

# HELLENIC REPUBLIC National and Kapodistrian University of Athens



# NKUA 1837-2017 180 years of History and Public Presence



**ATHENS 2018** 









# NKUA 1837-2017

# 180 years of History and Public Presence

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Title: NKUA 1837-2017 - 180 years of History and Public Presence © Copyright 2018, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Publishing

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ISBN: 978-960-466-212-8

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# Contents

| 1. PREFACE BY THE RECTOR                                      | 12 |
|---|----|
| 2. HISTORICAL REVIEW  | 15 |
| The timeline, 1837-2017                                       | 17 |
| A journey of 180 years  | 27 |
| 3. THE PRESENT STRUCTURE OF NKUA (2017)                       | 43 |
| 4. EDUCATION  | 57 |
| 5. RESEARCH AND INNOVATION                                    | 87 |
| Objectives and Strategy of the Institution                    | 92 |
| 6. NKUA IN SOCIETY  | 97 |
| The social contribution of NKUA: 180 years of public presence | 98 |



| 7. NKUA IN THE WORLD<br>The International Orientation of NKUA<br>Erasmus Programme    | 107<br>108<br>120 |
|---|-------------------|
| 8 INTERNATIONAL DISTINCTIONS AND RANKING  | 131               |
| 9. NKUA'S HONORARY DOCTORS  | 137               |
| 10. HONOURING BENEFACTORS AND DONORS<br>Benefactors and the University of Athens      | 149<br>150        |
| The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens honours its donors and benefactors | 155               |
| 11. COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS FOR THE 180-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF NKUA                         | 159               |
| 12. PAST AND PRESENT  | 179               |



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Initiating Programme of the Ottonian University in three languages (Greek, German and French). University of Athens archive folder F.A.K.

#### ΔΙΑΤΑΓΜΑ ΠΕΡΙ ΣΥΣΤΑΣΕΩΣ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟΥ

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The Decree establishing of Ottonian University, April 22, 1837







Preface by the Rector, Professor M.-A. Dimopoulos

# 180 Years National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

# Preface by the Rector, Professor M.-A. Dimopoulos

The year 2017 has marked the completion of a 180-year time span since the establishment of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA hereafter). It was established in 1837 and was the first university of the newly born Greek state, the first in the Balkans or in the Eastern Mediterranean region. Its role was crucial both historically and socially. It emerged in the midst of socio-economic changes, from the very start of its establishment, and it keeps surfacing for its high standard human resources and its deep-rooted tradition.

A hundred and eighty years after its establishment, the University of Athens is a modern educational institution offering undergraduate and postgraduate studies in a wide range of scientific fields.

It aims at multi-faceted education, innovation and science advancement in terms of theoretical and applied research.

The first public university of the country, the University of Athens, grew almost in parallel with the newly formed Greek state, and has had a significant and catalytic role in shaping quite a few institutions and the course of the state at large. **Today, the University, aware of its active role as a public higher educational institution, acknowledges its potential and commits itself to constantly contributing to reshaping social reality in the country, especially in view of its 200-year anniversary in 2021!** 

This publication attempts to summarize the structure, the work and contribution of the first Greek university, as highlighted in the commemorative events, on the occasion of the 180-year anniversary of the Institution's public presence and constant contribution to society.



On behalf of the Rectorate, I would like to thank the whole community of the University for participating in the events. A great thanks goes to the Organizing Committee and the administrative personnel who carried the burden of organizing the events. I assume the outcome justifies the effort.

I would also like to thank sponsors and donors who made the commemorative events possible, through their substantive and discreet support, particularly the special sponsor of the work in hand.

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the first public university of the country, confidently continues its dynamic journey with optimism.





# A Historical Overview

2



# Timeline 1837-2017

### 1837-1850

- 1837: Establishment of the "Ottonian" University. It comprised 4 Schools: Theology, Medicine, Law and Philosophy (which included Philology and Physics-Mathematics). Along with the first royal decree of the Regency on the foundation of the University (which King Otto did not approve), the Royal School of Arts appeared in December 1836, which later became the National (Metsovian) Technical University of Athens.
- 1838: The University Library is established.
- 1839: A fund-raising Committee is formed for building a Greek University. The Central Building of the University of Athens appears.
- 1842: The Central Building of the University hosted both the University Library and the National Library.
- 1843: The Scholeio of Pharmacy appeared, as an annex to the University.
- 1843: The first university graduate and first Doctorate holder of the School of Medicine was Anastasios Goudas.
- 1843: It became official that a member of Parliament (elected by the professors) would represent the University in the Parliament, which the 1864 Constitution cancelled.

- Greek expatriates, mostly, sponsored poetic and literary competitions.
- 1859: 'Skiadika", anti-Ottonian riots.



1862. Uniform of the Greek National Guard and of the National University officers (University Phalanx).

1860-1870

- 1862: Otto's dethronement. The University Phalanx, the first armed student body, emerged as part of the National Guard.
- 1862: The "Ottonian" University renamed into "National" University.

- 1871-1872: Unveiling ceremony of the statues of Rigas Ferraios Velenstinlis, writer, political thinker and revolutionary, and Patriarch Gregory V (of Constantinople), at Propylaea (the monumental gateway of the Central Building), on the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration of the Greek Struggle for Independence.
- 1875: Unveiling the statue of Adamantios Korais (scholar and major figure in the Greek Enlightenment).



1935. Mounted soldiers at the time of the Kondylis' movement (the Venizelist revolt).

### 1880-1890

- 1887: The Chemistry Laboratory building (Chimeio) is established in Ernest Ziller's design.
- 1887: Commemorating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the University of Athens.

- 1890: The first female student, Ioanna Stefanopoli, enrolled in the School of Philosophy.
- 1892: Introduction of mandatory tuition fees for university students.
- 1897: "Galvanika": Medical students protested against Professor I. Galvanis, asking for his removal. Students locked the university's Central Building down for the first time.
- 1897: The University Phalanx went to Crete to take part in the Cretan Revolt. Students also participated in the Greek-Turkish War of 1897.
- 1897: The Aretaieio Hospital opened temporarily to treat war casualties. The hospital opened officially in the following year.

• 1898: Kostis Palamas (poet, novelist, playwright, literary critic) became secretary general of the University of Athens. He kept the position until 1928.

1900-1910

- 1901: Unveiling the memorial stele for 28 fallen students in the Greco-Turkish War of 1897.
- 1901: Establishing the Aiginition Hospital building, which opened in 1905.
- 1901: Evangelika (Gospel Riots).
- 1903: Orestiaka (student riots after the 'Orestia' opening performance at the Royal Theatre).
- 1904: The Departments of Physics and Mathematics, separated from the School of Philosophy to form an autonomous School of Physics and Mathematics.
- 1908: The first female adjunct professor (yfigitria), Aggeliki Panagiotatou, was appointed at the Medical School.
- 1909: April: The "Andreas Syngros" University Hospital of Aphrodisiac Diseases emerged.

1910-1920

- 1910: University teaching staff dismissals.
- 1910: The Student Group Union emerges (Foititiki Syntrofia).
- 1911: The Venizelos Government voted the first permanent legislative framework for the University. The National University was divided into (a) the National University (which included the Medical School and the School of Physics-Mathematics) and (b) the Kapodistrian University (which included the Schools of Philosophy, Theology and Law), in agreement with the will of the donor loannis Dombolis. The Scholeio of Dentistry was founded in the same year.
- 1911: Georgios Mistriotis along with numerous students organized protests in Athens, in reaction to Article 107 of the Greek Constitution (on the official language of the State).
- 1912: Celebrating the 75-year anniversary of the University of Athens.
- 1914: A monumental stele appeared at Propylaea for the fallen soldiers of the Balkan Wars.
- National Division (1914-1917). Political stance became a criterion for dismissing and rehiring professors.
- 1918: An autonomous Department of Chemistry emerged.

- 1920: The Ionic University of Smyrna emerged, with Constantin Carathéodory in charge of its organization.
- 1920: The Higher School of Commercial Sciences appeared (currently known as Athens University of Economics and Business).

- 1920: The Higher Agricultural School of Athens followed (currently known as Agricultural University of Athens).
- 1922: A new University regulation. The two universities merged into one, the 'Athenisi' National and Kapodistrian University. (*Athinisi: situated in Athens*). Entrance exams came into being for the first time.
- 1923: The University Club (Panepistimiaki Leshi) emerged.
- 1924: The First Student Conference held in Athens.
- 1926: The University of Thessaloniki emerged.
- 1927: Students went on a successful mass strike demonstrating against the increase of tuition fees.
- 1929: The keystone of the School of Health Sciences laboratories was placed at Goudi. The work finished in 1933. The Experimental School (*Peiramatiko*) appeared as an annex to the University.

- 1930: A Free School of Political and Economic Sciences appeared (currently known as the Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences).
- 1931: The Venizelos government designated Constantin Carathéodory as the first governmental commissioner to supervise the universities of Athens and Thessaloniki.
- 1932: The University acquired a new regulation (Act No. 5343) by the Eleftherios Venizelos government, with Georgios Papandreou as Minister of Education. It was the longest-lasting university regulation of 20<sup>th</sup> century Greece – it lasted until 1982 when the institution received its current name: National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.
- 1932: The Kapnikarea Church (Presentation of Virgin Mary and St. Barbara) was attached to the University.
- 1933: The construction of the Theoretical Sciences building began.
- 1934: The Naturalist Department appeared in the School of Physics-Mathematics.
- 1936: The Progressive Student Association ( $E\Pi O\Phi\Sigma$ ) initiated the First PanHellenic Student Conference with representatives from the two universities, the Technical University and the higher Schools of the country participating. The 4<sup>th</sup> of August Regime rendered a series of student organizations illegal.
- 1937: The university celebrated its first centenary.
- 1938: Mandatory Law 1430 (on crime punishment, politically nuanced).
- 1938: The School of Industrial Studies appeared (currently known as University of Piraeus).



1941. German officers in the Great Hall of the central building. They damaged the statues of the building's west balcony, on departure.

- 28 October 1940: The university closed down 'until further notice'.
- Those who served in the military did not take entrance exams.
- The occupation powers commandeered the university buildings.
- The University Club (*Panepistimiaki Leshi*) turned into a student base for rebellious acts, and a part of it became a nursing home for war casualties.
- 1940-1944: Students were facilitated financially with their enrollment and studies.
- Purging of teaching and administrative staff members. Law compliance councils made their appearance.



1956. Public protest about the Cyprus conflict. The University banner precedes.

- 1951: The State Scholarships Foundation (I.K.Y.) emerged.
- 1951: The Departments of English and French Language and Literature appeared in the School of Philosophy.
- 1957: The Higher School of Industrial Studies appeared in Thessaloniki (currently known as University of Macedonia).
- 1959: Mass transportation introduced a reduced fare for students.
- Students and the institution participating in protests and demonstrations about the Cyprus conflict.

1960-1970

- 1961: The state offered the university land for a University Campus.
- 1961: Student exchange programmes emerged (for both students and academic staff).
- 1962: Significant demonstrations in view of the 15% funding for education.
- 1963: Free education made official.
- 1964: The University of Patras came into being.
- 1967: Academic staff downsized as a result of the dictatorship.
- 1967: The School of Philosophy comprised 6 Departments (Philology, History and Archeology, Philosophy, Ancient Studies, Byzantine and Medieval Studies and Modern Greek Studies).
- 1967: The Department of Political and Economic Sciences separated from the Law School, with own entrants and entrance exams.
- 1968: The dictatorship controlled the operation of institutions via governmental commissioners, retired military personnel, entitled to participate in the meetings of the Senate, the collective bodies and the professor associations of the Schools.
- 1969: Foundation of the first building of the University Campus (Panepistimioupoli).

### 1970-1980

- 1970: Autonomous Departments of Geology and Biology.
- 1970: An independent School of Dentistry.
- 1970: Founding of the University of Ioannina.
- 1972: The Department of Economic Science is separated from the Department of Law.
- 1973: The Law School occupation.
- 1973: The University of Crete and the Democritus University of Thrace emerged.
- 1975: A Student Relief Fund appeared.
- 1977: Founding of the Technical University of Crete.
- 1978: The '100-day strike'. The first mass strike of the Special Teaching Staff.

- 1982: The Legal Famework for higher education appeared by the government of Andreas Papandreou.
- The Theological School was divided into two departments, Theology and Pastoral Theology, which made the Department of Social Theology, in 1994.
- 1982: The Department of Social Science and Public Administration separated from the Law Department.
- 1982: Autonomous Departments of English Language and Literature, French Language

and Literature, German Language and Literature.

- 1982: Autonomous Departments of Physics and Mathematics.
- 1982: Founding of the School of Physical Education and Sport Science (T.E.F.A.A).
- 1983: Autonomous Department of Nursing.
- 1984: Autonomous Departments of Philology, History and Archaeology, Philosophy-Pedagogy- Psychology.
- 1984: The Department of Primary Education (*P.T.D.E.*) emerged together with the Department of Early Childhood Education (*T.E.A.P.I.*), which started operating in 1987.
- 1984: Foundation of the University of Thessaly, the Ionian University and the University of the Aegean.
- 1985: Postgraduate studies became institutionalized. An autonomous Department of Theater Studies came into being.
- 1987: Celebration of the 150-year anniversary of the University. The intra-European Erasmus exchange programme began.
- 1988: An independent Department of Pharmacy appeared.
- 1989: The Department of Theater Studies emerged in the School of Philosophy.

# 1990-2000

- 1990: The Harokopio University appeared.
- 1990: An autonomous Department of Informatics and Telecommunications emerged.
- 1990: An autonomous Department of Music Studies came into being.
- 1990: The Department of Communication and Media Studies appeared.
- 1991: The *Didaskaleio*, the Modern Greek Language Teaching Centre, started operating, under the academic guidance of the Division of Linguistics, Department of Philology.
- 1992: Founding of the Hellenic Open University (ΕΑΠ).
- 1993: Founding of the Department of Methodology, History and Theory of Science (*M.I.O.E.*), currently Department of History and Philosophy of Science.
- 1999: The Department of Italian and Spanish Language and Literature appeared.

- 2002: The University of Peloponnese emerged.
- 2003: Founding of the Department of Turkish and Modern Asian Studies.
- 2004: The University of Western Macedonia emerged.
- 2007: Law 3549 "Reform of Statute on the structure and operation of higher educational institutions" by the Kostas Karamanlis government.
- 2007: The Department of Slavic Studies emerged.

- 2009: The Department of Spanish Language and Literature separated from the Department of Italian Language and Literature.
- 2011: Law 4009-"Structure, operation, quality assessment of studies and internationalization of higher educational institutions" by the George Papandreou government.
- 2013: Founding of the School Science of Education, School of Health Sciences, School of Law (one-department School), and the School of Physical Education and Sports Science (one-department School). The School of Economics and Political Sciences became autonomous. Today, the School includes four departments: the Department of Economic Science, the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, the Department of Communication and Media Studies and the Department of Turkish and Modern Asian Studies. The Department of Methodology, History and Philosophy of Science became part of the School of Sciences. An autonomous Department of Psychology appeared (Presidential Decree No 85/2013).
- 2016: The Department of 'Slavic Studies' was renamed into Department of Russian Language and Literature of Slavic Studies (Presidential Decree No 78/2016).
- 2017: Law 4485- "Organization and operation of higher education, regulations for research and other provisions" by the Alexis Tsipras government.

# The chronicle of a 180-year journey<sup>1</sup>

ttonian, National, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), the first university of the Greek state stands out on the Greek educational map. It draws its significance on its diachronic public presence, its educational and scientific production and its long historical journey through time, which shaped its identity and its relationship to the Greek society. The University of Athens was the first and only University of the newly born Greek state until 1926, when the University of Thessaloniki emerged. Throughout its historical course, NKUA walked alongside with the National Technical University of Athens (1836), which has had its own course until it became a higher educational institution, on an equal footing with the oldest university of the country.

The collective consciousness has dated the plans for the creation of a university back to the Greek Revolution of 1821. The university highlighted the European character of the country and was regarded necessary for the spiritual development of the revolutionized Greek nation. However, the Governor Ioannis Kapodistrias did not make the founding of a university a priority. He was rather interested in developing the lower and technical education of the country, which he regarded indispensable for rebuilding the war-devastated country.

Things changed with the advent of the Bavarian Regency and King Otto in Greece. The Bavarians believed that a university was a requirement for shaping a modern state. They issued laws for primary and secondary education, and then quickly proceeded to creating a temporary regulation for the operation of the first university of the country, in 1837.

Athens, the new capital of the state, was a reasonable location of the institution. Despite it being a relatively small city of no more than 10,000 people, wrecked by the hostilities and without any substantial infrastructure, it had a key geographical position within the new kingdom and a glorious historical past. The new university was officially inaugurated in May 3, 1837, and following the German tradition, it was named Ottonian, after the founding monarch. Otto himself was present in the inauguration ceremony along with state authorities and many

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The text heavily draws on the book *The University of Athens and its History* 1837-1937, by Kostas Gavroglou, Vangelis Karamanolakis and Haido Barkoula, Athens: Panepisthmiakes Ekdoseis Kritis, 2014.

Athenians who embraced the new institution from the very outset. Speakers in the inaugural ceremony were the Rector of the University and history Professor, Konstantinos Schinas, and the Deans of the Schools of Theology, Medicine, Law and Philosophy.

The School of Philosophy initially comprised the Departments of Philology, Physics and Mathematics, in alignment with the tradition of the German-speaking universities.

The *Scholeio* of Pharmacy and the Philologikon Frontistirion also emerged for meeting basic needs pertaining to health and education, respectively.

The residence of the architect and urban planner Stamatios Kleanthis, which currently houses the Athens University Museum, hosted the University initially. The Kleanthis residence was one of the few Ottoman mansions in Athens at the time. Registration to the University only required a secondary education certificate and there were no entrance exams or tuition fees. There were just three high-schools in Greece at the time: in Nafplio, Athens, Ermoupoli. At first, most of the students were Greek expatriates from the Ottoman Empire. A specialized committee of university professors made decisions on their admission. The committee was abolished at the beginning of the 1860s when the Greek expatriates were very few in comparison to the local students.

In the first year of its operation, 52 students attended courses along with many nonmatriculated auditors. Attendance was not obligatory for students, while there were other citizens in the classrooms who just wanted to attend courses in the new University. Anastasios Goudas was the first graduate of the School of Medicine in 1843.

It became evident soon enough that the premise was insufficient to meet the needs of the new institution. The University needed privately-owned property, up to the standards of its mission and status. To this end, the central building of the University emerged in Panepistimiou Street, in Christian Hansen's architectural designs, and King Otto founded it in July 2, 1839. Its front wing, also known as Propylaea, finished in 1841 and courses moved there. The building was financed through public fundraising, with foreigners, expatriates and lots of people making contributions. The neoclassical building corroborated the image of the institution as the *temple of the Muses*, highlighting its affiliation with ancient Greece.

From its outset, the University, being the first and only academic institution of the country and of Southeastern Europe, aimed at a set of objectives such as staffing the state mechanism and the private sector. The University became a determining factor for social reproduction and mobility throughout the historical trajectory of the Greek state. At the same time, it was a modern institution, a new type of a university in 19th century Europe, drawing on Berlin University which had emerged in 1810. It was a higher educational institution aiming at combining teaching with research, as perceived at that time, and at catering for needs of the nation-state, both practical and ideological ones. It significantly contributed to socially consolidating scientific awareness and to reshaping the necessary practices in the process of



The Athens University History Museum housed in the building also known as the "Kleanthis' Residence" or "The Old University".



H. C. Hansen, façade of the University, 1842. Aquarelle.



Façade of the University, early 20th cent. Postcard.

consolidation, it broadened awareness of scientific jurisdiction and of the role of institutions, like laboratories, museums and academic tutoring classes. These institutions gradually facilitated evolution of research, however at a basic level, with a view to meeting functional needs of the Greek society.

If the driving principle behind the creation of a higher educational institution was staffing the state mechanism, its "national mission" also prevailed in the discourse of state officials and university authorities, namely, its crucial role in achieving the broader objectives of the small kingdom, in the new geopolitical conditions of the region (Megali Idea).

They also accentuated its contribution to the formation and promotion of the Greek nation state identity. Some of the its essential objectives were establishing and developing, expanding and defending the ideas of the nation-state. The University had to function as a connective link with other members of the national community, to reinforce its bonds with them, especially with those living in the Ottoman Empire. To this end, the institution highlighted the unique cultural identity of the Greek nation that was predominately associated with its historical past. On a par, it took up a pioneering role in a series of scientific and technological advancements that would enable Greece to be integrated in the sphere of contemporary European states. I would like to heighten awareness of its permanent and consistent orientation towards Europe, which is typical of the institution as a whole and throughout its historical course.

The University met a series of social needs (access to information, provision of medical services, welfare institutions, public healthcare, product attestation, introduction of new technologies etc.), which are currently responsibilities of the state mechanism. Hospitals, museums and welfare institutions (*annexed* to the University, which founded them or contributed to their establishment and operation) played a decisive role, in this sense. They have been an integral component of the educational process. At the same time, they set up a framework of academic actions with a simultaneous and immediate applicability to social and scientific needs. They have formed a channel of communication between academic expertise and society. Theoretical knowledge turned into clinical, laboratorial or academic tutoring practice and research, and benefited healthcare, industry, trade and shipping.

Students who up until 1890 were only male, were a major asset of the University. They made a dynamic appearance in the streets of Athens early enough, claiming university and other demands. A series of incidents involving students, occurred, almost immediately after the establishment of the Ottonian University, which made their way to the press. Political orientation prevailed, in all these incidents. The incidents of Skiadika in May 1859, involved primarily high school students and to a lesser extent university students; they were the most well-known incidents involving conflict with the police. The pretext of conflict was the students' decision to wear domestically produced summer hats (skiadia), instead of imported ones, to

support the local craft industry, but the actual target was the Ottonian rule. Otto's dethroning in 1862 reinforced student status as a dynamic element in antiroyalist struggle. The University Phalanx, the most original armed body in the history of the Greek student movement, emerged at that time. It was the first and only armed student body which undertook the role of maintaining order during civil uprisings, as a part of the Civil Guard.

The Provisional Government decided to rename the University from 'Ottonian' to 'National', in October 1862, generating the connotation of an institution shared by the whole Greek nation. A new era was beginning. The institution acquired an even higher prestige, manifested in the increasing number of students. Those who were accused or prosecuted by the academic staff members, for their antiroyalist action, came back. The symbols of the old regime were gone, along with the old name of the University. The royal decorations in the university stamp were replaced by the image of the owl, a symbol of wisdom. The University celebrated its 50 years of operation in 1887, with its own banner. The painter Nikolaos Gyzis designed goddess Athena on the university banner, and painter Georgios lakovidis designed the owl on olive branches. The poet Kostis Palamas linked his life path with the institution, holding the position of the Secretary-General from 1898 to 1928, a key position for the operation of the University.

The University experienced major changes, by the end of the 19th century, at a time when the demand for urban modernizing dominated the political stage. This was a demand mainly articulated by the Charilaos Trikoupis government and its followers.



Detail from the University of Athens banner, with an archaic-like representation of Goddess Athena, by Nikolaos Gyzis. Designed in Munich, where the famous Greek painter lived at the time, in light of the celebration of 50th anniversary celebration of the University (1887). Silk and gold embroidered velvet, it is a unique work by the painter following this technique (1,53 x 0,89).



1936. Students demonstrating at the University courtyard (P. Poulidis' archive).

A constant rise in the number of teaching staff members and students, along with changes in the legislative framework and a turn towards specialization and vocational training, shaped a new image of the institution. Programmes of studies were expanded and upgraded, new professorial seats emerged and professors were elected to fill them. Teaching hours increased and specializations proliferated. The most important institutional change was assigning responsibility to the university teaching staff in Schools. Achieving objectives in scientific vocational goal setting in university education also improved.

A positivist orientation dynamically brought about creation of museums and dozens of new coaching establishments (*frontistiria*) and laboratories, like the new Chemical Laboratory (*Chimeio*), one of the best of the era. In the context of improving more practical knowledge, the School of Philosophy divided into two schools, in 1904: the School of Philosophy and the School of Physics and Mathematics. The poor economic situation of the state, in 1892, made the Trikoupis government impose 'teaching fees' to be paid by students for their registration, its annual renewal and the exams. The fees raised strong objections among the student population.
In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the university established its own hospitals: Aretaieio and Aiginiteio, with bequests by the medical Professors Theodoros Aretaios and Dionysios Aiginitis. The two hospitals met basic needs of clinical training in the fields of surgery, pathology, neurological and psychiatric diseases. Shortly afterwards, donations by Andreas and Ifigenia Syggros completed the construction of the Syggros hospital which hosted the Clinic for Sexually Transmitted Diseases.

The expansion of the student population brought about a critical change. The first female student, loanna Stephanopoli, registered at the School of Philosophy in 1890. By the end of the 19th century, a number of women followed, until female students gradually achieved an equal presence.

The student body remained active, at that time, focusing its attention on a new issue that puzzled Greek society: the language issue. The University fought against the demotic form of Greek, expressing its concern for the prevalence of a non-formal language. The University stance was received as ancient-driven and reactive. Students were at the forefront of protests, causing two of the most well-known riots in student history, the violent 'Gospel riots' (*Evaggelika*) and the 'Orestian protests' (*Oresteiaka*). In both cases, students stood together with their professors to defend the ancient Greek language against any translation into the demotic Greek, in a context of intense expansionism (*Megali Idea*).

The Goudi movement (1909) and the public upheaval it caused had a profound effect on higher education. The most important institutional change was the validation of the new operational regulation for the *Athinisi* University (dative: in Athens), in agreement with the legislation of the newly founded Eleftherios Venizelos' government, in July 1911, after 84 years of operation with a temporary regulation. This followed the most radical academic staff cleansing in the history of the University in 1910, when17 out of 54 professors were fired.

The 1911 Regulation entailed the division of the University of Athens into two institutions, the National and the Kapodistrian, in agreement to the will of Ioannis Dombolis, an important benefactor (see the *Benefactors* section, this volume). The *National* University included the Medical School (with two attachments: the 'Scholeio' of Pharmacy and the newly-established 'Scholeio' of Dentistry) and the School of Physics-Mathematics, which was incorporated in the Department of Chemistry, in 1919. The *Kapodistrian* University comprised the Schools of Philosophy, Theology and Law. The two Universities actually shared the same institution and administration. The two institutions merged into one again in 1922 and the University acquired its current title, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, 10 years later (1932).

The 1911 legislator introduced a series of innovations which would increase the autonomy of the University vs. governmental authority. It also established biannual departmental oral exams and the current form of the doctoral thesis. The reform was crucial. From that moment



1937. Celebration of the Three Holy Hierarchs of Eastern Christianity in the Great Ceremony Hall.

onwards, the University could reproduce its own academic staff. Until then, one could become a professor after having completed their doctoral studies abroad.

During the troubled early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the University held an active role in the national struggles: the Balkan Wars, World War I and the Asia Minor Campaign of 1919–1922. The University was the first institution which publicly honoured the memory of the fallen by building memorial monuments at the Propylaea. In the years that followed, the institution witnessed all the political changes of the country. A second wave of academic staff cleansing occurred during the National Schism. NKUA actively resisted all the educational reforms proposed by the then-Prime Minister Eleftherios Venizelos, highlighting its opposition against the introduction of demotic Greek into schools. NKUA was not the only Greek University at the time. The map of higher education had radically shifted. The University of Thessaloniki in 1926, along with the establishment of a great number of Schools by the Venizelos governments, which aimed at linking education with the industry, contributed to the change. The Higher Agricultural School of Athens, the Higher School of Commercial Sciences and the Free School

of Political and Economic Science, currently known as Panteion University, are some of them. The Venizelos governments aimed at shaping a new higher educational framework. The world-renowned mathematician Constantin Carathéodory was the first Governmental Commissioner, in 1931, appointed to supervise the Universities of Athens and Thessaloniki. The institution did not prosper, and the new University regulation, the longest-running organization of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (1932-1982), was put in power in 1932.

The infrastructure of the University expanded further at the time. The Schools had new buildings like the one of the Theoretical Sciences in Solonos St. (downtown) and the Medical School at Goudi. The increasing number of enrollments led to the introduction of entrance exams for all the departments in 1926. Angeliki Panajiotatou, who was the first female instructor (yfigitria) in 1908, became the first elected female adjunct professor at the Medical School in 1938 specializing in Tropical Diseases.

The increasing number of students raised the issue of their representation in the University administration. The Rector had accepted the establishment of student unions and associations per School since 1911. The phenomenon began to intensify during the Interwar period. Leftwing ideas proliferated among students, at the same time. The student body became more politically-oriented and critical of the University. The Interwar period witnessed massive student demonstrations, strikes and conflicts in the student body and among the representatives of rival student parties.

The University was celebrating its centenary anniversary in 1937 when the Metaxas dictatorship attempted to legislatively abolish the autonomy of the University and higher education in general, prosecuting both teaching staff and students of both sexes.

The 1940s, the Greco-Italian War, the Axis Occupation of Greece and the Greek Civil War signified a turbulent period for the University. The Greek educational system was poorly functioning to a great extent and the academic years shrank.

The brightest moment in the history of the University was when a great number of academic staff and thousands of students were enlisted in the fight against the occupiers. The University Club, which had been in operation since the Interwar period, was a base for resistance. On October 28, 1941, hundreds of students left the Propylaea area, after having put a laurel wreath on the heads of the 1821 heroes and headed towards the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, at Syntagna Square. On March 24, 1942, about a thousand students left Exarcheia, heading towards Kolonaki, to put laurel wreaths on the *Philiki Etairia* founder statues, singing a marching song of the Hellenic Army (*Black is the night on the mountains...*). Another wave of academic staff cleansing along with a series of prosecutions against students occurred in the aftermath of the Liberation and during the Greek Civil War.

Expressing the dominant post-civil war ideology, the University of Athens participated at the critical historical moments of the time. Teaching staff and students actively participated in the protests over the Cyprus conflict. In the 1960s, thanks to George Papandreou's cancelling the tuition fees, the University of Athens witnessed an impressive increase in the number of students. Slogans for democracy and education, like the '1-1-4' and '15%', reverberated in the streets of Athens, with the student movement at the forefront of mass protests, assuming a critical role in the political landscape. The National Student Union of Greece ( $E\Phi EE$ ) emerged, in 1963, as a result of the 4th Student Conference and drawing heavily on relevant developments in France. This manifested the multiple shared ideologies and interactions between the Greek and the international student movement during a decade of youth-led uprisings and claiming of rights.

The dictatorship of April 21, 1967 attempted to take full control of higher education, through dismissal of academic staff, establishing a government commissioner, and dismantling the student movement.

The student movement reacted heavily, after the first years of silence and tolerance on the part of the student community, with some significant exceptions. The Law School uprising, in February 1972, was one of the most important moments of the anti-dictatorial youth struggle. The contribution of the student movement to overthrowing the April 21st regime determined its strong presence, in the period after the regime shift, known as *Metapolitefsi*.

As early as in the 1960s, but essentially after the *Metapolitefsi* (the regime shift), new, mainly regional, higher education institutions appeared to cover state mechanism staffing needs, in both the public and private sector, and to conduct research. This limited the role of the older institutions, including the University of Athens, which had to significantly reshape its highly conservative character of the past years. Since the early days of the *Metapolitefsi*, the student body heightened its public presence, and the 1978 "100-day strike" signalled a shift in the status of the Specialized Teaching Staff, a category of employees that had been almost invisible since the establishment of the institution.

Scientific developments have also been highly significant. Innovative specializations appeared in the programmes of studies; new laboratories, clinics and study halls emerged, supplementing the older ones, and attributing a more research-oriented character to educational programmes, and the overall profile of the university. More and new research staff members, closely aligned with modern, international scientific thinking, joined the institution.

The legislative change of the 1982 Legal Framework - one of the longest-established higher education laws abolished in 2007 - has decisively contributed to reshaping the institution's character, on the basis of the new higher education landscape of the country. Abolishing the university-chair institution has contributed a more flexible and democratic manner of



1930. Classroom of the Department of Pharmacy (Chimeio).

organizing university life. Participating of all categories of university personnel (teaching and administrative staff, student body) in the administration of the institution was motivated by the same rationale, despite the criticism and the problems it may have raised. At the same time, there has been an impressive expansion of the Schools and Departments of the University. Since the 1990s, the emergence of postgraduate studies and the European research programmes has been a decisive factor in the development of research infrastructures and related activities of the institution, in the midst of a continuously expanding number of students and academic staff.

Since its establishment, NKUA has been the backbone of scientific, social and cultural Greek reality to a great extent. During these 180 years, millions of people have attended courses in its rooms: students, teaching and administrative staff. The majority of those who have served the political and social life of the country, at least until the Interwar period, came from it. Presidents of democracy, prime ministers and other ministers, etc. were members of NKUA's academic staff, while internationally prominent figures of science and culture have studied there.

Numbers also point to the impressive course of the institution. The number of Schools has risen from 4 back in 1837 to 8, with 33 departments. The number of professors, adjunct



1930. Workshop room in the Organic Chemistry Laboratory.

professors (*yfigites*) and academic staff has risen today from some dozens to more than 3,000 members of teaching and administrative staff. The number of students has risen from 52 in the first year to more than 65,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students. It has been a long way from Stamatis Kleanthi's residence to the hundreds of buildings the institution uses today throughout Attica. The construction of the University Campus, known as *Panepistimioupoli* in the area of Zografou, as well as the establishment of a great number of Schools and Departments during the *Metapolitefsi*, greatly contributed to the advancement of the University.

The University of Athens has been a strong advocate of the public university institution in the country. Similar to all higher educational institutions in recent years, the University has experienced an unprecedented decrease in state funding in support of its operation, resulting in a significant reduction of its science faculty, alongside thousands of graduate students fleeing to other countries. At a time of crisis and dramatic changes, it has to adapt and reshape its profile once again. As is depicted in its history, which is indispensably linked to the trajectories of Greek society, this is neither the first nor the only time. Recording its history, understanding its conflicts and continuities, highlighting the work it offered, reflecting on its journey in time are necessary conditions for understanding its current changes, defending its basic principles and planning its next steps. Its historical tradition, the scientific reputation of its teaching staff, the contribution of its research and management staff, the liveliness and strength of the student body are powerful parameters allowing it to successfully take its next steps in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

VANGELIS KARAMANOLAKIS Assistant Professor of Theory and History of Historiography Department of History and Archaeology Chair of the Board of Directors, Historical Archive of NKUA





# 3

## The present structure of NKUA

Year 2017

### Administrative and academic structure of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

(Year 2017)

#### I. RECTOR AND VICE RECTORS

**RECTOR** Professor Meletios-Athanasios Dimopoulos

VICE RECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS Professor Napoleon Maravegias

VICE RECTOR OF RESEARCH POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT Professor Thomas Sfikopoulos

VICE RECTOR OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS Professor Konstantinos Buraselis

> AVICE RECTOR OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS Professor Nikolaos Milonas

VICE RECTOR OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES Professor George Polymeneas

VICE RECTOR OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL POLICY Professor Georgios Zografos

#### **II. SENATE**

The senate comprises the Rector, the Deans of the Schools and the Chairs of the Departments, up to two per School, with a two-year non-renewable term and alternation in each School, until all the School's Departments have been exhausted. Vice Rectors attend the meetings of the Senate, without the right to vote.

44 NKUA 1837-2017

#### **III. STRUCTURE OF SCHOOLS AND DEPARTMENTS**

The University of Athens has eight (8) Schools comprising a total of thirty-three (33) Departments as listed below:

#### SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Dean: Professor Apostolos Nikolaidis

Department of Theology Department of Social Theology

#### **SCHOOL OF LAW**

Deans: Professor Dionysia Kallinikou (1-1-2017- 31-8-2017) Professor Philippos Spyropoulos (1-9-2017- 30-11-2107) Professor Kalliopi Christakakou-Fotiadi (1-12-2017)

#### SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

Dean: Professor Michail Spourdalakis

Department of Political Science and Public Administration Department of Economics Department of Communication and Media Studies Department of Turkish and Modern Asian Studies

#### **SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY**

Dean: Professor Eleni Karamalengou

Department of Philology Department of History and Archaeology Department of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology Department of Psychology Department of English Language and Literature Department of French Language and Literature Department of German Language and Literature Department of Italian Language and Literature Department of Spanish Language and Literature Department of Music Studies Department of Theatre Studies Department of Russian language and literature of Slavic Studies

#### SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

Dean: Professor Konstantinos Varotsos

Department of Physics Department of Chemistry Department of Mathematics Department of Biology Department of Geology and Geoenvironment Department of Informatics and Telecommunications Department of History and Philosophy of Science

#### SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Dean: Professor Efstratios Patsouris

School of Medicine Department of Dentistry Department of Pharmacy Department of Nursing

#### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION Dean: Professor Thalia Dragona

Department of Primary Education Department of Early Childhood Education SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT SCIENCE

Dean: Professor Nikolaos Geladas

#### **MODERN GREEK LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTRE (DIDASKALEIO)



Internal view of Modern Greek Language Teaching Centre.

NKUA 1837-2017 / 47

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

Rector's Office Department of Rector's Secretariat Press Office

Vice-Rector's Office of Administrative Affairs Vice-Rector's Office of Research Policy and Development Vice-Rector's Office of Academic Affairs and International Relations Vice-Rector's Office of Finance Vice-Rector's Office of Student Support Vice-Rector's Office of Health and Social Policy

Department of University Senate Secretariat

Department of Technical Council Secretariat

48 NKUA 1837-2017

#### **GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF EDUCATION**

#### **1. EDUCATION AND RESEARCH DIRECTORATE**

Department of Studies Department of Postgraduate Studies and Research

#### 2. PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING DIRECTORATE

Department of Documentation Department of Planning and Organization

#### **3. COMPUTERIZATION DIRECTORATE**

Central Computer Department Department of Automation Department of Secretariat

**CENTRE OF IT OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT (K.LEI.DI.)** 

#### **GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF STAFF AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**

#### **1. ADMINISTRATION DIRECTORATE**

Department of Teaching Staff Department of Other Staff Department of Administrative Support Department of Protocol

#### 2. PUBLIC RELATIONS AND HISTORY DIRECTORATE

Department of Public Relations, Protocol and Cultural Events Department of European and International Relations Department of Museums and History Archives Athens University History Museum

#### **HISTORICAL ARCHIVE**



#### **3. PUBLICATIONS DIRECTORATE**

Department of Textbooks Department of Scientific Publications Department of Administrative Publications Department of Publishing

#### **GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF ASSETS AND FINANCE**

#### **1. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

Department of Budget Department of Expenditure Clearance Accounting Department Payroll Department Procurement Department Treasury

#### 2. ASSETS DIRECTORATE

Department of Immovable Property Department of Scientific Equipment Department of Movable Property Student Residence Halls of NKUA (*F.E.P.A.*)

#### **3. DIRECTORATE OF ENDOWMENTS**

Department of Clearance and Assets Management Department of Accounting Department of Scholarships and Awards

#### **SPECIAL ACCOUNT FOR RESEARCH FUNDS (ELKE)**

#### FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT OF ELKE (SPECIAL ACCOUNT FOR RESEARCH FUNDS)

Directorate of Financial and Administrative Support Department of Planning and Procurement Department of Project Support Department of Communication, Publicizing and Quality of Services Department of Information Systems Department of Secretariat Department of Revenue Department of Accounting and Human Resources Centre of Continuing Education and Training (K.E.K.- NKUA)

#### **INDEPENDENT SERVICES/UNITS OF NKUA**

#### LEGAL ADVISOR'S OFFICE

#### **TECHNICAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

(Independent directorate under the jurisdiction of the Chief Secretary)

Department of Research Department of Project Implementation Department of Maintenance

NKUA 1837-2017 51



The Library of the School of Health Sciences.

#### THE LIBRARY DIRECTORATE

The Library and Information Centre of NKUA, University Campus (Panepistimioupoli)

The Library of the School of Theology The Library of the School of Law The Library of the School of Economics and Political Sciences The Library of the School of Philosophy The Library of the School of Sciences The Library of the School of Health Sciences The Library of the School of Education The Library of the School of Physical Education and Sport Science The Libraries' Computer Centre, Campus (*Panepistimioupoli*)



The University Club Building

**UNIVERSITY CLUB** 15, Ippokratous Str., 106 79 Athens

Director Protocol-Archive Accountant Department of Hygiene

- Pathology Practitioner
- Ophthalmology Practitioner
- Dentistry Practitioner Campus Medical Centres Student Support Catering Service Music Department

Department of Public Relations and Recruitment -POFPA (Student Cultural Centre of NKUA) Student reading Rooms

University Campus Sports Centre (Panepistimioupoli)

#### NKUA'S PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT COMPANY

#### QUALITY ASSURANCE UNIT (MODIP)

#### ACCESSIBILITY UNIT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Accessibility Committee (for students with disability, *FmeA*) Department of Electronic Accessibility Transportation Service for Students with disability ( $\Phi\mu\epsilon A$ ) Video Relay Service Psychological Counseling Service for  $\Phi\mu\epsilon A$ Student Halls of Residence A' (FEPA), 12, Oulof Palme Str., Campus (Panepistimioupoli) Service of Accessibility in Structured Environment TYPA Building, Campus (Panepistimioupoli)

#### **STUDENT OMBUDSMAN**

#### ENERGY POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (KEPA)



Cultural Centre- "Kostis Palamas" Building

#### **CENTRE OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Technology Transfer Office Business Accelerator's Office Student Practice Office

**LIAISON OFFICE** 

**GENDER AND EQUALITY OFFICE (THEFYLIS)** 

EXPERIMENTAL SCHOOL OF NKUA (Peiramatiko Scholeio)

UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS DAY NURSERY

**Cultural Centre-"Kostis Palamas" Building** 





## 4

## Education

#### Education Studies, Benefits and Services

The National and Kapodistrian University primarily aims at producing, disseminating and advancing knowledge through research and teaching. It helps form educated and responsible citizens with scientific, social, cultural and political awareness.

The Institution and academic staff provide students with sound scientific training to promote their future career, by developing highly specialized interdisciplinary and high quality undergraduate and postgraduate programmes that cover a large area of scientific fields. The University faces the new challenges and, acknowledging the importance of human resources, it contributes to the social, cultural and economic growth of the country by making sure it creates:

- New departments and divisions that offer undergraduate programmes in new academic fields.
- New interdisciplinary postgraduate programmes that address emerging socio-economic needs.
- State-of-the-art laboratories of research centers and libraries that give the researchers and students access to information technology (IT) tools.
- The necessary infrastructure for the use of IT tools in teaching and an e-learning platform for electronically managing courses (e-class).
- Consulting services providing academic and career advice.
- Well designed programmes for exchange and bilateral agreements with European and international educational institutions and research centers, for student, academic and new research staff.
- Updated foreign language teaching programmes for Greek students and programmes of Greek as a Second Language for foreign students.

The eight (8) Schools and thirty-three (33) Departments of the Institution provide Bachelor Degrees (*ptychia*) and one hundred forty three (143) postgraduate degrees as well as Doctoral Degrees.

The number of undergraduate students and the admission process into Schools and corresponding departments is laid out in Greek legislation (Admission in Higher Education Institutions). To receive a Bachelor's Degree, undergraduate students complete eight (8) semesters with the exception of the School of Dentistry, the Faculty of Pharmacy and the School of Music Studies where students have to complete ten (10) semesters, and the Medical School where the minimum required duration of studies is twelve (12) semesters.

Entrance through placement exams, in the Schools and Departments of the University is feasible, in agreement with the law regarding Placement exams and the University Senate's statutory decisions.

Postgraduate programmes meet the requirements of the relevant postgraduate degrees and do not exceed two years, whereas doctoral theses may take five years.

A considerable number of university laboratories, clinics, museums, libraries, study halls, foreign language and Modern Greek language learning centers, as well as sports centres, cultural societies and lifelong learning centers contribute to research and to high standard academic studies while helping connect the academic community with society.

Administrationwise, the Directorate of Education and Research is responsible for advising and supporting Schools and academic Departments, in operational, legal and organizational issues at undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral and post-doctoral level.

#### **Undergraduate Studies**

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens offers undergraduate studies in all thirty-three (33) Departments included in its eight (8) Schools:

#### SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

#### Department of Theology Department of Social Theology (and the Study of Religion)

The School of Theology is one of the oldest Schools of the University. It focuses on the science of Theology beginning from the sources of the Holy Revelation, the Scriptures and religious tradition. It further extends into various scientific fields: History, Archaeology, Art, Paleography, Philosophy, Law, Ethics, Bioethics, Sociology, Ecology, Psychology, Religious Studies, Pedagogy, Didactics etc.

Graduates of both Departments may work in secondary and ecclesiastical education, in administration, consultation, scientific and secretarial support of ecclesiastical organizations and institutions and in the public sector, in organizing pilgrimages and religious tours. They may also work in departments supervising, preserving, storaging, digitalizing, documentating and archiving ecclesiastical documents, libraries, museums and other monuments of ecclesiastical nature. Graduates may also work with missionary teams or in organizations of the Holy Metropolis, in Patriarchates and the Church's Non-Governmental Organizations. They may also work as consultants on matters of ethics and deontology in the public and private sector.

Furthermore, graduates of the School of Theology may become members of the Greek Orthodox clergy in Greece and abroad.

#### SCHOOL OF LAW

The School of Law is an autonomous, one-department School and one of the oldest of the University. It offers courses of general legal education and specialization courses at an interdisciplinary level. The courses exceed the confines of the University of Athens, as the Department cooperates with higher education institutions in Greece and on the basis of international programmes abroad, often excelling in international legal competitions.



The Building housing the School of Law and the School of Economics and Political Sciences.

The concept of law is at the heart of the Legal Science but also advances understanding in the fields of history and philosophy of law, sociology of law and other relevant scientific fields. Graduates of the School of Law may work as lawyers, judges, notaries, land registrar employees, prosecutors, legal consultants, in public administration and as diplomats.

#### SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

#### **Department of Political Science and Public Administration**

The Department of Political Science and Public Administration aims at studying Political Science through five disciplinary subfields: Political Analysis and Political Theory, International and European Studies, Administrative Science and Public Law, Social Theory and Social Politics. It advances understanding of basic concepts, methods and debates that inform the systematic analysis of political, social, civic and international phenomena.

Graduates of the Department may work as teachers or trainers in secondary education, in political or administrative institutions, in departments and organizations (national or international) as executives, in the private sector, in polling or consulting agencies, in the media industry, in private corporations, or public utility companies, in research and analysis departments of political settings and in non-governmental organizations as executives or consultants.

#### **Department of Economics**

The Department of Economics offers high quality academic instruction, it advances economic research and makes an important, multifaceted and broad contribution to the economic, scientific, social and political life of the country. It offers a highly specialized economics curriculum, drawing on all fields of economic science as well as adjacent fields (economic history and philosophy, mathematics, statistics and technology). A number of courses are taught in English through cooperation with international institutions.

Graduates of the Department may work as economists, executives in the financial sector (banks, investment companies and stockbroking firms), as economic specialists in the public sector and in European and international organizations, as business consultants, as accountants (and tax consultants) and finally as economics teachers in secondary education after receiving a teaching certification (QTS).

#### **Department of Communication and Media Studies**

The Department of Communication and Media Studies advances the scientific field of communication in Greece, while it broadens its horizons taking into consideration the international scientific community and offers a multifaceted scientific education to the students. The Department aims at promoting a critical approach to communicative practices, behaviours and technologies and at developing students' critical thinking on society and democracy.

The Department's graduates can work in the media, in advertising, in public relations and communication agencies and companies, in polling companies, political communication institutions and with political figures, cultural organizations, educational and research institutions.

#### **Department of Turkish Studies and Modern Asian Studies**

The Department offers two areas of specialization, Turkish Studies and Modern Asian Studies. The Turkish Studies Division started to operate first, while the Asian Studies Division is expected to welcome its first students, initially focusing on Japanese and Chinese cultures.

The Turkish Studies disciplinary orientation offers a profound study of the Turkish language, history and culture, delving into the geographical and geopolitical system of the Turkish world, the Asian Geographic, the Geo-economic and Geopolitical Hyper-system.

The Department aims at inspiring graduates to provide services as experts and specialists of the Turkish and Asian world in order to facilitate communication between the two neighbouring states at all levels: scientific, cultural, sociopolitical, economic etc.

They may, also, teach Turkish language and literature both in the public and private sector and with translation from and into Turkish.



View of the School of Philosophy.

#### SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY

#### **Department of Philology**

The Department of Philology is among the oldest and largest academic institutions in the country. Ever since the first years of the newly established Greek state, it has played a crucial role in the scientific and educational development of the country constantly adhering to humanitarian and cultural values.

The Department focuses on the study of Classical Philology, Byzantine Philology and Folklore, Modern Greek Philology and Linguistics.

The graduates of the Department are philologists of high scientific and pedagogic standards who possess specialized scientific knowledge of high quality in the area of Humanities. They can work as secondary school teachers, researchers in research programmes, research centres and institutions and in public and private enterprises. They can, also, be hired as text editors, as supervisors of special publications in publishing houses, as consultants, trainers and experts in issues of language and culture, in public and private institutions and finally as employees or executives in the public and private sphere.

#### **Department of History and Archaeology**

The Department studies the sister disciplines of History and Archaeology and comprises two respective specializations of undergraduate study, offering a degree in either of the two disciplines. The courses in history and archaeology aim at an interpretative approach to historical phenomena and studying the material remains of human activity.

The Division of History focuses on educating the future historians on the whole temporal and thematic spectrum of the Greek and world history, from antiquity to the present moment. The programme is supplemented with courses offered by other Departments, mainly from the School of Philosophy, pursuing a multifaceted development of skills for the future teachers of secondary education and their acquaintance with various approaches in humanitarian and social sciences.

The Division of Archaeology and History of Art focuses on the study of methodology and the history of archaeological research, on excavation methods, on the study of the emerging Greek and neighbouring civilizations, on the study of classical antiquity and its modern reception along with the study of the various manifestations of Byzantine Art. The History of Art as a field of scholarship examines art (painting, sculpture, architecture, engraving, decorative art) of the Medieval West and the Modern Times, along with manifestations of modern art globally.

Archaeology graduates and art historians are employed by the Greek archaeological organizations of the state, whose purpose is to study and protect monuments and to organize museums and art exhibitions.

#### **Department of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology**

The Department focuses on the study of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology and their practical applications. The Department enables future teachers to trace students' capabilities, needs and personal traits, to become aware of their social background, to critically and constructively approach curricula, and primarily to acknowledge their educational mission in the school environment.

The Department's graduates specialize in philosophical, educational and psychological issues and can work as philologists in public and private education, as education executives and researchers in research centres and institutions.

#### **Department of Psychology**

The Department advances research, teaching and the practical applications of the science of Psychology, it disseminates and makes use of documented knowledge in Psychology, it provides psychological training to students and graduates of other departments of the School of Philosophy and other schools of the University of Athens.

A primary aim of the Department of Psychology is to provide future psychologists with sound teaching, research and applied skills. This is achieved by providing general and specialized knowledge, by training students in scientific methodology and assessment, and through a dissertation and a practice internship during their last year of studies.

The graduates of the Department can obtain a license to practice psychology as a profession, after submitting their degree to the relevant Prefecture.

Department of English Language and Literature Department of French Language and Literature Department of German Language and Literature Department of Spanish Language and Literature Department of Italian Language and Literature Department of Russian Language and Literature and Slavic Studies

The Foreign Language Departments of the School of Philosophy produce highly educated scientists specialized in foreign language, literature and culture.

They focus on the structure and use of language, in general, and of foreign language, in particular, at a theoretical and a practical level, on foreign language teaching, linguistic theories (communication, translation, linguistic behaviour), computational analysis of linguistic data, digital humanities, literature, comparative literature, literary theory and creative writing, history and culture, translation, cultural transfer and cultural interaction between Greece and other countries.

The graduates of Foreign Language Departments can work as teachers and trainers at all levels of public and private education, and in foreign language schools (*Frontistiria*), as researchers in research programmes, research centres, institutions and private and public enterprises, bodies and organizations, as translators/interpreters, text editors, supervisors of special editions in publishing houses, consultants, trainers, assistants and specialists in linguistic and cultural matters, in public and private institutions and as employees and executives in the public and private sector.

Graduates of the Departments of the School of Philosophy may broadly-speaking occupy posts in institutions which meet the needs of Arts and Letters in the country.

#### **Department of Music Studies**

The Department of Music Studies advances research in music and the science of musicology, in all its contemporary manifestations.

Its programme of studies addresses a wide range of scientific areas and has a critical interdisciplinary orientation. Students learn to develop scientific thinking and practice, by acknowledging the importance of musical knowledge and the cognitive systems which the musical skill draws on. They are taught Greek music, in its historical trajectory, namely, ancient, byzantine (ecclesiastic or secular), demotic and folk traditional music, European, electro-acoustic, etc. in a wide and critical scientific perspective.

The graduates of the Department can be employed in different fields of general education (schools), in music schools, conservatories, in musicological scientific research centres, in artrelated institutions and sectors, in orchestras, choirs, music theatres and in the media. They can also work in the field of sound technology and sound recording.

#### **Department of Theater Studies**

The department of Theater Studies advances the science of the theater, cultivates and protects the arts, utilizes and fosters the rich Greek tradition. Its main topics are theater history, theatre theory and production analysis of a theatrical performance, with an emphasis on the history of European theater (Greek-ancient, older and modern).

Through systematic study and research, the Department prepares specialized executives and fully trained educational personnel, to offer its graduates a successful scientifically-aware professional career, thus meeting the increasing needs of cultural institutions and of the educational system.

#### SCHOOL OF SCIENCES

#### **Department of Physics**

Physics is the result of the diachronic human effort to answer fundamental questions about the structure and essence of the world, its origin and its evolution throughout the years. Students are trained in the following scientific fields: Solid-state Physics, Nuclear Physics and Particle Physics, Astrophysics-Astronomy-Mechanics, Electronics, Computers, Telecommunications and Control, and Environmental Physics- Meteorology.

The high level of teaching and research in the Department is internationally recognized, as it is among the first 150 departments on the University ranking list of Shanghai Ranking Consultancy.

Depending on the content of their studies, the graduates of the Department can work in education, in research and any field related to theoretical, experimental and applied physics, in health settings, namely, in fields related to biophysics and medical physics, and in any field of Physics and its applications.

#### **Chemistry department**

Chemistry looks into the study of the fundamental structure of matter, its composition and alterations, its analysis and synthesis, the production of different substances.

Students are taught the basic theories of the science of Chemistry (the structure of matter, analysis, synthesis, production in the fields of Analytical Chemistry and Physical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Food Chemistry, Industrial Chemistry, Biochemistry, Inorganic Chemistry and Environmental Chemistry) and acquire an important knowledge background: general, specialized, laboratory technical and technological.

The graduates of the Department can work in the public sector, in ministries and organizations which deal with quality control of imported and exported goods (raw materials in industries, fuels, food, medication) and environmental control, and as researchers in various public research institutions or as teachers. In the industry field, they can work in the production, the quality control of raw materials and of final products, as well as in research for production and distribution of new products. In healthcare, they can work in biochemical measurements in hospitals and healthcare organizations and in the private sector (laboratories for quality control of wine and food).

#### **Department of Mathematics**

Mathematical studies are a fundamental tool for developing analytical thinking and critical ability, as well as for understanding the world and nature. The Department of Mathematics advances mathematical thinking, it seeks and advances understanding of theoretical models accounting for practical and theoretical problems and educates scientists intended to meet educational, financial and research needs.

The graduates of the Department can work in educational institutions of secondary education, in basic and applied research, in the public and private sector in fields which involve developing, applying and studying mathematical models in natural, economic, medical and social sciences and technology.

#### **Department of Biology**

Biology is the science of life and is interested in the study of living organisms and systems. Its range is particularly wide, as it studies organisms at multiple levels: molecular (Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Genetics), cellular (Microbiology, Cellular Biology), multicellular organisms (Physiology, Histology), developmental (Developmental Biology), as well as at the level of interaction of organisms (Population Genetics) and interdependence of populations (Ecology, Evolutionary Biology).

The graduates of the Department can work as teachers, in public and private organizations (dealing with environmental protection, biomedicine, biotechnology etc.), in public and private education as researchers in laboratories and research centres (NCSR Demokritos, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR), in healthcare, in industrial production and quality control of foods, medication, cosmetics, and also as ichthyologists.
#### **Department of Geology**

The scientific area of the Department is the study of minerals, rock, fossils, the structure of the Earth, the seismic and volcanic activity and the deformation of the crust of the Earth, the energetic and aquatic resources at national and international level. The Department also focuses on preventing and managing natural disasters and environmental hazards, managing aquatic resources, geotechnical, geophysical and environmental research and studying, geographical information systems and climate change.

The graduates of the Department can work in ministries and state organizations responsible for public works, in research institutions, research centres, in technical companies, and as teachers in secondary education.

#### **Department of Informatics and Telecommunications**

The Department of Informatics and Telecommunications was ranked amongst the top 100 departments worldwide for the years 2010-2013. It offers an up-to-date programme of undergraduate studies whose structure follows the guidelines of the leading international scientific and professional associations on Informatics and is enriched with a modern course cycle on Telecommunications. It also offers pedagogy and didactics courses.

The programme deals with the scientific areas of data and knowledge management, editing and structuring software, in general, theoretical foundations, telecommunication and networking, while it also provides its graduates the potential of choosing and creating their own customized scientific profile that reflects their interests, competences and skills.

For instance, the graduates of the Department are in a position to work in high-tech industries and corporations, in companies researching, designing, developing systems and services, promoting Informatics and Telecommunication products, as well as in companies providing telecommunication, networking and online services. They can also work in ministries, general secretariats, organizations and public companies, in education, research centres, institutes and laboratories.

#### **Department of History and Philosophy of Science**

The interdisciplinary field of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science examines historical and philosophical approaches to science in general and to individual sciences (natural sciences, human and social sciences, life and cognitive sciences, mathematics and logic) and to technology. It studies science as a complex historical, social and cultural phenomenon and highlights the philosophical dimensions of its theories and applications.

The Department of History and Philosophy of Science is the only university department in Greece that focuses on this area.

At the same time, its programme of studies offers a number of courses from fields related to History and the Philosophy of Science. The students of the Department acquire a rich historical and philosophical perspective into the humanities and social sciences, and into the natural sciences, mathematics and the sciences of life and cognition.

Graduates of the Department take part in the ASEP exams for the recruitment of teachers in secondary education and can work in any job or position requiring broad knowledge, interdisciplinarity, creativity, analytical, synthetic and critical thinking, communication skills and problem-solving ability and flexibility.

#### SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

#### **School of Medicine - Department of Medicine**

The scientific focus of the School of Medicine is on research and application of methods and techniques aiming at preventing, diagnosing and treating human diseases.

The School comprises the Divisions of Pathology, Surgery, Clinical-laboratory or Laboratory medicine, Basic sciences, Psychiatry and maternal-child Healthcare.

Throughout the six years of studies, the future doctor has the opportunity to individually and universally comprehend the workings of the human body in health and in sickness.

After receiving of the basic medical qualification, graduates are automatically granted permission to practice medicine and by default work as doctors in the private sector or train themselves in one of the 37 recognized specialties in Greece.



"Attico" building of the Athens School of Medicine (inaugurated in December 2017).

They can also expand their medical education by selecting one of the 55 Postgraduate Study Programs that are currently running in the School or by carrying out a doctoral dissertation followed by a postdoctoral research.

The medical specialist may work in the public or private Sector in alignment with the Code of Medical Ethics and Deontology.

## **School of Dentistry - Department of Dentistry**

The aim of the Dentistry Department is to educate students, so that, upon completion of studies, they possess fundamental knowledge and skills for the practice of general dentistry which aims at rehabilitating and preserving oral and general health at an individual and collective level.

It is important for these competences to draw on medical-biological knowledge, prevention, social sensitivity and professionalism for a Dental graduate to be considered as a fully-fledged scientist. Student Practice (*Praktiki Askisi*) is held in private dentist offices and graduates may work as dentists both in the private and the public sector.

### **Department of Pharmacy**

Pharmaceutical science deals with the study of drugs or other bioactive compounds and of the pharmaceutical products.

In particular, it examines authorized pharmaceutical products and aims at discovering new pharmaceutical structures and their respective action on human organism.

It also monitors authenticity, purity, content and stability of raw materials, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products and with their overall formulation so that they can be administered on the basis of their pharmaceutical indication.

Graduates of the Department take the Central Health Council examination of the Ministry of Health to be registered as pharmacists. From then on, they can work in ministries, prefectures, drugstores, hospital clinics of the private or public Sector and educational or research institutions. They can also be occupied in production, research and development departments or in the commercial departments of pharmaceutical companies.

### **Department of Nursing**

The nursing science includes the independent and cooperative care of ill or healthy people of all ages, families, groups and communities in all healthcare services. Nursing is concerned with protecting, promoting and optimizing health, preventing illness and health damage, relief from suffering and treating human response.



School of Pharmacy, Museum of Pharmacology.

Employment prospects for the graduates of the Department of Nursing are high and they can carry out Clinical Practice as scientific personnel in hospitals, healthcare centres, long-term care provision, schools and workplaces at national and international level. They can also consider research and education at all levels. In administration, they can work as regional health directors, directors and deputy directors of hospitals, in healthcare centres and other institutions, and as heads of departments and offices.

#### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

#### **Department of Primary Education**

The mission of the Department of Primary Education is to produce scientifically qualified professionals who would dedicate themselves to educating school-age children.

Particularly, its aim is developing and advancing Educational Science, providing its graduates basic tools for their scientific and professional career, meeting the growing needs of education and contributing to managing and resolving educationally-related issues.

The study programme includes a compulsory practice course (*praktiki askisi*) held at schools of primary education.

For instance, graduates of the Department are not only in a position to work in public and private schools of primary education (general or special) as teachers, but also in education, in scientific, research centres and institutes, in foundations and laboratories related to educational Science and in centers of culture, youth and lifelong learning.

#### **Department of Early Childhood Education**

The scientific area of the Department of Early Childhood Education comprises the specialties of applied pedagogy and didactics of various fields (music, painting, theatre, biology, physics, mathematics), as well as theory and research in a plethora of fields pertaining to social sciences and the humanities (Developmental Psychology, Pedagogy, Didactics, Sociology).

The aim of the Department is to provide the appropriate tools for the organization of the educational practice that would enable students to understand the complexity of educational phenomena and the analysis of psychological, social and pedagogical determinants that shape the educational status quo. The study programme also comprises a compulsory practicum (*praktiki askisi*).

Graduates of the Department can work as (kindergarten) teachers in public and private schools of Primary Education (general or special), as scientific personnel in scientific and Research Centres, Institutes, Foundations and Laboratories, as well as in Cultural, Youth and Lifelong Learning Centres.

# SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT SCIENCE

The School of Physical Education and Sport Science is an autonomous one-department School aiming at cultivating and advancing physical education and sport science, and making sure that graduates receive some comprehensive training for their scientific and professional careers. It also aims at developing Greek Sports and disseminating the sporting idea, as well as raising people's awareness of the importance of physical education as key in improving health and quality of life.

The School scientifically studies, researches and teaches all attributes of human movement. The approach is interdisciplinary, merging classical and positive science.

The School offers 27 sport specializations and students may receive a specialization certificate in the respective fields. (The Certificate of Specialization is not mandatory for acquiring a degree)

It prepares managerial staff, including Physical Education Teachers, Coaches and Sports Scientists, at all levels of education, at sports and cultural associations and at exercising areas and leisure facilities. They also qualify for managing and supervising gyms and sports facilities and working as consultants or partners in sports organizations or other bodies.

# **Postgraduate Studies**

# **Postgraduate Programmes**

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (N.K.U.A) offers a wide range of postgraduate programmes (Departmental, Interdepartmental, Inter-institutional and Interstate ones), covering a variety of scientific fields, thus enabling graduates, as well as graduates of other academic institutions, to advance science and to claim their place in the labour market.

The University offers one hundred and forty three (143) Postgraduate Studies Programmes:

- ninety seven (97) Departmental
- sixteen (16) Interdepartmental
- twenty three (23) Inter-institutional
- seven (7) Interstate.

Aiming at extroversion and broadening its prospective target groups, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) has also established and run postgraduate programmes in collaboration with research centres and institutes such as the

- Greek Atomic Energy Commission,
- National Centre of Natural Science Research «Demokritos»,
- Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens,
- Institute of Communication and Computer Systems,
- Hellenic Pasteur Institute,
- «Alexander Fleming» Biomedical Sciences Research Centre, in collaboration with foreign higher education institutions such as the
- Montesquieu University Bordeaux IV in France (School of Law)
- University of Angers in France (School of Letters Languages and Humanities)
- University of Cyprus (Departments of Psychology, Mathematics, Statistics and Education Sciences)
- McGill University (Montreal Neurological Institute)
- University of Milan in Italy (Department of Surgical Studies)
- University of London (Institute of Education, University College London).

Moreover, in recent years, NKUA has organized and run postgraduate programmes in a foreign language, in order to meet students' needs for specialized knowledge and vocational rehabilitation, at a national and international level. At present, there have been seven (7) foreign language postgraduate programmes, and more are planned.

#### **Postgraduate Programmes in Foreign Languages**

MA, Department of English Language and Literature, taught in English.

**MA, French Language and Literature,** Department of French Language and Literature, taught in French.

MA, Teaching foreign languages in Europe: training in linguistic and cultural diversity of school populations, Department of French Language and Literature N.K.U.A and the University of Angers in France, taught in French.

**MA, German Literature and Linguistics: Theory and Applications**, Department of German Language and Literature, taught in German.

**MA, Southeast European Studies: Politics, History, Economics,** Department of Political Science and Public Administration, taught in English.

Mphil, Economics, Department of Economics, conducted in English.

MA, Greek and Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology: From the Bronze Age Palaces to the Hellenistic Kingdoms, Department of History and Archaeology, taught in English.

**MA, Athens International Master's Programme in Neuroscience,** Department of Biology in collaboration with the Department of Nursing, the Department of Dentistry, the Medical School, the Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens (BRFAA), the Hellenic Pasteur Institute (HPI), the "Alexander Fleming" Biomedical Sciences Research Centre (B.S.R.C), the National Centre of Scientific Research «Demokritos», taught in English.

The Postgraduate Programmes organized by the departments of N.K.U.A, along with those in which the N.K.U.A. departments participate in cooperation with other institutions, are listed on the website of the University:

https://www.uoa.gr/spoydes/metaptychiakes\_spoydes

A detailed description of the programmes (topics, programme of studies, regulations etc) are available on the website of each Postgraduate Programme.

All Postgraduate Programmes of the University are to be reestablished until April 2018, in accordance with article 32 of the 4485/2017 law.

# **Doctoral Studies**

The Departments of NKUA encourage innovation and research and offer graduates the potential to write a doctoral thesis.

Doctoral studies aim at advancing original scientific thinking and research and lead to a Doctoral Degree (PhD), certifying original scientific research and a sub-stantial contribution of its holder to advancing knowledge in the relevant scientific field.

The terms and conditions for conducting doctoral research in NKUA appear in detail in the Doctoral Studies Regulations, posted on the website of each Department.

The University offers the potential for co-supervision of a doctoral thesis in cooperation with other research centres, institutions and institutes.

Since 2009, NKUA has agreed to participate in Bilateral Memorandums of Understanding with peer institutions abroad for co-supervising doctoral theses; twenty eight (28) Special Protocols of Cooperation have been concluded, which University Departments can make good use of.

| r/n | COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS  |
|-----|---|
| 1   | Université de Picardie «Jules Verne» (Amiens, France)<br>(Government Gazette No. 191/8.2.2008 Issue B')                         |
| 2   | Université Rennes 2 (Rennes, France) (Government Gazette No. 1425/16.7.2009 Issue B')   |
| 3   | Université Paris Sorbonne-Paris IV (Paris, France)<br>(Government Gazette No. 2201/2.10.2009 Issue B')                          |
| 4   | Université d'Angers (Angers, France) (Government Gazette No. 2066/29.7.2014 Issue B')   |
| 5   | Universitatea Stefan cel Mare (Suceava, Romania)<br>(Government Gazette No. 1594/30.7.2015 Issue B')                            |
| 6   | Université Nice Sophia Antipolis (Nice, France)<br>(Government Gazette No. 2380/6.11.2015 Issue B')                             |
| 7   | Université de Nantes (Nantes, France) (Government Gazette No. 2398/28.8.2012 Issue B')  |
| 8   | Université Pierre-Mendès-France (Grenoble 2) (Saint-Martin-d'Hères, France)<br>(Government Gazette No. 2579/7.11.2011 Issue B') |
| 9   | Université de Cergy-Pontoise (Cergy-Pontoise, France) (Government Gazette No. 1862/22.8.2011 Issue B ')                         |
| 10  | Université Montpellier I (Montpellier, France) (Government Gazette No. 156/18.2.2010 Issue B')                                  |
| 11  | Université Paris-Sud (Paris XI) (Paris, France) (Government Gazette No. 1862/22.8.2011 Issue B')                                |

| 12 | Universität zu Köln (Köln, Deutschland) (Government Gazette No. 2579/7.11.2011 Issue B')   |
|----|--|
| 13 | Université Jean Moulin-Lyon III (Lyon, France) (Government Gazette No. 3384/18.12.2012 Issue B')   |
| 14 | Université de Provence - Aix-Marseille I (Marseille, France)<br>(Government Gazette No. 1425/16-07-09, Issue B '& Government Gazette No. 2593/B'/31-12-09) |
| 15 | УниверзитетуБеограду (University of Belgrade) (Belgrade, Serbia), (Government Gazette No. 1546/28.7.2009 Issue B ')  |
| 16 | Universität Heidelberg (Heidelberg, Deutschland) (Government Gazette No. 910/23.6.2010 Issue B')   |
| 17 | Université du Havre (Le Havre, France) (Government Gazette No. 2380/6.11.2015 Issue B')  |
| 18 | İstanbul Üniversitesi (University of Istanbul) (İstanbul, Türkiye), (Government Gazette No.<br>2066/29.7.2014 Issue B´)                                    |
| 19 | Observatoire de Paris (Paris, France) (Government Gazette No. 1862/22.8.2011 Issue B ')  |
| 20 | Université Paris Diderot-Paris 7 (Paris, France) (Government Gazette No. 2585/7.11.2011 Issue B')  |
| 21 | Université Lumière Lyon 2 (Lyon, France) (Government Gazette No. 910/23.6.2010 Issue B')   |
| 22 | Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier III (Montpellier, France), (Government Gazette No. 1109/11.6.2015<br>Issue B ´)   |
| 23 | Universita degli Studi di Roma «Tor Vergata» (Roma, Italia) (Government Gazette No. 1862/22.8.2011<br>Issue B ')   |
| 24 | Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Madrid, España) (Government Gazette No. 2579/7.11.2011 Issue B')   |
| 25 | Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Madrid, España) (Government Gazette No. 2579/7.11.2011 Issue B')   |
| 26 | Université Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris 3 (Paris, France) (Government Gazette No. 3129/26.11.2012 Issue B')   |
| 27 | Université Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris 3 (Paris, France) (Government Gazette No. 3129/26.11.2012 Issue B')   |
| 28 | Università degli Studi di Palermo (Palermo, Italia) (Government Gazette No. 2545/18.8.2016 Issue B')   |

(7) additional partnerships are in the process of being authorized and published with the following institutions:

- 1. Université Paris 1- Pantheon Sorbonne, France
- 2. University of Cyprus
- 3. École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris, France
- 4. Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, France
- 5. Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
- 6. Université Pierre et Marie Curie, France
- 7. Technische Universität Dresden, Deutschland

# **Postdoctoral Research**

The University of Athens fosters cooperation with scientists conducting postdoctoral research in areas falling within the research fields of its Departments. Cooperation mainly concerns postdoctoral research supervision or advisory support by one or more members of the host Department's research and teaching staff, access to scientific material or equipment, or assigning research projects, on behalf of the University, whether on a remuneration basis or not.

The terms and conditions for conducting postdoctoral research are included in the Department Regulations, posted on the relevant Department website. Announcements of vacancies are posted on the University website, as well as the Departments' websites.

# **Summer Schools**

«Summer schools» are occasionally organized on particular fields of interest, which are closely connected to features of the country or the University attracting a lot of students. An example is the 2016 summer school «Cultural Heritage Management: Archaeology, architecture and urban planning» - Summer School in Athens, Marathon and Kea (Cyclades, Aegean Sea).

# **Student Distinctions and Awards**

NKUA encourages undergraduate and postgraduate students to participate in international competitions and scientific events associated with their field of studies. Under the guidance of professors, NKUA student groups have excelled and been distinguished in international competitions and science Olympiads, as in recent examples of awarded NKUA student groups:

- Postgraduate students of the English Language and Literature department received distinctions at the International Conference «Myth and Emotions» which was held at the Complutense University of Madrid in 2017.)
- A NKUA Law School student team participated in the ELSA Moot Court Competition on World Trade Organization Law (EMC2) in 2017 and received awards for 'Best Written Submission Respondent' and for 'Best Written Submission Overall'.



Georgios Kotsovolis, a student of the Department of Mathematics, NKUA, earned a gold medal at the 25th International Mathematics Competition for University students (IMC), which took place in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, July 22-28, 2016.

- A student team of the School of Law has been the European Champion, for two consecutive years (2015 and 2016), in the international court competition of virtual trial for space law, the «Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition».
- Distinction for the Law School at the "Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot" in 2016.

Teams from the Department of Mathematics have been awarded:

• Three (3) medals in the South-Eastern European Mathematics Olympiad for University Students (SEEMOUS) in 2017.

- Five (5) medals (1 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze) at the International Mathematics Competition (IMC) in 2016.
- One (1) gold medal in the South-Eastern European Mathematics Olympiad for University Students (SEEMOUS) in 2016.
- A postgraduate student of the Department of History and Archaeology received an award at an international essay competition. The theme of the competition was "Peace and Security in the 21st Century a Youth Perspective for Achieving It" and it was organized by NATO's Public Policy Division in 2016.
- Students of the Department of Informatics and Telecommunications gained first distinction at the innovation competition «NBGi-bank #fintechcrowdhackathon» in 2016.

# **Buildings complexes and facilities**

The educational role of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens intertwined with its social awareness aims at shaping all-rounded personalities that will meet social, cultural and development needs of the country. The students of NKUA may benefit from a range of provisions and benefits relevant to their interests, while particular care has been taken for the vulnerable student groups through support facilities.

The infrastructure covers around 700,000 m2 and is used for educational, research and administrative purposes. The School of Philosophy, the School of Science and the School of Theology are located at the main Campus in Zographou, the School of Health Sciences is situated in Goudi, the School of Law, the School of Education and the School of Economics and Political Sciences are located in the centre of Athens while the School of Physical Education and Sports Science is situated in Dafni. The building complexes include fully equipped lecture theatres and classrooms with IT infrastructure, teaching and research laboratories and a great number of support facilities.

NKUA offers a wide range of facilities and services for supporting undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Examples of service categories appear in the following table.

| Counseling Services                                     | Studying, Support and Leisure Facilities   |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Student Ombudsman                                       | Accessibility Unit for Students with Disabilities  |  |  |
| Psycho-social Assistance Unit                           | University Club- Student Support Fund  |  |  |
| Advisory Office - School of Theology                    | Student Halls of Residence   |  |  |
| Councelling Office - Department of Primary<br>Education | University Club- Catering Service  |  |  |
| Community Mental Health Centre                          | Modern Greek Language Teaching Centre  |  |  |
| Coeval Counselling Centre                               | Foreign Language Teaching Centre   |  |  |
|   | Computing Centre   |  |  |
|   | Computer and Multimedia Centre<br>for student support  |  |  |
|   | Scholarships - Awards  |  |  |
|   | 8 complexes comprising Schools, Libraries and<br>Reading Rooms and 2 Libraries/Reading Rooms at the<br>University Club |  |  |
|   | University Gym and Sport Centre  |  |  |
|   | Student Cultural Society   |  |  |





# 5

# Research and Innovation

# Research and Innovation at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

The research mission of the University is equally significant and intertwined with its educational mission. It systematically supports and advances research in a context of academic freedom. Free scientific research is both a right and an obligation of its academic staff. The University favours research freedom and ensures compliance with academic codes of research conduct.

The research conducted at NKUA is multifaceted, multilevel often pioneering and internationally acknowledged. The research projects cover the areas of basic, applied and technological research. The governing principle goes beyond production of new knowledge; it also caters for the best use of Institutional research achievements in the market and society.

External evaluators, professors of foreign universities, gave the research strategy of NKUA the highest distinction ("worthy of merit") in the most recent external evaluation of the Institution by the Hellenic Quality Assurance and Accreditation Agency (ADIP). It is no coincidence that NKUA features at the top university rankings worldwide, as a result of its significant research activities and their outcome. NKUA is characterized as a "Research Oriented University", namely, one developing and advancing the culture of research.

The University supports all types of research equally (individual and collective, theoretical and applied, funded and non-funded) and is keen on publicizing research results at academic conferences, scientific journals and any other feasible means.

It is worth noting that the average annual funding which NKUA professors have attracted, over the past three years, has exceeded 60 million euros, despite the prolonged financial crisis. The funding was intended to enhance research-technology and development projects through competitive programmes.

Currently, the Special Account for Research Grants (ELKE) manages more than 2,000 research projects, which involve about 5,000 to 9,000 new scientists (Ph.D. candidates, post-doctoral researchers, new researchers, academic, administrative and technical staff) in cooperation with faculty members and the rest of the permanent staff of the Institution.

The Research, Innovation and Excellence report of the National Documentation Centre (2016) evaluates the NKUA performance as superior to the rest of the Greek Universities in terms of a Bibliometric Analysis of Greek Publications in International Scientific Journals for the 15-year period from 2000 to 2014. The data show that NKUA has contributed the highest amount of publications when compared to the rest of the institutions. It has also contributed slightly over 30% to the total amount of publications in the "Greece-Universities" category.

In terms of quality measures, and more specifically in terms of the citation index, NKUA seems to have taken a substantial lead because in the 15-year period the citations have almost quadrupled.

The contribution of NKUA has increased from 30% to almost 40% in the "Greece-Universities" category regarding the total amount of publications. This means that four (4) out of ten (10) references to research projects in the category "Universities-Greece", which appear on the international bibliography lists, involve NKUA. This further supports the view that the research output in NKUA is not only quantitatively but also qualitatively important.

It appears that the Impact Factor of NKUA (the average number of citations per publication) is 7.51, resulting from dividing the total number of citations by the total number of publications during the same 2010-2014 period. The Relative Impact Factor of NKUA is considerably higher than that of the EU countries average or OECD, as it has almost reached 1.25.

There is a strong tendency in NKUA for increasing openness and extroversion, as there is almost a fivefold increase of the amount of publications in international collaborations during the 2000-2014 period.

Further analysis of the significant study which the National Documentation Center (EKT) conducted highlights the research production in the fields of Natural Sciences and Health Science, thus, shaping the research thumbprint of the departments in these Schools.

The observation by no means diminishes the excellent work the rest of the NKUA Schools produce. It simply reflects the particular mode of communicating research results in the fields of Science and Health Science.

To summarize, the study of the National Documentation Centre (*EKT*) reported that, during 2000-2014, publications came up to 3,372 (about 225 per year, over the 15-year period) and displayed a high impact factor internationally, namely, 10%. These include contribution to 10 papers in the leading journal *Nature*, 5 in *Science*, 15 in *Lancet*, 15 in *New England Journal of Medicine*, 25 in *Nature Genetics*, etc.

The ELSEVIER's Analysis Department, one of the world's largest publishing houses, confirmed these results. An analysis of the SCOPUS database, on the one hand, reflected the openness and extroversion of NKUA through a constant increase of international collaborations. On the other hand, it depicted the constant increase in the percentage of the total number of publications, which are ranked among the top 10% of the world. These numbers are almost 1.5 times higher than the national average.

As the Special Account for Research Grants (*ELKE*) data show, the rate of attracting new competitive programmes remains steadily over 500 per year, during 2000-2014. These programmes, along with other sources of funding (such as the provision of services), are important sources of NKUA revenue, which to a large extent also derive from significant collaborations with Greek and international industries aimed at developing new innovative products or services.

Innovative research actions include, but are not limited to:

(a) Participating in the development of new space technologies in collaboration with the European or German Space Agency as well as the industrial giant Airbus DS.

(b) Developing new digital applications for culture and creative industries, innovative applications involving small, medium and atmospheric scale simulation systems of physicochemical processes, as well as innovative maritime traffic and tide related databases used by Research Laboratories and Companies in Europe.

(c) Studying photocatalysis with solar radiation and developing environmentally friendly chemical methods with applications in the Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industry, as well as innovative applications in Food Chemistry.

(d) Discovering, in the field of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, new methods of isolating bioactive natural products of high added value, either from land-based sources (such as plants of the Greek land or food like the olive oil) or marine sources (specifically benthic macro-organisms or micro-organisms from deep marine sediments). These studies are largely related to ongoing collaborations with the largest Greek and international companies active in the field of pharmaceutical products as well as in food and cosmetic industries.

(e) Finally, clinical studies is a highly important branch of collaboration with the pharmaceutical industry. Very significant is the contribution of the School of Health Sciences clinics in clinical studies of high international interest. For instance, they have established new treatment approaches to Multiple Myeloma or Diabetes, and have developed applications for identifying patients of higher cardiovascular risk, or have established new treatment guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of bone disease in Multiple Myeloma, the treatment of HIV infection, as well as Hypertension and Dyslipidemia.



Laboratory of the Department of Biology.

Needless to say that the usefulness of the research is a crucial part of the endeavor as evidenced by the significant number of new patents filed per year and the new innovative products (such as the small molecule used in the detection of senescent cells), which are already available on the international market.

Furthermore, the first company *Technovlastos*, founded in 2013, has already been established. This company specializes in natural products and has already been highly active in collaborating with large companies in Greece and abroad.

# **NKUA Objectives and Strategy**

Advancing research and becoming internationally acknowledged in the field, together with providing qualitative and modern education, are the two main pillars of the NKUA mission. This includes, among other things, conducting innovative theoretical and applied research to produce internationally cutting edge knowledge, thus, heightening the quality of education, the international recognition of NKUA, advancing the country and social prosperity

Thanks to its wide range of scientific fields, NKUA favours extensive research activity and high involvement in European projects, international networks and partnerships with public and private sector bodies, employing and collaborating with distinguished researchers. The research policy of the University is interlinked with its educational function and aims to strengthen research through creative collaborations with leading research institutes, government agencies and consortia around the world.

The research policy of NKUA focuses on the quality of the results produced in all disciplines and fields, which it pursues through a group/ individual distinction policy, rewarding high individual performance, creating new research teams and a favourable environment for innovative activity. It also encourages interdisciplinary research that advances scientific knowledge for the benefit of society as a whole. The goal of NKUA is for its members to enhance innovative methods and practices, to contribute scientific discoveries to healthcare, education, social cohesion, international development and the economic prosperity of societies.

The educational process itself, mainly at postgraduate level, contributes to advancing research through training young researchers. The NKUA research strategy has the following main objectives: a) to develop research skills primarily of postgraduate students, who – as part of their studies – become familiar with conducting research through their practice in laboratories and clinics (Medical School), and/or to participate in conferences, publications in international journals, etc.;

b) for the doctoral students and post-doctoral researchers to participate in research projects of scientific groups or of NKUA professors in collaboration with researchers from other institutions in Greece and abroad;

c) to advance the research activity of Departments and Schools. This includes, among others, organizing seminars and conferences, implementing research projects, presenting research results at conferences, publishing papers in scientific journals, authoring books/ monographs, contributing chapters in edited volumes, etc;

d) to promote interdisciplinary knowledge and to satisfy the country's research, social, cultural and developmental needs;

e) to identify, map and financially exploit research results, to safeguard intellectual property through patents, etc.

# **Research in figures**

The NKUA Research Committee is the institutional body responsible for advancing research and managing available resources provided by the members of academic community through the Special Account for Research Grants (*ELKE*). It is worth mentioning that, during the Greek financial crisis, the resources used for research and development were six times higher than those of governmental subsidy for the operational costs of education. These resources allowed the University to maintain and improve its quality of studies in this critical time, but also to ensure liquidity for conducting research, as well as reserves for developmental investments. The main sources of funding at NKUA are European, international and national, like the Partnership Agreement for the Development Framework (*ESPA*), partnerships with public and private sector bodies, provision of services to legal entities and individuals, grants and donations. In the last 3-year period, the average annual revenue for various projects supervised by NKUA faculty members exceeded 60 million euros. The following diagram depicts the average annual revenue per funding source:



The Special Account for Research Grants currently manages more than 2,900 active projects. The rate of incoming, newly approved projects-programmes per year for the last five-year period is presented in the following chart.



Incoming rate of newly approved projects-programmes per year

Table 1: Total number of university publications on the SCOPUS database of ELSEVIER

| University  | Total number<br>of publications | Total number<br>of authors | Number<br>publications/<br>author | Research area with<br>highest no of<br>publications | Percentage of<br>publication rate,<br>in the research<br>area with the<br>highest no of<br>publications |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| National and Kapodistrian<br>University of Athens       | 68851                           | 12654                      | 5,44                              | Medicine  | 29,70%  |
| Aristotle University of Thessaloniki                    | 56201                           | 14340                      | 3,95                              | Medicine  | 16  |
| National Technical University of Athens                 | 35112                           | 7101                       | 4,94                              | Engineering   | 25,3  |
| University of the Aegean                                | 31962                           | 1392                       | 4,86                              | Informatics   | 17,8  |
| University of Crete                                     | 21171                           | 2463                       | 7,72                              | Medicine  | 17,5  |
| University of Patras                                    | 19023                           | 6073                       | 5,26                              | Engineering   | 18,20%  |
| Democritus University of Thrace                         | 11631                           | 2872                       | 4,1                               | Medicine  | 20,00%  |
| University of Macedonia                                 | 11343                           | 659                        | 4,5                               | Informatics   | 23,70%  |
| University of Western Macedonia                         | 6775                            | 309                        | 4,83                              | Informatics   | 20,6  |
| Ionian University                                       | 5719                            | 245                        | 4,3                               | Informatics   | 41,3  |
| University of Ioannina                                  | 4768                            | 2586                       | 8,19                              | Medicine  | 19,1  |
| University of West Attica                               | 2972                            | 1314                       | 3,62                              | Engineering   | 15,6  |
| Technical University of Crete                           | 1931                            | 1280                       | 4,47                              | Engineering   | 21,6  |
| University of Peloponnese                               | 1913                            | 323                        | 5,98                              | Informatics   | 22,9  |
| University of Thessaly                                  | 1491                            | 2480                       | 4,57                              | Medicine  | 20,4  |
| Hellenic Open University                                | 1054                            | 490                        | 3,9                               | Informatics   | 19,5  |
| Athens University of Economics and Business             | 4667                            | 780                        | 5,98                              | Informatics   | 23,5  |
| University of Piraeus                                   | 4938                            | 964                        | 5,11                              | Informatics   | 26,4  |
| Panteion University of Social and<br>Political Sciences | 973                             | 297                        | 3,27                              | Social Sciences                                     | 27,7  |
| Agricultural University of Athens                       | 5821                            | 1976                       | 2,95                              | Biology and Agricul-<br>tural Sciences              | 34,6  |
| Harokopio University                                    | 2642                            | 694                        | 380                               | Medicine  | 32,9  |
| Athens School of Fine Arts                              | 18                              | 21                         | 0,86                              | Informatics   | 33,3  |





# 6

# **NKUA in Society**



# The social contribution of NKUA 180 years of public presence

The first institution of higher education in Greece, and in the broader area of the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean, the National and Kapodistrian University, as named from 1932 onwards, may display a remarkable social contribution, today, in addition to its multi-faceted scientific and research work. In the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the first scientists of Theology, Law School, Medical School and "the School of Philosophy and of other circular education" graduated and staffed the services of the Greek state, contributing to its progress and modernization and improving citizens' daily life.

Even during the wars, at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, not only did the University of Athens constitute a bastion of spreading ideas and fostering high ideals, such as freedom and the independence of the country, but it also contributed by practically engaging its students in meeting military needs and by providing all sorts of technical and psychological assistance, both to the soldiers and their families. Equally remarkable was its contribution during the German Occupation period and after that, in overthrowing the dictatorial regime and restoring Democracy.

Today, the social presence of the National and Kapodistrian University becomes even more significant, as Greece is traversing a perennial period of economic crisis, but mainly a crisis of values. As a multifarious web embracing society (in that it produces scientists who, through their incessant work, help the country recover and evolve intellectually and in terms of infrastructure), it performs the highly demanding task of disseminating high culture. It aims at ensuring equal treatment, access to knowledge and moral integrity for all, by providing public education, ultimately aiming at social prosperity. Furthermore, through its continuous presence, it extends a helping hand to people in need, namely, in support of the incoming refugee wave from Eastern countries, as a result of warfare of uncontrollable cruelty.

The current social work of NKUA, which is cultural, educational and practical, is led by members of Schools (academics, students, administrative and technical staff), who offer their knowledge and expertise, each one in their own power.

Most of the departments, if not all, have significantly helped in gathering humanitarian aid for refugees and other vulnerable groups of the population, with administering scholarships to financially weak students, implementing a special care programme for students with disabilities, with a view to achieving equal treatment and social solidarity.

The School of Health Sciences through specific and well-organized networks and programmes, provides immediate medical, dental, pharmaceutical and psycho-social care to the poor, to refugees, immigrants, residents of borderline areas and to other vulnerable categories.

It carries out informative lectures, school visits, free clinical examinations, mass vaccinations, psychiatric and psychological therapy and support to children and families of refugees and immigrants, minors and adult prisoners, female prisoners, drug-dependent and detoxified people and ex-prisoners in rehabilitation.

All these programmes, are implemented in cooperation with various ministries or Schools and Departments of NKUA and of the Technological Educational Institutes, or with non-profit organizations or institutions of public benefit, for preventing, treating and monitoring posttherapy.

Below, we briefly mention some of the activities implemented from the first years of the University up to today:

- **1838**: The Pharmaceutical School offered a two-year education producing a large number of graduate pharmacists.
- **1854** and onwards: Establishing University Clinics and Laboratories (e.g. Astikliniki, Anatomeio [Dissecting Room]).
- **1897**: Establishing 'Aretaieio' Hospital.
- 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century: Students participate in the Cretan Revolution, the Greek-Turkish War and the Balkan Wars.
- 20<sup>th</sup> century: Establishing new state institutions with the support of university research and services (state hospitals, National Drug Organization, General Chemical State Laboratory etc.)
- Balkan Wars and 1<sup>st</sup> World War: Mass vaccinations of the war troops from the Hygiene and Microbiology Laboratory.
- **1922**: Aid provision to refugees and enlisted students.
- The German Occupation Period (April 1941-October 1944) :

a) Fundraising for Air Force and Social Welfare (December 1940)

b) Offering parts of the staff's salary in favour of warfare (December 30<sup>th</sup>, 1940)

c) Paying tribute to the memory of fallen students on the Albanian front (February 24<sup>th</sup>, 1941)

d) Supporting war victims with theatrical plays and concerts

e) Gathering relief material for the fighting soldiers

f) Professors of Medical School contributing their expertise in military hospitals and the army's health services

g) Constructing and repairing of shelters (central building, Aretaieio, Aiginiteio, School of Dentistry, Astikliniki)

h) Providing food allowances and enhancing the central committee for children's food allowances with concerts (1942)

i) Numerous professors participating in post-war compensation committees ("Central Committee for brutality acknowledgement in Crete" and "Central Committee for Warfare Remedy" 1945)

j) Providing special help to enlisted and injured students.

• Today, the social work the School has offered is summarized below per department:

# **Department of Medicine**

• A' Surgical Clinic – Ippokrateio G.H.A. [General Hospital of Athens]

Informative lectures and free clinical examinations of the female population for over 30 cities and islands during Symposia

• B'Obstetrics and Gynaecological Clinic – Aretaieio Hospital

Free gynaecological examinations for financially deprived women without health insurance

A'Radiology Laboratory – Mammography Unit – Aretaieio Hospital

Free mammography examinations for financially deprived women without health insurance

C' Pathological Clinic – Oncology Unit

Oncology Practice of Social Solidarity (O.I.K.A.), Treating cancer patients with no health insurance

 B' Anaesthesiology University Clinic, 2<sup>nd</sup> ICU [Intensive Care Unit] and 4<sup>th</sup> Surgical University Clinic

Educational programme for port staff in Lesvos

A' Orthopaedic University Clinic, 4<sup>th</sup> Surgical Clinic

Medical care of remote islands in cooperation with Olympic Village Polyclinic

• B' Paediatric Clinic, Children's Hospital P. & A. Kyriakou

Parental academies offering free informative meetings – Creative activities for teenagers – Informative visits to schools – Creating and distributing materials to children and teenagers – Support line "ME Ipostirizo" (I support myself) 8001180015, for parents, teachers and teenagers (daily, no charge)

- Open speeches and lectures for the public all over Greece
- Open daily symposia and press conferences (initiative of the Rectorate), on issues of Public Health (refugee crisis, HIV virus, and the AIDS syndrome, diseases transmitted through hosts etc)
- Call for gathering and supplying essentials to guest children of the Infants Center 'Mitera' (Secretariat of the Department of Medicine)
- Providing sanitary and other services to refugees and immigrants (University initiative)
- Active participation in actions of the State facing the acute problem of refugees and immigrants
- Health information portal www.healthgate4all.gr
- 'Symmahi Ygeias' (Health Allies), a programme offering medical, dental, pharmaceutical and psychosocial care to the poor, uninsured and other vulnerable groups of the population of the Attica basin.
- Collaboration with the Departments of Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing, Philosophy, Pedagogy, and Psychology (Psychology Division) of NKUA and the School of Health and Caring Professions of the TEI (Technological Educational Institute) of Athens.

# **Department of Nursing**

- Humanitarian aid to refugees.
- All-rounded and documented nursing home care for the vulnerable.
- Health Network: "Standing next to people"- a social activity of the Laboratory of Community Health Nursing of NKUA.
- Participation in the 'Health Allies' (Symmahi Ygeias) programme.

# **Department of Dentistry**

- Free examination of the oral cavity at the A' and B' KAPI (Open Care Centres for the Elderly) of the Zografou Municipality in cooperation with the local authorities (for people over the age of 65).
- Participation in the 'Health Allies' (Symmahi Ygeias) programme.

# **Department of Pharmacy**

Participating in the 'Health Allies' (Symmahi Ygeias) programme - Social Pharmacies.

The **School of Law** has been concerned with assisting vulnerable groups through student volunteering. Its professors participate in the National Bioethics Commission, which intervenes in cases of moral dispute in the conduct of Biology, Medicine, Genetics and Pharmacy experiments on living organisms. Through establishing specialized centres, committees and scientific councils [Central scientific council of detention institutions (Greek abbreviation: KESF), Released prisoners' reintegration centre (Greek abbreviation: EPANODOS), Central scientific council addressing the victimization and criminal activity of minors (Greek abbreviation: KESATHEA) and Therapy centre for dependent individuals (Greek abbreviation: KETHEA)], it offers support to students with disability, to released offenders and to drug-dependent people, taking precautionary action towards criminal phenomena. Through legislative drafting committees, the School monitors the proper function of Independent Authorities, while participating in international fora and offers educational work to police schools and the School of Judges.

In the years 2012-14, the School of Law also organized the first legal clinic in Greece along with the European Programme 'CLAIM' (Child Law: Action for an Innovative Methodology) for children's rights.

The social work of the **School of Theology** includes socio-Christian activities of the university community members, especially of church workers, and their unceasing participation in the inter-christian and inter-religious dialogue. Such actions aim at the peaceful coexistence of people belonging in different religious communities. The academic staff of the School have been training its students to favour collectivism, solidarity and cooperation over divisive individualism. The School has been offering meals to the poor, supporting the sick and the elderly and taking humanitarian action for people in need, in and out of the Greek borders.

The social contribution of the **School of Economics and Social Sciences**, is governed by the principle of unconditional freedom and the practice of critical thinking based on social emancipation and the usual inconsistencies involved. It is realized on three levels: a) on critical

social dialogue, b) on educating and informing citizens in partnership with universities abroad and through student exchanges, and c) on immediate social, political and cultural actions.

In the first field of action, the School focused on organizing conferences, seminars and book presentations.

In the second field of action, it pursued informing and training the community and disseminating and improving its educational work.

Specifically, the School

- a) Informed high school students of the programmes available in the School.
- b) Formed partnerships with universities abroad [York University, New York University, University of Bayreuth (2015)] and with universities within the Greek borders.

Finally, in the third field of action, the School supported a series of immediate social, political and cultural actions, such as open seminars and discussions, actions of the Film Group students, the Department's initiative to collect essentials for refugee support, and the cooperation with *KETHEA* for dealing with drug use by people in the premises of the School. It also provided extra care by allocating space for informative actions (for fighting drugs, health prevention, historical walks etc). An important contribution of this field of action was also the cooperation of the School, especially of the Department of Communication and Media Studies with ERTopen (i.e. the State Broadcasting) and the operation of an internet radio station.

The academic community of the School (undergraduate and postgraduate students, PhD candidates, administrative, lab and technical staff etc.) has its share in participating in the above activities.

The multi-departmental **School of Philosophy** has offered multifaceted social work including educational and cultural activities, voluntary blood donation, cooperation with the 'Children's SOS Villages' and organizing informative seminars in Greek primary schools, junior high schools and high schools of the country. Yet, the most important activity has been its educational goal, aiming at developing basic communication skills of refugees in Greek and English. The social work of the School of Philosophy also included supplementary teaching programmes to Roma students and refugees, free foreign language courses, theatrical performances, organized visits to schools and informative seminars to secondary education staff. Additionally, there have been pro bono seminars on re-approaching History for secondary education teachers, further programmes for training, prevention and integration into society, and other programmes focusing on the mental health of refugees, immigrants and drug rehabilitated people.

Without the achievements of the **School of Science** - which have improved the lives of people, through problematizing and researching broader issues of cosmological nature - any social work, would have been difficult to flourish.

The members of the School have immensely contributed to phenomena of natural disasters, not only in Greece, but in many other countries where they have been invited to help. Interfering with nature (on the basis of scientific measurement) may decrease the hazardous effect on societies of climate change phenomena due to human action. Through lectures, symposia and public talks, the university community of the School of Science imparts its research findings, not only to new scientists, but also to a wider audience, as food for thought.

The **School of Education** has a social imprint either in the form of traditional education or in informal one. Its social concern is dealing with inequality, eliminating discrimination through intercultural education and educating the children of the Muslim minority of Thrace. The School also aims at social intervention through inclusive education and socially supporting students with disabilities (and their families), environmental education and sustainable growth, psychological and social support of students and teaching staff, sponsoring educational material and necessities, and finally using arts and digital media in street performances for sensitizing the public and training teachers on internet education and its safe use.

The teaching staff association and the students of the **School of Physical Education and Sport Science** have organized blood donations for 20 years, placing the human in the center of their science, respecting difference, conforming to the rules of education, favouring equal opportunities and resisting violence. The School provides free services for organizing sports competitions with political and social content, spaces for the training of the blind and the deaf, and financial support to the jobless, strikers and destitute students.

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens is an active collective body whose community is sensitive to contemporary social needs, as it becomes obvious from the social work it has been offering for 180 years. Especially in tough times, it has constantly been concerned with supporting those in need, by showing its solidarity and humanitarian awareness in practice. Especially today, when technological advancements have made any form of communication easier, the Greek and international interdisciplinary cooperation placing the human in the centre of attention, is the safest and most effective way for best contributing to society.

\* The text draws on presentations by the Deans of the Schools on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, at an event, focusing on NKUA's social work and celebrating the 180-year anniversary of NKUA. The texts are archived in the Department of Administrative Publishing.



7/5/2017. 1st Kapodistrian Street Race, Panepistimioupoli (Campus).




# NKUA in the World

7

## **NKUA's international engagement**

#### Introduction

Extroversion and international engagement are key aims of NKUA as outlined by the Rectorate, in cooperation with the institutional bodies of NKUA and the Committee for International Relations and European Educational Programmes. Strengthening the international character of the University has been a priority, a goal in NKUA's ten-year (2018-2028) strategic plan approved, in May 2018. It could be achieved through international cooperation with educational and research bodies and institutions but mostly through student and teaching staff mobility and attracting foreign students, professors and researchers.

The University first begun opening up to the world during the 1980s. Until then, individual professors participated in joint research programmes with universities abroad. Then came the first professor exchanges between NKUA and other universities and the first bilateral cooperation agreements with foreign universities. A pilot student exchange programme started in 1981 and later came to be known as the ERASMUS programme (European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students), which celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary (1987-2017) in 2017.

Especially after the launch of the ERASMUS programme, it became essential for the University to shape its international profile. The first International Relations Committee appeared in 1989 with a view to promoting NKUA's international ties and enhancing participation in the ERASMUS programme, which from the very beginning had shown a great potential. The Committee proposed the opening of an International Relations Office and in 1996 proposed the establishment of the current Department of European and International Relations which now belongs to the Directorate of Public Relations and History.

Since then, NKUA has invested a significant part of its human resources to advance the Institution's international relations and assist the efforts of the academic community to strengthen its international profile. NKUA's increasing partnerships with foreign universities,

research centres, international university networks and educational organizations globally, aim at reinforcing cooperation in research and in mobility of students, academic staff and other human resources. Enforcing interuniversity cooperation through the International Cooperation Agreement gives the opportunity to NKUA's academic staff to productively collaborate with staff from foreign universities, with a view to (a) developing joint research programmes for the benefit of the academic community, (b) organizing scientific events (seminars, symposia, conferences etc) and (c) participating in educational activities and lectures, thus disseminating knowledge. Likewise, the ERASMUS programme allows students, academic and administrative staff from foreign academic institutions to join NKUA for studying, doing their internship (praktiki askisi), teaching, training or conducting research in cooperation with NKUA's members. At the same time a large number of NKUA students and staff visit these institutions annually.

The last three years and especially 2017 (when NKUA celebrated its 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary since its establishment) have brought numerous international cooperations, foreign student pilot programmes and visits by ambassadors and foreign representatives. It is the belief of the Rectorate and of the University Senate that cooperation between universities which disseminates knowledge, science and research is a firm basis for advancing international relations between the cooperating countries. As mentioned, in the last three years, NKUA's international activity has intensified thanks to the establishment of three postgraduate programmes offered in English, the significant number of joint international postgraduate programmes and bilateral agreements with foreign universities for PhD co-supervision of theses (cotutelles).

#### **NKUA's internationalization strategy**

NKUA's internationalization strategy aims at advancing the University's educational, research and social work scheme and to highlight its international profile.

The Rectorate and University Senate, in cooperation with the Committee for International Relations and European Educational Programmes, design the aims and strategy of the University's European and International Relations Committee.

As part of the events commemorating its 180<sup>th</sup> anniversary, NKUA produced informative material in fifteen languages, for all the cooperating Universities, foreign students and staff as well as Embassies in Athens and international organizations. Furthermore, a large number of events took place, both at the Propylaea and in the Schools and Departments of the University with the participation of representatives from foreign countries.

NKUA cooperates with universities, research centres, international university networks and educational organizations globally to strengthen its bilateral relations with foreign higher academic institutions (especially public ones), to advance research cooperation and mobility of students, academic staff and other human resources.

#### **International Cooperation Agreements**

NKUA's bilateral international agreements could be either general or of more specific nature, which could include cooperation protocols between departments as well as short-term cooperation programmes. Selection criteria for such programmes are their essential contribution to realizing the University's scientific and research goals and to facilitating NKUA's engagement internationally. The University also takes into account whether an agreement may open up a long-term potential for scientific cooperation and whether it assumes sustainable implementation in practice.

Today, sixty seven (67) international agreements are into force between NKUA and foreign (mostly public) universities from thirty (30) different countries, globally.

Notable among the international agreements are those with research cenres like CERN (Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire) in Switzerland, INRIA (Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique - in France) and the A\* STAR (Agency for Science, Technology and Research) in Singapore. With 18 of the cooperating institutions, NKUA has signed agreements of student exchange or special agreements between Schools and Departments (as with McGill University in Canada that has a joint postgraduate programme with the Medical School or with Freie Universitat in Berlin, where students and professors study the Holocaust etc). In the context of these bilateral agreements, the last decade saw the exchange of more than 100 incoming and outgoing students and professors.

A table of all the international bilateral agreements currently in force follows below:

| Country                  | Institutions  |  |  |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| Albania                  | Eqrem Çabej University of Gjirokastra                                       |  |  |
| Armenia                  | Yerevan State University  |  |  |
| Argentina                | Universidad Nacional Del Sur  |  |  |
| Australia                | Macquarie University  |  |  |
| Vatican (Holy See)       | Pontificia Universita Urbaniana   |  |  |
| Bulgaria                 | Bulgarian Academy of Sciences   |  |  |
| Bulgaria                 | Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridsky"                                     |  |  |
| Bulgaria                 | St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo                    |  |  |
| France                   | Université de Lille 1   |  |  |
| France                   | Université de Lille 3   |  |  |
| France                   | Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique<br>(INRIA) |  |  |
| France                   | Université du Havre   |  |  |
| France                   | Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris 3                                       |  |  |
| France                   | Université Paris Diderot  |  |  |
| Germany                  | Universität Regensburg  |  |  |
| Germany                  | Freie Universität Berlin  |  |  |
| Switzerland              | Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire (CERN)                         |  |  |
| United States of America | Temple University   |  |  |
| United States of America | University of Kentucky  |  |  |
| United States of America | St. Cloud State University, Minnesota                                       |  |  |
| Japan                    | Keio University   |  |  |
| Japan                    | Ritsumeikan University  |  |  |
| Japan                    | Waseda University   |  |  |
| Jordan                   | University of Jordan  |  |  |
| Iran                     | University of Tehran  |  |  |
| Spain                    | University of Granada   |  |  |
| Spain                    | University of Alcala  |  |  |

### TABLE OF BILATERAL AGREEMENTS BY COUNTRY

| Canada             | University of Montreal   |  |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Canada             | York University  |  |  |  |
| Canada             | McGill University  |  |  |  |
| China (PRC)        | Shanghai International Studies University                            |  |  |  |
| China (PRC)        | Beijing Foreign Studies University                                   |  |  |  |
| China (PRC)        | China University of Petroleum  |  |  |  |
| China (PRC)        | Guangdong University of Foreign Studies                              |  |  |  |
| China (PRC)        | Zhejiang University  |  |  |  |
| China (PRC)        | Anhui University of Chinese Medicine                                 |  |  |  |
| China (PRC)        | The University of Hong Kong  |  |  |  |
| China (PRC)        | Minzu University of China  |  |  |  |
| South Korea        | Hankuk University of Foreign Studies                                 |  |  |  |
| South Korea        | Sogang University  |  |  |  |
| South Korea        | The University of Seoul  |  |  |  |
| Cyprus             | University of Nicosia  |  |  |  |
| Cyprus             | Neapolis University Pafos  |  |  |  |
| Cyprus             | Cyprus University of Technology                                      |  |  |  |
| Mexico             | University of Guadalajara  |  |  |  |
| New Zealand        | The University of Auckland   |  |  |  |
| South Africa       | University of Pretoria   |  |  |  |
| Hungary            | Eotvos Lorand University   |  |  |  |
| Ukraine            | National Academy of Sciences   |  |  |  |
| Ukraine            | Ivan Franko National University of Lviv                              |  |  |  |
| Ukraine            | Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University                                     |  |  |  |
| Ukraine            | Mariupol State University  |  |  |  |
| Uruguay            | University of the Republic (Universidad de la República)             |  |  |  |
| Romaina            | Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi                               |  |  |  |
| Romaina            | Valahia University of Targoviste                                     |  |  |  |
| Russian Federation | Lomonosov Moscow State University                                    |  |  |  |
| Russian Federation | Moscow State Institute of International Relations - MGIMO University |  |  |  |
| Russian Federation | Novosibirsk State University   |  |  |  |
| Russian Federation | Moscow Region State University                                       |  |  |  |

| Russian Federation | Southern Federal University (Rostov on Don)           |  |  |
|--------------------|---|--|--|
| Russian Federation | Yugra State University                                |  |  |
| Singapore          | Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A* STAR) |  |  |
| Taiwan             | National Chengchi University                          |  |  |

The strategy of promoting the Institution internationally and the constant pursuit of collaborations with Institutions abroad motivated foreign Ambassadors, Government Officials and representatives of foreign universities to visit the Rectorate in Greece. The main objective of all discussions has been examining the potential of further collaborations either on the level of bilateral agreement with foreign institutions or on the level of research programmes and academic staff or student exchange programmes. It is worth-noting that only in the last three years ambassadors, cultural attachés, ministers and members of parliaments from about 30 foreign countries have visited NKUA's Rectorate. The ambassadors and officials who have visited NKUA came from Azerbaijan, Egypt, Algeria, Armenia, Afghanistan, Venezuela, Brazil, Germany, Georgia, Japan, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Iran, Ireland, S. Korea, Cuba, Luxemburg, Mexico, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Taiwan, Turkey and the Czech Republic. In addition, new collaboration agreements emerged as a result of the Institution's policy.

Additionally, representatives of foreign Universities from China, S. Korea, USA, Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, Norway, Belgium, Singapore, Taiwan etc. have visited the Rector and some Schools and Departments of the University, and thus, they had the opportunity to navigate through the Departments and discuss potential collaborations.

Especially after the meetings with representatives from China Universities [Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU), Guangdong University of Foreign Studies, Anhui University of Chinese Medicine, Zhejiang University, University of Hong Kong] and the Seoul National University of S. Korea, not only were collaboration agreements signed, but also some special study programmes emerged at NKUA for foreign students.



NKUA's Rector Professor M-A Dimopoulos and Vice Rector of Research and Development Th. Sfikopoulos meet a six-member delegation of the Soutwest Jiaotong University of China led by the Institution's President, Professor Wang Shunhong.

#### Special collaboration agreements and scholarships

In 2017-2018, a prototype study programme for 23 third-year students of the Greek Studies Department of the Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) ran for the first time at the School of Philosophy, NKUA, in the context of a special interuniversity collaboration agreement. The programme involved specially designed courses for the Chinese students, intensive courses for Greek language learning at the Greek Language Teaching Center (Didaskaleio), optional courses from the study programmes of the School of Philosophy, as well as excursions and guided tours at archaeological sites and museums. The programme was sponsored by the China Scholarship Council (CSC) and was assessed upon completion by representatives of the



Ceremony for the completion of the study programme of the Beijing Foreign Studies (BFSU) class of students at the Dean's Office, School of Philosophy. A three-member delegation of China Scholarship Council led by Li Qing, Deputy Secretary-General attends the ceremony along with a four-member delegation of BFSU led by the Dean Professor Zhao Gang.

Council that visited NKUA.

A similar project has begun for students of Greek Studies of Guangdog University of Foreign Studies (GDUFS), for 2018-2019.

Some of the collaborating Universities have offered scholarships to NKUA students intermittently for undergraduate or/and postgraduate studies or for their participation in summer schools. Some of these institutions are China's Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT), Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, S. Korea's Seoul University and Japan's KEIO University.

It is, also worth noting that NKUA is among the 69 universities from 44 countries which receive the *Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF)* scholarship.

NKUA is the only Higher Education Institution of the country that has participated - since 1993- in this programme which has been sponsored by Nippon Foundation and managed by Tokyo Foundation. The scholarships are given to excelling postgraduate students of Social Sciences and Humanities with leadership skills.

In fact, there have been scholarships offered to more than 280 NKUA students so far, who have been distinguished for their excellent academic performance and leadership skills.

#### NKUA's participation in international organizations, unions and networks

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens has been a member of significant international university organizations, unions and university networks that aim at advancing international collaboration among universities and developing methods and strategies which can improve education and research.

NKUA has been a **founding member** and active participant in the following university networks:

#### UNIMED (Mediterranean Universities Union) http://www.unimed.net

103 universities from 23 countries of the Mediterranean coastline have participated in this union. In addition to highlighting the universities' international profile and reinforcing the scientific, cultural and socio-economic collaboration among its members, the Union heightens awareness of cultural heritage, economy, energy, the environment, the management of aquatic resources, health, transportation, media, new technologies, history, agronomy and tourism.

#### UNICA (Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe) http://www.unica-network.eu

NKUA is the only Higher Education Institution in the country that has joined this Network. Its 49 university members, including 160.000 staff members and 1.900.000 students are based in 37 European capitals. The UNICA Network has been in parallel a member of other networks such as: the European University Association (EUA), Scholars At Risk Network (SAR), Erasmus Student Network (ESN) etc. and participates as both coordinator and partner in several European programmes.

#### Black Sea and Eastern Mediterranean Academic Network (BSEMAN)

In May 2018, NKUA contributed as a founding member to the establishment of this new academic network of collaboration between Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea universities. BSEMAN was created for reinforcing the collaboration between the participating universities and advancing education and research. The vision of the network's members has been a broad collaboration of the universities in the region of BSEM, in various research fields, free from any limitations in freedom of expression or any form of human rights violations and discrimination. The network includes 50 university members from 17 countries (Egypt, Armenia, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Cyprus, the Republic of Belarus, Lebanon, Ukraine, Palestine, Romania, Russia, Syria, Turkey, Czech Republic).

NKUA has been a member of the following 7 international organizations, unions and university networks aiming at fostering international collaboration.

#### IAU (International Association of Universities) http://www.iau-aiu.net

IAU emerged in 1950 under the auspices of UNESCO. It comprises more than 650 member institutions and organizations from about 120 countries with the following geographical distribution: Europe 40%, Asia and Pacific countries 24%, Middle East 13%, Africa 11%, North America 7%, Latin America and Caribbean 5%. The association, also, engages 33 university unions. Its main objective is to encourage innovation, facilitate the exchange of information, experience and ideas and contribute to the cooperation and solidarity among its members at an international level.

#### EUA (European University Association) http://www.eua.be

It is an organization aiming at representing higher education institutions in politically aware planning of European research and higher education. It has 850 members, originating from 48 European countries, with around 17 million students registered in them. EUA focuses on safeguarding the European character and the educational, research and administrative work of the Universities. It pursues enhancing the University views in policy making centers for higher education and research, as well as broadening cooperation among the academic community, the state, industry and the media.

#### EAIE (European Association for International Education) http://www.eaie.org

It is a non-profit organization aiming at advancing international networking and communication among higher education institutions both in Europe and worldwide. It includes about 3000 members from 94 countries, which belong to the teaching and administrative personnel of the Universities. The Association seeks to create a community, where the representatives of the Universities who deal with international matters can be informed, trained and exchange opinions on important matters about the international academic community, with a view to advancing mutual understanding and cooperation. The geographical distribution of members is: Europe 76%, North America 12%, Asia 6%, Australia 3%, South America 2%, and Africa 1%.

#### UNEECC (University Network of the European Capitals of Culture) http://www.uneecc.org

It is an international, non-profit organization which includes about 50 member-Universities from 20 countries. Among others, it aims at reinforcing the role and the contribution of the Universities which belong to the cities known as European Capitals of Culture. It also aims at developing the cooperation among Universities and at redefining their views in the conscience of local society and promoting cooperation among every University and every city.

#### IIE (Institute of International Education) http://www.iie.org

IIE (Institute of International Education) http://www.iie.org

It is a private, non-profit Institute, which engages more than 1600 member-Institutions worldwide. It aims at promoting international education and access to education through scholarship programmes, exchange of students and scientists, their training and facilitating research in higher education. NKUA is also part of the International Education Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF) as a reception institution for researchers who are in danger in their countries. Today, IIE is in charge of more than 200 programmes with participants from 185 countries.

#### BUA (Balkan Universities Association) http://www.baunas.org

It is a non-governmental, non-profit organization which engages 59 Balkan University members (NKUA being one of them) dealing with University museums. Its primary aim is enhancing a unified vision for the future of Universities, Libraries and Research Centers in the Balkans, taking into consideration both common international values and their differences.

#### Silk-road Universities Network (SUN) http://www.sun-silkroadia.org/

The Silk-road Universities Network (SUN) engages 78 Universities from 30 countries of Europe and Asia. The network was founded in 2014 and its members are Universities from the following countries: Greece, Czechia, Finland, India, Cambodia, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Jordan,

Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Oman, China, Poland, Portugal, South Korea, Romania, Russia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Uzbekistan, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam. Its primary aim is taking action through academic representatives and any kind of academic cooperation.

Individual units (Schools, Departments) and professors are also active in specialized international scientific academic associations and networks.

Additionally, NKUA has signed the "Magna Charta Universitatum" and the declaration of fundamental values since 1988. It also has two UNITWIN/UNESCO chairs: the

- UNESCO Chair and Network on Sustainable Development Management and Education in the Mediterranean (MEdIES)

(http://unescochair.chem.uoa.gr/#UNESCO\_Chair\_and\_Network\_on\_Sustainable\_ Development\_Management\_and\_Education\_in\_the\_Mediterranean)

- UNESCO Chair in Adolescent Health Care

(http://www.unesco.org/en/university-twinning-and-networking/access-by-region/ europe-and-north-america/greece/unesco-chair-in-adolescent-health-care-909/)

It is also worth mentioning that under the aegis of the chair for Adolescent Health Care, NKUA implements the project "Health for all", which aims at providing services of primary health and social care to vulnerable population groups.

## Erasmus programme

#### **Historical overview**

The Erasmus programme aims at creating a European higher education space, promoting innovation, progress and employment in the EU. It has been widely acknowledged as the most popular and successful programme of the EU. It is a fundamental tool for westernizing and globalizing the Universities of the European countries, especially through mobility of students and staff of Higher Institutions. Since its initiation, it has been a vehicle for transitioning from the national University (University of the State) to the European University (University of the European space). In the last years, through Erasmus+, a new action of international mobility has started a cooperation among the European Universities and Universities from countries from every continent, creating new opportunities of globalization of the European Institutions through student and personnel exchanges among similar institutions worldwide.

The celebration of the 180 years of NKUA overlapped with the Erasmus programme celebration of its 30 years.

During the first year 1987-1988 of its implementation (1987-1990), 11 countries participated in the programme (Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom) and 3,244 students moved for educational purposes. In 1987, Greece took part in the programme with a total number of 39 students. Then came Erasmus II (1990-1994), the various Socrates programmes (1994-1999), Socrates II (2000-2006) and the Life Long Learning Programme (LLP 2007-2013), all including ERASMUS action which always contributed the highest rate of funding (approximately 85%). The broader Erasmus+form has been running since 2014 with a timescale reaching the year 2020, and includes all the actions of former programmes, in addition to those which were previously autonomous, such as ALFA, TEMPUS, JEAN MONNET, MUNDUS etc.



Map of the countries which participated in the HERMES programme.

It is worth noting that during the periods of 2006-2013 (Lifelong Learning Programme) and 2014-2017 (Erasmus+) the programme developed, expanded and gained momentum not only among European citizens but also beyond European borders.

In 2013-2017, NKUA participated in Erasmus Mundus with the particularly successful and unique in the field of humanitarian studies HERMES programme (Humanities Education Revitalized via Mundus ExperienceS), which provided scholarships for mobility of students, teaching and administrative staff from Eastern European countries (former Soviet Republics) to countries of the European Union and vice versa. 15 Universities cooperated in the programme representing 11 countries (from the EU: Greece, Bulgaria, Germany, Estonia, Italy, Sweden, and from the Third Countries: Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Ukraine). The programme received funding amounting to  $\in$  2,299,375.00 and was coordinated by NKUA (Department of Philology) and the Tbilisi State University.

The Erasmus contribution to internationalizing higher education institutions (and NKUA) has been significant. Besides mobility, the Erasmus programme has funded several pilot projects such as the implementation of ECTS (the European Community launched the European Community Course Credit Transfer System - ECTS, in the academic year 1989-1990, as a pilot project within Erasmus engaging 84 departmental units in 5 scientific fields with the participation of all member-states). It has also funded the Diploma Supplement, joint programmes of studies, quality assurance testing and contributed to their modernization. These projects are currently widespread and established in the 48 countries of European higher education.

The Erasmus programme currently engages 28 member-states of the European Union (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Denmark, Greece, Estonia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Croatia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Czech Republic, Finland) and 5 non-EU countries that are geographically located within European borders [Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (or Republic of North Macedonia as of 2019), Turkey].

Moreover, this kind of international mobility programme engages other countries as partner-countries under specific conditions. Switzerland, which formerly participated in the Erasmus programme as a 'programme country', is now participating in Erasmus+ as a 'partner country' and is independently financing all outgoing and incoming mobilities.

#### **Erasmus Funding and bilateral agreements of NKUA**

NKUA has been actively involved in the European Erasmus Education programme since 1987. From the outset of its operation more than 5,300 students of European Institutions have studied in the University of Athens, while more than 13,000 students have moved for studies or student practice (praktiki askisi) to host Institutions from all European countries. Additionally, more than 730 teaching staff members of NKUA have seized the opportunity granted by the programme to move to foreign Universities.

Indicatively, in the latest published survey of the European Commission on the Institutions which mobilized most ERASMUS students in Europe, for the year 2013-2014, the University of Athens was ranked 41st among 2,800 European Institutions participating in the programme.

In the last 12 years, the European Commission has funded the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, through the State Scholarships Foundation (IKY), with 18.5 million euros,

in the context of the Erasmus programme (European and International mobility), which amounts to approximately 8,250 scholarships for students, teaching staff and other personnel.



Great Hall: Erasmus students reception.

In 2015-2016, NKUA successfully started participating in the new 'Erasmus+ International mobility' project which involved non-European countries. Up to 2017, there have been thirty six (36) student and teaching staff exchanges with Universities from Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Israel, Jordan and Serbia, while another fifty (50) exchanges were expected in 2018-2019.

Student mobility for studying and academic staff is held through bilateral agreements between NKUA and other Universities. Student mobility for student practice (praktiki askisi) and staff mobility for training are carried outside the framework of the aformentioned agreements.

Table 1 and Figure 1 indicatively show the number of bilateral agreements and higher educational institutions partnering with NKUA per academic year from 2007-2008 to 2018-2019.

| Academic year | Bilateral Agreements Cooperating Institution |     |  |
|---------------|--|-----|--|
| 2007-2008     | 472  | 277 |  |
| 2008-2009     | 526  | 302 |  |
| 2009-2010     | 576  | 310 |  |
| 2010-2011     | 508  | 283 |  |
| 2011-2012     | 574  | 307 |  |
| 2012-2013     | 689  | 347 |  |
| 2013-2014     | 645  | 340 |  |
| 2014-2015     | 442  | 252 |  |
| 2015-2016     | 565  | 308 |  |
| 2016-2017     | 615  | 316 |  |
| 2017-2018     | 655  | 336 |  |
| 2018-2019     | 680  | 341 |  |

Table 1. ERASMUS programme – Academic years: 2007-2008 to 2018-2019



Figure 1. Illustration of the number of Erasmus agreements and the affiliated Institutions per academic year.

#### **Student and staff mobility**

The growing number of incoming students joining the University for studying or training is of particular importance for NKUA.

Specifically, in the last three years (2015-2018) there has been a constant annual increase (of 45.91% in three years time) of incoming students, while the number of outgoing students fluctuated as depicted in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Total number of outgoing and incoming students.

The School of Law steadily maintains a leading position in the mobility of incoming students (a total of 229 students joined during the three year span of 2015-2018), followed by the Departments of Communication and Media Studies (EMME), History and Archaeology, English Language and Literature and the Department of Philology.

Regarding the country of origin of the incoming students, France significantly precedes Germany and Spain. Figure 3 illustrates the fluctuation of incoming students to NKUA during the last three academic years as categorized by country of origin.





Regarding the mobility of outgoing students per Department of NKUA over the same period of time, the School of Law maintains the leading position by sending 341 of its students abroad, followed by the Department of English Language and Literature with 196 students and the Department of Philology with 150 students.

Figure 4 displays the outgoing students of NKUA per host country during 2015-2018. France, Germany and Spain are the three countries which receive most of NKUA students.



Figure 4. Total number of outgoing students per host country and academic year.

NKUA encourages not only student, but also academic staff mobility. Experience, over the years, has shown that both students and members of staff who have participated in the Erasmus programme, and in university exchanges, have acquired valuable experience via their integration into new academic environments and their daily life networking in socially and culturally differentiated conditions.

In the three-year period 2015-18, one hundred five (105) members of the NKUA staff (academic and administrative) have joined the Erasmus exchange programme, while in 2018-19, sixty (60) people are expected to participate. Respectively, in the three-year period 2015-18, the number of incoming European university staff members comes up to two hundred and ninety-one (291). Finally, it is estimated that in 2018-19, NKUA will accommodate more than one hundred and four (104) academic and administrative staff members from cooperating European universities.

#### **Evaluation, prospects and future goals**

Government funding for NKUA was 1.959.851 euros (including funding for international mobility), in the academic year 2017-18. Bilateral cooperation agreements amounted to six hundred fifty five (655), involving three hundred and thirty six (336) European institutions from thirty-one (31) European countries. There has been an increase in the funding for the Erasmus programme (European and International Mobility) amounting to 2.151.188 euros, in the academic year 2018-2019. Meanwhile, six hundred and eighty (680) bilateral cooperation agreements have been signed with three hundred and forty-one (341) institutions from thirty-one (31) European countries, but also 9 cooperation agreements with institutions from 7 countries (China, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Serbia) in the context of International Mobility.

It is also worth noting that the total funding for classical mobility (KA103) during the current academic year increased, in Greece, by 8.3% compared to last year, and NKUA received the second higher funding after the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Outgoing students to universities abroad for the academic year 2018-19 are also estimated to eight hundred thirty (830), which marks an increase of approximately 10%, in relation to the years depicted in Figure 2 (2015-2016).

Furthermore, it is estimated that three hundred fifty five (355) students will join NKUA for studying or practice. Data over a period of three years show that there has been a steady increase in the number of incoming students, which is expected in 2018-19 to increase by 61.4% compared to 2015-16.

In addition to the classical and international Erasmus mobility, NKUA also participates through three of its departments in the Erasmus Mundus programme, as well as in other actions of Erasmus+ such as: Cooperation for Innovation and Exchange of Best Practices, Support for Political Reforms in Education, the Jean Monnet activities, and actions in the field of athletics with 22 projects, in which NKUA is either a coordinating Institution or a partner-Institution.

These actions of NKUA were recently presented to representatives of the European Commission (Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sports and Culture), who visited the Institution for discussing issues related to the implementation of ERASMUS+. The visit came after a proposal from the State Scholarship Foundation (IKY) towards NKUA and was part of the monitoring of the State Scholarships Foundation, assessing the implementation of the ERASMUS+ programme in the context of Greek higher education.



Students from the Beijing Foreign Studies University of China, who have completed one year of study, on a special programme at the School of Philosophy.

The assessment outcome of EU representatives has been most positive, particularly regarding NKUA's involving the ERASMUS+ programme in the internationalization strategy of the Institution, in increasing mobility of incoming and outgoing students and staff, but also in developing structures for supporting the programme, i.e. for appropriately staffing the relevant unit of the Institution, so that qualitative goals and efficient management is made possible, in addition to increase in participation.





# 8

# International distinctions Ranking

## NKUA on university ranking lists

he National and Kapodistrian University of Athens has occupied high positions on the **World University Ranking lists.** Distinctions are due to important research work conducted at the Institution, its high impact and recognition, and the Institution's academic reputation and extroversion, developed through international cooperation and shared actions.

The **Rectorate**, in cooperation with the **Institution's Quality Assurance Unit**, has prepared and implemented cooperation strategies, with bodies that create and publish University Global Rankings. The aim of this strategy is highlighting and foregrounding the research and academic work of the Institution internationally, improving its ranking.

Basic concerns of this strategy are:

- 1. Mailing data and inventory data directly to operators of classifications and developing effective communication and cooperation.
- 2. Conducting studies on the world university ranking list, analyzing individual criteria and focusing on the Institution's view on them.
- 3. Developing technical expertise and methodology for implementing actions which will improve NKUA's place on the lists.

The strategy apparently improved NKUA's ranking on world university lists, but also heightened acknowledgment of its international reputation.

Indicatively, NKUA is the 1<sup>st</sup> Greek university on five (5) out of the seven (7) major ranking lists. On the three (3) out of (4) ranking lists which do not make use of questionnaires and draw their information from the Internet without any contact with universities, NKUA is consistently in position one (1) on these lists. Table 1 summarizes NKUA's position on the seven most acknowledged ranking lists globally and at a country level for the last two years.

It is worth noting that out of the 22,000 universities globally, most ranking systems sort out the best 1,000 or 4,000 institutions (1st evaluation phase) and then make a final shorter ranking list of 500 or 1,000 institutions (2nd evaluation phase). Considering the global scale vs. the size of the Greek country, anybody could understand how important the distinctions of the **National and Kapodistrian University of Athens** are. Its performance seems to **rank it in the top 5%** of the best educational institutions around the world.

On the most widely acknowledged ranking list for the general public and the media, **the so-called Shanghai list (ARWU), NKUA ranks between 301and 400**. The institutions recorded, on this particular list, are only from 35 countries, out of the total 195. In addition, 10 countries are represented by a smaller number of universities than those of Greece. Analysis of the map, published by the same organization, shows that NKUA, along with two other Greek Universities of this rank list (i.e. AUTH and AUEB) and institutions from Israel, are top in the wider region of Eastern Europe, the Balkans and Eastern Mediterranean.

A special mention may be made of the special world university ranking "**Top Universities by Google Scholar Citations - Webometrics**" which designates the improvement and growth of the Institution over time. The University ranking draws on the citation number of the professors' research and their researchers'. Retrieval of citations is realized by Google Scholar, one of the most renowned academic literature search engines. **NKUA ranks 38**<sup>th</sup> among almost 10,500 Universities and 698,386 citations worldwide, while it used to appear in the **538**<sup>th</sup> **position**, three years prior to that. **The 38**<sup>th</sup> **position is the highest ever achieved by a Greek University at an institutional level in any world university ranking. NKUA <b>ranks 7**<sup>th</sup> right after Cambridge University, University College of London, Oxford University, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Imperial College London and King's College London, when compared to the rest of the European Institutions.

Additionally, NKUA ranks 201-250<sup>th</sup> on the **Quacquarelli Symonds** world university ranking list (widely known as QS) for **graduate employment and reputation in the job market.** This university ranking system provides students with a unique tool for comparing the performance of Universities in relation to employability and employment prospects.

This heightens the significance of the high performance of the Institution by pointing at its stable value on the job market and its reception by employers within the country and abroad.

The performance of the Institution and its Departments appears even higher when considering **world university rankings by specialized subject and scientific field**. Some of these are listed below.

The **Department of Pharmacy ranked 76-100**<sup>th</sup> for the first time on the 2017-2018 **Academic Ranking of World Universities** (ARWU) list, also known as the Shanghai Ranking. The Department also **ranked 75**<sup>th</sup> among 1,000 Departments of Pharmacology and Toxicology on the **National Taiwan University** list, drawing on the research institutions conduct and publishing activity.

The School of Medicine ranks 140<sup>th</sup> on the National Taiwan University list (Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers) for world universities and 76-100<sup>th</sup> on the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) list, in the public health area.

The **Department of Nursing** ranked **76-100**<sup>th</sup> for the first time in 2017-2018, on the **Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU)** list.

The **Department of Dentistry** ranked **76-100**<sup>th</sup> for 2 consecutive years on the **Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU)** list. The Department is therefore included in the top 100 departments in the world as indicated by ARWU. Its impressive performance in the IC index (percentage of articles through international collaboration) is also worth noting as it scored 92/100. Its performance is **higher than that of the top 13 universities** within the same academic subject area such as that of Harvard University, the University of Washington, King's College London, among others.

The **Department of History and Archeology** ranks **151-200**<sup>th</sup> worldwide on the **QS ranking list (Quacquarelli Symonds)**. QS Rankings employ peer review data collected by a great number of researchers, academic staff and employers, among others.

The **Department of Physics** ranked **101-150**<sup>th</sup> in 2018 on the **Academic Ranking of World Uni-versities** (ARWU) list, in the field of **Physics**.

The **Department of Biology** is distinguished in **5 academic fields** on the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) list. **It rose from 201-300<sup>th</sup> to 151-200<sup>th</sup>** in the **Human Biological Sciences** field in one year.

The **Department of Political Science and Public Administration** ranks **201-300**<sup>th</sup> on the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) list, in the **Political Sciences** field.

The **Arts & Humanities** of NKUA ranked 201-250<sup>th</sup> worldwide in 2017, on the famous **Times Higher Education Ranking list (Elsevier).** This is the highest position ever achieved by a Greek University on this ranking list.

The School of Physical Education and Sport Science was among the top 150 (among the selected 300) Schools on the 2017 Shanghai Ranking special list for Global Ranking of Sport Science Schools and Departments (ARWU).

Table 1: NKUA's place on the 7 most renowned University Ranking lists from 2016 to 2018.

| University Ranking<br>lists                    | NKUA<br>World place<br>2017-2018 | NKUA<br>World place<br>2016-2017 | Greek<br>University<br>Ranking<br>2017-2018 | Greek<br>University<br>Ranking<br>2016-2017 |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|
| WEBOMETRICS                                    | 271/11.995                       | 270/11.995                       | 1   | 2   |
| Academic Ranking<br>of World Universities      | 301-400/500                      | 301-400/500                      | 1   | 1   |
| QS (Quacquarelli Symonds)                      | 651-700/950                      | 651-700/950                      | 3   | 3   |
| Times Higher<br>Education                      | 501-600/980                      | 501-600/980                      | 2   | 3   |
| Center for World University<br>Ranking         | 297/1000                         | 297/1000                         | 1   | 1   |
| National Taiwan University*                    | 203/800                          | 199/800                          | 1   | 1   |
| US News - Best Global Uni-<br>versity Rankings | 286/500                          | 291/500                          | 1   | 1   |

Source: Websites and Publications of World University Rankings.

\* It also indicates NKUA's place after computing its relative importance, by considering the number of Departments.

Konstantinos Mpourletidis Secretary of Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP), NKUA





# 9

# Honorary Doctorates of NKUA

## Honorary Doctors of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, 1837-2017

n Honorary Doctorate is the highest academic honour NKUA may grant to distinguished and internationally acknowledged scientists and eminent people who managed to discern themselves in their area of expertise.

#### **History of the institution**

The statute concerning the conferring of an Honorary Doctorate was initially part of the 1911 University regulation of the then 'National University' (formerly 'Ottonian University'). According to the regulation, the degree was awarded "to distinguished people in Sciences, Humanities or Arts and to Greeks or foreigners who have contributed valuable services to the country or the University". At least two professors had to submit a proposal and three quarters of the overall number of the School professors had to make the final decision for awarding the title. The Dean would announce the decision to the Rector and the latter would announce it to the Senate during its 1st ordinary session. The 1922 University regulation included the aforementioned provisions, the protocol of the ceremony, the type of decree and the degree.



6/6/2017. Conferring an Honorary Doctorate to the Greek academician and poet Kiki Dimoula by the Department of English Language and Literature.

Prior to the establishment of the 1911 University Regulation and while the University was operating under the 1837 Provisional Regulation, which briefly and vaguely outlined the various functions of the institution, the Senate considered the award of honorary doctorates a 'totally scientific' issue, so it referred the matter to the Schools, accepting their decisions without questioning the legality of procedures. As a result, the School of Theology awarded 20 honorary doctorates (out of 23) from 1837 to 1911, but the School of Philosophy suggested that since the existing provisions did not mention award of degrees honoris causa or in absentia («Honoris causa autinabsentia»), the School was not entitled to award one.

The Senate raised the issue of legality of awards, in 1910, when a foreigner, whose name was not mentioned in the minutes, asked to be awarded an honorary doctorate by the Law School, offering his well-stocked library and various endowments to the University, in return. Nikolaos Apostolides, the then Rector, referred to a legislative vacuum, claiming that honorary degrees were not allowed, and the Senate agreed to supplement the legalities in order for the Institution to award titles at the celebration of its 75th anniversary.

Conferring an honorary title, according to the 1911 regulation, took place in a public ceremony, in the presence of the Rector, the Dean and the professors of the respective School. After a professor of the School presented the honoree, the Dean read the decree, which justified the decision of the School to award the degree, and proclaimed the honoree as follows:

Inasmuch as the School of ...[School's name]... deemed you ....[honorary doctor's name].... worthy of an honorary doctorate, and the Rector shares this opinion, for this reason, I ....[Dean's name]... Professor of the School of ..., using the authority of the Dean, which I have acquired by the university laws and the School, publicly proclaim you ...[honorary doctor's name]... honorary doctor of ...[School name]... and I grant you all the university privileges accompanying this title.

The official degree was signed by the Rector, the Dean and the Secretary General of the University and stamped with the great stamp of the University and the School. In a few cases, the full process was recorded in the minutes of the Schools or the Senate meetings, while individual proclamations with justified reasoning are relatively few (31 out of 301 for the period 1912-1941). In agreement with international practice, most honorary doctors were awarded their degrees in groups, on occasions of great celebrations of the University: the 75th anniversary in 1912 (92 conferrings), the 100th anniversary since the death of Lord Byron in 1924 (16 from the Law School and the School of Philosophy) and the top anniversary of the 100 years of the University in 1937 (162 honorary Doctorates for all the Schools).



23/10/2015. Conferring an Honorary Doctor's Degree by the Department of Political Science and Public Administration to HH the President of the French Republic François Hollande as of the School of Economics and Political Sciences.

The 1911 Statute established the right for conferring honorary awards, in December of the same year, and the Senate asked the Schools to propose prominent foreign scholars who could be awarded an honorary title, **in the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the University, in 1912**. A group conferring of **91 honorary doctorates** occurred on the third (final) day of the anniversary celebration, at a ceremonial commemoration in the Great Hall of the University, in the presence of the royal family, the political leadership, foreign diplomats and professors of the University. Among the honorary awardees were the Ecumenical Patriarch loakim III and the Patriarchs Damianos of Jerusalem, Photius of Alexandria and Gregory of Antioch from the Theological School. The Law School suggested the French politicians Denys Cochin and journalist William Miller and the Hungarian Max Nordau. These awards were an expression of the Greek nation» for the honorary doctors' attitude mainly towards the Cretan Question and the 1897 Greek-Turkish war.

From 1913 to 1925, the country was in the midst of a turbulent political period following the Balkan Wars and the Asia Minor Disaster. The Schools selected potential awardees according to 'national' criteria. Thirty two (32) honorary doctorates were awarded the title during this period and the great majority of these people overwhelmingly supported the Greek claims, in the context of European philhellenic movements (such as the Anglo-Hellenic League in Great Britain and the Ligue français pour la défence des droits del 'hellénisme in France). They also seemed to have a personal relationship with Eleftherios Venizelos. Significant conferring instances of the period were those of the French writer, journalist of Le Temps and active member of the 'Philhellenic Association of Paris', Gaston Deschamps, from the School of Philosophy (May 1913), the Romanian Foreign Minister Take Ionescu, in the presence of the prime minister E. Venizelos, (October 1913), the director of the London School of Economics and founder of the Anglo-Hellenic League, William Pember Reeves, and the head of King's College of the University of London, Ronald Burrows, from the School of Philosophy (January 1914). Conferring the title to King Constantine's German practitioners, Friedrich Kraus of the University of Berlin and Anton von Eiselsberg of the University of Vienna, from the Medical School (spring 1915) may also be noted.

From 1914 to 1922 (World War I and National Schism) the university awarded very few honorary degrees. Woordow Wilson, President of the United States, was awarded the title of Honorary Doctor of the Law School and received the degree on February 1st 1919, from a committee of professors (I. Svoronos, A. Andreadis, K. Zeggelis and D. Hondros). Around the same time, at the end of February 1919, the School of Philosophy awarded a Honorary Doctorate to the French literary author and academician Anatole France, after a suggestion from the Dean A. Adamantios and Professor S. Sakellaropoulos. The honorary degree was awarded in
Paris by the Professor of Numismatics I. Svoronos, who took part in the national delegation of the Peace Conference. The School of Theology conferred an Honorary Doctorate on the the Ecumenical Patriarchate representative, Dorotheus Prousis, in May 1919. The Professors of the School of Law, K. Poligenis and K. Rallis proposed the conferring of the English publicist Augoustinos Beaumont, general envoy of Daily Telegraph for Continental Europe in January 1922. An exception to this sequence of conferrings which met needs of the foreign policy, are the cases of Fokion Negris and Georg Brandes. Fokion Negris, son of Professor Constantinos Negris, was a member of the Athenian Parliament and Minister of Finance (1898, 1901), Transport (1916) and the Interior (1917), in the Governments of Al. Zaimis, and is one of the few Greek honorary doctors of the University of Athens. The School of Physics and Mathematics conferred the degree, on 18 March 1918, for his contribution to the study of geological history of Greece and 'on the occasion of the completion of his seventieth year of age'after a proposal by Professors A. Damvergis and K. Ktenas. The School of Philosophy conferred the title on Georg Brandes (March 1922), a Danish writer, critic and scholar, who greatly influenced the literary world of Scandinavia.

The Greek state commemorated the centenary of the death of Lord Byron, with grandeur, in 1924, offering an opportunity for a triumphal restoration of Greek-British diplomatic relations, which had been seriously disrupted after the elections of 1/14 November 1920 and the defeat of the Liberals. In the context of the celebration, the Schools of Law and Philosophy conferred an honorary degree upon 16 awardees. Contrary to the normal procedure, the list of nominees was drafted by the Senate and submitted to the Schools for approval. The list included representatives of the institutions where Byron was educated, the director of Harrow College, Lionel Ford, the rector and vice rector of Cambridge University, Lord Count Balfour and Edmund Courtenay Pearce, by ronologists Harold Nicholson and Harold Spencer, the secretary of the British embassy in Athens Shirley Clifford Atchley, editor of a Greek-Byronian dictionary, the publishers of the works of the poet, Lord Ernle and Jogn Murray. Among them, Rudyard Kipling, the English translator of 'Hymn to Liberty' by D. Solomos, and John Drinkwater, who recited the befitting Ode to Byron, were conferred the degree as representatives of English poetry. In response, Kostis Palamas composed and recited the Greek Ode, 'interpreting the feelings of adoration and gratitude of the Greek soul towards the one passionately loving Greece'. Other awardees were Lord Viscount Cecil (for his assistance in the approval of the refugee loan), Sir Rennel Rodd, representative of the British government, congressman Thomas Powder O'Connor, Reverend John Douglas, Bishop of Oxford Charles Gore and Lord Burnham. The official conferring ceremony, took place in the Grand Hall of the University on April 17<sup>th</sup> 1924, in the presence of the President of the new uncrowned Democracy and members of the government. On February 11th 1925, in a special meeting, the School of Philosophy

nominated the Swiss Edouard Chapuisat, a lawyer, congressman, director of *Journal de Genève*, scholar of Eynard and great friend of E.Venizelos, on the suggestion of Professors S. Menardou and S. Kougea. Last on the line of honorary doctors, for their support to the state, were the Archbishop of Paris, Lewis Cardinal Dubois, Norwegian Fridtj of Nansen and American Henry Morgenthau, on the suggestion of the Law School.

**During the decade of 1926-1936,** conferrings were only summarized in the Schools' proceedings with no allusions to political or other connotations. Throughout the 1930s only one person is nominated honorary doctor, Voislav Marinkovic, Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, on an official visit to Greece, on suggestion of the Law School. Five conferrings intervene in total, up until the great celebration of 1937, two 'traditional' ones and three 'academic'. The 'traditional' ones were conferred on loannis Kantakouzinos, of Greek descent, minister of Hygiene in Romania and professor of the Medical School in the University of Bucharest – who was also conferred an honorary doctorate of the Medical School (January 1932) – and on Nicolai Titulescu, Foreign Minister and distinguished Professor of Civil Law in the University of Bucharest, who was honoured by the Law School in October 1933. The 'academic' ones were conferred on the French linguist Antoine Meillet, Italian classic philologist Ettore Romagnoli and Konstantinos Kallinikos, vicar of the Greek community of Manchester and great chamberlain of the Ecumenical Throne (November 1933).

In 1937 the University celebrated its centennial. The celebrations lasted one week (April 17th to 24th 1937) and the conferring of the honorary doctorates occurred on the 3rd day, April 19th 1937. The Schools honoured 162 prominent figures of the era, following the same procedure as in 1912, but the final lists of the honorees were reshaped by the Metaxas totalitarian regime. In particular: The School of Philosophy claimed a higher percentage of the nominations with the argument, that it studies a wider range of sciences and conferred 70 doctors. The minister of Education of Nazi Germany, Bernhard Rust, was honoured separately, first out of the main body of the School's doctors, and the honorary degree with the silver commemorative plague of the centenary, was awarded in Berlin on February 13th 1938, by the ambassador of Greece there, Alexandros Rizos Ragkavis, in the presence of the Dean of the School of Philosophy Ioannis Kallitsounakis, who had connections to the University of Berlin and Sp. Marinatos, invited by the German University, for a lecture on the antiquities of Crete. The rest of the conferrings of the School of Philosophy took place collectively without any special references. An exception was the case of Wolf Meyer-Erlach, Dean of the University of Jean, who arrived in Athens at the last moment, to represent his University. The Law School nominated 25 honorary doctors (decision of February 10, 1937), with most prominent honoree the French Jean Zay, member of the Radical Socialist Party and minister of Education in the government of Popular Front, on an official visit to Athens. The departments of the School of Physics and Mathematics were invited to submit their proposals and received the full list of candidates, for their approval. However, despite the careful preparation of the final meeting, the professors did not reach a unanimous decision so the School of Physics and Mathematics was the only School, which sent back the names of the 25 proposed nominees, followed by the professor disagreements. The Medical School nominated 32 honorary doctors, from 22 countries, without referring to the rationale of their decision or the selection criteria.

The Law School and the School of Philosophy conferred the last honorary doctorates before the war, in 1939.

**October 28th 1940** (the beginning of the war for Greece, when Italy demanded Greece to allow Axis forces to enter Greek territory) suspended the operation of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens until further notice. It suspended the educational function of the Institution for a semester.

In March 1941, a few days before the German attack against Greece, Deputy Minister of Education N. Spentzas sent an urgent document to the Rector requesting the urgent meeting of the School of Law to confer an honorary doctorate on the President of the United States of America Franklin Delano Roosevelt and to pass the relevant decree to the American Ambassador in an official ceremony in Athens.

Between 1941 and 1945, the Schools did not award honorary degrees, except for the School of Philosophy which conferred twelve honorary doctorates in 1943. The School of Philosophy and the School of Medicine recommenced conferring ceremonies again in 1946. The School of Law and the School of Theology followed, beginning their first conferring ceremonies in 1952 and 1953, respectively.

Awarding an honorary degree in that time was based on law no. 5343/23.3.1932 On the Regulation of the University of Athens, articles 214, 215, 216 - in essence, on the same framework as the 1911 regulation.

After the change of the legislative context by law no. 1268/16.7.1982 On the structure and operation of higher educational institutions, the conferring of honorary doctorates, the protocol and ceremonial issues were regulated by article 50, paragraph 4 of the internal regulations of Higher Education Institutions. In particular, Departments (rather than Schools) hold the responsibility of awarding honorary doctorate degrees with the final approval of the Senate.

Since the establishment of the University of Athens and up until **1987**, which celebrated its **150th anniversary**, the departments conferred 448 honorary doctorates. In the context of the celebratory events, which officially lasted from May 2 to May 6, 1987, the Department of Philology of NKUA's School of Philosophy conferred honorary doctorates on poet Yiannis Ritsos and poet laureate (Nobel Prize winner) Odysseas Elytis. The conferring ceremonies took place on May 11, 1987 and May 19, respectively.

During the anniversary year 1987, the Department of History and Archaeology of the School of Philosophy, conferred 16 honorary doctorates among which were the ones conferred on archaeologist Manolis Andronikos and on the Professor of Modern Greek Literature and History K. Th. Dimaras.

In the same year, the School of Law conferred four doctorates, the School of Sciences thirteen and the School of Health Sciences one. Yet, none of these conferrings was placed in the context of the 150-year anniversary celebrations of NKUA.

After the celebration of the 150-year anniversary conferrings were especially enforced and, the number of honorary doctorates rose.

Up until 2011, the institution drew on law no. 1268, later replaced by law no. 4009/6.9.2011 on the *Structure, operation, quality assurance of studies and internationalization of higher education institutions*. The general assemblies of Schools (rather than of Departments) make a decision on nominees, to be later approved by the Senate, according to article 5, *Regulation, par. 2i On the criteria of conferring honorary doctorate, emeritus and honorary professor* titles and to article 9, School's administration, paragraph 10ia *On conferring honorary doctorate, emeritus and honorary professor titles*.

In 2017 and the 180-year anniversary of the university, commemorative events occurred along with honorary doctorate conferring ceremonies of the Archbishop of Ohrid and Metropolitan Bishop of Skopje, Jovan Vraniškovski by the Department of Social Theology and of academician and poet Kiki Dimoula by the Department of English Language and Literature. The 2017 saw a total of 27 honorary doctorate conferring ceremonies.

In the same year, law no. 4485/4.8.2017 also came into being on the Organization, operation of higher education and regulations for research and other provisions: article 8 Internal Regulation, par.  $2\zeta$  on The criteria and process of honorary doctorate, emeritus and honorary professor awardings and article 13 Senate, par.  $2\lambda\gamma$ , Honorary doctorate, emeritus and honorary professor titles, suggest that the general assembly of Departments (rather than of the Schools) propose and seek the final approval of the Senate.

Since 1862, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens has conferred honorary doctorates to 1,239 outstanding people from the fields of Sciences, Humanities, Arts, even Nobel Prize winners and also honorees from Politics, Law and the Church.

Honorary doctorate conferrings occur in official public ceremonies, in the Great Hall of NKUA's central historical building, in the presence of the Rector, the Vice-rectors, members of the Senate, the Dean of the School, the Chair of the Department, members of the academic community and the general public. The ceremony includes the Rector's or Vice-rector's address, presentation of the work and profile of the honoree, reading the decree, awarding the honorary doctorate degree by the Department Chair, vesting the honoree with the School's

gown as performed by the Dean, and awarding the decree. The event is completed with the honoree's speech.

Texts are specifically composed for each honoree in ancient Greek, usually by an academic staff member from the Division of Classics of the Department of Philology (School of Philosophy).

#### \* Note: A total of 1.239 honorary degrees were awarded by June 2018.

The text on the period up to 1941 drew on the article «International relations and academic community: The Honorary Doctors of the University of Athens» *Ta Istorika*, 36 (June 2002), pp. 129-164, by Associate Professor of NKUA Dr. Anna Karakatsouli, courtesy of the author, whom we would like to thank for the permission. The text on the next period drew on the Archive of the Department of Public Relations, Protocol and Cultural Events.



Στο ΙΑΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ προσφορά supής και soχαριστίας Ο Πρότανης του Εθνικού και Κατοδιοτριακού Πανεπίστημίου Αθηνών καθηγητής ΜΕΛΕΤΙΟΣ-ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΟΣ Κ. ΑΗΜΟΠΟΥΑΟΣ





# 10

### Honouring Benefactors and Donors

#### **Benefactors and the University of Athens**

hen the 'Ottonian University' emerged, it was in great need of basic infrastructure, libraries and scientific equipment. As the material resources of the newlyestablished Greek state did not suffice for such necessities, the university authorities addressed potential benefactors willing to assist the University financially. The second Rector of the NKUA, Georgios I. Rallispublished an "appeal for funds", on December 1st 1838, to all Greeks and friends of the Greeks, written in ancient Greek. He asked them to cover expenses for books and physics instru-ments, while bringing attention to the donations already made. The response was fast and overwhelming. Rallis made a second "appeal for funds", on the 26th January 1839, at a meeting of most prominent members of Athenian society. This time, he asked funds for constructing a University building and the institution assembled a committee for this purpose, later ratified by a Royal Decree. Members of the committee were: three of the most prominent fighters of the Greek Revolution - Theodoros Kolokotronis, Georgios Kountouriotis, Andreas Zaimis, King Otto's chief advisor A. Ch. Vrandis, the University Dean G. Rallis, Professors N. Vamvas and K. Shinas, the banker Th. Rallis and the nation's educator and important Greek Enlightenment personality, Georgios Gennadios. The Committee managed to disseminate the news about erecting a University building through donations originating from both within and beyond the borders of the Greek kingdom. The response was again overwhelming within the country and abroad. Affluent Greeks -or less socontributed to the cause massively, following the tradition of the pre-revolutionary Modern Greek Enlightenment, when individuals supported education.

The names of donors and their donations were published in newspapers, in the Government Gazette and in the annual financial reports of the rectors when they left office. One can find all the names of donors on published lists, from various regions of Greece, even remote islands, from wealthy Greek communities in Europe and in the Ottoman Empire. Along with Greeks, a notable number of foreign donors contributed to the fund.

Advancing the nation's intellectual progress, by contributing to the newly-founded institution by any means, was (more than anything else) a patriotic duty, for the metropolitan and expatriate Greek population. The foreigners' contribution came as a result of a general enthusiasm in Europe with regards to the young Greek nation, drawing on the classical-romantic ideal that permeated the philhellenic movements during the Greek Revolution. Foreign donors contributed either by financing the University building or by donating books and scientific equipment. They considered it their moral duty towards the country which was one of the pillars of western civilization. They were usually high-ranking officials, diplomats, aristocrats, university professors, as well as members of committees dealing with the Greek cause, academies, universities and other educational institutions.

One of the largest foreign donations came from the former Serbian ruler Miloš Obrenović (1780-1860) through the mediation of Professor and first Rector Konstantinos Shinas. Miloš Obrenović's generous donation of 25,000 drachmas, in 1842, immensely contributed to erecting the University building and avoiding a mortgage as a result of financial impass. King Otto donated about 50,000 drachmas for the same purpose.

Thus the historical building of the University of Athens, on Panepistimiou Street in Athens was an outcome of a collaborative effort.

Supporting the University turned into a national quest and was one of the first manifestations of the 'benefiting phenomenon' which began in the 19th century and bestowed the country with cultural and social welfare institutions. The University came into being thanks to a collaborative spirit, raised by the common cause, among the metropolitan and expatriate Greek population. Dimitrios Galanos (1760-1833), the Institution's first donor left in his will -written in Calcutta India in 1833 (even before the university's establishment) - half his fortune and all his life's intellectual work: invaluable translations of Indian literature to be given 'to the first Athenian Academy' - thus anticipating the establishment of an Academy institution.

A large number of known and anonymous donors of different social and economic status (merchants, teachers, military and naval officers, members of the clergy, artists, landowners, and lay people) did their best to contribute anything that would fulfill the goal, probably motivated by an old tradition that elevated sponsoring the city to the utmost duty of a citizen. As is clearly documented in the relevant sources, sponsoring in the minds of many, became associated to the nation's intellectual awakening.

Fundraising for the university building and offering books and other educational material was just one manifestation of support to the University. Another usual form of support were citizen-motivated bequests as scholarships for the poor and diligent students (usually from the bequeather 's place of origin) to study at the Institution or abroad. The bequests were income from immovable property or shareholding.

The institution's donors were usually unmarried or childless married people. There were many Greek immigrants among them, who were frequently combining the financial support to the University with similar funds to their home countries, or several professors and members of their families. The first one that bequeathed immovable property with his 1893 testament, for student scholarships, was the Medical School Professor Dimitrios Maurokordatos (1811-1839), and this went on incessantly until present day. Throughout the history of the Institution, many young people have been supported in their studies, in this way.

In a short period of time, a large property was collected via bequests, mainly immovable property, which the Institution, in the majority of cases, could not use, as it would have liked, for meeting ongoing needs. The conditions of donations and bequests were particularly binding: donations and income from immovable property had to be used for scholarships, establishing scientific competitions or founding scientific annexes.

In the case that donations and bequests were in cash, they usually had to be invested in stable value fund and sponsor specific purposes according to the donor's wish. The University of Athens is still bound today to make use of bequests according to the donor's intentions and spirit, and has actually been subjected to state control.

The most significant figure among the donors and benefactors has been Cretan Antonios Papadakis (1810-1878) who bequeathed all his movable and immovable property to the Institution. From his childhood captivity in Egypt during the Greek Revolution, to Constantinople, Odessa and Athens he acquired property despite his adventurous life conditions, which he devoted for Crete's liberation, charity and the country's highest intellectual Institution. Today, the Papadakis legacy still continues to be one of the most important scholarships for the students of the Institution.

Another worthmentioning great benefactor of NKUA has been the expatriate to tsarist Russia loannis Dompolis (1769-1850), also a friend and partner of loannis Kapodistrias. In his 1894 testament he bequeathed almost all his property to the Greek state for the construction and maintenance of a University bearing the name of Kapodistrias, in Athens. The idea was that the money would be deposited to the Imperial Bank of Russia and it could be used from 1906 onwards, together with the interest. Until that time, the University of Athens was named 'National' (Ethnikon). In order for the enormous bequest of 7.600.000 drachmas to be received, the 1911 Constitutional Regulation composed two universities, the 'National' for Sciences and the 'Kapodistrian' for the Humanities but with a shared senate and name. Out of the total sum, only about 1.000.000 drachmas was received, according to sources of the Institution, as the rest was lost after the Russian Revolution.

Some great benefactors of the 19th and early 20th century have been the Areopagite Pavlos Pavlopoulos (1818-1887), Dimitrios Platigenis (1803-1856), Ananias Vatopedinos (1806-1876), Antonios I. Antoniadis (1836-1905) and the two brothers from Sifnos, Nikolaos and Aristodimos Griparis, who offered all of their movable and immovable property to the Institution, after their death.

The contribution of people of lower social class is of primary importance because it indicates that supporting the first Greek University mobilized the masses. A example was loannis Okkas from Epirus, a professional knife sharpener, who bequeathed 25 drachmas and his professional tools for the financial support of the University in the middle 19th century. The list of such cases is inexhaustible.

Other forms of donations to the University was the establishment of literary, theatrical and scientific competitions which were organized and sponsored on the initiative of rich expatriates and locals, with the University having the role of the host and judge. The university competitions or 'agones' such as the Rallios, the Voutsinaios, the Rodokanakios, the Lasanios, the Economios, the Sgoution and the Theopoulion Nomikon Diagonisma, which offered the opportunity to young writers and scientists to try their hand, were particularly popular in the 19th century. They advanced and influenced the intellectual, literary and scientific life of the local community.

What played a major role for the activities of the University were the generous legacies and donations for founding and operating its scientific annexes, mostly its hospitals. The Observatory of Athens, at first an annex to the University, was built in 1842 and equipped by George S. Sina's donation. The two University hospitals, the Aretaieio and the Aiginiteio, are both named after the donor professor-doctors, who offered their fortune for their making.

Dimitrios Aiginitis (1818-1884) offered shares, through his will in 1875 'for founding an establishment to host clinical classes'. Aigineio hospital started operating in 1904 and housed the neurological and the psychiatric clinic of the University. Theodoros Aretaios (1829-1893), through his will in 1892, bequeathed about one million drachmas for founding the Surgical and Gynecological Clinic as a donation 'by Theodoros and Eleni Aretaios'. The hospital started operating in 1898 and gave a significant impetus to the medical higher education of the country. Thousands of medical students were introduced to the medical science in Aretaieio Hospital, and many of them later worked as doctors in the country or earned great distinctions in the field abroad. Spyridon Magginas (1839-1919), a medical professor, donated all of his fortune for founding and maintaining a Maternity Clinic in Aretaieio. Additionally, the judge Dimosthenis Tsivanopoulos (1838-1921) and his wife Eleni donated all of their fortune for constructing a Pathology Hospital.

The University of Athens showed its gratitude to the donors in many ways. In order to acknowledge the donors and to raise public awareness, the University published their names through the press, acknowledged them in Rectoral speeches and the Government Gazettes (FEK). Sometimes the benefactors and the donors were given commemorative medals. Since 1842, the University started honouring them through a memorial on the Three Holy Hierarchs' Day, as well as through separate memorials. Additionally, it made portraits and busts, in their honour, wrote their names on honorary marble headstones placed at the University venues, and published special editions with information about their offers and lives.

Since the mid 20th century, there has been an increasing tendency for donations, legacies and athletic awards, of larger or smaller amounts, coming from people directly or indirectly linked to the University, like professors and members of their families, mostly their husbands or wives, their children and less often their siblings or other relatives.

The amount of female benefactors, donors and athletic contributors increased during the same time period to one third of the total. Until that time, the proportion of male to female donors was about nine to one. As in older times, these donations, bequests and athletic awards are given either by the couple together, by the wife or (not as often) by the husband, in honour of the deceased spouse. Some of the donors are: Georgios Foteinos (1878-1958), Polytimi Tsivanopoulou (1900-1967), Maria Sp. Stai (1880-1960), Sofia N. Saripolou (1916-1963), Petros Papoulakos, Alexandros Diomidous (1874-1950) and his wife loulia (1873-1946), Konstantinos Deirmendtzoglou (1886-1970), Nicolaos K. Tsagkaris (1931-1977).

Many of the donors were also businessmen and ship owners, who offer their contributions as part of their general charitable action. There are also donations on behalf of companies, foundations, legal people or international organizations that usually contributed great amounts of money.

Inadequate state funding for the Institution, nowadays, has motivated the opposite process: the University seeks funding to support its infrastructure and research.

\* On the benefiting phenomenon and the biographical information of the donors and benefactors of the University, see Andreas Antonopoulos – Harikleia Bali, *Benefactors and Donors of the University of Athens, A' 1837-1944 and B' 1945-1982*, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens 2003 and 2007.

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## The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens honours its Donors and Benefactors

he University honoured its Donors and Benefactors with a special symbolic event celebrating its 180th anniversary.

The event took place on Wednesday, 26th of April 2017 at 19.00, at the Great Hall of the University of Athens (central building, Panepistimiou str. 30). Since its foundation, NKUA has been highly esteemed for being the first and only higher education institution of the country fulfilling the expectations of Greek society for scientific progress and prosperity, and for its high status.

In order to achieve its mission, it accepted generous bequests and donations, both during the first years of its operation and today.

Emeritus Professor of the Law School, NKUA, N. Alivizatos gave a speech on the "Sponsoring tradition and new challenges" on the occasion of the honorary event on April 26, 2017. The Rector of the University, Professor M. –A. Dimopoulos, awarded honouring plaques to the living Donors and Benefactors, in recognition of their contribution. The ones who passed are to be fondly remembered.

- Athanasios and Marina Martinou
- Spyridonas Metaxas
- President of the Association ELPIDA (hope), Mrs. Mariana V. Vardinoyannis
- Researcher Georgios Behrakis
- Parents' association of children with neoplastic diseases FLOGA (flame).
- Mrs. Euthumia Foti, Hellenic Physics Society
- STAVROS NIARCHOS Foundation
- President of the ALEXANDER S. ONASSIS PUBLIC BENEFIT Foundation, Mr. Antonios Papadimitriou
- BODOSSAKIS Foundation

- IOANNIS S. LATSIS Foundation
- PANAYOTIS & EFFIE MICHELIS Foundation
- IVAN SAVVIDIS Foundation
- A.G. LEVENTIS Foundation
- Hellenic Bank Association
- ALPHA BANK
- Hellenic Association of Pharmaceutical Companies
- Panhellenic Association of Pharmaceutical Industries
- OPAP S.A. (Greek Organisation of Football Prognostics)
- OTE group
- HELLENIC PETROLEUM group

In 2016, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, granted a large number of scholarships to students for undergraduate and postgraduate studies in the country and abroad, reaching a total of 3,023,000 euros, in fulfilling the terms pertaining to bequests and donations managed by the Legacy Directorate –which is also a tangible token of its beneficial role.

Particularly, in 2016, students from all scientific fields received:

- 2,451,910 euros for undergraduate studies in Greece
- 149,745 euros for postgraduate studies in Greece
- 421,345 euros for postgraduate studies abroad

The total of new scholarship recipients amounted to 307, while the payment procedure is now entirely executed via internet banking with the cooperation of the National Bank of Greece.

Additionally, students who excelled in their overall performance and in academic writing, received the amount of 76,662 euros in the form of monetary awards.

Finally, 76,229 euros were allocated to various sponsorships (Academy of Athens, Aretaeio Hospital) for equipping of research laboratories, printing scientific papers and enriching libraries.



26/4/2017. The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens paid tribute to its Donors and Benefactors with a special symbolic event celebrating its 180th anniversary. The event took place in the Great Hall of the University of Athens.





## 11

Commemorative events for the 180-year anniversary of NKUA



Schools and Departments of the University also organized events (conferences, symposia etc.) with the aim to assess and reflect upon their scientific, educational and cultural output. The museums, the libraries and the Historical Archive of the Institution played a crucial part in these events documenting the long history of NKUA.

On December 15, 2017 the President of the Hellenic Parliament, Mr. Nikolaos Voutsis, inaugurated the exhibition entitled "180 years of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens: the institution – the people" in the Peristyle of the Parliament, co-organised by the Hellenic Parliament Foundation for Parliamentarism and Democracy and the Historical Archive of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA). The Peristyle of the Hellenic Parliament hosted the exhibition until May 31, 2018. Rare books, original showpieces from university museums and the Historical Archive, photographs, newspaper headlines, documents, manuscripts, student IDs, works of art and literary texts highlighted the multifaceted presence of the University of Athens in the intellectual, social and political life of the country. The exhibition was thematically focusing on NKUA's history, identity, ideology, international status, works of art, as well as people, scientific and administrative staff, the students' movement, research and welfare.

A big festive concert, "180 years of University -- 180 years of singing", was the closing event of the celebration, including distinguished Greek songs, and was held on May 2, 2018, at Megaro Mousikis, in the Christos Lambrakis Hall, in the presence of about 1,800 spectators. It was a fascinating musical flashback highlighting the parallel course of Athens and its University, through emblematic songs that have permeated the 180 years. The concert attempted to artistically raise the audience's awareness of what the Propylaea have witnessed throughout these years. The texts, the music and the songs of the era captured the historical and social ambience of each period from 1837 (when the first University opened its doors, in the Kleanthis residence, in Plaka) until today.



Snapshot of the event "The Banner of the University of Athens: Modern Visual Approaches".

The official ceremony celebrating the 180-year-anniversary, since the founding of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, took place on the 3rd of May 2017 (the inauguration day of the Institution back in 1837), in the presence of H.E. the President of Greece Mr. Prokopios Pavlopoulos. Below is the welcoming address of the Rector of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Professor Meletios-Athanasios K. Dimopoulos and the keynote speech by H.E. the President of the Hellenic Republic Mr. Prokopios Pavlopoulos.



2018. Snapshot of the great festive concert "180 years of University - 180 years of singing", held on May 2, 2018 at Megaro Mousikis (Athens Concert Hall).

#### OPENING SPEECH by MELETIOS-ATHANASIOS K. DIMOPOULOS Professor and Rector of NKUA

#### NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS 1837-2017: THE HISTORY AND POTENTIAL OF THE COUNTRY'S FIRST UNIVERSITY

#### The role of NKUA in the historical course of Modern Greece.

Your Excellence, Mr. President of the Hellenic Republic,

On the 3rd of May, like today, back in 1837, the country celebrated the inauguration of the Ottonian University, the first university emerging in the newly born Greek State, in the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean. The University of Athens, as commonly named for short, has had a parallel course with the new Hellenic State and reflected people's need for education, progress and prosperity. In its first form, it comprised four Schools: Theology, Law, Medicine and 'Philosophy and Other Education'. Thirty-three (33) professors taught 52 registered students, and 75 non-registered 'listeners', in its first year of operation.

180 years later, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens comprises 8 Schools, 33 Departments, 2,100 members of teaching staff, about 40,000 active undergraduate students, 11,500 postgraduate students study in 136 postgraduate programmes and more than 14,000 doctoral students conduct their doctoral research. An overall of 110,000 students study at NKUA and also more than 5,600 foreign students, through the 66 bilateral agreements of co-operation currently in force, with accredited foreign higher education institutions.

An infrastructure of about 700,000 square meters accommodates educational needs, research and administration, with 1.087 administrative personeel (both permanent and IDAX) and more than 6,000 contract staff (the number fluctuates annually). A total of 2 million square meters are available to the University.

Your Excellency Mr. President,

In their inaugural address of May 3, 1837, the first Rector

Konstantinos Schinas and the first four Deans, Rallis, Vamvas, Apostolides and Lefkias, highlighted the two main aims of the Institution: (a) to educate the people who would staff state administration, the judiciary institutions, the hospitals, the schools and the liberal professions of the country and (b) to impart the Greek culture through its graduates.

Up until the beginning of the 20th century, the University of Athens was the only university which educated future politicians, intellectual leaders, public and private sector officials, doctors graduates of the School of Medicine, professionals from the Humanities and Sciences, Law and Economics, Education and members of the Clergy in the country.

Today the University aims at multifaceted education at all levels and at advancing theoretical and applied science, in a wide range of scientific fields with 210 laboratories 76 university clinics 2 university hospitals and 5 university research institutes. In addition to the state subsidy, the University seeks other financial sources for funding research, like the European and international programmes, NSRF (National Strategic Reference Frame, ESPA), cooperation with public and private sector bodies, service provision to natural and legal persons, sponsorships and donations. More than 2.000 research projects are currently run though the Special Account Research Grants (ELKE) where thousands of new scientists are employed annually through contracts (doctoral students, post-docs, new researchers, technicians, scientific administrative personnel).

Your Excellency, Mr. President,

throughout NKUA's historical course, a lot of students and professors have significantly contributed to advancing science, philosophy, literature, like for instance George Papanicolaou, Konstantin Carathéodory, many Greek professors who teach in Universities of the country or are employed in universities abroad, etc. The national poet, Kostis Palamas was Secretary General of the Institution. More famous graduates are Odysseas Elytis, George Seferis, Nikos Kazantzakis who had been proposed as a candidate for the Nobel Prize for Literature.

In the last decade, the financial crisis which devastated the country has affected every section of the public sphere. The University of Athens has received significantly lower subsidy (in the last seven years, subsidies decreased by 70% overall) and the human resourses have dried up (resulting in less professors and administrative personnel by 30%).

On a par with decreased subsidizing, an extra impediment to the work of the university is the state's intention for totally balancing the institutional framework of managing the resources attracted for research, which do not derive from public subsidies, with that of the central public administration funding, without considering the significant specificities of education and research. Thus the creative activity of the Institution tends to turn into a highly non-productive mechanism, through which a disproportionately large part of the human and financial resources is devoted to following demanding procedures. An inflexible bureaucratic mechanism does not seem to tally with producing knowledge, enhancing innovation, advancing motivation in the university community for public presence and for attracting resources; in a bureaucratic mechanism where the most scientifically active members of the community deal with activities beyond the confines of the public university. The real choice seems to be between a significantly heightened public expenditure (or, in other words, a dramatic suppression of the public university) and a simple, flexible framework for managing the resources attracted by the universities.

However, despite the prolonged financial crisis and the major reductions, the University is still active, thanks to its advanced human resources and its long tradition. Professors have, on a yearly basis, attracted five times the amount of government funding for operating costs and public investments.

Depending on the year, 5,000 to 10,000 new scientists and researchers have been employed in the aforementioned projects reducing braindrain. A substantial part of the resources was invested for funding the educational needs of the schools and departments of the University. The versatile and simple framework for managing research and developmental resources has acted as a catalyst, but unfortunately, as mentioned earlier, it runs the risk of becoming much more bureaucratic following rudimentary accounting approaches with research reserves remaining stagnant. The current goal of NKUA is to offer high quality undergraduate and postgraduate studies and promote excellence in research, because this is the only way we can ensure developmental growth of the Institution. The University should also enhance openness and extroversion and broaden its international appeal. Furthermore, it may and - especially nowadays - ought to contribute to productive reconstruction, to kick-starting the economy as well as to creating job vacancies for fellow citizens. The University of Athens, aware of the challenges of the present time, gradually aims at:

1. Improving the infrastructure, the equipment and the operation of the departments, laboratories, clinics and university hospitals. The completion of the central establishments of university libraries is part of the intended improvement of infrastructure. The research reserves fund the infrastructure, a great number of the staff, the digital media of the library facilities and the equipment of the departments. Additionally, public investments and donations will cater for the renovation and refurbishment of several old historical buildings.

2. Completing the 'digital University' project, which has hitherto made considerable progress. New teaching technologies (e-class and Open Courses) are more and more frequently used. The research reserves have largely contributed to all this.

3. Intervening actively and broadly in society for training the general population, through continuing education and the specialized and lifelong learning training. Upgrading the distance learning (e-learning) educational programmes, the Center of continuous education, training and lifelong learning along with the Modern Greek and Foreign Languages Teaching Centers is a high priority.

4. Developing Master's and PhD programmes introducing new specialties and updating the already existing ones. It would be highly important if the State could help fund departments offering undergraduate programmes in new fields, or if the University developed programmes in English on appealing topics such as History, Archeology and Ancient Greek Philosophy, for attracting foreign students outside the EU, mainly from East Asia and the Middle East.

5. Advancing research through developing students' innovative thinking, producing and transferring know-how from the research units of the University to the production agencies in Greece and abroad, through specialized consulting units of the Special Account for Research Grants (ELKE). The newly founded Technology Transfer Center of the Institution is going to pursue this goal. The University is also concerned with advancing research collaborations with Greek and foreign institutions, diffusing research results of the academic units, publicizing distinctions of members and supporting them through funding their participation in international conferences. The University established a specialized committee with very specific objectives and schedule, to this end.

6. Encouraging the creation of new research units for producing even more significant publications in international scientific journals and link research to production. Beyond the resources attracted by research groups, there have been financial tools, to this end, through the University's research reserves. The University also supports a unit assisting with trans-national cooperation programmes promoting student and academic staff mobility. If the University took advantage of the large Greek scientific diaspora, it could partly compensate for the 'brain drain' effect with creating a brain-networking phenomenon.

7. Advancing internal and external evaluation and efficiently implementing evaluation findings for further improvement (and distinction) and enhancing cooperation with international ranking bodies. We also aim at prudent administration, which entails transparency and communication with the collective bodies.

8. Advancing student welfare, along with the aid provided by the State. Especially today, the State should provide the students in need with a robust safety net of catering and accommodation provisions in order for them to complete their studies unimpeded. The University has also funded an exemplary accessibility unit (exclusively using its own funding reserves) for making the university accessible to students with disabilities, as well as medical care units for emergencies within the University premises.

9. Upgrading the social contribution of the University. The University has had a great tradition in making its presence visible to society since its early years. Here are a few institutions it has offered: the University Clinic (Astikliniki), the Nursery, the Scholeio of Dentistry and Pharmacy, the Observatory, the Chemistry and Physics laboratories, the Eginition and the Aretaeio Hospitals, the Laiko, the Alexandra and the Attikon Hospitals. The contribution of the university hospitals and clinics to the daily operation of the National Healthcare System is important, because of the funding its professors attract. In addition to teaching and researching at the Institution, the scientific staff participates in national, international committees and organizations, organizes and runs training seminars and activities for various social groups, including patients, refugees and migrants.

Finally, in supporting the Legacy Directorate, the University aims at attracting additional funds and donations, and make use of the approximately 100 endowments available to the Institution, according to the will of the donator. Last year, the Legacy Directorate awarded scholarships of a total amount of 3 million euros to students for undergraduate and postgraduate studies in Greece and abroad.

10. Collaborating with the State on planning the next steps in higher education and in NKUA in particular. The assumption has been that any change in education, in general, must have a long-term orientation and consensus, both politically and socially, and among all the members of the university community. Educational reforms can meet the needs of their era, only with consensus and proper planning.

#### Your Excellency Mr. President,

The Institution, with its teaching staff and students, has participated in all the national and social struggles, while its contribution to constructing and advancing a Greek state identity has been decisive. All these years, it has served as a National Pandidakterion for the country, an important intellectual centre, in which the free movement of ideas and the exchange of views enhanced the production and dissemination of new knowledge. European humanism has been its permanent and steady orientation, throughout its historical journey to this day.

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens cherishes its tradition but at the same time evolves, improves and hopes to continue to address social inequalities, cultural and developmental needs of the country and its people, with dedication to principles of scientific ethics, sustainable development and social cohesion.

On the occasion of the presence of the Professor of the University of Athens, His Excellency the President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. P. Pavlopoulos, the Professor of the University of Athens, of the Minister of Education Mr. K. Gavroglu, former Prime Ministers (formerly Professors or graduates of NKUA), members of the government, representatives of the Parliament, the judiciary, the leadership of armed forces and security forces and other officials, former Rectors and Rectors of other Universities, Professors and Professors Emeriti, as well as administrators and students, I would like to conclude this speech with the reflection of the representative of the Modern Greek Enlightenment Adamantios Korais that «A state which is not based on education, is a building on the sand».

Thank you.



2017. Official ceremony for the celebration of the 180th anniversary since the establishment of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS **BY PROKOPIOS PAVLOPOULOS** H.E. President of the Republic

#### THE NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS A DIACHRONIC VEHICLE OF EUROPEAN ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC TRADITION

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, this year, completes 180 years of brilliant performance and maximum contribution not only to Greece but also to Hellenism in general. I feel greatly honoured but also deep emotion for my participation in this top anniversary, since I am connected with the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens through deep spiritual – I would say existentialist ties: I was a graduate of its Law School, and at the same School, I had the honour of serving science as a professor for many years.

I. The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens - among many other Universities in our country, each in its power - is a real beacon of our spiritual life in the difficult, in many respects, times we live in.

A. The emblematic contribution of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, to the intellectual and general political, financial and cultural life of the country is manifested in its constantly serving a binary of values; tradition and renewal. The *Athenesi*<sup>1</sup>, as it is often called even today, was the first and only University of the Country until 1926, when the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki emerged. It also proceeded alongside the National Technical University of Athens (Metsovio), founded in 1836, whose equal status to the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens was recognized in 1914.

1. This becomes quite obvious when considering that the course of the Modern Greek State is parallel to the history of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

2. The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, therefore, grows alongside the Modern Greek State, it experiences its glories but also its difficult moments, influences political developments and is influenced by them. All the above result in developing a particular osmosis between the 'Athenesi' and the Greek State, manifested on many levels, and particularly in the following:

<sup>1</sup> Remnant of the formal version of the University's name, dative case, meaning "in Athens".

B. Firstly, the direct or indirect involvement of many members of the teaching staff of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in the public life of the country, throughout the historical course of the modern Greek State, assumes its inseparable connection with the organization and the administration of the State. This was because, from the first moment of its operation, NKUA largely undertook the task of shaping the scientific-educational community of the country, of staffing the public administration mechanism and the private sector, in most cases. In addition, many members of its teaching staff soon played a leading role in the political and social life of the country, a trend that has uninterruptedly continued to the present day.

1. The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens did not cultivate only sciences stricto sensu. Initially, and at least up until the Interwar period, it established scientific fields and practices through its study programmes and other activities developed by members of its teaching staff. Its role exceeded and still exceeds these limits. This is because the ideological but also broader theoretical trends concerning the organization of our society, the construction of our national identity and our wider cultural presence in the modern world (which have always been developed at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens - and sometimes overwhelmed it) echo and reflect the quests and the «needs» of the Hellenic Nation, the Hellenic State and Society.

2. This relationship is, of course, bidirectional and dialectical, and its results prove to be extremely fertile either immediately or in the course of time. To mention just one example of this two-way relationship, let me point out that Eleftherios Venizelos, who was a graduate of the School of Law of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, reformed the university legislation in 1932, which was one of the most important modernizing achievements in the 20th century. Despite the highly retrogressive dictatorial parenthesis of the Metaxas regime - he determined the course of the University of Athens for at least the next fifty years.

Γ. Secondly, the history of the student movement, as developed within the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and in the other higher educational institutions of our country, follows the course and in particular the democratization of the Greek State. For example:

1. The contribution of the student movement - within the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens as well - to the fall of the coup d'état regime of April 21, was a milestone in the post-regime-change history of our country.

2. Also, the entry of women to the University, from 1890 onwards, was another milestone, although several years had to pass before the equal participation of women in higher education prevailed as a social value and was satisfactorily portrayed in the numerical composition of the student population.



2017. Key speech by H.E. the President of the Hellenic Republic, Prof. Prokopios Pavlopoulos, during the official celebration of the 180th anniversary of the establishment of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

II. It is especially worth mentioning how closely the European orientation of the country is connected with the European tradition and perspective of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, since its emergence. This is manifested in the various speeches of the then officials, on May 3, 1837, at the inauguration of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, especially the one by the first Rector Konstantinos Schinas. It is clearly documented in those speeches that the main motivation for founding the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in 1837 was imparting - in the words of Adamantios Korais 'transferring' ( $\mu\epsilon\tau\alpha\kappa\epsilon'\nu\omega\sigma\eta$ ) - the European spirit to 'our' East. After Independence, this idea was originally formulated by Maurer («Das Griechishe Volk», 1835, «The Hellenic People», 1976, p. 421), particularly by the phrase: «Greece is destined to one day impart the light of the European culture in Asia and beyond, and this will be helped by its privileged geographical position and the spiritual acuteness of its inhabitants».

A. All the above suffice to shed light on the ab initio European orientation of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

1. It is not only that the standards shaping the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens are German - in particular Humboldtian - and French, which, as will be claimed later, affected the character and aims of the University. Nor shall I emphasize the (impressive nonetheless) fact that, in the first half of the 19th century, the foreign students (expatriate Greeks) exceeded half of the total student population, which is another manifestation of the scope of the Institution.

2. The key component of the European orientation of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens is that it provides the natural space for cultivating the Hellenic spirit and the universal values it stands for and serves, in agreement with the classical Greek antiquity ideal. I mention this, not out of impetuous archeolatry, but to emphasize that the ancient Greek spirit is the first of the three pillars of the whole European construct, the other two being the Roman institutional tradition and state organization, and the Christian teaching.

Acknowledging that the European character of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens runs parallel to the broad European orientation of Greece is important, in this case, as, NKUA has from its origins been a stronghold for disseminating European ideals in the country.

B. More than any other higher intellectual institution of our country, it has been diachronically associated with important Universities throughout Europe, developing close cooperative relations, in many fields. It has thus gained considerable prestige and recognition

both in Europe and in the rest of the international academic community. It has often made use of this recognition by leading foreign academic institutions to help develop and promote similar cooperative relationships between major foreign universities and regional higher education institutions of this country.

C. This acknowledged diachronic European orientation of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens - but also of most higher educational institutions in our country - runs parallel with solid bonds it maintains with the Anglo-Saxon higher education institutions, which exercise analogous influences, especially in the field of Sciences. This was a follow up from the rapid rise and recognition of higher educational institutions in Great Britain, especially after the Second World War, and the establishment of new, major universities, in addition to the old and traditional ones of Cambridge and Oxford - and in the United States.

D. All aforementioned activities NKUA has developed are intertwined with its character as legal entity, by definition associative, like most Greek higher educational institutions- not as an institutional establishment.

This is confirmed by the provisions of article 16, paragraph 5  $\varepsilon\delta$  a' of the Constitution, according to which "Higher education is provided exclusively by institutions which are fully autonomous legal entities of public law". On the other hand, the whole of European tradition relevant to the nature of a university, which has indeed affected the institutional framework of higher educational institutions, acknowledges them as legal entities of institutional character, thus significantly underestimating their legal nature and mission. Specifically:

1. In the Greek legal order, it is widely accepted that the institution is a sum of assets in the service of a specific cause. This suggests that, at its foundation, the institution is an asset "in concreto", much like its purpose. Yet, it cannot be claimed that the statutory and functional core of all public higher institutions of our country - and Europe - is comprised of their assets. The fact that article 16, paragraph 5 of the Constitution abusively uses the term "institution" for all higher educational institutions is not a safe argument in favor of the opposite.

2. A proper stance, in my opinion, would be that of public higher educational institutions being legal entities of associative character – in the context of the Greek lawful order – drawing on the educational bond between faculty and students. An 'association' is a union of individuals aiming at a higher cause, an ideal, away and beyond any property infrastructure. Our university tradition, from the establishment of institutions at the end of 12th century until today, points towards a need for weakening the institutional character of Greek higher educational institutions and enforcing, on the contrary, their associative

character, in agreement with the pivotal influence of European universities on our university tradition. Especially since the emergence of

a) The University's starting point has been the concept of "Studium Generale", a field of higher education classic studies based exclusively on the educational bond between faculty and students.

b) The "Studium Generale" quickly evolved and became established as "Universitas" with the appearance of cities all over Europe. It suggested a pure union of people without any special emphasis on property, thus establishing it until today as "Universitas Magistrorum et Scholarium". The relevant reference to the aforementioned speech of the first Rector of NKUA, Konstantinos Schinas, is of historical importance. He referred to the University of Paris as "a guild of faculty and students" or as "Universitas" in Latin, meaning "Universitas Magistrorum et Scholarium" (p. 2-3). Let me repeat that this basic associative core of the university constitutes its basic and diachronic component, at least in public higher education, in almost the entire Europe.

E. The views I developed above are based on the current adjustment of article 16, paragraph 5 of the Constitution, through which all higher educational institutions can be run only as legal entities of public law. This does not mean, though, that it resists the operation of higher non-state education in our country, after a relevant constitutional revision. However, I believe that out of respect to our university tradition, they may be established at least under the following conditions: they should be

a) non-profit legal entities, and

b) established by permission of the Greek State and supervision for conforming to public higher educational institutions, according to the Constitution.

To conclude, while paying tribute to NKUA's 180-year trajectory, I would like to point out that the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens has been a beacon of true spirit and a reliable guide for the people and the nation, especially in times of unrest throughout its emblematic course. As the creator and guard of a brilliant tradition, the university today is called to fulfill the same mission, in the context of our country's present crucial circumstances. I am absolutely certain that it will most successfully respond to this -literally-national call.





The Greek Pandidakterion, Your Highness, established by You in the newly-built and glorious Athens, situated between dusk and dawn, is destined to receive the seeds of wisdom and to develop and impart such new and productive wisdom down to the new generations. Thus, YOUR MAJESTY, Your glorious name, will rightfully and unceasingly be blessed from generation to generation and from one part of the world to the other.

Excerpt from the speech by the first Rector Konstantinos Schinas on the day of the establishment of the Ottonian University (Athens, 3/5/1837).

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens respects its tradition, but at the same time progresses and improves itself, hoping to adequately meet cultural and developmental needs of the country and its people against social inequality, by conforming to deontological principles, sustainable development and social cohesion.

Excerpt from the speech by Rector Meletios-Athanasios Dimopoulos at the official commemorative ceremony of the 180-year anniversary of NKUA (Athens, 3/5/2017).

## 12

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