



# University of California Berkeley Armenian Alumni

NEWSLETTER, SPRING 2019 | [WWW.UCBAA.ORG](http://WWW.UCBAA.ORG)

## About the U.C. Berkeley Armenian Alumni

The U.C. Berkeley Armenian Alumni is comprised of graduates and former students of U.C. Berkeley. The purpose of our organization is to promote and support Armenian Studies at U.C. Berkeley, and to contribute to the many enriching activities of the Bay Area Armenian community. Some of the activities of the UCBAA include fundraising for the Armenian Studies Program (supported by the William Saroyan Endowment and Krouzian Endowment), supporting the U.C. Berkeley Armenian Student Association, organizing lectures and other academic or social events, and providing scholarship programs. Eligible alumnus can become a member of the UCBAA for a yearly membership fee of \$75. For more information about the UCBAA and our structure:

[www.ucbaa.org/about](http://www.ucbaa.org/about)

[www.ucbaa.org/files/charter.jpg](http://www.ucbaa.org/files/charter.jpg)

## ANNUAL MESSAGE FROM UCBAA BOARD

Dear Alumni and Friends of U.C. Berkeley Armenian Alumni,

Greeting and Happy New Year from the UCBAA Board.

The 2017-2018 academic year was an outstanding year. Under the leadership of Professor Stephan Astourian the Armenian Studies Program (ASP) continued to grow and attract a record number of both Armenian and non-Armenian students.

In the Fall 2017 Dr. Myrna Douzjian joined the Armenian Studies as Language and Culture Lecturer. Also in the Fall 2017 two undergraduate Minor and Major tracks in Armenian Language and Culture were created in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. These two newly created tracks promise to attract even more students in the future.

Eight classes were offered during the Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters in Armenian History, Language and Culture. Please read the details of the classes offered during the past Academic year in the APS Update section in this issue of the Newsletter.

The UCBAA Board currently has vacancies. We encourage members to consider joining the Board. We meet once a month mostly via audio teleconference. Occasionally we meet to attend social events and dinner afterwards. We need your input and your help to continue to organize events and activities.

Please send us your suggestions and any feedback you may have at [contact@UCBAA.org](mailto:contact@UCBAA.org). For the latest announcements and event information, please visit our website at [UCBAA.org](http://UCBAA.org).

Sincerely,  
UCBAA Board

### *Important Notices*

1. *Annual Membership fees of \$75 are due at the beginning of each year. Please send us your membership fee, if you have not already done so. Details are on the last page of this Newsletter.*
2. *With this issue of the Newsletter we are migrating to electronic format accessible on our web page. We will accommodate alumni members who have asked for printed copies in the past.*
3. *Our web-page has been recently re-designed. Please check it out and send us your comments.*

# ARMENIAN STUDIES PROGRAM UPDATE

The "reappearance" of the Krouzian Room and the creation of Armenian major and minor degrees in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures are the two most important developments of the past year. The creation of the above-mentioned Armenian degrees owes much to Dr. Irina Paperno. These degrees were also made possible by the appointment of a full-time lecturer, Dr. Myrna Douzjian, able to teach classes dealing with Armenian literature and culture.

Eight classes related to Armenian Studies were again offered in 2017-18.

## ARMENIAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND CULTURE

Dr. Myrna Douzjian taught the following courses:

### Armenian 1A: Introductory Armenian

Ten students completed Armenian 1A in the fall of 2017. During the first two weeks of the course, students learned the alphabet. Thereafter, they practiced to read, write, and speak in Armenian by completing the first sixteen lessons of Haroutiun Kurkjian's Practical Textbook of Western Armenian. The lessons in the textbook were supplemented by their Eastern Armenian equivalents, which were prepared by the instructor. In this way, students were introduced to both standards of the language, while concentrating on the standard of their choice. In addition to completing weekly reading and grammar assignments, students took five quizzes and a final exam. By the end of the semester, students could read, write, and understand basic sentences in the present and past imperfect tenses in Armenian.

### Armenian 101A: Continuing Armenian

Seventeen students were enrolled in Armenian 101A in the fall. Language in this course was taught through literature. The course introduced students to the work of authors, such as Hakob Karapents and Krikor Beledian, and literature published in the contemporary journals, *Pakine* and *Inknagir*. All of the students also learned how to type in Armenian. In addition to participating in discussions about the readings, students completed the following assignments: bi-weekly homework that tested reading comprehension; a performance of one act from a contemporary play by Gurgen Khanjyan; and, creative writing in a journal. One of the students, Lillian Avedian, went on to publish a poem that she wrote for the course in the spring 2018 issue of the undergraduate journal *Troika*. The final project for the course involved reading an additional text from a list of options provided by the instructor and writing a close reading of a passage from it.

### Armenian 1B: Introductory Armenian

Nine students completed Armenian 1B in the spring of 2018. Students continued the work they began in Armenian 1A by practicing reading, writing, and speaking in the present and past imperfect tenses. They learned to use the simple future tense in Armenian, and they completed lessons seventeen through twenty-seven of Haroutiun Kurkjian's Practical Textbook of Western Armenian. The lessons in the textbook were supplemented again by their Eastern Armenian equivalents, which were prepared by the instructor. In addition to completing weekly reading and writing assignments, students took three quizzes, wrote short pieces about their lives, and gave a presentation about Armenian language resources, such as songs, animations, and language lessons, available online. For their final exam, they read two short folktales and successfully answered comprehension questions about them.

### Armenian 101B: Continuing Armenian

Eight students were enrolled in Armenian 101B in the spring. Like Armenian 101A, language in this course was taught through literature. Students were introduced to the work of authors, such as Hovhannes Tumanyan, Shahan Shanour, and Violet Grigoryan. Students practiced their listening comprehension skills by watching and discussing a film, news reports from Armenia, and interviews about literature and culture. In addition to participating in discussions about the readings, students completed the following assignments: bi-weekly homework that tested reading comprehension; a performance of one act from a contemporary play by Aghasi Ayvazyan; and, creative writing in a journal. For their final project, students read an Armenian text of their choice, gave a presentation summarizing and interpreting it, and wrote a creative piece inspired by the work they read.

### Armenian 124: Armenian Literature in Social Context

A diverse group of forty-five students were enrolled in a course entitled "Theater Without Borders: Armenian Drama and Europe." The course presented a survey of twentieth-century Armenian drama in translation; it also drew points of comparison with classic texts of the European dramatic canon. Through lectures and discussions, students learned about the conventions of comedy, tragedy, and tragi-comedy as well as the impact of the aesthetic movements of the period on these conventions.

Students took an in-class midterm and a take-home final, for which they explicated passages from the plays they read. The course had a reader, Maria Whittle, who graded the examinations in consultation with the instructor. Students also completed a final project, which required them to present a comparative analysis of three of the course readings. In preparation for the project, students presented their work-in-progress to the class and received feedback from the instructor and their peers. Projects ranged from the standard ten-page academic paper to more creative work, such as websites, a podcast, and video-recorded performances.

### Slavic 100L: Advanced Readings in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Languages

In conjunction with Armenian 124, three students enrolled in a reading tutorial. They read the Armenian originals of the plays assigned in Armenian 124 and discussed them in a weekly hour-long meeting with the instructor. The meetings often focused on questions of language and the ideas that came across in the original texts, but not in their translation. In addition to discussing the readings, students had the opportunity to watch and discuss two films based on the readings, *Nazar the Brave* and *Honorable Beggars*. (The students in Armenian 124 could not watch these films, because they are without subtitles.) The final exam for the course required students to read one of two untranslated plays, Vahe Berberian's *Pink Elephant* or Garine Khodikyan's *Aram Lives Here*. Students then wrote a two- to three-page close reading of a passage from the play, demonstrating their ability to engage critically with an authentic Armenian text. Notably, one student, Sevana Nourian, wrote the close reading assignment in Armenian.

### Slavic 98: Directed Group Study

Marina Hovhannisyan taught and Myrna Douzjian supervised a DeCal on

"Armenian Music in Practice and History." Twelve students enrolled in the course, which consisted of two parts: a historical overview of developments in Armenian music and participation in the Berkeley Armenian choir, Ardzagank. Students could enroll in one or both components of the course. The history component introduced students to Armenian music, starting with its ancient roots, but focusing on twentieth-century composers and music arrangers. Students also gained familiarity with Armenian musical instruments, genres, and the historical processes of composition and collection. Students enrolled in the choir portion of the course learned to sight-read basic music and sing a repertoire of songs, which they performed at a concert on campus in March.

## Armenian History

Professor Stephen Astourian taught the following courses:  
Fall 2017

### History 177A: Armenian History: From Ethnogenesis to the Dark Ages (circa A.D. 1500)

This survey course covers close to three millennia of Armenian history, from the process of ethnogenesis to the almost complete destruction of the Armenian "feudal" system by the end of the fifteenth century. Even though this course is based on the broad framework of Armenian political history and institutions (kingship, nakharar system, the church, etc.), it also emphasizes economic development, social change, and cultural transformations.

Various themes were discussed, including the following ones. How could a small nation survive whose homeland was located both at the crossroads of major invasions and population movements and along the fault planes of powerful empires? What did it mean to be Armenian in Antiquity or the Middle Ages? What was the impact of the adoption of Christianity on the fate of this nation? What types of interaction characterized the relationship between Christian Armenians and diverse Muslim invaders?

Twenty-nine students took this class. This is the highest enrollment of the past twenty years.

Spring 2018

### History 103B: The Caucasus in the Modern Era

This seminar is a historical and political survey of the Caucasus from the end of the eighteenth century to 2008. The following themes, among others, are discussed: the Russian conquest and administration of the Caucasus; the diverse responses of the local population to the opportunities and constraints presented by tsarist rule; the diverse cultural and political currents emerging from the 1860s on and the resulting rise of national consciousness among the three main nationalities; the socioeconomic and ethnonational stratification of the Caucasus at the end of the nineteenth century and its impact on the subsequent process of "nation-making"; the First World War and the formation of three independent republics; the Sovietization of those republics and the contradictions involved in the creation of socialist (national) republics; the transformation of the Caucasus under Soviet rule; the causes for the dissolution of the Soviet Union; the formation of post-Soviet republics; the origins and development of a number of ethnoterritorial conflicts (Mountainous Karabagh, Chechnya, and Abkhazia); the struggle of the regional and great powers for influence in the Caucasus; the geopolitics of

oil production and exportation; and the consequences of the 2008 Georgian conflict with Russia over South Ossetia.

Six students and three auditors attended this seminar. One of the students was a graduate student from San Francisco State University. One of the auditors was a visiting doctoral student from the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (Paris).

## ASP Events

Dr. Julien Zarifian (Associate Professor, University of Cergy-Pontoise)

### "Armenian and Turkish Lobbies and U.S. (Non-)Recognition of the Armenian Genocide" - September 18, 2017

**Synopsis:** The goal of this talk is to present and analyze the political opposition between the Armenian and Turkish lobbies in favor or against the official recognition of the Armenian Genocide by the United States. We will discuss why, despite decades of efforts and some positive results, the Armenian-American advocacy groups have not yet obtained the full recognition of the Genocide by the U.S. federal authorities and how Turkey and Turkish groups have lobbied to prevent such recognition.

**Biography:** Julien Zarifian is Associate Professor in American History at the University of Cergy-Pontoise, France. This academic year he is a Fulbright scholar with the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research. His research interests focus on U.S. foreign policies in Eurasia, the role of ethnic groups and the importance of memory issues in U.S. political life. Zarifian's current research project deals with "The U.S. and the Question of the Armenian Genocide, from 1915 to the Present."

Aghasi Yenokyan (Political Analyst on South Caucasian and Russian Affairs)

### Russian Management of the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict - Oct. 9, 2017

**Synopsis:** The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is one of the oldest and bloodiest conflicts on the territory of the former Soviet Union. Since its inception, many states and international organizations have been involved in its regulation, but until now Russia remains the most active party in the negotiations and in the management of warfare among Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Karabakh. This presentation will outline Russia's role at the different stages of the conflict.

**Biography:** Aghasi Yenokyan graduated from the Department of Physics of Yerevan State University and earned an MBA from the American University of Armenia. Mr. Yenokyan served as chief of the Yerevan Bureau of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and editor-in-chief of <http://www.lin.am/>, a news web portal. He has taught as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of International Relations of Yerevan State University. Aghasi Yenokyan was a research fellow at the Harriman Institute of Columbia University and a visiting research fellow at the University of Chicago.

Anna Astvatsaturian Turcotte (Author and Eyewitness)

### "Sumgayit: 30 Years Later and the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict" - February 2, 2018

Organized by the Armenian Studies Program at U.C. Berkeley and St. John Armenian Church of San Francisco

**Synopsis:** This lecture dealt with the anti-Armenian atrocities of her childhood, the history that fueled that hatred, and the current situation in Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh Republic).

**Biography:** Anna Astvatsaturian Turcotte is a writer and lecturer. She authored *Nowhere, A Story of Exile* and has lectured extensively about the

plight of Armenians in Azerbaijan from the perspective of human rights and international law.

Heghnar Zeitlian Watenpaugh (Associate Professor of Art History, U.C. Davis)

**"A Medieval Gospel Book from Genocide to Restitution: Toros Roslin's Zeytun Gospels, 1915- 2015"** - February 15, 2018

**Synopsis:** The destruction of art, especially religious art, is one of the components of the genocidal phenomenon. Claims for the restitution of surviving religious and artistic objects form part of post-conflict processes of survival or reconciliation. The widespread destruction of religious art is a well-known dimension of the Armenian Genocide, yet it has rarely attracted critical attention. A rare example of Armenian art to have escaped the destruction of the Genocide, the Zeytun Gospels, is a survivor object. In 1256, Toros Roslin illuminated a Gospel Book, now known as the Zeytun Gospels. For centuries, the manuscript was kept in remote churches in present-day southern Turkey. Events set in motion during the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1922 cast the holy manuscript out of its church and cleaved it into two. Eight pages from the manuscript, known as the Canon Tables, ended up at the Getty Museum in Los Angeles in the 1990's. By then, art historians had recognized Toros Roslin as the most important illuminator in Armenian art, turning the sacred relic into a priceless work of art. In 2010 the Armenian Church sued the Getty for the return of the eight pages. The suit, and its eventual settlement, prompted questions about the ownership of the manuscript fragment, its connection to the Armenian Genocide, as well about genocide and culture, the right of persecuted groups to cultural heritage and the responsibilities of museums. This case embodies the defining elements of art history in the 21st century: the materiality of the object, the contest between communities and powerful institutions for control over cultural patrimony, the human right to culture, the impact of the global art market, and the ways in which objects mediate individual and group identities.

**Biography:** Heghnar Zeitlian Watenpaugh is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of California, Davis. She specializes in the visual culture of the Middle East. Her first book, *The Image of an Ottoman City: Imperial Architecture and Urban Experience in Aleppo in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries* received the Spiro Kostof Book Award from the Society of Architectural Historians. Her scholarly publications have also won the Best Article Prize from the Syrian Studies Association, and the Ömer Lütfi Barkan Article Prize from the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association. Her next book, *The Missing Pages: The Modern Life of a Medieval Manuscript, from Genocide to Justice*, is forthcoming from Stanford University Press.

Dr. Yektan Turkyilmaz

**"Van/Vasporakan: From Renaissance, to Resistance and Genocide"** - March 16, 2018

**Synopsis:** Through a brief overview of the turbulent nineteenth and especially the early twentieth centuries of Van/Vasporakan Armenians this lecture will underscore the ways in which exploring this particular location challenges the conventional understandings regarding Armenian modernization, inter and intra-communal relations in the late Ottoman period and, particularly the Genocide.

The nineteenth and early twentieth centuries indisputably marked the most crucial span of time for Van/Vasporakan Armenians. The period

witnessed a rapid economic growth, increased social diversification and mobilization, and cultural burgeoning. Yet, it was also a time when the most brutal massacres, systematic persecution and finally the catastrophic total destruction of social life in the area took place.

Van/Vasporakan is particularly salient for the study of the Genocide; as the province was the epicenter of the Armenian genocide, the place where it incubated. Between August 1914 and April 1915 the political barometer in the province measured the growing tensions along the fault line that stretched from the Russian Southern Caucasus and Northern Iran to Istanbul through Van.

**Biography:** Yektan Turkyilmaz received his PhD from Duke University Department of Cultural Anthropology. He taught courses at University of Cyprus, Sabanci, Bilgi and Duke Universities addressing the debates around the notions of collective violence, memory making and reconciliation. Turkyilmaz is currently the Kazan Visiting Professor at the Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno. He is also a research fellow at the Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin, Germany. Meanwhile, he is working on his book manuscript based on his dissertation, *Rethinking Genocide: Violence and Victimhood in Eastern Anatolia, 1913-1915*, concerns the conflict in the eastern provinces of Ottoman Empire in the early 20th century and the memory politics around it.

Dr. Ümit Kurt

**"A Farewell to Arms: Broken Hopes and Total Departure from the Homeland, in the Heroic Battle of Aintab"** - April 10, 2018

**Synopsis:** The Turkish-French war took place between the Turkish-Kemalist nationalist forces and French troops in Aintab, modern day Gaziantep, in 1920- 21. The war started on April 1, 1920 and ended with the city's surrender to the French military forces on February 9, 1921. Following the diplomatic negotiations between France and the Kemalist government, as well as the Kemalist victory against the Greek army in the Western Anatolia, a mutual agreement [Ankara Agreement] was signed between the Grand National Assembly in Ankara and the French government on October 20, 1921 and all activities on the Turkish-French fronts ceased. The agreement resulted from the French retreat from Aintab, as well as the resettlement of Aintab Armenians to the French mandates of Aleppo and Beirut starting March 1921.

In this lecture, Dr. Ümit Kurt explored how this war was narrated based on an original source written in Armenian by Kevork Baboian, titled *The Heroic Battle of Aintab*. Dr. Kurt presented his English translation of this important book with the detailed history of the Armenian struggle for survival in Aintab between 1918-1922. It is a unique and significant work because it is based on detailed eyewitness accounts of real people who were in the city at that time.

Kurt argued that the famous battle of Aintab against the French-which resulted in the gifting of the honorific prefix Gazi (veteran) to the city, renamed as Gaziantep, on 8 February 1921- seems to have been as much the organized struggle of a group of genocide profiteers seeking to hold onto their loot as it was a fight against an occupying force. This resistance sought to make it impossible for the returning Armenians to stay in their native towns, terrorizing them in the hope of causing them to flee.

**Biography:** Ümit Kurt earned his PhD in history at the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Clark University in 2016. He is Polonsky Fellow in the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem. Dr. Kurt's work examines a

number of issues related to the Armenian Genocide: the transfer of Armenian wealth, the transformation of space, the elite-making process, ordinary perpetrators, collective violence, microhistories, and early modern Turkish nationalism. He worked as a postdoctoral fellow in 2016-17 in the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University. He is the author of *The Great, Hopeless Turkish Race: Fundamentals of Turkish Nationalism in the Turkish Homeland, 1911-1916* (Istanbul: İletişim Publishing House, 2012) and the co-author of *The Spirit of the Laws: The Plunder of Wealth in the Armenian Genocide* (New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2015)

Saturday, April 14, 2018

## International Conference

### "Contemporary Armenian Writing and the Parameters of the Literary"

The Armenian Studies Program would like to thank D. Julie Kulhanjian and Roger Strauch for their support for this event.

**Synopsis:** The establishment of Armenia as an independent nation-state presented Armenian literature with important opportunities. It facilitated the greater cross-pollination between the literary capital of the diaspora and Armenia, most notably through the literary journals *Inknagir*, *Arteria*, and *Pakine*. While authors in the diaspora wrote about the death of Western Armenian, their work was simultaneously reinvigorated by an additional, however modest, critical mass of readers. Similarly, the collapse of the Soviet publishing machine marked a turning-point for litterateurs in Armenia, who were pushed to reinvent all aspects of the literary marketplace.

Although the diaspora and Armenia have maintained different literary preoccupations throughout this period, they share in common a self-conscious strain of writing that has expanded the formal and aesthetic possibilities of literature. In the diaspora, for example, the works of Krikor Beledian and Marc Nichanian explore image-text relations or the ways in which language, narrative, and visual representation interact. In Armenia, an entire body of work that insists upon the fluidity of literary genres has undone long-held assumptions about poetry, prose, and drama. Taking these trends as a point of departure, this conference seeks papers that address the ways in which contemporary writers and thinkers have redefined the parameters of literature since 1991.

### Welcome and Opening Remarks

Stephan Astourian

William Saroyan Director of the Armenian Studies Program, U.C. Berkeley and Associate Adjunct Professor, Department of History

Morning Session: Literature in Armenia

### "Repression, Rehabilitation and Silence: An Unknown Episode from the Soviet-Armenian Gulag Experience"

Siranush Dvoyan

Associate Professor, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, American University of Armenia

### "The Genres of Aghasi Aqvazyan's Historical Fiction and the Undoing of Nationalist Discourse"

Myrna Douzjian

Lecturer, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of California, Berkeley

### "The Armenian Epic 'Daredevils of Sassoun' and the Contemporary Armenian Novel: From the Armenian Epic Tradition to (Neo)mythologism"

Hayk Hambardzumyan

Associate Professor, Department of Armenian Literature, Yerevan State University

### "To Write a Father in Order To Have Him: A New Paradigm in Contemporary Armenian Prose"

Vahram Danielyan

Assistant Professor, Department of Modern Armenian Literature, Yerevan State University and College of Humanities and Social Sciences, American University of Armenia

Afternoon Session: Diaspora Literature

### "Literary Exceptionalisms: Myth-making in the Global Armenian Market"

Talar Chahinian

Lecturer, Department of Comparative World Literature and Classics, California State University, Long Beach

### “Հայ մտքի ողիսականը ըստ Վահե Օշականի Գրական հռչակագրին”

["The Armenian Intellectual Odyssey According to Vahe Oshagan's Literary Manifesto"]

Krikor Beledian

Author, Former Associate Professor of Armenian Literature, National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations (France)

### "Non-Dominant Language in Contemporary Diasporas: Is Literature Possible?"

Hagop Gulludjian

Lecturer, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, University of California, Los Angeles

### "The Other Oedipus"

Marc Nichanian

Visiting Professor, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, American University of Armenia

## International Symposium

### "The First Armenian Republic a Century Later"

Location: Saroyan Hall, Krouzian-Zekarian-Vasbouragan Armenian School  
825 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA 94132 - May 8,2108

Speakers:

Dr. George Bournoutian (Iona College)

### "The Transformation of the Erevan Province into the Armenian Republic."

Dr. Amaduni Virabyan (Director of the National Archives of Armenia).

"Socioeconomic Conditions during the First Armenian Republic." (In Armenian)

Dr. Ashot Melkonyan (Director of the Institute of History of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia and Full Member of the National Academy of Sciences).

**"The Historical Significance of the Act of United Armenia (May 28, 1919)." (In Armenian)**

Dr. Ruben Safrastyan (Director of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia and Full Member of the National Academy of Sciences).

**"The Kemalist War against the Armenian Republic: The Preparation Phase (1919-1920)." (in Armenian)**

Moderated by Dr. Stephan Astourian (Associate Adjunct Professor, Department of History and Director of the Armenian Studies Program at U.C. Berkeley)

Event co-sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program at U.C. Berkeley and the A.R.F. Krisdapor Chapter

### **Professional Activities by the ASP Director Prof. Stephan Astourian**

#### **Lectures**

Wednesday, August 2, 2017

Day-long Lecture on the "Origins, Development, and Consequences of the Armenian Genocide." Genocide and Human Rights University Program organized by the Zoryan Institute at the University of Toronto.

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Panel on Genocides and Genocide Prevention organized by the Armenian Student Association and Amnesty International (Berkeley), 60 Barrows Hall.

Sunday, May 6, 2018

"Reflections on the Origins, Development, and Aftermath of the First Armenian Republic" presented at the conference entitled "Armenian Statehood Reborn: Achievements and Reflections. Organized by the Armenian Revolutionary Federation, Western United States and the Armenian Studies Program at the California State University, Northridge (CSUN). Plaza Del Sol Performance Center, CSUN, May 5-6.

Friday, May 11, 2018

Speaker (along with Ronald Suny, Richard Hovannisian, and Dikran Kaligian) in the Plenary Roundtable Session of the conference entitled "The Republic of Armenia: Centennial Conference." Organized by the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF) Eastern Region United States and co-sponsored by the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research (NAASR), the *Armenian Review*, and the Columbia Armenian Students' Association. Columbia University, Friday-Saturday May 11-12, 2018.

#### **Reviews**

##### **Grants and Fellowships**

December 2017: Reviewed the applications for the publication grants of the Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fund.

End March 2018: Reviewed the grant applications of ARISC's (American Research Institute of the Southern Caucasus) Collaborative Heritage Management program.

April-May 2018: Reviewed the more than one hundred ten doctoral fellowship applications for the Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fund.

May 2018: Reviewed the applications for the publication grants of the Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fund.

#### **Manuscript**

September 2017: Reviewed an article entitled "The Breakdown of a Previously Peaceful Coexistence: the Aintab Armenian Massacres of 1895" for *Etudes armeniennes contemporaines* (Paris).

#### **Academic Promotion**

February-March 2018: Evaluation of Dr. Vahram Ter Matevosyan's file for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor at the American University of Armenia.

#### **Supervision**

Spring 2018: Lina Tsrinova, visiting doctoral student from the École des hautes études en sciences sociales (Paris), who is working on a dissertation dealing with the Caucasus.

#### **Interviews**

April 17, 2017: Prof. Astourian was interviewed via Skype by Al Jazeera (English) about the protests and political situation in Armenia.

May 1, 2018: Prof. Astourian was interviewed by Voice of America (Armenian) about the resignation of Prime Minister Serzh Sargsyan and the prospects of regime change in Armenia.

#### **Consultations**

Monday, April 30, 2018: with Dr. Celeste Schenk (President of the American University of Paris) and Dr. Brian Schiff (Director of the George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights, and Conflict Prevention) about the organization of an international multidisciplinary conference about the Armenian Genocide.

#### **Service to the Community**

Summer 2017-May 2018: Prof. Astourian served on the organizing committee of the conference entitled "Armenian Statehood Reborn: Achievements and Reflections. Organized by the Armenian Revolutionary Federation, Western United States and the Armenian Studies Program at the California State University, Northridge (CSUN)

#### **Other Professional Activities**

Member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal for the Society of Armenian Studies* (since the end of March 2018)

Member of the Academic Board of *Policy Forum Armenia* (Washington, DC), the main Armenian think-tank in the diaspora since January 2013.

Member of the Executive Committee of the Institute of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (U.C. Berkeley) since 2011.





**UCBAA and ASA Brunch at the Home of Celia Karian and James Novosel**



**UCBAA Annual Picnic at the beginning of the 2018-2019 Academic Year**

# THANK YOU

## WILLIAM SAROYAN ENDOWMENT DONATIONS November 2017 to March 2019

Dr. Peter & Mrs. Pamela Abaci\*  
Rouben & Sofia Amirbekian  
David & Christine Balabanian  
Evelyn C. Boyd\*  
Linda Dardarian  
Daughters of Vartan Grand Council  
Dr. & Mrs. Armen & Nelly Der Kiureghian  
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Gary Charles Mekikian  
Karnig & Santoukht Mikaelian  
Berge & Rosa Roubinian, D.D.S.  
Leon Roubinian  
Thomas Terzian & Dinorah Diamond

## UCBAA DONATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE ARMENIAN STATE CHAMBER CHOIR VISIT TO THE SF BAY AREA November 2017 to March 2019

Bryan & Valina Agbabian  
Ruth Alahydoian & Armen Sedrakian  
Beverly & Paul Alexander  
Eleanore Aslanian  
Francois-Hayg Astourian  
Cynthia Avakian  
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Jack & Marie Saroyan  
Caline Soghikian  
Madeleine Tashjian  
Zaven Tashjian  
Charles Tateosian  
Nadya & Arto Yagjian

## UCBAA GENERAL FUND DONATIONS November 2017 to March 2019

*In Honor of Evelyn Boyd*

Cynthia Avakian  
Hasmig & Antranik Cingoz  
Nora Hanoian

## UCBAA GENERAL FUND DONATIONS November 2017 to March 2019

Anonymous  
Ara Abrahamian  
Zaven & Armine Adrouny  
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Sofia & Rouben Amirbekian\*  
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## UCBAA GENERAL FUND DONATIONS November 2017 to March 2019

*In Memory of Anita Chorbanjian*

Evelyn Boyd  
Gladys Kermoyan Peters

*In Memory of June Shamshoian*

Gladys Kermoyan Peters

\* Multiple Donations

## Calling All L.A. Alumni!

The UCBAA is looking for any Cal Alumni living in the Southern California area who are interested in participating in alumni activities in the LA area! If you live in Southern California and are interested in gathering with other Cal Armenian Alumni, please contact us at [contact@ucbaa.org](mailto:contact@ucbaa.org).

## Join our Board or Volunteer on a Sub-Committee

Calling all alumni or interested community members! The UCBAA is actively searching for more volunteers to either join our Board or a sub-committee. Sub-committee members need not be Cal graduates and we welcome anyone who is willing to come help us plan culturally enriching and entertaining events for the Bay Area Armenian community. If you are interested in helping in any capacity, please contact us at [contact@ucbaa.org](mailto:contact@ucbaa.org).

## Are you on Facebook?

Like the U.C. Berkeley Armenian Alumni page and stay in touch!

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## Visit us online!

The UCBAA's website includes information about ASP courses and events, UCBAA events, scholarship programs, and more. Please visit us at [www.ucbaa.org](http://www.ucbaa.org) and sign up for the newsletter to receive electronic messages about upcoming events and important announcements. We appreciate your feedback, please feel free to drop us a line at [contact@ucbaa.org](mailto:contact@ucbaa.org).



## ANNUAL MEMEBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE NOW. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A UC BERKELEY GRADUATE TO JOIN UCBAA!

We have hundreds of "alums" on our mailing list, yet we receive dues from fewer than 50. The dues become part of our General Fund which covers our operating expenses, including mailings, printing, honorariums and travel expenses for guest speakers, and much more. Only dues paying members are allowed to vote in our elections.

Annual dues are \$75. Use the forms below to send us your dues and updated contact information.

## UCBAA CONTRIBUTION FORM

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*Please make checks payable to : UCBAA, PO Box 10113, Berkeley, CA 94709-5113.*

*You may also contribute via PayPal by visiting our web page at [www.UCBAA.org](http://www.UCBAA.org).*



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