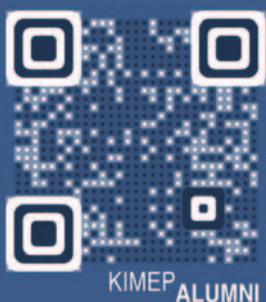


ALUMNI MAGAZINE

KIMEP UNIVERSITY

Volume 3 / 2013-2014



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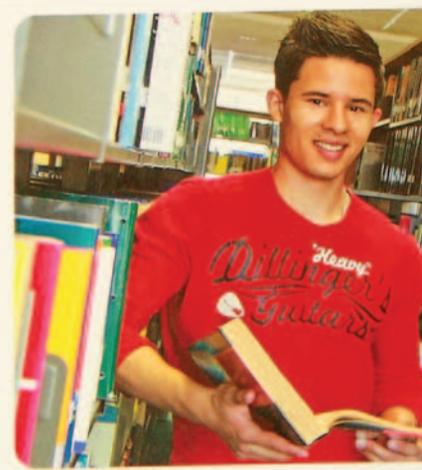
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БАКАЛАВРИАТ БАҒДАРЛАМАЛАРЫНА ТҮСУШІ ТАЛАПҚЕРЛЕРГЕ АРНАЛҒАН АҚПАРАТ

KIMEP UNIVERSITY



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Message from Dr. Bang

Dear KIMEP Alumni,

Welcome to the Third Edition of KIMEP University's alumni magazine!

I hope that you find this magazine interesting, as well as a reminder of your fond memories of KIMEP. The friendships and contacts that you make at KIMEP will last a lifetime. This magazine will allow you to keep up with your friends and classmates, and find out what is new at your alma mater. KIMEP University puts a premium on close ties with our alumni. Your continued support and engagement with KIMEP means a great deal to our current students and everyone else here on campus.

The past year has seen a succession of triumphs for KIMEP University. During this period, KIMEP University has received accreditation from the following international agencies:

- From AQ Austria, international accreditation for all undergraduate and graduate degree programs that have produced graduates.
- From EAPAA, full international accreditation for the undergraduate and graduate programs in Public Administration.
- From AFBE, full international accreditation for the undergraduate and graduate programs in Business, including the ExMBA.
- From FIBAA, full international accreditation for the ExMBA.
- From ACA, accreditation for the undergraduate and graduate programs in Journalism.
- KIMEP University also received full institutional accreditation from the Independent Kazakhstan Quality Assurance Agency for Education.

KIMEP University also topped academic rankings, including:

- Top Humanitarian-Economic University in Kazakhstan – IQAA
- Best Economics, Accounting and Public Administration programs in Kazakhstan – MES Bologna Center
- Best Business School in Kazakhstan, 112th Best Business School in the World – Cybermetrics Lab (Spain)

Let me close by expressing how proud I am of your many achievements in your many different fields. Your success brings honor to KIMEP, and I am so happy that our university is represented by so many illustrious alumni. May you continue to be an inspiration for generations of KIMEP students to come.

Yours sincerely,

Chan Young Bang, Ph.D



University News

KIMEP University Achieves Full Program-based Accreditation for all Programs from AQAAA

KIMEP is the first university in Kazakhstan to receive full program accreditation from an international agency.

KIMEP University has capped off a year of achievements by receiving international accreditation for all of its undergraduate and graduate degree programs: Business Administration, Law, Foreign Language, International Relations, Public Administration, Journalism and Economics. Accreditation was granted by AQAAA, the agency established by the government of Austria responsible for ensuring quality at most higher education institutions in Austria. It is accredited by the European Union to accredit academic programs in the European Higher Education Area, and is one of a small number of international accreditation agencies recognized by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

This monumental achievement is only the latest in a series for KIMEP University. Over the past year, the Bang College of Business and the Executive MBA program have received international accreditation from the Australian-based Asian Forum on Business Education, while the Executive MBA also received international accreditation from the German-based Federation for International Business Administration Accreditation. Furthermore, KIMEP University's graduate

This success means that KIMEP University's academic degree programs have been recognized internationally as meeting global best practice.



and undergraduate programs in Public Administration received full accreditation from the European Agency for Public Administration Accreditation, while the graduate and undergraduate programs in Journalism and Mass Communications received accreditation from the American Communications Association. KIMEP University also holds institutional accreditation from the Independent Kazakhstan Quality Assurance Agency for Education, as well as unconditional attestation from the Ministry of Education and Science.

In addition to accreditation, KIMEP University's programs have recently topped Kazakhstani rankings. The Independent Kazakhstan Quality Assurance Agency for Education rated KIMEP University as the "Best Humanitarian-Economic University" in Kazakhstan, while the Ministry of Education and Science's own Bologna Center ranked the Accounting and Audit, Economics and Public Administration Programs as best in the country. Globally, the Spanish-based Cybermetrics Lab, an internationally-respected rating agency, named KIMEP University's Bang College of Business as the 112th best business school in the entire world.

Dr. Martin O'Hara,

Vice President of Academic Affairs said:

"This is a hugely significant external recognition of the quality of the education offered at KIMEP University. It demonstrates that our programs are in line with the best international practice and, very importantly, compatible with the Bologna Framework and European quality norms."

Dr. Chan Young Bang,

President of KIMEP noted:

"More than twenty years ago, His Excellency, Nursultan Nazarbayev, President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, established KIMEP with the aim of providing world-class education in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The decision by AQAAA to grant accreditation to all of KIMEP University's graduate and undergraduate programs is yet another sign that this vision is being fulfilled. It indicates that the world is taking note of the excellent quality of higher education in the Republic of Kazakhstan."

KIMEP University would like to express its deepest thanks to all who contributed to this achievement. ▼



KIMEP was building up new talent and knowledge to create a pool of educated graduates

KAZAKHSTAN AND KIMEP: The Early Years of Independence

An Interview with Dr. Hartmut Fischer

Q Dr. Fischer, you served as Executive Director of KIMEP from 1994 – 1996, and continue to serve the university as a board member and faculty member. We know that you have travelled to Kazakhstan regularly over the past two decades. In thinking back to the 1990's, what were some of the challenges that Kazakhstan faced in the early years of independence?

A Kazakhstan faced enormous challenges in the early 1990's. It was part of the Soviet Union, and suddenly became an independent country without any of the institutions that an independent country must have, such as its own diplomatic corps or a distinct private business culture. In a very short timespan, rather than being part of the Soviet Union with few links to the outside

world, Kazakhstan was thrust into a global community. How did the international community react to Kazakhstan's independence?

Q There was tremendous amount of goodwill by foreign countries to Kazakhstan in gaining independence. The European Union, Great Britain, US, Canada, and Japan in particular come to mind. This was a great advantage to KIMEP. In the early phase, KIMEP was able to draw upon international resources for institutional support and scholarships provided by organizations from these countries.

A My first telephone call I received when I arrived in Almaty was from then US Ambassador Courtney,



who wanted to get together as soon as possible. He said that the job was tremendously important – not only for Kazakhstan, but also for American and other international companies that were starting to develop commercial relationships with Kazakhstan and were planning to invest in the newly independent country.

Q What was KIMEP’s role in this new independent state?

A KIMEP was building up new talent and knowledge to create a pool of educated graduates that would then be able to develop the institutions an independent country needed. The international community needed local people for business and government with English language skills, and also with the knowledge of what it meant to work in the private sector, which didn’t even exist in Kazakhstan before. In 1994, most of the English speakers were teachers of English – that’s it.

That’s where KIMEP fit in, and was making a tremendous service to Kazakhstan in the early years of independence. We were teaching a skills set that didn’t previously exist and was absolutely essential for an independent country, with a developing market economy which is part of a global economy.

Q You served as KIMEP’s Executive Director with some of the initial cohorts of students. What are your impressions of those first students?

A We had fabulous students! They were all graduate students initially, who were selected

very carefully. These were young men and women who were able to take a risky but remarkable step away from their traditional education system to grasp totally new opportunities and a new educational model. That takes risk takers, people who are creative, forward looking – those who don’t fit the traditional mold. These students were a step above the crowd. They understood there was a new situation and a new age dawning, and that they could play a major role if only they devoted themselves to it. And these alumni have since gone on and made tremendous contributions to the country.

Q In addition to your work with KIMEP, you are also Professor Emeritus at University of San Francisco. Any parting words of advice for KIMEP’s alumni who may be thinking of pursuing advanced degrees?

A I would say that whether it’s during their studies at KIMEP or if they are thinking of studying at other places for advanced degrees, I would encourage students and alumni to hone their technical skills – especially in high tech fields such as computer science or software development. They should develop their quantitative skills to be able to work freely and comfortably with data. These are skills that are difficult to learn on your own – but should be learned in a concentrated manner at a good institution like KIMEP. Don’t just study and have fun – in the end, the question is what skills you have that position you as valuable to an employer and society.

Thank you very much Dr. Fischer for taking the time to interview for the KIMEP Alumni Magazine! ▼



We want to acknowledge and embrace you, our much-valued alumni in all that we do as we move forward

FACULTY NOTES

News from BCB

Dear BCB Alumni

We at KIMEP, and particularly the BCB community, are all very proud of you, our alumni. You are our ambassadors. Your career successes reflect glory onto BCB. Your success has significantly enabled us to get international accreditation, as we continue our drive to be recognized as a world-class university. We hope that your career success continues in the coming years.

Our 2013–16 Strategic Plan has its vision statement: Bang College of Business (BCB) will be globally recognized as the top provider of professional education and the best research-based business school in Central Asia. BCB will play a significant role in KIMEP's quest to become recognized as a world-class university.

I became Dean of BCB in September, tasked with leading the BCB community through the changes needed before we can be recognized as being a world-class business school. I bring to this challenge 40 years' of experience as an academic in Australia, Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, and, for the last five years, at KIMEP. My academic background is in economics and public management. I have worked for more than 20 years in business schools.

My academic experience embraces undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and supervision to doctoral level, and internationally recognized research. My management and leadership experience comes from having been a department chair, an associate dean (research), and a dean. I have extensive experience in executive education, degree design and accreditation, and the implementation of the Bologna higher education reforms.

The BCB management team also includes two associate deans – Student Affairs (Dr. Bulent Dumlupinar) and External Affairs (Dr David Dickerson), the Research Director (Dr. Keun Jung Lee), and the Student Recruitment Coordinator (Mr Donald Hoskins).

It is appropriate to reflect on 2013, as it is a year that will be remembered as the year that initiated imperatives for change.

The School of Law and the Executive Education Center became part of BCB.

Our long-standing BSc program was replaced by four new degrees (Finance, Accounting and Auditing, Management, and Marketing).



The Asian Forum on Business Education (AFBE) upgraded its accreditation of our bachelor's and master's programs to Level III (International) accreditation.

The Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA) accredited our Executive MBA and the Management Development Program within our Executive Education Center.

The Austria Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (AQAAA) accredited business bachelor's degrees, the MBA, the Master of International Law, and Executive MBA programs.

The National Accreditation Center of the Ministry of Education and Science ranked our Accounting and Audit specialization as the best in Kazakhstan, yet again, as it has done since 2010.

With this record of achievement, we are now ready to embark on a campaign to gain EQUIS accreditation by the prestigious European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD). This is the ultimate recognition of BCB as a world-class business school that offers

world-class programs. We want you to join with us on our journey to become a world-class business school.

We want to acknowledge and embrace you, our much-valued alumni in all that we do as we move forward to a new – post-European program accreditation – era. We need your success stories. We need your advice and guidance on what we should do and how we should do it. We need you to share your knowledge and experiences with our students.

Let me conclude with the reflection that the quality of a university is best measured by the quality of its alumni. In this respect, KIMEP – and BCB in particular – are endowed with abundance of riches.

I wish each and all of you even more success in your personal and professional lives. Please keep in touch (dixon@kimep.kz). ▼

Sincerely
Dr John Dixon
Dean, BCB



We are reinforcing activities that already marked our College as an excellence in the region and a first-choice partner for other universities in the world

News From CSS

Dear KIMEP Alumni

As Acting of the College of Social Sciences, I would like to welcome you back to your Alma Mater! Please, allow me to express my congratulations for your successes!

In the following few lines, I will share our achievements with you and I will introduce you to some on campus activities to which you may wish to participate for keeping in touch with your university.

In the last academic year all CSS programs (both undergraduate and master) obtained accreditation from AQAAA - the Austrian Agency for Quality Assurance - recognizing that the academic experience at CSS is in line with the standards of European universities. The department of Media and Communications was also awarded accreditation from ACA (American Communication Association) and the department of Public Administration achieved accreditation from EAPAA (European Association for Public Administration Accreditation).

To keep up with these high quality standards, I would like to give you some examples of how, during this academic year, we are reinforcing activities that already marked our College as an excellence in the region and a first-choice partner for other universities in the world.

The dual degree partnerships with Glasgow University for the MIR and Humboldt University for the MAE have been successfully proceeding, bringing to our classes a growing number of international students, and further partnerships for all CSS departments are in advanced stages of development.

The Central Asian Studies Center (CASC) – a research center of our College - is contributing to our vibrant academic environment by organizing seminars and bringing world-renown international scholars at KIMEP University. Currently, CASC is also involved in a project with the University of Agder, Norway, for curriculum development in three areas that involve the departments of International Relations, Economics and Public Administration: emerging markets and powers, corporate social responsibility and ethics in international affairs.



Last, but not least, following the example of the department of Media and Communications, this year we are going to further increase the quality of our programs through the introduction of an advisory board composed of faculty members, employers, alumni and current students. In this way we will be able to keep our programs updated and globally competitive, so that our current and future students may be able to achieve the successes that you - our alumni – already accomplished.

Since you are the best attestation of KIMEP University and CSS's quality, we would like to invite you to keep in touch with your university.

If you are interested in the latest developments of the region in global perspective, you are most welcome to attend CASC lectures delivered by international scholars who focus on Central Asia. You can find information on upcoming guest speakers at www.casc.kz

If you would like to spend some time watching a good movie and having a short but informed debate, you can pass by the Classical Movies series, usually on Saturday at 18.00. Please, contact Dr. Spehr – spehr@kimep.kz - for further information.

And if you just feel a little nostalgic of your years as students at KIMEP University, you are most welcome to come and visit your departments!

You are a precious asset for our University and you are an integral part of our College! ▼

Alessandro Frigerio
Acting Dean of the College of Social Sciences

Alumni Events

KIMEP's First Alumni Play a Special Role in Graduation 2013

KIMEP's Gala 20th anniversary Graduation Ceremony included participation from a group of very special guests: our very first class of graduates. These graduates, pioneers and leaders in their fields, played a unique role in the ceremony. Kazakhstan Press Club President **Assel Karaulova** delivered inspiring remarks to the audience as 'Distinguished Alumni Speaker.' **Saule Bazilzhanova** (General Director, GrantThorton Appraisal), **Murat Saidnasimov** (Director, Pauza Product), and **Aigul Akhmetova** (Senior Manager, PwC) awarded outstanding students certificates for active participation in sports, cultural, and intellectual life at KIMEP. In addition, a number of graduates from the Classes of 1994 and 1995 sat in prime seats for the ceremony, and then visited with Dr. and Mrs. Bang, KIMEP's Deans and Senior Staff, the diplomatic corps and corporate community members at a reception immediately after the ceremony. We thank our distinguished senior alumni for their presence and valuable support to their alma mater!

Alumni Reunion April 26, 2013

KIMEP University was pleased to invite Alumni to campus for a reunion and participation in the 'Economic Freedom Forum' organized under the Global Entrepreneurship Week. The event took place at KIMEP's New Academic Building. 100 Alumni from different years of graduation, programs and degrees gathered for an evening insight, strategy and networking. The Forum served as a platform for both international and Kazakhstani speakers to share insights, offer strategy, and discuss economic freedom in Kazakhstan and around the world. The evening concluded at 10:00 p.m., with a complimentary dinner served at the conclusion of the main speeches and presentations. There was ample time for interaction and discussion throughout the event.

Featured speakers include:

- Tom Palmer, Vice President for International Programs, Atlas Economic Research Foundation
- James Roberts, The Heritage Foundation

As part of their own tradition for several years now, Alumni collected funds for the Rakhmet Scholarship Fund. This year it was decided to award two current students with a one-time stipend.



KIMEP Bachelor's Class of 2003 Announces Alumni Gift

The KIMEP University Class of 2003, the first class to graduate with bachelor degrees, has announced the '2003 Bachelor's Scholarship.' The initial gift of \$8,000 is the largest alumni scholarship of its kind to KIMEP University to date.

The Class of 2003 initiated the idea in spring of 2013, 10 years after their graduation from KIMEP. At their Class Reunion held in June, the idea was announced to over 120 alumni who gathered from all over the world. Alumni overwhelmingly responded positively to contribute back to their alma mater.

'We, the KIMEP Class of 2003, will be happy to help a new generation of talented and bright students attain the best education possible in Kazakhstan, just as we did 10 years ago,' noted Maksat Nogaibayev, one of the enthusiastic alumni responsible for the fund. "Throughout the time since graduation, we've kept in close contact and have supported one another – and now we've decided it's our turn to support current KIMEP students,' he added.

"KIMEP University is absolutely thrilled that our alumni class of 2003 has so generously decided to donate such a significant gift to the current students," stated Dr. Balzhan Suzhikova, KIMEP Deputy to the President for Corporate Development. "This signifies their strong support and loyalty to the University, and also their conviction that all alumni can help to create a better future for deserving students," she added.





I am happy
that now
I have the
opportunity
to help some
other kids

Assiya Yermukhametova Announced a Stipend

Assiya Yermukhametova is our first Alumni BSc 2011 who decided to establish a stipend for current students. She was Almaty International Women's Club scholarship winner. This scholarship gave her an opportunity to graduate from KIMEP and find a good job. Now she has decided to help a current student!. Here is a short interview with Assiya, and then with Madina, the student who has been chosen for the stipend.

How did you make a decision to come to study at KIMEP? How did KIMEP help you start your career?

I chose KIMEP because I was sure that it really gives good knowledge. It gave me a good platform for my further work. I was dreaming of working in one of the Big 4 companies, fortunately, those companies are interested in employing KIMEP students and it was not very hard for me to get several nice offers even before graduating.

How did you choose your major? What would you advise to current applicants while choosing their university and major of study?

As all students of Business College I took the required courses, such as Accounting and Finance. I enjoyed Accounting and decided to select Audit as my major. Further, when studying Audit, I understood that my choice was correct. I advise students not to follow the public

opinion and to choose the major which they enjoy the most. All in all, it is you, namely, who will have to work in your chosen field.

Tell about your student years. What was the most interesting part of your studies?

Years at KIMEP were the greatest time of my life! When you get to KIMEP campus, you have a feeling of coming to a completely new world. I enjoyed everything in it starting from extraordinary approach of faculty members to teaching to taking part in social life of KIMEP.

Why did you decide to assign a scholarship for KIMEP student?

I decided to assign a scholarship since back in time I myself received good financial aid from both KIMEP and AIWC (Almaty International Women's Club). I know how much it means for kids from simple families, and I am happy that now I have the opportunity to help some other kids.

What do you expect after this?

I hope that Madina will also study well! =)

Your wishes to other alumni and to current students?

I wish to current students a lot of success in their studies and good luck in their further life!



And now a few words from Madina, the stipend winner!

Do you remember the first time visiting KIMEP?

Entry and “getting used” to university is apparently a very important step of your life. Indeed first impression always stays in your memory. First days at KIMEP are hundred unfamiliar faces, absolutely different system of education, new courses and foundation courses. I remember how difficult it was to get used to foundation courses because studying at school is totally different from university. It is not secret that “freshman” stands out in the crowd of speedy students: he looks around seeking for the right class. Everything is new when you are freshman and brilliance of student life started for me from the first steps within the walls of university.

How did you gain a scholarship from Assiya? What did you feel at that moment?

It was surprise for me when I had a call from department of corporate development of KIMEP and they told me that I meet the criteria of scholarship. I was really surprised

even when they invited me to interview, because there wasn't an open contest for scholarship of Assiya. It was really delightedly and pleasant at the same time to understand that there are people that ready to help others with all their hearts. Thanks to such generous actions you have a motivation to become better and bring kindness surrounding people.

Your future plans.

In fact, personally for me it is hard to speak about future. As told by Belinskyi: “we ask and question the past to tell us about our present and give a tip on our future”. About future plans, I'm 3'd year student and at this stage of life the priority for me is to graduate from KIMEP preferably with honors. After graduating from KIMEP I plan to continue my education and to do a master's degree. And after that I want to find a job. That's all for my future plans today. The most important thing for me after one, five or ten years is to be Human! ▼

Thank you.
Madina Rakhimova



KIMEP Alumni Astana

Being in Astana and working in this city I often meet KIMEP university-mates. With some of them we work together, some launched their own business and some of them already became successful bosses. Every time we meet KIMEP graduates so called “ice-breaking” happens itself. The common background, common alma-mater immediately makes us good friends even though we never took the same classes and studied together. Therefore just to stay connected, to meet each other, to share good memories and to have a good time in a company of KIMEP friends KIMEP Astana Alumni Association organizes the annual KIMEP Alumni reunion event. This year it was the second KIMEP Alumni Astana reunion which took place on June 15th, 2013. In all of the best traditions, organizers set up the dress code for the event: bow-tie for gentlemen and hat for ladies. Within two weeks of after-work gatherings the group of organizers found out more than 50 KIMEP alumnus in Astana, sent invitations, developed a program of the event and made everything to make it happen in the best way. KIMEP University was also glad to support organizers, which once again proved that KIMEP will never stop supporting and caring after its “children”.

KIMEP Alumni Astana re-union gathered about 50-60 KIMEPIans including two very first alumnus, that was a surprise for all of the guests of the event – Kaliyeva Talant,

General Director of KPMG Valuation, and Kaissarov Ualikhan; President of the Kenesary Khan Charity Fund.

Generally speaking it was a nice, friendly, joyful and despite of the weather very warm evening. The cold Astana atmosphere was diluted by the hugs of KIMEP course-mates, smiles of new friends, dances, songs, games, music, jokes, sense of commonness, sense of unity and as above mentioned Ms. Kaliyeva said in her speech, a never-ending spirit of life in a non-stop regime peculiar to all KIMEPIans. The re-union once more proved that we will always stay young, ambitious, curious and growing because we are KIMEP Alumni.

Organizational committee of the event expresses its gratitude to KIMEP University Corporate Development Department (CDD) and special appreciation to Ms. Raushan Kanayeva, CDD Deputy Director.

Best regards,
Assem Konkakova
KIMEP Class of 2012

Alumni in other cities, Where are YOU???
Write us with your news and photos of alumni gatherings!



Alumni Chapters and Alumni Ambassadors

KIMEP launched the 'Alumni Ambassadors' program in February 2011, identifying outstanding alumni volunteers from each graduating class from 1994-2013. 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 university. 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.

Class of 2003 Ten Year Reunion a Huge Success!

The KIMEP Class of 2003 Alumni Reunion was held at LeDome restaurant in Almaty on June 1, 2013, exactly 10 years after Graduation. With a planning team comprised of seven motivated and dedicated alumni volunteers who worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the reunion, the event was very enjoyable and memorable.

The majority of Class of 2003 graduates did their best to attend this event, and the restaurant hosted more than 120 alumni. Many attendees arrived to the Reunion from other cities and countries, which indicates the high level of respect to their friends, ex-classmates (some who had not seen one another for almost 10 years), and their Alma-mater. After an opening speech by Mr. Olzhas Kakimzhanov, head of the planning team and chief facilitator of Reunion event, the KIMEP Alumni 2003 anthem was proudly sung by all.

Following the KIMEP "Graduation 2003" movie, a quiz session was designed to remind alumni about early years and milestones. Humorous certificate awards were presented to some distinguished individuals for their outstanding personality. There was a chance for everyone to try out their talent as an artist, dancer, singer or braniac during funny competitions and contests. The atmosphere for the evening was lively, friendly and warm. After a wonderful gathering together, the Class of 2003 has great plans for future reunions as well!

Best regards,
Korlan Syzdykova
BSS 2003



Alumni Carnival Night

On December 8 the New Year party “Carnival Night” organized by KIMEP Astana Alumni Association took place. It was the greatest event of the Association that gathered more than 100 alumni of KIMEP University in Astana. Among them there were first graduates of 1994, graduates of 2005-2012, friends of KIMEP, also graduates that came specifically from other cities for this event. KIMEP University President Dr. Chan Young Bang also welcomed KIMEP alumni in Astana through a pre-recorded video greeting. Dr. Bang highlighted the active work of the Association, expressed his gratitude, support and congratulated everybody with the upcoming New Year. Also this event was marked by a solemn award of KIMEP University graduate certificate for each member of Association.

Each time alumni meetings in Astana are gaining more popularity and being held on a larger scale. Carnival Night dress code included recognizable images and famous characters, so during the event one could see Geisha, Indian, Cleopatra, Isis, Zorro, pirates, barons, sultans, generals and many other interesting characters. Friendly atmosphere, varied show program, contests and games made the evening interesting, fun and truly warm. The most distinguished guests were given certificates in different nominations and the most active KIMEP alumni were given certificates of gratitude on behalf of the KIMEP administration.

The idea of holding alumni meetings in general appeared in Astana relatively recently. KIMEP Astana Alumni Association has about 30 active members from different years of graduation. Each of the members of the Association are employed in Astana, particularly in Administration of the President, in Parliament of RK, in government, national companies, international organizations, banks, trans-national corporations, etc.

Each year the Alumni Association holds general meetings in May and small meetings throughout the year.

The organization of New Year Carnival Night was supported by KIMEP University, Real Estate agency “Apelsin”, beauty salon “Toni&Guy”, restaurant “Madina”, and the company Red Bull. All money collected for the event was handed over to charity fund “Kasietti Zhol” for treatment of children who stand in need of surgery.

Special thanks go to all guests and participants of the event, KIMEP graduates, Dr. Chan Young Bang, and KIMEP University for continued support.

P.S. For all upcoming and past events of the Association, check for news in social networks in the group of “Astana Alumni Association” V Kontakte and in the Facebook group of “KIMEP Alumni Family Astana”. ▼

Submitted by Assem Konkakova
KIMEP Class of 2012



INTRODUCING KIMEP UNIVERSITY'S NEW SPECIALIZED MASTER'S PROGRAMS at the BANG COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

**CENTRAL ASIA'S ONLY WORLD-CLASS
UNIVERSITY INTRODUCES EXCITING NEW
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Advice for Future Accountants... and Thoughts on Happiness and Success

*Interview with Sofiya Sharipova, BSc, 2010
(Major: Accounting, Minor: Finance)*

What memories stand out from your time at KIMEP?

The ability to create my own schedule and not follow a prescribed course of study stands out to me. I also liked that you are constantly changing classmates, so there are different experiences and group dynamics in every class. We did a lot of group work in our classes. This all really makes KIMEP both unique and stand out from other universities. I received financial aid from KIMEP and also worked in the College of Continuing Education, then the Registrar's Office and the Office of Marketing. At that time the department was very small and I was directly involved in radio advertising for KIMEP, developing recruitment campaigns, and developing the grant system at KIMEP. I did presentations about KIMEP, and remember well when the ad we did for Russkoe Radio was actually played! That was my first work experience and I'm really grateful for it – it gave me a chance to be exposed to real work and feel like an adult. I included these experiences of part time work at KIMEP on my CV and this really helped at interviews – I was able to talk about skills I'd developed during my student years both inside and outside of the classroom while at KIMEP. KIMEP helped me to gain a position while I was still a student – I worked for an HR company that is involved in trainings in Kazakhstan. This was my first real job and it was great to be there.

Though it's been a few years since you've graduated, do you have any memories of outstanding professors?

I felt that all of the professors from the accounting department were outstanding – Davlatbek Abduvaly and Nurlan Orazalin particularly come to mind. Boris Stremelin stands out as a philosopher – Dilbar Gimranova in Strategy and Business Policy.

Tell us a little about what you do now. What is your current job and when did you start? Any advancement or promotion since you started your job?

Now I'm working in the banking sector, in one of the largest private banks in CIS and the market leader by total assets in Kazakhstan – JSC "Kazkommertsbank" (further – KKB). Our bank provides a wide range of banking and other financial services to corporate and retail clients across the region. My current job is a lead accountant in the Department of Accounting, particularly – the division of consolidation of financial statements. I have been working in KKB for approximately 3 years. Right after graduating from KIMEP with a red diploma at the end of 2010, I joined JSC "Kazkommertsbank" as a specialist to work in the Department of Accounting. My first assignment was the division of monitoring of the Prudential norms and regulatory reporting. A year later I was promoted to the accountant of the 1st category. After half a year, I was offered work in another division – of Consolidation of financial statements. Finally, I was promoted again to the next stage as a lead accountant!

Everything I achieve is because of the right choices I've made when deciding to invest in my future, in my education

How did your KIMEP education help with your job?

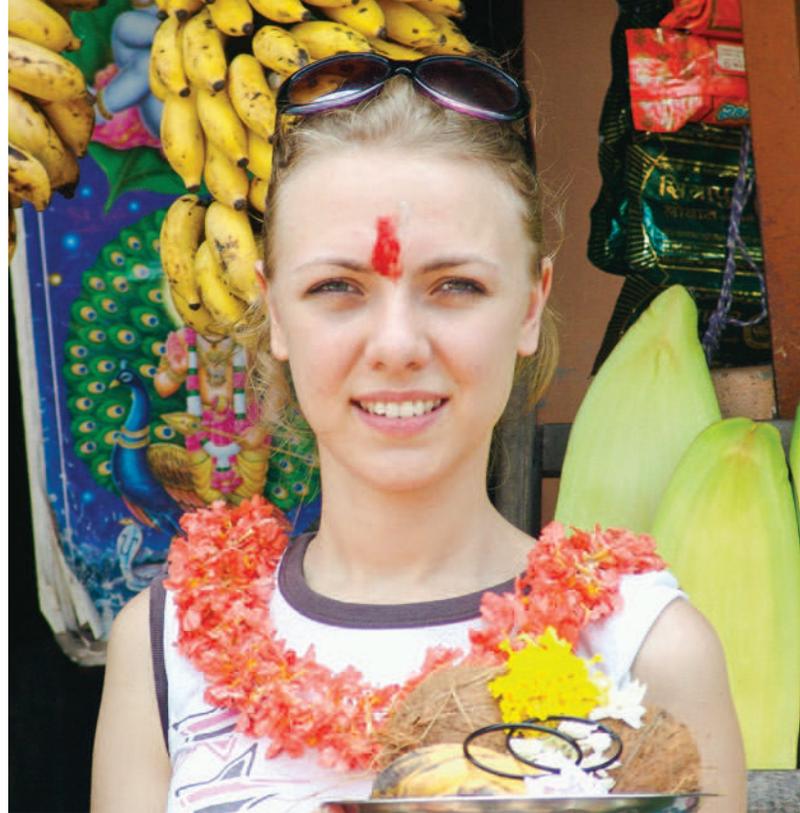
My KIMEP education and knowledge that I gained are the main factors for doing well in my job. Everything I achieve is because of the right choices I've made when deciding to invest in my future, in my education. Of course, it may seem quite expensive to study at KIMEP, but I know it was worth it. KIMEP helped me to understand what I want and what I can achieve. When I passed some series of interviews searching for a job, I would say that almost all employers paid attention to the "education" section in my CV. And KKB top managers are not an exception: they invite and interview KIMEP students first, then candidates from other universities. The knowledge that I earned at KIMEP helps me in my current job. For example, as accountants we always work in accordance with international financial reporting standards (IFRS). We have to be able to understand these rules, plus the latest amendments in Russian/English, than interpret and use them in our work. For some people it's quite difficult but for me it isn't so because I took classes like 'Cases in Accounting' (where I studied and practiced examples from F7 exam, ACCA), Advanced Accounting, Money and Banking, Audit and others. Another important skill that KIMEP taught me and that I use in my day-to-day work is working with Excel and different computer applications. Also, now I'm in the process of passing ACCA exams. The content of each ACCA exam part is what we've learned at KIMEP. That's why instead of spending money on very expensive training pre-courses, it will be enough just to find your notes from KIMEP, refresh your memory a little bit and you are ready to pass the ACCA exam!

What would your advice be to current students?

Always think of your life in terms of a 'whole' - from your birth until the very end. Whenever you keep in mind this chain of moments, you will start to value your time. When you value your time – you will value good education, and KIMEP is exactly that place, where the good education may be taught to you. Newcomers (students) must always push themselves to do better, no matter if it's interesting or not, or easy or not. Make an effort to concentrate on serious classes, which are more relevant to your major specialization. Even with electives – don't go the easy route to just 'sail' through a class to boost your GPA, take serious courses that will relate to your future.

How do you stay calm and focused? Do you do anything outside of work to help you with this?

It's very important to stay calm and focused at work! I work in the head office anywhere from 8 to 11 hours a day, in a sitting position in front of the computer. Employees can of course get tired due to multiple responsibilities and a charged atmosphere all day long. What helps me to stay calm and focused are yoga



exercises. I'm used to do different kind of sport: playing tennis, dancing, and visiting gym classes. But a year and a half ago, I came to yoga classes that were conducted in our bank "KKB". After half a year I joined a yoga center near my home. Yoga is not a sport or gym. Yoga helps someone's body to awake through practicing different kind of exercises (asanas). You begin to understand your body and after regular training you begin to control not only your body but also your mind. As a result you become more healthy, patient and calm. I'm delighted and enthusiastic about taking yoga classes because I see how I'm changing.

What are your ideas on happiness and success?

The meaning of happiness and success is very complicated. It is the mix of different things you always have to keep in mind such as:

- Do what you want
- Never be afraid of difficulties
- Set goals and be motivated
- Use opportunities
- Communicate with pleasure
- Travel around the world
- Work and study hard
- Relax and sleep enough
- Do sports (at least 2-3 times a week)
- AND of course the main one – value your time spent as a student at KIMEP University!

Thank you very much Sofiya for such an informative interview! ▼



Future Top-Managers of Eurasian Bank

Three years ago, Eurasian Bank, with the initiative of the CEO Michael Eggleton, launched the “Future25” project. The stated goals of the program are grandiose- to nurture the future’s professional Top-Managers from yesterday’s students. Each of them will work in five key departments of the Bank. After 5 years, participants receive a financial bonus and a management position. The project authors believe that knowledge and experience gained will give participants a holistic understanding of all the key business processes in the banking sphere. Participants of the project are the best graduates of Kazakhstan and foreign universities, including educational scholarship recipients from Nursultan Nazarbayev, Bolashak, student-organizers of Kazakh communities in foreign universities, winners of the international scientific and educational conferences, and the winners of the Olympiads.

We met with some of the participants of the program and realized that Kazakhstan’s financial future is in good hands.



Zarina Shamieva, 28 years old. 3 years in the Bank. Graduated KIMEP with BBA in 2008, and in 2009 obtained her MBA degree also at KIMEP. Leisure time is dedicated to reading and dancing.

– My future profession I chose consciously, so when I was asked to take part in the program “Future25”,

I immediately agreed. Currently I am working in the Department of Financial Controlling. We collect all the data on financial activities of the Bank, structuring and analyzing them. But most of all I liked the work in the Department of Corporate Business. For me is very important to have direct contact with people. And when you communicate with the top management of companies who are our clients, they have a lot to learn from. Such experience is priceless.



Nursultan Bilisbekov, 23 years old. Works in Bank for over a year. Graduated from KIMEP in 2012 with a BBA degree. Has the first junior level in chess. Spends his free time reading fiction. Practitioner of martial arts.
 – There was absolutely no problem with adaptation in the team. Very open and helpful people. In truth, I did not expect that such a lively atmosphere

may prevail in the bank. Currently I work as a specialist of banking processes and re-engineering. Our task is to optimize the internal processes with the regulations of the Bank and the national legislation. At first glance, paperwork seems routine and not interesting, but then you realize that all operations of the Bank are associated with the regulations. It is kind of the cornerstone, and slowly, as in a puzzle game, the whole picture emerges: who is doing what, and how the Bank operates as a whole. Four more departments are waiting for me, so now I get the knowledge and experience, which will be useful in any departments. My managers and mentors taught me a lot and I am sure that these skills will be useful to me in my life.



Azamat Danikov, 24 years old. Has 3 years of experience in the Bank. He graduated from KIMEP in 2013 with MA in Economics. In 2012 he took first place in the competition «Rising Stars – Business Plan Competition Contest» held by the Ernst & Young. In his spare time he reads books and swims.
 – I am proud that I was selected from two hundred students who participated

in the competition to become one of the “Future 25”. Therefore it is always necessary to keep the bar high. I am convinced that it should be in any endeavor that you do. Now I am doing evaluation projects of small and medium-sized enterprises in terms of credit risk in one of the key departments of our Bank. Our work depends on purity of its loan portfolio. And it's great when you can see and feel your own contribution to the work of the Bank, which is one of the market leaders in terms of “Minimum number of problem loans”. The next rotation Department Is Remedial Management, I'm sure I will get there invaluable experience for my career. After the end of the program I'm going to pursue a career in the banking sphere. Within ten years I see myself in a team of successful managers and the father of four children.



Nazim Khamzina, 25 years old. Has 3 years of experience in the Bank. She graduated from KIMEP in 2010 with a BBA degree. In 2013 she received MBA also from KIMEP. She is the leader of the Charity social project within the Bank, she is also an active member of the "Young Investors Club" project. She is interested in Latin American dancing

and swimming. In her free time she likes to read classic and historical books.

– Since 2010, I worked in Departments of Small and medium businesses, risk management, and the Department of Asset and Liability Management. Many mid-level workers, working in the same department for several years, do not even realize what other departments of the Bank do. The program “Future 25” gave me a huge opportunity in terms of development as a professional in the banking sector by rotation within Bank from department to department, which will allow me to understand the bigger picture of the Bank. In the future I see myself as a successful young manager of the Bank and owner of my own company. I also want to make a significant contribution to development of my country by actively participating in social projects on a large scale.



Kairzhan Iskakov. 29 years old. Works 3 years in the Bank. Graduated from KIMEP in 2011 with MA in Economics.

– I had two educations (engineering and economics) and a few years of working experience in a foreign oil company in my profile when I joined the Eurasian Bank team. I would have continued to work in the oil

industry but I found out that Eurasian Bank launched the Future 25 project. It seemed like a very interesting and promising project, and opened me door into the new sphere. This program is unique for Kazakhstan, working in key departments of the bank provides invaluable experience, knowledge and understanding of complex structure of the Bank. Participation in this project provides a vision of how the various units interact and how business processes are built in. In addition to direct work, participants of the program get intensive trainings, directed to develop personal qualities, managerial skills, professional knowledge and also studying banking legislation. I am confident that participation in the program Future 25 will bear fruit and, soon, the country will have a new generation of highly professional bankers. ▼

KIMEP University is a family tradition!

KIMEP University celebrated only the 20th Anniversary, but we already could see that for some KIMEP University has become a family tradition. Here is an interview with one of our first Alumni, Zhanna Zimanova (Graduated 1995) and her two daughters Madina and Sholpan who have also graduated from KIMEP.



Interview with Zhanna Zimanova, MBA 1995

Why did you choose KIMEP?

In the beginning of 90s it was the only academic institution in the area of the former USSR which gave the opportunity to obtain a “Western-style» education (meaning – to learn the basics of management in the conditions of market economy).

Besides, the language of teaching was English, which was unique in itself! The unique university, unique faculty composition (almost all faculty members were international), unique methods of teaching, unique atmosphere! This was the best choice!

How did your education influence your further career?

Education obtained in KIMEP has critically influenced my career. New broad opportunities of employment at high-level positions with good salary both in local and international companies were open for me.

What are your brightest impressions of your study?

I remember years at KIMEP as a vibrant continuation of youth and the new impulse to my life! I remember my teachers and classmates with gratitude and fond memories.

What professor left the most impression on you?

Frankly speaking, it is hard to separate out someone, yet since I had a chance to work as an assistant to Dr. Wagner and to Dr. Lan Wu, I thank them separately for

the knowledge vested in me!

What course left the most impression on you?

You remember the most those courses, teachers of which demand the most input. Those are accounting, management accounting.

What did you do beyond studying in your free time?

Beyond studying we've been socializing in the university, and visited events organized by KIMEP.

Did you suppose that your daughter will also be studying at KIMEP?

When the issue of selecting the institution to study arose for my kids, then, of course, KIMEP was the first one on the list. I truly believe, as I stated several times, that KIMEP is the flagship of business education in Kazakhstan.

You came to the graduation ceremony of your daughter. What major changes took place in KIMEP since you graduated from this University? What has remained the same?

Of course, I was happy to come to the Graduation Ceremony, moreover, this was the anniversary 20th Graduation ceremony in KIMEP!

KIMEP has significantly changed since I graduated, the number of students have grown, a lot of efforts and investments are contributed to improving the facilities and the quality of education.

In my view, the spirit of KIMEP students remained the same – we all believe that our university is the best one in Kazakhstan!

How does it feel to be a parent of KIMEP student?

It is pleasant to hear about achievements of your kids.

Do you keep in touch with your classmates, and if yes, how often do you meet them?

Yes, we meet each other at various official events, forums, we make telephone calls to each other and share the news.

Your wishes to KIMEP students

I wish KIMEP students a great success in their life, to “take their own toll”, to find the sphere in which their abilities will be disclosed fully and the knowledge they obtained will be applied.

In my view, the spirit of KIMEP students remained the same – we all believe that our university is the best



| Madina Zimanova, MBA 2013 | | Sholpan Zimanova, BSC 2012 |
|---|---|---|
| I visited KIMEP for the first time when there was an annual presentation of what KIMEP has to offer to graduates of high-schools. Also I took the intensive courses of History of Kazakhstan, which was necessary to successfully pass UNT and to get admitted to KIMEP. | What are the impressions of your first visit to KIMEP? | I visited KIMEP for the first time while still in high-school. I really liked the atmosphere, and it is then I realized that I want to study in this university. |
| I chose KIMEP according to advice of my friends and parents, as long as there were good opinions and references about this academic institution. | Who helped you to make a decision about being enrolled to KIMEP? | The decision was made together with parents. Since my mom is a KIMEP graduate and has worked there for some time, my parents could judge the quality of education. |
| For the third year of study I was awarded with the grant of the Ministry of Education and Science for the high GPA. I also remember many events organized to celebrate various public holidays. | What are your brightest impressions of your study? | First year of studies was the most vivid and memorable. Everything was new and unforgettable. |
| I was really impressed by Nurlan Orazalin, since he did a great contribution into my personal and professional growth and development. | What professor left the most impression on you? | One of the professors I remembered was Sang Hoon Lee. I really liked listening to his lectures. One could see that he loves his job and is interested for his students to know the subject. |
| I was delighted by courses related to my major – Accounting, and it was a real pleasure to study those courses. | What course left the most impression on you? | I remember all classes I took. It was interesting to study. |
| I paid a great deal of attention to successfully prepare and pass the exams, and I spent my free time socializing with my friends and taking sports. | What did you do beyond studying, during your free time? | I was a member of two organizations - KIMEP Accounting and Finance Club and Central Asian Tax Research Center. Besides that I spent a lot of time with friends, was active and traveled. |
| I wish the student, first of all, to successfully graduate, and to define their career goals in advance. Also it is important to realize that your professional development and competitiveness at market depends on how well you put your efforts, time, power and other resources into studies. | Your wishes to the current students of KIMEP | I wish everyone to enjoy their university years, participate in organizations, make new friends, and, of course, study well. And remember, that A+ is not the biggest thing you need to achieve. The most important is knowledge that will stay with you after you pass your exams. |

* If you wish to tell us the story of your family and KIMEP University, please contact us cdd@kimep.kz

Executive Education Center



News from Executive Education Center (EEC)

Professional Certificate Program for Corporate Secretaries

Corporate Secretary is a person that helps shareholders, Board of Directors and top management to perform its duties and functions; follow the internal policies and procedures of the company in accordance to the law; organize BOD meetings; disclose information about company in timely manner to top management. Candidates who pass this certificate program will boost his/her professional reputation and competitiveness on the labor market.

Contact information:

Tel: +7 (727) 237-47-83. E-mail: zukhra@kimep.kz

Leadership Development Program

Leadership Development Program welcomes all KIMEP graduates to share their real-life experience with current students, general public and KIMEP stakeholders. Participation in the program is open for all students and external parties who want to learn how to be a leader and

get practical advices from real leaders in business and political spheres.

Contact information:

Tel: +7 (727) 237-47-83. E-mail: zukhra@kimep.kz

Professional Certificate Program in Corporate Governance

KIMEP Executive Education Center in partnership with “Governance & Management Consulting” and “Sayat Zholshy & Partners” under the support of International Finance Corporation is pleased to present Professional Certificate Program in Corporate Governance. This certificate program includes lectures and master classes of corporate governance featuring the leading industry experts; embedded case studies providing better insights into the topics; continuous assessment of knowledge and skills through tests, open – ended questions and discussions. The program can help to increase your competitiveness on the labor market; get system education in the field of corporate governance; expand your networking.

Contact information:

Tel: +7 (727) 237-47-83. E-mail: zukhra@kimep.kz



KIMEP Executive MBA Program

The program provides Western-style education in accordance with international standards, without leaving Kazakhstan. Program requires the professional environment, as well as the personal interest of the participants/students.

Brief description of the program and the cost of training: The program is based on international models of education and designed specifically for executives and managers who have the potential for professional and career growth and work in different areas and

organizations (state agencies, private business, and multinational corporations). Key training areas: accounting, finance, management and marketing. During training, participants receive the opportunity to develop their leadership and management skills, and expand the strategic and global perspective of their organization. During the study participants develop strategic and critical thinking which are necessary nowadays in the international community and in the business to remain competitive and to achieve better understanding of the entire organization.

Classes depending on the preferences of the audience - is conducted in Russian or English languages.



“Thanks to this program, I am who I am now”

Paulo Marras
Business Development Director
“VK ASTANA Architects & Engineering”



“KIMEP EMBA Program speaks the same language with international business. If we want to understand the global business and to manage it in Kazakhstan, the EMBA program is not an alternative but nesseccty”.

Galym Dauletbaev
Financial Director, “Ratiopharm Kazakhstan”

The Executive MBA program is more compact than other graduate programs and focuses on intensive training sessions on weekends. Usually the classes are held on Fridays and Saturdays in Almaty, as well as on Fridays/ Saturdays and Sundays – in the regions. The flexible learning model allows students to combine full-time work and at the same time learning the academic degree Master of Business Administration. To obtain the degree is necessary to gain 60 credits on the European system of transfer and accumulation of credits (ECTS), as follows:

According to the approved academic schedule for the successful completion of the program it is required to complete 12 subjects (courses) + prepare and conduct a defense of the dissertation (thesis Master Executive MBA). The program duration is 12-18 months. With the release of KIMEP University diploma issued in three languages (Kazakh, English and Russian), and a state diploma (in Kazakh and Russian languages).

Rating of the quality of Kazakhstani Universities:

<http://agencyrating.kz/vuz-rating>

Rating of the Independent Kazakhstani Agency on Quality Assurance (IKAQAE) in 2013:

<http://nkaoko.kz/rankings/rating-2013/gumvuzu.php>

We also offer you to see video interview of the program participants:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/vlsh1>

You are Welcome to Attend Any of our Classes Every Friday and Saturday!

It is very nice that we have our current students, graduates and guests at our program.

We, the KIMEP Executive MBA Program administration wish our students, partners, friends and guests a great time with us. During the presence at our program we study, work and create together with all participants of the program, together we try to make the program to be a really special and unforgettable.

We will be happy to answer your questions:

+7 (727) 300 5 777 – Duisengaliyeva Meruyert, Program Director

+7 (727) 270 4354 – Dmitriy Anchevskiy, Administrative Director on Internal Affairs.

One course within the regular Executive MBA program will be organized and need to be taken abroad (charged separately from the general program fee).

The Executive MBA program at the University of KIMEP is accredited by international agencies: Australian - The Asian Forum on Business Education (AFBE) at Level 3 (Full International), the German- Swiss - Fund of International Business administration Accreditation (FIBAA) and the Austrian Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (AQAAA).



Agency for
Quality Assurance
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CFA Preparatory Course

The CFA Charter is the most prestigious globally recognized designation in the investment management industry. The CFA is recognition of excellence in investment knowledge and the highest ethical standards recognized worldwide. Preparatory courses are led by Donald Hoskins, CFA – a professor with extensive experience in investment management at leading firms on Wall Street who received his CFA Charter in 1988. CFA Info Sessions are held on regular basis in November, January.

Executive Education Center (EEC) offers Preparatory Course for CFA Level I Exam. The Prep Course starts in early February each year and ends before CFA Exam in June which is held in Almaty. Currently, EEC develops Prep Course for CFA Level II Exam.

Contact information:

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Programs Under Development:

- CMC (Certified Management Consultant) designation provides international certification awarded by International Council of Management Consulting Institutes with its head quarters in London, England.
- CIPD (The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development): is a professional association for human resource management professionals. It is headquartered in Wimbledon, London, England.

- Retail Academy: certified program for retail industry professionals
- Certification in Taxation
- Any other certification or training might be considered upon your request

Contact information:

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Email: elena@kimep.kz



Contact us

Alumni Success Stories

If you would like KIMEP to highlight your professional or community service activities, we will be happy to include your profile in alumni-related publications. Please contact cdd@kimep.kz to participate.

Services for Alumni

KIMEP is proud of its Alumni. The success of the University 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 College of Continuing Education 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
- 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.

To get all of these benefits you need to obtain Alumni ID Card. Send an email to cdd@kimep.kz with the following information:

- Scanned photo 3*4
- Name
- Program
- Year of graduation
- Work place
- Position
- Contact phone number

www.kimep.kz