University of Central Asia Signs Historic Partnership Agreement with University of Cambridge

The University of Central Asia (UCA) and the University of Cambridge signed a Memorandum of Understanding on February 25th 2020 to promote academic partnership, and collaborate in areas such as joint research, faculty and student exchange, as well as sharing of academic and educational material. The signing ceremony, at Cambridge’s Old Schools Building, was attended by Princess Zahra Aga Khan, Members of UCA’s Board of Trustees, the Rector and Deans of UCA, and senior representatives from Cambridge.

“Influential universities must harness the power of strategic partnerships,” says Vice Chancellor of Cambridge, Professor Toope

The Cambridge Commonwealth, European and International Trust (Cambridge Trust), and UCA, extended their partnership agreement on February 26th to develop faculty across Central Asia for a further three years. The agreement builds on an earlier collaboration signed in 2017, and will enable outstanding students from UCA, and the surrounding regions of Central Asia, to gain a Masters or PhD degree at the University of Cambridge.

Helen Pennant, Director of the Cambridge Trust, and Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi, Rector of UCA, exchange agreements signifying the renewal of the partnership between the Cambridge Trust and the University of Central Asia.

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Cambridge Trust and UCA Renew Agreement for Faculty Development

“I am delighted to sign a partnership agreement between the University of Cambridge and the University of Central Asia,” said Professor Stephen J. Toope, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. “This will formalise our intention to explore ways of working more closely together, and fulfilling our respective missions of contributing to

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society. Partnerships between institutions is crucial, and that is why Cambridge strives to work in partnership with leading organisations around the world. We look forward to a productive relationship with the University of Central Asia, and with the wider Aga Khan Development Network,” said Professor Toope.

The Memorandum of Understanding builds on the University of Cambridge’s centuries-old commitment to academic excellence and on the ongoing relationship with the University of Central Asia. The partnership between the two institutions is expected to benefit scholars in the form of opportunities for joint research in areas of importance to Central Asia and globally through the agencies of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN).

Thanking Professor Toope for his welcome remarks, Dr. Shamsh Kassim-Lakha, Chairman of UCA’s Board of Trustees, and Diplomatic Representative of the AKDN in the Kyrgyz Republic, said “It is important to recognise that the agreement we are signing today is built on the confidence emanating from the efforts of colleagues at both our institutions. These early steps have focused on the development of our Central Asian faculty, thanks to the generous and continued support of the Cambridge Trust and your Faculty of Education.”

“His Highness the Aga Khan, Chancellor of UCA, has often reminded us that there are two measures of success of any university; the careers of its graduates and the quality of research, which is carried out in the universities, and then used for the benefit of the communities it serves,” added Dr. Kassim-Lakha. Watch video of highlights from the signing ceremony in English, Russian or Kyrgyz.

Tajik Civil Servants Acquire Skills in Policymaking

UCA’s Institute of Public Policy and Administration (IPPA) held a graduation ceremony on February 1st in Dushanbe for 14 civil servants of Tajikistan, who completed the Certificate Programme in Economic Policy (CPEP). This IPPA programme is conducted in partnership with the Institute of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. CPEP engages civil servants who wish to acquire skills that are essential in advancing evidence-based policy analysis.

CPEP is part of a larger programme of teaching and research on ‘Pathways to Innovation’ supported by Canada’s International Development Research Centre, and the Aga Khan Foundation Canada. In March 2020, IPPA, which is part of UCA’s Graduate School of Development, will enroll a second intake of CPEP learners. Read more in English or Russian.

Kurbon Alamshoev travelled a long distance from the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast to Dushanbe, a fifteen-hour car ride, all to see a book. “As a journalist and researcher, who has been studying Mikhail Andreev’s archives for years, I can appreciate the immense amount of work it took to republish the ’Tajiks of Huf Valley’ book. It demonstrates a great commitment by UCA in the restoration of valuable ethnographic materials,” said Kurbon.

On February 29th, UCA’s Cultural Heritage and Humanities Unit (CHHU) held a book launch, presenting three new releases in its Cultural Heritage Book Series. It was held at the Ismaili Centre in Dushanbe, and gathered over 200 attendees from the academic community, international organisations, as well as state officials.

In addition to the “Tajiks of Huf Valley” book by a famous orientalist, Mikhail Andreev, the event introduced two more books including “Andrei Evlampievich Madji: Half a Century of Scientific Research in Central Asia” written by Victor Dubovitskii, and “Architectural Odyssey: ‘Sapharnama’ of Nasir Khusraw”, written by Munavar Mamadnazarov. Read more in English, Russian or Tajik.

Dr. Bahriniso Kobilova (left), from the Institute of History, Archeology and Ethnography of the Academy of Science of the Republic of Tajikistan, and Kurbon Alamshoev (right), receive the new edition of the Tajiks of Huf Valley publication.
The signing ceremony which took place at the Aga Khan Centre in London in the presence of Princess Zahra Aga Khan and the Chairman and Trustees of UCA, was attended by over 150 guests.

It was preceded by a keynote address by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, Professor Stephen Toope, who spoke on the Internationalisation of Higher Education and its Role in Development. Professor Toope highlighted that the spirit of free enquiry that underpins higher education does not flourish behind closed doors, and the greatest leaps in knowledge occur when disciplinary and geographical boundaries are crossed.

"Internationalisation in higher education is of course well exemplified by the Aga Khan Development Network, and its educational agencies in Central Asia, Pakistan, and East Africa," said Professor Toope. "Globally influential universities must harness the power of strategic partnerships. The inspirational choice of mountain regions for the three campuses of the University of Central Asia, and the generous financial support given to students who could not otherwise afford a university education, mean that the University is contributing significantly to the intellectual and economic development of the relevant regions." He continued, "Let us never forget how our universities’ missions and our universities’ pools of talent allow us, perhaps more than any other type of institution on this planet, to create, curate, and communicate the knowledge that can help to improve the world."

Following the keynote address, Prof. Dr. S. Sohail H. Naqvi, Rector of UCA, provided an update on the journey of UCA to establish itself as a world-class educational institution in Central Asia, conducting contextually relevant research and working with AKDN agencies to impact the quality of life of regional mountain communities. "The University of Central Asia is committed to offering high quality education to its undergraduate students, and fostering the development of qualified Central Asian faculty to deliver its programmes," he said. "The UCA-Cambridge Scholarships provide a unique platform for exchange, and through the renewal of this agreement, we will continue making a positive impact in building capacity of educators in the region."

Speaking on the occasion, Helen Pennant, Director of the Cambridge Trust, said "Following a decade of excellence in partnership, I am delighted to renew this valuable collaboration which will enable more talented students from Central Asia to come to Cambridge." "The Cambridge Trust is proud to partner with the University of Central Asia to develop their future faculty and the communities they serve,” added Barbara Stocking, Acting Chair of the Cambridge Trust.

These scholarships are part of UCA’s ongoing Central Asian Faculty Development Programme (CAFDP) designed to ensure that scholars from the region are strongly represented in UCA’s faculty. Applicants must meet eligibility benchmarks of UCA, and the admissions criteria of Cambridge. This partnership between the University of Central Asia (UCA) and the Cambridge Trust builds on the quality and standing of both UCA and the University of Cambridge, to enhance the academic quality of UCA’s future faculty. Watch video for highlights from the event in English, Russian or Kyrgyz.
Conference Promotes Dialogue on Border Dynamics in Central Asia

Kindness to one’s neighbour is an important value in Central Asian culture. However, over the past decades new realities have emerged where conflicts and threats have become more and more common in neighboring countries of the former Soviet Republics, and are echoed on political stages locally, regionally, and internationally.

On February 5th, a regional conference was organised by UCA's Mountain Societies Research Institute (MSRI) on “The Art of Neighborhoods: Border Dynamics, Natural Resources, and Mobility in Central Asia.” Read more in English, Russian or Kyrgyz.

UCA Public Lecture: Gold Production Leads Economic Growth in Kyrgyzstan

Gold production in Kyrgyzstan increased substantially in 2019, providing a strong boost to economic growth. Output from the country's largest gold mine, Kumtor, rose by 33 percent between January-October, following an 8 percent reduction during the same period in 2018. As a result, real GDP grew by 5.7 percent in January-October, up from 3.5 percent in 2018 as a whole.

Other factors influencing GDP growth included an increase in gold exports by almost 55 percent from the previous year, as well as monetary policy and remittance inflows. These findings were presented at a public lecture organised by UCA's Institute of Public Policy and Administration, and the World Bank on February 6th. It was delivered by Appolina Mbowe and Bakyt Dubashov, Senior Country Economists for the Kyrgyz Republic at the World Bank. While there is significant growth from the mining sector, the speakers highlighted that in order to further promote economic growth, solutions can be considered such as raising productivity, diversifying sources of growth, addressing governance issues and weak institutions, improving the quality of human capital and infrastructure, as well as developing fiscal policy.

Citizen Science is for Everyone

The beauty of citizen science is that we can all do it, because local people know their environment and community better than outside researchers. Dr. Troy Sternberg, Senior Research Associate at the University of Oxford’s School of Geography and the Environment in the United Kingdom, delivered a UCA public lecture on “Citizen Science” on February 3rd. Citizen science is public participation in scientific research, including individuals conducting fieldwork, monitoring, measuring, and documenting. It advances scientific research, covers a broad range of subjects, and increases our understanding of the world. Watch this lecture to learn more about why citizen science is important, which countries have embraced it, and how it is beneficial to Kyrgyzstan: https://youtu.be/2sXa_I2c1nE
Secure your system with 2-factor authentication, protect your intellectual property, do not use unsupported software, and manage your digital risk. These were four main takeaways from a public lecture on “Cybersecurity: Present and Future Trends and Opportunities,” held by UCA on February 10th, with the support of the U.S. Embassy in Bishkek. It was delivered by Melisa Hathaway, President of Hathaway Global Strategies LLC, Former Cybersecurity Advisor for the George W. Bush and Barack Obama Administrations, and Former Senior Advisor on Cyber Security at the Harvard Kennedy School in the United States.

Participants watched the lecture online from 35 locations, including UCA, Naryn State University, Khorog State University, International University of Central Asia (IUCA), and the American Space in Dushanbe (Tajikistan).

The Education Improvement Programme (EIP) at UCA engages 20 government secondary schools (grades 7-11) and selected private schools in each of the three Founding States of UCA: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan. Launched in January, EIP is conducting an English Language Programme for 20 English teachers from Bishkek and the Chui oblast to boost their teaching skills. Sessions are conducted monthly, with additional independent tasks assigned weekly.

Zarrina Gafurova, Communications and Media undergraduate student at UCA, was selected for a prestigious fellowship placement at Bellingcat, an independent international collective of researchers, investigators and citizen journalists using open source and social media to investigate a variety of subjects.

She was also invited to attend a three-day training, and learnt about the importance of using open sources, online maps such as Google Earth Pro, Yandex, facial recognition in digital research, Search Engine Operations, among other topics. “I was pleasantly surprised with my entire experience at Bellingcat,” noted Zarrina. “I truly believe that research methodology based on digital research through open sources is revolutionary, and is likely to become a trend in the future. I love the idea that any ordinary reader can verify information online, as it is all based on open sources.”

Zarrina shared how her experience at Bellingcat has complemented her studies at UCA. “We are learning about the importance of credible sources at UCA, and this is also being taught at Bellingcat. It is crucial to double check your sources.”

As part of the fellowship, she is currently conducting research on the “Environmental Impact of Chinese Companies in Central Asian Countries: The Case of Chinese Cement Industry, Huaxin, in Northern Tajikistan.”
8 Emmy Awards Winner Visits UCA

As part of UCA's undergraduate curriculum, the University invites experts to deliver guest lectures to its undergraduate students in Naryn. At the same time, UCA also provides opportunities for the local communities to interact with these experts. Andrew Tkach, 8 Emmy Awards Winner, and Director of Messy Moment Media, conducted workshops on film-making for students studying Communications and Media at UCA's Naryn campus. In Bishkek, he also conducted a one-day workshop on documentary film-making with editors, journalists, directors and producers from the KTRK TV channel, and discussed potential for future collaboration.

To showcase his work and collaborate with filmmakers in the country, Tkach held a film screening hosted by UCA in Bishkek, presenting two environmental documentaries - "On Thin Ice" and "Nestled in the mountains outside the city of Naryn, UCA's state-of-the-art campus is a surprise in such a remote setting. Every space is bathed in warmth, with the stunning mountains around the campus framed by windows that literally stopped me in my tracks every day I was there," noted Denby Weller, Lecturer at the University of Technology Sydney (Australia), following a week-long visit to UCA in Naryn.

"I team-taught a class with celebrated Australian journalist Lucy Palmer. The students surprised me with their exceptional English and deeply inquisitive minds. When I gave advice, they were quick to respond with a follow-up question, asking for further clarity or ensuring that they correctly understood the point. These were unusually confident and mature young people for first-year students, and I was also impressed with the journalism they were doing," added Denby. Read her full reflection in English or Russian.

Denby is also a Trainer for Google's Global News Initiative, Multimedia Journalist, and Filmmaker. As part of the global Google News Initiative, she conducted a workshop for UCA faculty in Naryn, as well as an exciting seminar for journalists in Bishkek. Journalists and representatives from 18 news agencies and educational institutions explored online tools of news production and verification, how to spot fake news and videos, and learnt about emerging trends in multimedia journalism. TV1 Kyrgyzstan reported on her seminar, which can be watched in Russian.

The University of Technology Sydney is one of UCA's curriculum partners, and is collaborating with the University in curriculum development, exchange of faculty and students, sharing of teaching resources and strategies, joint conferences, seminars, and exhibitions.

Interviews on TV1 Kyrgyzstan and Azattyk TV are also available to learn more about his experience creating documentary films from different parts of the world.

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Denby Weller: A Reflection on UCA

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Over 300 Guests Attend UCA Open House in Naryn

UCA welcomed over 300 students, parents and high school representatives from Akzharg, At-Bashy, Batken, Naryn, Balykchy, Bishkek, Chok-Tal, Kant, Karakol, Naryn, Talas, Tokmok, and Osh to its Naryn campus in Kyrgyzstan on February 16th. "When I arrived at UCA’s Naryn campus, it exceeded all my expectations. We entered the campus, and it was a completely different world," said Danil Paksiutkin, from Bishkek. "I liked UCA’s modern building, teaching methods, and faculty."

The University’s Open House event is conducted annually to provide an opportunity for students and parents from across Kyrgyzstan to visit the campus facilities, learn about its academic programmes, financial aid opportunities, as well as meet UCA faculty, staff and students. Learn more in English or Russian.

“UCA is not just an educational institution, it is the only university, not only in the country, but throughout Central Asia, that focuses on the development of mountain regions”, reported NTS TV Channel during an open house event in Naryn. Watch the News report in Russian (https://youtu.be/q1nSTmJbAgs) or Kyrgyz (https://youtu.be/QuWYIev5rd0).

Campus Life in Naryn and Khorog

As a residential university, student life is an important part of the UCA experience. Academic, social events, and extra-curricular activities are regularly organised at UCA’s campuses in Khorog and Naryn. In addition to being located in secondary cities of Central Asia, the undergraduate student body is represented by nine countries, and faculty members come from 16 countries. To celebrate UCA’s diverse student body, the campuses organise evenings dedicated to different cultural events throughout the year.

Professional artists from Risovalnya Studio conducted an art masterclass for students in Naryn on February 26th.

Sumsarbek Obbo Mamyraly (centre), Founder and Chef at Baan-Baan Thai Cafe in Bishkek, led a Pad Thai cooking class in Naryn.

Students at the Khorog campus enjoyed cultural dances and learnt about Afghanistan.

Students spent time outside of class enjoying winter sports such as cross-country skiing and skating.
Summer Arrives Early at Khorog Campus

The University of Central Asia’s Student Association in Khorog, and Dr. Genevieve Balderston, Assistant Professor in English for Academic Purposes at UCA, organised a Hawaiian luau event at the Khorog campus (Tajikistan) to create a summer atmosphere on campus.

Hawaiian dishes were served by the kitchen staff, including coconut Haupia and fresh fruits, and students and staff also enjoyed performances.

Youth Networking Day Held in Naryn

Undergraduate students at UCA held a networking event for 26 high school students from Naryn and At-Bashy (Kyrgyzstan) to raise awareness about UCA’s community service initiatives, and encourage participants to start their own projects. It was organised by UCA’s LEADS Association, which is a new student-run initiative aimed at improving quality of life by serving the community.

UCA club representatives delivered presentations on the Young Tutors Association, Enactus, Razakar, and Eco-Warriors Clubs. Naryn students presented their own project ideas, and expressed their desire to collaborate with UCA students in the future.

Student Outreach

Young Tutors Help High School Students with English and Math Skills

The Young Tutors Association (YTA) is a student-led initiative based at UCA’s Naryn campus. YTA has launched intensive math sessions on a monthly basis for Grade 9-11 high school students from Naryn. The goal of these sessions is to improve their math skills, as well as develop their leadership, organisational, presentation, and public speaking abilities. YTA has also introduced a variety of projects including English Talking Clubs that will be delivered by YTA volunteers on a weekly basis to high-school students, and plans to hold a Science Fair and exhibitions.

UCA Students Win Science Fair with Bio-Toilets Project

Sophomore students studying Earth and Environmental Sciences at UCA organised a Science Fair on February 9th at the Khorog Campus, and their projects were judged by a panel from UCA and Khorog State University. Payrav Dehqonov (pictured), and Alidovar Sodatsairov, UCA students, and Zuhro Khushqadamova, Shoimsulton Kholiknazarova, and Payshanbe Amonbekov, from the American Space Khorog, were tied for first place. The winning presentations covered environmentally friendly bio-toilets (UCA), and the harmful effects on plants of additives and flavourings (American Space Khorog). Students from the Aga Khan Lycee in Khorog won second and third place, with projects on how to produce the greatest volcano eruption with vinegar and baking soda, and the effects of calories on humans.
Anisa Abibulloeva (centre) is studying Economics at UCA in Khorog, and leads the "The Green Community" project. It aims at raising awareness among UCA students and the local community about environmental issues, promoting waste reduction methods, and facilitating recycling.

This student-led initiative has already organised waste delivery from the campus to Dushanbe for further recycling, held public lectures in Dushanbe, Khujand and Khorog, and initiated an "Early Environmental Childhood Education" programme for 5-7 year olds. Next, Anisa is working with other UCA students to develop a business-plan to reduce the amount of waste generated in Dushanbe, and this summer she intends to launch a small eco-school. These initiatives earned her the Tajik Greta Thunberg reference from Asia Plus News. Read more in this article by Asia Plus in English or Russian.

UCA Presents at Conference on Education for Social Cohesion and Peace

Professor Nurzhauar Isaeva (pictured), Coordinator of the Faculty Development Programme at UCA's Aga Khan Humanities Project, and Dr. Asel Murzakulova, Research Fellow at UCA's MSRI, delivered presentations at the Education for Social Cohesion and Peace Conference, held in Bishkek on February 6th. The conference was aimed at facilitating exchange of knowledge and ideas between representatives of the public sector, educational and research institutes, youth activists, experts and practitioners in the field of education on key aspects of education for sustainable development, social cohesion and peace.

At the conference, Professor Isaeva presented a report on “Evidence on the Impact of a School-based Peacebuilding Intervention in Kyrgyzstan,” and Dr. Murzakulova covered “Early Childhood Development and Social Cohesion”. The conference was organised by the Aga Khan Foundation, and UNICEF in the Kyrgyz Republic. It was held with support from the Ministry of Education and Science, and financial support from the UK Government (UKAid).
First SPCE Graduation in Bokhtar

UCA’s School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) celebrated its first graduation ceremony at its learning centre in Bokhtar (Tajikistan) on February 15th.

Over 160 students successfully completed courses in Conversational English, Russian, Business Planning, Accounting and the International Computer Driving License (ICDL), an advanced international computer literacy qualification. The Bokhtar centre opened in March 2019, and has enrolled 635 people to date. Read more in English, Russian or Tajik.

UCA Recognises ICDL Graduates in Naryn

UCA’s SPCE in Naryn held a graduation ceremony on February 6th for over 100 employees of government hospitals and schools, who successfully completed the International Computer Driving License (ICDL). The event was attended by Nurbek Moldokadyrov, Mayor of Naryn town, who congratulated the participants on their achievements. Kindergarten staff, family doctors, junior doctors, nurses and regional hospital staff received certificates for improving their skills in “Word” and “Excel”. “As Kyrgyzstan is digitising and developing regionally, we have to master new information technologies, and stay up to date,” said Zulaika Bilalova, Doctor at the Naryn City Hospital. “Only qualified specialists should serve the population of our country.”

Badakhshan University Students Benefit from SPCE Training in Afghanistan

Nineteen students from Badakhshan University successfully completed a six-day seminar on Gender Responsive Learning Environment (GRLE) on February 11th. The training focused on topics such as gender terminology, application of gender standards into school management systems, and gender responsive pedagogy.

It was organised by UCA’s SPCE in Faizabad (Afghanistan). The seminar was offered as part of the Pathways to Innovation Afghanistan Project, and funded by the Canada’s International Development Research Centre, in partnership with the Aga Khan Foundation Canada.
Professional Development Course Trains Accountants in Khorog

Sixteen accountants from government organisations in Tajikistan are currently receiving a professional development training course on the Basics of Accounting programme at UCA’s SPCE in Khorog. The course is providing theoretical knowledge and practical skills on the national system of accounting and reporting. It is being implemented by UCA’s SPCE in cooperation with the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat, as part of the “Creating Opportunities in a Safe Environment, Phase II” project. It is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and supported by Yodgor Fayzov, Governor of the Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous Region.

Naryn Youth Compete in Speed Reading Tournament

The School of Professional and Continuing Education at UCA is conducting a 3-month speed reading course in Naryn, to help children improve their memory, logic, creative thinking, and expand their vocabulary. On February 25th, 55 students aged 6 to 12 participated in a speed reading tournament, where they used special techniques to test their reading speed, and accuracy. Parents also had an opportunity to witness how their children learnt to read correctly, clearly, and expressively. Watch this news report by Naryn TV to learn more in Kyrgyz.

Entrepreneurship Programme Coming to Tekeli

UCA’s School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPCE) in Tekeli held information sessions on its entrepreneurship programme in Taldykorgan and Tekeli, gathering over 200 youth. The programme is open to 14-29 year olds, and will provide an opportunity to obtain a grant to implement social projects. The event was organised in the framework of the Youth Corps Development Project, and the programme is being implemented by UCA’s SPCE in Tekeli, as a part of a joint project between the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
Milk Processing Workshop Opened in Naryn

UCA and the Aga Khan Foundation established a milk processing workshop at Naryn State University for its new undergraduate programme on “Production Technology and Processing of Agricultural Produce.” The workshop will provide students with practical experience, help prepare qualified experts in milk-processing in Naryn Oblast, as well as allow for commercial sale, enabling the workshop to become fully self-sustainable.

An inauguration event was held on February 10th, and was organised as part of the Mountain Universities Partnership (MUP), an initiative of the Aga Khan Development Network’s (AKDN) University Improvement Programme. MUP aims at improving the quality of education of four universities, including NSU, Khorog State University (Tajikistan), Karakorum International University (Pakistan) and Badakhshan University (Afghanistan), while contributing to the socio-economic development of the mountain regions.

Role of Movies in Education and Youth Development

A cultural event underlining the role of cinematography in education and youth development was organised on February 22nd in Naryn by AKDN and UCA, in partnership with Tolomush Okeev Foundation (TOF). A film “The Sky of Our Childhood” directed by Tolomush Okeev was screened to showcase Kyrgyz history, culture and traditions, and was followed by a Q&A session.

About 100 youth representatives from Naryn including students from Naryn State University and UCA’s SPCE were formally welcomed by Ms Jarkyn Ibraeva, Deputy Governor, Naryn Oblast and Aziza Okeeva, daughter of Tolomush Okeev (pictured), Founder of TOF.

Deadline to Apply to UCA’s Undergraduate Programme: March 15th 2020

Undergraduate admissions are open for the 2020-21 Academic Year at UCA. The School of Arts and Sciences offers an international standard of education, dedicated and qualified faculty, full scholarships and grants, and a vibrant student life. UCA offers undergraduate programmes at its campuses in Naryn (Kyrgyzstan) and Khorog (Tajikistan), in Communications and Media, Computer Science, Earth and Environmental Sciences, and Economics. The deadline to apply is March 15th at 11:59pm (GMT+6). Learn more at: www.ucentralasia.org/admissions