DEAN’S FOREWORD

Dear friends of FASS,

This selection of news from September 2011 - April 2012 demonstrates the diverse spectrum and quality of our publications, exhibitions, displays, courses, workshops, lectures, projects, our programs and students. We hosted in seminars about twenty job-market candidates and interviewed more than fifty holding PhDs in economics, cognitive psychology, political science, cultural studies and allied fields from top institutions worldwide. A long list of people continue to contribute to this process in corresponding committees, in particular Mehmet Barlo, Gürol Irzik, Meltem Müftüler-Baç, Çağla Aydın and Ayşe Gül Altınay as coordinator of our cultural studies program group.

I am also very happy to share the news that we shall launch two new minor degree programs in Fall 2012. Gürol Irzik and Faik Kurtulmuş have contributed to drafting our minor in philosophy and Çağla Aydın in psychology.

Our students continue to receive acceptances from top PhD programs, the latest example being a full scholarship offer to economics BA student Salih Keçoğlu, from Stanford Economics PhD program. Early applications to our graduate programs have also set a new record.

Offering our undergraduate students incentives and opportunities to prepare and undertake their own research projects has become a primary education objective at FASS. With the help and efforts of our donor Ahmet Ateş we launched the Özgür Proje (Free Project) initiative in 2011 which at that time attracted three projects involving five FASS students. The projects and the results so far are extremely encouraging... The micro-donations project of Murat and Gökay has grown to a full-fledged enterprise and is waiting the spark for its launch. Talha and Poyzan have produced a nice document on activism in European capitals and learned perhaps the equivalent of a course of nine credits. April 8 was the deadline for 2012 Özgür Proje applications. We received seven very interesting project proposals involving twenty undergraduate students. We are grateful to Fuat Keyman, director of Istanbul Policy Center, to make the Center a friend of Özgür Proje with a financial contribution. I am sure there will many exciting news to share about our joint initiatives with IPC in the near future.

All the best wishes from FASS until the next issue.

Mehmet Baç
FACULTY NEWS

- FASS launched its new diploma program, BA in International Studies, with a simulation of the Cyprus negotiations by our students, at Taksim Marmara Hotel, on February 25th. Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmet Davutoğlu and the president of the United Nations General Assembly Abdulaziz El-Nasser honored us with speeches and comments before and after the event.

- A group of four student teams from European Studies (MA), Social and Political Sciences (BA), Political Science (MA, PhD) and Conflict Analysis and Resolution (MA), representing the UN, Turkish and Greek Cypriots, was very successfully prepared by faculty members Teri Murphy and Emre Hatipoğlu. It was an event to remember - for all of us, but most of all, for the participating students who were applauded by Davutoğlu, Al-Nasser, Nihat Berker and an international group of distinguished academics.

- The 17th edition of the ISEA - International Symposium on Electronic Art, the leading world conference and exhibition event for art, media and technology, took place in Istanbul from 14 to 21 September 2011.

- The Symposium was the outcome of the synergy that was developed between the Inter-Society for the Electronic Arts and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) at the Sabancı University of İstanbul, under the direction of the ISEA2011 İstanbul Artistic Director and Conference Chair Lanfranco Aceti, Sabancı University, Istanbul, (Goldsmiths College, London, LEA Editor in Chief, Kasa Gallery Director) and the Conference and Programme Director Özden Şahin (LEA Editorial Manager, Kasa Gallery Vice Director & In-house Curator).

- Onur Yazıcıgil has developed a multilingual typeface, Duru Sans™, which is currently licensed by Sorkin Type Co. and is purchased by Google™ to be included in the permanent collection of Google Webfonts. This cooperation between Google™ and Onur Yazıcıgil will provide a brand-new typeface for websites to view text in a more legible and expressive way for various platforms including Google’s Android operating system. He is also the first Turkish designer whose typeface is featured and included in the permanent Google Webfont archive.

- We celebrated the Emeritus professorships of Ayşe Öncü, Korel Göymen, Fikret Adanır and Sabri Sayarı. Years of experience, hard work, classes, research projects, mentored students and so much service to the society. We proudly crowned these exemplary careers with a “comma” at the Emeritus ceremony.
**FACULTY NEWS**

**Fikret Adanır** joined FASS in 2007, with a prolific career following his PhD in History from University of Frankfurt in 1977. He published over eighty books and articles, some of which became reference works on Balkan and late Ottoman history, including “Die Makedonische Frage: Ihre Entstehung und Entwicklung bis 1908” (Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner, 1979) and “Geschichte der Republik Türkei” (Mannheim: BI Taschenbuchverlag, 1995). He clearly outstands among other Ottomanists in terms of changing the conception of Southeast European history in world historiography, contributing by integrating the Ottoman factor into the historiography of the Crimean War, and also due to his endeavours to raise Ottoman historiography in Turkey into a respectful critical social science with international credibility. Since 2007, Fikret Adanır teaches several courses such as The Eastern Question; Caucasus and its Hinterland; National Projects in South European History; and Minority Questions in Contemporary Turkey.

**Ayşe Öncü** is a leading sociologist in Turkey in the past three decades. Receiving her PhD in Sociology from Yale University in 1971, she has taught at the Middle East Technical University, Boğaziçi University and since 2003, at Sabancı University, with visiting positions at University of Michigan Ann Arbor and UCLA. Her research focuses on cities, culture and sociology and Turkish social analysis. Recently, she has been conducting research on the role of the media in social change. Ayşe Öncü offers several courses in sociology and urban culture in Turkish and comparative contexts such as Social Theory; Urban Sociology; Media Worlds; Urban Spaces and Cultures; and Media and Politics at FASS.

**Sabri Sayarı** has a PhD from Columbia in 1972. He served at FASS in the period 2005-2011, following positions at Rutgerts University, Boğaziçi University, Rand Corporation and Georgetown University where he acted as director of the Institute of Turkish Studies. He served in the editorial boards of area studies journals including the Middle East Journal and was regularly invited to seminars on Turkish politics in academic circles and government offices. His main contributions are in comparative politics, political participation, party systems and more recently in Turkish foreign policy. Some of this research has made its way into the curricula of leading academic institutions worldwide. Sabri supervised many MA and PhD students during his relatively short stay with us, most recently Hasret Dikici Bilgin who is now an assistant professor at Okan University.
**SPONSORED RESEARCH**

- **İnci Gümüş** received TÜBİTAK Career Grant.

TÜBİTAK Career Development Program will fund İnci Gümüş’s research project on “Macroeconomic Effects of Alternative Tax Policies During Financial Crises”. This project analyzes the effects of tax cuts on macroeconomic variables during financial crises. İnci’s project studies these effects in the context of the 2008 global financial crisis in Turkey. The project will provide insight on how macroeconomic variables would behave in a case where the government has access to additional borrowing, which allows for tax reductions to stimulate the economy.

- **Brooke Luetgert** received the EU 7th Framework Marie Curie Career Integration Grant with her project titled “A Comparative Perspective on Parliamentary Legislative Activity and Bureaucratic Delegation” for 2012-2015 period.

This project asks how differences in the preferences of the legislating actors and the degree of institutional control over bureaucrats may affect the extent of policy delegation in four parliamentary systems (Germany, UK, France and Turkey). The project will test, extend and refine the transaction cost, principal-agent theory to accommodate a comparative perspective on parliamentary democracies. The selected countries vary with regard to their electoral systems, party tradition, level of democratic consolidation and legal tradition. The project will assess the relative potential for and intervening factors limiting or encouraging the use of executive policy instruments in these states over a twenty-five year period.

**FACULTY NEWS**

**Brooke Luetgert** received the EU 7th Framework Marie Curie Career Integration Grant with her project titled “A Comparative Perspective on Parliamentary Legislative Activity and Bureaucratic Delegation” for 2012-2015 period. Brooke Luetgert is a member of FASS since 2002. He received his PhD from Leeds University in 1973 and worked at the Middle East Technical University for many years. Besides a successful academic career, he served as advisor to leading figures in Turkish politics with his expertise in local governance. He took high-rank administrative positions, organized many conferences and symposia, and led an active role in our university’s goal to reach out in the public policy domain. Korel Göymen played an important role in the design of our Public Policy MA degree program. His courses include NGO Governance; Local Governance in Turkey and the European Union and Turkish Governance.

**Korel Göymen** is a member of FASS since 2002. He received his PhD from Leeds University in 1973 and worked at the Middle East Technical University for many years. Besides a successful academic career, he served as advisor to leading figures in Turkish politics with his expertise in local governance. He took high-rank administrative positions, organized many conferences and symposia, and led an active role in our university’s goal to reach out in the public policy domain. Korel Göymen played an important role in the design of our Public Policy MA degree program. His courses include NGO Governance; Local Governance in Turkey and the European Union and Turkish Governance.

**İnci Gümüş** received TÜBİTAK Career Grant.
Mustafa Halit Tağma received the EU 7th Framework Marie Curie Career Integration Grant with his project titled “Understanding Iran’s Resumption of its Nuclear Program: The Role of Bureaucratic Politics” for the period 2012 to 2015.

This project aims to understand the shift in Iran’s Nuclear Program as the sanctions and incentives presented by the international community have not deterred Iran from continuing with its nuclear program. This project argues that rather than treating Iran as a unitary rational actor, a bureaucratic politics perspective could shed light on the causes of Iranian decision making and provide a better understanding of opportunities to resolve this conflict for scholars and policy-makers alike. Thus, this research will create new avenues to consider for policy makers, scholars, NGO’s and non-proliferation activists. By specifying the role and power of key decision-makers in the process, Turkey and the European Union would be able to come up with alternative policies in its negotiations with Iran.

Hülya Adak received the prestigious “Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers” from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Currently, Hülya is on a research fellowship from the Orient-Institut Istanbul, is working on her book project “Nation-Building and Political Violence in Halide Edib Adıvar’s works.”

The Humboldt Research Fellowship for experienced researchers is awarded to select academics from Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the United States, to carry out long-term research projects (up to 18 months) in cooperation with an academic host at a research institution in Germany. For the next two years, Hülya Adak will work in cooperation with her host institution, Freie Universität Berlin as well as Otto-Friedrich Universität Bamberg, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, and Universität Hamburg on her research “World War I and the Armenian Catastrophe: Commemoration and Mourning in Fiction and Egodocuments in Turkey.”
**Selected Journal Articles**


- **Ayşe Öncü**, “Representing and consuming “the East” in cultural markets,” *New Perspectives on Turkey (SI)*, Vol.45, 2011, 49-73 (SSCI)

- **Banu Karaca**, “Images delegitimized and discouraged: Explicitly political art and the arbitrariness of the unspeakable,” *New Perspectives on Turkey (SI)*, Vol.45, 2011, 155-183 (SSCI)


**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

**Selected Book Publications**

- **Fikret Adanır** and **Suraiya Faroqhi** (eds.) *Osmanlı ve Balkanlar. Bir Tarihyazımı Tartışması*, İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları, 2011

*The Ottomans and the Balkans* presents studies by ten historians, experts in different fields. Each study examines the Ottoman past and Balkan history based on archives and historiography in different languages. The articles in this volume put forth illuminating arguments which lead to a reconsideration of not only the problem of historiography but also clichés and established as well as here-to undebated issues. The common point is the challenge raised to a nationalistic and distorted chronological historiography. The book displays a unity of tone which avoids glorifying the past, creating a golden age and making nostalgic statements. The authors believe that the Balkans have been shaped by various political, religious and economic contingencies emerging in the recent past rather than through a never-ending conflict axis.

With a focus on Ottomans and the Balkans, centralization, legitimation, distribution of power, identity and the shaping of nationalism, *The Ottomans and the Balkans* is a substantial reference book.

- **Ersin Kalaycıoğlu** and **Deniz Kağnicioğlu** (eds.) *Karşılaştırmalı Siyasal Sistemler*. Eskişehir: Anadolu Üniversitesi Yayınları, Eylül 2011

*Karşılaştırmalı Siyasal Sistemler* (Comparative Political Systems) is a text book on Comparative Politics. Comparative scientific method and the fundamentals of its application in Political Science, as well as the implementation of these principles in various political systems are presented for beginners in the field. Compiled by Political Science experts focusing on this field in our country and experts specializing in the political systems covered by this book, the content offered is a rarity in our country. *Karşılaştırmalı Siyasal Sistemler* is a source in Turkish that can be recommended to all readers interested in Political Science.
In recent decades the history of premodern states and empires has undergone major revision. At the heart of this process stood the court, encompassing the household as well as government institutions. This volume for the first time brings together the fruits of research on royal courts from antiquity to the modern world, from Asia to Europe. The authors are acknowledged specialists in their own fields, but they address themes relevant for all courts: the inner and outer dimensions of court architecture as well as staff organizations; the connections between court, capital, and realm; the relationship of the ruler with relatives and other elites. This volume pioneers comparative history combining a rich empirical orientation with a critical assessment of theoretical perspectives.

Cemil Koçak, Geçmiş Ayrıntıda Saklıdır, İstanbul: Timaş Yayınları, 2012

İktidar ve Demokratlar (Government and Democrats) deals with the relations between the government and the opposition following the establishment of the Democratic Party. This book presents in detail a comparison with the Free Republican Party experience, oppositional backgrounds of DP members, surveillance efforts of the single-party government on the opposition, and the role crafted for the opposition by the government. Relations with the United States and the Soviets, political weaponry of the Cold War era, and the effect of diplomacy on Turkish politics delineate the framework of the discussion.

Cemil Koçak, one of the leading historians of the recent past, revives “dated” recollections, memoirs, and books which remain obscure in the relevant literature though each contains invaluable information. Timeworn, faded, forgotten, forsaken, overlooked even in their own time, impossible to recall today, and worse even if found important at the time of publication by now abandoned, some never known and some very hard to remember... books, diaries, memoires which have remained as
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

serials in newspapers, recollections preserved in journal collections... in short, Koçak makes lost voices heard again. While doing this with due diligence, the author reminds readers to search for the past in the details. Among some titles of interest to the history fan are: Memories of the Unionists and the Liberals; eyewitness recollections of Balkan Wars; works about the real history of the mythified Çanakkale; detailed information on German soldiers, diplomats and scientists who lived in Turkey; the interesting story of an unpublished biography of the National Chief İnönü; anti-Nazi activities in Istanbul. Fascinating interviews with Dieter Rohde, the son of German officer Hans Rohde who was stationed in Turkey, featuring detailed information on various issues ranging from Turkish-German relations and Hitler’s Germany, and with Hümeyra Özbaş, granddaughter of the last sultan Vahdettin.

EXHIBITIONS BY FACULTY MEMBERS

■ **Alex Wong**, “In and Out of the Mist,” solo exhibition was displayed at 2902 Gallery, Singapore in October 2011, and at FASS Art Gallery in December 2011. The exhibition catalogue was published from University of Canterbury, New Zealand in November 2011.

■ **Alex Wong**, “In and out, now and then,” duo exhibition with **Wieslaw Zaremba**, CODA Gallery, Taylor’s University, Malaysia, October 2011.

■ **Alex Wong**’s work in progress photography series “Survival Culture, Story Lands - Xinjiang” was archived at Nikon - “Through Asian Eyes - Passages Exhibition”. Available for viewing at Asia, Oceania, and Middle East continent at Nikon official site (http://asianeyes.nikon-asia.com).

■ **Elif Ayiter**, Metaverse Papers, ISEA2011, İstanbul, September 2011. Developed as part of ISEA2011, the project involved the organization, recording, and playback of a virtual paper session in which the presentations were made by avatars. It was an amalgam of a workshop, producing a conference paper session, which was also realized as an art project.

EXHIBITIONS BY FACULTY MEMBERS


■ Murat Germen has exhibited artworks at three international contemporary art fairs:
  - Marrakech Art Fair / September 30 – October 3, 2011 with C.A.M Gallery;
  - Fotofever Paris / November 11 – 13, 2011 with ARTITLED Contemporary Art;


■ Selçuk Artut’s artwork “Forever Young” was exhibited in the 8th Berliner Liste Art Fair which gathered more than 100 galleries from 26 countries in Berlin between September 8-11, 2011.


■ In the project curated by Selçuk Artut in collaboration with The Spastic Children Foundation of Turkey – Creative Arts Therapy Center, a visual world was created by the body movements of youngsters who suffer from Cerebral Palsy at Art Beat İstanbul in Lütfi Kirdar Convention & Exhibition Centre on September 14-18, 2011.

The young participants followed the movement of the camera data as a communication tool instead of widely used standard computer devices such as mouse, digital pencil, and touchscreen to turn aesthetic criteria into form. Thus, they created an alternative mode of self expression.
The International “PRINT - Pacific Rim Meets Istanbul” exhibition, co-curated by Alex Wong and Cathryn Shine, coinciding with the Istanbul Biennale 2011, was held at FASS Art Gallery between September 5 – 30, 2011 as an ISEA 2011 İstanbul event.

PRINT provided an opportunity to view contemporary print artworks from many nations geographically united by their proximity to the Pacific Rim, in a collaborative merger with print artworks from Istanbul. Artists in this exhibition worked with diverse concepts, and in an extraordinary range of processes from the traditional mono printmaking to ultra-modern digitally generated images. The expert skills of the artists can be seen in the technical application and originality of these works on paper. The exhibition featured several common conceptual themes, such as global environmental issues, sustainability, history, reverence for nature, personal journeys, politics and entertainment that reflect on our shared humanity.

Onur Yazıcıgil and Alessandro Segalini from İzmir University of Economics organized a workshop titled “ISType” on September 11-14, 2011. The event consisted of a lecture and a series of workshops devoted to encouraging typographic literacy in Turkey. Lectures and practical workshops were held to set structured approaches to typographic education and theory by embracing history, calligraphy, technology, math, programming, and drawing and art. Moreover, ISType aimed to contribute to the development of a typographic heritage in Turkey through which future generations can explore and create further contributions to typographic design and practice. During this event Onur Yazıcıgil presented his experimental “Text Invader” technique OpenType programming, which is used to create graffiti-like interferences on any default operating system fonts.

The upcoming ISType 2012 will be held between June 15- 18 under the theme of “Transmit.” For this year, Onur and Alessandro invited experienced speakers from all over the world to be part of this act of carrying traditional and new thoughts on typography and to freely transmit them.

VACD program, in collaboration with Protocinema, organized a talk with Dan Graham and Corey McCorkle on September 15, 2011, on the occasion of the exhibition “Dan Graham at Protocinema” which was exhibited between September 12- October 1, 2011 in Beyoğlu.

Protocinema is an experiment in making moving exhibitions in New York and İstanbul. Exhibitions are presented in temporary and/or disused spaces, specific to each artist. Protocinema creates opportunities for emerging and established artists from all regions to produce new works and exhibit existing work in a variety of contexts that are open to the public and accessible to a wide range of individuals.
Sabancı University History Program, Bilkent University, University of Washington and the Network for Cultural History of Emotions in Pre-modernity (CHEP) at Umeå University came together to set up a conference titled “CHEP 2011: The Cultural History of Emotions in Pre-Modernity II, Emotions in East and West” at Karaköy Communication Center between September 29 – October 1, 2011. The conference’s general theme was Emotions in East and West. The history of emotions being dominated by a western and European perspective so far, the aim of the conference was to organize a first conference on this theme in Turkey which attracted new scholars and students into the field and bring researchers from east and west together for discussions on how to develop comparative and multicultural analyses in the future. Contributions on all aspects of cultural history of emotions from as many disciplines and diverse approaches as possible, including history, the history of ideas, art, literature, musicology, politics, philosophy, cultural anthropology, religion, and gender studies were welcomed. Six invited keynote speakers, as well as over 70 international scholars, post-graduates and advanced graduate students contributed to the conference.

Winners of the Özsür Proje received their certificates from Mevhibe Ateş at the award ceremony on October 15, 2011. Projects to be supported by FASS within the framework of the Özsür Proje are: Korhan Koçak’s “An Economic Experiment on the Effects of the Notion of Entitlement on the Perception of Justice”, Gökay Hamamcı and Murat Oluş İnan’s “Micro Giving Project”, Talha Can İşseverler and Poyzan Nur Şahiner’s “Integral Analysis Project: Analyzing New Social Movements through Participatory Observation Method.”

The Özsür Proje is a student project contest among first, second, and third year students who have either not yet decided on their program choices or are registered in FASS programs. Projects designed and budgeted by the students are funded by FASS.
EVENTS

- Craig Murphy, Professor of Political Science at Wellesley College, gave a lecture titled “The ‘West-failure’ System 15 Years On: Building on Susan Strange’s Vision of the Partial Transition from ‘International Relations’ to ‘Global Governance’ on December 13, 2011.

- Sabancı University History Program together with Ottoman Thought Study Group organized an interdisciplinary workshop titled “History of Ottoman Thought Meetings-II: Ebussuud and His World of Thought” on December 16-18, 2011 at Karaköy Communication Center. This year’s meeting focused mainly on Ebussuud Efendi’s Quranic exegesis, his views on sufism and heterodoxy, and his lifeworld. 35 invited scholars from diverse fields including history, theology, literature and art history discussed the significance of Ebussuud’s work within the social, intellectual, and political context of his time.

  The History of Ottoman Thought Study Group has been formed by representatives of Harvard University, ISAM and Sabancı University for purposes of cultivating the vast and underexplored field of Ottoman thought with systematic rigor and patience. The meetings of the group were launched last year as part of a long-term project with the aim of holding small workshops followed by international conferences. The conclusions and any new questions that may arise will be published in order to reach wider circles interested in Ottoman, Islamic, and early modern world history.

- European Studies program hosted the Winter School for Radboud Academy Honours Program from January 23 to January 28, 2012. Sabancı University participates in the ‘Common European Identity’ branch of the Honours Academy. Participants came from St. Petersburg, Budapest, Nijmegen, and İstanbul. A total of around 30 graduate students from the participating institutions attended seminars at FASS. The workshop was hosted by Meltem Müftüler-Baç.

- Ahmet Evin and Meltem Müftüler-Baç co-organized a Jean Monnet Curriculum Workshop on February 16-17, 2012. Jean Monnet chairs in Turkish institutions as well as Jean Monnet project holders participated in two day long workshop.
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and Gender and Women’s Studies Forum realized the **Second Graduate Student Conference in Memory of Dicle Koğacıoğlu** on December 17, 2011, at Karaköy Communication Center. The award aims to promote successful current academic research on Turkey’s society and culture with a gender focus among young scholars and graduate students from Turkey.

**Ayşe Öncü, Akşin Somel**, Yeşim Arat, Nüket Esen and Fatmagül Berktay were the members of the final jury and evaluated the articles anonymously and determined the three award winning papers. The first prize was awarded to **Zeynep Selan Artan- Bayhan** from City University of New York and to her article titled “Bir Cinayetin Anatomisi: Medya, Şiddet ve Toplumsal Cinsiyet” (The Anatomy of a Murder: Media, Violence, and Gender). The second prize was awarded to **Aylin Demir** from Middle East Technical University for her article “Cinsiyetlen-dirilen Türler (Genre): Dersim Deneyiminde Sözü Şii ve Ağlama Pratikleri” (Gendered Genres: Oral Poetry and Weeping Practice in the Dersim Experience) and finally the third prize was awarded to **Sidar Çınar** from Marmara University for her article “Ev Eksenli Çalışan Kadınların İlişkileri: Sömürü İlişkileri ve Toplumsal Farklıklar Eşliğinde Dayanışma” (Networks of Home-Worker Women: Relationships of Exploitation and Solidarity in the Company of Social Differences).

Visual Arts and Visual Communication Design Program organized a lecture titled “Turcology, Truckology & Unicode” by **Thomas Milo**, an independent scholar with a background in Slavic and Turkic studies. The lecture was held on February 16, 2012 at Sabancı University. In this lecture, Thomas Milo weaved together several threads that appear unconnected. Language studies, travel, transport, soldiering, graphic design and technology. There was the irony that the Cold War paradoxically led to relative stability that made it safe to travel by road from Europe to Pakistan. And there was the irony that today’s multi-lingual global computing was deeply rooted in exclusively English-based monolingual preparations for an East-West Hot War that would have led to Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD).

**Jon Elster**, Robert K. Merton Professor of Social Sciences, Columbia University and Chaire de Rationalité et sciences sociales, College dé France, gave a lecture titled “Constitutions and the Constitution-making Process” on February 27, 2012. His research interests include the theory of rational choice, the theory of distributive justice, and the history of social thought (Marx and Tocqueville). He is currently working on a comparative study of constitution-making processes from the Federal Convention to the present and a project on the microfoundations of civil war.
EVENTS

■ On February 21, 2012, The European Studies Program and Gender Forum hosted an event by KAGİDER. In this meeting Meral Eredenk (Avivasa CEO), Galya Frayman Molinas (Coca-Cola Turkey) and Yasemin Horasan (Beşiktaş Basketball Team) presented their experiences as professional women.

■ Philip Kitcher, John Dewey Professor of Philosophy at Columbia University, gave a public lecture titled “Can We Save Democracy and The Planet, Too?” on March 29, 2012.

■ Mevhibe Ateş Graphic Design Student Competition, sponsored by the Ateş family and launched for the second time in 2012, was on the theme “Social Justice: Is Another World Possible?”. Submitted posters were evaluated according to strategic analysis of the given theme, creativity and originality of the approach, the success of the typographic and iconographic analysis used in visual design.

The first prize was awarded to Berke Doğanoğlu, second prize to Fırat Günal, and third prize went to Onur Oral. Honorable mentions were delivered to Melis Balci, İpek Ceylan, Aslı Filis, Mert Süha Öner, and Sacit Sivri. Prize ceremony was held on March 1, 2012 on campus.

■ On the occasion of the 28th anniversary of The Faculty of Fine Arts at LASALLE College of the Arts, FASS Art Gallery was pleased to present NINE +- 1 group exhibition between March 26 – April 20, 2012.

In this exhibition, NINE +- 1 reveals the breadth of materials, processes, techniques, languages, issues, and concerns placed in a diversity of spaces, time and ‘zones’. The processes underscore the educational approach to art practice of the faculty. Art practice is no longer an end in itself, but rather art is made in the process of questioning. NINE +- 1 is part of an ongoing effort by the faculty members to create and maintain a vital artistic presence within Singapore. The experience from this active engagement with artistic practice is being exchanged and shared with students and the arts community.

Participating Artists: Salleh Japar, Adeline Kueh, Hazel Lim, Gilles Massot, Milenko Prvacki, Hilary Schwartz, Jeremy Sharma, Betty Susiarjo, Ian Woo.
ISEA2011 Istanbul and the Museum of Contemporary Art Zagreb presented “Geometries of the Sublime” which was an art program that focused on world pioneers of contemporary geometric and digital arts. Charles Csuri, Roman Verostko, Paul Brown, Manfred Mohr, and Vera Molnar participated in the program between October 17 - November 20, 2011 which was also a part of the Official Parallel Program of the 12th Istanbul Biennial. Geometries of the Sublime presented a series of geometric artworks of the experimental artists who have characterized the second half of the 20th century and experimented with digital technology, art and science – searching through chaos for perfect forms and the sublime.

Between February 1 – March 1, 2012, the exhibition “E-Scapes: Artistic Explorations of Nature and Science” presented works of Jane Prophet and Paul Catanese. It is an exhibition at the intersection of art, science, and technology. With the participation of Jane Prophet, an internationally acclaimed artist who embodies the cross-over between art and science, and Paul Catanese who has exhibited internationally, the exhibition displayed artworks that combine art, media, science, and technology.

Following this show, Kasa Gallery hosted “Charles Csuri: Sketchbooks of Time,” on March 20 - May 10, 2012 in collaboration with the Leonardo Electronic Almanac, The Ohio State University, and Goldsmiths College. Charles Csuri’s new artworks, animations, drawings and early artworks were exhibited as a survey of the artist’s career. Through a curatorial analysis of the relationship between the artist and the media (computer and software), the art is framed in a visual representation of the concept of time.
Awards and Student Success Stories

VAVCD MA student Ezgi Yıldırım received the partner prize at the Kurzundschön 2011 Young Creatives International Competition for media arts with her video titled “Love Traveller.” Ezgi and Dean Mehmet Baç were both invited to the award ceremony by the Academy of Media Arts Cologne on November 9, 2011. VACD 2010 graduate Sedef Aydoğan, whose work was also found commendable, was among the guests.

Kurzundschön is a pan-European competition for students and apprentices in the audiovisual field. Annually, prizes totaling about 30,000 Euro are being awarded to outstanding cinematic, artistic and creative contributions by up-and-coming talents. Kurzundschön promotes and awards short cinematic narrations, artistic films and videos (up to 15 minutes), commercials and social-spots, music-clips and motion design.

During his Erasmus Mobility Program funded internship, at London based Design & Motion Studio ManvsMachine, our VACD MA student Sinan Büyükbaş designed the winning logo out of a five-company competitive pitch for Channel 4’s commission to create a new brand identity and on-air look for More4 Channel. Here is the final look of the logo with type implementation and the whole More4 rebrand package by ManvsMachine team.

2011 Conflict Analysis and Resolution MA graduate Zeynep Başer received honorable mention in the Behice Boran Social Sciences Award with her thesis titled “Imagining Peace and Conflict: The Kurdish Youth in Diyarbakır.” Behice Boran Social Sciences Award is organized by the Turkish Social Sciences Association with the support of the Social History Research Foundation of Turkey. Awards were presented during the 12th National Social Sciences Congress on December 14-16, 2011 at METU Awarded researchers presented their works at a special session.
Selim Birsel with a group of young artists including VACD graduated students Didem Erk and Hande Varsat participated in the XV Biennale De La Mediterranée, in Thessaloniki between October 7 – November 6, 2011.

This year, the Biennale was characterized by a new format. Designed not just as a single event, but a journey through the Mediterranean area, with the participation of two main cities – Thessaloniki and Rome, it was accompanied by other small-scale local events. At the end of this journey, more than 400 artists between the ages of 18 to 30 from Europe and the Mediterranean region participated in the activities, and presented in the framework of the common theme: “SYMBIOSIS?”

Sezen Aksu worked with our VACD graduates Sevil Kaynak and Sinan Tunçay in her latest video clip. The dummies and the model house, used in the video clip of the song Vay, were created and produced by Sevil and Sinan.

Tiyatro Pot, the interdisciplinary playhouse of Sabancı University graduates, performed “4.48 Psychosis,” their first theater project featuring interactive stage-design, on February 8 and 22 at Taksim Maya Stage. Founded by VACD 2010 graduate Gizem Darendelioğlu, Tiyatro Pot has been established in 2011 with the aim of exploring new ways of staging and producing projects bringing together new technologies and performative arts. Tiyatro Pot incorporates artists from various disciplines ranging from drama, visual arts design, and film-television to social sciences and mechatronics. 4.48 Psychosis, the first interactive stage-design drama project of the group, featured Sabancı University Mechatronics Engineering graduate Burcu Karadeniz as assistant director, Electronic Engineering (BS)/Mechatronics Engineering (MS) graduate Osman Koç as sound and interaction designer, and Social and Political Sciences graduate Sadun Özdinç as lighting designer.
An interview with VACD graduate Neslihan Koyuncu was published in the October 2011 issue of Time Out İstanbul. Neslihan Koyuncu is a partner and creative director of the multimedia studio “It Is Red”. She also designed the poster of Nuri Bilge Ceylan’s film “Bir Zamanlar Anadolu’da”.

Our students Sinan BüyükbAŞ (VACD MA), Kamer Ali Yüksel (CS Ph.D.) and Serdar Hasan Adalı (CS M.Sc.) won the Silver Price Award at the Mobile HCI 2011 Design Competition at Stockholm in September 2011.

VACD (BA 08) graduate Aslı Narin’s photographs titled “My Aunt’s Garden” were displayed in the Photography Collection of Istanbul Modern’s Group Exhibition “After Yesterday” between February 16 - June 3, 2012.

International Studies and European Studies students were invited to participate in the “Diplomacy Workshop” organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and TOBB University on March 26-27, 2012.
Publications


- PhD in History: Maximilian Hartmuth, dissertation title: “In Search of the Provincial Artist: Networks, Services and Ideas in Ottoman Balkans and the Question of Structural Change,” supervised by Bratislav Pantelic.

PhD Degrees Conferred

Student and Alumni Exhibitions

- A group of Visual Arts and Visual Communication Design alumni, Sena Arcak, Elif Süsler and Hande Varsat participated in a group exhibition titled “Group and Solo Songs” at Galeri Apel between September 15 – October 22, 2011.

  Group and Solo Songs is an old radio program which was important in recent Turkish history, one which set its stamp on an era before television became widespread, which engraved itself on the memory of a certain generation; a program which featured Turkish Classical Music sung both chorally and by soloists. In this group exhibition, whose name is taken from that program but which avoids the pitfall of nostalgia, Galeri Apel offers brand new works which stress being together and being on one’s own: “group and solo songs!”
STUDENT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

■ Student works of **VA 329 Photography & Expression** course were exhibited at FASS Art Gallery between October 11- 22, 2011.

**Participants:** Aslı Çağlar, Ayça Narin, Barış Ertuğan, Berke Doğanoğlu, Cem Demirer, Damla Köksalan, Gülce Baycık, Iris Süloş, Mert Süha Öner, Naz Akyar, Özge Öz, Yankı Çalışkan and Yasemin Öncü.

■ “**Lens’less**” photography exhibition displayed the works of the summer school course **VA 428 Pinhole Photography** class. All images were created with hand-built box cameras, and lens-less digital cameras. This exhibition was held between October 24 – November 12, 2011 at FASS Art Gallery.

■ **Didem Erk**’s graduation exhibition “I feel I am eating memories” was displayed at FASS Art Gallery between January 18 - 30, 2012.

■ **VACD graduate Berna Aksu**’s exhibition “Pain” was displayed exhibited at FASS Art Gallery in February 2012.

■ **Digital Media Student Exhibition** was a compilation of the works by VACD students from 3D Modeling and Video courses in Fall 2011 semester. It was on display between March 5 – 21, 2012 at FASS Art Gallery.

■ Recent works by **Meltem Işık** (VACD 2011) and **Hande Varsat** (VACD 2005) were on display in Istanbul centrum art galeries located in the Beyoğlu area. Meltem’s exhibition titled “Twice into the Stream” was at Galeri Nev on March 2 - 31, 2012 whereas Hande’s exhibition “ever-laden” was displayed at Galeri Apel between March 8 - April 7, 2012.