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## Turkmen Mentors Program Pairs 20 Bright Turkmen Students with U.S. Mentors

Twenty determined, bright, driven Turkmen students are making contact with their new Mentors this month as the Foundation's newest and most ambitious program, the Turkmen Mentors Program (TMP), gets underway.

The TMP pairs Turkmen looking for educational opportunities in the United States with volunteers here (and a few abroad) who are willing to work with those Turkmen to chart a path to educational – and eventually career – success. Who are these students? One such Turkmen student is Sona A:

"I would like to be a graduate of an American college or university and earn a bachelor's degree in Political Science. In five years, I would like to become an individual and a future leader with new ideas for developments and changes that can be made in Turkmenistan and the rest of the world."

The TMP will also provide TOEFL and SAT preparatory books, testing scholarships, and research assignments on college and universities in the United States which offer international financial aid. The Foundation will also reimburse Mentors for calling Turkmenistan.

A big thank you to ALL of the Mentors who have so generously donated their time!

## Foundation Announces New Board of Directors

The Turkmenistan Youth and Civic Values Foundation proudly welcomes a new Board of Directors. The new guiding force of the Foundation, the fruit of a six-month search, represents senior, expert leadership in the fields of non-profit management, academia, and business. This new board will serve along with current Executive Director Kenyon Weaver to help take the foundation into the next step of our development.

Our new Board includes:



**Professor Laura L. Adams** of Harvard University. Professor Adams has traveled and written extensively about Central Asia, recently publishing "The Spectacular State: Culture and National Identity in Uzbekistan". Professor Adams is co-director of the Program on Central

Asia and the Caucasus at Harvard's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies. In all of her writings and presentations, she has brought a keen insight into the relationship between government, society, and citizen in Central Asia.



**Robert Hsu** is an independent consultant based in Silver Spring, Maryland. A multifaceted executive marketing and business development professional who has worked in management and sales for over 30 years, Mr. Hsu has generated an outstanding history of revenue growth in the management of a

\$1 billion+ portfolio in global data services. Currently advising clients on projects involving the Department of Defense, Mr. Hsu brings tremendous leadership, management, and sales experience to the new Board.



**Amy McGoldrick**, Regional Educational Advising Coordinator at the Institute for International Education (IIE), in Ankara, Turkey. Ms. McGoldrick was previously the Country Director for American Councils for International Education (ACCELS) in Turkmenistan and, before that, a deputy director and recruiter for ACCELS in Georgia and Azerbaijan/Georgia, respectively. She is

a returned Peace Corps Volunteer, having served in the Ukraine from 1997-1999, and has supported the Foundation in a variety of capacities almost since its inception in 2006.

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## New Board of Directors (Cont'd from page 1)



**Jill Miller**, Senior Program Officer at International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX). A Peace Corps Volunteer in Turkmenistan from 1997-1999, Ms. Miller has been an Ashoka fellow, was the Business Development Manager at the International Foundation for Electronic Systems, and has lived in places as varied as Libya. She brings a wealth of experience from her current work with the BOTA Foundation in Kazakhstan, where she oversees the development and professional management of a \$100 million non-profit.

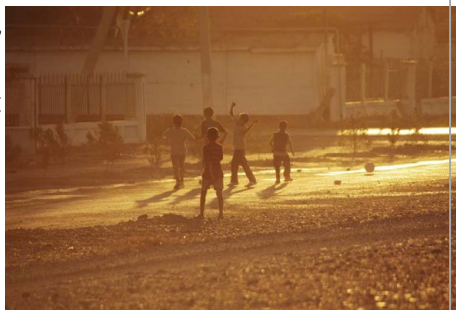


**Professor Jenik Radon** of Columbia University. Professor Radon is a faculty member at the Harriman Institute for Russia, Eurasian and East European Studies and teaches at Columbia University's School for International Public Affairs (SIPA). He is also maintains his practice at Radon & Ishizumi, which he founded more than 25 years ago. An expert on the economic and geopolitical landscape of Central Asia, Professor Radon has also a wealth of experience advising governments on a variety of legal and social policies.

## Community Development Grants Available Now!

The Foundation still has some \$4,000 available for summer camps, seminars, and other events. Past projects have included a Middle East peace exercise, a Jeopardy game featuring English, U.S. culture, and geography questions, a leadership camp, a summer camp on the nations of the European Union, seminars on English and journalism and much more.

An application is available at our website, [tycvf.org](http://tycvf.org), and proposals should be sent in AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to have the best chance at funding. You may have the best idea, but we cannot fund it unless we know about it. For any questions regarding the application please email [community@tycvf.org](mailto:community@tycvf.org)



## No Such Thing as a Typical "Toy"

### Foundation Pairs Up With Friends of Turkmenistan For Event in Washington, D.C

There is no such thing as an "ordinary" Turkmen party! Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup> was no different as denizens of Washington, D.C. gathered in the first ever event co-hosted by *both* the Turkmenistan Youth and Civic Values Foundation and Friends of Turkmenistan.

Around 25 guests arrived to feast on local Turkmen specialties such as *plov*, made traditional toasts, and generously contribute to the two organizations. The final total of the donations was split equally between the two organizations.

For anybody interested in hosting a Turkmen-themed party for a fundraiser, the Foundation will help provide you the know-how, materials, cover some of the costs, and maybe just a few volunteers to help out. Contact us at [info@tycvf.org](mailto:info@tycvf.org) for more information.

### Foundation Seeks Executive Director for 2010-2011

On June 1, 2010, the Foundation will launch a search for a new Executive Director to begin in the fall of this year. Current Executive Director Kenyon Weaver will step down and join the new Board of Directors (see above).

Those who are interested either in (1) joining the search committee; or (2) being considered for the position of the Executive Director should Kenyon Weaver at [kweaver@tycvf.org](mailto:kweaver@tycvf.org).