

RC

Quarterly

ROBERT COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE
WINTER 2008/09 - ISSUE 35

**Annual Giving
Campaign
Reaches New
Heights**

**Around the
World with
Faruk Pekin
RC Eng 69**

**Homecoming
2008**



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ABOUT THE RC QUARTERLY



It seemed appropriate in this Fall season, as we contemplate the effects of a sweeping global economic slowdown, to give thanks to our generous alumni, who last year helped us set a new record in the Annual Giving Campaign. An all time high of 2025 donors contributed to a total of \$2.4 million. The Campaign, the first of its kind in Turkey, enables us to maintain a strong scholarship program as well as uphold the general standards of educational excellence we all expect from the school.

The results of the support you provide are striking. This year we welcome one of the most diverse classes in the history of RC, with students from Istanbul, Bursa and Denizli to as far afield as Diyarbakır, Uşak, Sinop and Erzincan. Extending the school's reach into every corner of Turkey was one of the College's founding goals, one which we are proud to be able to uphold.

Please do continue to keep the College community up-to-date with your news and views. We love hearing from you.

Happy reading!

The RCQ Editorial Board

Pırıl pırıl bir yeni yıl dileğiyle.




TOPALL
jewellery



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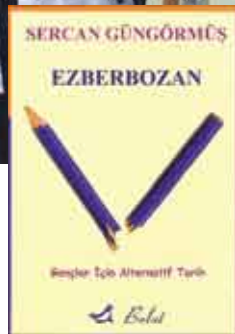
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Sercan Güngörmüş L12



L12 Student Pens High School History Book

Many a high school student dozes through history classes, uninspired by the heavy reliance on rote learning something most of us have gone through and can relate to. Few have thought of remedying that, but Sercan Güngörmüş L12 is an exception. He spent the past two years working on a history book called Ezberbozan (loosely translated as “breaking the rote”). “I wanted to write a history book that young people could read and understand, unlike the one-sided history books presented by the Ministry of Education that largely force students to memorize lists, dates and people,” Güngörmüş says. An avid history buff, he has a particular interest in pre-historic eras up to the 13th century. The book makes its way from the Paleolithic era to Sumer, Mesopotamia, Chinese and Indian civilizations, Ancient Egypt, Anatolia, Ancient Greece, Rome, Islam, Asian steppe cultures and the first Moslem Turks through to the founding of the Ottoman Empire. Güngörmüş says he wrote from a specific point of view, trying to understand the economics driving historical events. “I read history books in my free time anyway and write about them. I wanted to organize what I wrote and create something productive out of something I do in my spare time,” he says.

Güngörmüş’s book was picked up for publication by Bulut Yayınları and released nationwide on October 10th, 2008. The mammoth project hasn’t dampened his appetite for history books, but he hopes to train as an economist.

French Teacher Çiğdem Taran Retires

Çiğdem Taran, French teacher at Robert College for 37 years, retired in June 2008. Her colleague in the Foreign Languages Department, Vedia Uzdil, gave the following tribute in her honor. “37 years is not easy to wrap up! So many things fit into this time span. Old and young, everyone knew you as someone whose chief goal was to be a good Turkish citizen and to teach these values. You were always an example to us with your honesty, rightfulness, discipline and hard-working nature. You were not just a good French teacher but a life teacher. You showed endless effort to ensure that Turkish is used correctly. You gave so much to the school. We honor your successful work with MUN (Model United Nations) and are proud that you and Gökçen Başkan founded the MUN. We will not easily forget the sleepless nights you spent over publicizing it! A million thanks. Thanks also to your efforts working with countless civil society organizations, many children were given an education and their basic needs met. You never compromised on delivering the very best in whatever you did. Another of your chief qualities was your lifelong passion for learning and transmitting knowledge.

We will miss you.”



Çiğdem Taran (2nd from left) with her RC colleagues.

Ready, Steady, Write! English Teacher Uses Award to Start Contest



Maura Kelly-Kuvvet with her daughter Sibel

English teacher Maura Kelly-Kuvvet was chosen winner of the bi-annual Jane Page award, celebrating achievements in teaching last year. Given in honor of legendary RC Trustee Jane Nichols Page, the award honors faculty members who have demonstrated excellence in their careers at RC. Maura, who has been at RC for nine years, decided to use her prize money to start an English writing contest on campus. The award grant (\$3,500) is intended to be used for the betterment of the education at school. In the past, winners have bought resources for the school or they have taken up personal professional development opportunities.

She says she sought to “encourage students to write more, to develop their creativity, to improve their English, and to recognize skilled/ accomplished writers within the student body.” There is currently no other contest that offers students the chance to show their talents in writing. The contest began this year, with entries due on December 19th and recipients to be announced in early spring. Winners in various categories will be awarded a \$300 cash prize.

“The award is an honor to receive; often teaching seems a thankless job,” says Kelly. “There is little opportunity to be recognized as a teacher as your efforts are contained in a classroom.” The Jane Page award symbolizes just such recognition. Established by the Board of Trustees in 1996 to honor the dedicated service of Jane Page, who served as a trustee of Robert College from 1943 until she passed away in December 1998, it was the first named chair at RC. The Board of Trustees set up the Jane Nichols Page faculty chair at RC in 1996 to honor the dedicated service of Jane Page, who served as a trustee of Robert College from 1943 until she passed away in December 1998. This was the first named chair at RC. Past recipients of this award have included math teacher Güler Hill and English teachers Belinda Atay and Philip Eposito and Math teacher Rina Kapuya.

HELP SUPPORT YOUNG WRITERS!

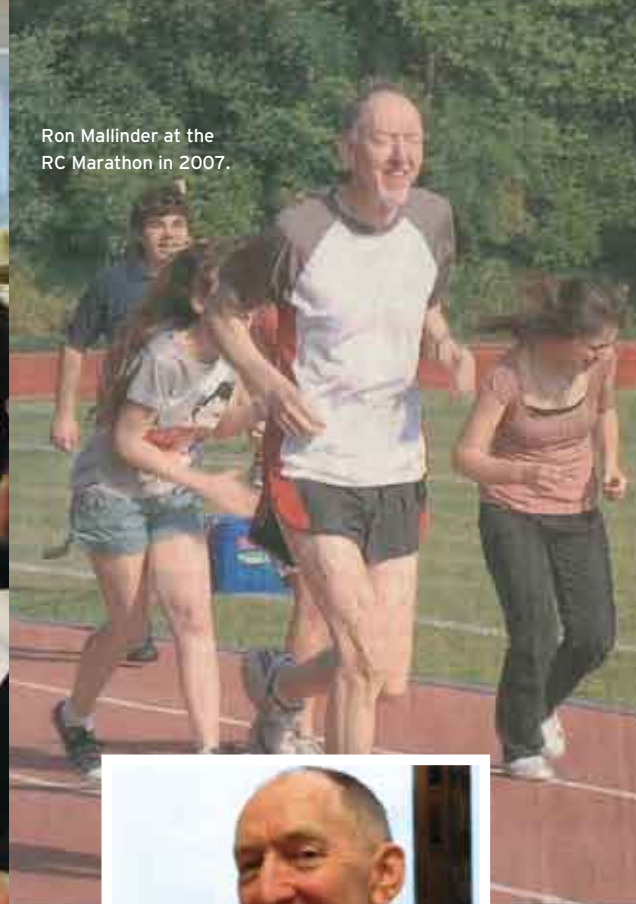
Maura’s prize money will only cover three years of the Jane Page Writing Contest. If you are interested in supporting writing on campus and ensuring the continuity of this contest, please contact the Alumni & Development Office. Telephone: 212 359 2289 e-mail:alumni@robcol.k12.tr

Class of RC 83 25th reunion gift Major boost for the RC learning environment

Moodle (Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment) is an Open Source Learning Management System which is also called LMS, and is designed to help educators create effective online learning communities. Moodle provides course rooms for teachers where teachers can manage their own courses. Moodle provides many opportunities for designing an interactive learning process. It is a software for delivering, tracking and managing classroom content. LMSs range from simple systems for managing classroom content to distributing courses over the Internet and offering features for online collaboration. Moodle gives the teachers, students and parents the opportunity to access courses and view content that was added by the course creator/teacher. Students can communicate with the teacher and peers via most features on the system. Moodle users are assigned a username and password to access the system, where they can also edit their profile information. Teachers can post assignments, open up discussions through chat rooms or forums, add glossary items, create online quizzes, add resources, files, course calendar, blogs, wikis, and RSS to their course room. With the financial support of the Class of RC 83 who commemorated their 25th reunion by a major gift to the school, Moodle has been installed on Robert College servers and will be used schoolwide. Technical administrator and teacher trainings were given by the company called Synergy Learning (the leading UK & Ireland Moodle Service Provider with Moodle Engineers and Consultants operating across the country). Robert College started an annual unlimited support agreement with Synergy Learning. The installation, administrator training and teacher training (department technology mentors training) were held during October 23-28th.



Ron Mallinder at the 2008 graduation ceremony.



Ron Mallinder at the RC Marathon in 2007.



Chemistry Teacher Ron Mallinder Retires

Chemistry teacher Ron Mallinder's witty approach, gentle, self-deprecating manner and quirky take on life helped endear generations of students to science. After 31 years at the school, he retired last June.

His colleagues and former students wrote moving tributes in his honor, some of which we share below.

"Ron Mallinder's unique take on life, and his very dry sense of humour infused his approach to teaching and his relationship with generations of students. I believe that this has endeared him to his "flock" over the many years that he taught at Robert College.

I would like to recall one incident that lives on in my memory and no doubt in the memories of the students who experienced it. Well over 20 years ago, when I had not been long at the college and we were still at the top of Woods Hall I was running a practical class. In the background Ron was busying himself with several very large sheets of paper, writing on them and then folding them in a curious way. When I asked him what he was doing, he said that he had written out the grades for the final test of the year that we had recently given, one sheet of paper for each section and that he was making paper airplanes out of them. He told me that he had previously announced to the whole Lise 2 class that at precisely 12 noon he would launch each set of grades from the window of our office.

At the allotted time a huge throng of students had gathered below our office and to thunderous applause and

cheering he launched each of them. After they had floated down they were eagerly grabbed by the students and so it came to pass that the final grade of the year had been distributed." **Tony Baker (Physics teacher)**

"Ron's unconventional outlook on life and dry sense of humor has made working with him over the years an interesting experience. From his choice of bright green lab coat to his controversial male-brain/female-brain theory (not sure what to make of his classification of mine as a male brain...) he has always been a colorful figure in all senses of the word. When it became apparent after last year's course sign-ups that his position would not need to be filled, I told him he was "irreplaceable" - he countered with "don't you mean redundant?" **Alison Oğuz (Physics teacher)**

My first prep class was with Mr Mallinder. He asked a guy to leave the class from the window (we were on the 3rd floor). The student looked confused, approached the window and then vanished. I was terrified. After that Mr Mallinder gave all of the students a yearly-fixed number and told us to leave the class from the window in sequence. When my turn came to get out, I couldn't stop laughing - a fire escape was standing in front of me. We practiced emergency about ten times that year with Mr Mallinder in all sorts of classes." **Gürol Gezer (class of 2010)**

"It was a morning chemistry class at Feyyaz Berker. The weather had been cold for days, teasing us with occasional snow showers, but never delivering that snow-day-quality

dump. Everyone's eyes wandered toward the windows with each falling flake, not paying much attention to class. So Mr. Mallinder suddenly starts talking about how he woke up one day and saw the Bosphorus frozen, and how he used to ski down campus roads during his early years at RC. He concludes that we should all go out, hold hands and pray for snow. Then he turns around and continues balancing that acid/base equation on the board. Everyone listens... He was a mischievous one, Mr. Mallinder. He had this uncanny ability to make the funniest, driest, most sarcastic remarks and just continue talking about titrations as if nothing had happened. He was certainly one of the most unexpectedly colorful characters of my RC years. I'm sure RC will miss him! **Murat Ozalp (RC 99, Berkeley undergraduate)**

"I'm rather weak on memory (we'll see me in 20 years!) but the first thing that comes to my mind about Mr. Mallinder, funny as it may be, is the way he used to wear his socks. He would cut them from the elastic down so that they wouldn't squeeze his legs! He was an unconventional thinker inside and out of class, and liked his lab cleaned spotless (that, I do remember!)." **Başak Alkan (MIT undergraduate)**

"I remember myself debating with Mr. Mallinder on his theory about female brain being superior to male brain. When I contested his theory, he accused me of being very strange and a living proof of his brain theory. He was a fun person with his British sense of humour which I did not quite understand (that must be my male brain). Besides

his theory; he was an excellent teacher who saw the world differently than most other people." **Soner Kistak (RC 95)**

It was so much fun to be in the Running Club with Mr. Mallinder. I still remember the good old days sometimes when I run along Lake Michigan in Chicago during the weekends. When he told me that he just watches the Weather Channel on TV, I laughed at him in High School, but now I find myself very rarely watching TV. I learned the habit of not wearing a belt unless I tuck my shirt in, from him. I will never forget the long Sunday nights in the Study Room with friends, trying to fill in the Chemistry notebook with "beautifully written" handwriting just to please Mr. Mallinder. He was even famous in Kuleli Askeri Lisesi, when the students came to visit RC, they saw him running and named him "Koşan Moruk" in a good sense, and even today when I meet them they ask me if Mr. Mallinder is still a teacher at RC. He was a good source of inspiration for all of us and taught us to live a good life away from stress and never give up, no matter how old we are." **Talha Uzun (RC 95)**

"I'm sorry to hear that new generation RC students won't get to learn chemistry through Mr. Mallinder's humorous filter. I still remember when he was talking about the uncertainty about an electron's location, he gave an example about parallel universes. Looking back, I can't imagine any other high school chemistry teacher would hint at string theory. He definitely knew how to tickle our curiosity." **Izge Cengiz (RC 99)**

Class of 08 Leaves RC for New Adventures

Legendary public relations expert Betül Mardin (ACG 46) was the Commencement Speaker at Robert College on June 21, 2008. She delivered a riveting speech which was received with great enthusiasm by the members of the RC Class of 08 who gave Mardin a standing ovation at the Rodney Wagner Memorial Maze.

Brief excerpts from the Graduation Address follow :
 "It was during the beginning of my first year at College... The tramway to Arnavutköy slowed down in front of Dolmabahçe Palace and the ticket collector rushed towards the gigantic door, stood there for a few moments and when he returned, he loudly said 'Our Ata has slept well last night and this morning he has almost no fever.' Everybody applauded him. This went on every day...There were different ticket collectors but the routine was the same. Then a few weeks later, he returned and said with tears running down his cheeks 'He is not well at all.' In fact, soon after when we came to school, we received the bad news: We had lost him.

I always thought of him as a 'father'. I would say 'nothing bad can happen, he is there with us' or if something bad really happened then I would say 'He'll pull us out of it... He'll know what to do'. These were good feelings...Now I would like to ask you to do such wonderful things for our country that you are thought of as a 'father' or 'mother'. In fact, don't forget that he has given the responsibility of the country to you... The young generation is to take care of the Republic of Turkey...

(...)
 Dear friends, please try to come out of your shell and take a good look around you. Family values are of utmost importance. Even if you don't see your school mates for a long time, try to follow their 'lives' and be there to give a

hand if necessary. Know for sure that during your lifetime you will hit the ground at least a couple of times...

And don't forget to share whatever you have with relatives and friends or anybody in need.

And now, most important... Let us repeat this sentence together... with Atatürk:

So happy to be a Turk... (Ne mutlu Türküm diyene...)"

The 198 members of the graduating class were bid farewell by their families, teachers, and trustees on June 21, 2008. The crowd was also addressed by faculty speaker Önder Kaya, and Student Council President Murat Uralkan.

Where is the Class of 08 now?

Every year, approximately 70 percent of RC graduates choose to continue their studies in Turkey. In 2008, 169 people took the OSS, out of the 198 students who graduated. 152 graduates were placed in Turkish Universities. Eighty-three of them (54%) chose state -run universities, 69 of them (45%) chose private universities, and 4 students chose not to attend any university. 71.59% of the students who took the OSS placed in the top 1000; 35 RC graduates who took the EA2 (Turkish-Math) were in the top 1000; 19 graduates who took the SAY 2 (Science) were in the top 1000; and 12 graduates who took the SOZ 2 (Social Sciences) were in the top 1000. 55 graduates who took the Foreign Language Test were in the top 1000.

Seventy-one percent of 2008 graduates were placed in Turkish universities; 36.8% of them in their first choice, 21.0% of them in their second choice and 15.1% of them in their third choice. 26.3% of RC 08 class preferred Koç University while Boğaziçi University was preferred by 25.6% of RC graduates. The third most preferred school was Sabancı University with 13.8%.

The Class of 08 has some champions as well: Salih Keçoğlu placed 3rd, and Ece Çalı placed 5th on the OSS Say-2 (Science). Ece Baysal placed 3rd, and Ezgi Bereketli placed 9th on the Foreign Language Test in general.

The results also showed that active participation in the extra-curricular life of the school is a strength, not a hindrance for RC students wanting to do well on the exam.



Graduation speaker Betül Mardin ACG 46

Turkish University Entrance Results for RC 08

UNIVERSITY	REGULAR		SCHOLARSHIP		TOTAL
		WILL STUDY ABROAD		WILL STUDY ABROAD	
BOSPHORUS UNIVERSITY	36	3			39
ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY	12	1			13
ISTANBUL TECH. UNIVERSITY	9	1			10
MIDDLE EASTERN TECH. UNIV.	5				5
GALATASARAY UNIVERSITY	4				4
HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY	3				3
MARMARA UNIVERSITY	2				2
YILDIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY	2				2
MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY	1				1
AEGEAN UNIVERSITY	1				1
KOCAELİ UNIVERSITY	1				1
TRAKYA UNIVERSITY	1				1
STATE UNIVERSITIES TOTAL	77	4			82
KOC UNIVERSITY	9	4	27		40
OZYEĞİN UNIVERSITY				1	1
SABANCI UNIVERSITY	4	1	14	2	21
YEDİTEPE UNIVERSITY	4				4
BILKENT UNIVERSITY	1				1
BASKENT UNIVERSITY	2			1	3
PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES TOTAL	20	5	41	4	70
GRAND TOTAL	97	9	41	4	152

Foreign University Acceptance Results for RC 08 Stand Out

Out of the 75 RC Seniors who applied to go abroad for higher education, 72 received one or more acceptances. Out of this number, 56 chose to attend US, Canadian or UK universities and have started their freshman year. 22 of these students were awarded financial aid from the colleges they were accepted by. Of this group, 13 students were on scholarship while at Robert College.

Schools	Nr. Of Students
Bard	1
Bates	2
Boston U	2
Brown	2
Central St. Martin's School of Design	1
City University	1
Columbia	1
Cornell	2
Duke	2
George Washington	1
Harvard	2
Johns Hopkins	1
Lafayette	1
Lehigh	1
McGill	3
Northwestern	1
NYU	1
Oxford	2
Parsons School of Design	1
Pepperdine	1
Pratt	1
Princeton	3
Purdue	1
Reed	1
Rice	1
Stanford	1
Tufts	2
U of Chicago	1
U of Illinois. Urbana	1
Champaign	1
U of Richmond	1
U of Toronto	3
U of Westminster	1
UPenn	1
USC	1
UVA	2
Vassar	1
Wash U	2
Wheaton	1
Williams	1
Yale	1
Total	56





Filiz Ofluoğlu ACG 49 Publishes Memoirs

Renowned businesswoman, philanthropist and longtime RC Trustee Filiz Ofluoğlu ACG 49 has published her memoirs, *İki Dünya* (Two Worlds), by Cumhuriyet Publications. The book spans a colorful life and 70 years of recent Turkish history, including anecdotes about Turkish business leaders like Vehbi Koç and the Koç family, journalists Nadir Nadi, İlhan Selçuk and Abdi İpekçi, cultural figures like Sakallı Celal, Muhsin Ertuğrul, Halikarnas Balıkcısı, Mengü Ertel, C. R. Rey, Zeynep Oral, Vedat Günyol and Ara Güler.

Filiz Ofluoğlu is part of what is known as the Republican generation. Her father fought against French troops in Turkey's war for independence. She recounts the emphasis placed on her education, including anecdotes from her time as a student. The book is rich in details related to the College, recounting milestones like the boys and girls schools merger, the establishment of Boğaziçi University and the Hisar Education Foundation.

"This is an adventurous life, with the arts and culture world on the one side and business circles on the other," wrote critic Turgay Fişekçi. "Ofluoğlu's is never a static life, she's always moving, finding herself in different countries and cities. She manages to become intimate with other people's lives - from professors at American universities to Hüseyin Ağa whom she goes fishing with in Yeşilköy, to a concert by Pablo Cassals at the UN in New York."

Hüsnü Özyeğin Launches New University

Leading businessman and philanthropist Hüsnü Özyeğin RA 63, has launched an ambitious new educational endeavor, the Özyeğin University. The university opened for the 2008-2009 academic year with 210 undergraduates enrolled in Business Administration studies. The university is run by the Hüsnü M. Özyeğin Foundation. Özyeğin initially contributed \$40 million towards the university to the foundation and aims to raise that to \$100 million within five years. His goal is to have a 10,000-student campus within ten years. Currently, it is based on a temporary campus in Altunizade. "Founding a quality university was my biggest dream," Özyeğin said at an inaugural news conference. "I am very excited and pleased to see my dream come true." Özyeğin said that he and his Board aim to make the university one of the top five universities in Turkey within five to ten years.

The university's official language of education is English and it will eventually include three faculties; Economics and Administrative Sciences, Engineering and an Institute of Social Sciences. Özyeğin is one of Turkey's leading businessmen, the founder of Finansbank and head of Fiba Holding, which has numerous companies in the retail, tourism and finance sectors.



Hüsnü Özyeğin RA 63

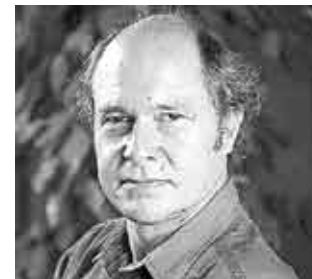


Ayşe Gül Altınay and Hülya Adak Cihangiroğlu RC 89

Turkish Women Talk Sex in New Book

Inspired by Eve Ensler's ground-breaking play *The Vagina Monologues*, six years ago a group of researchers based in Istanbul set about compiling a Turkish version of candid tales about female sexuality told by women, to women.

They interviewed dozens of subjects, in Turkey and abroad, over the years and the fruits of their labors have now been collected in a book, *İşte Böyle Güzelim* (That's How It Is, Darling). The title is an apt reflection of the tone of the book- open, honest, humorous in parts and tragic in others. "We wanted to carry out a different kind of study for Turkey, so we asked open-ended questions," said Hülya Adak Cihangiroğlu RC 89, a professor at Sabancı University's arts and social sciences department. "These eventually came together as narratives." She was joined in the project by fellow faculty member Ayşe Gül Altınay, and Sabancı graduates Esin Düzel and Nilgün Bayraktar. "We set off with questions we asked ourselves, to establish a bond of intimacy," Adak said. The book is a frank and honest appraisal of female sexuality in Turkey, related as first-person stories by women from many different walks of life. Their tales run the gamut of experience, from a transsexual in a long-standing relationship with a man, to a working-class woman caught in an abusive situation, to a young girl who has feelings for her best friend. The group has held a series of readings in recent months for female audiences and Adak says the sessions have helped women to feel empowered and less alone. They continue to meet with women who are willing to recount their stories.



Gündüz Vassaf, RA 64

Whither Turkey? asks Writer Gündüz Vassaf

A prolific writer and commentator on Turkey today, Gündüz Vassaf, RA 64, has collected recent essays originally published in the Radikal newspaper under the title *Türkiye, Sen Kimsin?* (Turkey, Who Are You?), brought out by İletişim in June.

"We are at a critical and uncertain point in terms of new [geo-political] dynamics that are emerging," says Vassaf. "There are those who want to see Turkey on the side of Russia, China or the Islamic world and others who want to see it on the Europe-USA side."

He continues: "I don't want to see either Turkey or myself as on one or the other side. Neither do I want it to be a tightrope walker between the two. The new alliances that are emerging prevent us from being part of the world and taking on the problems facing the world." Vassaf is hopeful that the debates over Turkey's future will change organically as young people introduce a new approach to life. He likens Facebook, for example, to a 21st century Silk Road. "The difference," he says, "is that for the first time in the history of our species, neither trade nor money is motivating young people to meet up on this road. The reason they get together is friendship. They don't have any vested interests." In traditional societies, he points out, younger people were taught hunting and agriculture by older people. "Now, for the first time ever, we're learning from them!"

Vassaf is the author of numerous books and a columnist for Radikal newspaper. He divides his time between Turkey and the US.

GRADUATES IN THE NEWS

Actress Çetinkaya Honored

Veteran Turkish actress Meral Çetinkaya ACG 65 was singled out by Ankara's *Uçan Süpürge* film festival for her contributions to Turkish cinema. Çetinkaya is well-known to Turkish viewers for her work in the theater, cinema and on TV, particularly as the quirky character Ayla Hanım on the long-running *Bizimkiler* show. She was given the Bilge Olgaç success award, named after one of Turkey's few female directors, at a ceremony in May. "We are proud to give this award to Meral Çetinkaya for proving once again the significance value of character acting through her powerful and affecting performances and her attention to detail and depth in creating unforgettably rich characters, even in the smallest parts," the festival said. Last year Çetinkaya was awarded the *Vasıf Öngören* prize in Istanbul for her contributions to Turkish theater. She most recently acted on stage in *Sivas 93*, a play by the Dostlar Tiyatrosu, last spring.



Meral Çetinkaya ACG 65

Molecular Biologist Becomes First Turk to Win Top European Award

Batu Erman RC 87, a molecular biologist and professor at Sabancı University, has been awarded one of the Marie Curie Excellence Awards, the first Turk to receive one of the prestigious prizes since they were established in 2003. Erman left Turkey for the United States after RC to pursue a degree in biochemistry and molecular biology. He did his PhD at Brandeis University in Massachusetts, before heading to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to do his postdoctoral work. It was there that he started working on T cells, which play a vital role in our immune system. In 2004, after 17 years in the US, Professor Erman returned to his native Turkey, to take up a position at Sabancı University in Istanbul. "I always wanted to go back to Turkey but I felt like it would be difficult to do the kind of research that I do, but I guess I took a risk and the risk paid off," he told *CORDIS* news. Since his move he has found that with a bit of imagination, he can still do top level experiments.

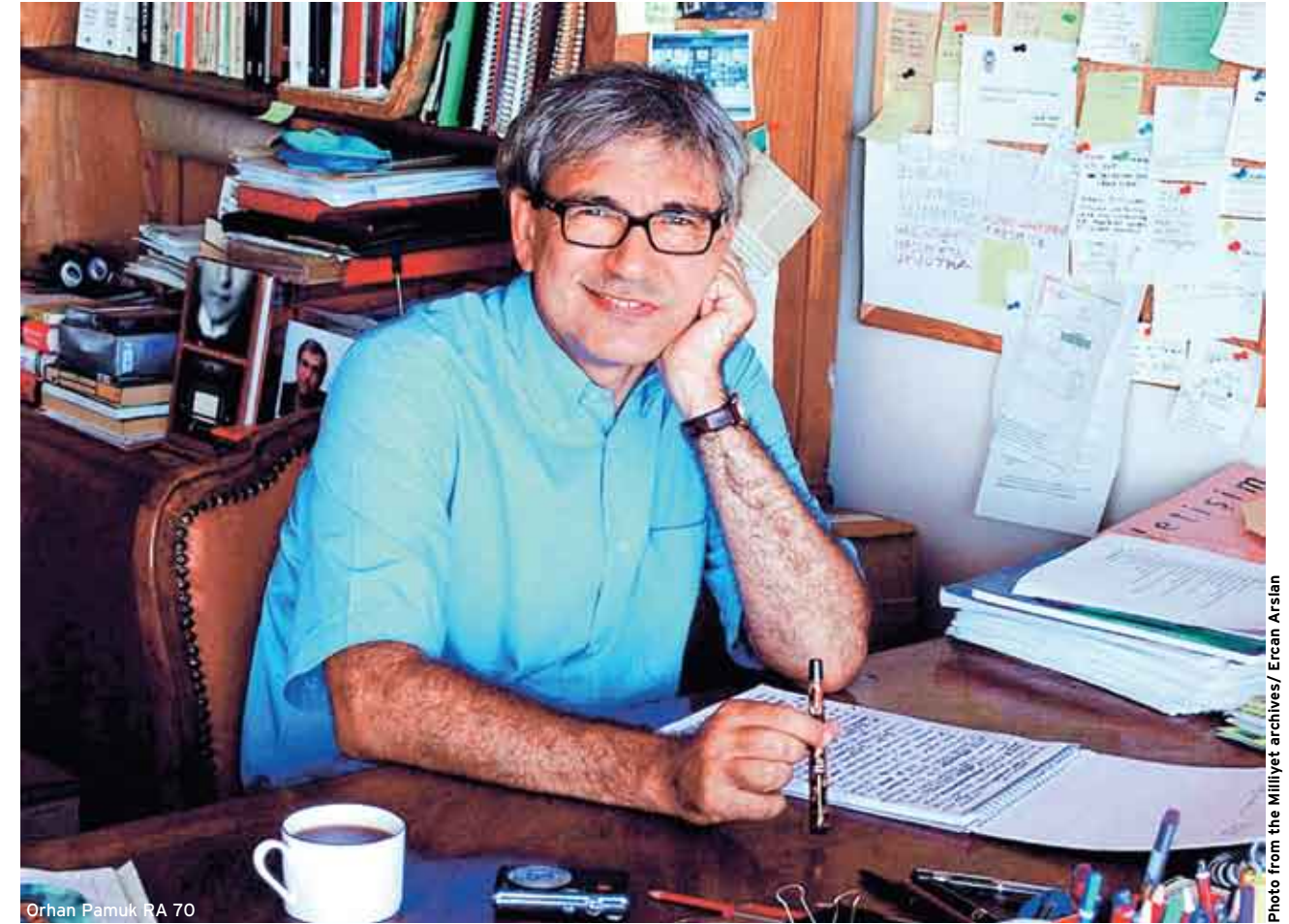
"I do things that are simpler to do and cheaper to do, because in the United States there's much more research funding and you can do very expensive, very cool, interesting high tech experiments," he explained. "But it's possible to do analogous experiments for much cheaper and this is the approach that I've taken and so far it's been working great."

Over the past four years, he has succeeded in setting up a successful research program in T-cell signaling and development. His work focuses on the receptors that control the development, survival and function of T lymphocytes known as 'killer T-cells'. When the signals go wrong, the cells survive and proliferate, resulting in diseases of the immune system.

'Our molecular biology research on T lymphocytes can be characterized as basic research with a view to developing drugs that target immunodeficiency diseases, lymphomas and leukemia,' explains Erman. 'Our aim is to find novel components of signal transduction pathways which can become targets for drugs.' Asked how he will spend his €50,000 prize, Erman said that he hasn't really decided yet, but has several projects in mind. These include expanding his work with science fairs for schools and setting up an EU Researchers' Night event. And of course, some of the money will go towards the costs of running the lab. "Research is very expensive," he says.



Batu Erman RC 87



Orhan Pamuk RA 70

Photo from the Milliyet archives/ Ercan Arslan

Nobel Laureate Orhan Pamuk's Love Story

In *Masumiyet Müzesi* (Museum of Innocence), his first novel since winning the Nobel prize for literature in 2006, Orhan Pamuk RA 70 revisits 1970s Istanbul to pen a dramatic love story. Kemal is a wealthy, Western-educated young man who works at his father's firm and is engaged to marry Sibel, a woman of similar background newly returned from university in Paris. Their perfectly laid plans go astray when a chance encounter introduces Kemal to Füsün, a poor distant relative who works as a shop assistant in a Nişantaşı boutique. The pair begin a passionate romance that will change the course of both their lives.

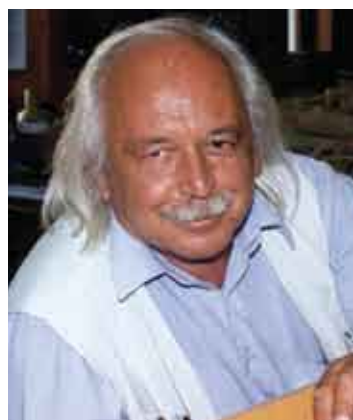
The novel is a finely wrought examination of the taboos and conservative norms that revolve around relationships between men and women in Turkey. "It's the story of a love affair set in a society like ours where it's difficult for love relationships to form, to be openly expressed," Pamuk said in a recent interview. "These aren't often talked about, but issues like virginity, marriage, sexual morality, friendship, marriage and happiness are at the very heart of this book." The book's title refers to Kemal's obsessive passion for collecting every object associated with the object of his love -Füsün-, eventually building a museum to house them in Çukurcuma. It becomes a shrine to their complicated relationship. As might be guessed, the novel is also rich in details about 1970s Istanbul society and the changes it undergoes -open-air cinemas, television shows, the first advertising campaigns and newly imported automobiles all play a part. Maureen Freely ACG Jr. 71 ex is currently translating the novel into English. It will be published in the US and UK next September. The book is to be translated into 30 languages.

Vehbi Koç Award Honors Legendary Archeologist

Mehmet Özdoğan RA 63 is something of a living legend among Turkish archeology students and experts, to whom he is known as 'Mehmet Ağabey'. A passionate, colorful figure who bears more than a passing resemblance to Albert Einstein, earlier this year, the Istanbul University professor was singled out for the Vehbi Koç prize given annually to an individual for excellence in science, culture or education.

Özdoğan first became interested in archeology while a student at Robert College, inspired by the erudite art history professor Godfrey Goodwin. "He changed my world," he says. "He had so many extraordinary qualities." At the same time, Özdoğan enrolled in a course launched by the Turkish Student Federation to train tourist guides. In its early years, the course was taught by the country's leading art history experts and academics. "That sealed it," says Özdoğan, "I decided to become an archeologist." After graduation, he joined the archeology department at Istanbul University as a specialist in Neolithic Archeology. Özdoğan cheerily points out that he still occupies the office where he was first interviewed by Halet Çambel (ACG 35), a world-famous archeologist who helped establish the department's reputation internationally. "The foundation of this department was very strong" he says. The Neolithic period is a key turning point in human history because it marks the transition from hunter-gatherer societies to sedentary communities, agriculture and the domestication of animals. "Our central narrative -family, private property- dates back to the Neolithic era," says Özdoğan. "Domesticating crops and animals and creating agricultural surplus value introduced technology, law, inheritance, property and complex social organization." Archeology, Özdoğan points out, is often misleadingly assumed to be about finding artifacts. "The goal is to understand what life was like. Our pursuit is for knowledge about human history. Pretty vases are really a side product for us," he says, laughing.

Özdoğan has led around 80 significant excavations across Turkey, but the current apple of his eye is Kırklareli, a dig which began in 1993. "Kırklareli is important because it is a key point in the transmission of sedentary farming settlements from Anatolia to Europe," he says. Much like the world today, the Anatolian Neolithic world was a complex one that encompassed distinct regional traditions and ways of life, and provided the blueprint for Neolithic settlement in Mediterranean Europe. "Conventional wisdom used to assume a linear one-directional model, now we know that the world was just as complicated a place back then as it is now," Özdoğan says. "A lot of changes were happening simultaneously in different places. The Anatolian model undergoes change as it moves across to Europe, eventually resulting in the development of the European Neolithic." Özdoğan used the 100,000 YTL award money to complete an open air museum to house artifacts from the Kırklareli dig. In addition to his work on sites and at the university, he is a tireless campaigner for better protection of heritage sites in Turkey.



Mehmet Özdoğan RA 63



The Kırklareli Open Air Museum



Researcher Discovers More Efficient Way to Make Hydrogen from Biofuels

A US-based team led by researcher Ümit Özkan RC 73 has found a way to convert ethanol and other biofuels into hydrogen very efficiently. This could help make the use of hydrogen-powered cars more practical in the future. The new catalyst makes hydrogen from ethanol with 90 percent yield, at a workable temperature, and using inexpensive ingredients.

"The new catalyst is much less expensive than others being developed around the world, because it does not contain precious metals, such as platinum or rhodium," says Özkan, professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at Ohio State University. Rhodium is used most often for this kind of catalyst, and it costs around \$9,000 an ounce, while the catalyst used by Özkan's team costs around \$9 a kilogram. Özkan and her co-workers presented the research in August at the American Chemical Society meeting. She has also appeared on National Public Radio to discuss their findings. "There are many practical issues that need to be resolved before we can use hydrogen as fuel -- how to make it, how to transport it, how to create the infrastructure for people to fill their cars with it," Özkan explained. "Our research lends itself to what's called a 'distributed production' strategy. Instead of making hydrogen from biofuel at a centralized facility and transporting it to gas stations, we could use our catalyst inside reactors that are actually located at the gas stations. So we wouldn't have to transport or store the hydrogen -- we could store the biofuel, and make hydrogen on the spot."

The catalyst is inexpensive to make and to use compared to others under investigation worldwide. Those others are often made from precious metals, or only work at very high temperatures. "Precious metals have high catalytic activity and -- in most cases -- high stability, but they're also very expensive," says Özkan. "So our goal from the outset was to come up with a precious-metal-free catalyst, one that was based on metals that are readily available and inexpensive, but still highly active and stable."

The new dark gray powder is made from tiny granules of cerium oxide -- a common ingredient in ceramics -- and calcium, covered with even smaller particles of cobalt. It produces hydrogen with 90 percent efficiency at 660 degrees Fahrenheit (around 350 degrees Celsius) -- a low temperature by industrial standards. Though this work was based on converting ethanol, Özkan's team is now studying how to use the same catalyst with other liquid biofuels. Özkan graduated from Robert College in 1973. She received her undergraduate and Masters degrees in Chemical Engineering from the Middle East Technical University (ODTÜ). She obtained her PhD in the same subject from Iowa State University in 1984 and is currently a professor at Ohio State University.



Ümit Özkan RC 73



Çağan Şekercioğlu RC 93 receiving his award from HRH Princess Anne of England.

Birdlife Conservationist Wins Top UK Nature Award

Çağan Şekercioğlu RC 93, won one of the world's top prizes for grassroots nature conservation - the Whitley Gold Award - for his efforts to safeguard a bird-rich wetland in Kars, an area made famous by Orhan Pamuk's (RC 70) novel, Snow. The 32-year-old anthropologist and biologist - who turned down a job on Wall Street to work in conservation - became Turkey's first ever Whitley Gold Award winner during a ceremony held at the Royal Geographical Society, London, in May by The Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN), the UK-based charity which administers the annual international awards program. He was given the prize by HRH Princess Anne. The award to Şekercioğlu recognized his work around Kuyucuk Lake, in the harsh, mile-high, Kars province of north-eastern Turkey, which provides the setting for Snow, the best-selling novel by Nobel Laureate, Orhan Pamuk. The lake is a haven for birds, supporting up to 30,000 from over 160 species. It is also vital for local people who rely on it to raise the livestock, crops and fuel that help them to survive minus 50 degrees C winters. It was with the needs of all lake users in mind that Şekercioğlu began the Kars Biodiversity Project. Using an approach new in Turkey, he and a local NGO are helping local people to see how good stewardship will raise their incomes, safeguard the lake and its species, and make the area attractive to bird-watchers and eco-tourists. Progress is already evident and the community is also backing efforts to win greater protection for the region. Şekercioğlu's prizes included a Whitley Award of £30,000 (US\$60,000 approx), donated by the William Brake Charitable Trust, another £30,000 (US\$60,000 approx) as a Whitley Gold Award winner, long-term support and the opportunity to seek further WFN funding, currently worth more than £0.4m a year (US\$0.8m).

Playwright Imagines the Ghost of Kafka in Today's Istanbul

What if a writer living and working in contemporary Istanbul was to revisit the idea at the heart of Franz Kafka's landmark novel, The Trial, written in 1925? That was the question which inspired playwright and director Kerem Kurdoğlu RC 81 to pen his latest work "Istanbul'da bir Dava" (A Trial in Istanbul). The production, starring well-known Turkish actors Derya Alabora and Yiğit Özşener, premiered at the International Istanbul Theater Festival in May 2008, where it played to sold-out audiences, and was performed in garajistanbul (in Beyoğlu) in October and November. "I tried to avoid the responsibility of staying literally true to Kafka, to understand not what Kafka was trying to say but what people living in this country see of themselves in his work," says Kurdoğlu. The resulting play is hardly Kafkaesque in the conventional sense. Kurdoğlu's Istanbul is not a dark, dank, dusty world. It is the spectacle of a society caught up in the giddy, colorful world of entertainment, a downwards spiral. Music, movement and visuals feature heavily. The unseen, all-powerful distant authority in Kafka's novel has been replaced with something just as terrifying, and as brutal. "Welcome to a fun Kafka musical" says Kurdoğlu, jokingly.

To see future performance dates, please visit www.garajistanbul.org.



Scene from "Istanbul'da bir Dava"



Can Candan RC 87

Filmmaker Takes On Turkey's University Entrance System

Each summer, some 1.6 million 18-year-olds across Turkey sit a centralized university entrance exam (ÖSS) that lasts three hours and could shape the rest of their lives. Only around 10 percent of those who take the test get placed, creating a highly competitive system that places intense pressure on teenagers. Unsurprisingly, the exam's multiple-choice format has also created a lucrative side industry of crammer schools, designed to help students memorize short cuts to scoring success.

A professor at Boğaziçi University, documentary filmmaker Can Candan RC 87 became fascinated by the inequities of this process. "There are statistics saying that such a number of people applied to sit the ÖSS this year," he says. "Individuals exist behind those statistics. I wanted to find a way to reflect their experiences." Candan, aided by his students, spent a year following six teenagers from different neighborhoods and schools in Istanbul in the run-up to the ÖSS. The result, called 3 Saat (3 Hours), is a fascinating and intimate documentary tracking a year in the lives of Mine, Edin, Derya, Çiğdem, Mert and Yunus - teenagers with very different aspirations, and their rollercoaster exam journeys. It's a highly emotional and surprisingly gripping film, showing the transformation of six individuals under tremendous pressure.

The film is currently being shown at schools and universities around the country.

For more information on screenings, please visit www.3saat.net.



RC Annual Giving A Class Act

A rock band practicing in a music room. Athletes on the Plateau, running laps before a track meet. A budding poet scratching out verse in the library. Advanced chemistry students fine-tuning an experiment for Tübitak. On any given day, at any given hour, the College is home to all of these scenes -and many more- of young people being encouraged to push their creative and intellectual limits. Caught up in the day-to-day demands of modern living, we often forget how unique these experiences are, particularly when seen within the context of Turkey at large.

For over 140 years, Robert College has consistently provided its students with an education that is one of the finest in the world. Yes, it famously produces politicians, business and cultural leaders, artists and writers, but more importantly, it instills a set of values -critical thinking, openness to new ideas, a desire for meaningful social

contribution- in each and every student that stays with them for the rest of their life.

To encourage its constituency to help support those programs which distinguish the school, like scholarship funds, state of the art educational projects ,and outstanding faculty - to name but a few areas - in 1988, Robert College became the first high school in Turkey to launch a structured fund raising effort among its alumni and friends. The school remains the only one with an established Annual Giving Campaign mainly because of its unique alumni body who appreciate the value and need for the outstanding education they themselves received.

“One of the outstanding features of a Robert College education has always been the idea of social responsibility and giving back to the community,” says Development Director Leyla Aktay (RC 72). “It is only natural that our alumni rose to the challenge as a community once the

The 2008/09 Annual Fund Committee Members : Standing from L to R: Bilge Rızvani RC 85, Melih Halefoğlu RA 71, Leyla Tara Suyabatmaz RC 84, Leyla Aktay RC 72, Okan Atilla RC 90, Kaan Okurer RC 92, Çiğdem Yazıcıoğlu., Seated from L to R: Serra Soysal RC 83, Elif Bilgi Zapparollı RC 85, Ayşegül Yürekli Şengör RC 85 and Ümran Ünğün ACG 70. Not pictured: Nedim Ölçer RC 76, Sema Sarpman, Mehveş Dramur Yardımcı RC 96, Orhan Ayanlar RC 96, Zeynep Kayhan RC 99, Gamze Weber RC 86, Ebru Köksal RC 86.



Pictured in 1998 : RC Development Director Leyla Aktay RC 72, Co-Chairmen of the Annual Giving Committee in the early years of the campaign Kutsi Beğdeş RC 38 and Hasan Subaşı RA 61, RC Eng 65. Kutsi Beğdeş is holding a bronze statue honoring his contribution to reach the 10th year goal.

program was launched. The idea is a simple one. Given that the actual cost of an RC education is not covered by tuition, every graduate is asked to contribute something to their Alma Mater, every year, to fill the gap. Large or small, every gift matters. Participation is the name of the game.

The strength of support comes from the number of alumni and friends, whose names are proudly displayed in the RC Honor Roll at the end of every year.”

A Record Year

Spearheaded in 1988 by then Headmaster Harry Dawe, Trustees Hasan Subaşı RA 61 and Kutsi Beğdeş RC 38, 650 graduates contributed a total of \$50,000 in that first year. Since then, consistently increasing Annual Giving funds have provided a vital source of unrestricted income for the institution, be it to support extracurricular activities, provide technological infrastructure or critically needed scholarships.

Robert College received a sum of \$2.4 million in the 2007-08 Annual Giving campaign, making it the highest total since the inception of the program twenty years ago. More importantly, a record-breaking 2025 graduates contributed - making it the highest level of participation to date.

A Tradition of Giving

Trustee Emre Derman RC 84 says “Very few graduates realise that tuition covers only a portion of the operating costs of the school. The balance is picked up by the school’s endowment. So, even if you did not receive a scholarship when you were a student at RC, someone else paid for part of your education. Given the advantages bestowed on us by our Robert College education, starting to pay back as soon as you can seems like the right thing to do.”

Why I give? Donors Explain:

Martina Albright, RC Trustee

“I give because of the outstanding students I meet year after year who are contributing so meaningfully within their professions and across the globe. I also give because of the reach RC has internationally. On several occasions in the US I have met and had a stimulating, engaging conversation with someone who invariably is a RC graduate.”

Feyyaz Berker RC Eng 46

“I give because the best period of my school years is the time I spent at Robert College between 1939 and 1946. I have always felt strongly that as graduates we have done little for our Alma Mater. I believe that the best donation that one can make and be proud of is the one made for education. And our Alma Mater deserves the best of all.”



Feyyaz Berker
RC Eng 46

Margaret Matthews, RC 75, RC Trustee

“I am proud of the fact that Robert College exists due to a long chain of donors stretching back almost 150 years; by giving what I can, I participate in that chain and ensure the future of a school that plays a remarkable place in the world. And as a Trustee, I am proud of the fact that 2,000 of our alumni understand the importance that RC has played in their lives and in the history of Turkey, and have also “joined the club” of those who continue its legacy.”

Nick Ludington, RC Trustee

“ I give to Robert College because I love Turkey, a country too often misunderstood or overlooked by Americans. RC’s impressive educational accomplishments are an important asset for Turkey and help improve understanding between Turkey and the United States.”

Suna Kıraç ACG 60

“I give because having graduated from ACG, I sincerely believe that Robert College is a school that provides the best education in Turkey and the Middle East, developing students with healthy minds and strong characters.”



Suna Kıraç ACG 60

Hüsnü Özyeğin RC 64

“I give because it has meant everything to me. Whatever I am today, everything started with Robert Academy. All the assets I acquired started with this.”



Hüsnü Özyeğin RC 64

A Class Act

The success of the Annual Giving Campaign is directly linked to the hard work and dedication of Class Agents. They play a key role in encouraging their classmates to participate in a tradition of giving back that joins RC alumni of every generation. Class agents tirelessly nudge, remind and sometimes gently harrass classmates worldwide to get them to make their annual contributions. "It all pays off in the end, when a class makes it up there with lots of names in the Annual Giving Report," says Trustee Nedim Ölçer RC 76, Annual Fund Chair. He speaks from experience, as the Class of 76 has consistently ranked first in participation over the years. Annual awards for the top ten classes, whether in participation or amount raised, give this communal effort an additional sense of fun and competition.

All Gifts Matter

"At a time of financial crisis, funds like Annual Giving become more critical than ever," says Headmaster John Chandler. "Robert College remains committed to providing an education to the best and the brightest from all over Turkey, regardless of the students' financial background. Without the kind of thoughtful and generous support from our alumni and friends, the far-reaching scholarship program would not be as strong as it is. As it stands, the school welcomed one of the most diverse classes in its history this year, with students from İstanbul, Bursa and Denizli to as far afield as Diyarbakır, Uşak, Sinop and Erzincan."

Frequently Asked Questions about RC Annual Giving

How many students are at the school?

Robert College has 997 students. 209 of these students (21% of the student body) receive financial aid.

How much is allocated to scholarship?

The funds allocated to Scholarship for 2007-08 amounted to 4.2 million USD.

Does tuition income cover expenses?

Tuition fees are controlled by the Ministry of Education and cover only 60% of the costs. How is the gap covered? Robert College relies on Annual Giving support from alumni and friends from all over the world to cover the gap between income and expenses.

How can I make my gift? The choices are numerous. It is possible to make a gift by credit card online or by phone or fax, as well as writing a check or making a bank deposit. To find out what works best for you, go to: <https://secure.robcol.k12.tr/alumni/> or call 0 212 263 4239 (İstanbul), 1 212 843 5550 (New York).

12 Dev Adam
A Milli Erkek
Basketbol Takımı

12 Dev Adam
Basketbol Okulları

Potanın Perileri
A Milli Bayan
Basketbol Takımı

Türkiye Futbol
Federasyonu
Futbol Milli Takımları

Platform
Garanti
Güncel Sanat
Merkezi

Garanti Galeri

Osmanlı Bankası
Müzesi

Boğaziçi
Üniversitesi
Garanti Kültür
Merkezi

Türkler Sergisi
Royal Academy
of Arts Londra

51-52.
Venedik Bienali

Cengiz Han ve
Mirasçıları:
Büyük Moğol
İmparatorluğu
Sergisi

Karadeniz Gemisi
Belgeseli

WWF-Türkiye
Çevre Projeleri

Yeşil Atlas Çevre
Özel Sayısı

Likya Yürüyüş Yolu
Projesi ve Kitabı

Arykanda Kazıları

Uluslararası
İstanbul Caz Festivali

Babylon Garanti
Caz Yeşili Konserleri

Uluslararası Ankara
Müzik Festivali

Bonus
Uluslararası Komedi
Filmleri Festivali

Mini Bank
Uluslararası Çocuk
Filmleri Festivali

Öğretmen
Akademisi Vakfı
Öğretmenin
Sınırı Yok

Denizyıldızları
Eğitim Kurumları

TOG Toplum
Gönüllüleri

İstanbul Modern
Eğitim Programları

Kültür, sanat, eğitim, çevre ve spor Garanti ile büyüyor.





Guest speaker of the 2008/09 Annual Giving Kick-off Dinner, Cem Boyner RC 74, addressing the guests.



From L to R: Trustee Nina Köprülü, Cem Boyner RC 74, Alev Komili, Atilla Aşkar, Ümit Boyner and Headmaster John Chandler

RC Launches 2008/09 Annual Giving Campaign

Roberst College launched the 2008/09 Annual Giving Campaign on October 20, 2008 with its annual Kick-Off Dinner at Bizim Tepe. As usual, the dinner was well attended by a large group of Class Agents, High Honor Donors, Scholarship Donors, representatives of Corporate Donors, as well as RC Administrators and Trustees.

In his welcoming speech, Headmaster John Chandler was pleased to inform everyone that the past giving year had set a record. An all time high of number of donors was reached with a total of 2025 donors while the amount collected was also a record with a total of \$2.400.000. Chandler also spoke of the challenges facing us now. "Not only must we equal and even surpass these figures but also succeed in doing so in the year of a new economic crisis", he said. Guest speaker of the evening, Cem Boyner, RC 74 gave a motivational speech full of ideas to help us overcome these daunting obstacles. In a casual delivery of anecdotes about his start at RC, his experiences as a student, a leading businessman and an aspiring politician, Boyner said, "It's not over until you quit."

Emphasizing RC's leadership qualities, he said: "We were given freedom to express ourselves. We were encouraged to question everything, including authority and we were injected with the can do spirit to do something to make a difference."



İsmet Müstecaplıoğlu RC 80, İpek Müstecaplıoğlu RC 80, Feza Güvenal RC 80, Semih Aksu RC 78, Serra Soysal RC 83, Gözde Göryakin RC 02, Sema Öztürk, Serdar Bilgili RC 81, Leyla Tara Suyabatmaz RC 84 and Arif Suyabatmaz.



From L to R: Sedat Ergin RC 75, Cihan Baysal RC 75, Bülent Başer RC 76, Özlem Başer, Gülseren Sunay RC 76, Serdar Sunay, Aysen Zamanpur RC 76, Bijen Zamanpur and Nevzat Fresko RC 73.



L to R: Onur Okutur RC 99, Zeynep Şener RC 99 and Ahu Kürk RC 99



Nedim Ölçer RC 76 receiving his award from Cem Boyner RC 74.



Esin Pere and Haluk Kilimci, RC 50



From L to R: RC 78 Class Agent Doğan Şenocak with his wife Lucienne and Koç University Rector, Atilla Aşkar.



Coşkun Baban RC 92, Selim Elhadef RC 84, Jale Elhadef, Ahmet Alp RC 91, Zümrüt Yalman RC 89 and Duygu Alptekin RC 92



From L to R: Prof. Üstün Ergüder RC 57, Rukiye Ergüder RC 70, Şevki Figen RC Eng 48 and Director of Business & Finance at RC, Ümran Üngün ACG 70.



From L to R: Alp Özgelik Lise 12, Özbek Özler Jr., Terim Özler ACG, Present Student Council president Lale Tekişalp Lise 12 and Ümran Üngün, ACG 70, Director of Business & Finance at RC



RC 92 Class agents Duygu Alptekin and Coşkun Baban accepting their award from Cem Boyner RC 74. Missing from this photo is Kaan Okurer, also RC 92 Class Agent.



L to R: Güner Fansa ACG 49, Zeki Türkkan, Necla Kavalı ACG 45, Melahat Kınıoğlu ACG 44, Cezmi Kınıoğlu, Suna Gürçay ACG 53, Dinçer Gürçay and Oya Başak ACG 55.



Levent Tüzün RC 07

Yale Sophomore Chosen Part of Tony Blair's Faith Initiative

Since stepping down as Britain's prime minister, Tony Blair has sought a new role as a global mediator of spiritual bent. In September he launched a high-profile three-year program at Yale University called the Faith and Globalization Initiative, open to 25 Yale University students but followed closely by a world audience through a multi-media website and the press. (<http://faithandglobalization.yale.edu>)

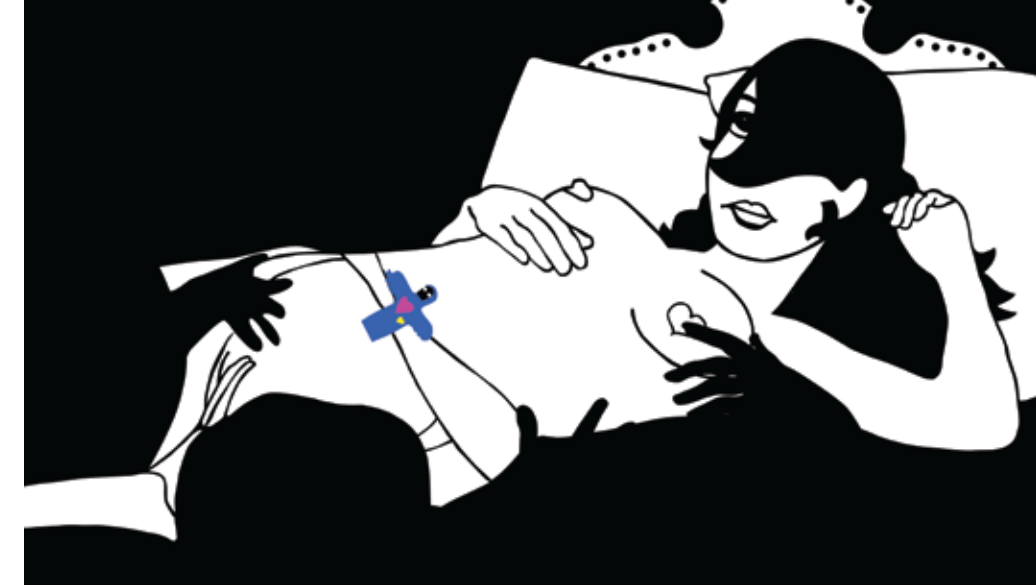
The pioneering course "will explore the potential of religious faith to bring the world's people together rather than drive them apart," says Blair.

Levent Tuzun RC 07 is one of the lucky few chosen after a rigorous campus-wide selection process to attend the seminar in person. He is the youngest student on the course, and the only Turk. "I didn't think I stood a chance because it is a graduate seminar. But I thought at least I should try my luck," he says. In his application, Tuzun described how he has witnessed Turkey changing due to both the influences in questions.

Tüzün is currently a sophomore and an Economics and History double major. He has already squeezed more into his time at Yale than many of his peers. Continuing his involvement with the Model United Nations organisation from RC, he is an active member of the Yale International Relations Society and its treasurer. This summer, he travelled to Asia to teach international law classes to incoming freshmen at Hong Kong University and China's Zhejiang University.

Tüzün hopes to work in the field of international relations when he graduates, although he is also contemplating a Law School degree, and hopes to return to Turkey after gaining experience internationally.

Artist Offers Up Whimsical Ode to Life



You've probably seen a bit of Hayal Pozanti (RC 2000) out there -- even if you've never met her. In two years spent as an artist and freelance graphic designer, Pozanti has used her design and graphic-arts projects to sprinkle bits of her own style and personality into the fabric of today's Istanbul - nightclub promo posters, retail displays on Istiklal Caddesi and the web site of indie radio station Radyo Eksen are just some of the places where she has left her mark.



Hayal Pozanti (RC 2000)

Autumn 2008 brought her to new heights; as she opened her first solo art exhibition at Play, a gallery off Istiklal. Her pencil-sketched faces, swirling limbs and surreal patterns reveal a strong theme: "I'm trying to take things that look disgusting or grotesque and show them out of context, so that they are visually appealing," she said. That shows up in enchanting black-and-white pieces where it's hard to tell where one person ends and another begins -- and is there an animal in there? Pozanti uses color sparingly -- rosy cheeks in an otherwise monochrome painting of childlike bodies, for example. Standing out in her renderings of dewy eyes and tangled limbs is a small painting of police wielding batons in a protest. Much of the collection on display at Play was created last summer, as political upheaval dominated headlines in Turkey. Pozanti was stunned at the chaos it unleashed, and her cast of misfits developed from there.

She followed the display at Play with another show in New York in November. Sitting with tea on a vine-draped Beyoğlu backstreet, she recounted her path to today. From imitating cubist drawings at age eight, and a fine-arts school in Houston, Texas, she moved on to Robert College. "It demanded that I question everything and that I push my limits," she said of her time on campus. "You walk out of there with such high expectations for your life." Pozanti then studied the arts at Sabancı University, and, once done, applied her talents for Beymen, the chain of luxury department stores, designing window displays and other visual aspects of the retailer's various locations. "In my first job I was so naïve and eager to please," she said. "Everything they could think of, they threw at me." Two years later, she went solo, deciding to do freelance graphic art and promotion projects and to devote more of her time to her own art. As with so many entrepreneurs, Pozanti found that breaking in took a long time. She brought in very little money in her first year self employed, but seems to have found a groove in her second. From here, she's working on developing new themes, including the magic and superstitions of Anatolian history. With so much of life based on rational choices and realistic behaviors, Pozanti aims to marinate herself in fantasy and sentiment for her coming works. It's something she's sure will resonate: "People have a need for a place where there's still something magical that can happen."

To see more, please visit www.hayalpozanti.com.

ONES TO WATCH

Istanbul Chic-Hip New Online Venture Redefines Luxury

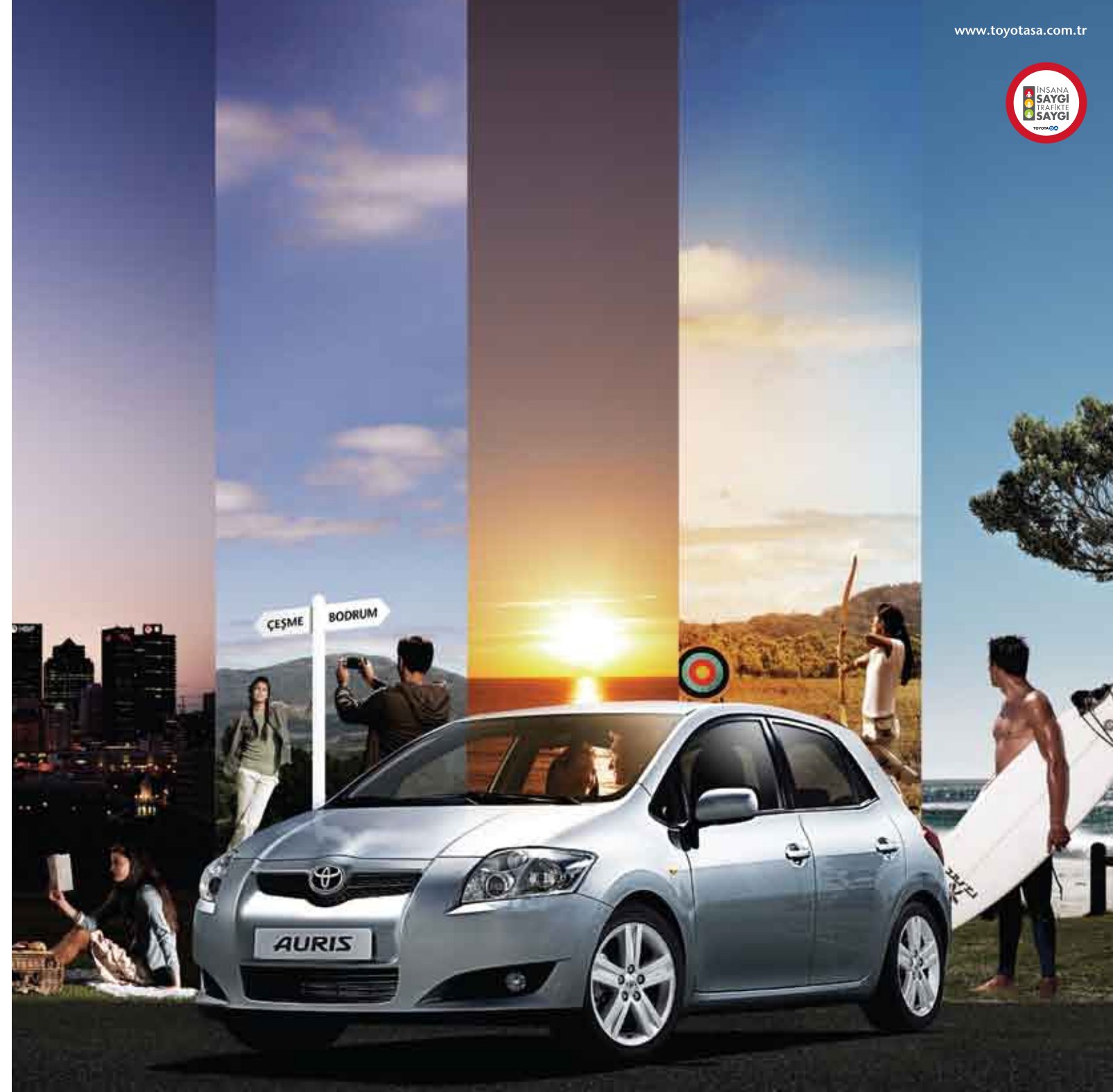
What constitutes luxury - is it exclusivity? High cost? Or, perhaps, the ability to inspire or please? Güneş Mutlu Mavituncalılar RC 99, has been thinking constantly about this question for the past year, which makes sense - she's the founder of Turkey's first luxury-goods shopping website, ChiChiQueen.com. But the site is more than just a place to buy handbags, pink iPods or decorative porcelain pomegranates. Mutlu has used her musings on life, culture and consumption to create a site that aims to gain fame as a place to buy but also as an online lifestyle portal and magazine. The founding idea behind ChiChiQueen.com, which was launched in July 2007, is to combine commerce with stimulating commentary, travel guides, interviews with today's modern culture consumers, and other bits of creative goodness. Mutlu's packaged all that into a fun and whimsical online presentation.

ChiChiQueen.com's customers have plenty of opportunity to spend on the website, but the goods on offer aren't selected based on price alone. You can buy cheap-and-cheerful staples like simple hoop earrings, for example, along with more pricey or unique offerings. "The common denominator for the selection of the goods is quality, value, uniqueness and the potential to bring joy and make a difference," Mutlu said. "We make sure our selection of goods to sell, and the pages we prepare, are not victims of the fashion world but rather appeal to women with true style and perspective."

One section of the site that sets it apart is the "Yaşam" (Life) area. This is Mutlu's strategy to develop the site's shoppers into a community of women interested in lifestyle choices. Here you will find discussions on modern fashion, lifestyle and culture, interviews with young trendsetters such as Mert Beraze (RC 2000), who runs his own developing fashion brand based in Los Angeles, and even some travel guides to European cities. Overall, ChiChiQueen.com offers shoppers 4,000 products and 100 recognized brand names. But it also aims to sell some of the small-scale treasures of Turkey - antiques from Çukurcuma, or the best of the Grand Bazaar. Mutlu started the site, she said, because she spotted an area without a presence. Turkey lacks an e-commerce web site targeting women, she said. She decided to style it like a magazine, she said, because women like to read fashion magazines but can't instantly buy the things they see in them. The first year of operation has been a success, Mutlu said, and she aims to build on it with an English-language version of the site, corporate services such as gift-purchasing services, and expansion into other countries. Mutlu looks back fondly on her time at Robert College, but the most applicable thing she learned might not have come from the classroom, but from pondering the institution itself. "I have always seen Robert College as a wonderful brand," she said. "The secret to what lies behind a great name - I have modeled my business after this concept, and the Robert College legacy has inspired me while building my brand."



Güneş Mutlu Mavituncalılar RC 99



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TODAY TOMORROW TOYOTA



Financialization: A Structural Approach to Current Global Economic Crisis

By Ismail Ertürk RC 77

Although it was a common occurrence in academic publishing my co-authors and I nevertheless felt guilty when we informed our publishers Routledge that we were going to be six months late in submitting the manuscript of our book *Financialization at Work: Key Texts and Commentary*. When we finally submitted the manuscript in October 2007, however, we were feeling lucky. We had the chance to rewrite our first introductory chapter to include the financial crisis that had broken out in August 2007. Our aim in the book was to collect and comment on the key work on the financialization of the US and European economies since the 1980s.

Although the key preoccupation in economics during the last two decades has been globalization, the process of financialization is little discussed and understood both in economics and media.

I do not think it is possible to fully understand the causes of the current crisis, which so many people increasingly compare with the great depression of 1929, without comprehending the financialization of the US economy, where this current crisis has started. Very simply, financialization refers to the fact that in present-day capitalism finance plays a very central role that is different from the earlier stages of capitalism: giant firms in the U.S. and Europe now compete in stock market which measures shareholder value rather than in product markets; car companies like Ford make more money from selling credit than selling cars; debt, financial investments, house prices have become more important for most households than their wage income; financial institutions have become the largest sector in profit and assets in most national economies as the current crisis has amply demonstrated from Iceland to the US; pension funds and other savings globally reached an amount of USD 60 trillion which surpasses the collective GDPs of major economies in the world. I resorted to what the economists call stylized facts when I was trying to explain the financialization of the US economy on Bloomberg Asia TV in July this year. Germany produce machines, China light consumer goods, Japan electronics, Gulf States oil, Argentina agricultural products, etc. What does the U.S. economy produce? Since the early 1990s the U.S. economy creates financial assets both for domestic and international consumption. USD 60 trillion funds I mentioned above require financial assets to

invest in. Mortgage-backed securities, which people now call "toxic assets" were such products. In order to be able to understand why this current financial crisis is so severe and requires such unprecedented government intervention we need to take notice of this structural transformation of the U.S. economy and the vital role that the U.S. financial system -which includes actors ranging from mortgage brokers to investment banks to rating agencies to mono-line insurance companies and to debt-ridden households- plays in this structure. Banks in the U.S. and Europe have increasingly become firms that are disconnected from

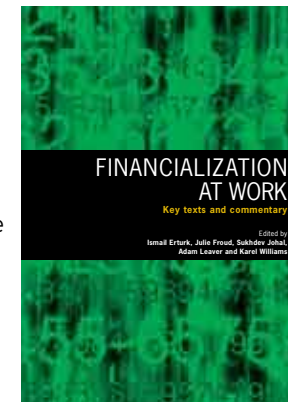
the real economy. Their revenues derive mainly from transacting and trading between themselves, activities that allow bankers to generate high bonuses as well. There is now a deep scepticism both in the business world and in the society about banks' capability in risk management.

Until August 2007 the consensus in both the banking community and amongst bank regulators was that banks have mastered the science of risk management through financial innovation. The mainstream academic literature on financial engineering has also reinforced this view of modern banking. Therefore recent historically high levels of profits in banking have

been justified by this common mistaken perception about modern banks' innovative nature. We argue in our book that financial innovation is not a scientific activity but is rather a bricolage, a term that we borrowed from French anthropologist Lévi-Strauss. Bricolage is kind of a DIY activity in finance which allowed financiers to exploit conjunctural opportunities in a financialized economy that created first the dot.com bubble and then the housing bubble. The latter one burst with much more serious economic consequences.

Therefore what we need globally is not more regulation but a radical re-design of the financial architecture where the roles of financial institutions and financial markets are re-defined in a financialized economy which generates both financial assets that are much bigger than GDP and an expectation for unsustainable high returns on financial investments with destabilizing effects. The problems we are facing require much more than technical adjustments to the banking regulation. Both the culture and practice of finance need to be radically re-thought in economic and social terms. My colleagues and I currently research these topics under the title of social innovation which we are hoping to publish in near future. So watch this space!

Ismail Ertürk RC 77 is a Senior Fellow in Banking at Manchester Business School, the University of Manchester, where he has been since 1987. He graduated from Robert College in 1977 and from Middle East Technical University in 1981. From 1982-1983 he was a research fellow at Hull University, UK. He continued his postgraduate studies at New York University where he specialised in banking. He has held visiting positions at Stockholm School of Economics, St Petersburg, Istanbul Bilgi University, Federal University of São Carlos, ESCP-EAP, Paris. He set up and directed the MBA programmes at Istanbul Bilgi University between 1999-2003. He has undertaken advisory work for companies and government institutions internationally, including IBM, HM Customs and Excise UK, UCB Belgium and has developed and directed senior banking programmes for financial institutions including Lloyds-TSB, NatWest, Standard Bank of South Africa, and leading Turkish banks. In recent years his teaching reflects his research interests in financialization and financial innovation that he investigates as part of an inter-disciplinary team at CRESC at the University of Manchester.



Ismail Ertürk RC 77



Around the World with Travel Guru Faruk Pekin



As a student at Robert College in the 60s, Faruk Pekin RC Eng 69, liked nothing better than to spend his weekends roaming the ruins of Old Istanbul with now-legendary, erudite professors like Hillary Sumner-Boyd, Godfrey Goodwin and John Freely. "That's how my interest in architecture and art history began," he says. "Istanbul is my first love. We spent most weekends exploring a different part of the city."

After graduating, Pekin worked as a journalist and a labor organizer until the 1980 coup brought the country to a grinding halt. At loose ends, he decided to see whether he could turn his passion for travel into a business. In 1985, he set up Fest Tourism, originally to service incoming tourists. In 1988, the company began offering walking tours of Istanbul called "Adım Adım İstanbul" (Strolling Through İstanbul) in collaboration with the Tarih & Toplum magazine. "Nobody else was offering cultural tours," Pekin says. "The aim wasn't so much commercial as it was for pleasure."

The tours, led by Pekin as well as renowned academics like Murat Belge and İlber Ortaylı, were an instant hit. In May this year, the Tourism Ministry awarded Pekin its first-ever annual Activities Award for the tours, which celebrated their 20th anniversary in November. The company now

offers 90 different Istanbul itineraries. In his speech, Pekin dedicated the award to Istanbul, the now-defunct Tarih ve Toplum periodical and the many lecturers and guides who have helped to introduce almost 40,000 Istanbulites to the city they live in over the years. "I'm just a mediator," he said, with characteristic modesty. The Istanbul tours won Fest a loyal crowd of followers who eventually began asking for similar excursions abroad. In 1991, Pekin led the first group to Egypt. "It was still fairly untouristic back then," he says, "Historically speaking it's one of the most important places in the world." That was followed by Prague, Budapest, Crete and India and from there, Pekin never looked back. "There were other companies offering tours abroad, but those would be mainly shopping, with a three-hour city tour thrown in," he says. "We were the only ones who based travel around culture - the cuisine, music, architecture and traditions of a place. We created our own itineraries and built up our own clientele."

Fest now offers 110 different tours to 80 countries. People who have been on a Fest tour joke that it's addictive and the company has hundreds of repeat customers. Places on many of its tours, such as to India or Vietnam, are booked months in advance and there are lengthy wait lists.

After hundreds of tours all over the world, Pekin never tires of his job. When the RCQ met him at his Gayrettepe office, he had just returned from Prague, a city he has visited dozens of times, which he says never fails to move

him. "Prague," he points out, "is the city Nazım [Hikmet] wrote most about". Exclusive to the RCQ, Pekin gave us the lowdown on his current must-see destinations.

Namibia. Sadly Kenya has become overpriced and too touristic, Pekin says. Namibia offers unspoiled scenery, spectacular wildlife at game reserves and national parks and a pace of life that remains unchanged by modernization. "Hurry, in two or three years time, it could go the way of Kenya," he says. Georgia-Armenia. Pekin made headlines last year when he became the first ever person to take a group of 34 Turkish tourists to Armenia. "Both countries are beautiful and the people are very hospitable," he says.

India. Even though he has been to India some 45 times, Pekin says he always finds something new to see. "Every part of the country offers something else. Personally, I would recommend the North - Delhi, Varanasi, Agra, Jaipur for a first-time visitor." Guatemala. It has manageable size and lots of color going for it, Pekin says. You can tour the country in three or four days. Antigua is one of the world's best preserved colonial cities and an authentic trip back in time. Bhutan. "The fact that so few foreigners visit makes it very interesting," says Pekin. The country is a Himalayan Buddhist kingdom and governed by a unique philosophy of Gross National Happiness. This has meant that the environment is carefully protected. After centuries of monarchic rule, parliamentary elections were held for the first time this year. Entry to Bhutan is strictly regulated and

tourists are required to pay a stiff daily tariff of about \$200. The policy makes sense, Pekin says, because it ensures conservation. Iran. Pekin urges women to ignore any discomfort they might feel about having to wear a headscarf and make the cross-border trip. "It's not possible to fully understand Anatolian Seljuks without seeing Iran," he says. Esfahan, Shiraz, Tebriz are not to be missed, as are Tehran's museums, "but not the city itself," he says, laughing.

Patagonia. Nature lovers in particular, Pekin suggests, will find remote Patagonia, on the tip of South America, well worth the long haul journey. "The ice caps are spectacular. Sea lions, seals, hundreds of kinds of birds..."

Turkey. Pekin is emphatic about the vast range of destinations on offer close to home. Currently, for example, he's excited about a brand-new Fest tour to ancient Frygian sites west of Ankara. Mardin is always a favorite, in particular Dara. Istanbul continues to be the jewel in Fest's crown. To date, some 40,000 Istanbulites have been on one of their city tours. Pekin proudly points out they have close to 100 different Istanbul itineraries on offer and are constantly devising new ones.

Jewish Landmarks in Istanbul, Balyan Family Commissions and Literary Istanbul are just a few of this year's additions. "The important thing for us is to be able to show the people who live here what a great city they live in," he says. "That's how conservation starts. Once you love the place you live in, you start to want to protect it."

From L to R: Ömer Erkovan RC 06, Firdevs Abacioğlu RC 03 and Semra Comu RC 03



From L to R: Naz Tücel RC 08, Yasemin Uyar RC 08, and Irem Bilgiç RC 08

RCAAA Young Alumni Dinner in New York

Over 65 young alumni between classes 1994 and 2008, gathered in New York on Saturday, November 1st for the 18th traditional fall Young Alumni Dinner, organized by Robert College Alumni Association of America (RCAAA). The Turkish dinner was served at Dervish Restaurant in New York City. The night featured a career talk by alumni who have established their careers in New York. Sevinç Yüksel RC 02, Irem Metin RC 02, Tuğçe Çağlayan RC 02, Selin Somersan RC 95, Kemal Karakaya RC 95, Mehtap Cevher Conti RC 94, Mete Tünel RC 90, and Birsen Erses ACG 60 kindly offered to be career mentors for the night. After brief presentations by each, people had a chance to talk to the mentors, pose questions, and receive their advice. Headmaster John Chandler and director of Alumni&Development Leyla Aktay also attended the dinner. Headmaster Chandler gave an update on recent developments in the school, and the success of the Class of 2008 in university entrances in the US, Europe, and Turkey.

RCAAA Bar Night

Alumni in the US kicked off the new season with the RCAAA bar night at NYC's Pera Restaurant run by Burak Karaçam RC 92 on October 1st. RC Alumni got together to catch up and meet new friends, enjoyed drinks and complimentary mezes with new and old friends. Bar nights are becoming a tradition among alumni around New York, as more and more alumni have started dropping by the bar after work for a casual evening.



From L to R: Ece Marçelli 02, Elif Çınar 03, Derya Erdemli 03, Alphan Kirayöğlü 02



From L to R:
Rüzgar Barışık RC 95,
Kemal Karakaya RC 95,
Ersin Karaoğlu RC 95,
Zafer Barutçuoğlu RC 95



From L to R: Anri Asa RC Yük 57,
Eliza Asa, Lika Lale Levi RC 77,
Joseph Farhi RC 47, and Kaye Maggart



From L to R: Murat Özalp 99, Mehmet Ali
Dökümcü 02, Serra Levent 04, Selin Akatlı 04

Yale Club

Friends and alumni in New York area came together for the traditional RC Reception at the Yale Club of New York City, on Friday, November 7th. Over a hundred people attended the event, which is always a festive evening and a sort of Homecoming for alumni, faculty, and friends living in the US. Headmaster John Chandler and the Trustees of Robert College were present, and most of the classes were well represented.



From L to R: Ambassador Yiğit Alpdoğan Tania Chandler,
Feride Alp RC Yük 71 and Headmaster John Chandler

RC in London

Robert College alumni in the UK came together for a reunion on Thursday, October 16, 2008. Turkish Ambassador HE Mr. Yiğit Alpdoğan kindly hosted the RC Reception at his residence in London. The wonderfully orchestrated evening was followed by a jazz concert. Headmaster John Chandler took this opportunity to inform the alumni in the UK about recent developments at the school. We thank all of you who attended, and especially Feride Alp RC Yük 71 for helping to organize this event. As the number of alumni in the UK grows, alumni will be seeing more RC presence and events in the future.



From L to R: Reha Kavala RC 72 and her guest
Nurhan Çebi, Neşe Öngün and Işıl MCLAughlin

REUNIONS



ACG 68 Celebrates 40th Reunion

Twenty-seven of us escaped the city rain and met up to spend two lovely days on Büyükada, in honor of the 40th anniversary of our graduation. After checking in at 2pm, we gathered in the tea lounge for coffee and cookies, sharing news. Available at the gift table and prepared especially for this occasion were Semiha's Campus Chronicles, Selmin's CDs of popular 60s tunes, 35th year sweatshirts with dinosaurs and 25th year posters. Then we got dressed up and moved to the garden for a cocktail. We continued to chat over wine, rakı and dinner.

After dinner Filiz delivered an amusing presentation and we had a lot of fun giving each other 60th year presents. Due to the relaxing effects of oxygen and fresh sea air, we retired around midnight. The next morning after breakfast one group was brave enough to venture up to Aya Yorgi, while another group went down to the harbor. All the exercise made everyone hungry and we sat down for some more food. Our meeting ended with a tranquil boat ride back to Bostanci. Looking back at the two days, we can sum them up by saying lots of chatting, lots of oxygen and lots of eating.

Contributed by Gülgün Canlı ACG 68



Class of 58 Reunion Celebrates 50 Years On

So it was our fiftieth year reunion. We fancied celebrating forty days and forty nights but we stopped at five. The celebrations started on the 13th of June

We had a wonderful, nostalgic evening and night on the beautiful Arnavutköy campus of Robert College. It was really amazing and it moved us to be able (or not) to recognize old friends after so many years. Some of us were trying to remember the location of the wash rooms, some were reminiscing about young loves and telephone calls, teachers and naughty childish goings-on in the classrooms. Weren't we silly, giggling and happy all at the same time?

The next night we were on a lovely boat cruising the marvelous Bosphorus, eating delicious food, marveling at the beauty of Bosphorus over and over again, reveling in the warmth of the company.

On the 15th June we met again for brunch at Bizim Tepe. After more food, jokes, anecdotes, stories we hurried to Heybeli Ada to stay two nights at Halki Palas. We toured the island, ate more food, laughed, laughed, and giggled as if we were young once again.

Although we started the festivities with 160 friends we ended up with 20. Some of us weren't up to celebrating 70 hours; well, it's understandable, we were all 70 or more. Nevertheless we had a wonderful time and appreciated the opportunity of meeting again after fifty years at our beloved school which equipped us with the essential knowledge and strength to meet life head on.

Tülin Serpen (Beykont) '58 ex



REUNIONS



RC 73 Celebrates 35th Reunion

We got together at the Maze around 7 pm for cocktails followed by dinner at the Bizim Tepe pool side. It was a great surprise to have some of our cherished teachers join us, like Betsy Göksel, Aydın Ungan, Münir Aysu and Nuran Demircioğlu. At the Maze, where the evening took off, we hugged and hugged again, as we rapidly caught up with each other's lives over drinks. Then, off we were to Bizim Tepe.

While enjoying the food and chatting away, an incredible video show organized by Sibel Göksel cast its spell on all of us. A few minutes later, we were all standing around the screen, breathlessly watching who we were then and now, the families we raised and didn't raise and remembering friends who were no longer with us.

Smiles and tears flowed simultaneously. It was then that the music from the "Flower Children" generation, so skillfully put together by Aydın Aktay, led us to the dance floor.

We danced and sang popular songs of our times, songs which had helped shape us back in our RC days; such as Joan Baez and Cat Stevens, James Taylor and Carole King. Aydın had printed the lyrics for all of us. We were amazed and moved as we sang along. What a wonderful chorus, what a lovely sense of belonging together!

Some of our friends are sadly no longer with us (but death, be not proud!), some were happily married with children, some divorced; some were doctors, business people, artists or writers; some still looked young, some looked their age; we had become fatter or slimmer, some had or were overcoming illnesses.

Life may have come in between, but joy was there. We realized that at this particular moment in time we were our own RC selves again.

As always, it was a wonderful get-together thanks to the efforts of the Reunion Committee headed by Ayşe Kocamaz and Şenay Haznedaroğlu. We extend our gratitude to all our friends who put so much effort into organizing this memorable evening.

Contributed by Harika Erler Ahmet RC 73



REUNIONS

Reflections on a Reunion: Class of 78

We are a fairly closely tied group of classmates. That is, we manage to gather together more than once or twice a year, have an active mail group or two where not many end up fighting unlike some other mail groups with "RC" in the mail group name, and most of us know where most others are, or what they are doing. A third of us are living abroad, spanning a large geography between the Californian coast and Abu Dhabi. We have fairly well organized reunions every five years, have a different shirt designed by the talented amongst us, prepare music collections for each occasion, and an updated class log with sufficient info for all. We have even managed to collect a sizeable sum to start an endowment fund. Most if not all turned out to be successful in classical terms. RC 78 graduates harbor more MD's than any other year, 31 all together, probably more than any decade put together as well. More than just a few turned out to be prominent academics, a few best-selling authors and looks like more shall surface. The best club scene in the country is run by two of our classmates. So far one can say that we have done well. I am looking over the crowd of classmates gathering outside of Marble Hall for our 30th reunion on June 29th, 2008. There aren't as many of us this year, about 70 have showed up. We were rather late in getting organized; it is also the European Cup finals tonight, and a Sunday night. School grounds have been reserved months ahead of time by a couple of more enthusiastic reunion groups. These occasions may not excite us as much any more, I suspect, maybe we do get together too often for these to be special. Yet everyone seems to be very happy to be here, and among friends. Those who live abroad are obviously more excited, to be on the campus grounds and among old friends.

As Simon and Garfunkel start singing "Old Friends" in the background, one of the favorites of collections every time, along with "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "Hotel California", I think of the first time I stepped on these grounds back in 1971. To start with, there were only 60 of us in 1971 when we started orta prep as the first coed year in Bingham Hall; 45 girls and 15 boys. Along with the boys in Lise Prep, we were the only male specimens around, and Orta III girls made sure to let us know that we were not anything close to being men yet. There were many memorable figures of that first year in what seemed to be a piece of heaven on earth. Mr. Webster, the authoritative yet very sincere orta school director, Araksi Katircioğlu, the Orta school secretary wearing slippers through the corridors as she wrote down the detention lists which always included my name on Friday mornings with here beautiful hand writing, the very young and beautiful SEFT teacher Miss Edwards whose name will

still give palpitations to those of us who were her pupils at OPEE, and Mrs. Dabonovitch, the Scottish math teacher with the crazy red hair who used to smoke filterless Pall Malls in the classroom and throw chalk at noisy kids, i.e. all the boys all the time, are the first ones to spark in my mind. And then there was Abbas byte enigmatic gym teacher who, according to legend was a world champion wrestler. Ms. Pliatsca was the music teacher, Ms. Kolman taught Arts in what seemed to be a remote village all the way out there in the forests. Hasan Ülgen, the literature teacher, was a scary looking figure who reminded me of the witch in Snow White. All the boys did was to play football for hours and explore what seemed to be a vast forest between the buildings and the Plateau. Along the path was the Webster's bridge, a bent oak tree which we had to brush past under, and a couple of openings where older boys and girls would meet to smoke and maybe hold hands. Looking back at those years in Bingham Hall, it is impossible to reminiscence without thinking of those magical moments and powerful figures.

Through the years, the headcount of the Class of 78 reached 148 at graduation day. The list of memorable moments and unforgettable teachers also kept growing. Who could forget Mr. Lovett, his big sheep dog, his gray Citroen and pipe? He was a complete gentleman and a poet. Mr. Gibb was the chemistry teacher/football trainer who made sure that he could flunk everybody if he wanted to, but he would not unless you really, really did not try. I still have my stomach ulcers dating back to the first 3 on my report card in chemistry. And then there was Mr. Hobson, the charismatic Math teacher with a green and a blue eye, and a very big tolerant heart. Our smoking joint, the WC next to his office, was named "Hobby" in his honor. There was Münir Bey, a typical İstanbul gentleman whose name is a legend among two generations of RC graduates, Şefik Hoca, who was a friend to everyone, Mrs. Iz who single-handedly has been influential in the Turkish theatrical scene, Mr. İncealemdaroğlu, the biology teacher who was supposedly once married to an Afghani princess who shared most of our early adolescent secrets and gave us many an educated advice. My personal favorite was Mrs. Webster, the English literature teacher, but then again there was Aydın Abi, whom we still call "abi", and for that matter we still call Münir "Bey" yet Şefik "Hoca", a curious distribution of titles. We all thought Mr. Johnson and Mr. Esposito were CIA agents, and



all of us also had strong opinions about Mr. Barrett the math teacher and Ms. Sampey, her ankles and her neck.

Though the concept of a reunion typically suggests classmates coming together, no reunion or homecoming can be complete without sharing those moments with some of the teachers who were so influential in our lives back then, yet this is proving harder every year.

At a point in time when we are pushing harder into middle age, those who taught us back then are pushing eighties these days. Abbas Bey has recently passed away, along with Mahomet Bey-aka Çene- within 2008. Some have long been gone like Mrs. Dabanovitch and Mrs. Şükür. Fortunately some of them are still around, healthy and kicking. Some, like Betsy Göksel, have made a comeback after some time away in the USA. As I watch from the steps of Gould Hall, I can see the bright smile on every face when Aydın abi walks in; the sheer joy of seeing him is no different than seeing an old classmate 30 years later. Betsy Göksel hugging her first "boys" with tears down her face, or Münir Hoca walking up the bridge with the usual "hınzır" smile on his face, are all images that will linger on in our temporal lobes for the rest of our lives. For me and most of the classmates who showed up, the images of Münir Bey, Aydın abi and Şefik Hoca hugging for the first time in 20 years, the expression of childish joy on their faces was the highlight of the night.

Here are, then, some words by those who have literally spent a lifetime being part of the Robert College community. May they always be around to rejoice in our childhood with us. "Was it a coincidence that class reunions for two classes I was particularly close to were taking place this summer--the Class of 78 and the Class of 73--and I finally made the decision to come "home" to Turkey after 11 years on a lonely mountaintop in North Carolina? Or were the reunions the push I needed to pack up dogs and a couple of suitcases and take the plunge? By the end of June I had decided to live on Bozcaada, rather than İstanbul, and gathered all my courage to meet a class I taught all through their Orta years, my first boys. "Oh, dear, they will find me

old. Oh, dear, I won't recognize them, though I see them, age 14, in my dreams and remember all the details of their adolescent selves. "Well, it was wonderful. Although I can't say I recognized all of them at first sight, at the sound of their names, the past and the present merged. I am so proud to have been a part of the development of these successful and beautiful men and women, who have made my life meaningful and rich. So, when you come to the lovely island of Bozcaada, ask for "Betsy Hanım with the dogs" and someone will tell you where I am. You will always be welcomed with open arms. . "

Betsy Göksel

"Hayatımızın en güzel yıllarını yaşadığımız bu sevgili yuvada aranızda bulunmaktan engin bir sevinç ve tatlı bir heyecan duymaktayım. Zaman sessizce bizden pek çok şeyimizi alıp götürdü. Yıllara dur diyemedik. Yalnızlığın içimizi sızlatan acısını duyarak yaşadığımız anlar da oldu.

Halbuki bir zamanlar mor salkımların açtığı ilkbahar sabahları ne güzel kokardı değil mi? Bereketli nisan yağmurları ormana ne güzel yağdı. Lapa lapa yağan kar tanelerinin sessiz musikisini dinlediğimiz saatler ne güzeldi değil mi? Bir daha geri dönülmesi mümkün olmayan sınıflarımız, sıralarımız, sınav günlerinin heyecanları. AVARE gençlik yılları. Onlar artık içimizde hiç solmayacak hatıralar olarak daima yaşayacaklardır. Temelinde insan sevgisi bulunan kuruluşlar sonsuza dek ayakta kalacaklar, yarınlara ışık tutacaklardır. Yüzyılı aşkın bir zamandır Robert Kolej ve Robert Kolejliler Türk toplum hayatında daima en önde yer almışlardır. Bu gün büyük sorumlulukların insanları olarak yaşadığınızı biliyorum, başarılarınıza seviniyor, her zaman sizlerle gurur duyuyorum. Her zaman aranızda olmak ve sizlerle yaşamak ne güzel.

Şefik Yalçın

Contributed by Doğan Şenocak RC 78

Doğan is a Professor of Otolaryngology at İstanbul University and a part time vineyard owner/wine maker in Assos.

REUNIONS



25 Years: Cause for Celebration!

Planning a 25th reunion for our class of 1983 was a major project for the '83 class reunion committee. Planning the whole affair was almost as much fun as the reunion itself. Since the six of us (Ayşem, Serap, Gökçen, Süleyman, Esra, Alpaslan, Serra) had also done the 20th reunion we had experience, but the 20th reunion had been so remarkable and was still being talked about after 5 years that we felt the pressure to surpass ourselves. When we asked our classmates the best venue was voted to be RC and specifically Marble Hall and the dorms. The best time was the last weekend in June and finally everyone agreed unanimously that spouses should not be included in this affair!

On the evening of June 28, seventy members of our class showed up at RC, meeting by the Bridge. This time everyone recognized each other partly thanks to Facebook and partly because we had been seeing more of each other since our last big reunion in 2003. All those participating loved the Reunion Kit consisting of t-shirts, mugs, calendars, and a toiletry kit handed to them by the Welcome desk. All these items had our 25th year logo on them and had been contributed by fellow classmates.

It was an amazing get-together in many ways: Marble Hall which is an excellent setting accounted for a big part of the magic of the evening. Everyone looked their best! Everyone was in the right mood! The only setback was that Robert College only allows music until midnight. After a colorful

cocktail party and following the reunion group photos taken in the Forum we proceeded on to dinner. The dinner speaker was Biykem Bozkurt Dilcioğlu, our cardiologist friend from Houston who has been juggling a very successful and demanding career in the heart capital of the world along with being a mother of three very young kids!

Celebrating Another Major Achievement

This evening we also celebrated another achievement: our contribution to the Annual Giving Campaign. The Class of 83 had been, for the last 10 years providing a scholarship to an RC student in memory of our late friend Rafi Küçükaltunyan. As a 25th year gift to our school, we wanted a special project and Mr. Chandler gave us a real challenge to raise 100,000 USD for the Learning Management System which is a great improvement to the school's use of electronic media in support to its remarkable education.

Our very successful friend Jean Manas who has been pursuing a banking career in the US has been a great supporter of the Project and encouraged everyone to take part in raising the necessary amount. Of course the 25,000YTL scholarship was also collected.

Thus, the class of 83 became the biggest contributor to the 2007-2008 annual giving campaign.

Unfortunately Jean couldn't be there for our reunion but he sent us a taped video message of himself (in US congressman fashion) which everyone enjoyed.

Following this, we screened our 25th year video put together by our TV producer friend İpek Borucu Yücel. İpek used film footage from 1982-83, shot on campus by Yavuz Draman, an independent photographer whose name you'll often see in magazines and Hakan Erim who is a doctor-turned advertiser (interesting combination!). She also found and interviewed former faculty members Mr. Paul Hepworth, Aydın Bey and Münir Bey as well as valuable long-time members of the RC community Mr. Philips, Mr. Esposito, Hafize hanım. The product was a colorful 15 minute surprise which was special to this small group of people, because many could see themselves from years ago in shots they hadn't seen before. Footage from Field day 1982, a gathering of the debate club, crazy parties in the Boys Dormitory, a horror short film shot in the plateau, and finally our actual graduation in 1983 (filmed in betamax with one of the first home videos ever sold in Turkey by Süleyman Ertem's father) brought tears, laughter and many feelings.

It was a very emotional experience for which everyone congratulated İpek and her contributing team.

THE CURFEW: A mixed blessing

The last two hours of the dinner from 22:00-24:00 hrs (pumpkin-time for RC security) was the greatest party with the wildest dancing and amazing dj music. With everyone dancing and singing aloud for two hours straight, even if the curfew was later it wouldn't have made a difference because everyone would have dropped to the floor (many did). Then our doctor friends would have had to work treating the sick. This, assuming the doctors in the crowd were in the right

shape to exercise their professions.

The midnight curfew was a blessing in the end because everyone enjoyed the quiet hours until daybreak, chatting in the Forum, walking to the plateau, eating pizza ordered from the Bridge at 3 am. The Bingham Hall Dormitory hosted about 50 of us who enjoyed waking up to the sound of Robert College birds chirping. We couldn't help thinking how lucky our faculty were waking up like this when they had to come and teach us all those years.

Of course many of the jokes and events surrounding the dorms, shared bathrooms etc have to remain private and have been excluded from this report.

The next day by 11:00 am everyone was fresh and filled with energy and ready to meet their families at our brunch in Bizim Tepe. It was a lovely occasion, the weather warm and pleasant. The children socialized, we enjoyed each others' stories of career and parenthood. Terry Gabay Fresko shared her beauty and fitness tips. Can Erşen, our Turkish Airlines captain friend had a 23 day-old daughter to show off, while Cefi had his adorable twins. Of course those of us who had kids in their 20s were not honored by their presence!

I would like to thank everyone who participated and helped in the planning, giving their support. I am sure they think it was worth every effort. Everyone who was there agreed that these events should be held more often, and those who missed it, hopefully will keep their promises to be there next time.

Serra Soysal RC 83

REUNIONS



RC 88 Reunion

On July 4th, for the first time in their history, 85 of the RC 88 graduates gathered on the school campus for a reunion. Although other reunions had taken place at different spots, (and were quite stylish too), the 20th reunion can be referred to as the best one ever, since it outnumbered the previous ones, and exceeded them in joy, and intensity.

Most of us arrived at RC during the late afternoon, settled in the dorms, and took our drinks at the Forum, welcoming everyone who showed up with great cheers. No one had a hard time remembering each other, since as a class, we have somehow kept in touch, and also amazingly people have stayed the same, except for a tall handsome guy with thinning hair, and a broad smile. To everyone's surprise he turned out to be Levent Kahraman.

That night, we as class, kept our cool, and didn't dig too much into each other's current lives. Instead we lived moments of true happiness, derived from reuniting. All faces were lit up, the campus looked magical. Alcohol limits were far exceeded, (blame it on the pretty bar-maids) and there was even some dancing along with many hugs. At midnight the school took some preemptive action and cut out all the electricity, so that we couldn't secretly keep playing more music. Thus, we continued our night on the plateau. At around 4 in the morning, those who could find the way, headed to the dorms for a short nap. In the morning most of us were ready for a great breakfast.

The reunion was put together in a very short period, the food and the service were impeccable, thanks to Alparslan, RC83. A good amount of funds was raised for a scholarship in the name of our beloved friend Gaye Eslen RC 88, who passed away on the 5th of June 2008.

I thank all my friends, who came from all over the world, for sharing this irreplaceable memory. And dear Gaye, rest in peace.

Riva Şalhon RC 88



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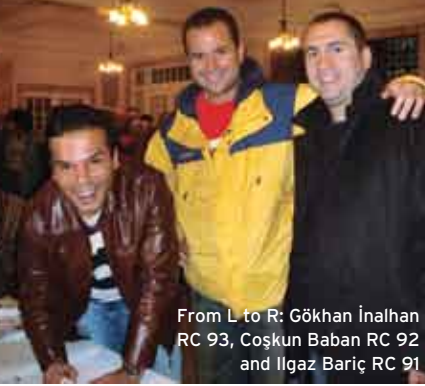
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From L to R: Gökhan İnalhan RC 93, Coşkun Baban RC 92 and İlgaz Bariç RC 91



Füsün Dobra ACG 41 was one of the eldest of the female graduates present at HC.



Aslı Kubilay and Sırma Sevand, both RC 93



From L to R: RC 98 members Ertan Akdağ, Berke Göl and Haluk Koçak



The oldest graduate present at HC was Selim Ayrıl, RC 35. Selim Bey has been winning this title for quite a few years now.



Ahmet Eker RC 92 with his son Ali and his classmate Bora Tekay.



Members of the Parents association joined us that day too. Tuba Tengiz and Ela Sürmeli



Former faculty members Emel Güveniş and Nihal Pulat, ACG 47



ACG 58 in the Faculty Parlor: From L to R: Yüksel Şınikoğlu, Ayşe Akpınar, Nuran Aslan, Aysun Balın, Mersa Gökbakan, Ülkü Gözüm ve Gülteğ Gomeç



Members of the Class of 44, Tuna Baltacıoğlu



From L to R: Adil İzci, Nuran Demircioğlu, Ece Demircioğlu and Aydın Urgan



One of the oldest female graduates was Tuğça Akaygen, ACG 41.



From L to R: Ümit Aşma RC 08, Özgür Bozçağa RC 03, İzzet Dodurgalı and Mert Önen RC 03.



Members of the RC Orchestra singing the RC school song along with the audience.



Güçlü Gürsoy RC 93 with daughter Bahar



From L to R: Aysu Arısoy RC 04, Nazlı Gizem Özbek RC 04, Nilüfer Oygucu RC 06 and Burçin Güçlü RC 06



RC 2008 strikes a pose: From L to R: Ece Çalı, Tansu Dalyan, Faruk Pınar, Beğüm Alankuş, Pelin Doğan, Cihat İmamoğlu, Kaan Karakeber, Furkan Kaya



Baran Uncu RC 92 with his daughter Neva.



Rina Kapuya and Claus Cadorette with Catherine Jaffee



From L to R: Cemre Birand, Fatış Gölğün, Nazan Akpınar and Ayşe Baturay, all ACG 64



From L to R: Aret Taşçıyan RA 71, Hidayet Özdemir RA 71, Münir Aysu, Mahmut Hortaçsu RA 62 and Asım Demir RC 82



Phillip Esposito with former students from the Class of 89.



From L to R: Deniz Taşer RC 96, Ali İspanhani RC 96 and Mine Arslanbek



From L to R: Üzeyir Necipoğlu RC 47, Behzat Rizvani RC 49, Erdal Osman Sağmanlı RC 47 and Oğuz Dağdelen RC 47.



One of our favorite scenes at Homecoming: Reunion of teacher Yıldız Düzköylü and Zeynep Geçer RC 08.



From L to R: Berke Göl, Ertan Akdağ and Haluk Koçak, all from RC 98



The Class of 58 celebrated their 50th reunion

Nesime Moralı ACG 29

A very special person in the history of ACG and RC, ACG 29 graduate and first director of the Alumni Office, Nesime Moralı is our oldest living graduate that we know of. Nesime hanım who ran the Alumni Office for 15 years, starting in 1957, celebrated her 99th birthday this past July. Despite her advanced age, Nesime Hanım's memory continues to be amazing and she would welcome calls from the RC community. She lives in Akatlar, Istanbul with an assistant who takes care of her at her home. She can be reached through her assistant Ayşe Hanım at (212) 351 6149.



Uğur Ersoy RC Eng 55

Prof. Ersoy has been writing short stories/memoirs in addition to his technical written work. His seventh short story/memoir "Gördüklerim, Duyduklarım, Düşündüklerim" (What I've Seen, Heard and Thought Of) was published in the spring of 2008. His previous book "Erguvan Renkli Yıllar" (Judas Tree Coloured Years) was about his memories of Robert College between 1951-1955. Prof. Ersoy joined ODTÜ (Middle Eastern Technical University in Ankara) during its founding years and served for 47 years at the institution. He was Department Chairman, Dean and Vice President during different stages of his service. Since 2006 he has been teaching at the Department of Civil Engineering of Istanbul's Boğaziçi University. Ersoy's books can be purchased from Boğaziçi Kitapevi in Uçaksavar, Etiler or Evrim Kitapevi, Kadıköy İş Merkezi, Tel: 0216 347 4963.

Walter W. Arndt RC Eng 1943

The Sherman Fairchild Professor of Humanities Emeritus has been teaching Russian Lang. & Lit., Comparative Linguistics and Classics at Dartmouth College, in Hanover NH. where he lives with his wife Miriam Bach Arndt, ACG 44. He spends most of his time reading, translating, writing his memoirs, and keeping in touch with their children, grandchildren and great-grand-children.

Miriam Bach Arndt (aka Sophie Bach) ACG 44

Miriam has been tutoring learning disabled children and for. languages at a private prep. school in Meriden, NH. She is continues to tutor at her home based office, plays tennis, soccer, loves rowing on the Connecticut, gardening and has recently taken up ice skating. With the recent steep rise of gasoline, she is doubly happy to continue driving her Honda motorcycle in and out of town.

Gülin Aköz RC 87

World traveller Gülin got married on February 29, 2008. At present she is on her second tour of the world, a journey she started in August 2008. When she wrote to the RCQ in early August, Gülin said that preferably this tour would be a done without airplanes. She planned to take off in a catamaran from Marmaris, head to Cyprus, Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, Yemen, the Maldives, Sri Lanka, Nicobar Islands, Malaysia and Thailand. After visiting Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos she planned to take a cargo ship from South Korea to



the shores of South or North America. One way or another her aim is to cross the Panama Canal by sea. The last leg of the trip will include a journey on a cruise ship to Europe and then back to Turkey.

When this magazine reaches you, who knows where Gülin will be? To find out you can visit www.gulinakoz.com



Okan Atilla RC 90

Welcome Baby Sinan!

Okan and Yelda welcomed their first child at 8:20 am on Wednesday, 27 August 2008. Little Rahmi Sinan Atilla, named after his late grandfather, weighed 3.66 kilos and measured 50 cm.

Emine Fetvacı RC 92

Emine, Assistant Professor at the Department of Art History, Boston University as of September 2007, was recently selected as a Peter Paul Career Development Professor. According to the congratulatory letter dated September 2008 and signed by the University Provost David K. Campbell, this professorship was awarded "competitively to the very best young faculty at Boston University, irrespective of discipline". The letter went on to say, "The nomination by your dean and your selection from among such a distinguished group of faculty is indicative of your current and future promise".

After RC, Emine completed Williams College in June 1996 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree magna cum laude, in Art History and Economics, concentration in African and Middle Eastern Studies. She went on to complete her Ph.D. in History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University in May 2005, with a major in Islamic Art and Minor in Byzantine Art.



Alican Ayanlar RC 94

Başak Demirel and Alican Ayanlar RC 94, got married on June 28th, 2008 in Bodrum, where they met 14 years earlier. The wedding was attended by many of their friends from high school and college. Alican is a graduate of Boston University's College of Communications with a BS degree in Television Programming & Management. Following his undergraduate studies, he returned to Istanbul to work for Doğu Media Group, helping in starting and developing NTV International and CNBC-e. Başak attended Babson College following her graduation from Üsküdar American Academy in 1996. For the past 2 years, Alican has been with the Çukurova Media Group. The couple now lives in Kiev. Alican is the group's country representative in Ukraine where he is starting up a television channel. They can be reached at: alican.ayanlar@gmail.com and basakdemirel@gmail.com.



Pınar Arı Şentüğ RC 96

Pınar and Ozan Şentüğ, welcomed their first born: Timur Şentüğ. He was born on the October 29th at 7:30 am, following 9 hours of labor. Timur was 53 cm tall, and weighed 3.930 kilograms. Congratulations to the happy couple!

Defne Yavuz RC 96

Defne and Emre Kazancıoğlu got married on October 12, 2008 at Portaxe Baltalimani in Istanbul. Defne is a graduate of Galatasaray University and has a master's degree in Business Management from Cambridge University. Following graduate school, she worked for Procter & Gamble, London, and is currently working as a consultant for Price Waterhouse Coopers. Emre is an ODTU graduate with an MSc and a PhD from the University of Michigan. He is currently working as an investment banker at Morgan Stanley in London. Before joining Morgan Stanley, Emre worked in the financial modelling department at Ernst & Young, London, and conducted research on strategy and technology management at the University of Cambridge. The couple lives in London.

Defne can be reached at defneyavuz@gmail.com.



Işık Güngen RC 2000

Enabled a wonderful contribution to Robert College by suggesting Robert College for a grant from his company, Ocean Partners USA, Inc. Ocean Partners USA is a company that offers a range of trading services for miners, smelters, refiners and metal consumers around the globe. The company's managers have decided to donate part of their 2007 income to charitable causes, and Isik has nominated Robert College for a grant. Allowing grants to charities is a common practice among companies, and through the help of the employees, Robert College could be the recipient of such grants.

In the past organizations such as Bank of New York Mellon and J. P. Morgan have made grants to Robert College upon the suggestions of their employees. Grants are only one of the ways in which companies support charitable causes important to their employees. Many companies also offer matching gifts programs, in which they match the charitable donations of their employees by a pre-determined factor. Matching gifts often result in the doubling of the initial gift, increasing the value of your gift. Next time you hear that your company is planning to make charitable donations, please keep in mind that Robert College might benefit greatly from these grants. Thank you Işık for taking this step.

Onur Bilgili RC 01

Onur wrote to the RCQ to share what he has been up to since RC. "After RC I attended the visual arts program at Bard College, NY. Due to a year of dissatisfaction from freshman arts program, I decided not to study arts anymore, though still determined in pursuing a career in art. My father had always insisted that I take over our family business in international market development consultancy, which made me consider studying business as a next step.

I traveled around in Africa for a while. My favorite was Eritrea, with its cone shaped steep mountains and beautiful city of Asmara where good pizza and espresso await. Oh!..and the port city of Massawa! If

you go there, be warned! The stuff you see on the menu are not appetizers, they are 5 person meals! Do not be fooled by their price and have a mountain of food piled on your table like I did!

When I got back to Turkey I decided to learn Spanish, which would give me an advantage in international business. I went to Malaga to learn the language and stayed for about 4 months. I came back for the summer and took classes at Boğaziçi on neuroscience and technology. Later that year, since I had fallen in love with Spain and wanted to develop my language skills, I went on to study international business at Suffolk University's Madrid campus.



I was introduced to electronic music by its masters at Madrid's outrageous club scene. Making electronic music has since been my favorite hobby. In 2004, I joined my father in Africa, doing market and supplier research for the company for almost a year. I gained valuable experience in international business while building my first business connections. Meanwhile my music gained reputation in underground scenes, and I was offered an album while working overseas. Unfortunately I never produced finished versions of the songs, so the album never got released. Instead I formed a new band with some infamous RC 01 graduates and continue making music with them. I transferred my courses to Bilkent University Faculty of Management to study business administration in 2005. While at Bilkent, I had to take over the family business in mid 2006 due to my father's health issues, taking a leave of absence from school until 2007. My father returned to work in 2007, and I continued being involved with our business, especially concerning incomplete projects I had started. Aiming to make up for time lost, I took extra classes each semester and attended summer school. I graduated from Bilkent this summer. I now aim to find a position in a global company to develop my skills and gain expertise in global supply chains. I still am deeply involved in many forms of art and I am also making plans to produce Turkey's first uncensored entertainment channel. The talk-show's name is "Çilingir Sofrası"! If you have ideas, or want to collaborate, please contact me via email: onurbilgili@hotmail.com "



Canan Çetinkaya RC 04

Intern doctor Canan is at her fifth year at Yeditepe University, Faculty of Medicine. In the spring of 2008 Canan was at the New York Presbyterian Hospital of Columbia University as a Visiting Medical Student at the department of Cardiothoracic Surgery. She was one of only two people from all over the world accepted to this department. Between May and June she worked on Prof. Dr. Mehmet Öz's team. When she returned, upon Öz's recommendation, Canan participated in a seminar conducted in Istanbul by Prof. Dr. Mehmet Öz, Doç. Dr. Özgen Doğan, Dr. Jülide Tok Çelebi and Dr. Hasan İnel , "Discover Healthy Living, Stay Young" .

Berke Özücer RC 04

Berke is a fifth year student at Istanbul University Cerrahpaşa Faculty of Medicine. He has been running as a hobby for the past five years, but this year he decided to turn his passion into a community involvement project. He plans to participate in the Runtalya Marathon to be held on March 8th, 2009 in Antalya and aims to finish the 42 km long course under 3.5 hours. His main objective is to raise money and awareness for the Spinal Paralysis Foundation Turkey, and make it possible to buy wheelchairs equipped with accumulators that cost 2000 YTL per piece. Berke became familiar with the charity run concept when he crossed paths with the Adım Adım Oluşumu - AAO (Step by Step Organization). In the 2008 charity run, 250 runners participated and helped raise 142.000 YTL. This provided 71 disabled people in need, with wheelchairs. Berke is not the only RC alum to participate in this community involvement project: Yavuz Abadan RC 87, Mehmet Arıoğlu RC 96 and Gündüz Aydınlar RC 71 are also involved members of the group. Berke is asking the RC Community to support him by visiting his website www.berkeozucer.com. For more on Adım Adım, visit www.adimadim.org



Faculty & Friends

David Porter

Former teacher of English at RC between 1953-55, Head of the English Department between 1957-59 and Housemaster of Theodoros Hall, at present Porter is a Prof. Emeritus of English at the University of Massachusetts. Since his retirement from UMass in 1991, he continues to work with students and lectures throughout the world. Porter was



recently featured in the Amherst Bulletin on Aug. 22, 2008 for an honor he received from colleagues. Excerpts from the Amherst Bulletin: Porter was the recipient of a rare honor, a festschrift. The term, borrowed from German, denotes a book created by colleagues for a respected academic to celebrate the depth and breadth of his contributions to his field. "He has done so much for Dickinson scholarship," said Margaret Freeman, a director of the Myrfield Institute for Cognition and the Arts in Heath, who coordinated the creation of the manuscript. "So many people said to me, "One thing that characterizes David is his kindness and his generosity in reaching out to students." Porter began his first serious encounter with the works of Emily Dickinson when he was a graduate student in literature and literary theory himself at the University of

Rochester. His doctoral dissertation became the 1966 book "The Art of Emily Dickinson's Early Poetry" (Harvard University Press), followed in 1981 by the book "Dickinson: The Modern Idiom." He organized the first international Dickinson conference in Amherst in 1980, a precursor to the E.D.I.S. The 115-page festschrift, titled "Lay This Laurel," from a version of the poem Dickinson sent to Thomas Wentworth Higginson in 1877 in remembrance of her father, includes scholarly essays, poems and tributes from colleagues and former students. In her epistolical dedication, Dickinson scholar Polly Longworth wrote, "But for you, I would not know Emily Dickinson. We would be well acquainted biographically and through loving her incredible poems, but without your books I couldn't begin to understand her mind - how she approached her art and how she worked with it and transformed it. "You were at the heart of a period of greatness, setting a standard that still holds in defining Dickinson's world and identifying the language and method by which she interpolated life." The book includes a brief biography of Porter, which notes his Fulbright teaching assignments in eight different countries, and his role as consultant to the Smithsonian Institution and Folger Shakespeare Library. He has been a Senior Research Fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities, a Guggenheim Fellow, and resident scholar of the Rockefeller Foundation, Bellagio, Italy.



Vanessa Johnson

Former Director of Drama Vanessa Johnson gave birth to daughter Lila Johnson-Çakır on night, April, 28, 2008. Lila is a healthy 8.7 pounds and 52cm long She's a big one! Our congratulations to proud parents Vanessa and Sabahattin.

Daisy Franco Skendi, ACG 34

Daisy Skendi died of natural causes on September 17, 2008 at the age of 94 in New York City. She was a psychoanalyst with the Institute for Psychoanalytic Training and Research. As part of this for over 60 years, she served as Dean of the Institute, teacher and psychoanalyst, researcher and author. She was the widow of Stavro Skendi RC 28, who died in August 1989. He was a professor at Columbia University from 1954 until his retirement in 1972.

Peter S. Akraboff RC Eng 39

Died at the age of 91. Mr. Akraboff was a graduate of Robert College and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he did graduate work in engineering. He worked for the Austin Company of Cleveland from 1945 until his retirement in 1980 where he was project engineer of many local and national projects. Mr. Akraboff maintained an affinity for his birthplace of Bulgaria throughout his years and visited his family there often. His determination and spirited enthusiasm will be greatly missed by all who loved him. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Robert College of Istanbul, 520 Eighth Ave., North Tower, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10018, or Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 3164, Boston, MA 02241-3164 would be appreciated.



He is survived by his wife of 65 years Imogene, son Peter S, Akraboff Jr. and daughters Linda Nintcheff (Peter) and Vanya J. Akraboff as well as 7 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Mr. Akraboff's sister Ivanka was also a graduate of ACG 31. Elizabeth Scipio Fisher, ACG 33, from Ohio, a good friend of the family, told the RCQ that Mr. Akraboff was a student of her father's (Lynn A. Scipio) and that he was the last Bulgarian student to graduate from RC Engineering.

Celadet İyaz RC 42

Passed away on June 12, 2008 in Istanbul. Following his graduation from RC, he studied law at Istanbul University and worked as a lawyer for the rest of his life. In the RC record, his philosophy of life was: "Takdire ilaç eyleyemez olsa felatün Elbette olur her ne ise emri mukadder." His classmate and friend



of 65 years, Alaatin Güneysu wrote, "With his silent and distinguished personality as a 'Istanbul Efendisi' (A gentleman of Istanbul), he won the appreciation of his classmates. His true and pleasant friendship will live in our hearts forever...May he rest in peace." Celadet İyaz is survived by his wife Sevim.

Renate Hirsch Galli, ACG 46

Died in California on August 19, 2008. After receiving her M.S. in Chemistry from the University of Vermont, Renate worked for the cosmetic industry in New York City before moving to Southern California. She was predeceased by her husband Herman Galli and her sister Julia Maria Hirsch Eppenstein, ACG 43. She is survived by her daughter Heidi, her granddaughters Dana and Dannielle and her brother-in-law Walter Eppenstein, RC Eng 42.

Sevim Durukan ACG 48

Passed away on March 18, 2008. She is survived by her son Ziya T. Akgün, her daughter Hanzade Deniz Alp and her four grandchildren as well as her sister Güler Durukan ACG 50.

Mustafa Zeki Hisim RC Eng

Mustafa Zeki Hisim, 80, an electrical engineer with Bechtel Corp., died of pneumonia May 30, 2008 at Potomac Valley Nursing and Wellness Center in Rockville.

Mr. Hisim worked for Bechtel for 38 years and retired in 1993. He was born in Istanbul and served in the Turkish Army as an officer. He graduated from Robert College of Istanbul and received a master's degree in engineering from the University of Texas in 1955.

He joined Bechtel and worked in multiple locations, including at the Turkey Point power plant near Homestead, Fla., and Calvert Cliffs Power Plant in Lusby. He moved to the Washington area in 1963 and lived mostly in Derwood. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Buget Hisim of Derwood; four children, Nusret Hisim of Frederick, Nilufer Hisim Grove of Cumberland, Ahmet Hisim of Baltimore and Ayse Hisim Yeaton of Olney; and five grandchildren.

Ersin Faralyalı RC 58

Mehmet Ersin Faralyalı, a former minister and prominent industrialist, passed away in Istanbul on July 6, 2008, from cancer. He was 69. He was born in 1939 and after studying at Robert College, attended Ege University's Faculty of Economics. As a businessman, he served in various leadership positions at the Aegean Regional Chamber of Industry, Turkey's Chambers and Bourses Association, the Economic Development Foundation and TUSIAD. He was elected Izmir MP for the True Path Party (DYP) in the 19th Parliament and served as Energy Minister from 1991-1993 under Süleyman Demirel. Faralyalı is survived by his brother Hikmet Faralyalı, RA 64 and two sons Ahmet and Serdar Faralyalı,

OBITUARIES



Necdet Arif Güpgüpoğlu RA 63, RC Eng 67

Passed away on Aug. 17, 2008 at the age of 62. He is survived by his wife Tülin Güpgüpoğlu.

Afşin Berköz RA 67

Passed away in October 2008.

"Another star has faded at the age of 59, RA 67 has lost another life. Afşin was buried in Fethiye this afternoon, as he had requested. While he worked, he travelled frequently and was never able to call one place home. He appeased that yearning with a home and boat on Sovalye island in Fethiye, and he did not want to be separated from them. I went through his photographs to find one for this letter. There wasn't a single one of him looking unsmiling. The only time he ever got angry was when Lili teased him about his Bob Dylan passion - he played his songs on the guitar- saying 'How could you even mention Bob Dylan when there's Elvis'. I will never forget his smile, his optimism, his great struggle against cancer, his joy. We have lost a good friend, a good Fenerbahçe'li and most importantly, a good human being. May he rest in peace."

Contributed by Rint Akyüz RA 67



Nurder Çalışal Erturan AÇG 67

We lost our friend in the Spring of 2008, during the Wisteria season. Most of us met Nurder Çalışal in Orta Prep. With her luminous eyes and shy smile, Nurder was very special. She was fragile and sensitive, but also strong and steady! In the words of her brother Sander Çalışal:

Ne Vardı Hazır bahar
gelmişken Erguvanlar iç açıcı eflatun,
Küçük Su, Kanlıca Dört adım ötede Ne vardı ayrılacak!
Ne vardı bırakıp gitmeye Hazır çocuklar büyümüş, Vaktin bol.



Gül börekler çayla beraber, Boğaza karşı olmak varken,
Ne vardı bu yolculuğa?
Datçanın suları ılık, Yumuşak kumları,
Sırt üstü yüzmek varken Ne vardı bu yalnızlığa!
Ruhsal beraberlik varken, Gülebilmek geçmişe,
Özenmek geleceğe. Torunlarını kucaklamak dururken,
Ne vardı yok olmaya?
Ne vardı Nur kardeşim, Bizi sensiz bırakmakta?
Kucaklanmak varken, Sensiz bir eve gelmeyi öğrenmek,
Gülüşünü, parıltılı gözlerini özlemekte.
Ne vardı Yarabbim, ne vardı ?
We will never forget this girl, who took the small ferry from Kandilli to come to school in Arnautköy every morning...

Contributed by Nurder's Classmates

Emre Çökelez RC 72

Passed away in the fall of 2008.

Emre managed to constantly surprise us with his unique personality, abundant self-confidence, courage and high goals. He was a very special person who believed in changing the world, adventure and taking risks. He adapted to any role, never took any rule seriously and lived his life like a theater play. He managed to turn every class he was in into a "hababam sınıfı" comedy. The College community has lost a very special individual very early. I'm sure he had much left to do.

Contributed by Vitali Elkabeş, RC 72

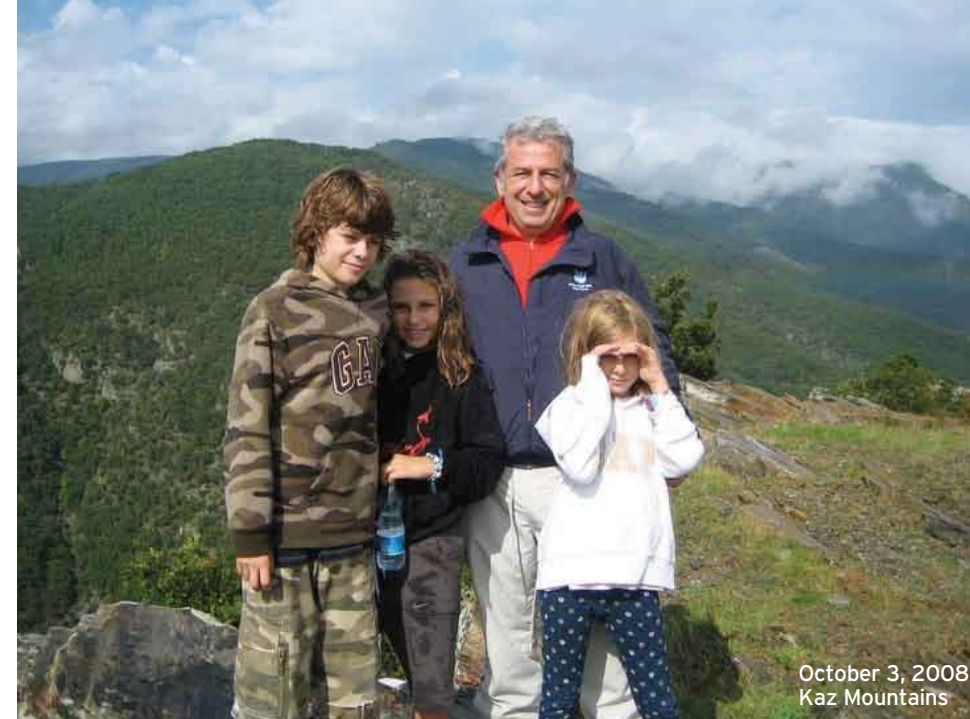
Esat Edin RC 78

Esat and his three children died in a tragic accident on the night of October 3, 2008. Esat (48) was on a camping trip at the foot of the Kaz Mountains with his son Cem (11) and daughters Serra (10) and Aliye (7). None of them survived the flash flood that occurred because of unprecedented rainfall at the mountain top many miles away. Ironically, there had been no rain at the campsite where Esat and his three children were sleeping.

After finishing the Orta division at Robert College, Esat attended the Millfield School in the UK and graduated from Yale University with a BA in Philosophy in 1981. He made his career in real estate development, and paved the way for new neighborhoods in the Kemerburgaz area as the founder of Kemer Country and the Kemer Golf and Country Club.

Esat's wife and mother of their four children, Mehpare T. Edin had passed away on March 19, 2008 after a 3 year battle with colon cancer. Esat is survived by his oldest son Murat S. Edin aged 13 who was not with his family on the camping trip. Esat is also survived by two sisters Leyla Aktay RC 72 and Belkis Emory, brother Rifat Edin and their father Ahmet Şeci Edin RC 47.

Esat will be remembered as a visionary and a loving family man. His family and many friends will treasure wonderful memories of him - his great sense of humor, his ability to make anything fun, his creativity, his boundless energy, his



October 3, 2008
Kaz Mountains

enormous heart and lusty approach to life, his capacity to be interested in utterly anything, his flair for connecting with people of all ages, his infectious enthusiasm and most of all his bright shining smile.

Contributions in his memory can be made to the RC scholarship fund: Garanti Bankası Bebek (branch code 211) Acct No. 629 9792 or by calling Robert College offices : 0212 263 42 39 Istanbul, 0212 843 5550 New York.

Gaye Eslen Özerkan RC 88

Died on June 5th 2008, after a three week struggle in the ICU. She succumbed to septic shock leading to multiple organ failure. She was 37 years old.

The previous sentence is still a surreal one to write. Death is so unbecoming of Gaye, at her prime, at a time we all saw and expected so much more from her: A loving wife, the devoted general secretary of a leading NGO, a successful business consultant, a volunteer of various civic organizations, an art lover and supporter, and soon to be a proud aunt. Gaye managed to do all of these, and much more in 37 years.

Gaye spent her childhood living in various parts of the world and became multi-lingual before her entry to RC high school in 1985. She graduated from RC in 1988, and from Boğaziçi University Industrial Engineering in 1992. She completed her MS in Operations Research at the Universite Libre de Bruxelles in 1993 and received her MBA from City University London in 1996. After many years working as a business consultant, she quit professional life in 2005 to focus all her energy on civic work. She was most passionate about women's and youth empowerment issues and



Turkish-EU relations.

Contrary to her fair and fragile physical appearance, Gaye was a brilliant, strong-willed, powerful, dedicated and radiant woman. She always juggled multiple hats, always trying to fit in much more than one life can handle, as if she knew...

It is both a relief and a frustration to know that she was at her happiest, her most content in the last years of her life; finally doing what she most wanted to do with the support of her loving husband Cenk.

When we gathered around for her funeral, the disbelief and deep sense of loss was the common bond. She was so full

of life that accepting her departure was very hard to grasp. After a crowded and emotional ceremony, we buried her in a serene and peaceful cemetery in Beylerbeyi, next to her loving "büyükbaba". Her departure is the hardest to cope with for her mother, Şule, her father, Nejat, her husband Cenk, and her sister Hande. And for us, her friends who survive her death, we come to realize that we will never be able to think of Italy and not think of her, get together with friends and not hear her voice, see a ladybug and not feel her presence... And as long as we keep on thinking and hearing and feeling, we know that she will live on as our friend and as an aunt for our children.

Contributed by Senem Başyurt

Alp Ger RC 06 Ex

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of Alp Ger on 21 July, a former Robert College student, Alp came into Lise Prep in 2001 but withdrew from Robert College in 2004 in his L10 year. He is survived by his parents Esen Tabar and Can Ger and his sister Ece Ger. May he rest in peace.



Faculty & Friends



Mehmet Ünal

History teacher at RC from 1969 to 1979, Mehmet Ünal passed away on May 16, 2008. He is survived by his wife Zuhar Ünal and sons Yavuz and Orhan Ünal. Mehmet bey was a graduate of the University of Ankara, Department of Language and History. Apart from teaching history at RC, he was also sometime advisor for the Classical Turkish Music Club.

Irina Maslenikoff

Affectionately known as Ira, Irina Maslenikoff died in Istanbul in September 2008. She worked as an Orta School secretary from Oct. 1987 to June 1991. Ever cheerful and always impeccably dressed, Ira's colorful presence will be sorely missed. She is survived by her daughter Tamara, her son-in-law Herman Salmasli and her grand-daughter Caroline.



as chairman of The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center in New York—a particular passion—and as a director of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. For 17 years, he was a trustee of the Nightingale Bamford School, also in New York City, and also served as trustee for Robert College in Istanbul, Turkey, the New York Community Trust, and the Stuart Family Foundation, a private foundation based outside of Chicago. In a written tribute, Sotheby's CEO Bill Ruprecht said: "I cannot ever fully express my gratitude for the gifts and role Don has contributed in our lives at Sotheby's. At our times of greatest challenge, in the late 1990s and then from 2000 forward, Don became a unique natural guide and leader, helping us pick through challenges, and create solutions. His enormous grace, integrity and experience in many ways allowed me to be optimistic and believe in our future as an organization and community, when our situation was more than pretty difficult.

Carolyn McElroy

Passed away in Texas in early July, 2008.

"A phone call came with the sad news of Carolyn McElroy's death just as I was leaving the house to go to the 35th reunion of the class of '73. It helped to be able to share my sadness with these wonderful "girls," many of whom had had the fortune to be her student. For it was a fortune. Carolyn was an unforgettable individual—feisty, strong-willed, passionate, and above all, courageous. Handicapped from polio in her adolescence, Carolyn limped, but never stumbled. She never allowed her handicap to curtail her love for adventure and travel. Even in her last years, when she was confined to a wheelchair, she continued her travels—to Alaska, to South America, to Prague. Carolyn taught English at ACG from 1966-79. After she returned to USA, she settled in Texas and had various teaching jobs—one with juvenile delinquent teenage girls - and doing volunteer work in zoos and with animal rights groups. But her time in Turkey at the "Girls' School" remained prime in her heart. She made many visits to Turkey, keeping up with old friends. Her enthusiasm, her sense of humor, her intense convictions, and her courage made her an inspiration for us all. The Robert College community has lost yet another strong, independent spirit who instilled in her girls this same spirit."

Contributed by Betsy Göksel

Donaldson C. Pillsbury

The family and friends of Don Pillsbury, RC Trustee since 2002, mourn the loss of a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend. Don died of heart failure in Old Lyme, Connecticut on Thursday, June 12th, 2008. He was 67. He was a chairman of Sotheby's North and South America and former worldwide general counsel and executive vice president of Sotheby's. Before that he was a senior partner (1967-1993) at the law firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell.

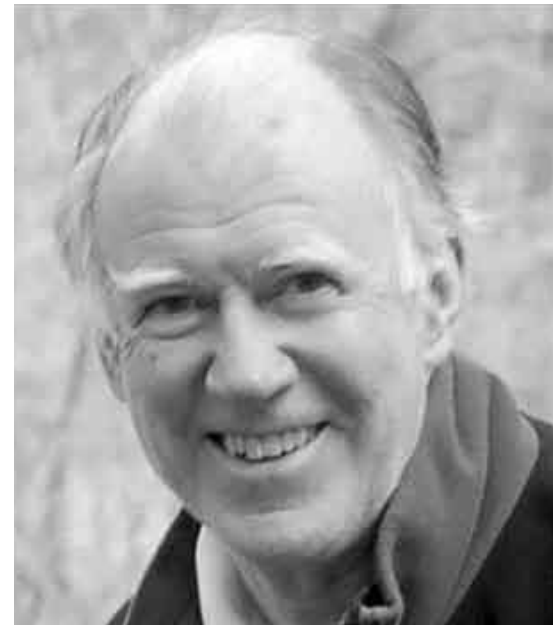
In addition to his professional work, Don pursued a wide variety of personal business and non-profit interests. He served

Because Don was always so lovely, amiable and fun to be with personally, he had an enormous group of friends all over the world. His warmth, humor and classiness have been so wonderful for me to enjoy through our work, and will outlive all of us as an inspiration of what constitutes a good and decent man."

Don will be remembered for his utter integrity, his lovely humor, his passion for music, good wine, Cheetos. He loved the outdoors, biking, skiing, hiking, and sailing. We lovingly remember his incredible generosity and joy in simple things, the family, the garden, the silly cards, obscure gifts and collectibles—often acquired on E-Bay.

He is survived by his wife Marnie, his children Donaldson Clark Pillsbury, Jr. and his wife Skye, Blair Pillsbury Enders and her husband Jack, Wendy Pillsbury Eichmann and her husband Chris, and his five grandchildren Tyler and Sam Eichmann, Nicholas and Marian Enders, and Clark Pillsbury. His siblings John S. Pillsbury III, L. Harrison Pillsbury, and Katharine Jose also survive him. A memorial service was held on Monday, June 23 in New York.

Condolence notes may be sent to his wife Marnie Pillsbury at 1100 Park Avenue, New York 10128, USA.



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“birebir bankacılık”



Bire Bin Hizmet...

Siz özelsiniz. Yatırım ihtiyaçlarınız ve beklentileriniz de... İşte bu yüzden, size ve ihtiyaçlarınıza özel, bire bin hizmet veren bir bankacılık anlayışıyla hizmetinizdeyiz: “birebir bankacılık”. İhtiyaçlarınıza en uygun yatırım seçeneklerini sunarak, size özel çözümler üretiyoruz. Hizmet birebir, çözüm birebir...