

## UCA Employees Support Covid-19 Solidarity Fund

In April the employees of the University of Central Asia (UCA) enthusiastically supported the establishment of a Covid-19 Solidarity Fund. Over 100 employees donated one or more day's salary, or specific amounts, to provide food and medical supplies to families in dire need as a result of the pandemic. Socially vulnerable families in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, as well as Afghanistan, are eligible to apply for this assistance.

The success of the support provided by UCA in March to 500 needy families in Naryn (Kyrgyzstan), identified by the Mayor's office, was the source of inspiration for the establishment of the Solidarity Fund to enhance such assistance. In addition, UCA has also provided 90 observation beds on its campus grounds as part of the mitigation procedures for Covid-19. To give a boost to the local economy, UCA purchased mattresses, blankets, pillows, and linen made by women from the rural areas of Naryn.



*Food and medical supplies stockpiled at the UCA campus before distribution to needy families in Naryn.*

The Mayor of Tekeli in Kazakhstan lauded the efforts of UCA's School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE), along with town volunteers, for distributing care packages including masks, hand sanitizers, antibacterial soap, flour, pasta, rice, tea, sugar, biscuits, and cooking oil to local residents.

At the request of the Governor of Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast in Tajikistan, in addition to medical supplies, UCA is also donating personal protective equipment (PPEs). With rising cases of patients testing positive for Covid-19 in Khorog, front line health workers are at great risk without such protective gear.

## AKDN Provides Personal Protective Equipment for Health Professionals in Kyrgyzstan



*Mr. Emilbek Abdraimov (5th from left), Governor of the Naryn Oblast, conveying gratitude to AKDN.*

In response to the alarming rise of health care workers infected by Covid-19, the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) donated personal protective equipment (PPE) to several hospitals and medical clinics in Kyrgyzstan in April.

This support was made possible with funding from various AKDN agencies operating in Kyrgyzstan, including the University of Central Asia, the Aga Khan Foundation, the Kyrgyz Investment and Credit Bank (KICB), the First MicroFinance Company and the Jubilee Kyrgyzstan Insurance Company.

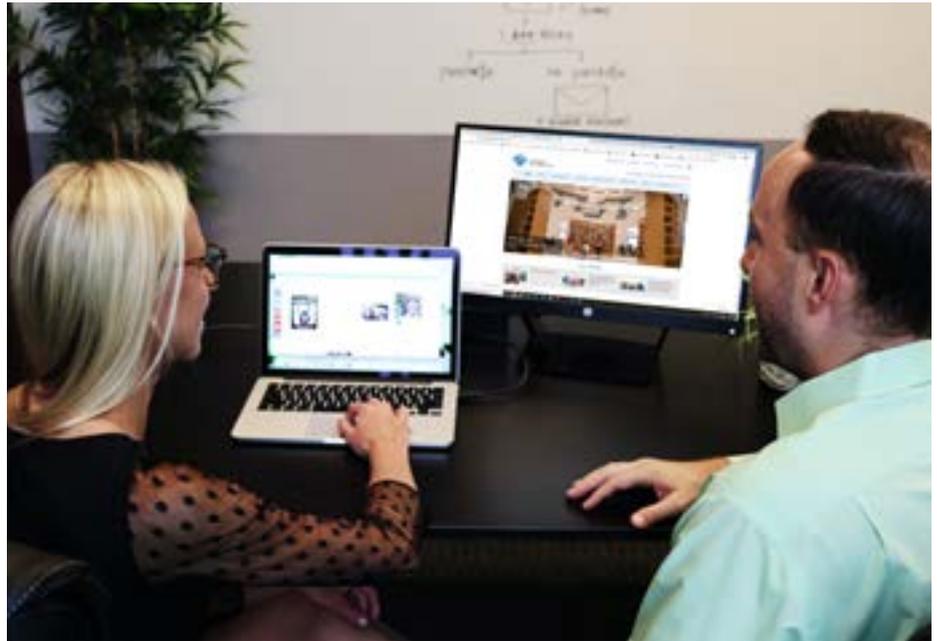
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## As Classes Shut Down UCA Promotes Online Teaching

Responding to the closure of classes due to the Covid-19 pandemic, UCA's Education Improvement Programme (EIP) has launched online programmes to address the needs of teachers and their students. EIP engages 60 government secondary schools and a few selected private schools in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan to enhance students' academic achievements and opportunities for entry to high-quality universities nationally, regionally, and internationally.

UCA's EIP has launched online professional development workshops on how to conduct distance learning classes using video conferencing software, Google Classroom, as well as how to make videos, PowerPoint presentations, and the use of social media to increase engagement. EIP staff in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan are also offering online courses for English language teachers, and to students who are planning to apply to English-language universities, such as UCA.

*"UCA's Education Improvement Programme is providing a great contribution to our school. We are very grateful*



*to EIP for extending their support during these hard times when teachers are unfamiliar with online teaching, and need more resources to conduct classes online,"* said Akbermet Toltoeva, Director of Salieva School in Osh (Kyrgyzstan).

EIP is also supporting teachers in EIP part-

ners schools by identifying and translating resources such as videos, lesson plans, and experiments that can be used to cover the curriculum for the final school term. These resources are supporting EIP partner institutions in developing video lessons in national languages, as well as preparing for the country's state exams.

*Continued from page 1*

Receiving the medical gear, including a large consignment of coveralls, respirator masks, goggles, medical gloves and other protective supplies, Mr. Emilbek Abdraimov, Governor of Naryn Oblast stated, *"This is a much-needed support for which we, on behalf of doctors and nurses as well as the people of Naryn Oblast, thank the Aga Khan Development Network – our long-term friend and development partner."*

In addition, 500 sets of similar PPE were donated by AKDN to medical facilities in Batken, Jalal-Abad, and Osh Oblasts in Kyrgyzstan. *"This personal protection equipment is essential for our doctors who are already using these supplies and we highly appreciate this assistance,"* noted Mr. Talantbek Arstankulov, Chief Doctor at the Osh Inter-Oblast Hospital.

Remarking on the assistance provided by AKDN agencies, Dr. Shamsh Kassim-Lakha, AKDN Diplomatic Representative in the Kyrgyz Republic, and Chairman



*Medical workers in the Osh oblast wearing AKDN supplied PPE.*

of UCA's Board of Trustees, stated, *"We have decided to give the highest priority to protecting the valiant health professionals, many of whom have themselves been affected by Covid-19 in the line of duty. They are putting their lives on the line. I also want to compliment the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, at all levels, for its prompt and active response to contain the spread of the coronavirus."*

## Spotlight on UCA's Education Improvement Programme

Throughout the year, UCA's Education Improvement Programme (EIP) works with approximately 180 school administrators, 1,500 teachers and 30,000 Grade 7-11 students. The programme is also working with 60 Aga Khan Foundation supported schools in Kyrgyzstan, and the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast in Tajikistan.

EIP programmes are developed based on situation analyses to determine the needs of specific schools, as well as identify potential improvement strategies. EIP regularly conducts professional development workshops, aimed at developing subject knowledge and learning techniques for teachers of chemistry, physics, mathematics, English, and ICT. Following the workshops, participants are provided assignments, aimed at strengthening their learning, and receive school-based support and coaching to ensure effective practice. EIP also trains teachers to become teacher trainers, and conducts workshops on developing education improvement plans and monitoring and evaluating progress.

To address the need for high-quality teacher professional development, EIP has also developed a one-year postgraduate certificate in education (PGCE) to be delivered through a blend of face-to-face, online and school-based learning. To further scale-up EIP, and promote sustainability, a district-based strategy is being piloted in Naryn to improve teaching and learning. This strategy includes school development planning training for school directors in Naryn, and engagement with Naryn State University faculty and representatives from the city-district education department.



Over 50 English, math and chemistry teachers attended an EIP professional development workshop in Khatlon (Tajikistan) in 2019.

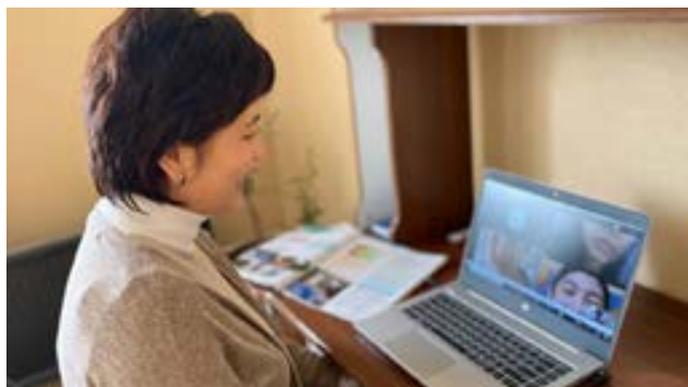
*"School directors and teachers work long hours, give of their time and talent to facilitate student learning, often with little resources or reward. They want to receive professional development to become effective, and have more autonomy in decision-making about teaching and learning,"* said Bernadette Dean, Head of EIP. *"The EIP team believes in the vision and mission of EIP, and I have no doubt that in time, we will achieve our goals, supporting teachers and directors to build capacity, and fostering strong partnership and collaboration across the region."*

## School of Professional and Continuing Education Launches Distance Learning



UCA's School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) learning centres in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Afghanistan have launched distance learning during school closures due to the Covid-19 outbreak. SPCE instructors are working from home while teaching students through Zoom and Microsoft Teams video conferencing.

*"I have been using Zoom with my students and love it. There are many benefits to teaching online, such as sharing pictures and documents in real time, as well as using the video feature to increase student engagement,"* said Gaukhar Ismailova (pictured left), SPCE English Instructor in Tekeli (Kazakhstan).



SPCE English instructors are conducting online classes in Naryn (Kyrgyzstan).



SPCE in Faizabad (Afghanistan) has launched online classes for intermediate and pre-intermediate level English learners.

## UCA Cultural Heritage Books Available for Free Download



UCA's Cultural Heritage and Humanities Unit (CHHU) has made publications of its Cultural Heritage Book Series available online for free download from UCA's website at: <https://bit.ly/CHHUBook-Series>.

Publications are available online in English, Russian, or Kyrgyz, and cover a variety of themes including Central Asian, Pamiri, and Kyrgyz history and cultural heritage. These include a five-volume book set on the Musical Arts of the Pamirs, Funeral Laments of the Pamiri-Kyrgyz, Historical and Ethnographic Narratives of Kyrgyz Herders of Soviet Uzbekistan, Ancient Monuments of the Tian-Shan, and an analysis of Kyrgyz instrumental music, among others. Six CHHU research papers are also available for free download at: <https://bit.ly/CHHU-RP>.

The book series promotes understanding across cultures and generations by supporting Central Asian scholars to conduct original and high-quality research, and publish and disseminate their work to regional and international audiences. Hard copies of the books can also be purchased from UCA's Cultural Heritage and Humanities Unit by emailing [publications@ucentralasia.org](mailto:publications@ucentralasia.org).

The custodians of traditional knowledge are aging and with limited resources this knowledge is under threat from several forces including scarce resources, migration, and outside influences. An important mission of UCA is to help the peoples of Central Asia preserve and draw upon their rich cultural traditions and heritages as assets for the future, and the Book Series and Research Papers are playing a critical role in this endeavour.

## International Office Established at UCA



His Highness the Aga Khan, UCA Chancellor

An International Office (IO) has been established at UCA with the aim of providing leadership in the pursuit of academic

and operational excellence through international cooperation, and strategic partnerships. The Office aims to coordinate and facilitate all relevant cooperation and strategic opportunities to maintain academic excellence in line with UCA's mission of developing mountain societies.

In the words of UCA's Chancellor, His Highness the Aga Khan, "What this University is all about is not only the power of education, but also the power of international cooperation. It is a power that can change peoples' lives. It is important to know that what we are doing here will be a valuable example of international cooperation for the future not only here in the region, but also for people far beyond the region." (19 October 2016, UCA Naryn campus inauguration)

## UCA Joins United Nations Academic Impact



UCA is now a member of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), working to promote global priorities, including peace, human

rights, and sustainable development. UCA is joining over 1,400 institutions in 145 countries, such as the University of New South Wales (Australia), SOAS University of London (UK), HEC Montreal (Canada), Berkeley College (USA), University of Hamburg (Germany), and KIMEP University (Kazakhstan).

As a member of the UN Academic Impact, UCA will now be able to facilitate discussions, issue direct calls for collaboration, or solicit feedback from the Academic Impact network on any UNAI-related project. UCA has joined UNAI as part of the mission of the International Office to create and build opportunities for international collaboration.

UNAI works to support and advance ten basic principles including addressing poverty, capacity building, education for all, encouraging global citizenship, access to higher education, human rights, intercultural dialogue, resolution, sustainability and the UN charter. UNAI is aided in its work to advance these principles through its UNAI member institutions, which each focus on a particular principle in cooperation with other members.

Through its areas of operations, the Office helps structure, negotiate, and facilitate academic and strategic partnerships, promoting global citizenship and intercultural dialogue, examples of which include the recent MoU signing with the University of Cambridge and Cambridge Trust in February 2020. It also provides opportunities for Graduate, Doctoral, and Postdoctoral studies through the Central Asian Faculty Development Programme (CAFDP). Some recent activities of the Office include joining the United Nations Academic Impact and an MoU signing with Simon Fraser University.

## Academic Agreement Signed with Simon Fraser University



Jeff Derksen, Professor, Dean and Associate Provost of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at SFU delivered a presentation on academic opportunities at SFU, during a visit to UCA's Naryn campus in November 2019.

UCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Simon Fraser University (SFU) in British Columbia (Canada) in March to cooperate in exchange of faculty, staff, students, scholarly publications, as well as in joint research programmes, and co-sponsored events.

*"UCA and SFU have many similarities in their community-engaged research, and commitment to social development. This partnership will provide a platform for our institutions to collaborate in creating local and international impact through teaching, research, exchanges,*

*and community engagement,"* said Jeff Derksen, Professor, Dean and Associate Provost of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at SFU.

As part of this agreement, SFU will also provide opportunities to Central Asian students to complete postdoctoral studies at SFU as part of UCA's Central Asian Faculty Development Programme (CAFDP). UCA financially supports these scholars with the understanding that upon graduating they would serve as academic staff at UCA (with pay) for a minimum of four years.

*"The vision of UCA in the three countries, including their planned campus in Kazakhstan, is ambitious and remarkable, and resonates deeply with SFU's vision of an engaged university,"* said Shaheen Nanji, Director of Global Engagement at SFU, remarking on the MOU signing. *"SFU seeks deep and equitable international partnerships, and our relationship with UCA has the potential to be a model of this type of partnership, supporting the aspirations of all involved."*

## Planning for Success and Changing Lives



Khayrigul Marodbekova, 50, one of the highest certified hairdressers in Tajikistan, has worked for other people all her life. She graduated from a vocational school for hairstyling in Dushanbe, and completed three years of study at the Riga Hairdressing School in Latvia in the early 1960s. She shared how her shortage of

business knowledge has always prevented her from starting her own salon, which has been a longtime dream. With the goal to work for herself, she enrolled in UCA's School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) business planning course in Khorog last year.

*"By providing up-to-date techniques, concepts and approaches in business, SPCE's course and sessions equipped me with new skills and independence. I am now thinking about expenses and revenues, and have the confidence needed to launch my own business,"* said Khayrigul, who is from the Nawobod village in the Shugnan district of Tajikistan. *"The staff at SPCE are also very patient, and are always willing to help, answer questions, and push you towards your goals,"* added Khayrigul.

After completing SPCE's course, she took the next step and rented a space for her beauty salon in Khorog in December 2019. With assistance from SPCE, Khayrigul secured funding for new equipment and

renovations, and launched her beauty salon in early March 2020. She believes that the way she designed her salon, and the quality of services she plans to provide makes her salon unique.

She has hired another hairdresser, and having gained business knowledge and experience, is motivated to expand her business further. *"I have already started the second phase of my business. In collaboration with the Employment Department of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, I have launched a hairstyling skills training for 15 women,"* said Khayrigul. She plans to expand her current space, and open new salons in different locations for the women who are being trained.

*"Even if it is too early to benefit financially from my newly established business, it has already changed my life by uplifting my spirit and morale. My clients and acquaintances congratulate me, and I now have even more drive to succeed."*

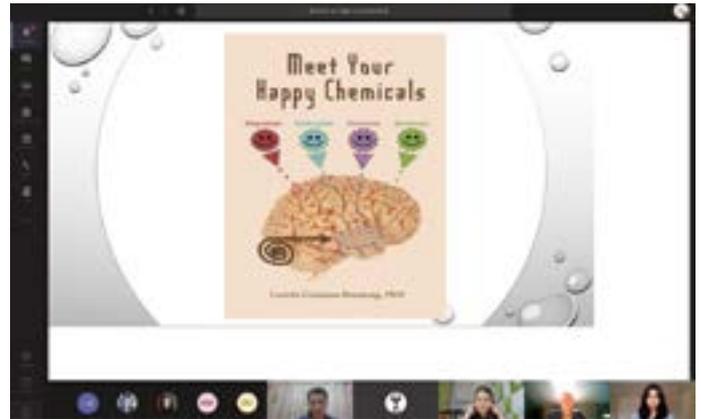
## UCA Community Showcases Artistic Talent at Khorog Campus Art Exhibit



A “Revival Art Exhibition” was organised by UCA’s Student Association and the painting club at the Khorog campus on April 18th. The exhibition showcased paintings and photographs by UCA students, staff, faculty, and children of faculty members.

Every Thursday and Sunday, the Khorog campus painting club meets to paint and draw together, and share their views on different types of art. Mahsa Moazzen, the painting club lead, teaches different types of drawing and painting techniques, including water colour, pencil sketching, and other creative forms of art.

## Students Explore the Neuroscience of Well-Being



Although in-person classes are not currently in session at UCA’s Naryn campus due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Naryn Student Life Team has developed innovative ways to engage students and support them during these difficult, uncertain times. Safeera Jaffer, Student Life Advisor, and Robin Higgins, Counselling Consultant, launched an 8-week online course on the “Neuroscience of Well-being” in April for 18 participants located in 6 different countries. The online sessions include participatory lessons, and they are learning how the brain and other factors influence well-being, with the overall goal to help students develop practical strategies to both examine and improve their well-being.

## UCA Faculty Research Fund Established

In order to promote and foster research activities among faculty members at the School of Arts and Sciences, UCA’s Research Committee has recently implemented a new support mechanism by funding research projects within the framework of the Faculty Contestable Research Fund (FCRF).

The fund has been set up to nurture faculty research, contribute towards developing a strong research culture at UCA, and supporting interdisciplinary collaborative research across UCA’s programmes, campuses, research institutes, and external partners. The FCRF is open to full-time faculty who meet the criteria of interdisciplinarity collaboration with internal and external partners, as well as having a focus on Central Asia, especially its mountain regions.

FCRF is aimed at providing support for new projects that require “seed” funding to develop new collaborative research initiatives, as well as contribute to the formation of research clusters to advance the mission of UCA. The funding is made available twice a year,

up to \$10,000 per semester, and up to \$5,000 per individual project. The next call will be in September 2020.

The first call for submission of research projects in February 2020 received a positive response with submissions from nine project teams across various themes. In this round, the first selected research project was an “Assessment of the Energy Poverty-Health Nexus in Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Tajikistan, using Demographic Health Surveys (DHS) and Life in Kyrgyzstan (LiK) Datasets,” led by Dr. Murodbek Laldjebaev from UCA’s Earth and Environmental Sciences programme in Khorog. It will study the question of how socio-economic and demographic factors are driving household strategies, with regard to energy poverty, and in turn determines health outcomes.

The second research project covers “Looking at Embodied-Looking: A Phenomenological Study of Gallery Visitation Experience,” led by Dr. Soheil Ashrafi from the Communication and Media programme in Naryn. It will observe and record a representative sample of how gal-

## UCA Convocation Music Competition

UCA launched an open competition in March to attract talented and creative musicians in Central Asia to compose a special convocation music for the University’s first undergraduate class graduating in 2021. The music composition should reflect Central Asian musical traditions and tunes and preferably played with traditional musical instruments of the region.

The winning musical composition will be featured during the graduation ceremony in 2021 at UCA’s campuses in Naryn and Khorog, and thereafter at future UCA events. The top three winners will receive prizes.

lery visitors embody visual behaviours, such as the way in which visitors move through spaces and engage visually with artwork at the Gapar Aitiev Museum of Fine Arts in Bishkek. The data will be used to produce the world’s first phenomenological taxonomy of art museum visitation practices.

## MSRI Helps Reduce Malnutrition in Tajikistan

Stunting (low height for age) rates, are common indicators of chronic malnutrition. In Tajikistan, 18% of children under five are stunted, 6% have a low weight-for-height (wasting) ratio, and 42% of children aged 6-59 months and 41% of women aged 15-49 suffer from anemia, reported a [National Demographic and Health Survey](#) in Tajikistan. Facing high levels of undernutrition, Tajikistan is one of the focus countries for the Feed the Future Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative. UCA's Mountain Societies Research Institute (MSRI) has contributed to this initiative through its "Potato Production Support and Research to Improve Food Security in Khatlon (Tajikistan)" project.

MSRI partnered with the International Potato Center (CIP) to increase the production and consumption of new potato crops, address dietary deficiencies, and increase agricultural production for resource-poor farmers. Potato and sweet potato value chains were identified as potential high-value opportunities to contribute to a reduction in poverty and malnutrition in the country.

The Tajik Institute of Botany, Plant Physiology and Genetics provided 13 genotypes of sweet potatoes from Peru to MSRI and CIP. Using a rapid multiplication method, high-quality sweet potato planting material was produced for farmers in water stress-prone areas of West Khatlon. Twenty local farmers were first to receive more than 18,000 seedlings from the 13 sweet potato genotypes, and achieved an average yield of 48.7 metric tons per hectare. Their success was replicated over the next three years in 2017, 2018 and 2019.



Local farmers show off their enhanced sweet potato yields in Khatlon.

In addition to supplying resource-poor families with seedlings, the project introduced innovations such as the production of 'farmer-based' high-quality seeds. Two varieties of potatoes were selected, based on the genotypes from Peru, and involved introducing technology to break dormancy in seeds, which enabled farmers to benefit from two potato growing seasons.

To help smallholder farmers increase their income, UCA's Mountain Societies Research Institute and CIP also organised workshops on the process of introducing low-cost farming technologies for over 150 villagers in five villages of Khatlon.

Concluding the project, an economic assessment revealed that sweet potato farming demonstrated the cost-effectiveness, productivity, and drought-tolerance of the new sweet potatoes, as they require less water and fertilizer inputs.

## IPPA Researcher Presents on Development Challenges at Kazakhstan Forum



Dr. Madina Junussova, Research Fellow at UCA's Institute of Public Policy and Administration delivered presentations at the "Third Central Asian Research Forum on Sustainable Development and Innovation" on April 17-18.

It was organised as an online forum by Kazakhstan's PhD Association in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Her presentations are available on YouTube in English on "[Monotowns of Kazakhstan: Development Challenges and Opportunities](#)" and "[Regional Challenges of the Transition to Renewable Energy Production: The Case of Almaty Region of Kazakhstan](#)".

## Online Lecture Explores Collaboration between Humans and Robots



An online public lecture was organised by UCA on April 28th on the "Collaboration between Humans and Robots," delivered by Tansu Yeğen, UiPath Vice President for Europe. Nearly 100 participants joined the lecture, and learnt how artificial intelligence is shaping the 4th Industrial Revolution more rapidly than expected because of Covid-19. Watch the lecture in English at: <https://youtu.be/gz88Yi8J1Ng>. UCA's online public lecture series are conducted through Zoom conferencing. To receive lecture announcements directly to your inbox, sign up for UCA's newsletter at: <http://bit.ly/UCAnews>. Past online lectures are available on UCA's YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/ucentralasia>.

# Call for Papers and Sessions: 6th Annual 'Life in Kyrgyzstan' Conference



The Institute of Public Policy and Administration of UCA, the Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops (IGZ), and the International Security and Development Center (ISDC), are pleased to invite submission of proposals for sessions and individual research papers for the 6th Annual Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference, to be held in Bishkek on October 28-29 2020. The deadline to submit proposals to the conference is June 10th. Learn more at: <http://bit.ly/LIK2020>

The two-day conference will bring together national and international experts to exchange knowledge and experiences on recent socio-economic developments in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia and help promote evidence-based policy making. This year, the conference will be preceded by a LiK Data Users workshop on October 27th. The conference is supported by the American University of Central Asia (AUCA), Mercy Corps, and the World Bank.

The conference will be held at the Park Hotel in Bishkek if public health conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic permit. Alternatively, the conference will be held online. The organisers are committed to ensure a lively exchange of ideas and experiences on the topic of Life in Kyrgyzstan. In these difficult times, evidence-based decision making is more important than ever, and the micro-level analysis of lives and livelihoods can make a significant contribution to better policies in Kyrgyzstan and beyond.

## Upcoming Online Public Lectures

**Civic Activism Through Arts:  
What it is and How it is Practiced**  
Tuesday May 12th, 4:30-5:30pm  
(Bishkek time, GMT+6)

UCA's Cultural Heritage and Humanities Unit (CHHU) is holding an online public lecture on "Civic Activism Through Arts: What it is and How it is Practiced in Central Asia," on May 12th, delivered by Altyn Kapalova, Research Fellow at CHHU.

The lecture vividly explores civil art activities from around the world, with a special focus on Central Asia. It will take you on an excursion to learn about art history and civic activism over the last 5 years, in which various artistic languages were used: from theatrical and musical to visual and architectural.

The lecture will be delivered in Russian, and can be joined via Microsoft Teams at: <https://bit.ly/May12lecture>.

**When Covid-19 Leads to Digital Transformation**  
Wednesday May 13th, 5:30-6:15pm  
(Bishkek time, GMT+6)

UCA will hold an online public lecture "When Covid-19 Leads to Digital Transformation" on May 13th by Dr. Ravi Pendse, Vice President for Information Technology and CIO at the University of Michigan (USA).

When Covid-19 caused campus buildings to close and classes to be conducted remotely, how does a world-renowned research university respond? In this interactive session, Pendse will cover the challenges they addressed, and lessons they learned through the university's response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Participants will be invited to share their own experiences and lessons learned throughout the session. It will be delivered in English, and can be joined via Microsoft Teams at: <https://bit.ly/May13lecture>.

## Publication

**Regional Development in  
Tajikistan's Gorno-Badakhshan**



The 50th issue of the Berlin Geographical Papers (BGP) titled "Exchange Relations and Regional Development in Gorno-Badakhshan, Tajikistan" has been published by the Centre for Development Studies at the Freie University of Berlin.

This issue is the result of a joint research project and fieldwork with twelve UCA undergraduate students.

The research was conducted in July 2018 in Khorog as part of an MOU between UCA and Freie University of Berlin. The publication represents a collection of six papers delivering detailed insights into current social developments in Tajikistan's Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Region. It can be downloaded in English at: <https://bit.ly/BGP-FreieUCA>.

## Languages of the Pamiri People



UCA's Cultural Heritage and Humanities Unit (CHHU) held an online public lecture on April 23rd on "Pamiri People and their Languages: Shimmering Identity," by Tohir Kalandarov, from the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology at the Russian Academy of Sciences. It was attended by 45 participants, and covered the current status of the Pamiri people, as reflected in soviet and post-soviet censuses, as well as their aspirations for the future. Watch the lecture in Russian: <https://youtu.be/lThHhL6zemc>.

UCA has also published a research paper by Tohir Kalandarov on "Pamiri Languages: Between the Past and the Future (the case of the Shugni language)," as part of CHHU's Research Paper Series. The research paper consists of two sections that describe the history and development of Pamiri languages in the soviet and post-soviet periods.

Despite the significant success in this area, so much is yet to be done to preserve the Pamiri languages. The research report is available for free download in Russian (<https://bit.ly/CHHU-RP5-ru>) from UCA's website.

### Publications



#### The Historical Value of Jadidism in Kyrgyzstan

A research paper was published by CHHU on "Jadidism in Kyrgyzstan: The Historical Value of Past and Present Heritage" by Aiida Kubatova.

The work uses archival materials, academic papers and manuscripts to describe the spread of the Jadid movement in Kyrgyzstan, which began in the late 19th and early 20th century. It also covers the establishment of new-methodology schools in the country, as well as the social and political activities of Jadid educators, who were the originators of the Kyrgyz national intellectual community, education and culture. It also discusses their close relations with Tatar and Bashkir educators, as well as with Turkestan educators in general. The research is available for free download in Russian (<https://bit.ly/CHHU-RP6-ru>) from UCA's website.



#### Increasing Profitability of Livestock-Based Farming

Farming in mountainous areas is practiced primarily by crop and livestock based small-scale farmers. However, there is insufficient production of winter feed, and degradation of pastures around villages due to over-stocking, and subsequent low profitability from animal husbandry.

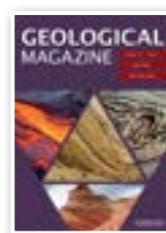
UCA's Mountain Societies Research Institute has published a research report on the "Characteristics and Profitability of Livestock-based Farming Systems in At-Bashy, Naryn Oblast," by Azamat Azarov, Zbynek Polesny, Vladimir Verner, and Dietrich Darr. Based on a survey of 72 households, the report derives recommendations for increasing animal productivity and ensuring sustainable pasture use. Read the full report for free download in English at: <http://bit.ly/MSRI-RP6>.



#### Tajik National Festivals

Another research paper by CHHU is on the "Complex of Tajik National Festivals in the Mirror of History," by Larisa Dodkhudoeva, Zinatmo Yusufbekova, and Mumina Shovalieva. It presents that the Sada, Navruz, and Mehrgon festivals in Tajikistan have remained sacred and significant to this day.

The research paper is available for free download in English (<https://bit.ly/CHHU-RP4>) and Russian (<https://bit.ly/CHHU-RP4-ru>) from UCA's website.



#### Evolution of Metamorphic Rocks in Iran

Mohssen Moazzen, Chair of the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, and Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at UCA, co-authored an article that was published in the Geological Magazine of Cambridge University Press.

The article titled, "Protolith nature and P–T evolution of Variscan metamorphic rocks from the Allahyarlu complex, NW Iran". It can be accessed at: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0016756820000102>

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