

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

From Graduation to the Future: A Message to Our Alumni

Dear Alumni,

It is with immense pride that I write to share news of our Class of 2026. This year, we celebrated 95 graduates in Athens and 29 graduates in Nashua — 124 talented individuals who have completed their journey with us and are now stepping into the world ready to lead, create, and contribute.

To our newest graduates: we are proud of you. We know this journey was not always easy — the late nights, the challenges overcome, the growth along the way. You carried it with determination, and you should carry that same spirit forward. Please know that our commitment to you does not end at commencement.

As you build your careers, our institution remains here to strengthen and support your future, through our alumni network, mentorship opportunities, and the doors that a degree from this university will continue to open for you.

Looking ahead, our institution remains firmly committed to what has always set us apart: excellent teaching and rigorous, relevant academic content.

That commitment will not waver. But we are also looking forward — investing deliberately in expanding our networking potential, so that every student and alumnus benefits not only from what they learn in the classroom, but from the relationships, mentors, and professional communities we help them build. A degree should open doors long after graduation, and we intend to make sure ours does exactly that.

continues on page 5 →

continues on page 6 →



Career Fair 2026: Building Bridges Between Education and Employment

The University's annual Career Fair was successfully held at the Athens campus on May 18, bringing together students, alumni, and employers for a day focused on professional engagement, networking, and career development. During the event, company representatives conducted more than 140 on-site interviews with attendees, offering insight into available employment and internship opportunities while supporting meaningful connections between the academic community and the workplace.

The participating organizations represented a wide range of sectors connected to the University's academic programs, including business, marketing and sales, informatics, clinical psychology, and English language teaching. This diversity allowed students and graduates to explore different career pathways and engage with employers from various professional fields.

Participating organizations included Adecco, Census S.A., CQS, Hellenic American Union, IASIS NGO, inTherapy, Lalizas S.A., Lexis Πληροφορική Α.Ε., Optimal Human Reinforced, Polyglossos Language Schools, Randstad Hellas, Roots Wellness Center, and TEU Shipping & Forwarding SA.

Opening the event, Interim Provost Dr. Panayotis Kalozoumis welcomed participating companies and highlighted the importance of the strong relationship between the University and the professional community. He noted that the Career Fair serves as an important link between academic preparation and career development, creating opportunities for employment, internships, dialogue, and networking.

The 2026 Career Fair was organized by the Career Development Office under the direction of Ms. Domniki Diamantopoulou. Welcoming first-time participants and returning partners alike, she emphasized the value of

Alumni Success stories



Sophia Florence Romanic

Doctor of Philosophy in Language and Communication '26

"Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." — John Dewey

For Sophia Romanic (PhDLC '26), this idea has been reflected throughout her professional journey; from teaching and teacher development to applied linguistics research and international educational collaboration. Her career demonstrates how education can extend beyond the classroom, creating opportunities for dialogue, discovery, and meaningful connections across cultures. Today, as a U.S. Department of State English Language Fellow in Costa Rica, Romanic continues this work by collaborating with the U.S. Embassy in San José, Universidad Nacional, Sede Regional Brunca, faculty members, students, and educational partners on English language education, cultural exchange, teacher development, and professional capacity-building initiatives.

Her journey has taken her from international classrooms to higher education leadership, research, and learning design. Following her fellowship, Dr. Romanic will continue her work as a Learning Experience Design (LXD) Specialist with Westcliff University, where she designs learner-centered online and hybrid learning experiences. Her professional path has also included teaching abroad in Hungary, serving as an Assistant Professor with Westcliff University, and working as an eLearning Specialist and Developer with Helena College – University of Montana.

But behind these accomplishments lies a deeper question: What inspires an educator to become a researcher? And how can research create meaningful change beyond the university walls? For Dr. Romanic,

the answer was found in her curiosity about how language shapes educational opportunities and the challenges institutions face in creating inclusive learning environments.

"My interest in English-medium instruction grew through international collaborations with educators in a variety of contexts," she explains. "Across different countries, I found that many of the same questions kept emerging: How do institutions know they're ready for EMI? What kinds of support do faculty and students need? And how can universities implement EMI in ways that are effective, equitable, and responsive to local contexts?"

These questions became the foundation of her doctoral research at Hellenic American University. Her dissertation focused on developing and validating a theoretical framework that universities can use to conduct ongoing needs analyses throughout the planning, implementation, evaluation, and continuous improvement of English-medium instruction (EMI). Rather than viewing EMI as a one-size-fits-all approach, she sought to develop a framework that acknowledges the importance of local realities. Her research considers factors including language support, faculty development, institutional policy, intercultural communication, assessment, technology, and long-term sustainability.

"One of the greatest strengths of the PhD program at Hellenic American University was the combination of rigor, flexibility, and access to an exceptional international community of scholars," she reflects. "Studying with scholars whose work spans pragmatics, English as a Lingua Franca, discourse analysis, intercultural communication, language assessment, translation, and sociolinguistics gave me a much broader perspective on language in use."

Her doctoral experience also reinforced an important lesson about persistence.

"A dissertation isn't completed all at once; it's completed one line, one page, one revision, and one small step at a time," she says.

Like many doctoral students, Dr. Romanic balanced research with full-time professional responsibilities. One of the most challenging aspects of her work was conducting a mini-Delphi study, which required coordinating experts across multiple rounds while continuously refining her framework based on their feedback.

Yet, those challenges became part of the learning process.

"Those moments aren't setbacks; they're part of the research process and deserve to be recognized because they often teach you just as much as your 'successes,'" she explains.

For Dr. Romanic, one of the most rewarding moments of her PhD journey was successfully defending her dissertation and seeing years of research, revisions, and collaboration become a contribution to the field. Equally meaningful was returning to Athens for graduation. "Celebrating graduation in Athens with my husband, dear friends, fellow graduates, faculty, and the university community made the experience especially meaningful," she shares. "Returning to Athens for graduation felt like completing that chapter, not only marking the transition from student to graduate, but also to colleague within a community that I will always value."

Today, her doctoral experience continues to shape her work as an educator, researcher, and learning designer. "Completing my PhD has strengthened both my confidence as a researcher and my commitment to evidence-based educational practices that are responsive to local contexts, institutional needs, and the communities they serve," she says.

Her advice to current and future doctoral students is grounded in the same values that have guided her own journey: curiosity, perseverance, and collaboration.

"Choose a topic meaningful to you and commit to it early because you'll spend years living with it," Dr. Romanic advises. "Be welcoming of feedback, but don't lose sight of your own vision."

She also emphasizes the importance of seeking support. "Don't try to do it alone. Lean on your supervisors, mentors, colleagues, friends, and family, and don't be afraid to ask for guidance from people with expertise you don't yet have."

Looking ahead, Dr. Romanic hopes to continue researching and publishing in the areas of English-medium instruction, applied linguistics, instructional design, and higher education. Her goal remains clear: to help institutions develop learning environments that are inclusive, sustainable, and responsive to their unique communities.

"I am sincerely grateful to Dr. Kaniklidou, the faculty, and everyone at Hellenic American University who supported me throughout this journey," she says. "Earning my PhD has been one of the most meaningful experiences of my life, and I will always be proud to be part of the lovely HAUniv alumni community."

Signature Events

February 26, 2026

HAUniv Alumni Vasilopita Cutting 2026

Alumni Community

The Alumni Board and Alumni Affairs welcomed graduates from across generations and professional fields to the annual HAUniv Alumni Vasilopita Cutting 2026, held at the National Museum of Contemporary Art Athens (EMST). The evening offered alumni the opportunity to reconnect with classmates, meet fellow graduates, and celebrate the beginning of the new year in a warm and welcoming setting. Guests enjoyed a reception followed by the traditional Vasilopita cutting and the presentation of special gifts to the lucky winners! The event highlighted the strong sense of connection that continues to unite the Hellenic American University alumni community and set a positive tone for alumni activities throughout 2026.

April 20, 2026

Brody Grant: An Evening of Music and Conversation

Arts & Culture

The spring events series opened with a special evening of live music featuring Brody Grant, a New York-based multidisciplinary artist and musician making his Broadway debut in *The Outsiders*. Participants enjoyed an intimate performance and the opportunity to engage with an international artist whose work bridges theater, music, and contemporary artistic expression.

April 24, 2026

Unpaused: Reclaiming Mental Health, Identity, and Relationships in Midlife

Distinguished Lecture Series

A thought-provoking discussion on perimenopause and menopause brought together Dr. Christina Founta, Obstetrician-Gynecologist (OB-GYN), and Despina Ploussiou, M.A., MFT, psychotherapist specializing in complex trauma. The event explored these life transitions through a biopsychosocial lens, examining their impact on mental health, identity, trauma, and relationships while encouraging a more inclusive and interdisciplinary approach to care. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Maria Agorastou, LICSW, MSW, PhD, Director of the Counseling Center. Presented as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series, the event reflected the University's commitment to bringing leading thinkers, researchers, and public figures to campus to engage the community on timely social and cultural issues.

April 28, 2026

Business Model Innovation in Sports Tourism: Analyzing Value Creation through OLI's Business Model Canvas (BMC)

Business & Innovation

Organized in collaboration with OLI Sports Tourism, this presentation examined how innovative business models are shaping the future of sports tourism. The speakers were Ioannis Mostrios, CEO & Founder of OLI Sports Tourism; Andre Gutierrez, Senior Director of Brand Partnerships; and Panagiotis Kratimenos, Director of Marketing. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Pete Tsolis, Director of Business Programs and Assistant Professor at Hellenic American University. The session explored both theoretical and practical applications of the Business Model Canvas, offering participants insights into value creation, strategy, and emerging opportunities within the sector.

April 30, 2026

Revenue Operations: How Sales Leaders Use It to Scale Growth

Professional Development

This interactive workshop introduced participants to Revenue Operations (RevOps) and explored how organizations create sustainable growth through the alignment of strategy, systems, and sales execution. The session was delivered by two experienced industry professionals: Yiannis Papatsiros (PMBA '13), Business Strategist, Sales & Business Development Manager, and Partner/Channel Manager; and Panos Karagatslis, Senior Revenue Operations & Sales Strategy Leader with extensive experience across META, EMEA, and Southeast Europe. Participants gained practical perspectives on modern approaches to improving efficiency and supporting business development.

May 13, 2026

10 Lessons I Wish I'd Learned from Pop Stars Sooner

Music & Media

Co-organized with the Hellenic American Union, this multimedia lecture featured Steve Blame, one of the most recognizable figures in European music and television. Drawing on his personal experiences with artists including Tina Turner, Madonna, Elton John, and David Bowie, Blame explored themes of brand, reinvention, innovation, identity, relationships, collaboration, resilience, and personal meaning. Through stories from his career interviewing some of the world's most influential pop stars, he shared insights on confidence, communication, and personal growth, highlighting lessons that extend beyond entertainment and into professional and personal development.

Career Fair 2026: Building Bridges Between Education and Employment



Career Support for Alumni

The Career Development Office continues to provide support services to Hellenic American University alumni, helping them advance their professional goals through personalized guidance.

Online and on-site career support services include:

- ✓ CV creation and optimization
- ✓ LinkedIn profile creation and optimization
- ✓ Cover letter and motivation letter writing
- ✓ Mock interview sessions

Additional opportunities:

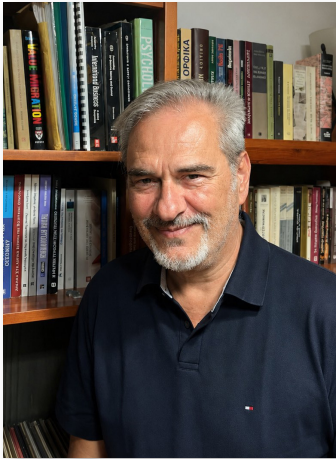
- ✓ Participation in the next annual Career Fair (May 2027)

To schedule an appointment and receive personalized support for your next career step, contact the Career Development Office at careers@hauniv.edu.

Stay tuned

**for future events and workshops.
Check your mailbox, social media
and www.haec.gr and www.hauniv.edu
for more details!**

Dr. Ioannis Petropoulos *adjunct faculty member*



What makes a truly memorable teacher? Is it knowledge? Experience? Academic credentials? Or is it something far more human; something that cannot be measured in textbooks or examinations?

At Hellenic American University, our mission is to provide a quality, interdisciplinary, career-relevant, and interculturally informed education that prepares students not only for successful careers, but also to become thoughtful global citizens. Achieving that mission depends on exceptional educators who inspire curiosity, encourage critical thinking, and believe in the potential of every learner. Few embody these values more fully than Dr. Ioannis Petropoulos, recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award for Academic Year 2025–2026.

With a teaching career spanning forty-five years, Dr. Petropoulos has devoted his professional life to helping students discover not only literature, language, and communication, but also confidence in their own voices. Holding degrees in English Literature, Comparative Literature, Applied Linguistics, and Business, he has taught an impressive range of subjects; from Literature, Creative Writing, and Critical Thinking to Public Speaking and Business Communications. Beyond the classroom, he has delivered corporate seminars on professional communication and presentation skills and contributed extensively to English language education and assessment both in Greece and internationally.

Yet when asked what first inspired him to become a teacher, his answer is deeply personal.

“The initial inspiration came from within the family since my mother was an English teacher,” he recalls. “She was the first one to show me through her work the incredible transformation of students into outstanding professionals and exceptional human beings. I found a teacher’s contribution to this process and students’ acknowledgment of that fact a worthy mission to pursue in life.”

A worthy mission. Isn’t that what teaching ultimately is? For Dr. Petropoulos, the classroom has never simply been a place where information is delivered. It is a space where individuals grow, discover, question, and develop. And that process, he believes, begins with one essential quality.

Empathy.

“The first and foremost skill for an instructor should be empathy,” he says. “There is no way to get through to a student and teach what needs to be taught without first coming to a realization of how a particular student thinks, behaves and responds.”

His philosophy challenges the idea that teaching can never be standardized.

“Teaching is not meant to be a ‘one size fits all’ process,” he explains, “but a continuous effort to become aware of the specific ways each student can assimilate and retain taught material.”

In today’s higher education environment, where classrooms bring together students with different experiences, aspirations, and learning styles, that perspective resonates strongly with the University’s commitment to inclusive, student-centered education. After all, every classroom is made up of individuals, isn’t it?

Dr. Petropoulos believes it is easy to view a class as a single group while overlooking the unique needs of each student. His goal has always been to ensure that everyone participates, contributes, and feels valued throughout the learning process.

“I always try to include everyone,” he says. “No one should be left behind at any point during the term.” To achieve that, he first seeks to create an environment where students feel comfortable expressing themselves. “I need to convince every single student that what they have to say is equally important to everyone else’s and that there is no such thing as a ‘stupid question.’”

Isn’t that where critical thinking truly begins? Not when students already know the answers, but when they feel confident enough to ask the questions.

That philosophy reflects the essence of a liberal arts education. Universities do more than prepare graduates for employment; they prepare people to think independently, communicate effectively, collaborate respectfully, and contribute meaningfully to their communities. Encouraging students to question, analyze, and engage with different perspectives lies at the heart of our university’s educational mission, and Dr. Petropoulos has dedicated decades to making those values a daily classroom reality.

Recognition, however, was never his objective. When he learned that he had been selected to receive the University’s Excellence in Teaching

Award, he admits he was genuinely surprised. “It was not something I expected, and I felt incredibly honored and I was genuinely moved,” he says. During his acceptance speech, he reflected on what the award represented after more than four decades in education.

“This award matters to me because I view it as a token of my presence for the last forty-five years as a member of the academic community and my role as an instructor, a teacher and a mentor.”

Perhaps the most revealing insight comes when he is asked why students may have chosen him for this distinction. His answer is remarkably simple.

“Being there.”

No elaborate teaching method. No secret formula. Simply being there.

“Always being available to bend an ear to their personal voice, to their own particular concerns with regard to their studies and how each one, individually, could improve their performance the best way they could.”

And isn’t that, perhaps, what students remember most? Not every lecture. Not every assignment. But the teacher who listened. The mentor who believed in them. The person who made them feel that they mattered.

For new faculty members entering higher education, Dr. Petropoulos offers advice shaped by decades of experience. He encourages educators to reach out to every student, reminding them that those who appear disengaged may simply be waiting for someone to extend a helping hand. He emphasizes the importance of balancing academic authority with humility, while recognizing and respecting student diversity. Above all, he believes that teaching and learning are inseparable.

“Teaching and learning go hand in hand,” he says. “In every classroom you walk in, you should expect not only to teach students but also to learn from them.”

It is a philosophy rooted in continuous growth—not only for students, but for educators themselves.

The Irish poet W. B. Yeats famously wrote, “Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.” After forty-five years in education, Dr. Petropoulos continues to light that fire through empathy, encouragement, intellectual curiosity, and a firm belief that every student has something valuable to contribute. His recognition with the Excellence in Teaching Award celebrates far more than an outstanding educator; it honors a philosophy of teaching that reflects the very values of Hellenic American University: academic excellence, meaningful human connection, and the transformative power of education.

Celebrating the Class of 2026 with a Wine Reception

As has become a cherished tradition, Hellenic American University Alumni Affairs hosted a celebratory wine reception for the Class of 2026 following their graduation rehearsal. Held on June 24 at the Athens campus (Hellenic American College), the event brought together graduates, faculty, staff, and members of the University community for an evening dedicated to connection, reflection, and celebration.

Against the beautiful backdrop of the 8th-floor roof garden overlooking the Acropolis and Lycabettus Hill, graduates gathered with their classmates, mentors, and loved ones to mark the completion of their academic journey. The reception also provided an opportunity for the newest alumni to meet representatives of the Alumni Association Board, learn about ways to remain involved with the University, and discover opportunities for continued connection through alumni activities, networking, and community engagement.

The evening highlighted the strong sense of belonging that defines the Hellenic American University experience. While graduation marks the completion of one chapter, the reception served as a reminder that the relationships, memories, and connections built during one's time at the University continue to grow in the years ahead.



Graduate Reflections

Antonia Fragkopoulou (BAELL '22, MACI '26) reflects on a year of personal and professional growth, marked by new perspectives, meaningful transitions, and the completion of her Master of Arts in Conference Interpreting (MACI) program at Hellenic American University.

Throughout this journey, she found renewed appreciation for the importance of professionalism, ethics, and personal values in shaping one's career path. She credits the guidance and discussions with HAUniv faculty as an important source of reflection and inspiration as she navigated new opportunities and defined her goals. She graduated from the MACI program on June 25, 2026, celebrating a milestone achieved through dedication and perseverance!

Career Fair 2026: Building Bridges Between Education and Employment
→ continues from page 1

continued collaboration between the University and employers and highlighted the role of the Career Fair in supporting students and graduates as they navigate their professional journeys.

"The smooth transition of our students and graduates from academic life into the professional world is a key priority of the Career Development Office. The Career Fair provides students and graduates with the opportunity to engage directly with representatives of the labor market, explore employment and internship opportunities, and expand their professional networks."

She added that the event also helps participants become familiar with workplace expectations, strengthen communication skills needed for successful interviews, and plan their career paths more effectively at every stage of their academic and professional journey.

Hellenic American University Welcomed the Class of 2026 to the Alumni Community

On June 25, 2026, Hellenic American University celebrated the Class of 2026 during a commencement ceremony held at the Athens campus, marking an important milestone for graduates, their families, faculty, and friends. This year, 124 talented individuals completed their studies and joined the University's global alumni community, including more than 90 graduates recognized in Athens and 29 graduates from the Nashua campus.

Members of the University's Board of Trustees joined President Themis Kaniklidou in honoring the graduates and reflecting on the values that will guide them beyond their academic journey: confidence, integrity, curiosity, and a commitment to lifelong learning. The ceremony was led by Interim Provost Panayotis Kalozoumis, who served as Master of Ceremonies and guided the audience through this memorable occasion.

A highlight of the ceremony was the conferral of an honorary degree upon Eftychia Pylarinou-Piper in recognition of her contributions to business leadership, economic development, corporate governance, and service to the Greek American community. In her commencement address, Ms. Pylarinou-Piper encouraged graduates to embrace curiosity and resilience as they navigate new opportunities and challenges.

During the commencement, the University also recognized Dr. Ioannis Petropoulos, faculty member in the English Language and Literature program, as the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award for the Academic Year 2025–2026. The award acknowledges his dedication to teaching and his contribution to the academic experience of Hellenic American University students.

The graduating class was represented by student speakers who shared reflections on their academic experiences and the journey that brought them to this milestone. Valedictorian Konstantina Galatianou (MAAL-TESOL '26) addressed the graduate class, while undergraduate representative Despoina Sofia Giagkoulovits (BAELL '26) spoke on behalf of the undergraduate class. Their remarks highlighted the perseverance, friendships, mentorship, and support that shaped their years at Hellenic American University.

As the graduates crossed the stage to receive their diplomas, they officially became members of the University's worldwide alumni network.

Following the commencement ceremony, graduates, families, friends, faculty, and members of the University community gathered for a reception celebrating the achievements of the Class of 2026. The occasion provided an opportunity for the new alumni to share this special milestone with their loved ones, reconnect with classmates, and celebrate the beginning of their next chapter as members of the Hellenic American University alumni community.

Warm congratulations to the Class of 2026!





HAUniv joined

Euro-Mediterranean Climate Action

Hellenic American University has joined the Euromed University Initiative for Climate Action, coordinated by the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED), in signing the Girona Manifesto – a shared commitment by regional institutions of higher education to addressing climate and environmental change. University President Themis Kaniklidou was pleased to share the endorsement with UfM Secretary General Nasser Kamel amidst the proceedings of the 9th Mediterranean Forum Circle The Med, held in the port of Piraeus, Greece.

The Euromed University Initiative for Climate Action unites research bodies in responding to the climate crisis through four common pillars of action. Collectively, these commitments enhance cooperation, expand climate education, empower student changemakers, and encourage innovation across all signatories. The Mediterranean is a recognized climate hotspot, with temperatures warming 20 percent faster than the global average and requiring urgent action.

To this end, Hellenic American University offers a cluster of climate-related required and elective courses, such as Sustainable Community Development, International Service Learning, Developing the Global Citizen, and Sustainable Planet, among others, and service and experiential learning engagements with scientific NGOs. Student participation in conferences, fora, and environment-related capstone projects alongside faculty-led research in the EU-funded Horizon Europe Meta Cities Project further spotlight sustainability issue areas. The university remains committed to collaborating with education partners on interconnected challenges of climate and environmental change, and continues to support faculty exchanges and field studies in the Mediterranean region.

→ From Graduation to the Future:
A Message to Our Alumni
continues from page 1

I am also delighted to share an exciting development: our MBA program has a new face. It is now a fully flexible, low-residency program, designed for working professionals who want to advance their careers without pausing them. Combined with genuinely competitive fees, this redesigned program reflects our belief that world-class business education should fit into people's lives, not the other way around.

All of this reflects a single, consistent mission: to continue offering high-quality American education that remains genuinely affordable. In a landscape where cost too often stands between talented people and the education they deserve, we remain determined to be different — rigorous in quality, generous in access.

To our graduates, welcome to the alumni family. To our alumni, thank you for continuing to be part of ours. Together, we are building an institution that supports its people not just for four years, but for a lifetime.

With pride and gratitude,
Themis P. Kaniklidou
President
Hellenic American University

A Successful Year of Study Abroad in Greece

Our Study Abroad program had a remarkable year, welcoming more than 300 students from universities and educational institutions around the world for academic, cultural, and experiential learning opportunities in Athens and throughout Greece.

During the 2025–2026 academic year, Hellenic American University welcomed students and groups in Athens (through Hellenic American College) from Post University, Vishwaniketan Incubation Center, CUNY Queens College, Stetson University, Bauer College, Sacred Heart Academy High School, Albion College, the University of South Carolina Darla Moore School of Business, University of North Carolina Charlotte, Christopher Newport University, Sacred Heart University, University of Minnesota, University of New Hampshire, Texas Tech University, Plymouth State University, UMass Lowell, Southern New Hampshire University, Texas Leadership Program, Koç University in Istanbul, and Montclair University.

Through semester-long programs, term programs, faculty-led experiences, and customized travel courses, students had the opportunity to earn academic credits while immersing themselves in the history, culture, and beauty of Greece. From

exploring ancient landmarks and cultural sites to engaging with local communities and experiencing everyday life in Athens, students discovered Greece as a dynamic and inspiring learning environment.

The year featured a wide variety of programs across disciplines, including business, service learning, history, theater, arts, and interdisciplinary courses. Each program connected classroom learning with meaningful experiences beyond the university, allowing students to gain new perspectives while building memories that will last a lifetime.



Faculty News



Dr. Themis P. Kaniklidou has been appointed President of Hellenic American University. The Board of Trustees of the University announced the appointment of Dr. Kaniklidou as the University's new President, effective February 26, 2026. Dr. Kaniklidou previously served as the University's Chief Academic Officer and Provost from 2020 to 2026, contributing significantly to the advancement of the institution's academic mission, the development of new initiatives, and the strengthening of collaboration between the University's Athens and Nashua campuses. During her tenure as Provost, Dr. Kaniklidou led key academic and institutional efforts, including the University's successful interim accreditation process in 2022, the expansion of study-abroad opportunities, and the continued development of academic programs. She also played an important role in establishing and advancing the University's Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics program. As President, Dr. Kaniklidou guides the implementation of the University's Five-Year Strategic Plan, with a focus on strengthening enrollment, enhancing educational effectiveness and student outcomes, and expanding academic partnerships.



Dr. Panayotis Kalozoumis has been appointed Interim Provost of Hellenic American University. Dr. Kalozoumis has been a member of the University since 2018, when he joined as adjunct faculty. In 2019, he was appointed Director of the Research Institute and Coordinator of the Engineering Programs. Since 2021, he has served as Director of the Informatics and Engineering Department and Director of the Research Institute, leading academic and research development initiatives across the University. He has contributed to curriculum and program development, faculty development, and research initiatives, including EU-funded and other externally supported projects. As Interim Provost, Dr. Kalozoumis oversees academic operations, faculty affairs, curricular development, and the continued quality of academic programs and student experience. His priorities include supporting the University's reaccreditation readiness, enrollment growth, and financial sustainability while ensuring alignment and continuity across the Athens and Nashua campuses.



Petros Romaïos, Director of the MATLT program, was elected Secretary General of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic Association of Conference Interpreters (SYDISE) following the Association's General Assembly elections held in February 2026. SYDISE is the accredited professional body representing conference interpreters in Greece and brings together specialists in simultaneous, consecutive, and whispered interpreting. The association promotes professional standards in conference interpreting and represents the interests of conference interpreters at the national level.



Dr. Stephanie Theodorou, adjunct faculty member in the General Education program, has edited and written the introduction for *The Critical Corrington* by Robert S. Corrington, forthcoming from SUNY Press in August 2026 as part of the American Philosophy and Cultural Thought series. The publication highlights her scholarly engagement in the fields of philosophy and cultural thought, complementing her teaching in philosophy and world religions at Hellenic American University. Dr. Theodorou has also contributed a chapter to another forthcoming anthology by SUNY Press.



Nagia D. Daskalopoulou (MAT '14 & MACI '15), adjunct faculty member and professional translator-interpreter, recently translated into English *AESOP*, the Great Master of Storytelling by Chrysanthi Karaïskou, published by Diaplas Editions in March 2026. The book introduces readers to Aesop's world of talking animals, whispering trees, and forests that reveal lessons on prudence and wisdom. Her literary translation work also includes the Greek translation of *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver, published in Greece under the title *Χωρίς Ασπίδα* by Diaplas Editions in 2020.



Barbara Kondilis, adjunct faculty member, continues to contribute to community initiatives in health literacy and mental health. As a Board member of the Hellenic Scientific Society for Health Literacy (ΙΙΕΕΝΕΘΥ), she participates in professional training, research, and initiatives supporting health literacy and patient safety in Greece. She also recently led a collage art therapy workshop at EPIONI Greece's 4th Arts and Mental Health Festival, supporting caregivers and mental health professionals through creative practice.



Ifigeneia Roulia (MAT '12 & MACI '13), adjunct faculty member presented on "The Key Role of Terminology in Tourism in the AI Era" at the Terminology Summer School 2026, organized by TermNet – International Network for Terminology and the University of the Aegean. Since April 2026, she has also served as Chapter Manager of Women in Localization – Greece Chapter, contributing to initiatives that support collaboration and professional development within the localization community.

Alumni News



Vasiliki Lismani (MAAL-TESOL '21), has continued to contribute to the field of English language teaching and teacher education. This year, she moderated

the panel discussion “International Baccalaureate: How it affects the way foreign languages are taught and learned” during the ELT Directors’ Symposium in Nafplio, bringing together educators and specialists to discuss the role of the IB philosophy in language teaching and learning. She has also collaborated with EdSkills Academy, delivering training sessions for teachers of English preparing to work within the IB framework, and with Burlington Books through online training sessions for educators across Greece. For the second consecutive year, she participated as a speaker at the Burlington Community Festival in Athens, presenting “Assessment Accommodations for Students with Specific Learning Differences” and addressing inclusive approaches to assessment practices.



Zeta Platanou (MAT '26) joined the Women in Localization Greece Chapter in spring 2026 as Sponsorship and Partnership Manager on a volunteer basis. In this role, she collaborates

with the Chapter’s leadership team to develop partnerships with organizations, universities, and industry stakeholders, while supporting sponsorship initiatives for events and activities. A highlight of her involvement was representing the Chapter at the International Terminology Summer School (TSS) 2026, organized by TermNet – International Network for Terminology and the University of the Aegean.



Nick Kontos (BM '23) was selected as a finalist in the 2026 Film Sync Awards, an international competition judged by leading music supervisors from major film, television, and

advertising companies, for his original score to the opening scene of Drive. Finalists were chosen from more than 1,000 submissions worldwide.



Vasilis Barbas (PMBA '09) has taken on the role of IT Director at the K. Badouvas Group, a Greek tourism group with activities spanning destination management, hospitality management,

luxury hotels, and car rental services. In this role, he leads the group’s technology strategy and digital transformation initiatives, shaping the organization’s technology vision through the strategic use of AI, data, infrastructure, and cybersecurity. With a focus on aligning technology with business priorities, he supports innovation, sustainable growth, and the development of scalable, secure, and future-ready operating models across business units.



Konstantina Galatianou (MAAL-TESOL '26 Class Valedictorian) presented her thesis research at the June 2026 Teaching Excellence British Council Symposium. Her

presentation, titled “Trained AI-Driven Voice Chatbots to Enhance Fluency and Autonomy in B2-C1 EFL Learners,” explored the use of AI-driven voice chatbots to support fluency development and learner autonomy among English as a Foreign Language (EFL) learners.



Elias-Marios Kounas (MAT '19) has established himself as a freelance scientific and medical translator while exploring AI’s role in the profession. He recently presented “Prompt-

Engineering: Unlocking the model’s potential” at a Panhellenic Translators Association event on AI in Translation at the Technical Chamber of Athens, discussing ways to integrate AI into translation workflows and the evolving role of translators. He also announced his work on human evolution knowledge dissemination in Greek society at the Archaeological Dialogues conference at Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences. He recently completed his Master’s in Science Communication at the Hellenic Open University and is entering the 2nd year of the Master’s in Social Neuroscience, Social Pedagogy, and Education at the University of Athens. In his spare time, he writes short stories.



Chrisanna Mastorakis, Ph.D., LMHC (MSPsy '14), has continued to build her career as both a clinician and educator since completing her MSPsy at HAUniv.

After relocating to New York, she earned her Ph.D. in Psychology and became a Licensed Mental Health Counselor in NY. She will join St. Francis College in Brooklyn as an Assistant Professor of Psychology. Alongside her academic work, she has launched Define Therapy NY, her private therapy practice, where she works with adults navigating anxiety, perfectionism, burnout, overthinking, self-worth, and major life transitions. She credits her graduate training at HAUniv with helping shape her clinical foundation and remains grateful for her continued connection with the alumni community.

Share Your Good News!

Have you found a new job or been given a promotion? Gotten an article published or run a marathon? Moved to a new town or city? We invite you to share your news and accomplishments with the rest of the alumni community. Just email us at alumninews@hauniv.edu a short note about what you’ve been up to recently. We’d be happy to share your news in a coming issue of the Alumni Newsletter.

The Alumni Association Board

Bertina Stampoliou (BSPSY '20, MSPSY '23): President

Sri Subhakar Ganapuram (MBA-MIS '23): Secretary, Treasurer & Data Analytics

Arthur Antonopoulos (MSPSY '22): Stewardship & Internal Controls

Nathasha Sharma (MSPSY '21): Mentoring

Ifigeneia Roulia (MAT '12, MACI '13): Event Planner

Anastasia Mandeki (MACI '24): Partnerships & Innovation

Eric Fishon (MBA '23): Member

Ino Mysirli (MACI '24): Member

Editorial Team

Editor: Thenia Batanidou

Copy editor: Stavroula Floratos

Graphics design: Antonia Chouvarda

Contact information:

Thenia Batanidou
Alumni Affairs Coordinator
2103680034

Email: pbatanidou@hauniv.edu,
alumniaffairs@hauniv.edu

Send us your news, photos and feedback to alumniaffairs@hauniv.edu

© Hellenic American College
Massalias 22, 10680 Athens, Greece

Hellenic American University,
436 Amherst St. 03063 NH, USA