“2015: Marking the start of our Journey for our 50th year”

Serhat Akpınar
CHANCELLOR

GIRNE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
Dear GAU Global Family,

On this timeless moment, as we celebrate our continuing journey, I am delighted to share with you and loved ones that we are about to embark on a new journey together.

Over the course of the 30 years, GAU Global Family’s values and culture has been shaping and finding life with and through us. With our graduates, GAU has been reflecting the light of its kind culture around the world.

GAU has launched itself as a global knowledge culture with the support and contribution of each one of our students, scholars, staff members, partners and sister institutions from around the world. We are celebrating the real privileged honor and pride of joining the ranks of global universities in our 30th year as a knowledge hub with internationalization of our universal values and culture.

With its efforts to attain a timeless presence, and its goal to reach the unreachable, GAU is truly a university that is pushing frontiers of all kind. 2015 will not be a year in which we will stay quiet in the face of any private or legal entities trying to attack the members of the GAU Global Family.

Let us take a deep breath and take a look at what lies ahead of us as of 2015

1. Perfecting university’s delivery of academics, its infrastructure, and physical capacity and services as the best university of the TRNC
2. Continuing our journey as the leading and premier university of TRNC
3. Becoming the largest university in TRNC with our Multiversity system and transforming TRNC into a knowledge hub for the world. Enlightening the world through our innovative approach to education. Shifting our role from the position of “knowledge users” to those of “knowledge producers.” We will tap into Cyprus’ potential to transform it to become the epicenter for research and knowledge
4. Transforming TRNC as a key hub and one with the world through our international projects
5. Transforming Kyrenia into becoming a health hub for TRNC with the GAU Hospital project. Construction is due to commence in January 2015
6. Initiating instruction at the Cyprus American University with its new campus and its new curriculum in 2015
7. Starting the GAU Techno Park Phase II construction to complete in 2017 Academic Year
8. We will build the first prototype of a robotic drivable car within the technologic development initiatives and the automotive department of the university
9. Bes Parmak Project will launch in 2015. This project entails the development of 150,000 m² education, laboratory, social and life sites to the GAU Campus improving the overall infrastructure of the university

With the start of 2015, we are taking a step toward the planning of our 50th year.

Let us take a deep breath and take a look at what lies ahead of us with as of 2015
GAU Masterplan will be shared with the GAU global family in 2015; The masterplan will include (not limited to):

- Department of Medicine
- Health Sciences Department
- Pharmacology Department
- Dentistry Faculty
- Visual and Plastic Arts/Architecture Department
- Conservatory, theater and drama instruction facilities
- Founders Congress Hall
- Engineering and Health Sciences Lab Complex
- School of Marine
- Air and Space/Aeronautics Faculty
- Social Life and Sports Complex

We will receive 5 new training planes in 2015

GAU will increase the number of its training planes for use by the School of Aviation.
GAU will also launch its sea and air taxi operations – a first in TRNC

We'll increase what is currently 1,800 beds in our accommodations to 5000, and we will start offering the option of single rooms by 2020

Through the launch of the Nations Project, we will increase the number of our student count to 20,000 by 2020, boosting our international student population

Central Library and Cyber Library (Cybrary) will have a new location. We'll start construction in 2016-2017 academic year

Marine School will transform into a sea university, offering instruction and practice to its students in international waters

GAU will be transformed into an accessible and digital campus

GAU Karpaz Wildlife campus will continue its construction in 2015-2016; GAU will request admission quota via YOK for its Architecture, Tourism and Marine and Social Sciences for the upcoming 2015-2016 Academic Year

GAU Research and Beekeeping Center will become the largest organic research space in TRNC

GAU Karpaz Wildlife Campus will continue its collaboration with the Environment Ministry, through the development and construction of the honey forest in 2015

Honey Forestry Development Project will widen to include Guzelyurt region

GAU will contribute to the development and students of the American University of Cyprus (AUC) by providing assistance in instruction and provision of access to its facilities through its sister university agreement

GAU & AUC, will help re-shape and boost the life within the walled city

GAU & AUC will launch the School of Diplomacy in 2015

GAU will continue to strengthen the transportation link between the city and university's campus

GAU will support the transformation of Kyrenia within the European city norms by supporting Kyrenia Municipality and non-governmental organizations' efforts in this direction

GAU will increase its involvement in social responsibility projects for the city and society

GAU Mediterranean Underwater Research Center will launch its Biologic Research Project looking at the Cyprus shores. It will initiate the “surface waters” and “blue flag” projects

Continuing our research projects and developing a research road-plan with the GAU Environment Research Center, GAU Kyrenia Research Center, GAU Research Center, GAU Oil, Carbon and Gas/ Energy Research Center

Gaining international recognition of GAU and GAU-LLC through its work in the field of Peace and Diplomacy

GAU School of Marine will complete its paperwork to launch its courses in Turkey, and will seek license from Ministry of Education in Turkey
GAU Moldova Campus will start instruction in 2015

GAU Sri-Lanka Campus preparation will speed up

GAU Partnering programs will initiate a project to launch university in Dubai in collaboration with Kazakhstan Almaty University

GAU Canterbury Group will initiate its new dormitory project in 2017, introducing 200 rooms for its students

GAU will increase its accreditations, and will continue to move up the ranks of universities worldwide

GAU will boost its academics to move up in the world universities rankings and will seek to move up to the top 10 universities in Turkey. It will especially focus on boosting its academics and research and publication processes

GAU will continue its efforts to offer more life and social space on campus with a student-centered approach

GAU Student services will be developed, and new services will be offered to students

GAU Incubation center will take on projects focusing on alumni

GAU Leadership Center will continue to initiate new projects

GAU INTEB will launch the Civilizations Library - Ottoman Era Research Center within the scope of its Cultural Heritage Protection Program

GAU will commence Health Tourism by adding Celebrity Hotel to the Le Château Lambousa

GAU will transform its 3 Continents 1 university slogan into 5 Continents 1 University by the year 2020, and university’s conduct will reflect this change at the highest possible level of development. We will continue our operations with our usual motivation from our philosophy, which is the secret of our life energy: Being One.

Dearest GAU Global Family,

in this timeless moment, I am certain that we will attain bigger and better achievements by working together. Our ambitions are grand, and future starts with us!

As we start a new year together as the GAU Global Family, I would like to send you all my sincere gratitude and best wishes. I wholeheartedly wish you all a very happy new year!

Sending you all infinite best wishes on this 30th anniversary of our noble journey,

Serhat Akpinar

CHANCELLOR