and alumni and hopes they will contribute to the camaraderie and cohesion that have become defining characteristics of the program. The quotes below reflect freshmen's first impressions as U.S.-CAEF Fellows at AUCA.



ZIYOVUDDIN NAJMIDDINOV

Uzbekistan, Economics

"In September, we were filled with pride to become students of the best university in Central Asia. I am eternally grateful for this opportunity. The program has already started contributing to my development by giving me a personal mentor and great people who I now call my family."



FARANGIS MIRZOBEKOVA

Tajikistan, Business Administration

"AUCA is an amazing place that provides students with a lot of opportunities. It is so interesting to study among students from different countries and backgrounds. First, it seemed very difficult to get used to AUCA and to the life in Bishkek overall, but with the help of my U.S.-CAEF family, I now feel at home. U.S.-CAEF is a unique program and I consider myself a lucky one."



AISULU RYSPAeva

Kyrgyzstan, Business Administration

"I think this program is not only about receiving a fully paid education, and future job opportunities but also about making lifelong friends and having an unforgettable experience. The most exciting part for me so far was meeting my mentor Uulzhan Aitnazarova. I am more than happy to be her mentee because I found that we have so much in common, and she is an amazing person."



U.S.-CAEF Freshmen Fellows representing Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

FELLOWS ARRANGE 1ST NATION-WIDE ACCOUNTING COMPETITION IN KYRGYZSTAN

**140 PARTICIPANTS
FROM 20 UNIVERSITIES**

During their exchange semester at the IESEG School of Management in France, U.S.-CAEF fellows

Uulzhan Aitnazarova, Zhyldyz Apyshova, and Shaislam Shabiev

came up with the idea to co-found Accounting Club at AUCA and build a wide-scale accounting championship that would build a platform for learning, exchanging knowledge, and connecting university students with leading auditing companies.

The trio began organizing the competition, which they would call the First Bishkek Accounting Championship in Kyrgyzstan, at the beginning of the 2019-2020 academic year. They reported that the coordination process was challenging but very interesting. The competition was open to sophomore, junior, and senior university students and recent graduates across Kyrgyzstan, and participants majored in business administration, accounting, auditing, economics, and finance.



In total, more than 140 participants from 20 universities throughout Kyrgyzstan participated in the first round of the competition, which took place in mid-October. The first round involved individual written tests on financial and management accounting, and resulted in 24 participants moving forward to the second and final round. For the final round, Uulzhan, Shaislam, and Zhyldyz randomly formed eight groups of three participants among the finalists to complete a case study, separating them into both a “Russian league” and an “English league.” Each team was given 12 hours to come up with their solutions, then they presented their work to a panel of judges from the World Bank, KPMG, the State Service for Regulation and Supervision of the Financial Market under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic,

and the Association of Accountants and Auditors of Kyrgyzstan.

Suhailo Mamadniyozoya

(U.S.-CAEF fellow) ended up winning the English league competition, and earned an internship with KPMG Bishkek LLC.

Uulzhan, Zhyldyz, and Shaislam are grateful for their partners, who made great financial and logistical contributions to the project: The World Bank, School of Entrepreneurship and Business Administration Department (SEBA) of AUCA, KPMG, Mazars, the State Service for Regulation and Supervision of the Financial Market under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Association of Accountants and Auditors of Kyrgyzstan.

LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

CONTINUED

FELLOWS
ELECTED TO
AUCA SENATE

Congratulations to sophomore **Avina Abytaeva** and freshman **Sarfarozi Yunusov** on winning elections for AUCA Student Senate!

Avina will be involved in the activities of the financial committee while Sarfarozi will be in charge of the social activities committee. U.S.-CAEF members wish you good luck in your new roles!

GROWING TOGETHER WITH THE SPIRIT OF COLLABORATION:
FIRST JOINT U.S.-CAEF CASE CUP

BY SEVARA TADJIBAEVA, PRESIDENT OF AUCA CASE CLUB

On November 2, we organized first joint U.S.-CAEF Case Cup for AUCA and KIMEP Fellows in collaboration with the U.S.-CAEF Alumni Association in Bishkek.



U.S.-CAEF AUCA and KIMEP Fellows in Bishkek

The main goal of the Case Cup was to bring fellow students together from the two universities so that they can collaborate and compete as well as learn and network with each other and alumni. 10 KIMEP and 18 AUCA students were selected to participate in the competition based on their professional experience and achievements. The event consisted of two parts: a workshop conducted by alumni, **Samat Osmonov**, **Kalys Zhumakadyr**, **Azat Ismailov**, **Zulfiya Urunova**, and **Jahongir Rakhimov** on several topics- KPMG's consulting services; IT & Business; Startup: Early Stage Venture; Career in Retail Industry, and Case Studies. During the second part, fellows solved a business case in teams and presented it to judges comprising alumni Azat Ismailov, Jahongir Rakhimov and Zulfiya Urunova,

as well as local business experts Edil Ajibaev, founder of picvpic.com and Human Enhancements and **Nizami Teimurov**, Senior Auditor at Deloitte & Touche and founder of Mentor KG. In addition, senior students-Nazirakhon Kholturaeva, **Zhanna Marchenko** and I-mentored teams and guided them through the process.

I was delighted to work with my amazing AUCA Case Club team including **Zebo Rasulova**, **Muhammad Boymatov**, **Aigul Saparova**, and **Aiana Rysbekova**. Although they are sophomores, they demonstrated outstanding management skills and professional attitude towards any assigned tasks. At the end of the event, I announced the next President of the AUCA Club- U.S.-CAEF junior **Bekzat Sadyrbaev**. ▶

LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

CONTINUED



The first U.S.-CAEF Case Cup 2019 was a huge success! Participants had an opportunity to network with alumni and practice analytical, problem-solving and presentation skills. Moreover, since teams were formed randomly, each team included AUCA and KIMEP students of different cohorts, even freshmen. Fellows were able not only to get to know fellows from another university but to become closer to their peers from the same university. According to fellows' feedback, the acquired knowledge and experience were beneficial for everyone involved.

Three out of the seven teams with the highest points were awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd places and received prizes:

1ST

Dastan Bakytbekov, Valeriya An, Dilrabo Saidalieva and Imran Alimov

2ND

Sarfarozi Yunusov, Aisulu Ryspaeva, Bekzat Sailau, and Zevar Mamadjonova

3RD

Muhammad Boymatov and Aruel Nurbekova

We hope that this project will motivate other students to organize more joint projects and develop a strong network between AUCA and KIMEP!

LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

CONTINUED

FELLOWS PROMOTE ACTIVE LEARNING AT AUCA

AUCA's Writing and Academic Resource Center (WARC) encourages direct interaction between students and promotes active learning through its peer tutoring. Every year, WARC hires students who have successfully demonstrated proficiency in their course material and are willing to share their knowledge with other students. WARC tutors are selected on a competitive basis. Candidates are required to submit an application that includes two letters of recommendation, a copy of their transcript and a 600-word essay. Shortlisted applicants are interviewed by the WARC director and the WARC coordinator.

Of twenty-seven WARC tutors at **AUCA**, **10 or 37%** are U.S.-CAEF Fellows who share their knowledge in math, economics, accounting and writing with their peers.

- Atobek Rakhimshoev
- Farzona Khaidarova
- Olga Pykhova
- Zhanna Marchenko
- Suhailo Mamadniyozova
- Sevara Tadjibaeva
- Bibigul Arzybaeva
- Nurzada Abdibalieva
- Nurshoola Aibek kyzy
- Aiana Ryspekova



LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

CONTINUED

EXPLORING PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

BY MAKSUD RAHIMOV

After completing my internships at the U.S. Commercial Service and at RSM International through the U.S.-CAEF Regional Internship Program, I started taking opportunities and working in different industries to find out where I would like to work in the future. Evolet Healthcare, currently operating in more than 20 countries around the world, is one of the most rapidly growing pharmaceutical companies in Central Asia. Initially, from January to May, I worked as Assistant Manager of Regulatory Affairs of the company. During the first few months, I learned about the pharmaceutical industry and how it operates, how they produce, register, promote and sell medicine. In fact, the pharmaceutical industry is controlled very strictly and has many rules and regulations.

Later in July, Firuz Mirov, Director of Evolet Healthcare, promoted me to Business Development Manager. At Evolet Healthcare, we use outsourcing to produce most of our products, so in the Business Development Department my responsibilities include analyzing new markets, finding new partners for outsourcing manufacturing of pharmaceutical products, negotiating with new manufacturers, and analyzing new products and their perspectives in different markets. So far, I have nearly two completed contracts with Moldavan and Korean manufacturers, and I hope there are more to come. I would like to thank Azamat Sultanov, Head of the Regulatory Affairs Department, for mentoring me, and Firuz Mirov for the trust they put in me.



STAYING AHEAD OF THE GAME

BY ATOBEK RAKHIMSHOEV

During the summer, I worked for Arniro software development company to improve my tech skills that are in high demand and a must for business professionals. This company specializes in the development and maintenance of custom web and mobile applications for startups and small to medium-sized enterprises. The Arniro scrum team consists of 12 highly skilled specialists including frontend developers, backend developers, full-stack developers, a scrum master, project and sales managers. For the development of the custom software application the following stack of technology is used: Backend (PHP, Laravel Framework), Frontend (Javacript, Vue.js), and HTML and CSS.

The portfolio of Arniro company includes the following business automation projects: E-commerce platforms, CRM, ERP, SCM, educational platforms, SPAs, etc. Since the company is not big, I was responsible for two major tasks: project management and communication with clients from abroad. The internship helped me improve my knowledge in web and app development, business communication, and agile (scrum) management.



LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

CONTINUED



HELPING STARTUPS THROUGH AIFC

BY PALUAN RIMOV

In spring 2019, Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC) organized the 'Be-A-Star' competition among all students in Central Asia. As a prize, AIFC offered paid summer internships for winners. The AIFC is a project initiated by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan to create a leading financial center in the Central Asia region.

More than 400 students competed for 30 internship positions in AIFC. After a long, 3-month-long competition, I won an internship for the summer semester, which was held in the business partnership department of AIFC. The main objective of the department is to attract and support residents and partners of AIFC. My task was to help and work with startups that were residents of AIFC. Companies with which I was working were Talantiz, GBQ Asia and Geometry. With the help of our team, GBQ Asia, a coaching startup, received an offer from one of the biggest gold mining companies named "Altyn Almas" to conduct training for 148 employees in Akbakai mine (Zhambyl region). The topic of the training was Financial Literacy. On July 1-4, AIFC organized the Astana Finance Days Forum. We invited many financiers and lawyers from around the world. To conclude, this internship gave me huge experience and knowledge that will help me in my future career.

JUGGLING SCHOOL & INTERNSHIP WITH GRATA INTERNATIONAL

BY IMRAN ALIMOV

I was hired as an HR Assistant in the main office of GRATA international. GRATA International is a global network of independent law firms, which are leaders in their jurisdictions and united under a single brand.

This was a great opportunity for me to work in one office with the head HR manager of a large firm. During these six months, I have gained lots of experience and developed many skills that are necessary for me to achieve my goal of becoming a top manager. I am very lucky that in this firm I do not only perform tasks, but I also receive very valuable lessons. The chief HR conducts trainings on conducting interviews, selecting candidates, motivating employees and so on. Each new task becomes more important and more challenging. In the beginning, I helped with paperwork, like collecting documents and formatting resumes. After some time, I started to make calls to potential employees and conduct initial interviews. Also, I conduct interviews with students looking for internships with GRATA. Now, that my academic courses are becoming more challenging, I am doing most of my work for GRATA online. Some people advised me to leave the internship to concentrate on my studies, but I try to do both, as I am gaining a lot by putting my theoretical knowledge into practice and exposing myself to the front lines of my area of study.



LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

CONTINUED



Sevara Tadjibaeva (center) Aigul Saparova (1st right)

OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH AMCHAM KYRGYZSTAN

The American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) in the Kyrgyz Republic is the leading international business association promoting a competitive business environment in Central Asia. In addition to protecting the interests of local businesses and foreign companies in Kyrgyzstan and connecting business people, politicians and investors, AmCham offers valuable professional development opportunities for students and young professionals. In the passages below, AUCA senior Sevara Tadjibayeva and sophomore Aigul Saparova provide their feedback about the experiences that they gained through AmCham Kyrgyzstan. ►

LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

CONTINUED



AMCHAM MENTORS CLUB PROGRAM

BY SEVARA TADJIBAEVA

On September 17, I successfully completed the AmCham Mentors Club program - a unique six-month mentoring project which uses a new approach in the field of training and experience transfer. The goal of the program was to improve the quality of training of young professionals through effective interaction of top managers with university students. As I am interested in the hotel industry, I was selected as a mentee of Tufan Kobanbay, General Manager of Hyatt Regency in Bishkek. From day one, the mentorship was productive. My mentor shared his personal career experience. When he questioned me if I had a road map, if I had an end goal to become someone in a specific area I got into deep thoughts.

Thus, we came to a mutual agreement that I would do an internship in different departments of Hyatt to figure out my clear interests. In a month, I had an opportunity to visit marketing, HR, Food and Beverage Service, Housekeeping, Front Office, and Financial Office departments. The outcome of this opportunity has expanded my practical knowledge about hotel management system, as I observed the jobs, standard routines and processes they must follow and the culture and policies of the company as a whole. In addition to mentoring, the past six months were filled with a number of useful and interesting events for mentees through business trainings by international trainers, lectures and company tours. The experience was unique in terms of figuring out what I was good at and what professional skills I can improve.



INTERNSHIP WITH AMCHAM

BY AIGUL SAPAROVA

In late May, I began my internship at AmCham Kyrgyzstan. I tried myself in event organization, public relations, and marketing spheres throughout the three months of my internship. It was a great leap forward to assist my colleagues in organizing various events such as a formal reception in honor of new AmCham members at the US Ambassador's residence.

During the internship, I had a chance to attend real business meetings and participate in informative master classes conducted by the AmCham member company directors. Attending the first meeting of the AmCham working group with the Ministry of Economy on improving the business environment in the Kyrgyz Republic was something new for me. There, I witnessed how ministries and independent businesses operate and interact with each other.

Additionally, I learned important graphic design and computer skills which helped me create certificates for various events and posts for the AmCham's professional social media pages. To sum up, my internship experience was about me defeating my fears, and stepping out of my comfort zone. I learned to take things easier, I started setting smart goals, and I improved my networking skills.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

STUDY
ABROAD**SEZIM ZHENISHBEKOVA**

HAN University of Applied Science
Arnhem, the Netherlands

“As HAN is an applied science university, it focuses on practical knowledge. Most professors are practitioners with relevant work experiences. They frequently arrange company site visits. We were also able to pitch our business ideas in front of actual investors, and receive feedback from professionals, and this helped me realize that I love a practice-based education system.

During my exchange program, I participated in the AI & Big Data Expo Europe in Amsterdam. I was thrilled to attend sessions on topics such as business intelligence, machine learning, AI algorithms, data & analytics, virtual assistants & chatbots along with case study-based presentations. As a business administration student with a concentration on business analytics, I was excited to have a chance to talk with founders of successful companies in the AI & Big Data fields.

In addition, I did a three-month internship with a startup company called TULIP in Arnhem. The company offers ride-sharing systems for the first and last-mile commuters. TULIP aims to introduce a sustainable multi-modal form of shared transport to reduce the number of cars on the roads and

improve the Dutch infrastructure by introducing shared e-steps, docking stations, IOS/Android applications, and IoT devices. As a business development intern, my main responsibilities were building and maintaining the company website, creating contracts, contacting potential partners and investors, and working on the development of a marketing strategy. I worked in close collaboration with the founders, and I was involved in almost all aspects of the business which allowed me to gain insight into running a business in Europe.”

**MEERIM ZHANYBEK KYZY**

Stetson University, DeLand, Florida

“The university offers very interesting classes, various clubs, and interesting student life. I am taking several business courses such as Business Analytics, Multinational Finance, and Entrepreneurial Leadership from some of the top professors in the United States. I especially love my Entrepreneurial Leadership class, because every week we have guest speakers from different companies and organizations like NASA, Subsafe, GRD Biomechanics, Solar Stik, Luxus+ and others. This has been an invaluable chance for me to meet successful entrepreneurs such as Desiree Haller, founder of SubSafe-Cooler Sub Sandwich Protector manufacturing company, learn about internship and job opportunities abroad, and expand my network.”

**NURMUKHAMMAD TURKBAEV**

Keimyung University, Daegu, South Korea

“My biggest accomplishment this summer was winning a highly competitive Global Korean Scholarship which allowed me to travel to Daegu, South Korea, and take part in a series of lectures and seminars on Economics and International Trade at Keimyung University. I had a chance to analyze the economic conditions of Korea and Central Asia. I did research and several presentations on trade and commerce. Moreover, I had a chance to do some specific SWOT analysis of the Korean and Kyrgyzstan’s economic conditions, and market evolution. It was a big responsibility for me to represent my country. In the beginning, I had doubts while applying to this program because I was not eligible being only a rising sophomore. However, a strong passion and desire took me there. Thus, my advice to younger fellows is: don’t ever be afraid to try!”

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

CONTINUED

DIALOGUE, DATA, & DIGITAL SECURITY CONFERENCE

BY NAZIRA KHOLTURAeva

Earlier this year, I was selected to represent Tajikistan in a three-day seminar, Central Asia Youth Network (CAYN), which is conducted annually by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). This year, the program was held from June 25 to 27 and the topic was 'Dialogue, Data, and Digital Security.' The seminar brought together students from all Central Asian countries to discuss the use of data in governance and business, the future of digital security, and how dialogue can help promote security.

During the training sessions, I enhanced my critical thinking skills as we shared perspectives on ways to address threats and challenges in the Central Asian countries through international cooperation. In addition, the seminar provided an excellent opportunity to network with current and future leaders from Central Asian countries. Moreover, during the workshop we were given different issues and asked to come up with creative solutions, which strengthened our teamwork and creative thinking skills.

*SUMMER IN SHANGHAI*

BY ARUYEL NURBEKOVA

Thanks to a scholarship from Shanghai Cooperation Organization I spent the entire July in Shanghai, a city of endless opportunities, advanced technologies, and stark contrasts, where traditional Chinese culture meets modern skyscrapers. It was a full scholarship- it covered tuition, daily cultural trips and excursions, accommodation, and meals.

The trip was full of busy days and numerous cultural activities, such as trips to the suburbs of Shanghai, Suzhou and Hangzhou, which in China are known as paradise on earth. In addition to numerous trips in Shanghai, I also took part in lectures and various competitions. One of them was a competition in public speaking.

In total, 40 people from 5 different countries of different age categories participated in the competition. The judges were professors of the East China Normal University in Shanghai. I won 2nd place for my speech. In fact, the speech was in Russian, and since most of the other competitors studying in the faculty of Philology were from Russia and Belarus, it was quite difficult for me to win the prize. Challenges aside, I am proud that I honorably represented Kazakhstan. I made new friends, became more confident in communication skills, and experienced a new culture.

REGIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Eight Fellows successfully completed their 2019 U.S.-CAEF summer internships. The students gained a first-hand look at business operations in the region and reported that the experience helped expand their professional knowledge and develop critically important skills for their future studies and careers.

MUKHAMMADNOSIR ABDUZHABBAROV

Toyota Motor Kazakhstan LLP

“I was treated as a real employee of the company, and I was really lucky to work with nice people and a very experienced manager. As a result, I learned many useful skills. I understood that communication skills and an individual approach to every person are highly important. Throughout my internship I worked closely with salespeople from various dealerships in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan which boosted my communication skills and professional growth and taught me to deliver all tasks efficiently and accurately.”



NURSHOOLA AIBEK KYZY

Svetofor Group

“Svetofor is somewhat like Amazon, but on a much smaller scale- it mainly serves customers in Kyrgyzstan. I chose this company because I believe that in the near future people around the world will transfer to the online shopping system. Luckily, I had an internship in the marketing department which is the most dynamic division involved in all processes happening within all departments of the company. I acquired valuable knowledge about customer behavior, learned to work on multiple tasks and developed teamwork skills. Next time, I would like to work in the department involved in management of internal and external operations which will give me a clearer picture about managing a company. All these experiences will be very helpful when I open my own business in the future.”



NURSHOOLA AIBEK KYZY (right)

DILNAZ IMERAMZAYEVA

Coca Cola Almaty Bottlers LLP (the internship is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State through the USA Pavilion KazExpo 2017 Internships grant)

“This internship proved that I do want to pursue a minor in accounting. I believe that accounting and finance go hand in hand. Therefore, I am eager to have my next internship in the finance sphere and use all the knowledge and skills I have acquired during my internship at Coca Cola. The internship motivated me to develop my communication skills further. Also, I am eager to become more proficient in MS Excel and SAP software. For this purpose, I am currently taking an online MS Excel. In addition, I am going to practice solving more business cases to improve my analytical skills.

Lastly, I want to improve my skills in financial reporting.”



REGIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

CONTINUED

**ABDUVOHIDKHUJA
(ABDU) QODIROV**

RSM Tajikistan LLC

“The most enjoyable aspect of the internship with RSM was working with financial models. It was totally new to me and very challenging. I was amazed by how these models use almost every variable to provide detailed outputs from raw data. I enjoyed twisting and changing the model for different projects and fixing errors in the process. Fixing errors in financial models was particularly challenging but at the same time very rewarding.”

**BEKZAT
SAILAU**

Sky Mobile LLC

“Overall, the internship helped me expand my knowledge in several areas- management, HR, finance and marketing. The experience and knowledge gained from this internship will surely help me in my studies, particularly in solving business cases and preparing precise calculations for my finance courses. Working with enormous amount of data and applying it in real projects can help me succeed in my upcoming data analysis course.”

**DILRABO
SAYDALIEVA**

Coca Cola Icecek Tajikistan

“The most helpful experiences from my internship were the tasks given by my supervisor related to the analysis of specific sets of data using Excel and verbal analysis. It was also very helpful to get a few lessons from the professionals on the SAP software program. I realized that developing my Excel skills is a must. I will make sure to pay extra attention to the Financial Modeling course at KIMEP where a lot of focus is given to Excel skill development. I might as well take some courses in the future on SAP, 1C, and Excel.”

**RUSLAN ZHANAIDAR**

CEECAT Capital

“I conducted macroeconomic analysis of the main indicators such as GDP, inflation, currency exchange rates, banking sector assets and vectors in the key sectors of the Kazakhstani economy. After that, I was engaged in working with a database of new projects that came from all over the country. All the work was done in Excel, and I gained many practical skills in working with large amounts of data that needed to be sorted and systematically analyzed. After this stage, the most interesting practical part followed. I needed to select the most promising projects in certain sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, logistics and energy. To complete this project, I needed to analyze a lot of information about narrower niches in the economy, for example, sturgeon breeding, flax processing, etc.

Upon completion, the team and I conducted a review where I gave my opinion on possible projects and listened to their expert opinion. The internship helped me realize what I need to do to build a career in investment finance.”

U.S. EXPERIENCES OF CAPSTONE INTERNS

The U.S. International Capstone Internship program is an opportunity for recent U.S.-CAEF graduates to immerse themselves in the global business network. The program is specifically designed to help these individuals explore career options, gain valuable skills and make professional contacts. Six select interns are currently participating in The Washington Center's postgraduate professional development program in Washington, D.C. The quotes below reflect the interns' first impressions and thoughts about their Capstone experience.

DANIAR ABDIEV

Data Scientist, Lovelytics

"Previously, I always concentrated on developing my hard skills. I studied math and programming. It definitely gave me a competitive edge; however, now it is evident that hard skills are not enough. I learned from experience working at my internship site where I understood that even if my algorithms were very complex what mattered is the right communication with a business client who cares less about technical difficulties and more about the end result. I learned once again about the importance of networking while attending numerous meetups related to my work field. I became more confident in my communication skills and I managed to get third place on Google Cloud onboarding competition. Thanks to this meetup and my work experience as well as TWC classes I know that what really is missing in my professional development is personal branding.

I will definitely try to allocate some time to develop my personal branding starting from GitHub and ending with LinkedIn and Medium articles. As well, I developed a lot of ideas regarding my business aspirations, some of which became developing products at my internship sight. Thus, overall, my Capstone experience when it comes to professional development was extremely useful."



ALISHER MURTAZAEV

Business Development Intern, Charities Aid Foundation of America (CAF America)

"I work as business development trainee at Charities Aid Foundation of America (CAF America). The Foundation is an international grant making organization that assists corporations, foundations, and individuals in supporting charitable causes around the world.

With offices all over the world, the foundation is connected with more than 225,000 international charities and donated nearly \$500 million.

One of my main duties is to prepare a competitive analysis of nonprofit organizations that are closely related to CAF America. The main idea behind the competitive analysis is comparing CAF America services with other companies in the market by using the SWOT matrix and other tools in order to find potential ways for development of CAF America.

By the end of the internship and after completing the analysis I will be presenting my research and findings to all employees and making recommendations based on the results. I am highly motivated and glad that my analysis will be considered for the company's strategic development."

U.S. EXPERIENCES OF CAPSTONE INTERNS

CONTINUED

NIGORA BURHONOVA

Accounting Intern, Councilor
Buchanan & Mitchell, PC (CBM)

“CBM is a professional services firm that provides audit, accounting, tax, financial planning, management consulting and other financial services in the Washington, D.C. and Mid-Atlantic region.

CBM conducts professional development workshops for employees on a weekly basis. The company has created Project Clear Path, an initiative to pair senior staff with junior employees to meet both employee and company goals through knowledge sharing. I regularly attend workshops, which help me learn about preparation of tax returns, using the company software, and build closer relationships with my co-workers.

What amazes me most about my internship is that I am regarded as a full-time employee and as such I was assigned important tasks from my second week of work.



My main duties include preparation of tax returns, participation in audits and client meetings, and conducting testing of financial statement accounts. So far, working with both auditing and tax has been interesting to me. I am learning new technical skills as well as soft skills. I intend to pursue a career in audit and tax fields in the nearest future and internship with CBM is giving me valuable experience, which will undoubtedly contribute to my career goals.”



ELAMAN SARALAYEV

Business Analyst, PYT Funds (the internship is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State through the USA Pavilion KazExpo 2017 Internships grant)

“PYT Funds is a financial services firm helping students receive funding for college. The company uses a technology platform to connect families and banks to provide innovative solutions to finance higher education.

There are three things that I value most about my internship—my relationship with my supervisor, working with my peers from The Washington Center and the startup atmosphere of the company. My supervisor has been very caring and kind to all interns. The office environment could not be better—everyone in the company is on the same wavelength, and there is no pressure. Every day I receive interesting and challenging tasks. Using the CRM software, I analyze data collected from students and universities. My involvement in projects makes me feel useful as I contribute to the success of the company. I feel that every day brings valuable experience and necessary skills for my future career.”



U.S. EXPERIENCES OF CAPSTONE INTERNS

CONTINUED

NILUFAR UMAROVA

Marketing Intern, Unstuck Labs

“From the moment of my interview with the HR manager of Unstuck Labs, I was really excited about starting my internship in DC. Unstuck Labs is a startup accelerator that helps early stage startups to bring their idea to the point of launch. The company also provides software development services. My role in the company as a marketing intern is creation of marketing strategies to increase awareness, social media page analysis as well as creation of posts for social media pages. However, my tasks are not limited to one department.

From the very beginning, I let my supervisor know that I do not want to limit myself to only marketing related tasks and am open to different kinds of tasks. So, my supervisor tries to involve me in startup consulting, design, and software testing.”



MEERIM MOLDALIEVA

Data Analytics Intern, Lovelytics

“I am very happy with my internship company and specifically with the tasks I am involved in. I am using Tableau which is a powerful and fastest growing data visualization tool used in the business intelligence industry. I learned using Tableau during my first week. Lovelytics supports interns a lot by providing trainings and access to online courses. I learned building dashboards from scratch, make them interactive and user-friendly.

I was involved in five projects during the first month. My role in these projects was to create action filters, parameters and calculate sets for preparing dashboards and worksheets in Tableau, convert metric insight reports to tableau reports, and design and develop Tableau visualization solutions for end users. Some of the clients for whom we built dashboards were American Public

Health Association, EHE international, and Stanton Optical. Informational interviews were very helpful. I learned something new from each interviewee.

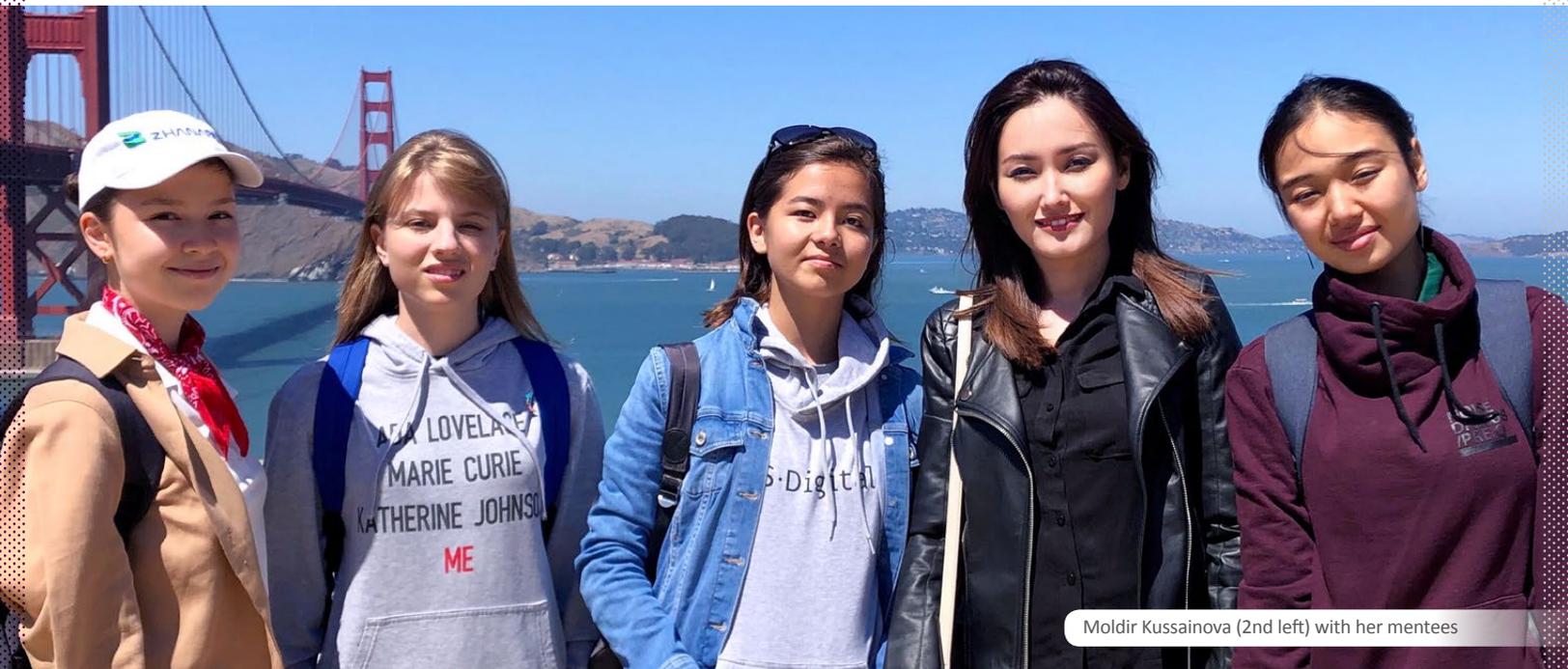
Informational interviews were very helpful. I learned something new from each interviewee. Especially, I was so much inspired after interviewing my supervisor at Lovelytics. She runs an educational project where she teaches data visualization using Tableau to students. She runs it online and uses a bootcamp format. I heard a lot of insights from my supervisor. **So, I launched a similar project for current U.S.-CAEF fellows last week. I have 19 students enrolled in my bootcamp as of now.** I am teaching them the tools I use here and sharing my internship experience in Washington DC. The bootcamp will last 4 weeks and will be finalized once I return to Bishkek.”



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

U.S.-CAEF WOMEN IN TECH

The U.S.-CAEF Program is particularly proud to share the accomplishments of **Moldir Kussainova** of Kazakhstan (KIMEP'12) and **Tangulu Diushakhmatova** of the Kyrgyz Republic (AUCA'11 and Capstone'11), both of whom are paving the way for young women in Central Asia interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields.



Moldir Kussainova (2nd left) with her mentees

In the August issue of the newsletter, we highlighted **Moldir Kussainova's** success story as the mentor of COCO team which was selected from among 150 teams coming from different parts of the world to take part in the Technovation Challenge 2019 World Pitch in Santa Clara, CA on August 12-15 where the final teams were expected to share their tech business ideas with a panel of industry judges.

During the challenge, teams were tasked with identifying a problem in their community and working in teams to find solutions for those problems. With Moldir's guidance, her team built

an ecologically-minded mobile app designed to educate, entertain, and motivate its users. Moldir was delighted to attend the finals in California.

The program in the Silicon Valley entailed a week of networking, field trips, workshops, and opportunities to win scholarships. The day prior to the World Pitch, the team was invited to Google Ventures, where they presented their project to representatives from various departments and received valuable feedback. While Moldir's team did not win first place at the World Pitch, the professional networks and experience they gained were invaluable. In addition

to their meeting with Google Ventures, they met with representatives from various tech companies such as Apple, Facebook, and Uber, and took a tour of Stanford University.

In addition to all this, Moldir met with the Senior Research Analyst of LinkedIn at their new headquarters and gained unique insight into their algorithms and how one can make their profile stand out. **Once she returned to Almaty, Moldir made a presentation on her findings to U.S.-CAEF current fellows and alumni, which she hopes will assist in the U.S.-CAEF community's professional reach.**

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

CONTINUED



Tangulu Diushakhmatova at TechWomen 2019

Inspired by an unsuccessful application to the competitive TechWomen Program in 2016, **Tangulu Diushakhmatova** decided to apply to the program again at the end of 2018.

This time, she had two additional years of work experience to boast, as well as the completion of a social impact project called “Atlas of Dreams,” which collected written ‘dreams’ from over 600 girls in Kyrgyzstan, culminating in an exhibition in Bishkek highlighting 40 of the most inspiring ‘dreams.’ The project, which aimed to emphasize the variety of goals and career aspirations among Kyrgyz women and girls, helped Tangulu become a finalist of the TechWomen Program in 2019.

The TechWomen Program, an initiative of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, according to their mission, aims to “empower, connect and support the next generation of women leaders in [STEM fields] by providing them access and opportunity to advance their careers, pursue their dreams, and become role models for women and girls in their communities.” To do so, the program brings each

year’s cohort to the U.S. to engage in a series of workshops, internships, and professional development opportunities in San Francisco and Washington, DC.

Tangulu’s particular cohort consisted of 106 women in various tech-related fields from 26 countries, who were selected from over 3,000 applicants. Tangulu is one of five women from Kyrgyzstan.

Tangulu and her fellow participants spent a total of five weeks on the program, including a one-week cultural orientation involving many workshops and guest speakers from LinkedIn, Google, and Adobe; three weeks of interning in San Francisco, and a few days of meetings in Washington, DC. Tangulu interned at SS&C Advent, a software company.

In an interview, Tangulu noted that the most valuable part of her participation in the program was “the lifelong relationships with people, because we made a lot of friends from different countries, and we are planning to implement a new social project in Kyrgyzstan.” She also appreciated the chance to learn about how businesses

run in the U.S. “I always wanted to know how things are done in Silicon Valley, because it’s a completely different world compared to the rest of the world; many interesting things are happening there, so I was really interested to see how virtual reality and artificial reality, are shaping businesses and even shaping our lives. I was even surprised to see how Amazon’s Alexa is actually working!”

Tangulu looks forward to returning to her job at KPMG in Nur-Sultan and implementing some of the ideas and skills she gained on the TechWomen Program. What’s more, she plans to continue implementing social projects to give back to her community and her country.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

CONTINUED

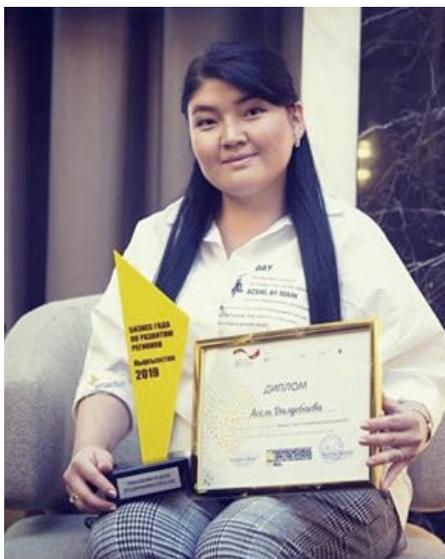
HOTEL BUSINESS IN ISSYK-KUL IS OFF TO A GREAT START

Asel Dildebaeva, AUCA'17, opened a guesthouse called Tashtanbay Ata in Issyk-Kul in August 2019. The business, which originally started out as a pilot project to gauge how successful such a business could be, was born in 2018, but Asel and her team quickly realized the space would require a renovation to be fully functional. Once the extensive construction project concluded, the guesthouse was registered on Booking.com and AirBnB. Additionally, it received an official state registration of Private Entrepreneurship on August 1, 2019.

Since its opening several months ago, the guesthouse has received 350 guests from over 30 countries, **has earned a rating of 9.9 out of 10 on Booking.com**, as well as an “Exceptional” status. The guesthouse has increased its number of available beds from 4 during the pilot stage to 13 currently.

While the real estate belongs to Asel's father-in-law, Asel handles all the administrative duties of the business. She currently employs one chef and works otherwise with family members to run the guesthouse. She and her family are working on offering tours for their guests to enjoy during their stay, including car tours and horseback riding tours.

Asked which challenges she faced when starting this venture, Asel mentioned that she did not expect the construction of the guesthouse to take so long. Additionally, she had difficulty deciding which market to target: foreign guests or domestic guests, though she ultimately chose to target foreign guests. Asel credits her success thus far to her previous hospitality experience in Dubai; her mentor Oybek Aitbaev, who she met through Youth



November 19, 2019: Asel won Business of the Year award from Enactus Kyrgyzstan for her contribution to the regional business development.

Business Kyrgyzstan, an Enactus Kyrgyzstan-affiliated program meant to match budding entrepreneurs with existing businesses; and the U.S.-CAEF Program. She says, “U.S.-CAEF is the foundation of all education and skills I have currently to run the business.”

Asel has big plans for the growth of her business. She hopes to eventually add 10 more rooms to the guesthouse, in addition to a conference hall. She would also like to include a bar area, as well as a variety of coffee and snacks. Finally, she looks forward to creating partnerships with local tour companies. In the future, Asel also hopes to serve as a mentor herself for future aspiring entrepreneurs.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

CONTINUED

IMPROVING INTERNET IN RURAL AREAS

Azatbek Alibaev, (AUCA'19) is a representative of SKYNET TELECOM in the Osh region. This is what he has shared about his experience: "This summer two partners and I founded an internet service provider company in Nookat, which is a small city in Osh region. The great thing about this business is that it is not only about profit, it is about delivering fast and affordable Internet service for people. Before Kyrgyztelecom was the monopolist. As a result, people were experiencing very bad service and slow Internet (since the majority use telephone lines which are copper and has a low bandwidth capacity. We use only fiber optic that we deliver to the end user). So, we created a choice and we provide significantly faster Internet. Another great achievement is our business model, in which with relatively small investments in telecommunications, entrepreneurs can enter into the business. Shortly, now it is possible to become Internet service provider without licenses, brand name and network specialists. Currently, I am planning to enter into the market of fiber optic components, and if I succeed, then it would greatly reduce headache for small businesses in telecommunications."



HELPING STUDENTS & WOMEN IN OSH

Nazokat Alimova (AUCA'14) has officially opened her business in Osh called American Dream of Osh where she is providing scholarships to talented students from disadvantaged backgrounds. To do so they provide high-quality low tuition language and college preparation courses. To accomplish all this, she currently employs ten people who serve as educators and administrators. One of them was U.S.-CAEF alumna, **Gulkair Tashieva (AUCA'17)**, who, according to Nazokat, played a major role in recruiting students to the center. Currently, the school has 205 students, fifty of which are able to participate in these courses at no expense to themselves because they qualify for tuition waivers.

She was also able to receive funding for her project "Boshqacha" by winning a grant from the Norwegian Human Right's Fund to promote women's rights and gender equality in Osh. With this funding she was able to open another educational center that provides free language and math courses to students of different backgrounds, especially girls from minority groups who have fewer opportunities for education. And while Nazokat has been accomplishing all of this, she has recently been promoted to the position of Senior Accountant at Cheniere Energy in Houston, Texas.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Nasiba Nurmatova (AUCA'15), currently pursuing a master's degree in Development Practice at the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs, attended the International Conference on Sustainable Development on September 24-25. Hosted by Columbia University in New York City, the conference was attended by representatives from the development sector, universities, NGOs and corporations, and focused on the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030. Having participated in a field research project in South Africa over the summer, Nasiba and her team were selected to present a poster project about their findings. Their project, 'Wildlife Conservation and Livelihood Development in Community-owned Protected Areas in South Africa,' explored the intersections of community development, conservation, and ecotourism. The experience allowed Nasiba and her team to build successful partnership with representatives from conservation NGOs at the conference.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

CONTINUED

MODERNIZING THE BANKING SYSTEM IN TAJIKISTAN

Osiya Olimnazar graduated from AUCA in 2018 and currently is the Chief Risk Officer at CJSC Spitamen Bank in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Serving in this role for nearly a year now, she has had several significant projects that have had a widespread impact on the bank.

Her first major project was called the “Wolfsburg Group Guidelines.” The goal of this project was to ensure Spitamen Bank was consistent across branches with how it operated with respect to E.U. and American finance laws and guidelines. Once Osiya’s team had done a full review of the bank’s procedures, they proposed several changes to ensure compliance with these laws and guidelines, some of which included an organizational restructuring of some of the bank’s divisions.

At its core, this project was meant to increase transparency at each level of the bank; a side effect of this process was that new rules were developed and implemented, some of which Spitamen’s clientele found inconvenient. Many requirements that can be found among global standards are absent in Tajikistan’s banking sector, this meant many clients found it easier to work with their competitors rather than meet the new requirements to perform transactions. This situation has caused concern among Spitamen’s leadership because while the stricter rules make them less competitive,

it also increases their reliability. They have since settled on keeping the changes with the hope that in a few years the global standards will be made a requirement of every bank in Tajikistan.

Working on another project over the last four months, Osiya has been developing a three-year strategy with the CEO and Spitamen’s Board of Directors. The goal was to develop a series of guidelines for all employees that will be in effect for the next three years. This has been the most challenging project for her in this role because of the many factors she has to consider. Together with the CEO she hopes that this plan will allow Spitamen to become the most innovative bank in Tajikistan, and if this is the case, it could improve the quality of the life for many people in Tajikistan.

In addition, Osiya has been responsible for implementing the latest International Financial Reporting Standard in a joint project with Ernst & Young Consulting and Deloitte Tajikistan.

The journey so far for Osiya has been extremely interesting, and she considers herself to be incredibly lucky to be where she is at such a young age. She credits both her education at AUCA and the support she receives from her U.S.-CAEF family for her success.



LEADING THROUGH NEW EXPERIENCES

CONTINUED



SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT IN TAJIKISTAN

Anisa Hojieva, AUCA'18, has taken on a volunteer project, unrelated to her position with American Councils, to promote solar energy in the Dushanbe region. This project she is developing has the support of the Mayor's Office in Dushanbe and UNDP Tajikistan.

"Dushanbe Solar City is a crowdfunding campaign to raise money to purchase and install 4.3 kw solar panels on a food truck. This project promotes collaboration between the public and private sectors in Tajikistan. The private sector will be responsible for providing a vehicle, whereas our job is to raise money to purchase solar panels. The panels will be installed on a vehicle, and it will be moving around the city promoting alternative green energy. The vehicle will be used as a food truck and will produce and sell healthy food near universities. It will have access to Wi-Fi and provide stations to charge phones, laptops and other devices. Also, we will install trash bins next to the food truck to promote recycling. I have been involved in this project since August, mainly supporting the NGO that works on this project and helping UNDP with translation and blogs. We also manage social media and have organized an outreach activity. Soon crowdfunding campaign will start on spacehive.com and our job will be to manage and track it," shared Anisa.

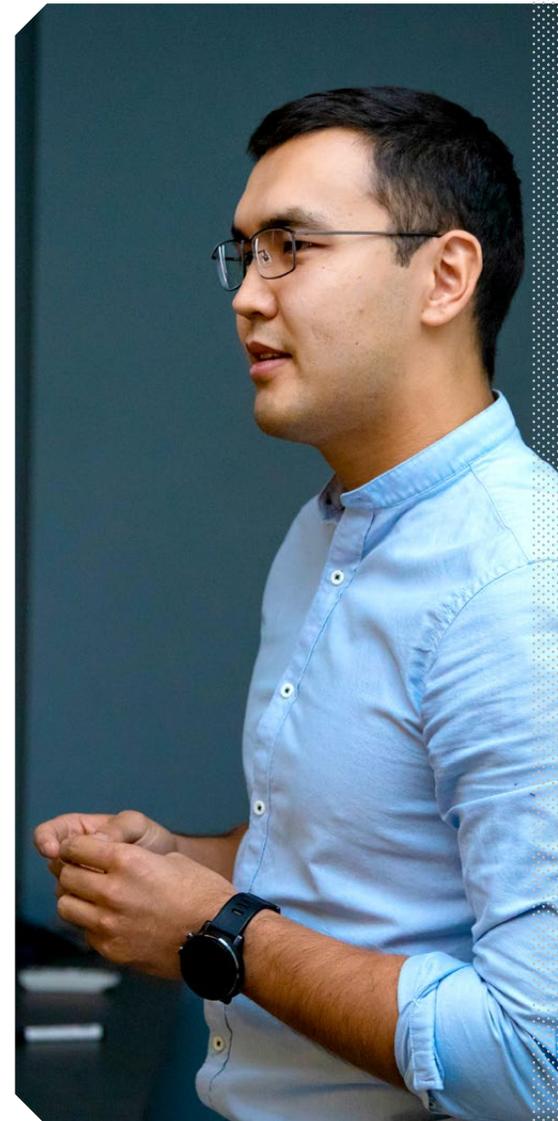
REVOLUTIONIZING FITNESS CULTURE IN KYRGYZSTAN: INTERVIEW WITH KALYS ZHUMAKADYR

BY UULZHAN AITNAZAROVA

Kalys Zhumakadyr (AUCA'14) is one of the brightest and most active U.S.-CAEF alumni. After working as Head of Digital Products at VEON in Kazakhstan, he served as consultant for Bai Tushum Bank in Kyrgyzstan where he helped create and launch the organization's online credit system. Recently, Kalys co-founded a startup company called UniSports.kg. He enthusiastically agreed to give an interview to the U.S.-CAEF newsletter.

KALYS, COULD YOU PLEASE TELL US MORE ABOUT THE NEWLY LAUNCHED STARTUPUNISPORTS.KG?

UniSports.kg is a platform which gives an opportunity to use a single subscription for a variety of sports centers. Our application allows unlimited access to gyms near you whether you are at home, at work, or you're traveling. We already have a partnership with more than 35 sports centers in Bishkek. Currently, people are getting more and more busy and it is hard to align your schedule with a sports center's schedule. In contrast, with a single subscription, clients can exercise whenever and wherever they want to. It is very flexible. Moreover, people have an opportunity to combine different kinds of sports and workouts. It is not always possible to buy multiple subscriptions for clients due to the high cost or incompatibility with their schedule. With our subscription it is possible, for example, to combine workout sessions in a gym with going to a swimming pool or yoga with boxing, just with the purchase of a single subscription.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

CONTINUED

SO, IT IS A FULLY TECHNOLOGICAL STARTUPBASED ON AN APPLICATION. COULD YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT ITS FUNCTIONALITY?

After the purchase of a subscription, the client receives access to his or her own private account. The length of the subscription varies according to clients' preferences. When they open the application there is a catalog of a variety of sports centers including gyms, yoga, boxing, rock climbing centers, and swimming pools. Every time the client uses the services of a sports center, this information is recorded in his or her account history. We also encourage leaving feedback about their experience in the sports centers, so others can find out more about those places. Thus, sports centers with the best feedback are placed at the top of the catalog. This motivates them to improve their customer service and get to the top of the rankings.

COULD YOU PLEASE TELL US ABOUT THE IDEA OF LAUNCHING THE STARTUPAND HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED IN IT?

Once, my friend in Hungary called me and shared with me the idea of a single subscription service for different types of sports. When I heard about this type of business, I became very excited. Single subscriptions are very popular in the United States, Europe, and there are similar platforms in Russia and Kazakhstan. Currently, there are three of us- partners- who are involved in this project and each of us have specific responsibilities.



My two partners are abroad, so I usually deal with all the questions and tasks related to the business here in Bishkek. My partners mostly work on advancing the mobile application and hiring professional developers.

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS FOR UNISPORTS.KG?

We have a sufficient number of partners, so currently we are testing our product. At the moment, we have ten clients who have already completed more than sixty workouts using our application, we are looking at our products' drawbacks and trying to improve them. After we finish testing, we will work more actively on marketing and PR to attract more clients.

Moreover, currently we are looking for investors to expand the business. We are very careful in choosing our investors. We would like our sponsors not only believe in our idea, but also give us creative freedom.

HOW IS YOUR PAST EXPERIENCE HELPING YOU WITH LAUNCHING YOUR STARTUPAND WHAT WOULD YOU RECOMMEND TO OUR CURRENT U.S.-CAEF FELLOWS?

My past experience and background are playing a great role in launching a new startupcompany. Since my university years and throughout my career, I have been acquiring and expanding my soft skills and building a strong network with people which is helping me a lot during this important period of launching my business. I would recommend to current fellows to develop both soft and hard skills, participate in various extracurricular activities and set their own goals. Do not let other people tell you what to do, but rather dream big, set high goals and a plan to achieve these goals! If you plan to choose an entrepreneurial path, do not be afraid of risks, be self-sufficient, confident, and stay very enthusiastic about your idea! And remember that investors base their decisions not only on your business ideas but your personality traits as well.

ALUMNI UPDATES

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Kalys Zhumakadyr uulu

AUCA'14

Co-Founder and CEO of UniSports.kg. The company issues single passes to multiple fitness centers in Bishkek.

Asel Dildebayeva

AUCA'16

Founder of Tashtanbai Ata guest house, Issyk-Kul

Azatbek Alibaev

AUCA'19

Co-founder of an internet service provider company, Nookat, Osh region

Karimkhon Bukhadurov

KIMEP'17 Founder of OGOZ

The company provides data analytics and bookkeeping services to businesses in Central Asia and abroad.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Alina Zhetigenova

AUCA'11

Co-founded a digital journal sheisnomad.com. The journal highlights stories of Central Asian women, advocates for equality and women's rights, and encourages women to pursue their dreams despite many social barriers.

POST-GRADUATE STUDIES & WORK

Chyngyz Begimkulov

AUCA'18

MBA at AUCA and auditor at Deloitte and Touché LLC, Bishkek

POST-GRADUATE STUDIES

Jennet Babayeva

KIMEP'15

MBA, Kelley School of Business, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA

Medina Abylkasymova

AUCA'16

MA in Gender and Women Studies (2nd master's) and Researcher at Regional Academy on the United Nations, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

Dana Kussain

KIMEP'17

Received a Bolashaq scholarship and hopes to enroll in the Master of Accounting and Finance Program at the University of Exeter, UK.

Haknazar Hallygylyjov

KIMEP'19

MA in Economics, KIMEP University, Almaty

PROMOTIONS

Tangulu Diushakhmatova

AUCA'11

Assistant Manager, Strategy and Operations Department, KPMG, Nur-Sultan

Zhibek Aiylchieva

AUCA'11

Senior Finance Assistant, UN, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Khedzhera Suleeva

KIMEP'14

Senior Associate, Ernst and Young Kazakhstan

Yelena Vorobey

AUCA'14

City Energy Solutions Expert, E. ON in Essen, Germany

Artyom Bakulin

KIMEP'12

Senior Associate, Deloitte, Oslo, Norway

Asel Kaldybaeva

AUCA'17

Assistant 3, KPMG, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Zhibek Kamalbek Kyzy

AUCA'18

Assistant 2, KPMG, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Galiya Kemelbaieva

KIMEP'18

Research Project Manager, Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

Jahongir Rahimov

KIMEP'18

Financial Analyst, KPMG, Almaty, Kazakhstan

NEW JOBS

Khakim Davurov

AUCA'11

Data Scientist, Kloop Media, Bishkek

Arystan Moldabekov

KIMEP'11

Chief Accountant, Bolashaq Investments

Karina Kussainova

AUCA'14

Customer Experience Associate., Toronto-Dominion Bank, Toronto, Canada

Monandniso Musoeva

(Tursunova), KIMEP'15

Business Development Manager at 4stay.com.

Adel Sultanbekova

AUCA'16

Business Analyst, Accelerate Prosperity, AKDN

ALUMNI UPDATES: NEW JOBS (CONTINUED)

CONTINUED

Aigerim Alamazova

AUCA'16

Budget Analyst,
International Organization
for Migration (IOM),
Grand-Saconnex,
Switzerland

Nazerke Aibar

KIMEP'16

Partner Manager
at Facebook in Dublin,
the Republic of Ireland

Shahnoz Jonmamadova

KIMEP'17

Finance Manager
at Aga Khan Health
Service in Dushanbe

Ilhan Yollyyev

KIMEP'17

Business Analyst,
Deloitte, Moscow

Elvira Chuibekova

KIMEP'18

Brand Marketing
Specialist, JTI, Almaty

Kanat Osmonov

AUCA'18

Marketing Lead
Intern, Pied Parker,
San Francisco, CA

Meerimgul Toktosunova

AUCA'19

Marketing Specialist,
Ros Lombard,
a microcredit
organization, Osh

Begimai Bolotbekova

AUCA'19

Marketing Associate,
Analytics, Coca Cola
Bishkek Bottlers

Aizhan Kerimbek kyzy

AUCA'19

Project Manager, Tonus
Public Foundation, Bishkek

Kasiet Mambetkul kyzy

AUCA'19

Audit Assistant,
Baker Tilly, Bishkek

Gulzira Ashirali kyzy

AUCA'19

Accountant, Lin LLC, Bishkek

Mustafa Ziyatbekov

KIMEP'19

Lead Financial Analyst,
Tengizchevroil, Atyrau

Nekdil Abdulofizov

KIMEP'19

Business Development
Manager, Evolet Health
Care, Almaty

Nurbakhsh Sartib

KIMEP'19

FLEX Program Recruiting
Assistant, American
Councils, Dushanbe

Somon Mavlonazarov

KIMEP'19

Financial Analyst, Evolet
Health Care, Almaty

Zhanna Kenzhebekova

KIMEP'19

Sales Manager, Tamal
Komplekt, Almaty

Talgat Kadirov

KIMEP'11

CFO at Republican
Headquarters of Professional
Militarized Emergency Rescue
Services LLP- the entity is
within a private equity group,
and has 13 branches and
about 3000 employees

CONTACT INFORMATION

WASHINGTON D.C. 1828 L STR. NW, SUITE 1200, WASHINGTON D.C. , USA 20036, PHONE: (202) 833-7522, FAX: (202) 833-7523, USCAEF.DC@AMERICANCOUNCILS.ORG

REPRESENTATIVE OFFICES IN CENTRAL ASIA:

KAZAKHSTAN

20A KAZYBEK BI STREET,
ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN, 050010
+7 727 291 9226

USCAEF@GLOBAL.AMERICANCOUNCILS.ORG

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

187 SYDYKOV STREET, OFFICE # 29
BISHKEK, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC, 720001
+996 312 910 987

USCAEF@AMERICANCOUNCILS.KG

TAJIKISTAN

127 RUDAKI AVENUE
DUSHANBE, TAJIKISTAN, 734003
+992 44 600-4390

USCAEF@AMERICANCOUNCILS-TJ.ORG

UZBEKISTAN

12 SHOTA RUSTAVELI STREET,
TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN, 100070
+998 78 150 71 50

USCAEF.UZ@AMERICANCOUNCILS.ORG

U.S.-CAEF IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR AY 2020-21. APPLICATION 2020 IS AVAILABLE AT USCAEF.ORG