


# IAUMED

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE

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Zeynep AKYAR

**Editör**
Gökçe DURUMAN

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Gökçe DURUMAN


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ISTANBUL AYDIN UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION


İSTANBUL AYDIN
ISTANBUL AYDIN UNIVERSITY
• 2003 •



# FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Dear Alumni and Valued Readers,**

The true strength of a university lies far beyond the boundaries of its campus and is measured by the impact its alumni make in various areas of life. The Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association Journal aims to highlight the role of the qualified human resources we have nurtured—who keep our university's culture alive across the globe—in social, cultural, and economic life. It provides our alumni with a common platform where they can share their knowledge, professional journeys, and achievements with one another.

The attitudes our alumni demonstrate in academia, the business world, and social life are the fundamental elements that strengthen Istanbul Aydın University's institutional identity. IAÜMED, in turn, serves as a vital link that keeps this shared memory alive and reinforces a sense of belonging. This strong bond brings together the experiences of the past with the vision of the future, enabling our alumni to share their stories and achievements with younger generations.

This magazine you are reading has been prepared to highlight our university's development, our alumni's accumulated knowledge, and the bond they have established with our university. To share our achievements and lead the way toward new successes, we will continue to use this platform together in the most effective way.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the preparation of this magazine and wish all our alumni, who represent the culture of Istanbul Aydın University in every field, every success.

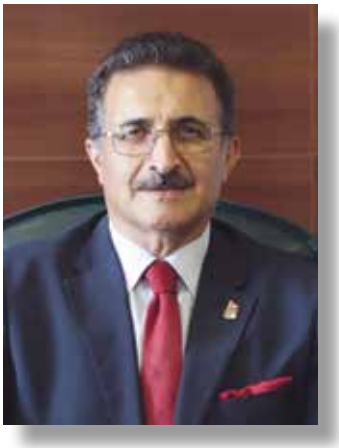
With love and respect,

**Prof. Dr. Mustafa AYDIN**

Istanbul Aydın University
Chairman of the Board of Trustees



# FROM THE RECTOR



Dear Alumni, Esteemed Members,

Since its founding, Istanbul Aydın University has aimed to be not merely an educational institution, but a large family united by shared values, empowered by knowledge, and committed to social responsibility. Today, I am deeply pleased to connect with you through the magazine of the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni and Members Association, one of the strongest bonds of this family.

Undoubtedly, our university's most valuable asset is the graduates it has nurtured. The successes our graduates have achieved in academia, the business world, the arts, science, and every sphere of society are concrete manifestations of Istanbul Aydın University's vision and educational philosophy. Similarly,all our staff members who have dedicated their efforts to our university are the unseen yet indispensable architects of this success.

This magazine is a valuable communication platform that bridges the past and the present, strengthens our sense of belonging, and further solidifies the bond between our alumni and our university. Every success story, every experience, and every perspective shared here will contribute to our shared memory; it will open the door to new collaborations, new ideas, and new hopes.

At Istanbul Aydın University, we believe that our connection with our graduates does not end with graduation. You will always be a part of this university. Our doors are always open to your ideas, projects, and contributions. We remain steadfast in our commitment to becoming a university that grows and strengthens alongside our graduates, and moves toward the future with greater confidence.

I would like to thank the board of the Alumni and Affiliates Association, the journal's editorial team, and all our alumni who contributed to this meaningful publication. I hope this journal will further strengthen the bond between our university and our alumni; I wish all our alumni and affiliates good health, success, and well-being

**Prof. Dr. İbrahim Hakkı AYDIN**
Rector of Istanbul Aydın University





# FROM THE PRESIDENT OF İAÜMED

The journey I began 22 years ago as an employee dedicated to the mission of Istanbul Aydın University has led me to a position of great responsibility and honor: the presidency of the İAÜMED Association. Having witnessed firsthand the development, culture, and values of our university throughout this long journey provides a solid foundation for the steps we take today. This accumulated experience from the past enables us to shape our vision for the future with greater strength and determination.

As we take office alongside our new management team, we accept the dedicated work of previous administrations with great respect; our goal is to build upon this strong legacy. Every step taken, every connection forged, and every project implemented to date has laid the foundation for the institutional strength that IAÜMED possesses today. We have set out on this journey to preserve this legacy and develop innovative projects that will take it even further.

"In this new era, we aim to strengthen our ties with our alumni—who play active roles in academia, the business world, and social life—and enhance our association's influence, thereby making the İAÜMED brand more visible through strong bonds, with a focus on quality and sustainability."

As President of IAÜMED, I believe that we will move forward with confidence through a management philosophy that strengthens a culture of solidarity, prioritizes social contribution, and acts with collective wisdom. Because we believe in the value of creating together and growing stronger together. As long as we preserve our unity, I wholeheartedly believe that we will build a future that is more secure, more hopeful, and stronger. As the President of IAÜMED, I believe that with a management philosophy that values solidarity and social contribution and moves forward with collective wisdom, we will proceed with confidence, and by producing and growing stronger together, we will build a future that is more solid and powerful.

With love and respect...

**Dr. Öğretim Üyesi Özgül YAMAN**
President of the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

The Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association (İAÜMED) was established on April 13, 2007, with the aim of bringing together graduates and members of Istanbul Aydın University and helping graduates maintain their ties with the university. With nearly 55,000 members and its services, it unites graduates and members, providing support to the Istanbul Aydın University community's graduates and members.

**İAÜMED;**

- Free DGS preparation courses for associate degree students,
- Access to Istanbul Aydın University's social facilities,
- Discounts and privileges (10%–50%) at businesses in Turkey and in the vicinity of our university,
- Career talks with leading figures in the industry,
- Part-time, full-time job, and internship opportunities in collaboration with the expert team at the Istanbul Aydın University Career Center,
- Free seminars and training sessions,
- Student coaching and mentoring programs,
- Social and cultural activities,
- Alumni reunions,
- Scholarship support for deserving students in need...

**MISSION**

With the aim of contributing to the development of modern, contemporary, and self-confident generations, Istanbul Aydın University utilizes its resources in the most effective and efficient manner to foster: to be a respected civil society organization that fosters cooperation and solidarity among the university, its alumni, and students; contributes to students' academic, social, and cultural development; provides social, cultural, and economic benefits to its members; creates added value for the country; and respects nature and the environment.

**VISION**

To become one of the world-renowned, respected civil society organizations that has successfully united Istanbul Aydın University alumni and students under a single umbrella



DİŞ HEKİMLİĞİ FAKÜLTESİ HASTANESİ | HOSPITAL OF THE FACULTY OF DENTISTRY

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İAÜMED olarak Dentaydın Diş Hastanelerinde siz değerli üyelerimize ayrıcalıklı teşhis, tedavi hizmetleri ve diş sağlığı bakım paketi sunuyoruz. Diş sağlığı hakkında bilgi ve randevu almak için size özel hasta danışmanınızla iletişime geçebilirsiniz.



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• Bu tanıtım ve diş sağlığı bakım paketi, kurum içi dağıtım amacıyla İAÜMED tarafından hazırlanmıştır. • Bu sağlık paketi bir (1) defa kullanılabilir. • Sağlık paketi nakite çevrilemez, sadece hizmet karşılığı kullanılabilir. • Başka kampanya / indirim / anlaşma ile kullanılamaz ve birleştirilemez. • Bu sağlık paketi Dentaydın Diş Hastaneleri'nde geçerlidir. • Satın aldığınız sağlık paketi başkasına devredilemez. • Tedaviler üniversite hastanesi güvencesi altında akademik ve uzman hekim kadrosu tarafından verilmektedir. • Uzman hekim muayenesi, ağız ve diş hijyen eğitimi, diş röntgen filmi, diş taşı temizliği, polistaj işlemleri sadece birer adet olarak paketimizde sunulmaktadır.

# İAÜMED ÜYELERİNE ÖZEL,
# İAÜ TIP FAKÜLTESİ HASTANESİ'NDE
# %25'E VARAN İNDİRİMLER!






Our strength is education, our goal is the world!

At the award ceremony organized by the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Turkey within the scope of the "TURQUALITY® Vision Meeting and Branding Conference";

Istanbul Aydın University received the "TURQUALITY® Champion with the Most Exported Services to the Most Countries" award.

With this success, we have once again confirmed our international education vision, our global impact, and our will to position Turkey more strongly in the world.

We are growing together, we are getting stronger together.

# GRADUATE INTERVIEWS

## Cihan Çetinkaya



**Could you tell us a little about yourself?**

Hello, my name is Cihan Çetinkaya. I was born in Istanbul in 1984. After completing my high school education at Perveniyal High School, I attended Pera Fine Arts School, Istanbul Aydın University, Anadolu University, and finally Istanbul Beykent University. In addition to these, I took courses at various universities abroad in Italy and Portugal as part of various European Union projects. After working at various agencies, I joined the LC Waikiki company. I currently serve as the head of the graphic design department at the company and also teach at its academy. Additionally, I work as an instructor at universities and organize seminars and presentations at various schools.

**What values did your college experience at Istanbul Aydın University instill in you, both financially and emotionally?**

One of the turning points in my life was the education I received at Istanbul Aydın University.My specialization in graphic design, the school's educational quality, the presence of social clubs, and the opportunities it provided are undeniable. Because I have always believed that the education we receive in class alone is not sufficient. I argue that social clubs, extra projects, the right internship opportunities, and personal development will help me progress more effectively from my academic life to my professional life.

**How do you evaluate the education you received at Istanbul Aydın University in the context of university-business collaboration and integration?**

The quality of the education I received at our university was quite sufficient for preparing for theindustry, but in my opinion, what's more important are the social opportunities provided by ouruniversity and the proper integration of internships.

**During your university years, did you participate in activities that supported your field of study and personal development? Did you attend any educational or seminar programs?**

Throughout my school years, I founded and participated in numerous social clubs. I represented my school in several interscholastic competitions. I have taken advantage of many opportunities by participating in international projects focused

on foreign languages and professional development. I believe that participating in supportive seminars is the right way to be better prepared for the professional world.

**What else do you do besides working at this company?**

I teach at the company's training academy, serve as an adjunct professor at universities, and give seminars and presentations.

**What is your position at the company you work for? Could you briefly describe your professional background?**

Graphic Design Manager (and certified graphic design instructor)

**With the advancement of technology, many new programs have emerged. What impact do you think these have had on design?**

We are working hard to adapt quickly to the use of artificial intelligence. I believe it has made our work easier in many areas. I view AI not with fear, but as a new field to be leveraged. It has already saved us time and money.





**What advice would you give to students currently enrolled at Istanbul Aydın University?**

In addition to their academic studies, I recommend that they join social clubs, explore opportunities abroad for language learning or personal development, and make wise choices when selecting internships.

**When you look back on your college years, are there any regrets—things you wish had been different or that you wish you had done?**

To be honest, I had a very happy and fulfilling college experience. If only I'd had more time, I wish I could have spent more time with my professors and attended more seminars. If I'd joined a few more social clubs, I'm sure it would have contributed much more to my professional and personal life. There's a lesson I've learned from my professional life: the more productive and socially engaged a student's life is, the higher their adaptability and success will be. Thank you.

# İclal Sezer



**Could you briefly tell us a little about yourself?**

My name is İclal Sezer. I graduated from the Department of Psychological Counseling and Guidance at Istanbul Aydın University in 2025. I currently work as a school counselor at Silivri Private TÜRAM Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School. I find it very meaningful to work one-on-one with students and make even a small difference in their lives. I do my job with passion and enthusiasm.

**What values did your time at Istanbul Aydın University help you gain, both financially and personally?**

My university experience didn't just provide me with academic knowledge; it also taught me to view life more realistically, to take responsibility, and to have confidence in myself. On a personal level, it greatly helped me understand myself, recognize my limits, and discover my strengths. In practical terms, I gained significant insights into work discipline, the relationship between effort and reward, and clarifying my professi.

**How would you evaluate the education you received at Istanbul Aydın University in terms of collaboration and integration between the university and the professional world?**

The fact that our education was practice-oriented was very valuable to me. Practical courses, internship opportunities, and working with experienced faculty in the field made my transition into the professional world much easier. Thanks to the university–business world integration, I experienced less anxiety about "what will I do?" after graduation.

**Could you briefly tell us about your professional career?**

After graduating, I began working as a school counselor at Silivri Özel TÜRAM Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School. I am actively involved in the school environment through risk assessments, individual counseling sessions, class guidance, parent meetings, and projects. Contributing to students' academic and psychosocial development is what motivates me the most.

**During your time in college, did you participate in any activities that supported your field of study and your personal development? Did you attend any educational programs or seminars?**

Yes, throughout my college years, I par-




ticipated in many seminars, training sessions, and events that were both relevant to my field and contributed to my personal development. This experience provided me not only with knowledge but also with different perspectives and professional awareness. It was during my time in college that I realized how important extracurricular learning is for personal growth.

**What advice would you give to students currently enrolled at Istanbul Aydın University?**

I recommend that they not limit their college years to just classes. Attending seminars, participating in volunteer work, and taking time to get to know themselves are all very valuable. Also, instead of thinking that "it all starts after graduation," I want them to realize that their professional journey begins in college. I advise them to have confidence in themselves and not be afraid of making mistakes.

**When you look back on your college years, are there any "what ifs" you think about—things you wish had been different or that you wish you had done?**

Actually, I don't have any major regrets. Maybe I could have put off certain things less and trusted myself sooner. But I believe every experience I've had has contributed to who I am today. That's why I view my university experience as a "journey of learning." I recommend that they not limit their college years to just classes. Attending seminars, participating in volunteer work, and taking time to get to know themselves are all very valuable. Also, instead of thinking that "it all starts after graduation," I want them to realize that their professional journey begins in college. I advise them to have confidence in themselves and not be afraid of making mistakes.

# Rabia Güven

**Could you tell us a little about yourself?**

Hello, my name is Rabia Güven. I was born in Istanbul in 2002. I graduated from the Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts at Istanbul Aydın University in 2024. I have worked in various kitchens within the industry. I am currently pursuing a thesis-based master's degree in the Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts at Istanbul Aydın University.

**What values did your time at Istanbul Aydın University instill in you, both materially and spiritually?**

I can say that the most valuable things my university life has given me are of a spiritual nature. Because before I began my education and entered the industry, I realized that the culinary field which I had previously thought of as limited and narrow is actually much broader than I imagined. Thanks to the diverse and varied courses I took from my esteemed professors, I experienced many changes in my perspective, from my academic life to my social life. In fact, I came to understand that the kitchen is not merely about cooking, but that it encompasses much deeper aspects. For example, through the courses we took in a cultural context, I realized that the culinary and historical aspects of the field are actually quite enjoyable.




I can also say that the knowledge I gained throughout the process played a significant role in the emergence of the connection between religion and food, which I explored in my undergraduate thesis. In addition, in our food styling and photography classes, we learned how to present products from the right angles, as well as how to use lighting and the camera. I also bought a camera, and I really enjoy taking photos, especially of food.

What I've mentioned here are just a few examples of the skills I've gained over the past four years. I'd also like to take this opportunity to once again thank my professors, who never hesitated to offer their support throughout the process. Along with all of this, I spent many enjoyable times with wonderful friends during my time at school. I believe this is one of the most important benefits of university life.

**How would you evaluate the education you received at Istanbul Aydın University in the context of university-industry collaboration and integration?**

In the business world, particularly in the gastronomy and culinary sectorswhere the importance of practical application is well understood, especially after receiving an education in applied sciences like ours. I believe the education we received is of great importance. I can say that I clearly felt the benefits of the practical courses I took alongside theoretical ones during my four years at the university from

the very first days I started my internship in the industry.

At this point, I can also emphasize that we were able to seize opportunities such as information about the industry, training, and job prospects not only through our courses but also through our instructors, who are actively involved in and familiar with the gastronomy sector. Thanks to the "on-the-job training" system provided by our university,



I can say that by becoming part of the industry while still in the education phase, we adapted to both professional life and the gastronomy sector after graduation. Of course, throughout the process, everyone charted their own path and found their place in the different aspects of the gastronomy field where they felt they belonged.

**Could you briefly tell us about your professional career?**

I began my professional career during the summer of my first year of college. The courses we took in our first year were theoretical, and our mandatory internship period was set to begin in our third year. I decided to do a voluntary internship so I could get a head start on the process, familiarize myself with the industry and work environment, and expand my network and connections. After working at various establishments featuring different cuisines—such as Bosnian, international, and French—I had the opportunity to experience the summer season in Muğla/Marmaris last summer. Upon returning from the season, I also worked for an extended period at "Banyan İstanbul," a restaurant that offers a fusion of Asian and Turkish cuisines and is listed in the Michelin Guide. Currently, I am pursuing a master's degree in gastronomy and culinary arts at Istanbul Aydın University, with the goal of advancing my career in this field. My objective is to become an educator who understands the kitchen, speaks the language of the industry, and possesses practical experience in the field.

**During your time in college, did you participate in any activities that supported your field of study and personal development? Did you attend any training programs or seminars?**

During my time in college, through our department's faculty and fellow students, we had the opportunity to meet and listen to many people, particularly those with industry experience. Their insights and experiences were invaluable to us. As someone who realizes that we cannot personally experience every aspect of life, I believe that diverse experiences and life stories are important. Events organized in the gastronomy sector have come to the forefront and gained traction, especially in recent years. Throughout this process, I have participated in gastronomy events and summits organized by the industry. I also spent enjoyable and social times at events organized by our department's club. For me, university life is a holistic experience where education and academic career are carried out alongside activities and social interactions.

**What advice would you give to students currently enrolled at Istanbul Aydın University?**

I recommend that they take full advantage of the opportunities the school offers. I think it's important to seek support from our teachers on any topic that leaves them with questions. I believe this has both a guiding and a directing effect. This way, they can gain a different perspective on what there is to learn both regarding their profession and career, as well as life in general. Another thing and I think this is the most important point

is that they should pursue the field that truly resonates with their hearts. Yes, I know there are challenges and hurdles to overcome, but when someone engages in work that aligns with their passion, that field ceases to be merely a job and becomes a joyful process that accompanies you in the natural flow of life. The truth is, in a life filled with struggles, it's essential to have a job we look forward to going to every morning. Additionally, gradually getting to know the industry will be a significant advantage. Gaining hands on experience through volunteer internships and practical training in the culinary sector will help prevent any surprises after graduation. By noticing certain details early on, they may choose to adjust their career plans. Even in the social media era, where attention is often scattered, the importance of reading and watching should not be overlooked. At the same time, while prioritizing the educational process, I believe we should never compromise on social engagement. I firmly believe that success lies in balancing both of these aspects.

**When you look back on your college years, are there any regrets you have? Are there things you wish had been different, or things you wish you had done?**

If I had started a more detailed planning process when my future career goals began to take shape in my mind, it might have given me a significant advantage right now. Of course, the process brings its own unique challenges, and I believe that learning and experimentation are ongoing. In addition to working in different kitchens, it would have been beneficial to have tasted the cuisines of those kitchens more extensively. Getting to know various cultures, tasting their flavors, and incorporating these elements into my learning process could have made my university experience much more enjoyable. Indeed, I view this period of my master's studies as a continuation of my university life. We are always continuing to change, grow, and learn. I would like to express my gratitude to my beloved professors and my university for everything I have learned about my profession and life during the educational journey I have undertaken and am currently undertaking at Istanbul Aydın University. I wish success to my fellow graduates and to all my colleagues with whom I have worked and will work in the industry.



# NEWS FROM OUR UNIVERSITY




According to the YÖK Monitoring and Evaluation Report, we are firmly maintaining IAU's strength in education by ranking among Turkey's top 20 private universities in 15 fields.



Istanbul Aydın University hosted Mr. Ahmet Misbah Demircan, the Turkish Ambassador to Tunisia, for a talk titled "The Same Mediterranean, Shared Stories: The Power of Youth."



During this meeting with our students, we discussed the shared values and cultural ties of the Mediterranean region, as well as the responsibilities that youth will assume in the future. We would like to thank His Excellency the Ambassador for his valuable insights and contributions.



TEKMER and TTPYO, which operate within our university, organized the "Digital Transformation and Entrepreneurship Summit in Technology" as part of their 5th-anniversary celebrations.

The summit addressed digital transformation processes, the current state of the entrepreneurship ecosystem, the impact of technological advancements on the business world, and innovation-focused future strategies.



Hosted by Istanbul Aydın University and organized in collaboration with our partner universities, Al Furat Al Awsat Technical University and Al Mustaqbal University, the 3rd International Conference on Medical and Biological Techniques (ICMBT 2025) brought together over 70 academics and researchers working in the field of medical and biological techniques.



A bilateral cooperation agreement was signed between our University and Habitat Association with the aim of creating an ecosystem to support our students' entrepreneurship and social impact-focused ideas.







Our Board of Trustees Chair, Prof. Dr. Mustafa Aydın, met with our student representatives to hear their concerns and listen to their ideas. At IAU, every meeting is a step toward building the future together!







We have climbed 109 spots in the UI Greenmetric 2025 World University Rankings and are on our way to becoming a leader in sustainability.

We ranked 458th in 2023, 379th in 2024, and 279th in 2025; among private universities in Turkey, we are ranked 6th.

We are moving forward with a greener campus, a lower carbon footprint, and a stronger sustainability model. Stronger every year; greener with every step.



The guest speaker at the "Are You Ready? It's Your Turn" panel discussion organized by the Academy of Change-Makers was

Mr. Halis Dalkılıç, Member of Parliament for Istanbul in the 28th Term. Mr. Dalkılıç shared his experiences in political life with our students.

During the discussion, important insights on politics, leadership, and public service were explored, with an emphasis on fostering students' sense of active citizenship and social responsibility.

# A BRIDGE OF LIFE FROM IAU TO NURDAĞI:
## HEALING WOUNDS THROUGH SCIENCE AND SOLIDARITY

From the very first moments of the February 6 earthquakes, Istanbul Aydın University (IAU) mobilized all its resources and transformed the search-and-rescue efforts that began in Hatay into a massive “Education and Living Campus” in the Nurdağı district of Gaziantep. Operating continuously since March 2023, the campus continues to provide free support to earthquake-affected citizens across 14 different areas, ranging from education and healthcare to sports and personal development.










Immediately after the earthquake, Istanbul Aydın University dispatched our search and rescue team to Hatay to assist with search and rescue and medical operations.

While one of our teams was working in Hatay, we at IAU simultaneously launched a university-wide relief campaign for the earthquake-affected regions. We sent our relief trucks to the affected areas.

Later, in March 2023, we arrived in the Gaziantep-Nurdağı earthquake zone with our teams.

Our teams began providing services at designated points established according to their areas of expertise.




**First Response: Search and Rescue and Medical Operation in Hatay**

Immediately following the earthquake, IAU mobilized to the region as part of an institutional response. The university's professional search-and-rescue and medical teams were deployed to Hatay to reach those trapped under the rubble and provide emergency medical care to injured citizens. Concurrently with this field operation, supplies collected through a massive relief campaign launched across the university were transported to the region by truck.

**A Sustainable Future in Nurdağı: Education and Living Campus**

Following the emergency response phase, IAU launched an initiative in Gaziantep-Nurdağı in March 2023 to revitalize social and academic life in the region. The Istanbul Aydın University Nurdağı Education and Living Campus, established there, quickly became the region's social hub.



**IAU Nurdağı Education and Life On our campus, laughter sounds even more beautiful under the White blanket of snow! We had a wonderful timeenjoying the snow to our hearts' content with our preschool students in our garden. Children who learn through play, full of joy...**

**Uninterrupted and Free Services at 14 Different Locations**

The units established on campus and offering completely free services meet the needs of residents of all ages in the region:

**Education:** With kindergarten classes, High School Entrance Exam (LGS) preparation, University Entrance Exam (YKS) preparation, English, and Computer Science classes, children and young people's educational lives continue uninterrupted.

**Health and Support:** A fully equipped dental clinic and a Psychological Counseling and Guidance Center (PDR), run by specialists to help patients overcome the effects of trauma, are available.

**Arts and Culture:** The Fine Arts area and the library help foster children's imaginations.

Sports and Social Life: The program includes Taekwondo training, a fully equipped gym, a multipurpose hall, and courses designed to foster social interaction.

**Vocational Training and Care:** While the Sewing and Embroidery course equips women with vocational skills, the Hair Care and Beauty Center provides personal care services.







Dentists from Nurdağı State Hospital conducted dental screenings on our campus and provided information about the importance of oral health.

**AKEV Provides Laboratory and Library Support to Schools**

The Anadolu Education and Culture Foundation (AKEV), the university's founding foundation, also played a key role in this initiative. Through AKEV, many public schools in Nurdağı were equipped with libraries, music and art rooms, and modern computer labs. This initiative restored educational equity by strengthening the technological and artistic infrastructure of public schools in the region.

**Our Support Has Never Stopped**

Officials from Istanbul Aydın University noted that these efforts, which began with a focus on Nurdağı, are not limited to Gaziantep alone, and that aid continues to reach areas in need throughout the region. The fact that all services have been free of charge since the campus was established is widely recognized as the most concrete example of IAU's "social responsibility" vision. The IAU Nurdağı Campus represents a future built not just of buildings, but of hope.






Our taekwondo training, which is held every day of the week, has been successfully carried out at our IAU Nurdağı Education and Life Campus.





At the IAU Nurdağı Education and Living Campus, our preschool class held an outdoor book reading activity.











A sewing and embroidery course was held at the IAU Nurdağı Education and Living Campus.



At the IAU Nurdağı Education and Living Campus, training sessions are held at least twice a month for those who use our facilities. The training topics have included violence against women, hygiene training, first aid training, and addiction awareness training.

# WE ARE PROUD OF OUR GRADUATES WHO AIM FOR THE TOP IN THEIR CAREERS



: The Istanbul Aydın University Graduate School of Education Commencement Ceremony was held with great enthusiasm. We congratulate all our graduates on taking their academic achievements to the next level and wish them a future filled with succes.








The IAU Academy of Trailblazers hosted Prof. Dr. Hasan Azizoğlu Hasanov, former Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan. During the interactive discussion, which drew keen interest from our students and featured a question-and-answer session, topics such as international relations, diplomacy, and leadership were discussed.






We are proud to have received the Accessibility in Education Award and the Accessible Program Badge at the 2025 YÖK Accessible University Awards. We would like to thank all our stakeholders who have contributed to this vision of removing barriers and ensuring equal access to academic and physical resources for everyone across every unit of our university.





In collaboration with our Faculty of Education, the Directorate of Press, Public Relations, and Communications, the Küçükçekmece Regional Education Center, and the Küçükçekmece District Directorate of National Education, we hosted the 7th School Counseling Symposium at our university today.

The symposium, which featured the participation of leading academics in the field, industry representatives, and our students—who are training to become the psychological counselors of the future—provided a comprehensive examination of current approaches, needs, and proposed solutions regarding the future of school counseling.





# OUR ALUMNI-STUDENT SEMINARS





The latest guest in the “Alumni Speak on Campus” event series, organized in collaboration between IAU MED and the Faculty of Fine Arts, was our Cartoon and Animation Department alumnus, Tahsin Göktuğ Özgül. Our alumnus Tahsin Göktuğ Özgül shared the creation and development processes of his work with all our students.

Through his candid conversation, he shared both inspiring and guiding anecdotes from his student years, serving as a valuable mentor for the students. He also shared the business processes of his own company, which he currently founded, with our students. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Mesut Batuhan Çankır, who moderated our event, and to our alumnus Tahsin Göktuğ Özgül.





Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association and the Istanbul Aydın University Faculty of Fine Arts jointly launched the "Alumni Speak on Campus" event series, and today's guests were our Graphic Design Department alumni, Sena Turan Atık. Our alumna Sena Turan Atık shared the creation and development processes of her work with all our students.

Through her candid conversation, which included both inspiring and guiding anecdotes from her student years, our alumna served as a valuable guide for the students.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nursan Korucu, who moderated our event, and to our graduate Sena Turan Atık.



The guest of the “Alumni Speak on Campus” event series, organized in collaboration between IAÜMED and the Faculty of Fine Arts, was our graduate from the Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts, Rabia Güven.

Rabia Güven gathered with students to share her story—spanning from her student years to life after graduation—as well as her experiences in the industry and the realities of life after graduation. In her candid conversation, which included both inspiring and insightful anecdotes, Güven served as a valuable guide for the students. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Zehra Yardı, who moderated our event, and to our alumna, Ms. Rabia Güven.



The guest of the “Alumni Speak on Campus” event series, organized in collaboration between the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association and the Istanbul Aydın University Faculty of Fine Arts, was Fatih Yüceyurt, a graduate of the Digital Game Design Department.

Fatih Yüceyurt gathered with students to share his story—spanning from his student years to life after graduation—along with his industry experiences and the realities of life after graduation. In his candid conversation, which included both inspiring and insightful anecdotes, Yüceyurt served as a valuable guide for the students. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our moderator, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Selin Süar, and our alumnus, Fatih Yüceyurt.




The guest of the “Alumni Speak on Campus” event series, organized in collaboration between the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association and the Istanbul Aydın University Faculty of Fine Arts, was Ahmet Serhat Korkmaz, an alumnus of the Graphic Design Department.



Our alumnus, Ahmet Serhat Korkmaz, shared the creation and development processes of his work with all our students. Through his candid conversation, our alumnus shared both inspiring and insightful anecdotes from his student years, serving as a valuable guide for the students. He also shared the work processes at the media company where he currently works with our students. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nursan Korucu, who moderated our event, and to our alumnus Ahmet Serhat Korkmaz.



At the alumni-student meetup organized in collaboration between IAÜMED and the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Eylem Eyyüpoğlu—a 2017 Civil Engineering graduate currently working at KÇ Group—shared her experiences regarding her academic journey and professional career after graduation with the students.
We would like to thank the Chair of the Department of Civil Engineering, Prof. Dr. MÜBERRA ESER AYDEMİR, for her support and moderation of the event, and all our students for their participation.



At the alumni-student meetup organized in collaboration between IAÜMED and the Faculty of Engineering, our Mechanical Engineering alumnus Berk Dinçer Akay was our guest. He shared his experiences from his time at school and his professional career after graduation with the students.
We would like to thank Dr. Cafer Solum, Assistant Professor, for his support and moderation of the event, and all our students for their participation.



The guest of the “Alumni Speak on Campus” event series, organized in collaboration between the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association and the Istanbul Aydın University Faculty of Fine Arts, was our Textile and Fashion Design Department alumna, İpek Nur Maden.

Our alumni met with students in the Graduation Project - I course to share the creation, design, exhibition, and work processes of the pieces they designed for their Graduation Projects with all our students. Through a heartfelt conversation filled with both inspiring and guiding anecdotes, our alumni served as a valuable guide for the students. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Cihan Bahar, who moderated the event, and to our graduate, İpek Nur Maden.

The guest of the "Alumni Speak on Campus" event series, organized in collaboration between IAÜMED and the Faculty of Engineering at Istanbul Aydın University, was our Computer Engineering graduate Baker Waleed Salem Aldhmour.
Sharing both inspiring and insightful anecdotes from his student years through a candid conversation, our alumnus who also completed his master's degree at our university served as a valuable guide for all our students. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our faculty member who moderated the event and to our alumnus, Baker Waleed Salem Aldhmour.




At the alumni-student meetup organized in collaboration between IAÜMED and the Faculty of Engineering, Ahmet Sezai Karakapıcı, a Civil Engineering graduate who works at Medar Yapı, was a guest speaker. Karakapıcı shared his experiences regarding the academic journey and post-graduation professional life with the students, guiding them and sharing his industry insights. We would like to thank the Head of the Civil Engineering Program (Eng.), Dr. Assistant Professor Tevfik Denizhan MÜFTÜOĞLU, for his support and moderation of the event, as well as all our students for their participation.








The guest speaker for the "Alumni Speak on Campus" event series, organized in collaboration between the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association and the Istanbul Aydın University Faculty of Fine Arts, was Burak Yurdabak, an alumnus of the Graphic Design Department. Our alumnus Burak Yurdabak shared the creative and working processes behind his projects with all our students. Through his candid conversation, which included both inspiring and insightful anecdotes about his own student years, our alumnus served as a valuable guide for the students. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nursan Korucu, who moderated our event, and to our alumnus Burak Yurdabak.





At the alumni-student reunion held in collaboration with the Faculty of Education, our alumna İclal Sezer, who serves as the School Psychologist at Silivri Özel TÜRAM Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School, shared her experiences regarding the school process and her professional life after graduation with the students. We would like to thank Prof. Dr. Ragıp Özyürek, Chair of the Department of Educational Sciences, for his support and moderation of the event, and all our students for their participation.



# OUR UNIVERSITY HELD THE 2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR OPENING CEREMONY

**The 2025-2026 Academic Opening Ceremony was held. The ceremony, held at the Istanbul Aydın University Social Sciences Campus, was attended by Minister of National Education Yusuf Tekin, Board of Trustees Chairman Prof. Dr. Mustafa Aydın, Rector Prof.Dr. İbrahim Hakkı Aydın, along with faculty members and students.**



Speaking at the opening ceremony, our Minister of National Education, Prof. Dr. Yusuf Tekin, said, "We have now reached a threshold where the network society, the data-based economy, and the age of artificial intelligence are decisive. We must see this threshold as a transformation in which humanity and society are forced to redefine themselves. In such a period, the fundamental priority of our education policies is to represent a strong will that, along with this transformation, aims to revive and build what is right while eliminating what is wrong."

### "The Academy's Function is of Great Importance"

Minister Tekin said, "Thirdly, it is the training of educational institution administrators. There are 65,000 official schools throughout Turkey. We are talking about a group of ap-






proximately 120-130,000 administrators, including school principals and their assistants. The function of our academy in this area is of great importance. Within the scope of this program, institutional programs will be implemented on topics such as school leadership, instructional leadership, school climate and culture, crisis and budget management, legislation, data-driven decision-making, and stakeholder communication.

Candidate administrators will gain experience in the field through mentoring and shadow administration practices within school networks.

"A merit-based, transparent, and accountable administration standard will be established through shared content and assessment processes with universities," said Minister Tekin. He added, "Our aim is not to manage from a single center; it is to spread quality throughout the country with collective intelligence and to harmonize the standard. We never act with the mentality of 'it's impossible without you,' but rather with the understanding that 'it will be better if we work together.' We invite all our stakeholders to shoulder this process together."

**"Bring added value to your country by doing extraordinary things."**

Prof. Dr. Mustafa Aydın, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Istanbul Aydın University, said: "If people don't say 'wow' when they see what you've done, throw it away. You should do extraordinary work, not ordinary work. Only in this way can you add value to your country. You need to demonstrate the






will to do what everyone else can't do, not what everyone else is doing. And always be respectful to your professors. You cannot gain knowledge from a professor you don't respect. You must establish that path of respect from heart to heart so that you can receive knowledge from your professors with the warmth you desire. Because they educate you not only with their minds but also with their hearts. Never forget this."



### "We are moving forward with a vision that prioritizes sustainability in internationalization."

In his speech, İAÜ Rector Prof. Dr. İbrahim Hakkı Aydın emphasized the university's goals of increasing its scientific production capacity, stating, "As İAÜ, we are moving forward with a vision that prioritizes quality in education, innovation in research, and sustainability in internationalization.

We are mobilizing all our resources to ensure that our students are not only equipped with professional competencies but also with critical thinking, analysis, problem-solving skills, and a sense of ethical responsibility. I wish our students and academics success in the new academic year."

Furthermore, our Minister of National Education, Prof. Dr. Tekin, presented certificates of achievement to our academics who were included in the list announced by Stanford University as "The World's Most Influential Scientists," to our PSİKOD and KÜRŞAD-40 teams who made us proud with their great achievements in the TEKNOFEST competitions, their innovative projects, their determination and their contributions to the national technology initiative, and to our student clubs that achieved great success in ÜNİDES with 24 different projects, enabling us to become the most supported Foundation University by our Ministry of Youth and Sports.

# Our alumnus Çağrı Temel receives great honor from the USA!

**Çağrı Temel, a graduate of Istanbul Aydın University, was awarded the prestigious "2025 Global Recognition Award" in the USA through the Redditus Platform.**




Our university continues to "illuminate the future" with its graduates who have achieved worldwide success. Çağrı Temel, a graduate of IAÜ and co-founder of Hezarfen, was awarded the prestigious 2025 Global Recognition Award for raising the standards of transparency, security, and accessibility globally. He emphasized that acceptance can be achieved with an architecture based on "Trust-Focused Artificial Intelligence, Not Power." He achieved a huge success in the USA with the Redditus platform, which reimagines the real estate world with artificial intelligence and blockchain technology. The






**Incubation İstanbul Çalışmaları**

Incubation İstanbul, bu yıl girişimcilik ve inovatif fikirler için on 55 grupla çalışmalar yaptı. Ardından TUBİTAK, KOSGEB, Girişimcilik Hızlandırıcısı programlarına başvuru gerçekleştirdi. TUBİTAK'ta 12, KOSGEB'te 4 Ar-Ge ve inovasyon projesi başvuru aşamasında.

**FSMH'de 7 Patent 8 Faydalı Model**

TPE Bilgi ve Dokümantasyon Birimi olarak kabul gören IAÜ Fikri ve Sınai Mülkiyet Hakları Yönetim Birimi, son 5 ayda 7 tane patent, 8 tane faydalı model, 2 tane endüstriyel tasarım çalışması başvurusu yaptı.

**IAÜ Öğrencileri NASA'da Uydu Fırlattı**

İstanbul Aydın Üniversitesi Elektrik-Elektronik Mühendisliği öğrencilerinin oluşturduğu 'Küçük Uydu' anlamına gelen 10 kişilik BITSAT Takımı,tasarımını yaptığı uyduyu ABD'de fırlattı. Amerika Astronot Birliği ile Ulusal Havacılık ve Uzay Dairesi'nin (NASA) ortak yürüttüğü Uydu Yarışması'na davet edilen IAÜ BITSAT Takımı, ABD'nin Teksas eyaletinde düzenlenen yarışmada gerçek uydu sistemlerinin yapım süreçlerinin birebir uygulandığı uydu sistemi tasarımlarının testlerini ve roket fırlatma aşamasını en iyi şekilde geçerek rozet ve sertifika almaya hak kazandı.




platform was awarded the prestigious 2025 Global Recognition Award for raising the standards of transparency, security, and accessibility globally.

### "AI Focused on Trust, Not Power"

In an event held in Louisville, USA, under the slogan "Six Speakers, Six Ideas, Maximum Impact," Çağrı Temel delivered a Lightning Talk, sharing messages that will shape the technology world.

In his talk titled "AI That Matters: Trust Over Power," Temel emphasized that the future of artificial intelligence should be built on trust, accountability, and responsibility rather than raw processing power. Presenting examples from a wide range of fields, from autonomous systems to health and legal technologies, Temel introduced his "Trust Stack" approach. He underlined that sustainable AI systems in the real world can only be accepted with a transparent, verifiable, and deeply knowledgeable architecture.






## An Inventor and Researcher in the Scientific World: Chain-of-Thought

Çağrı Temel is not only an entrepreneur, but also attracts attention as a scientist who is shaping the artificial intelligence literature. Stating that he has made innovative contributions in the field of Chain-of-Thought inference methods and reliable artificial intelligence, Temel focuses on interpretable reasoning for autonomous systems and explainable decision-making frameworks in robotic systems.




## Temel's expertise in this field has been proven by the following achievements:

Patent Application: Chain-of-Thought announced that it is the inventor of a critical invention related to reliability and verification mechanisms. Academic Achievement: IEEE stated that it has authored two significant scientific studies on reliable reasoning in autonomous systems, which have passed and been accepted through peer-review processes.

## A Turkish Leader on the Radar of Forbes and Business Insider

Having become a global brand through his applied artificial intelligence studies and






responsible AI applications, Çağrı Temel has also become the focus of world media.

He stated that major publications such as Forbes Bahrain and Business Insider have featured articles on his innovative leadership approach and the real-world impact of the technologies he developed. These publications are cited as the most concrete evidence that Temel's work at the intersection of research and product development is recognized on a global scale.



## The Pride of the IAU Family

As Istanbul Aydın University, we are proud of our graduate Çağrı Temel's visionary achievements; we wish him continued success in his journey of transforming science and technology for the benefit of humanity. Every mark our graduates make on the international stage is a reflection of our university's academic strength and "applied education" vision.







The “Alumni Talk at the Campus” event series, realized in collaboration with the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association and the Istanbul Aydın University Faculty of Fine Arts, hosted Elif Elvan Atagün, a graduate of the Textile and Fashion Design Department, as today’s guest. Our alumni met with students in the Graduation Project - I course and shared the creation, design, exhibition, and working processes of the pieces they designed for their Graduation Projects with all our students. In a sincere conversation, our alumni shared inspiring and guiding anecdotes, becoming a valuable guide for the students. We would like to thank our esteemed lecturer, Dr. Cihan Bahar, who moderated the event, and our alumnus, Ms. Elif Elvan Atagün.



In the alumni-student meeting organized in collaboration with İAÜMED and the Faculty of Engineering, our Food Engineering graduate, Şevval Nur Sarısoy, was present. Sarısoy shared her experiences from her school years and post-graduation professional experiences with the students,
guiding them and sharing her insights on the sector. We would like to thank our professors for supporting and moderating our event, and all those who participated in the maintenance.
We would like to request your support.







As the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association, we continue to meet with our alumni on campus. During the meeting, a comprehensive evaluation was made of our alumnus' career journey, current professional activities, and potential plans for university-alumni collaboration. Views were exchanged on potential projects and joint initiatives that could be implemented in the coming period. We thank our alumni for their valuable participation.



In the alumni meeting held in collaboration with IAÜMED and the Faculty of Engineering, Tayyip Arda Küçük, a 2025 Industrial Engineering graduate who works at Ethereal Cosmetics, shared his experiences from his school days and post-graduation professional experiences with the students.
We would like to thank our esteemed lecturer, Yavuz Çağlar Cerşit, from the Department of Industrial Engineering (English), for his support and moderation of our event, and all our students for their participation.






In the alumni-student meeting held in collaboration with IAÜMED and the Faculty of Engineering, our Mechanical Engineering (ENG) graduate and research assistant at our school, Research Assistant Atakan Öztuncer, shared his experiences during his time at school and his experiences at the institution after graduation with the students in his class.
We would like to thank Research Assistant Atakan Öztuncer for his support of our event and all our students for their participation.



In the alumni-student meeting held in collaboration with IAÜMED and the Faculty of Engineering, our Electrical-Electronics Engineering graduate Abdurrahim YİRMİBEŞOĞLU, who works at Bazlight Ltd. Co., shared his experiences during his school years and after graduation with the students.

We would like to thank our Head of the Electrical-Electronics Engineering Department (English), Prof. Dr. Osman YILDIRIM, for his support and moderation of our event, and all our students for their participation.





In our Alumni-Student gatherings, which were realized in collaboration with the Istanbul Aydın University Alumni Association and the Gastronomy and Culinary Arts Department of the Faculty of Fine Arts, our Gastronomy and Culinary Arts Department graduate, Private Chef Arda Paftalı, was the guest.

Meeting with the students in the seafood workshop, Paftalı shared his experiences and the process from his student years to his post-graduation career, as well as the cutting techniques in our workshop, in a sincere conversation, becoming a valuable guide for the students. We would like to thank our esteemed professors, Prof. Dr. Candan Varlık and Dr. Zehra Yardı, who moderated our event, and our graduate Mr. Arda Paftalı.

# TRADITIONAL ALUMNI REUNION

**No matter how many years pass, the bonds we built on the same campus always bring us back together. We experienced the joy of reuniting with our alumni at the "Traditional Alumni Reunion," where we refreshed our memories, reconnected with one another, and relived the traces of our campus years once again.**
















As IAUMED, we held our Alumni Reunion, bringing together graduates from different years of our university under one roof, with great joy and high participation.
Our program began with the opening speech by our Association President, Dr. Özgül Yaman. In his speech, our Rector, Prof. Dr. İbrahim Hakkı Aydın, presented plaques to our esteemed professors who have dedicated many years to our university. Additionally, thank-you plaques were presented to our alumni administrative staff who have continued to work within our institution for many years.







The precious memories shared by our alumni, the friendships re-established after many years, and the sincere conversations throughout the day made this special gathering even more meaningful. We thank all our alumni, academic and administrative staff who honored us with their participation; and we hope to maintain our strong bonds with our alumni with the same enthusiasm in the years to come.












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İSTANBUL AYDIN ÜNİVERSİTESİ
MEZUNLAR DERNEĞİ
AYRICALIKLI İŞLETMELER
İAÜ MEDİCALPARK
(FLORYA) %25
DENTAYDIN
(FLORYA, BÜYÜKÇEKMECE)
%25
O SES ÇİĞ KÖFTE
(BEŞYOL)
%10
DÜNYA GÖZ HASTANESİ
(TÜM HASTANELERİNDE)
%20
BİRİNCİ
GÖZ HASTANESİ
BİRİNCİ
GÖZ HASTANESİ
%25
BRITISH TIME
(TÜM ŞUBELERİNDE)
%30
Hot Döner
(Beşyol)
%10
GENÇ OFİS
(İAÜ KAMPÜS)
%10
İAÜMED
EĞİTİMLERİNDE
MURAT EĞİTİM
KURUMLARI
(TÜM ŞUBELERİNDE)
%20
CAVİT ECEN GÜZELLİK
SALONU (ATAKÖY)
%10
SİMİT TADINDA
(İAÜ KAMPÜS)
%10
STARBUCKS
(İAÜ KAMPÜS)
%20


İSTANBUL AYDIN ÜNİVERSİTESİ
MEZUNLAR DERNEĞİ
AYRICALIKLI İŞLETMELER
İAÜ STORE
(İAÜ KAMPÜS)
%10
SEM
İSTANBUL AYDIN ÜNİVERSİTESİ
İAÜSEM
TARİHİ BALAT
(BEŞYOL)
%10
THE COFFEE FACTORY
(İAÜ KAMPÜS)
%10
ATLANTİS SOLARYUM
(AVCILAR)
%30
SEFAKÖY
SÜRÜCÜ KURSLARI
SEFAKÖY SÜRÜCÜ KURSU
(SEFAKÖY)
%10
RAMADA
(SAPANCA)
%20
TON TON BABA
(TÜM ŞUBELERİNDE)
%10
SİMGE OTAY NAIL - LASHES (BAKIRKÖY)
%10
TEOL
DİL KURSLARI & YURTDIŞI EĞİTİM
TEOL
DİL KURSLARI
%40
Mathess
GİRİTLİ
Mathess
%10
WHITE RABBIT
White Rabbit
Restaurant
%10
Esto
ESTO LAHMACUN & PİDE
%20

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Member ..... Fatma Gülşah DİZAR
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Member ..... Gülşah FIRINCI
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President ..... Gülcan GÜZEL
Vice President ..... Elvan KARAGÖZ DEMİR
General Secretary ..... Rasim Serdar YOLSAL
Treasurer ..... Süleyman Sözer KIRCA
Member ..... Gülşah FIRINCI
Member ..... Dt. Alper Çağlayan SARRAF

## (2025 – 2026)

President ..... Özgül YAMAN
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