

CREATING LEADING PROFESSIONALS SINCE 1982

20  
YEARS



KIMEP  
Education to Change Society

# Alumni Magazine

Volume I

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## Message from KIMEP's Corporate Development Department

Dear KIMEP Alumni,  
Welcome to the first edition of our alumni magazine! In the pages ahead, you will find pictures and articles highlighting events from the past year, including our unforgettable alumni reunions held at KIMEP in November 2010 and April 2011. The corporate development department also met with alumni throughout Kazakhstan and Central Asia through the year; including meetings in Atyrau, Aktau, Astana and Dushanbe.

Whether it is business, government, media or civil society, we can find KIMEP graduates in every walk of life contributing daily to Kazakhstan and Central Asia's development. We look forward to your continued engagement in the life of the Institute as well. We have established the 'Rakhmet Alumni Scholarship Fund' this past year, and you can find more information on how to participate



in this fund in the pages ahead. Giving the gift of a KIMEP education to those students who are in financial need is a significant contribution to the future of Kazakhstan. We hope that you enjoy reading

about your home institute, about your friends and classmates, and that you find yourself among the pages of this magazine. If not, then you can contribute to the next one!

The corporate development department at KIMEP is always ready to work with you, listen to your ideas, and help transform them into reality. We welcome collaboration with our alumni. So please simply come by and say hi—we're always happy to welcome you back to KIMEP.

Best wishes,  
Stanley Currier  
Director, Corporate Development  
Department  
scurrier@kimep.kz



## About the Alumni Association and Alumni Magazine

The KIMEP Alumni Association (AKA) was established in 2004 to maintain a permanent and stable relationship between the Institute and its Alumni, with the purpose of mutual service and support.

Published once an academic year, KIMEP Alumni Magazine carries the latest news and highlights from the Institute, updates on alumni events, and achievements, benefits, stimulating and informative features.

To get your copy, or to tell us about a change of address please contact Corporate Development Department at KIMEP .

**Active Alumni make a stronger university and increase the value of a KIMEP Degree!**

# Alumni Events 2010-2011 AY



## Fall 2010:

### Celebrating Excellence: An Evening with KIMEP's Senior Alumni

November 26, 2010

On the evening of November 26, 2010, KIMEP opened the doors of the newly renovated Sports Complex for 'Celebrating Excellence: An Evening with KIMEP's Senior Alumni.'

Over 150 alumni from the classes of 1994 - 2002 attended the event. Alumni gathered by year of graduation at specially marked tables through the hall, and conversation quickly filled the room. A professional orchestra and festive decorations lent an elegant touch to the evening. KIMEP President Dr. Bang opened the evening with welcoming remarks, followed by

Class of 1999 MBA alumni Rinad Temirbekov. Outstanding alumni in the field of community service were recognized for their work with special framed certificates. While guests enjoyed food and beverages, they also had the chance to win and take home prizes during the KIMEP quiz and special lottery. Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Dana Stevens officially launched the alumni scholarship fund, the 'Rakhmet Scholarship.'



## Nauryz Open-Air Party 2011

April 9, 2011

KIMEP has a tradition to celebrate the Nauryz Holiday every year on campus.

On April 9, 2011 KIMEP invited all KIMEP Bachelors Alumni to join the Nauryz celebration. A concert, national traditional games, finger snacks and soft drinks were provided for every alumnus. As a sign of appreciation, alumni received a KIMEP Alumni Pin which indicates their membership in the KIMEP Alumni Community!

## Spring Alumni Reunion 2011

*April 22, 2011*

Following the tradition, KIMEP welcomed more than 100 Masters Alumni of 2002 – 2010 years of graduation on April 22, 2011.

The Reunion was held in the KIMEP Sports Center, and was opened with a welcoming speech by Dr. Dana Stevens, Vice-President of Academic Affairs. Dr. Stevens highlighted how far both alumni and the institute have come over the years, emphasized KIMEP alumni's contributions to Kazakhstan and the world over and noted KIMEP's growth and development.

While enjoyed food and beverages, KIMEP graduates also had the chance to win prizes during the KIMEP quiz and special lottery. Corporate Development Department's Director, Stanley Currier awarded outstanding alumni with the certificates of excellence recognition for their achievements in professional and social spheres.

At the end of the event alumni had a chance to try a Special Alumni Cake!

KIMEP is always proud of its alumni, and aims to enhance their presence in the life of the Institute.



## Ambassadors Lunch

*February 23, 2011*

On February 23, 2011 Corporate Development Department organized a lunch with KIMEP Alumni Ambassadors who are the connecting link between KIMEP and alumni network, and help to stay in touch with KIMEP graduates all over the world.

The lunch was held in "Passion Italiana" restaurant near KIMEP in a friendly informal atmosphere. The current status of alumni affairs and upcoming projects and events were discussed.

Ambassadors exchanged their idea to activate and maintain alumni relations with their alma-mater.



## Alumni Meeting in Astana

On Tuesday, April 19, 2011 Dr. Le Gene Quesenberry and CDD Director Stanley Currier met with Saltanat Kerimbyaeva and several members of the Astana Alumni Association at the new Keruen Center in downtown Astana. The meeting included an update on KIMEP activities, as well as news from the Astana chapter. Astana alumni are very active, hosting networking events on a monthly basis. Alumni in Astana assist one another in mentoring new graduates with employment opportunities, and are always very helpful when KIMEP recruitment teams come to the city.

KIMEP wishes our Astana alumni all the best in their professional endeavors, and in representing their alma mater with pride in our capital city!



## Alumni Meeting in Atyrau

### Business Trip to Atyrau: Meeting with Atyrau Alumni Chapter

*May 31, 2011*

Members of Corporate Development Department (CDD) took a business trip to Atyrau to meet with KIMEP's corporate sponsors and potential partners. While in Atyrau they met with KIMEP alumni who live and work in that region.

The meeting was held in a very friendly and informal atmosphere. CDD informed alumni about current status and activities of the alumni community at KIMEP, and chose an Ambassador to represent Atyrau Alumni Chapter.



# KIMEP Highlights of 2010-2011 AY

## Opening of the KIMEP Sports Center



## KIMEP Family Day in Astana

KIMEP Admission office invited to the KIMEP Family Day not only admitted students with their families, but also those applicants who have shown interest towards KIMEP by providing applications, passing entrance examinations but having the waiting documents status to stimulate their interest towards KIMEP education and make them think that they could become a part of KIMEP. The KIMEP Family Day aimed to ensure that the students have the opportunity to learn more about KIMEP before making their final college choice, to motivate them to select KIMEP as the only and the first priority institute for education. We would like to express our gratitude to the following KIMEP Alumni for the help in organization of this event: Saltanat Kerimbayeva, G2008 BSS, Consultant of Parliament's Mazhilis



and Alibek Salpekov, G2010 MBA, Expert of the Ministry of Finance.

## KIMEP Family Day in Shymkent

KIMEP Admission office welcomed newly admitted students with their families as well as applicants with their families. The event focused on a warm welcome to students and their parents/families to ensure that the students have the opportunity to learn more about KIMEP before making their final college choice. KIMEP appreciates the participation of Chingiz Zholymbekov, Bank Center Credit, Financial Analytic, G2010, BSc in this event.

## KIMEP Principals' Reception 2011 in Astana

The first Principals' Reception took place on **April 22, 2011, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.** in the International School "Miras" in Astana.

### We would like to thank our Alumni for giving a speech:

Salpekov Alibek, MBA – Expert of Foreign direct investment division; Kerimbayeva Saltanat, BSS/PA – Parliament's Mazhilis/Consultant; Suleimenova Botagoz, Customs Committee/ Senior Specialist. KIMEP awarded special gifts to the Alumni reps for participation in the major KIMEP events in Astana.

## KIMEP Principals' Reception 2011 in Atyrau

The Principals' Reception took place on **May 13, 2011, from 16:00 to 18:00 p.m.**

**Thanks to KIMEP Alumni**

**for giving a speech:** Kuanova Almagul, BSS/PA – 2008; “Tengiz Chevroil” - Accountant  
KIMEP awarded special gifts to the Alumni reps for participation in the major KIMEP events in Atyrau. We are very grateful to our alumni, Kuanova Almagul, who agreed to participate in this event. Almagul has presented the certificate of recognition to the Principal of the school, which she had graduated from. It was a very touching moment for everyone. It is also worth to mention that though the program that she has graduated from is BSS PA, she has chosen the accounting track and is successfully employed by Tengiz Chevroil Company as leading accountant. The school administrators were amazed by the fact that our alumni have the chance to major and minor in several specializations and, therefore, their employment opportunities are much greater than that of the graduates of other universities.



Nurym Taibek,  
Alumni Ambassador at KIMEP  
Graduation 2011

## Leadership Development Program at KIMEP



*Dear Alumni!*

We are glad to invite you to the new exciting KIMEP project, Leadership Development Program (LDP).

The Program was established in 2010, as part of an innovative curriculum redesign, by the initiative of the President of KIMEP. The purpose of the Leadership Development Program is to help KIMEP students develop the necessary skills to assume key positions in Kazakhstani business and government.

Each week the Program hosts distinguished business leaders who share their invaluable knowledge with our students. The most active leaders invite the best students to participate in a real-world project for a company. Thus, the Program provides an exclusive opportunity for students to work closely with each other as well as senior executives from leading organizations in a real-world business context.

We are glad to invite you to visit the Program as a guest speaker and become a member of the Leaders Forum. Your participation will add an important perspective and dimension to what is potentially a very important discussion for the KIMEP students. Any other contribution would also be appreciated.

For more information please visit LDP webpage at [new.kimep.kz/bcb/ldp](http://new.kimep.kz/bcb/ldp) or contact Yevgeniya Malkovskaya, LDP Manager, at [ldp-mngr@kimep.kz](mailto:ldp-mngr@kimep.kz)

## The Alumni Leaders League speaks at LDP

*February 2, 2011*

This iteration of the KIMEP Leadership Development Program was certainly unique. While LDP students usually spend their classes learning about the realities of business, this group of speakers works for free. Why, you ask? Because they have a vision of becoming a prominent organization that can make a positive change for the people of Kazakhstan.

These people are Bates Assilbekova, Togzhan Ibrayeva and Aigerim Begaliyeva. They are representatives of ALL, the Alumni Leaders League, which was organized in 2005 by Alumni of the Muskie Fellowship Program. **Serving as a bridge between alumni organizations and the community, ALL has expanded over the last few years to include all students who have studied abroad or participated in international programs.**

While working on a variety of different projects, ALL volunteers also focus on raising awareness about important issues facing the country. Alumni do this by implementing educational programs, creating social projects, networking and mentoring other alumni in their program's organizations.

The ladies from ALL ended their presentation with a call to action, inviting LDP students to take charge of making a positive impact on their society. They are willing to accept any and all volunteers that have a dream to see a better Kazakhstan in the near future.

## AFBE Accreditation

On September 19, 2011, the BSc and MBA programs in the Bang College of Business received Level II (Regional) accreditation from the Asian Forum on Business Education. This means that BCB is recognized by AFBE as a strong business school in the Asian region, with a substantial regional reputation and presence in Asia, standing in comparison with institutions in China, Korea, Singapore and Malaysia among others.

# KIMEP Faculty Academic Achievements

## Zhenis Kembayev recognized as the best professor in the country

*Daryndy Ustaz* was the first independent contest among Kazakhstani colleges and universities that sought to find the country's best professor. Faculty from legal, economic and liberal arts departments at every higher education institution (HEI) of the country participated. In the end, Zhenis Kembayev, Ph.D., a professor in KIMEP's School of Law, was named Kazakhstan's best law professor.



No doubt, he deserves it. Dr. Kembayev is a graduate of Hamburg and Koln Universities in Germany, a Fulbright and Alexander von Humboldt fellow, a practicing legal professional and a favorite of many KIMEP students. Today, Dr. Kembayev shared his impression of the contest, his career memories, future plans and his vision on the evolution of legal education in Kazakhstan.

**You recently returned from Astana, where you won Daryndy Ustaz, naming you the best law professor in Kazakhstan. Please, tell us a little about it.**

The contest was very hard and demanding. More than seventy candidates from different Kazakhstan HEIs participated. Even though it was the first time the contest took place, we should give credit to its organizer, the Kazakh University of Liberal Arts and Law, for putting together such an impressive event. The contest was very objective and impartial.

It consisted of three parts: the first part evaluated professional knowledge; the second evaluated general knowledge and the third judged public speaking. The jury included Mazhilis deputies, the head of one of the biggest banks of Kazakhstan, representatives from the Ministry of education and science, and a number of rectors from leading HEIs in Astana. It happened that I won. I think that it is a big honor for me personally and for the KIMEP School of Law.

**You have been officially recognized as the best professor of law in Kazakhstan. You have the highest academic rank from one of the best legal schools of the country. You were one of the originators of the first book on Kazakhstani law, which is now spreading around the world. It would be great to know about your future plans, having accomplished so much already.** My constant goal is to improve my professional level. This is a plan

with no limits. It is a good thing to be the best at your university, but it is even better to be the best in Kazakhstan, so one should never be satisfied with what has already been achieved. There is also a regional level (I mean Central Asia), a higher level – Eurasia and finally a global level. That's enough work for one life. And this is my goal – to keep going, to improve my knowledge and abilities. We'll see what that will bring.

**What role will the KIMEP School of Law play in the development of the Kazakhstani legal system?**

This year, we will be celebrating twenty years of Kazakhstan's independence. During this period, the legal system of Kazakhstan has come a long way. However, it's still at a formative stage. Considering that we live in an age of globalization, the legal system of Kazakhstan must evolve with the international legal system as well. The future of our legal system



and the strength of this system will depend on its ability to adapt to changes in international law. In this regard, we need a new type of law school that combines the best local legal traditions and the most progressive (primarily western) experience. Therefore, the KIMEP School of Law should be a major investment in the further development of legal system of Kazakhstan. Our LLM program has been successfully operating at KIMEP since 2009. This fall, we are planning to start teaching bachelor students as well.

### **How did your career develop after graduating from university?**

I finished university in 1997 with honors, and I received a DAAD scholarship to enroll in the LLM program at Hamburg University. Once I got my LLM, I returned to Almaty and for some time combined my work as a legal advisor with teaching. Somewhere at the beginning of the new century, I decided to focus more on academic work. In 2002, I defended my candidate dissertation at KazNU. One year later, I received the prestigious Fulbright scholarship to do research in the US. I studied the cooperation of the WTO with regional integration organizations at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles. I began working for KIMEP right after my return to Kazakhstan in 2004.

### **You have defended your doctoral dissertation in Germany. Why did you prefer studying in this country?**

I have intensively studied both German and English for a long time, since I first entered KazNU. My doctoral dissertation, which

was on the legal aspects of regional integration in the post-Soviet Union, was in English. I could have gone to the USA or Great Britain, but I decided to go to Germany because of its continental law system, which is similar to Kazakhstan's. Germany is also famous for its centuries-old traditions and numerous achievements in science and law in particular. It requires considerable effort to defend a doctoral dissertation in Germany. It's an achievement I am proud of. My doctoral program in Germany was absolutely free of charge, and I received a rather big scholarship as well. Certainly, this played a part in my decision. Although I was able to write my dissertation in German, they allowed me to prepare my thesis and defend it in English.

### **Please tell us about your current research interests.**

Above all, I am interested in the constitutional development of Kazakhstan and in international public law. In particular, I continue studying the integration processes that are currently unfolding in Eurasia, primarily within the Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia. Moreover, it should be pointed out that I currently heading the development of textbook, an *Introduction to the Law of Kazakhstan*. The writing team includes almost 20 experts in one or another sphere of law. The book is being written in English, making it one of a kind, and it will be published by one of the leading global academic publishers – Kluwer Law International. We hope that the book will be released by the end of 2011.

### **What principles do you adhere to when working with students? What approaches do you use for the most effective presentation of material?**

Today is strikingly different from the past. I remember in '90s, when I was a student myself, you constantly had to search for basic information. And now information, as textbooks, monographs, legal materials and other publications, is literally all around us. The Internet has strikingly changed our life! I always tell my students to not be lazy, to not grow weary and work because everything depends on them. Yes, I am probably very demanding, but life (if you want to succeed in it) will demand a lot more.

### **How does the study of law influence the life of future young professionals? What should they be prepared for and what should they strive for?**

They need to know everything they want in life. You need to set a goal and walk towards it. You need to chose a future major and try to be the best. This is very difficult, but it's worth it.

I would compare law with medicine. For example, in medicine when you say a "doctor," it doesn't mean anything because there are different kinds of doctors, such as surgeons, therapists, psychologists, ophthalmologist, etc. That is why I am saying it's important to find your major, know what you are striving for: public service, entrepreneurship or maybe you want to be a scientist. Your choice will determine your future life style.

**In any case, a good legal expert will find a well-deserved place in society.** There are, of course, a lot of difficulties, but all of them can be overcome with proper aspiration.

## KIMEP from the very beginning... by Richard Hale

Alma-Ata was a very different place from current-day Almaty when I arrived in 1992 with my wife, Kelly, and our daughter, Alexandra. Kazakhstan was part of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the currency was the Ruble, and KIMEP was just beginning! The biggest challenge of 1992 was to transform the Communist Party Training Academy into a world-class institute for business education. Students had to be selected, and then the summer was spent helping them to master English. By August, those students arrived to take their first five courses toward their master's degrees.

Those courses were led by five who shared the vision of what KIMEP was to become. Malcolm Fisher, an Australian who had been at Cambridge, England, was the first MBA Director. Ross King, a Texan who had been successful with feed stores and real estate, showed the students the basics of business. Lan Wu, Chinese by descent, but educated in the United States was

here, too. I taught Statistics, and Dr. Bang, of course, was here as well, to teach Economics. Even from its beginning, KIMEP's faculty has been quite international. In January, I became the MBA Director, as Dr. Fisher returned to England. Three more Americans joined the faculty in January of 1993: Ray Pitsker, Neal Johnson, and Ellis Bush.

By the fall of 1993, a second group of students had been admitted, and more new professors arrived, sponsored by the European Union. A grand celebration was held in October to mark the official opening of KIMEP. Improvements began to be seen; Ross King and I able to obtain textbooks for KIMEP in English and in Russian. Some of the courses even began to be taught in English *without* translation.

Excitement built during the first half of 1994, leading up to graduation of those first 84 students at the end of May, 1994. It was nearly a parade, as the graduating students walked

through town in their gowns and caps. President Nazarbaev was there to awards the diplomas to those pioneering students. The festivities lasted well into the night afterwards.

I have such fond memories of the work we did in those early days of KIMEP. I am so proud to see how the foundation we laid, often with very little resources, has lasted so long. It is very gratifying to see that KIMEP is even more successful than we dared to dream back then. Thanks for letting me share about those early days.

**Richard J. Hale, MBA, CPA**

Richard Hale returned to the United States in 1994. He worked for a small software company, for the Lexmark printer company, and is now back in the classroom at Midway College, in Midway, Kentucky.

He and Kelly have had two more daughters, Victoria and Catherine. Richard is currently pursuing his Doctorate of Business Administration degree in Accounting

## Rakhmet Scholarship: Giving to KIMEP

The RAKHMET Scholarship Fund was established in 2010. This is a fund especially for KIMEP Alumni to support students in need, and contribute to the education of tomorrow's leaders. The fund supports students KIMEP's financially needy students who demonstrate excellence academic merit. Alumni can also support KIMEP's institutional needs through the fund. For ways to contribute, please contact KIMEP's Corporate Development Department at [cdd@kimep.kz](mailto:cdd@kimep.kz) or +7 727 270 42 26.

In addition to scholarships and support for faculty, there are dozens of ways to provide support for and work with KIMEP. Whether you would like to enhance the library's collection of academic resources, contribute seed funds for KIMEP's research centers or assist our students achieve their dreams of participating in international conferences, a range of opportunities exist to support the institution. The gift can be named after your company, your class, or however you would like to capture your contribution to KIMEP. Corporate Development Department staff can assist you with your personalized gift to improve KIMEP's services for faculty, students and the community.



# Alumni Success Stories

## Berik Otemurat

In March 2010, Berik Otemurat took a leading position in one of the country's largest banks, BTA Bank, during a restructuring which he helped organize. Previously, Mr. Otemurat was one of the senior managers of the Kazakhstan Development Bank and headed the corporate finance department of Samruk-Kazyna. [After graduating from KIMEP in 2003, his career as a top manager began with a job in the audit department of Ernst & Young.](#)

Every year, the Department of Quality Assurance and Institutional Research publishes the KIMEP Fact Book, which features success stories of outstanding alumni. Links to the site in Kazakh, English and Russian can be found at:

<http://www.kimep.kz/administration/opad/qualityassurance/KIMEPFactBook>

If you would like KIMEP to highlight your professional or community service activities, we will be happy to include your profile in the upcoming fact book and feature it on this site. Please contact [cdd@kimep.kz](mailto:cdd@kimep.kz) to participate.

### **Tell us, please, how did you choose your university and academic specialization?**

Since high school, I had a good understanding of finance, and the choice to get involved in finance was conscious. Most importantly, I liked this sphere.

Back in 1999, I was admitted to one foreign university, KIMEP and KazEU named after T.Ryskulov. That year KIMEP launched a new and unique undergraduate program of business administration in English.

### **Were you one of those students that spent their day and nights in library, or did you prefer a more active student life?**

Despite graduating from KIMEP

with honors, it would be hard to say that I dedicated a lot of time to studying. Aside from attending lectures, I always had time to make student life more interesting, while also managing to work.

Beginning in my third year, I lived on campus. Around that time, my active social life started, which became an addition to the internships and jobs I held since entering KIMEP. For three summers, I worked at Tengiz deposit under a contract, where sometimes I had to work nights and weekends. Some shifts lasted for 14 hours. While it was a challenge, this allowed me to pay my tuition on my own and have some spare cash.

During my senior year, I had a part-time job at USAID. I also was a residential assistant in the KIMEP dormitory, a teaching assistant, a volunteer at a secondary school and the editor-in-chief of the *KIMEP Times*. [I remember that we used to ride bikes and deliver new issues of the paper to the companies where our graduates worked.](#) I don't know if that practice still exists.

It was a very interesting time. It seemed like the whole world lay before us, and we only had to understand how to take advantage of its opportunities. I remember my first entrepreneurship experience, when I ordered a batch of financial calculators from America for students via the internet. People would give almost anything for these calculators, since they were not sold in the country back then. I collected money for ordering about 60 calculators from students as an advance payment. With my profits, I bought a suit for my graduation party.

### **So you are familiar with the notion of "golden student years."**

Tell me about it! During my senior year, my friends and I decided to form a student government, and



via on-line voting I was elected its first president. We created our constitution and started to resolve issues topical for the student community with the administration of KIMEP. For instance, we managed to have washing machines, microwave ovens and televisions installed in the dormitory, which was an innovation at that time.

After that, we realized that we had real power and could really stand up for the interests of students. Our friends from other universities came to us to wash their things and were delighted by the comfort our students had. At the same time, with the support of a dean we created a student court in which students with legal education held hearings on cases of low-performing students and made various decisions with disciplinary measures, such as having to work in the library. Other issues with the administration of the institute were also resolved.

### **Can you say that community service helped you to develop your leadership abilities?**

Of course, the skills I obtained while managing the student newspaper and government helped me a lot. I believe that the human personality is formed mainly during the student years, and it is very important what atmosphere it is built in. [At KIMEP, I even made friends with faculty members, with whom it was possible to have a cup of coffee and to discuss how student life can be enhanced or how the government should be developed.](#) Such a close relationship between students and faculty members could be the envy

of any international university, let alone those of Kazakhstan. I still remember the motto of KIMEP – “education to change society.” It is not just about academic education. It is about a whole generation of professionals possessing fundamental knowledge and the English language, with a new state of mind and perception of the process of education and personal development. **Of course, being an excellent student is good, but one has to understand that a great deal of professional success depends on personal qualities and skills that are acquired outside the classroom.** Therefore I would advise all current students to be actively involved in social life, to take internships and to start working as early as possible. Besides, during such work experience, professional contacts are made that sooner or later will lead a talented graduate to his or her employer.

**Do you keep in touch with your classmates? Do you follow their professional lives?**

I see many of them through my work or at events, and I also keep in touch with my closest friends from university. Many of them have managerial positions. Others, after several years of working, decided to continue their education abroad. Many of them say that the level of teaching, program and materials in the best foreign universities are essentially no different from what they received at KIMEP.

At some point in the next five years, I also want to get my MBA, but I haven’t thought of a specific major or university. For me, it is much more important to simply be in a competitive environment. When you study among smart, different and creative people with extensive work experience, the academic process becomes much more interesting. Many Western universities – and some local ones – look at much more than a students’ grades during

admissions. They analyze essays and hold interviews to understand the applicant’s motivation, personal characteristics and potential contribution to the development of the student community. Therefore, I think that being admitted to many of the world’s elite universities of is much more difficult than actually studying at them. And when those best of the best start to study together, healthy competition provides a really high quality education. As they say, the taste of a dish depends both on the way you cook it and on the quality of its ingredients.

**Aruzhan Jazyzbekova**

Getting a chance to see her was not easy, but the *KIMEP Bulletin* recently had the chance to talk to Aruzhan Jazyzbekova, the main actress of the Monday-through-Thursday soap opera *Assel, druzhya i podrugy* on El-Arna. Aruzhan is, in every sense of the word, a rising Kazakhstani TV star. Busy playing Assel every day for the last four months, Aruzhan doesn’t want to stop striving for more.

But you might not know that Aruzhan is also a KIMEP alumna. She told us about her life at the Institute and more in a recent interview.

**JiSun Yoon: Hello, Aruzhan! Nice to meet you. Could you tell KIMEP students about what you are current working on?**

Aruzhan(A): Hello! I am working as an actress for Studio Lev. We make serials for youngsters for El-Arna. I have been working there for five months, and I am planning to work there till the end of the



year, finishing three seasons of our serials.

**When did you study at KIMEP?**

I entered KIMEP’s College of Social Science in 2003, and I graduated in 2007. At first, I entered the International Relations program, and then, in my third year, I moved to the Department of International Journalism, which was established in 2003.

**You had a prominent career from the very beginning! How did you decide to become an actress?**

A: It was an interesting coincidence that I went to the casting. In 2007, I had some experience of being shot by professionals. I won the Ford Models Supermodel of the World contest, and I worked as a model for half a year in Paris. I also was cast for the main role in the film *Kacheli*, which was produced by Kazakhfilm. And in December of the last year, I got the part of Assel in my current soap opera *Assel, druzhya i podrugy*. So, that’s how I started working as an actress.

**Why did you suddenly decided to challenge yourself as an actress?**

Basically, it was my desire to start something new and experiment, to see if I can do something more than I’m doing now. Acting was especially difficult at first, when we were shooting the film. **I felt challenged trying to understand the individual role.** But the staff and experts made me feel confident that I could do better and better with time. After the film, I wanted to find more opportunities to act. While casting *Assel, druzhya i podrugy*, I was offered the main role, and of course I couldn’t refuse.

**What motivates you to try so many different things?**

I always wished to do one thing as best I could. But in my life, everything happened the other way around. I graduated from the Department of Journalism, worked as a journalist and PR manager,

and now I am an actress. I think I'm a person who is always trying to discover something new about myself. I think I will eventually return to journalism, but my journey to understand who I am is still ongoing. **Most students are mistaken when they think that after graduating university they will immediately realize what they really want to achieve in life.** This is my motivation to challenge myself as much as I can.

**What was your student life at KIMEP like?**

A: It was a brilliant time, full of joy. I was a member of Createam, constantly organizing events and parties. People could always find me on campus, in the library and corridors of KIMEP! I really wanted to live in the dormitory, making a lot of friends from

different cities. But I am from Almaty, so I didn't have that chance. But thanks to our student organizations, I could totally enjoy my student life.

**What did KIMEP give to your life?**

KIMEP helped me to see tomorrow and prepared me for it as well. For example, during your final year as a student, it is vital to find a good job. But we knew that after graduation we would always be needed.

**What advice would you like to give KIMEP students?**

Use the opportunities KIMEP gives to you as much as you can! It can give you anything for your future, but it's you that has to use it to the maximum and try for more. Enjoy them! Be active in student life, study hard in your free time,

don't feel shy and go on finding yourself, taking on new challenges. Students, four years in university flies very, very quickly! Life after university is even more difficult. Always push yourself do better, no matter if it's interesting or not, or easy or not.

**Thank you for sharing your time, Aruzhan! Finally, what is your dream?**

I wish to do something that's really meaningful for people. For example, I always hoped to participate in important social projects. I am a good organizer, but in order to make a grand idea come true, a team of like-minded people is vital.

And all my life I wanted to learn to surf. I dream of holding a board, slipping over the waves someday, confidently, without fear.

An interview with Dr. Bulent Dumlupinar, Assistant Professor in Marketing area and KIMEP Alumna Anar Yermanova (2009), Marketing Major

**Anar, what did you study at Kimep and abroad?**

I studied marketing both at KIMEP and in the UK. KIMEP gave me a strong base for my master's degree in Marketing in UK. And I want to take advantage of the opportunity to thank you, Dr Dumlupinar, for mentoring me in this field.

**How did your KIMEP education help you with your master's degree?**

First of all, it helped me to save my time. I did not have to adapt to English, I did not have to learn the core academic concepts because my KIMEP background had already prepared me. Actually, KIMEP knowledge gave me the chance to receive such an honor as the Presidential Scholarship "Bolashak", which fulfilled my dream of studying at Durham University and seeing the world. As for social life, KIMEP taught me to be a team-player. KIMEP is known to unite people, who are

very determined, open-minded and continuously working on their self-development. **KIMEP students share their knowledge, interest and skills, while building the strongest friendships that last over a lifetime.** I started working hard to be "interesting" to my mates. I involved myself with Student Government affairs, took part in various contests. KIMEP's social life is full of fun and unforgettable moments; I wish every student would not miss a chance to take the best of it.

**What skills did you learn at KIMEP that you are applying to your current job in Chevron MunaiGas Inc.?**

KIMEP is a successful brand name that helps open employers' doors. In addition to my diploma, I am still working on competency and communication skills that I was exposed to at KIMEP in order to be successful in my career. KIMEP education is so to say a "boarding pass" for a "business



class passenger".

**Do you have any message to present KIMEP students as well as to senior high-school students?**

I wish every student of KIMEP to gain as much knowledge, memories and connections as possible! For all future students of KIMEP: you will make the right step forward towards realizing your dreams when you chose KIMEP. Be proactive, be hungry for knowledge and you'll find a lot of amazing opportunities this wonderful university opens to you!  
*Thank you Anar, I wish you the best success in your career.*

## Class Notes: Interesting news about KIMEP Alumni

**Gulmara Rysbekova**, Graduate of MBA 2007 and BSc 2006, launched a new social site of group discounts [www.kupibilet.kz](http://www.kupibilet.kz) in conjunction with partners. On the site the Groupon system of group discounts is used.

### Message from Sulhiya Khaidarova, Graduate of MA 2002:

I am a 2002 year MA graduate. After my graduation from KIMEP I spent another 9 years in Almaty working for BTA Bank and other companies. This year I returned to my home country Tajikistan and I am eager to keep contacts with KIMEP and Kazakhstan. Anytime you need any information particularly about Tajikistan you are most welcome to contact me. Currently I am working as Sales and Marketing Manager of Dushanbe Serena Hotel -new 5 star luxury hotel in the capital of

Tajikistan Dushanbe. Thank you, I hope we stay in touch.

With my best regards,  
Sulhiya Khaidarova

### Смагулова Адилет, выпускница 2010 года, Арт-директор художественного объединения комиксистов Казахстана.

Объединение художников-комиксеров Казахстана подготовил к выпуску первый сборник рисованных историй «Комиксы». Сборник состоит из законченных историй от 10-15 авторов и иллюстраций к ним. У сборника «Комиксы» есть своя аудитория, которая с нетерпением ждет новых историй.

В апреле 2011 была проведена выставка Комиксов «Comics in KZ» совместно со студенческой организацией КИМЭП –

KARANDASH- в выставочном зале КИМЭПа.

На выставке были представлены работы казахстанских художников, комикс-мейкеров по направлениям: комикс, карикатура, аэрография, иллюстрация, и в набирающем популярность стиле CG (компьютерная графика). Только на открытии, одновременно было собрано более двухсот человек.

### Azamat Mukanov, BSc 2007

After graduating from KIMEP, Azamat went on to complete an MSc in Finance and International Business from Arhus School of Business. After working for Ernst & Young and completing an internship with Bank of America, he now works for one of the KazMunaiGas division branches. He enjoys professional trading on the NYSE and MICEX.

## Services for Alumni

KIMEP is proud of its Alumni. The success of the Institute depends primarily on the success of its graduates. KIMEP is pleased to offer the following list of benefits for its Alumni, and encourages alumni to take advantage of the following services.

- 10% discounts for the trainings of Professional Development Programs (PDCP) of the Executive Education Center of KIMEP, as well as foreign language courses and preparatory courses for the children for the admission to KIMEP.
- Free access to the information resources of the KIMEP Library.
- Free entrance to the KIMEP Sports Center.
- Rental of the conference halls of KIMEP with 10% discount for the conferences, trainings, and seminars.
- Career and Employment Center offers its services to help alumni to find good candidates among KIMEP graduates for work or students for internships opportunities.

## Ways to keep in touch

- Have you changed your job, email or phone number? Update your contact information electronically: [cdd@kimep.kz](mailto:cdd@kimep.kz).
- Keep up to date on events, news, contests, and more via e-mail.
- Get together with alumni in your region or who share your interests.
- Build your professional networks and connect with Alumni through KIMEP official pages on Facebook, Twitter and V Kontakte.ru.

**KIMEP Alumni! Our institute's 20th anniversary is coming up soon. We will be celebrating the whole year of 2012. If you would like to be involved in planning the celebration, or have ideas as to how to best mark this milestone, we welcome your help! Please write to [cdd@kimep.kz](mailto:cdd@kimep.kz) .**

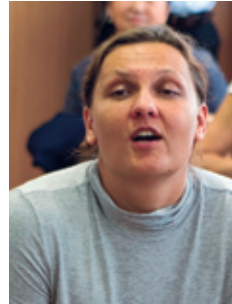
## Alumni Chapters and Alumni Ambassadors

KIMEP launched the 'Alumni Ambassadors' program in February 2011, identifying outstanding alumni volunteers from each graduating class from 1994-2010. Alumni Ambassadors are an important link between KIMEP and their classmates, informing them of events at the university and encouraging their active participation in university life. Ambassadors serve on KIMEP's advisory board, participate in university graduation, and contribute to the strategic development of the institute. KIMEP is pleased to currently have alumni ambassadors active in Almaty, Astana and Atyrau. If you are interested in becoming an Ambassador, please contact [cdd@kimep.kz](mailto:cdd@kimep.kz).

### Alumni Ambassadors in Almaty:



Nurym Taibek  
MBA 1995



Irina Druzhinina  
MBA 1996



Ilshat Khalit  
MA 1998



Vladimir Din  
MBA 1999



Sanzhar Kozybayev  
MA 1999



Baurzhan Issayev  
MBA 2006



Gulmara Rysbekova  
MBA 2007/BSc 2006



Adlet Zhanatkanov  
BSS 2010



Aida Yesmagambetova  
MBA 2000

### Alumni Ambassador in Astana:

Assan Khamzin, MBA 1994  
Pernesh Abdugarimova, MPA 1996  
Baurjan Izmailov, MBA 1998  
Kamila Lukpanova, BAIJ 2009  
Askhat Kuzhenov, BSc 2010

### Alumni Ambassador in Atyrau:

Zhanibek Imangaliyev BSS 2003



Saltanat Kerimbayeva  
BSS 2008

## **Contacts**

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Victoria Tazhmagambetova, Alumni and Database Specialist  
cdd@kimep.kz , +7 727 270 42 26**