



U.S. Central Asia
Education Foundation



Enterprise Capstone Internships

Developing Tomorrow's
Business Leaders for Central Asia



Enterprise Capstone Internship Program

The U.S.-Central Asia Education Foundation's **Enterprise Capstone Internship Program** is a post-graduate four month work-study program for select Enterprise Student Fellows to provide educational, vocational and cultural experience in the United States. Enterprise Student Fellows are academically gifted citizen residents of one of the Central Asia countries of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan or Uzbekistan who, due to financial hardship, otherwise would not be able to pursue a university education. They have been awarded full undergraduate business fellowships by the Foundation to study at one of the Foundation's partner universities, either the American University of Central Asia (AUCA) in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic or the Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research (KIMEP) in Almaty, Kazakhstan, each of which has adopted Western business curricula and teaching methods and use English as the primary language of instruction.

Enterprise Capstone Interns pursue an integrated, experiential learning program consisting of 4.5 days per week in an unpaid internship at leading companies and institutions in Washington, D.C., a non-credit academic course and a series of professional development events.



2011 Enterprise Capstone Interns: Anna Charintseva, Assel Zhambyrbayeva, Maria Tsvetkova, Algerim Yestayeva, Tangulu Diushakmatova and Talgat Kadirov

Our first six Enterprise Capstone Interns are academically accomplished and have strong leadership skills. All graduated from their universities with highest honor: three graduated summa cum laude, two magna cum laude and one cum laude. Anna Charintseva was valedictorian for her graduating class at AUCA.



Director Mary Ginsburg congratulates Talgat Kadirov on his graduation summa cum laude from KIMEP



The Foundation

The U.S.-Central Asia Education Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized in May 2007 and funded by a grant of \$15.7 million from the U.S. Government sponsored Central Asian-American Enterprise Fund which fostered the growth of small and medium sized business in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan from 1994 until 2004.¹

The Foundation's mission is to encourage and assist development and growth of a vibrant open-market business sector in Central Asia by: supporting the quality of, and affordable access to, Western business know-how and practices at selected institution of higher learning in the region that have adopted Western Curricula and teaching methods; providing opportunities for educational vocational, and cultural experience in countries that serve as positive examples of an open market economy operating with a democratic environment; and, promoting other activities that will generate a favorable environment in Central Asia for private business to succeed and entrepreneurial spirit to thrive.

The Foundation executes its mission through three programs: Enterprise Student Fellowships, Enterprise Internships Fellowships consisting of in-region undergraduate internships and the post-graduate Enterprise Capstone Internships, and Enterprise Faculty Fellowships which is a program for business faculty at selected universities in Central Asia designed to further develop teaching skills, knowledge, and course curriculum.

The Foundation's programs are administered by American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS, which works with the Washington Center to arrange the Enterprise Capstone Internships.

¹The U.S. Central Asian American Enterprise Fund is one of the "U.S. Enterprise Funds" authorized and funded by the U.S. Government after the dissolution of the former Soviet Union. It was incorporated in 1994 as a not-for-profit corporation to encourage the creation and expansion of small and medium-sized enterprise in the Central Asian Republics of the former Soviet Union (Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) and operated in Central Asia until 1984. During its active operating years, CAAEF entered into 27 joint ventures with equity (or equity plus debt) financing totaling \$61.5 million, granted 352 loans to establish or expand small and medium-size enterprises ("SMEs") totaling by size or type fell beyond the terms of The Fund's SME Loan Program), and funded more than 3,000 micro-credit loans totaling \$10.4 million.

The Fund's direct investments, SME and micro-loan programs, and technical assistance activities were directly responsible for:

- Creating a diverse array of private business enterprises that continue to operate successfully and provide several thousand private sector employment opportunities;
- Developing the western business practice skills of its local staff, joint venture partners and managers, small business loan customers, and employees of the local Partner Banks that participated in The Fund's SME loan program; and,

Achieving a positive demonstration effect, by providing the close support and experience that now finds several of The Fund's SME loan program Partner Banks offering small business term-loans directly to their customers, and other banks adopting similar lending activities that mirror the policies and procedures of CAAEF's highly successful small business loan program.

Anna Charintseva



Home: Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic
AUCA Business Graduate,
Summa Cum Laude, Valedictorian
Internship: Yeske Buie
Summer Scholarship, Prague, American
Institute on Political and Economic
Systems; Semester Scholarship, Riga,
Stockholm School of Economics
Languages: Kyrgyz, Russian, English

“This internship develops my financial knowledge and provides me with the inside view on how financial companies work. It also shows me the right way of dealing with clients, running financial business, and provides me with the opportunity to meet many new people, learn from them, and establish networks with them. Every single activity I perform here is directed on my personal and professional development. They are all really nice, hospitable and caring of me.”

Anna is from Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. Anna graduated summa cum laude from AUCA with a major in business administration and was the valedictorian of her class and a recipient of the President's and Vice-President's Awards . Anna's internship is with a Financial Planning Team at Yeske Buie www.YeBu.com where she is gaining invaluable experience in understanding portfolio management and the financial planning process. Yeske Buie is an independent wealth management firm with headquarters in San Francisco and an East Coast office in Vienna, VA. The San Francisco Business Times named Yeske Buie a top wealth advisor in its 2011 rankings.

Anna has extensive professional experience, including internships in the retail marketing department of Demir Bank, the marketing and regional development department of Ayil Bank, and an office management position at Co. LTD Realproject. She is determined to use the international experience to develop the banking and investment systems in the Kyrgyz Republic, and to help establish greater economic stability in her country.

² The President's Award is given once during the senior year to outstanding academic students at AUCA.

Tangulu Diushakmatova



Hone Country: Kyrgyz Republic
AUCA Business Graduate,
Cum Laude
Internship: Management Dynamics
Numerous internships, including within
Malaysia
Languages: Kyrgyz, Russian
and English

“I learned a lot in this short time period and I feel lucky that we are a part of the Washington Center's diversity. I have met here students and recent graduates from almost all over the world: Mexico, Brazil, Puerto Rico, South Korea, Vietnam, China, Spain, Belgium, Germany, United States of America and Canada. And, of course, we all learn many peculiarities of the cultures and tradition that we represent. “

Tangulu is from Issik-Kul, Kyrgyz Republic and is the middle child in a family of three. A business administration major at AUCA, Tangulu graduated cum laude and is interested in finance, marketing and banking. She is interning at Management Dynamics <http://www.managementdynamics.com>, which provides Global Trade Management solutions for importers, exporters and logistics service providers.

Tangulu has impressive professional experience, working during her last academic year as an analyst at PromoTank HQA Consulting Company, and formerly as a trainer for the HOPE Project of the Standard Chartered Bank and AIESEC Malaysia. She is determined to use the practical knowledge gained during her U.S. internship to help develop the economies of Central Asia, specifically the Kyrgyz Republic, by encouraging the growth and improvement of small and medium enterprises. Tangulu hopes to launch her own financial consultancy and investment firm one day.

Maria Tsvetkova



Home Country: Kyrgyz Republic
AUCA Business Graduate,
Summa Cum Laude
Internship: Child Trends
Students in Free Enterprise,
CAEF Mentorship Program,
Languages: Kyrgyz, Russian, English

“When we studied the theory of business in the university, I was skeptical about all the rules and procedures described in books, because most of them would not work for companies in Kyrgyzstan. One of the goals for my internship here was to experience all of these theories in practice. Imagine how excited I am now, when I see that they do work, and bring the order and sense of professionalism in the life of a company.”

Maria is from Kara-Balta, Kyrgyz Republic. A business administration and human resource management major, Maria graduated summa cum laude, and is particularly interested in the field of human resources. Her internship places her under the direct supervision of the human resources manager to the not-for-profit organization Child Trends <http://www.childtrends.org>. The internship, which involves handling highly confidential records, requires her to plan, prioritize, and organize a diversified workload. Child Trends is a research center that studies children at all stages of development; its mission is to improve outcomes for children by providing research, data, and analysis to the people and institutions whose decisions and actions affect children.

During her last year at AUCA, Maria was the HR manager at Dos Tek Group LLC and prior to that had gained various intern and volunteer experience in HR, marketing, and teaching English. She is highly motivated to use the knowledge that she gains during her U.S. internship to develop and reinvent the field of human resources in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Talgat Kadirov



Home Country: Uzbekistan
KIMEP Business Graduate,
Summa Cum Laude Major: Accounting
Internship: DFL Financial Services
Co-Founder and President:
Luca Accounting Club, Deputy,
Youth Parliament of Kazakhstan
Languages: Kazakh, Uzbek, Russian,
and English

“I like this job very much, because it is all about finance. I am obtaining lots of new information about US financial market’s from my supervisor. Apart from working, I am taking the course called “From Ideas to Actions: Anatomy of Entrepreneurship.” This class is very interesting. The teacher is an active entrepreneur and has huge experience in dealing with startup ideas.”

Talgat is one of four children and hails from Nukus, Karapakalstan. He had not travelled outside of his native Uzbekistan until he received notice of his CAEF Enterprise Scholarship. He graduated from KIMEP summa cum laude, with a major in accounting. Talgat is currently interning with FDL Financial Services <http://www.fdlfinancial.com/>. FDL Financial Services is a full service financial management firm headquartered in downtown Washington, D.C., which provides comprehensive investment, retirement planning, 401K rollover, college plan, estate plan, mortgage and insurance services for individuals and businesses.

While at KIMEP he co-founded and was president of the Luca Accounting, was a deputy for the Youth Parliament of Kazakhstan and worked in KIMEP’s International recruitment office. Under his leadership, the Luca Accounting Club established an annual accounting Olympiad with PricewaterhouseCoopers, which now involves university students throughout Kazakhstan. Upon his return to Central Asia, Talgat hopes to work with an international accounting firm and eventually to form his own business.

Algerim Yestayeva



Home Country: Kazakhstan
AUCA Business Major,
Summa Cum Laude
Internship: Auditing Department of the
U.S. Small Business Administration
Entrepreneurs Club
Languages: Kazak, Russian,
English – learning Chinese

“I had enrolled in a class “From Ideas to Actions: The Anatomy of Entrepreneurship” at the Washington Center. It is of interest to me since the instructor herself is an entrepreneur and she shares with us only real practice of business and this class is an opportunity to define skills and desires for own business startup.”

Algerim is from Kaskelen in the Almaty province of Kazakhstan. She graduated from KIMEP magna cum laude. At KIMEP Algerim also was active in the Entrepreneurs Club, where she attended trainings and workshops, and also helped to prepare for future projects. She gained practical experience in her chosen field through her internship as assistant to the chief accountant at CIGMA Metals Corp. and as an accounting intern at ATF Bank. She also volunteered with the 7th Asian Winter Games in Almaty, providing logistical and translation assistance for foreign visitors.

Algerim is working in the Auditing Department of the U.S. Small Business Administration. She hopes for a career in finance and accounting and has a deep interest in countries that have or may develop a strong international business presence in Central Asia, and is studying Chinese. She hopes to add fluency in Chinese to her fluency in Kazak, Russian and English.

Assel Zhambyrbayeva



Home Country: Kazakhstan
Internship: FDL Financial Services
Inter-Collegiate Fight of the Titans,
Kazakhstan Stock Exchange
Competition Award
Languages: Kazak, Russian, English

“I am having a chance to meet new people, to create a useful networking, and get invaluable work experience in my internship site. Recently our advisor invited me and Talgat to the Government Contractors networking event at Kennedy Center. It was very exciting, because we had a chance to meet people who are working in different spheres, for example Google, Hitachi, and other entrepreneurs.”

Assel is from Almaty, Kazakhstan. She graduated magna cum laude from KIMEP, with a major in finance. She is interning at FDL Financial Services where she has been taking part in a stock picking contest, evaluating new companies, and attracting new clients. She is also working on a real life case, looking for investment opportunities for a client by comparing different accounts, such as a 529 college plan and a 401(k) retirement plan.

During her last year of study, Assel worked as a teaching assistant in the School of Law. Prior to that, she worked in the Enrollment Management Dean's office at KIMEP, and interned in the analytical department of the Corporation for Export Development and Promotion. Assel is highly motivated to apply the knowledge that she gains in the U.S. to contribute to the economic development of Kazakhstan.



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