TABLE of CONTENTS
The Power of Excellence
Umran S. İnan

Koç University at a Glance

Doing Honor to Science
Koç University Rahmi M. Koç Medal of Science

Educating Future Leaders of Medicine
Koç University School of Medicine

Helping the Best Anatolian Scholarship Program

Welcoming Asia Koç University Center for Asian Studies

Exploring the Promise of Solar Fuel Technology
Koç University Tüpraş Energy Research Center Energy Day

Making Social Impact Count Koç University Social Impact Forum

Learning from Cultural Heritage 4th International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium

Redefining the Role of Nursing Koç University School of Nursing

Putting Science to Work Migration Research Center at Koç University

Joining Forces Beyoğlu Research Centers Platform and Library Union Catalog (BiblioPera)

2016/17 Science & Research Awards

Racing to the Front in Research ERC Grantees at Koç University

Year in Review

Board of Overseers

Board of Trustees

Reports from the Schools and Colleges
According to World Bank data, there are presently about nine million people employed in R&D across the world. Of these, as many are working in business and industry as in higher education. Nine million researchers... This sounds like a lot, but it really is only about 1.3 people in every one thousand. All our groundbreaking new scientific discovery, all our exciting recent advances in technology, medicine, biology, all our enlightening insights in the social sciences, all our clever gadgets and programs; in fact, most of the new learning that inspires and informs human progress today—it is to these 1.3 people in a thousand that we owe it all. Such is the power of excellence.

Koç University is a relatively small institution. We have only about 400 faculty of whom about 250 are researchers, and our student population accounts for only about six thousand among Turkey’s 5.5 million students. Yet, in less
than twenty-five years, we have succeeded in emerging as one of the top research universities of the country. Our faculty members are holders of nine of the prestigious European Research Council grants out of a total sixteen awarded to Turkey so far. This is a magnificent achievement, considering that there are 180 universities in this country with many thousands of faculty.

In another recognition of our research capability, the Turkish Ministry of Development recently awarded Koç University a 33 million TL research grant to set up the most technologically advanced research center for translational medicine in the country. This multi-disciplinary center aims to translate the latest findings in fundamental research into new medical practice, treatment methods and diagnostic tools. The official opening of the Center is slated for fall 2017 and we expect to report extensively on its activities in our next Annual Report.

A significant event this year was the establishment at our University of the Koç University Rahmi M. Koç Medal of Science to acknowledge and support excellence in research by young Turkish scientists at home and abroad. It is the largest private science award of Turkey and we all hope that it will inspire and encourage exciting new research achievements by many future generations of Turkish scientists.

There have also been promising developments for research in our country at large: Turkey has doubled its number of researchers since 2005, and industry is attracting an increasing number of PhDs onto factory floors and boardrooms. But efforts need to be stepped up to engage the best-trained minds in all sectors of the economy and society in order to encourage new thinking across the board and better manage the complexities of an increasingly knowledge-driven world. For all who want to stay in the race, an ever-increasing allocation of human and financial resources to R&D is clearly a must.

Increasing our number of PhD students has also been a main focus for us at Koç University. We now have 563 doctoral students this year, close to 10% of our total student body and representing a very high percentage when compared to other Turkish universities. What’s more, we are now competing with the world’s leading universities in attracting the brightest international graduate students from the wider region and beyond, and we shall continue our efforts to do so.

We are looking forward to celebrating our 25th anniversary next year with a string of exciting events for the entire University community, alumni and friends of Koç University. One among these lies especially close to my heart: the Anatolian Scholarship program was launched six years ago to support highly talented young undergraduates from underprivileged backgrounds throughout Anatolia. We are now looking to raise enough funds from private and corporate donors to bring another 200 Anatolian Scholars to Koç University in the coming two years. This goal represents a challenging target but we are prepared to do our utmost to achieve it.

The future is shaped by exceptional individuals. Our overriding ambition at Koç University is to provide an academic environment where all are able to freely pursue their intellectual interests, and one where all are stimulated—and challenged—to contribute their absolute best.
Koç University was founded in 1993 as a non-profit private university in Istanbul, Turkey. Its beautiful campus sprawls over a sixty-two acre estate that succeeds in balancing accessibility to all of Istanbul with retreat from the distractions of city life. Since its establishment, Koç University has become one of the leading universities in Turkey, distinguished by notable contributions to the elevation of education, knowledge and service both domestically and beyond.

The University is supported by the resources of the Vehbi Koç Foundation. Guided by its mission to address the fundamental needs of life for a modern and developing Turkey through the promotion of education, health and culture, the foundation’s achievements include the creation of a world-class hospital, museums that preserve and highlight Turkish culture and elite academic institutions at all levels.

Koç University strives to be a center of excellence, one that succeeds in providing a world-class education to its students, creating new knowledge via the research of its faculty, applying the acquired knowledge for the benefit of society, and equipping its students with the highest sense of ethics, social responsibility and good citizenship.
KEY FIGURES

6,541 students
5,190 UNDERGRADUATE
788 MS/MA
563 PH.D

430 faculty

11,953 alumni
7 Colleges
4 Graduate Schools
19 Research Centers
5 Forums

25 doctoral degree programs

29 masters degree programs

22 undergraduate degree programs

112 research laboratories

713 externally funded research projects
JAN 2004 – APR 2017


96% of classes are taught in English

More than 230 international partners globally

65% of students receive scholarships
Aydoğan Özcan received his PhD degree at Stanford University Electrical Engineering Department. After a short post-doctoral fellowship at Stanford University, he was appointed as a research faculty at Harvard Medical School, Wellman Center for Photomedicine in 2006. He joined UCLA in 2007 where he is currently the Chancellor’s Professor at UCLA and an HHMI Professor with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, leading the Bio- and Nano-Photonics Laboratory at UCLA Electrical Engineering and Bioengineering Departments, and the Associate Director of the California NanoSystems Institute (CNSI) at UCLA. Professor Özcan holds 34 issued patents, more than 20 pending patent applications and many awards for his inventions in telemedicine, mobile health, nanoscopy, wide-field imaging, lensless imaging, nonlinear optics, fiber optics, and optical coherence tomography, and is the author of one book and the co-author of more than 450 peer-reviewed publications in major scientific journals and conferences.

Professor Özcan was selected as one of the top 10 innovators by the US Department of State, USAID, NASA, and NIKE as part of the LAUNCH: Health Forum, and is an elected Fellow of SPIE, OSA, IEEE, AIMBE, RSC, the Guggenheim Foundation, and is a Lifetime Member of AAAS, SPIE and OSA.
Edison famously said, “Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine perspiration” and science awards are as much acknowledgement of brilliant minds as they are of the hard and often frustrating work that is required to make any significant contribution to the existing body of science.

Koç University’s new science award program was inaugurated in 2016 in the name of Rahmi M. Koç, Chair of Koç University’s Board of Trustees for over two decades.
and now its Honorary Chairman, who created and nurtured a supportive environment for the University’s scientific endeavor across all disciplines. In the words of President İnan, Mr. Rahmi M. Koç has been “the wind in the sails of the University, a staunch and unfailing supporter of its academic mission.” Bearing his name, the ‘Koç University Rahmi M. Koç Medal of Science’ will carry his devotion to the cause of science and scientific endeavor ever further into the future.

The ‘Koç University Rahmi M. Koç Medal of Science’ is awarded annually to recognize the achievements of the most promising minds of our nation, exceptional individuals of Turkish origin under the age of 50 who have shown outstanding success and significant progress in their field. It will be presented in alternating years in the fields of ‘Science, Engineering, and Health Sciences’ and ‘Administrative, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Law’. The inaugural Koç University Rahmi M. Koç Medal of Science of 2016 was presented to 39-year old Professor Aydoğan Özcan, in recognition of his outstanding fundamental scientific contributions in computational imaging, microscopy and photonics, and for the development of innovative mobile technologies for medical sensing and diagnosis.
AYDOĞAN ÖZCAN

I was born in Istanbul in 1978. I spent my childhood in several different cities and have always been interested in mathematics and physics. My interest deepened when I enrolled at Istanbul Atatürk High School of Science. I went on to study electrical and electronics engineering at Bilkent University in Ankara, which is very strong in the sciences. I decided to continue on to a doctoral degree and began to work for a PhD in Engineering at Stanford University in 2000. I later joined Harvard Medical School in Boston, where I worked for two years as a researcher. It was there that I first became interested in pursuing research at the intersection of engineering and medicine. Then, in 2007, I moved to the University of California in Los Angeles to establish my own lab, the Bio- and Nano-Photonics Laboratory.

Our main focus at the lab has been on developing new measuring systems using optical techniques. The technologies we have developed replace the lenses and other optical parts one would normally find in a microscope with algorithms. These algorithms allow us to create an image with any ordinary computer and mobile phone. The same applies on a very small scale to cells and tissue samples. We succeeded in digitizing the shadows they cast and are thus able to create images just as those created by a microscope. In fact, in some regards they may even be superior images.
as we can create very large images with billions of pixels.

Recently, I have become interested in a number of new systems. For instance, I would like to develop a ‘smart microscope’ that would work in a similar way as to how humans see. It will learn by deciphering what it sees and transfer that knowledge back to the system. I have also taken an interest in environment-related projects, especially in biological particles in the air such as microbes and viruses. In order to capture and study these we need to develop microscopes and sensing systems that can fly. Water is another difficult medium that poses some very interesting problems. What is microscopic life in the seas and oceans like? We need to design ‘swimming microscopes’ to study them in their own environment.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my gratitude to the Koç Family, which has been at the center of philanthropy in Turkey. Koç University is a significant part of their philanthropic work, demonstrating how important education really is to the Koç Family. Koç University and the quality of its students is well known among academics in the US and across the world.

This is a very important award for me. It is the first significant award I have received from Turkey. I would like to thank the Koç Family, and above all, Mr. Rahmi Koç. This medal gives me an enormous sense of responsibility.
Koç University
Rahmi M. Koç Medal of Science
2016 Jury Members:

PROF. UMRAN İNAN
President
Koç University

PROF. GÖKHAN S. HOTAMIŞLIGİL
J.S. Simmons Professor of Genetics and Metabolism
Chair, Department of Genetics and Complex Diseases
Harvard University

PROF. ATAÇ İMAMOĞLU
Professor of Quantum Electronics
ETH Zurich

PROF. ALİ ERDEMİR
Argonne Distinguished Fellow
Argonne National Laboratory

PROF. İLHAN FUAT AKYILDIZ
Ken Byers Chair Professor in Telecommunications
Georgia Institute of Technology
Evren Keleş is Professor of Neurosurgery at Koç University where he served as Associate Dean for Research and Clinical Affairs from 2009 to 2014. He was appointed Dean of Koç University School of Medicine in fall 2014. Professor Keleş graduated from Hacettepe University Medical School in 1987. Following his neurosurgery residency training at Marmara University, he completed his neuro-oncology fellowship at the University of Washington in Seattle. From 1997 to 2006, he worked as a faculty member at the Department of Neurological Surgery of the University of California, San Francisco. His clinical and research interests include the surgical treatment of brain tumors, intraoperative cortical and subcortical functional brain mapping to determine eloquent brain areas responsible for movement and speech, and surgical treatment of epilepsy associated with brain tumors. Professor Keleş has published over 50 scientific publications, has over 2000 citations, and is the author of 30 book chapters. He has been on the editorial boards of the scientific publications Neuro-Oncology, and Journal of Neuro-Oncology. He served as the CEO of the Vehbi Koç Foundation American Hospital in Istanbul from 2007 to 2014.
The science and practice of medicine has changed dramatically over the past 20 years. This change has been caused largely by revolutionary new science in genetics, bioengineering, nanotechnology, communications technology and robotics that has led to the development of new imaging and diagnostic tools, new drugs, treatment methods, surgical techniques, and much more. It is a pace of change unprecedented in the history of medicine. Medical students today need to be not only highly able and purpose-driven young people who can learn and retain complex medical knowledge, but they also need to be able to engage
effectively in interdisciplinary team work, have exemplary professional, communication and behavioral skills, and become enthusiastic life-long learners.

It was with this aim in mind that Koç University’s School of Medicine (KUSOM) was founded in 2010. Under the direction of Dean Evren Keleş, both contents and methods of instruction at KUSOM are designed and continuously re-designed to reflect the needs and realities of medicine in the 21st century. KUSOM has set itself the aim of becoming an educational and medical institution on a par with the world’s best, training future leaders in medicine, prioritizing research and the generation of new knowledge, and providing exemplary medical care to patients at its teaching hospital in Istanbul, the Koç University Hospital.

**Evren Keleş** We are a young medical school, having graduated our first group of graduates only last year. And we are a relatively small medical school as we accept only about 40 students each year. Both of these factors offer a great advantage. First of all, we were able to set up a medical school modeled entirely on current medical knowledge and needs; we had no entrenched departmental barriers or traditions to overcome and were able to set up an organizational structure where boundaries are fluid and overlapping to maximize interdisciplinary contact and collaboration. Secondly, we were able to adopt a teaching method that is both extremely intensive and focused, balancing didactic with competency-based, blended and student-centered learning, only possible with small numbers of students.

There are several fundamental aspects that differentiate the teaching environment at Koç University School of Medicine. It starts with the selection of faculty where we prioritize a very strong research background to ensure that each teaching faculty is at the forefront of his or her discipline. Furthermore, all our faculty continue to be—and we
expect them to be—active researchers throughout their teaching careers. They also need to be role models to students in their professional behavior and communication, an aspect to which we attach great importance.

Our curriculum is structured but in a flexible way, allowing students to do extensive research, pursue advanced degrees, participate in special tracks or explore other avenues of personal and professional growth. We have divided the entire content of our medical program into seven ‘knowledge columns’. Instead of a curriculum committee that sits down to decide to update the curriculum every few years, our curriculum is reviewed and updated once a year with the participation of all relevant faculty for each of these ‘knowledge columns’. Our curriculum takes shape during these meetings where we discuss and decide on the learning objectives of that year, based on latest medical knowledge and teaching needs.

Another aspect that differentiates us is the fact that our medical students are obliged to take Koç University’s ‘Core Program’, a liberal arts foundation year. Instead of taking students directly from high school into the technical subjects of medicine, they spend one year immersed in liberal arts subjects to broaden their horizon, give them a more well-rounded perspective, and improve their ethical and analytic reasoning. This is invaluable to their written and verbal communication later on, not just with patients but also within the team of physicians which they will be working with. At the same time, our curriculum ensures early clinical exposure so that medical students experience the
clinical environment and patient contact almost from day one while they achieve competencies necessary for medical education.

We are trying to progressively minimize didactic teaching and increase interactive lectures, panel discussions, etc., in order to actively engage students and motivate them to take responsibility for their own learning. Our training schedule puts great emphasis on the development of critical skills such as manipulative manual skills, communication skills and behavioral skills. The teaching of all of these skills are provided within the framework of a structured methodology where each skill is practiced until learnt.

We have regular examinations, 5-6 written exams throughout the year, which allows us to continuously assess student and faculty performance and effectively use an early warning system. Also as a first in Turkey, we do not give marks but only “Fail-Pass-Honors” grades as practiced in most of the US medical schools. Apart from written exams, our students also have to take Objective Structured Clinical Exams (OSCEs), where they demonstrate core clinical skills using clinical mannequins and task trainers. They are also obliged to take oral exams in the form of ‘standardized patient exams’ with actor patients and mock medical scenarios. These exams assess students’ diagnostic, communications and behavioral skills, their professionalism and bedside manner. Both of these exams are recorded for evaluation and future reference.

Finally, our teaching takes research very seriously. At the beginning of the second year, research faculty present their ongoing research projects to students, which are then asked to chose one of those topics. They then spend two years working on this research project together with the respective faculty member and his or her team of researchers. At the end of their third year, students make presentations...
based on their research projects to their fellow students and medical faculty. We are especially proud of our student publications, the number of which has been increasing steadily since 2012.

We encourage and enable our students to develop their own academic passion and many choose to do so not only in a specialized medical field but also in cross-disciplinary subjects where medicine meets engineering, law, psychology, chemistry, sociology, political science or business studies.

All in all, we provide a very high quality level of education, comparable to the very highest North American standards. Naturally, it is very costly and we can only afford these costs because we have the luxury of being financially supported by the Vehbi Koç Foundation, which channels all profits generated at the Vehbi Koç Foundation American Hospital into the financing of the University’s medical school and teaching hospital.

KUSOM’s primary goal is to produce physicians of the highest professional and ethical standards, highly competent in the curing and the prevention of disease, with exemplary professional manner and committed to life-time learning. And although the number of young physicians we graduate will remain small, I am fully convinced that in time many will make significant contributions to the field.
Zeyne Başak Çivi is Director of Corporate Relations and Development at Koç University. Passionate about development, she started her professional career at the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in New York City, where she worked on an array of development projects particularly in the areas of gender, energy and environment. Prior to joining UNDP, she worked as a researcher in various international organizations including Amnesty International USA, the Human Rights Watch and the East West Institute. Upon her return to Turkey in 2007, she joined IBM Global Business Services as a Management Consultant and delivered projects for top companies in telecom and banking industries. Since 2009, Çivi has been leading Koç University’s Corporate Relations and Development Office and focusing her efforts on creating fundraising opportunities for the University, where she is also heading its Anatolian Scholarship Program. A graduate of Koç High School, Çivi holds a BA in both History and Psychology from the University of Virginia, an MA in Near Eastern Studies from New York University and an MA in Public Administration from Columbia University.
Turkey’s national university placement exams are among the most competitive in the world. In 2016, over 2.2 million candidates took the exams and of these, only 961 thousand were admitted as undergraduate students, while only less than the top 1% had a chance of winning a full scholarship at top universities such as Koç University. In Turkey, scholarships are allocated not on overall academic merit or need but only based on exam performance. This means that many highly talented students from underprivileged backgrounds are not able to study at Turkey’s best universities just because they have fallen marginally short of the required score for a full scholarship, and their families cannot afford the fees and/or living expenses.
In 2011, Koç University, the top choice of many of the country’s brightest students, decided that something needed to be done to help high-potential students from low-income backgrounds realize their dream of studying at Koç University. The Anatolian Scholarship Program was born under the personal stewardship of President Umran İnan, who made it his “single-minded obsession” to expand the scholarship program to an ever greater number of students. Starting with 14 Anatolian Scholars in 2011, there are now 289 studying at Koç University, many opting to do double majors and student exchange programs abroad. The program has earned several prestigious awards and become a role-model for similar private scholarship schemes at other Turkish universities. Director of Corporate Relations and Development Zeynep Başak Çivi has overseen the program from its inception.

ZEYNEP BAŞAK ÇİVİ Education shapes the life chances of individuals and significantly contributes to the well-being of societies, even more so in developing countries. While access to education has dramatically increased in the past decade, still many receive low-quality education with limited resources. Nevertheless, broadening access to high-quality education is a critical factor in enabling young talents to make valuable contributions to their communities.

In Turkey, university placements and the distribution of scholarships for higher education are determined solely based on students’ performance in the national university exams. Given significant differences in the quality of educational inputs, students from higher-income families are generally better prepared academically and are more likely to succeed in the university entrance exam. Hence, access to higher education in Turkey is uneven, benefiting students from
higher income families more than those from lower income families.

In order to help bright students overcome this challenge, we launched the Anatolian Scholarship Program with the purpose of widening access to high quality education in Turkey.

The story of the Program started with the inspiration we received from a visually-impaired student who had just missed the full-scholarship requirement to enroll at our Law School. Although his exam scores placed him among the top two thousand students in the country, this incredible achievement was still not enough to earn him a full scholarship at Koç University through the national scholarship system. The Law School at Koç University is a top ranking school and making competition for scholarship-funded places very tough. Hence, this student was one of many bright students who had very high potential, but not the financial means to support their education unless they earned a scholarship.

The only national measure for the distribution of scholarships is a single score received at a single exam, and even a small glitch can keep many of Turkey’s best young minds out of the country’s best universities. What a great disappointment for these talented young people, and what a great loss for the country... On the other hand, charitable giving for students in need is a strong tradition among philanthropists in Turkey. The combination of these two considerations triggered the idea of setting up a private scholarship scheme at Koç University for highly accomplished students from underprivileged backgrounds, who are not eligible for a full scholarship under the public national scholarship system, but who are high achievers and exceptional individuals in all regards. This is how the Anatolian
Scholarship program was born. Launched in 2011, the Program is specifically intended to reach out to successful students from economically disadvantaged families in the developing provinces of Turkey. It is designed to offer affordability and provide greater access to high quality education.

We spend much time and effort to identify and persuade corporate sponsors to participate in the program. Although charitable giving for education is common, the idea of investing considerable sums to assist only one or two students to achieve excellence is new to most. The program was launched with six corporate donors, supporting a total of 14 ‘Anatolian Scholars’ in its first year. Today nearly 300 students from 72 provinces across the country are benefitting from the program with the support we receive from no less than 150 corporate and individual donors.

The Anatolian Scholarship Program covers all expenses; not just tuition fees and lodging, but also study materials, books, exchange program allowances and a monthly stipend. All these expenses are covered throughout the normal duration of the student’s education, which is generally one year English Preparatory Program and four years of undergraduate study. If they are double majors or medical school students, this rises to six years or more. Sponsors provide two-thirds of the total cost, and Koç University provides the remaining third, matching the donations on a 2:1 basis.

This is a highly valuable scholarship, so we want to make absolutely sure that we are identifying the students who are the most eligible, have the greatest potential and are most likely to thrive in the environment provided at Koç University. We designed a very detailed application process, where we look not only at academic achievement, but also evaluate the student’s interests, hobbies, and aspirations. Candidates are asked to supply detailed information about their financial
background and provide reference letters. They also have to submit an essay with their application. Based on our first round of evaluations we make a short list of candidates, who are then invited to our campus for detailed one-on-one interviews.

The Anatolian Scholarship Program has been a huge success. In 2014, the Program was recognized internationally by the Council on Advancement and Support of Education with a Gold Medal in the Circle of Excellence as the best example of an emerging fundraising program. Our donor base continues to expand and we receive nearly 3000 applications from all over the country every year.

We are especially happy to see that other universities are adopting this scholarship model. Equal opportunity in access to high-quality education is essential for our country’s development. We believe that the more this model is replicated, the better we realize our country’s potential!

Anatolian Scholars are fully integrated into the life of the University community and many are very active in the leadership of student clubs. Importantly, their academic performance is well above the University average. Sponsors and scholars meet once a year at a dinner organized by President İnan. These annual gatherings play an important role in acquainting Anatolian Scholars with their respective donors and provide them the opportunity to learn more about the sponsoring companies. Anatolian Scholars have no obligation whatsoever to be employed by their sponsors and the sponsors in turn are not required to offer them employment upon their graduation. Many students are motivated to be personally supported by such prestigious companies, while donors are proudly following their academic and social achievements.

In celebration of Koç University’s 25th Anniversary, we will be launching a fundraising campaign, targeting 50 million TL in support of 200 additional Anatolian Scholarship students. Considering that it took us six years to raise funds for 289 students, this is a very aggressive target. We will stage an intensive communications campaign in order to reach out to potential donors, alumni and friends of Koç University. We hope that the program’s existing donors will extend their support to new students, and we will do our best to get new corporate and individual donors on board.

We believe the case for the Anatolian Scholarship Program is very convincing and a great win-win for all.

Program website:
http://anadolubursiyerleri.ku.edu.tr/
Şebnem Köşer Akçapar is Associate Professor of Sociology at Koç University and founding director of Koç University’s Center for Asian Studies, KUASIA. After completing her PhD at the Katholieke Universitat Leuven in Belgium on the role of social networks in facilitating irregular migrant flows and the survival strategies in transit countries, she moved to the USA, where she worked as a post-doctoral visiting fellow for two years at the Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM), Georgetown University. Soon afterwards, she was affiliated with the Graduate Center for German and European Studies, School of Foreign Service, at Georgetown University and taught graduate courses on Gender and Migration, Muslim Immigrants in Western Europe and North America, and Muslim Communities in the USA. Between 2011 and 2012, she served as the Director of the Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies at Georgetown University. Between 2012 and 2015, she worked as visiting professor at different universities in New Delhi, India, where she taught and conducted comparative research on diaspora, labor migrants, and refugees. Apart from her book and edited volumes on international migration and Muslim communities in Europe and North America, Professor Köşer Akçapar has published several book chapters and articles in distinguished peer-reviewed journals. Her areas of interest include sociology of religion, religious minorities, gender and identity, international migration, asylum seekers and refugees, labor migration, and diaspora.
Asia is home to 60% of the world's population and has been undergoing profound change and resurgence. Not only does Asia account for 40% of global GDP but also—and more surprisingly to many—of global R&D expenditure. Chinese students alone now account for nearly a third of all foreign students at American universities, mostly in science, technology and business studies. Despite the challenges and risks ahead, many analysts believe that we are on the cusp of the “Asian Century”. Yet, while there is a general appreciation of the importance of Asia, truly informed awareness about the diversity of Asian society, Asian politics, economics, history and culture remains poor, not only among the public at large but also in business and academic circles.
Koç University’s Center for Asian Studies (KUASIA) was established in 2016 under the directorship of Associate Professor Şebnem Köşer Akçapar to provide an open forum for researchers across a wide variety of topics that are pertinent to Asia. Its mission is to produce and disseminate high quality comparative and interdisciplinary academic and policy-relevant research on Asia and to promote academic collaboration on Asia at the national, regional and international levels. The center embraces study of all Asian countries with a special focus on China, India, Singapore, South Korea and Japan. Beyond scholarly research, KUASIA intends to act as a two-way ambassadorship, representing Asian countries in Turkey and the Koç University community, and vice versa, thereby increasing interest among students and young scholars.

ŞEBNEM KÖŞER AKÇAPAR The importance of Asia around the world has propelled a need for experts on the peoples, issues and dynamics of the Asian continent and there is no doubt that there was a need for such a center to be established in Turkey, just as such centers are proliferating all across Europe and the US. Not only is Turkey directly influenced by the evolution of Asia but we are also conveniently positioned to initiate, facilitate and help develop an intense dialogue between East and West. 

One of the primary objectives of KUASIA is the aim of raising the next generation of scholars and experts who can interpret developments, form bridges, recognize and help seize opportunities as well as identify potential challenges or threats. Given the infancy of research and education on Asia in Turkey, KUASIA is determined to fill an important gap.

Set up within Koç University, we have the advantage of being able to draw on all of the university’s research capabilities, resources, its broad international connections, global outlook and multidisciplinary focus. In turn, we want to contribute through our activities
and scholarly research to all of these facets and help enhance Koç University’s reputation as a primary research institute.

We will be producing high quality comparative and interdisciplinary academic and policy-relevant research and academic publications that will increase the public’s awareness of pertinent issues and help provide government and business circles with policy-relevant analysis on the region.

KUASIA operates in cooperation with Koç University’s College of Social Sciences and Humanities as well as its College of Administrative Sciences and Economics and we look forward to collaborating with all faculty from Koç University as well as other Asia scholars in Turkey and abroad.

Although our work will be looking at the entire Asian region, we have a special focus on China, India, Singapore, South Korea, and Japan. We have so far signed two agreements with Sussex University’s Asia Center and Beijing Foreign Studies University’s School of Asian and African Studies to encourage academic research, cooperation and exchange of students and scholars. By the end of 2017, similar MoUs will be signed with Indian and Singaporean research institutes as well.

We are planning to organize regular public lectures, seminars, conferences, symposia, book talks as well as photo and art exhibitions, engaging not only students and faculty at Koç University but also business circles, scholars, bureaucrats, policy makers, and civil society organizations.

We kicked-off our event calendar in February 2017 with the Embassy Lectures series, titled “Asian Ambassadors Talk Series”, and our first speaker was Singapore’s Ambassador H.E. Mr. Selverajah, who not only made a fascinating presentation on Singapore’s
history but also treated students to Singapore cuisine. The next ambassador we hosted was H.E. Dr. Cho Yun-Soo from South Korea in April. Other ambassadors from Japan, China and India will follow in the fall semester of 2017-18. Furthermore, a joint workshop was organized on April 28, 2017 in collaboration with KUDENFOR, the Koç University Maritime Forum, on the “One Belt One Road” and “Maritime Silk Road” initiatives with the participation of Chinese, Indian, and Turkish experts and scholars.

At the inauguration panel of KUASIA, which is scheduled for May 9, 2017, we will discuss the rise of India and China as well as regional problems, with Dr. Raja C. Mohan, Director of Carnegie India, Dr. Liu Chen, Political Sociologist at Beijing Foreign Studies University, and Mr. Gideon Rachman, former Asia editor of The Economist and current Financial Times editor. The title of the panel is “The Asian Century? Dynamics of Geo-politics, Economy and Power”.

At the Sociology Department, we opened two specific courses on Asia, and there are also plans to offer a Mandarin language course and incentivize Chinese learning by giving a week-long travel prize to the best student. If we are able to increase the number of courses, we would like to work towards creating a Certificate Program on Asia.

We will be organizing a large seminar next term that will address a wide range of issues that are of common concern to Asia and Turkey such as gender and family, international migration and diaspora, media and popular culture, and social change.

Next to our academic activities, we are also working with Koç University’s Office of International Programs to facilitate the exchange of faculty and students to foster mutual understanding and cultural exchange.
KUASIA RESEARCH AREAS

→ Migration and Diasporic Communities
→ Minority Issues
→ Social Change
→ Religion and Society
→ Gender and Family
→ Media and Culture
→ Democratization
→ Business and Politics
→ Political Economy
→ Urban and Rural Development
→ Peace and Conflict Studies

→ Globalization
→ Security and Terrorism
→ Human Security
→ Environment and Climate Change
→ Health Policy
→ Transportation and Connectivity
→ Social Mobility
→ Economic Mobility
→ Business Culture
→ Political Risk Analysis

KUASIA OBJECTIVES

+ To increase awareness, promote informed opinion and create a body of expertise on Asian affairs and their current and potential impact on Turkey in political, economic, social and cultural and other fields through research and other activities;

+ To promote research and teaching on Asia at Koç University;

+ To raise and provide funding from national and international agencies for research on Asia;

+ To produce high quality academic publications on Asia;

+ To promote academic cooperation with Koç University-wide centers as well as with the leading national and international centers working on Asia;

+ To disseminate working papers/policy papers on Asia-Turkey relations relevant to Turkish interests in the region;

+ To constructively contribute to the public debate that relates to political, diplomatic, economic, business, and social issues on Asia;

+ To organize lectures, public seminars, conferences, and workshops to raise awareness on the region;

+ To organize art exhibitions, book launches, and film screening on campus;

+ To provide courses towards a certificate program (Certificate for Asian Studies)
Can Erkey is Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering at Koç University and Director of the Koç University Topraş Energy Center (KUTEM). Professor Erkey received his BSc in Chemical Engineering at Boğaziçi University in 1984 and his PhD in Chemical Engineering at Texas A&M University in 1989. He started his academic career at the Chemical Engineering Department of the University of Connecticut in 1995 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 2001 and to full professor in 2006. He then joined the Chemical and Biological Engineering Department at Koç University in 2006. His research interests are in nanostructured materials, supercritical fluids and energy. Professor Erkey has 120 refereed journal publications with 4500 citations and an h-factor of 40. He holds 6 patents and is the author of a book titled “Organometallic Compounds and Supercritical Fluids: From Synthesis of Nanostructured Materials to Extraction of Trace Metals”, which was published by Elsevier in 2012. He has made over 200 presentations at technical meetings, universities and companies.
At present, fossil fuels — oil, gas and coal — still account for about 70% of global energy consumption and barring a radical scientific breakthrough, the world’s dependency on fossil fuels is set to increase even further, driven by economic and population growth, especially in the developing world. Fossil fuels are relatively cheap and easy to use but represent a finite natural resource and their carbon emissions have potentially catastrophic effects on the environment and
global climate. Although still experimental, scientific research into solar fuels or so-called ‘artificial photosynthesis’ has in recent years presented some of the most promising alternatives in the quest for clean, safe and economically viable renewable energy.

Solar fuels represented the main theme of the first KUTEM Energy Day on April 3, 2017, hosted by Koç University Tüpraş Energy Center, KUTEM. The conference provided a multi-disciplinary and cross-industry platform, presenting the latest research in solar fuels and demonstrating the radical impact this game-changing technology could have on the world’s future. KUTEM was first set up in 2012 under the directorship of Professor Can Erkey to conduct scientific research on new energy technologies.

**CAN ERKEY** KUTEM was founded in 2012 to conduct research on new energy technologies and provide a sustainable environment for joint university-industry research projects. It is the first energy center to be funded by a private energy company in Turkey. Today, KUTEM is a truly multi- and interdisciplinary research center with about 30 faculty members from various departments in Engineering, Sciences, Administrative Sciences, and Economics. Research projects are carried out in a newly constructed state-of-the-art laboratory as well in research laboratories of affiliated faculty. Its research activities are focused on development of new energy technologies, particularly in the area of fuels. We concentrate on fossil fuels, biofuels and solar fuels.

We decided together with Tüpraş to organize an annual event at Koç University with an emphasis on new energy technologies that are not yet commercialized but hold a lot of promise. The event would also include a workshop on chemical processes, which would be led by Tüpraş, for academics, students and industry representatives. Current
cutting-edge research projects carried out at Koç University on energy would also be presented to the public in a poster session.

The inaugural KUTEM Energy Day event was held in April 2017 on Koç University’s Rumelihisari campus and focused on solar fuel technologies. The event was announced to the press and findings were shared with the local and international media. The conference also included activities and sessions open to the public and others interested in solar fuel technologies and in energy technologies in general. A separate workshop session, hosted by Tüpraş, was organized on the topic of process intensification for energy efficiency.

The conference keynote speaker was Dr. Peter Vesborg, an associate professor at the Technical University of Denmark. He is also a member of the VILLUM Center for the Science of Sustainable Fuels and Chemicals dedicated to developing technologies for the production of solar fuels and storage of solar energy. His main research interests are in photocatalysis and photoelectrocatalysis with a strong
emphasis on solar fuels synthesis. In addition, he has co-founded a spin-out company on solar energy and one on gas detection.

Dr. Vesborg’s keynote addressed current global energy supply problems, and provided an overview of the global energy sector, developments in solar energy generation and storage, artificial photosynthesis, sustainability of energy resources and energy politics. He pointed to the ever-increasing need for energy, the availability but high environmental cost of existing energy resources, concluding with the need for a diversified energy strategy that does not rely on a single type of resource.

Discussions focused on various aspects of solar energy, local energy resources, on the development of renewable energy technologies and the need to reduce Turkey’s dependence on imported energy resources.

KUTEM Energy Day attracted a large number of researchers from a wide range of academic backgrounds, representatives of the Turkish energy sector, civil society organizations with an interest in renewable energies, related ministerial government officials, Tüpraş representatives, and Koç University students and faculty.

As part of its efforts to support scientific research into renewable energy sources, KUTEM has also started to offer seed grants to faculty members in order to initiate research projects in solar fuels, covering processes and technologies that utilize solar energy to produce liquid and gaseous fuels. The selection process was completed in October 2016 and six projects involving 13 faculty members from different disciplines were selected and will receive financial support for two years.
Professor Can Erkey, Director of the Koç University Tüpraş Energy Center (KUTEM).
Gonca Ongan is Managing Director of Koç University’s Social Impact Forum, KUSIF. She completed her undergraduate studies in Economics at Istanbul University, received her master’s degree in global business administration at Fordham University, New York, and received her PhD in Economics of the European Union at Marmara University’s European Union Institute in 2014. She worked for a number of years in the private sector, public sector and civil society before joining Koç University in 2010 where she has been working for KUSIF since 2012. Her research field is sustainability and social impact. Dr. Ongan is also a founding and board member of Aşık Aşık, an online platform that promotes individual giving by fostering transparency and accountability among civil society organizations in Turkey. Dr. Ongan was also elected to the advisory board of the International Sustainable Campus Network in March 2016.
The notion of social impact is a relatively new concept that concerns itself with understanding the effects on people of a given activity, project, program or policy. The impact of this activity can be positive or negative, intentional or non-intentional, direct or indirect, short term or long term. The need to measure a project or organization’s social impact evolved out of the need to define objective criteria by which to measure the success of ‘social impact actors’ such as third sector organizations but has since also been embraced by private companies and institutions that care about the impact their services, products or social investments have on the communities in which they operate.
KOÇ University’s Social Impact Forum, KUSIF, was founded in November 2012. Since then, it has become the country's most influential voice for social impact management, working with a great number of civil society organizations, social entrepreneurs, corporations and other social actors. Managing Director Gonca Ongan is especially excited about KUSIF’s most recent initiative, “Change with Business”, that aims to increase the social impact of social entrepreneurs by helping them achieve better financial capabilities and thus greater economic and organizational sustainability while increasing their positive social impact.

GONCA ONGAN The role of social entrepreneurs as ‘change makers’ in their communities has been expanding rapidly across the world and in more recent years also in Turkey. Social entrepreneurs work to improve the quality of life of a great number of disadvantaged groups. Social entrepreneurship is considered an effective tool to address social problems as it employs a business approach to solve important social issues. However, without a profit metric, efficient financial management of their social businesses is often neglected, many lacking the people resources and know-how to ensure their organizations’ growth and long-term economic sustainability through efficient fund-raising and financial management.

This is exactly the problem we are now trying to address through “Change with Business”, a two-year program, launched in May 2016 by KUSIF in partnership with UniCredit Foundation and the Vehbi Koç Foundation. The program is being supported by the know-how of Yapı Kredi Bank for financial regulations and banking mechanisms, the Social Innovation Center, Mikado Sustainable Development Consultancy, Ashoka Turkey, and Impact Hub Istanbul for content development and networking.

The activities we are organizing as part of the “Change with Business” program have three main objectives:

- Firstly, developing social entrepreneurs’ knowledge of business model development and revenue generation skills;
- Secondly, enabling and motivating the financial sector to work with social entrepreneurs to develop appropriate financing mechanisms;
- Thirdly, assisting the development of a supportive eco-system for social entrepreneurs that helps them cooperate effectively with each other.
We have put together a 3-day “Change with Business” training workshop for about 30 social entrepreneurs that took place at the end of April 2017. The workshop is being supported by Koç University’s Entrepreneurship Research Center KWORKS, where management experts provided social entrepreneurs with concrete guidance on how to better manage their organizations in collaboration with project supporting partners. At the end of the workshop we selected five social entrepreneurs among the participants and provided them with pro-bono mentorship for one year in order to help them integrate this learning into their daily operations. They will also be given a small seed fund.

The financial assistance module of the program has also brought together 20 partners consisting of academics, lawyers, financial institutions, social entrepreneur networks, entrepreneurship networks, public institutions and others to develop a framework for the financing of social entrepreneurs. Financial institutions are strictly regulated and need formal guidelines by which to decide whether to provide funds to specific social businesses. To this end, KUSIF has helped produce two guidebooks, the Social Impact Measurement Guide for Funding Institutions and the Social Impact Measurement Guide: KUSIF’s 4 Step Approach. In fact, there are many funds available for social entrepreneurs both in Turkey, the EU and globally, but without an objective measure of social impact, decisions to fund applicant projects are often delayed or rejected. Deciding on these general guidelines and providing objective measurement therefore is crucially important. I am happy to say that the Turkish Ministry for EU Affairs is also
interested in our activities and has been very supportive.

Finally, Turkish social entrepreneurship needs to develop into an eco-system where it can be supported by donors and funding institutions, know-how and other means, and also collaborate with and learn from each other. “Change with Business” is a 2-year program. We have made a very good start and there is a great deal of enthusiasm among all participants.

“Change with Business” directly feeds into our overall objectives at KUSIF where our main aim is to help social impact actors to measure, manage and increase their positive impact on society. We do this by creating reference materials, customizing global methods, organizing conferences and workshops, providing coaching and helping to promote the concept of social impact through advocacy in the media and elsewhere.

Another objective for us at KUSIF has been the integration of social impact, social innovation, and sustainability into the course program at Koç University and we now run an elective course called “Social Impact Creation Project Management: Experiential Learning”, as part of our Community Engagement and Leadership Track. This is an interactive course based on experimental learning and is open to students from all colleges. Every term six organizations committed to social impact creation become partners of the course. Students get to hear real life issues, real life problems and help find solutions. I am convinced that they will benefit from understanding these concepts, regardless of whatever their eventual career choices might be.

KUSIF was set up five years ago with the support of Ayşe İnan, then director of University’s Office of International Programs, and senior faculty members Professor Zeynep Aycan and Professor Zeynep Gürhan Canlı. Since then, we have succeeded in becoming Turkey’s foremost social impact group through our work that leverages our University’s research capability and is able to translate this learning into practical applications, policies, and methods for the benefit of the entire social impact community.
The Launch Event of the Business Model Development Training for Social Entrepreneurs Change with Business Project

Ashoka Turkey team working with a social entrepreneur during the Business Development Training for Social Entrepreneurs Change with Business Project

KUSIF PUBLICATIONS

→ The UN Global Compact Communication on Engagement Report 2016
→ Social Impact Measurement Guide for Funding Institutions
→ Improving Social Impact of Turkish Women’s NGOs: A Shared Measurement Approach
→ Social Impact Measurement Guide: KUSIF’s 4 Step Approach
→ Social Entrepreneurship in Turkey, From Koç University Students’ Perspective
→ Need Analysis Report: Social Entrepreneurs in Turkey and Estonia
→ Social Impact and Shared Measurement Practice in Turkish Women’s NGOs (Survey Report)
→ Turkish CSOs’ Social Impact Measurement Perception and Practice! (Infographic)
→ Civil Society Organizations’ Perception and Practice of Social Impact Measurement in Turkey Survey Report 2015
Engin Akyürek is Professor of Archaeology and Art History at Koç University and Founding Director of GABAM, the Koç University–Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Center for Late Antique and Byzantine Studies. After completing his Bachelor’s studies at Middle East Technical University’s Faculty of Administrative Sciences, Professor Akyürek received his MA and PhD degrees in Art History at Istanbul University. In 1991 he was appointed research assistant at Istanbul University, Department of the History of Art. With scholarships from the Vehbi Koç Foundation and the Johns Hopkins University, Professor Akyürek continued his doctoral studies at Johns Hopkins University in 1992-1993. In 1998, with a post-doctoral scholarship from the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA), he worked as a visiting scholar at the University of Illinois for three months. He was appointed full professor at Istanbul University in 2009 and taught Byzantine Art History at Istanbul University from 1998-2014 before joining Koç University, Department of Archaeology and History of Art in 2014. Professor Akyürek conducted or participated in several scientific surveys and projects in Turkey. He currently also acts as Coordinator and Scientific Advisor to the Cleaning, Conservation and Environmental Arrangement of the Church of St. Euphemia at Sultanahmet in Istanbul project, sponsored by the Vehbi Koç Foundation (2012 – continuing) and is a Member of the Scientific Advisory Board and Executive Board of the International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium (2006-continuing).
In 555 AD, during the reign of Justinian, the borders of the Byzantine Empire extended over the entire Mediterranean region, including North Africa, the Middle East, Anatolia (present-day Turkey), the Balkans, Italy, and Rome itself — a bustling multi-cultural, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-lingual empire that saw itself as the direct continuation of Ancient Rome. Lasting for over a millennium, Byzantium made significant contributions to the shaping of modern European culture. It also had intense cultural exchanges with all the Turkic and Islamic civilizations in its eastern territories throughout the Seljuk and Ottoman periods.
Much of the material remains of Byzantine civilization today are found in Turkey and form an important part of the country’s cultural heritage.

The International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Symposium was set up in 2007 by the Vehbi Koç Foundation for the scholarly analysis of this heritage under the guidance of its scientific advisory boards composed of distinguished scholars from a great many academic institutions from Turkey and abroad. The triennial symposium is today coordinated by ANAMED, the Koç University’s Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations in conjunction with GABAM, the Koç University - Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Center for Late Antique and Byzantine Studies, founded to enable in-depth scientific research related to the Late Antique and Byzantine periods. Founded in 2015, it is headed by Director Engin Akyürek, Vice-Director Nikos Kontogiannis and Coordinator Barış Altan and is already engaged in a number of significant initiatives for Byzantine studies in Turkey. The 4th International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Symposium was held on June 23 – 25, 2016 under the heading “Byzantine Identity and the ‘Other’ in Geographical and Ethnic Imagination” and was attended by eminent Byzantine scholars from across the world.
This year, the International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium set off to explore Byzantine perceptions of non-Byzantine cultures and of all that did not belong to the Byzantine world, helping to shed light also on the construction of the Byzantine self-image.

A note for clarification here: Byzantium, of course, never referred to itself by that name. Byzantines considered themselves the legitimate heirs to the Roman Empire and were called Roman (‘Rum’ in Turkish) by all of their contemporaries throughout their long history. The term ‘Byzantine’ only began to be used widely in the 18th century by European historians who wanted to distinguish medieval Roman history from the history of Ancient Rome.

Invited scholars at the Symposium presented papers which explored, on the basis of written, artistic, and material evidence, the complex relationship between geography, ethnicity and other factors that contributed to the formation of the image of the ‘other’ in Byzantine culture and consciousness. How Byzantines talked about themselves while talking about others was also explored. This included their perception of neighboring countries, outsiders and foreigners as well as other ethnic, religious, linguistic groups and foreign visitors. The concept of the ‘other’ in the imagination, such as imaginary and exotic lands, heaven and hell, and the pagan past, was also discussed. Also for the first time this year, a poster presentation session was included in the Symposium program, where graduate students from Turkish universities specializing in Byzantine studies were given the opportunity to present their research.

The International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium was inaugurated in 2007 in the memory of the late Sevgi Gönül who, like the Vehbi Koç Foundation itself, was instrumental in the conception and organization of this significant event, a first for Turkey at the time. The Symposium has been held regularly once every three years since then. Previous themes were “Change in the Byzantine World in the 12th–13th Centuries” in 2007; “The Byzantine Court: Source of Power and Culture” in 2010, and “Trade in Byzantium” in 2013.
Each symposium has been attended by prominent Byzantinists from a great many universities in Turkey and abroad. It draws large audiences, and each Symposium has made important contributions to the body of scholarly research in Byzantine history. Papers presented are published in a volume following each symposium.

Next to the International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium, GABAM selects six fellows each year, four post-doctoral and two doctoral fellows, to help raise new scholars to the field. GABAM’s two other major current projects include the Documentation Project of Damatris Palace, the Byzantine imperial summer residence located on the Asian side of Constantinople and one of the greatest archaeological sites excavated in Istanbul; and the Byzantine Monuments Photographs Archive Project, started in 2016 and currently ongoing, which aims to create a digital photographic archive of all Byzantine monuments in Istanbul.

Semahat Arsel
(Chair of the Board of Directors Vehbi Koç Foundation),
Assoc. Prof. Chris Roosevelt (Director of ANAMED)
Papers presented at the 4th International Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium

KUTLU AKALIN
The Formation of New Identities and Changing of the Old Ones in Sixth-Century Constantinople: A Short Look at the ‘Other’ in the Capital, from Anastasius to Tiberius II

PAMELA ARMSTRONG
Ethnicity and Inclusiveness in the Development of Religious Cults: St Christopher the Dog-headed and St George

SUNA ÇAĞAPTAY
Byzantium, Displaced: The Nicaean Empire Revisited

ANTONY EASTMOND
Byzantine Identity as Other: the View from Georgia

LYNN JONES
Visual Evidence for the Mutability of Identity in the Middle Byzantine Period

ANTHONY KALDELLIS
Byzantium and the Greek Past: Modalities of Distinction and Appropriation

FERHAN KIRLIDÖKME MOLLAOĞLU
Turks in the “History” of Doukas

BUKET KİTAPÇI BAYRI
Exclusive Rights of the Byzantines to Imperial Christianness: Other and Self in Late Byzantium

MAJA KOMINKO
Men, Monsters and Barbarians: The Concept of Monstrous Races in Byzantium

NICHOLAS DE Lange
The Jewish Other

HENRY MAGUIRE
The Other Within: The Culture Represented by Medieval Byzantine Pottery

MARGARET MULLETT
Literary Spolia and the Christos Paschon: Shaping the Identity of Twelfth-century Literati

B.YELDA OLCAY UÇKAN – SEÇKİN EVCİM
The ‘Other’ Beliefs in Byzantine Phrygia and Their Reflections in Cave Architecture

ARIETTA PAPACONSTANTINOU
The Rhetoric of Civilization vs Savagery in Byzantine Accounts of the Desert and its Inhabitants

GLENN PEERS
Hellenism’s Instrumental Identity in Fourteenth-Century Trebizond

BRIGITTE PITARAKIS
Jewelers, Coppersmiths, and Clientele: Between Byzantium and Islam

JOHANNES PREISER-KAPELLE
Mental Mapping and the Organization of Space by the Late Byzantine Church

IOANNA RAPTI
Art from another Byzantium: The Sculptural Decoration of the Monastic Church of Bghno Noravank

SCOTT REDFORD
The Biography of a Building: Seljuk Emir Mubarizeddin Ertokuş & the Atabey Medrese

RUSTAM SHUKUROV
The Byzantine concepts of Iran: an elusive subject

DION C. SMYTHE
Images on the Borders: Seeing the Byzantine ‘Other’ in Digenes Akritas and the Madrid Skylitzes

GÜNDER VARİNLİOĞLU
Imagine There is No (Is)Land: Conceptualizing Byzantine Islands in Southern Asia Minor

ALICIA WALKER
Courtly Objects, Courtly Identities: Middle Byzantine Luxury Arts and the Material Culture of Elite Leisure

SERCAN YANDIM AYDIN
Marginalizing the Traditional Religious Orders, Cults, and Beliefs in the Early Patristic Era: Asceticism in Phrygia and Lycaonia

KORAY DURAK
Finding Syria and Syrians in the Literature of the Middle Byzantine Period
Ayşe Karadağ is Associate Dean of Koç University School of Nursing. She graduated from Hacettepe University School of Nursing in 1992. She received her master’s degree in 1994 and PhD in 1999 at Hacettepe University Institute of Health Sciences, Department of Fundamentals of Nursing, where she also worked as research assistant. From 2000 to 2014, she served at Gazi University Faculty of Health Sciences and went on to join Koç University School of Nursing in 2014. Dr. Karadağ has published several books and a great number of papers in national and international journals, and is an active participant in scientific panels, conferences, seminars and congresses. Her areas of interest include nursing fundamentals, specialized nursing, stoma and wound care nursing, nursing professionalism and ethics.

Ayşe Ferda Ocakçı is Professor of Nursing at Koç University School of Nursing to which she was appointed Dean in 2016. Dr. Ocakçı graduated at Hacettepe University School of Nursing and received her PhD in Pediatric Nursing at the same university. She worked at Zonguldak Karaelmas University as the founding director of its Health Sciences School and School of Health. After moving to Istanbul, she served as professor of nursing at Marmara University and worked as the director of Zeynep Kamil Health Sciences School. In 2013, she joined Koç University School of Nursing. Dr. Ocakçı has published seven books and a great number of articles published in international and national journals. Her areas of interest include social pediatrics and child abuse. She is the Turkish delegate to the Pediatric Nurses Association of Europe and the Family Health Nursing Association.
Modern nursing is regarded to have been founded at the end of the 19th century by Florence Nightingale, who succeeded in dramatically reducing the number of deaths among the wounded soldiers at Istanbul’s Selimiye Barracks during the Crimean War.

But while the analytical and meticulous system of nursing care she created is still as valid today as it was then, the definition of excellence in nursing has expanded both in scope and in depth. Parallel to developments in the medical professional and health care system, the nursing profession
has become more complex in ways that could not have been imagined even a generation ago. Nurses today may pursue specializations, collaborate actively with colleagues, travel around the world to speak at conferences and publish research on issues of public health and health care.

Established in 1999 in cooperation with Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Koç University School of Nursing (KUSON) positions itself, under the guidance of Dean Ayşe Ferda Ocakçı and Associate Dean Ayişe Karadağ, among pioneering nursing schools worldwide that are working to redefine the nursing profession to make nurses highly effective members of the health care team, agents of care innovation and exemplary care-givers.

AYİŞE FERDA OCAKÇI The most important development for the School of Nursing this academic year was undoubtedly the Turkish Higher Educational Council's approval of our application to change status from college to school of nursing — a significant first among Turkey’s privately funded nursing schools. The change came into effect on April 8, 2016, and has brought with it a spade of significant changes.

We are now able to attract top-scoring students through the national university entrance exams as well as faculty with a strong track-record in research, both of which will immediately impact our academic and research output. Secondly, nursing students, like all other Koç University students, will now also do the ‘Core Program’ foundation year, which will improve their critical thinking and integrate them more fully into the University’s social and cultural life. Finally, we have revised our curriculum to reflect our focus on interactive learning. As of this year, nursing students will be teamed up with medical students from Koç University School of Medicine to solve problems as a team and work side-by-side in patient scenarios, simulations and laboratory settings, learning how to communicate and collaborate with each other effectively. This teaching model is a first for Turkey and is being applied only in a handful of pioneering nursing schools internationally. All our nursing students do internships at the Koç University Hospital and the Vehbi
Another significant development this academic year has been the accreditation by ACEN, the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. ACEN accreditation is a very lengthy and difficult process, where nursing schools are objectively evaluated by six main ‘standards’: mission and administrative capacity; faculty and staff; student policies and services; the curriculum; physical environment and learning resources; learning outcomes and acquired professional competencies. Our entire team worked hard for several years to ensure that we fully meet each one of these standards. All audits and inspections have been completed and, as of April 10, 2017, KUSON is Turkey’s first internationally accredited nursing school.

The ACEN accreditation is an important aspect of our drive towards internationalization. Beyond ensuring that our School is on a level with the highest international standards of clinical practice, teaching and research in nursing, we have been strengthening the School’s international connections through faculty and student exchange agreements with renowned nursing schools abroad, participation of faculty and students at international nursing events and conferences, collaboration with international nursing associations, and so on. We have already made exchange agreements with four nursing schools in Germany and the UK, namely Lübeck University, Basel University, Buckinghamshire New University and Southampton University. This exchange program is also a first for Turkish nursing.
We also encourage and support our faculty to participate at international nursing conferences. This year, several of our faculty have presented at nursing conferences in Europe and the US on various subjects of specialized nursing such as diabetes, oncology, pediatrics and wound care. One of our faculty won best poster award at the 11th ORPHEUS (Organization for PhD Education in Biomedicine and Health Sciences) Conference in Cologne, in March 2016.

AYİŞE KARADAĞ A crucial aspect of our nursing school is the very low student to faculty ratio, which stands at about 6:1. All clinical and laboratory instruction is conducted in groups of 6-8 students and theoretical classes with 20-30 students. We only take in 30 new students each year, compared to about 400 at state universities. Our total student body at KUSON in the 2016-2017 academic year consisted of 115 undergraduate and 91 graduate and post-graduate nursing students. As everywhere at Koç University, there is a strong focus on research and over a fifth of our undergraduates go on to do masters and doctoral degrees to add new knowledge to the science of nursing. Next to our undergraduate and graduate programs, we also offer professional further education programs for graduated nurses. SANERC, the Semahat Arsel Nursing Education and Research Center, which now operates under our School, offers a large number of courses for working nurses. These include certificate programs in nursing specializations such as electrocardiography, palliative care, wound care, nursing workforce planning, nurse educator training, and more.

AYİŞE FERDA OCAKÇI The main objective of our School is to provide an environment for education and instruction that promotes evidence-based scientific knowledge, critical thinking, life-long learning and personal development, empathy, openness to change and an integrated approach to preserving and improving patients’ health through exemplary nursing care.
Standard I: Mission and Administrative Capacity
The mission of the nursing education unit reflects the governing organization’s core values and is congruent with its mission and goals. The governing organization and program have administrative capacity resulting in effective delivery of the nursing program and achievement of identified program outcomes.

Standard II: Faculty and Staff
Qualified and credentialed faculty are sufficient in number to ensure the achievement of the end-of-program student learning outcomes and program outcomes. Sufficient and qualified staff are available to support the nursing program.

Standard III: Students
Student policies and services support the achievement of the end-of-program student learning outcomes and program outcomes of the nursing program.

Standard IV: Curriculum
The curriculum supports the achievement of the end-of-program student learning outcomes and program outcomes and is consistent with safe practice in contemporary healthcare environments.

Standard V: Resources
Fiscal, physical, and learning resources are sustainable and sufficient to ensure the achievement of the end-of-program student learning outcomes and program outcomes of the nursing program.

Standard VI: Outcomes
Program evaluation demonstrates that students have achieved each end-of-program student learning outcome/role-specific professional competency and each program outcome.
Doğuş Şimşek is a senior researcher and currently teaches at Koç University’s College of Social Sciences and Humanities. She previously carried out her own research project entitled “The experiences of urban Syrian refugees in Turkey and Turkey’s migration policy”, funded by TÜBİTAK-BİDEB at the Migration Research Centre at Koç University. She received her PhD in Sociology from City University London and MA in Cultural Studies from Goldsmiths College, University of London. Before joining MiReKoc, she lectured in sociology at City University London, where she carried out research on the identity formation and transnational practices of second generation Turkish, Kurdish and Turkish-Cypriot youth in London. She also lectured in international relations at Regent’s University London. Her research interests broadly cover integration and transnationalism, refugee studies, racism, ethnicity and second-generation immigration. She has published numerous articles, research reports, op-eds and presented her research at international and national conferences.

Ahmet İçduyuğ is Professor of International Relations, Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Humanities at Koç University. He currently holds a dual appointment as a full professor at Koç University, one is in the Department of International Relations and the other is in the Department of Sociology. He is also the Director of the Migration Research Center at Koç University (MiReKoc). He holds a PhD in Demography from the Australian National University. He is an elected member of the Science Academy in Turkey. In addition to his own individual research projects, Professor İçduyuğ has conducted various research projects for international organizations such as IOM, UNHCR, EU, OECD and ILO. He teaches on migration studies, theories and practices of citizenship, international organizations, civil society, nationalism and ethnicity, and research methods.

Damla Aksel is Coordinator at the Migration Research Center at Koç University. She received her MA degree in Public Policy from Sciences Po Paris in 2009 and her PhD degree in Political Science and International Relations at Koç University in 2016. Dr. Aksel has extensive research experience in the field of migration. She participated in different research projects on both incoming migrants to Turkey (i.e. Iraqi, Afghan, sub-Saharan African, Syrian migration), as well as migrants from Turkey living abroad, with topics including migration patterns, accessibility to rights, smuggling and transnationalism.
The Syrian migration crisis is described by the UN High Commission for Refugees as the “gravest displacement crisis in the world today.” Since 2011, the Syria crisis has displaced 4.81 million Syrian refugees into Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Egypt, with Turkey hosting more refugees than any other country — officially some 2.76 million, accounting for around 3.5 percent of the country’s population with unofficial numbers estimated at over 3 million. As war and
destruction in Syria continue and hopes for a return in the near future diminish, the vast majority of Syrian refugees in Turkey have left the refugee camps to seek work and shelter, schooling and hospital care in the cities. Any country receiving such a huge influx of migrants in such a short period of time would be seriously challenged — as Turkey is. There is a mountain of issues to be tackled, not least of which is gaining an objective understanding of their extent and nature in order to formulate appropriate policies and support actions.

Set up in 2004, the Migration Research Center at Koç University (MiReKoc), is widely regarded as the country’s foremost migration research hub, enabling not only innovative migration scholarship but also dialogue between researchers, policy-makers, international organizations and civil society actors. Several of MiReKoc’s current research projects under Director Professor Ahmet İçduygú, Coordinator Dr. Damla Aksel and post-doctoral researchers such as Dr. Doğuş Şimşek, address some of the most urgent issues of the Syrian refugee problem, hoping to guide both national and transnational aid and integration efforts.
AHMET İÇDÜYGU The issue of migration has received serious public attention only with the Syrian refugee crisis. But in reality, neither incoming nor outgoing migration is a new topic in Turkey, but an integral part both of our recent and past history. There are at present between 5 to 6 million Turks living abroad, mostly in the EU, and after the founding of the Turkish Republic, about 1.5 to 2 million migrants settled in Turkey from the Balkans.

Migration Research Center at Koç University, MiReKoc for short, was founded long before the present crisis broke out. It was founded originally as a grant-giving program in August 2004 to provide grants for research on migration issues in Turkey, in collaboration with the Foundation for Population, Migration and Environment in Zurich. Between 2004 and 2010, MiReKoc hosted a great number of Turkish and international scholars and researchers, funding 43 different research projects on various migration issues. Following its official recognition by YÖK, the Council of Higher Education of Turkey in 2010, MiReKoc officially became a fully functioning research center to address migration issues in Turkey.

Migration to Turkey from neighboring countries and the wider region started in several waves with refugees and migrants fleeing first the war in Afghanistan in the 70’s, followed by waves of Iranian, Iraqis, Africans and, after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, from the Turkic republics and others, especially Moldavia. Some of these migrants used Turkey in transit to various EU countries. Others came to Turkey looking for work, in domestic services, home nursing services, working as cheap labor in the textile and other industries.

However, there are many different types of migration. International migration has become an intrinsic feature...
of globalization with both students, white-collar employees, executives and pensioners migrating in ever greater numbers, settling temporarily and sometimes permanently, in other countries. This is legal migration as is the migration of refugees, which is regulated by the 1951 Refugee Geneva Convention. And then there is the ‘irregular’ migration of domestic workers and others I mentioned previously.

Turkey’s legal provisions regarding migration dated back to the 1940s and were in urgent need of revision. This has been remedied now with the introduction of the Directorate General of Migration Management under the Ministry of the Interior, and the passing in 2013 of the Law on Foreigners and International Protection. The Migration Management Directorate is now a vast government department, employing a staff of over two thousand.

With the Syrian refugee crisis coming to a head in 2015, the influx of refugees became the central topic of Turkey-EU negotiations, eclipsing all other discussion, including Turkey’s accession to the EU. Syrian refugees in Turkey now number over three million, all of which arrived within the span of only five years. It represents a turning point in Turkey’s social history.

Given this background, our work in migration studies naturally assumed a much greater significance and we are now widely regarded as Turkey’s voice in migration research. Next to other migration research projects that we currently conduct in collaboration with several European and international partners, we are currently running three new projects on Syrian refugees and have recently completed one more.

DAMLA AKSEL The first of these is the “Forced Migration Resource Center”, an online digital library for all published material on forced migration in general and Syrian refugees in particular. It was developed by MiReKoc in collaboration with the Vehbi Koç Foundation. The online resource center includes legislation, information on relevant NGOs and other civil society actors, academic publications, governmental institutions and intergovernmental organizations. The bilingual site was launched in April 2017 and we hope that it will contribute

MiReKoc also organizes International Migration Summer School since 2011, consisting of ten days of lectures and discussions led by a distinguished international faculty, combined with seminars led by NGO representatives, and a field trip within Istanbul.
to increasing the research capacity of all actors working in the field.

The second project recently started is "Turkey’s State Policies during the Mass Refugee Influx". This research will provide a comprehensive comparative analysis of three major refugee influxes in Turkey, making a significant contribution to the growing literature on mass refugee movements and state responses. It will compare the changing dynamics of migration and asylum policies by looking into the Bulgarian influx of 1989, the 1991 influx from Northern Iraq and the ongoing Syrian influx, which began in 2011.

Our third project on Syrian influx, “Integration and Well-being of Syrian Youth in Turkey” is funded by TÜBİTAK, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, and the British Council. This is a joint project between MiReKoc and the London School of Economics. It aims to assess the needs of youth whose status is shifting from refugee to immigrant as a result of the prolonged conflict, and at developing concrete organizational and policy suggestions for their social and economic integration, especially at obstacles and opportunities for their integration into the local labor market.

Another major project, “Syrian Refugees Living Outside Refugee Camps in Turkey and Turkey’s Migration Policy”, led by Doğuş Şimşek was recently completed.

DOĞUS ŞİMŞEK Over 90% of all Syrian refugees in Turkey now live outside of the refugee camps, most in the metropolitan areas of Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir and the border towns of Gaziantep, Kilis, Hatay, Şanlıurfa and Mardin. The two-year project was supported by a TÜBİTAK-BIDEB grant and involved gathering first-hand data based on in-depth interviews with a total of 200 Syrian refugees and 100 local residents in these eight cities. One of the project’s main aims was to develop and propose policy strategies for the successful integration of Syrian refugees, with a specific focus on their access to fundamental rights such as accommodation, labor market, health, and education. Another important goal was to propose effective solutions for tackling xenophobia and prejudice against Syrian refugees. The project was completed in November 2016 and has produced three separate papers currently awaiting publication.
is the Head Librarian of Koç University’s Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (ANAMED), and a doctoral candidate at the University of Washington. He received his undergraduate degrees at Boğaziçi University, Political Science and History Departments in 2010. He was awarded his master’s degree at the University of Oxford, the British and European History program in 2011. He acted as the co-coordinator of BiblioPera, the Beyoğlu Research Centers Network, during the project’s development phase, together with Ersan Dur. Since the opening of the website in November 2016, he is responsible of BiblioPera’s coordination. Mr. Kentel continues to work on his doctoral dissertation, Assembling ‘Cosmopolitanism’: Making Modern Pera Through Infrastructure in Late Ottoman Istanbul. His research has been supported by the Foundation for Urban and Regional Studies, ANAMED, SALT Research, University of Washington Simpson Center for Humanities, and other institutions.

has been serving as Koç University Suna Kıraç Library Director since 2011. Within the scope of her position, she manages Koç University’s libraries in Istanbul, Ankara and Antalya. Mrs. Akbaytürk Çanak is intensively involved in library reorganization, library space repurposing and digitization projects. Responsible for negotiations as a member of the Anatolian University Libraries Consortium (ANKOS) Steering Committees since 2012, she now serves as the ANKOS President for the 2016–2018 term. She was also part of the project team of BiblioPera, the Beyoğlu Research Centers Platform and Library Union Catalog, developed with support from the Istanbul Development Agency under the “Innovative Istanbul” framework.

is the Project Development Coordinator of Koç University Suna Kıraç Library and a graduate student at Istanbul University, Istanbul Research Program. He received his undergraduate degrees at Istanbul University, Library Science Department in 2002. Ersan has been a member of the Suna Kıraç Library since August 2005, where he has been working on the development of innovative projects, supervising various project groups, developing strategic partnerships with the academic units, determining best practices and offering new trends for user services. He acted as the co-coordinator of BiblioPera, the Beyoğlu Research Centers Network, during the project’s development phase, together with K. Mehmet Kentel, Head Librarian of Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (ANAMED). Since its launch, he continues to support BiblioPera as a member of its steering committee.
Libraries are indispensable for scientific work, but no single collection will ever be complete. For this reason, nine Turkish and international research institutes located in Beyoğlu and supporting research in various disciplines in humanities were brought together under the leadership of Koç University’s Suna Kıraç Library (SKL) and in partnership with Koç University’s Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (ANAMED). Their joint Internet platform ‘BiblioPera’ allows researchers anywhere in the world to
access the multi-lingual library stock of all nine research centers through a single combined online library catalogue.

BiblioPera’s mission is to promote historical, archaeological and social scientific research on Turkey, and to establish a new research identity for Beyoğlu. Furthermore, it aims to provide a unique virtual environment in which scholars, research center staff and librarians can share ideas and experiences as well as collaborate on new scientific and cultural projects. The SKL and ANAMED library team is now working with partner institutions to further develop the site and expand cooperation between research centers to assist in the realization of BiblioPera’s mission.

TUBA AKBAYTÜRK ÇANAK, K. MEHMET KENTEL, ERSAN DUR The district of Beyoğlu (historically Pera) in Istanbul is home to many foreign and local research institutes on archaeology and art history. Some of them, like the German Archaeological Institute, which was established in 1929, have a long tradition in Turkey. Koç University’s Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations is also situated in this district, and there has always been a certain amount of informal collaboration between the libraries here. In the 1980s, for example, the librarian of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey initiated the creation of a printed catalogue that featured all the combined journals owned by various research libraries located in Istanbul and Ankara, but this was in the pre-Internet days and the effort was not continued. Then, in 2013, an Italian ANAMED fellow, citing the example of URBIS in Rome, suggested that all of the archaeological research institutes in the area should combine their library catalogues on a central internet platform so that their rich library resources could be searched online by all researchers in the field.

Initially, seven centers were part of the BiblioPera network. Namely, the Istanbul Research Institute, the German Archaeological Institute (DAI), the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT), Institut Français d’Études Anatoliennes (IFEA), the Orient-Institut Istanbul, SALT Research, and ANAMED. The Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul and Sismanoglio Megaro of the Greek Consulate-General in Istanbul joined
We applied for and were granted a fund of 500,000 TL by the Istanbul Development Agency in July 2015. This one-year fund was used to finance software development, servers and other electronic equipment, as well as organizational and promotional activities. BiblioPera’s official project kick-off was in September 2015. One year later, in September 2016, we did a trial run and finally launched the site in November 2016 to introduce BiblioPera to the general public and the press. The site has been online now for several months and is functioning well, but further development and fine-tuning of the website continues. The site does not only function as a union catalogue of the partner libraries, but it also highlights their...
academic and public events, institutional news, and features a joint calendar that allows for a better coordination among the centers for their special events. The project has been awarded the First Prize at the Most Successful Koç Employees Awards, under the category of Cooperation.

Presently, BiblioPera’s combined catalogue features about 520,000 books and journals. The centers’ digital materials—maps, postcards, other written and visual documents—are soon to be fully integrated into the union catalogue, with which total searchable BiblioPera resources will be in excess of 1 million. The combined catalogue is updated regularly, of course, to include all newly acquired material.

We are very pleased with the response BiblioPera has already received. In its first six months of operation, between September 2016 to March 2017, the site had over five thousand users and received over forty-thousand hits. We are now discussing expanding our collaboration beyond the website to organize joint events and to improve library services. We would like BiblioPera to develop its own projects such as digitalization of existing materials and conservation of old materials, but these are more long-term plans.

BiblioPera has served to bring all nine research institutes much closer together, and our first joint event was organized on the last week of March 2017, which is Library Week in Turkey. The event catered for librarians and students of information management systems, and included a guided tour of important historical sites in Beyoğlu with stopovers at BiblioPera-affiliated libraries, where they were met by each institute’s librarian.

We have made a great start and are all motivated to expand and deepen our collaboration further in the future.
Faculty at Koç University received 38 awards for research projects in 2016/17. These consist of 8 Outstanding Achievement Awards for Young Scientists by the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA GEBİP), 20 Young Scientist Awards by the Science Academy (BAGEP), and 10 other national and international research awards.
Science Academy Young Scientist Awards (BAGEP) - 2016

- Asst. Prof. Selim Erdem Aytaç, International Relations
- Assoc. Prof. Özgür Birer, Chemistry
- Asst. Prof. Ayşegül Buğra, Law
- Assoc. Prof. Barış Coşkunüzer, Mathematics
- Assoc. Prof. Menderes İşkin, Physics
- Asst. Prof. Sarp Kaya, Chemistry
- Asst. Prof. Aşkin Kocabaş, Physics
- Asst. Prof. Alptekin Küpçü, Computer Engineering

Science Academy Young Scientist Awards (BAGEP) - 2017

- Assoc. Prof. Atilla Yılmaz, Mathematics
- Asst. Prof. Belgin Şan Akça, International Relations
- Asst. Prof. Cory David Dunn, Molecular Biology and Genetics
- Dr. İlknur Sur, School of Medicine
- Assoc. Prof. Kazım Büyükbuduk, Mathematics
- Asst. Prof. Levent Baruh, Media and Visual Arts
- Asst. Prof. Mehmet Gonen, Industrial Engineering
- Asst. Prof. Mehmet C. Onbaşılı, Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- Asst. Prof. Nurhan Özlü, Molecular Biology and Genetics
- Assoc. Prof. Seda Ertac, Economics
- Assoc. Prof. Şener Aktürk, International Relations
- Asst. Prof. Yasemin K. Sakarya, Psychology

TÜBİTAK Incentive Award 2016

- Assoc. Prof. İlke Öztekin Gümüs, Psychology

Science Heroes Society Young Scientist Award 2016

- Assoc. Prof. Sinem Çöleri Ergen, Electrical and Electronics Engineering

FABED Eser Tümen Outstanding Achievement Award 2016

- Assoc. Prof. Seda Keskin Avcı, Chemical and Biological Engineering
Turkish Academy of Sciences Young Scientist Awards (TÜBA GEBİP) 2016
- Assoc. Prof. Şener Aktürk, International Relations
- Asst. Prof. Cory David Dunn, Molecular Biology and Genetics
- Assoc. Prof. İlke Öztok Gilla, Psychology
- Asst. Prof. Mehmet Gönen, Industrial Engineering
- Asst. Prof. Elif Nur Fırat Karalar, Molecular Biology and Genetics
- Asst. Prof. Sarp Kaya, Chemistry
- Asst. Prof. Nathan Lack, Pharmacology
- Asst. Prof. Alper Uzun, Chemical and Biological Engineering

American Psychological Association’s (APA) Ursula Gielen Global Psychology Book Award 2016
- Prof. Zeynep Aycan, Psychology

Royal Society Newton Advanced Fellowship 2016
- Asst. Prof. Elif Nur Fırat Karalar, Molecular Biology and Genetics

European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) Installation Grant 2016
- Asst. Prof. Elif Nur Fırat Karalar

First Turkish Member of the Young Academy of Europe 2017
- Asst. Prof. Erdem Yörük

Marie-Skłodowska-Curie Actions Seal of Excellence Award 2017
- Asst. Prof. Cem Albayrak
- Instructor Dr. Ayda Kebapçı
- Dr. Ahmet Can Erten
As nations race to keep up with—and lead in—the extraordinary pace of scientific, technological and social change, research spending has reached mammoth proportions. According to the G20 Innovation Report 2016, the US is the world’s largest R&D performer with USD 433 billion of domestic R&D expenditures in 2013. This exceeds by about one-quarter the amount of R&D performed in China, which is broadly on par with the combined 28-member European Union. Although the US has long been leading in research, especially in scientific and technological innovation, the report suggests that the gap is narrowing. The number of researchers in the EU has reached
1.82 million, an increase of 32.2% in only 10 years and now exceeds that of China and the US.

The European Research Council (ERC) was established in 2007 with the aim of supporting “frontier research, cross-disciplinary proposals and pioneering ideas in new and emerging fields which introduce unconventional and innovative approaches.” ERC grants are provided to individual researchers on the basis of scientific excellence and a highly discriminating selection process. So far, only 16 ERC grants have been won by faculty at Turkish universities. Of these, over half are hosted by Koç University, and in fact, three out of four ERC grants for social science projects in Turkey went to Koç University.

The most recent ERC grantee is Assistant Professor Erdem Yörük of Koç University’s Department of Sociology. His research proposal, “The New Politics of Welfare: Towards an Emerging Markets Welfare State Regime” won a 5-year, 1.5 million euro ERC Starting Grant for a multi-country and multi-disciplinary research endeavor at the intersection of sociology, political science, and economics.

Dr. Yörük’s research project will be conducted across seven representative emerging market economies, namely China, India, Indonesia, South Africa, Brazil, Mexico, and Turkey.
ERDEM YÖRÜK  The application process for an ERC grant is extremely competitive and very difficult. Applicants need to find an important gap in the existing literature, a new direction and have a sound hypothesis in order to be able to apply. Initially, a detailed written application is made. If the application is accepted, the applicant is called for an interview to Brussels about 4-5 months later, where he or she gives a 9-minute presentation to a 25-member jury, followed by 20 minutes of Q&A. I was very generously supported during the application process by the efforts of the Office of the Vice President for Research and Development here at Koç University, who will also be organizing an assistance program for other researchers. The number of ERC grants presented to researchers at Turkish universities definitely needs to grow.

ERC GRANTEES AT KOÇ UNIVERSITY

ERDEM YÖRÜK  Department of Sociology
- ERC Starting Grant 2017

ERDEM KABADAYI  Department of History
- ERC Starting Grant 2016
  Industrialisation and Urban Growth from the Mid-nineteenth Century Ottoman Empire to Contemporary Turkey in a Comparative Perspective, 1850-2000

ALP ENVER ATAKAN  Department of Economics
- ERC Consolidator Grant 2016
  INFORMATIVEPRICES: Market Selection, Frictions and the Information Content of Prices

ELİF NUR FIRAT KARALAR  Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics
- ERC Starting Grant 2016
  CentSatRegFunc: Dissecting the Function and Regulation of Centriolar Satellites: Key Regulators of the Centrosome/Cilium Complex

CORY DAVID DUNN  Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics
- ERC Starting Grant 2015
  RevMito: Deciphering and Reversing the Consequences of Mitochondrial DNA Damage

SEDAT NİZAMOĞLU  Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering
- ERC Starting Grant 2014
  NOVELNOBI: Novel Nanoengineered Optoelectronic Biointerfaces

ÖZGÜR BARIŞ AKAN  Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering
- ERC Consolidator Grant 2014
  MINERVA: Communication Theoretical Foundations of Nervous System Towards BIO-inspired Nanonetworks and ICT-inspired Neuro-Treatment

HAKAN ÜREY  Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering
- ERC Advanced Grant 2014
  WEAR3D: Wearable Augmented Reality 3D Displays
- ERC Proof of Concept Grant 2015
  WEAR3D-POC: Commercialization of Wear3D - Wearable and 3D Display Technology

KEREM PEKKAÑ  Department of Mechanical Engineering
- ERC Starting Grant 2013
  Vascular Growth: Bioengineering Prediction of Three-Dimensional Vascular Growth and Remodeling in Embryonic
- ERC Proof of Concept Grant 2015
  Kids Surgical Plan: An Internet Enterprise for Sketch-based Cardiovascular Pre-surgical Planning

KOÇ UNIVERSITY ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17
MAY 6, 2016

**Graduate School of Health Sciences Hosts 28th Meeting of Turkish Universities Health Sciences**

Participants from 20 universities attended the meeting, in which five lectures and three panel discussions were held and a final declaration was submitted. Throughout the meeting, important topics on graduate and postgraduate studies were addressed and problems discussed. Professor İhsan Solaroğlu, Director of Koç University Graduate School of Health Sciences also gave a lecture titled “Structuring and Sustainability of Translational Medical Research”.

MAY 25, 2016

**Aziz Sancar Visits Koç University**

Nobel Laureate Professor Aziz Sancar visited Koç University on May 25, 2016 to give a lecture on his research on DNA repair for which he received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2015. The lecture was followed by a Q&A session with students. Professor Sancar said, “I believe that Turkey should focus on basic science research because all scientific research eventually benefits humanity.” Also speaking at the lecture, Koç University President Professor Umran İnan announced that a scholarship fund in the name of Professor Sancar had been established and will be awarded to a female student from Mardin as part of the Anatolian Scholarship program.
KUSIF
2nd Social Impact Measurement Conference

KUSIF, the Koç University Social Impact Forum, organized a second conference on social impact measurement, this time on the topic of “Shared Measurement for Social Benefit”. The conference was attended by over 120 representatives of various national and international NGOs, social entrepreneurs and donor corporations. Featuring various keynote presentations and 12 parallel breakout sessions, KUSIF also shared their latest report at the conference, “Improving the Social Impact of Women’s NGOs: A Shared Measurement Approach”.

22nd Commencement Ceremony

Koç University’s 22nd Commencement Ceremony for Undergraduates and Graduates took place at the Rumelifeneri Campus. Rahmi M. Koç, Honorary Chairman, Ömer M. Koç, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Professor Umran İnan, Koç University President, attended the ceremony and addressed the students. Muhtar Kent, CEO of The Coca-Cola Company, was the keynote speaker of the ceremony at which 1,030 students received their diplomas.

ANAMED Exhibition
Byzantium’s Other Empire: Trebizond

Organized in collaboration with the Courtauld Institute of Art within the framework of the Fourth Sevgi Gönül Byzantine Studies Symposium, the exhibition introduced the extraordinary monuments of the now largely forgotten empire of Trebizond whose capital was in the city of present-day Trabzon. It focused particularly on the 13th-century church of Hagia Sophia in Trabzon, the best-preserved monument in the city.
VEKAM Exhibition
Eyewitness from Anatolia: Mudurnu in the Early Republican Era through the Lens of Bengüboz

This exhibition at VEKAM featured the photographs of Ahmet İzzet Bengüboz, a Mudurnu countryman who learned the art and technique of photography in a British prisoner of war camp during the First World War. Mudurnu was an important Ottoman trade center and a patriotic town of the new Turkish Republic. The exhibition was curated by Ayşe Ege Yıldırım and organized in collaboration with the municipality and district governorship of the town of Mudurnu. First held in Ankara, the VEKAM exhibition was also held in Istanbul at the Tophane-i Amire Culture and Arts Center of Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University.

Freshman Orientation

The first days of university can be a daunting experience, bringing a whirlwind of emotions as well as a mountain of preparation for the new semester. During orientation new students received a warm welcome and friendly guidance to prepare them for the approaching semester.

Graduate School of Business Receives AMBA Accreditation

Koç University Graduate School of Business has officially received accreditation from the Association of MBAs (AMBA), one of the leading authorities on postgraduate business education worldwide. The accreditation covers the Koç University MBA and Koç University Executive MBA programs and has been awarded for a full five years. The AMBA accreditation represents the highest standard of achievement in postgraduate business education. As the 239th AMBA-accredited institution worldwide and the first in Turkey, Koç University Graduate School of Business joins an elite family of the top two percent of the world’s business schools.
**OCTOBER 2016**

**New App for Frontier Magazine**

Koç University research magazine Frontier, now has a new app for the iPad. Inside you will find a wealth of content by our distinguished academics from a variety of fields of science. In this first issue of 2016, our writers examine and celebrate the importance of light in their discipline.

**OCTOBER 19, 2016 / JANUARY 2, 2017**

**ANAMED Exhibition**

**On the Fringe: The Istanbul Land Walls**

Curated by ANAMED fellow Figen Kvicim Cokakbas, this exhibition focused on the fifth century land walls of Istanbul, a UNESCO world heritage site. Despite their original construction as structures of defense, the land walls and the areas surrounding them encapsulate a multi-layered cultural landscape that bear the traces of their 1600-year-long history. The exhibition examined the relationship of the walls to the water system and green spaces in the city, spiritual and religious stories associated with the walls, and the recollections of residents and travelers.

**NOVEMBER 2016**

**KURIous Gets a New Look**

Koç University’s popular science website KURIous received an exciting new design look. The bilingual website brings science and technology news and discussion to the wider public.

→ kurious.ku.edu.tr
VEKAM Oral History Workshop

Held by Koç University’s Vehbi Koç Ankara Studies Research Center, the workshop examined various theories of oral history as well as different methods and practices on human memory, in order to contribute to research in this field under the guidance of an interdisciplinary team of specialists covering a wide range of subjects, including psychology, sociology, history, museology, cultural heritage, archives, film, urban and environmental studies.

VEKAM Exhibition

Irony and Tension: Perception of War in Istanbul and Ankara during the Second World War Years

The exhibition addressed the perception of war in Turkey during the Second World War years and how these perceptions differed in Istanbul and Ankara, providing an insight into propaganda materials of the time. Exhibits included military albums, official bulletins, community center publications, postal stamps, popular culture and comic books, all designed, printed and distributed within the country. Associate Professor M. Sinan Niyazioglu of Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University curated and edited the exhibition, which was organized in collaboration with the Çankaya Municipality Contemporary Arts Center and Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University.

Rahmi M. Koç Medal of Science Award Ceremony

The first Rahmi M. Koç Medal of Science was awarded in the category of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to Aydoğan Özcan for his seminal contributions to computational imaging, microscopy and photonics as well as his scientific work in telemedicine, mobile sensing and diagnostics. Professor Özcan is currently working at UCLA and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. The award ceremony was held at the Rahmi M. Koç Museum in Istanbul.
Çiğdem Kağıtçıbaşı Human Development Research Award

The award of the Human Development Research Award, established by Professor Çiğdem Kağıtçıbaşı at the UNESCO Chair on Gender Equality and Sustainable Development, was presented to Dr. Şebnem Özdemir of Istanbul University for her research titled “ACDT-Analytical Casual Decision Tree” and to Assistant Professor Miraç Burak Gönültaş of Cumhuriyet University, Sivas, for his research titled “Approaches in Abduction Cases Targeting Sexual Child Abuse to Enable Criminal Investigation”. The award ceremony took place at ANAMED in Istanbul. The award aims to recognize applied research projects and scientific research that support human well-being.

Byzantine Monuments Photography Online

A digital photographic archive of Byzantine monuments in Istanbul is now online. The on-going project “The Byzantine Monuments Photography Archive” was launched by the Koç University–Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Late Antique and Byzantine Studies Research Center, GABAM.

AKMED
Second International Congress on the History of Money and Numismatics in the Mediterranean World

The Congress brought together leading scholars of monetary history and numismatics of the Mediterranean world to share the results of their research, draw attention to the cultural and economic variety observed across the Mediterranean from the Lydians to the Islamic states, and contribute to scientific study in the field. Papers delivered focused on the emergence of the concept of money and monetary and economic history from earliest coinage to the end of the Byzantine period as well as other coinage struck or circulated within this geographical region.
ANAMED Exhibition
The Characters of Yusuf Franko: An Ottoman Bureaucrat's Caricatures

Yusuf Franko Kusa Bey was an Ottoman bureaucrat, minister of foreign affairs, governor general, man of society as well as a playful caricaturist. This exhibition displayed his work, compiled in an album between 1884–1896, for the first time. Visitors met satirically charged portraits of wealthy capitalists, members of high society, Ottoman soldiers, Levantines, artists and diplomats of Istanbul in the late 19th century.

Philanthropy in Turkey Panel

Hosted by Koç University’s corporate relations and development team, the panel discussed ways and means of spreading the culture of philanthropy, on both an individual and institutional level. The event kicked off with the results of a recent survey on "Individual Giving and Philanthropy in Turkey", prepared by Professor Ali Çarkoğlu and Assistant Professor S. Erdem Aytaç and sponsored by TÜSEV, the Third Sector Foundation of Turkey. The panel consisted of TÜSEV General Secretary Tevfik Başak Ersen, Vehbi Koç Foundation President Erdal Yıldırım and Professor Ali Çarkoğlu. The panel was moderated by Zeynep Başak Çivi, Director of Corporate Relations and Development at Koç University.

Fener/Frontier Magazine 2017 Issue

Among the most important efforts at Koç University to support the communication of research are the contributions to Frontier magazine, written by our esteemed faculty and based on their meticulous work. The 11th edition of the magazine, prepared both in Turkish and English, was published in January and distributed to all faculty members, students, business partners, as well as other universities and institutes. In this issue of Frontier, articles look at humor through the lens of science to shed light on this mysterious process that can trigger not only laughter but also critical thinking.

Available from the Communications Office, or by request via pr@ku.edu.tr
Innovative Approaches in Education and Instruction Seminar

This seminar for high school counselors and principals was organized by Koç University's corporate relations and development team on the topic of new skills required to meet the demands of accelerating scientific and technological innovation and rapidly changing higher education. The seminar, where participants were encouraged to share experiences and best practices, was attended by close to one hundred principals and counselors from over thirty high schools across Turkey.

Koç University Maritime Forum Organizes Panel

KUDENFOR, the Koç University Maritime Forum, was founded in December 2015 with the objective of contributing to scientific research in Turkish maritime studies. The forum's main aim is to investigate all aspects of economic, socio-political and military maritime power. KUDENFOR organized a panel with famous Turkish comedian and marine enthusiast Ata Demirer and film critic Tunca Arslan titled “Turkish Cinema and Maritime Development”. The Panel was held inside an old sea ferry at the Rahmi M. Koç Museum in Istanbul.

White Coat Ceremony

The White Coat Ceremony at Koç University School of Medicine marks medical students’ transition from the study of preclinical to clinical health sciences. As has become tradition, the ceremony is held each year on March 14, the Turkish Medicine Day, itself marking the advent of modern medical education in Turkey in 1827. This year, 47 students were honored at Koç University’s White Coat Ceremony.
MARCH 16, 2017

**Commemoration Service for Professor Kağıtçıbaşı**

A commemoration service was held at the University's Rumelifeneri campus for Professor Çiğdem Kağıtçıbaşı, who passed away suddenly on March 2. Professor Kağıtçıbaşı was an irreplaceable scientist, a true humanist and a woman of the Turkish Republic. Among her countless contributions to science, her most important legacy are the thousands of students and highly accomplished scientists she has educated and inspired. She worked to develop education programs to educate young people to support social welfare and peace in Turkey. As a member of the Koç High School Advisory Board, Professor Kağıtçıbaşı supported optimal models for education and acted as founder and director of the Koç University Center for Gender Studies (KOÇKAM), established for promoting the role of women in society and supporting gender equality. As UNESCO Chair on Gender Equality and Sustainable Development, Professor Kağıtçıbaşı provided further support to young social scientists through the Human Development Research Award.

**MARCH 23, 2017**

**ANAMED Panel**

**The People of Yusuf Franko: The Caricatures of an Ottoman Bureaucrat**

Organized alongside the exhibition “The Characters of Yusuf Franko”, the panel explored the origins of this unparalleled caricature album and what it tells us about late 19th-century Ottoman society. The exhibition’s curator Mehmet Kentel gave a talk, titled “Drawing, Mapping and Displaying Cosmopolitan Pera”, while authors Sinan Kuneralp (“The Diplomatic Ghetto: The Social Life of Foreign Embassy Dignitaries in Istanbul during the Hamidian Period”) and Turgut Çeviker (“Yusuf Franko Pasha in the Context of the Birth of Turkish Caricature”) also addressed the panel.

**APRIL 10–11, 2017**

**KUSIF Social Value Matters 2017 Conference**

Against a backdrop of increasing inequality and global uncertainty, the KUSIF conference “Social Value Matters 2017” focused on what needs to happen to amplify stakeholder voices to inspire change and maximize value. The conference program, which consisted of a mix of roundtables and workshops, was designed on the basis of feedback from KUSIF members and the community.
16th Golden Horn Friendship Cup

First staged in 2011, the now traditional friendly rowing competition between the rowing teams of Koç University and Kadir Has University was staged for the sixth time this year. The race began in front of Kadir Has University’s Cibali Campus and ended 2200 meters along Istanbul’s Golden Horn in front of the Rahmi M. Koç Museum. The Kadir Has University rowing team was this year’s winning team.

Law School

6th Annual Conference of the American Society of Comparative Law

Koç University Law School hosted the 6th Annual Conference of the Younger Comparativists Committee of the American Society of Comparative Law at the University’s Rumelihisar Campus. YCC’s Annual Conference took place outside the US for the first time this year and Koç University Law School was selected to host the event. Opening speeches were delivered by President Umran İnan, Dean Bertil Emrah Oder and YCC Chair Virginia Harper Ho. The keynote presentation was delivered by Professor Helena Alviar Garcia, Robert F. Kennedy Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School, and titled “Narrating the Colombian Peace Process: Lessons for a Process of Transition.” The busy conference included 28 panels and parallel sessions with over 105 speakers from prestigious law schools across the world and Turkey on a very broad sweep of topics on all aspects of comparative law.
Rahmi M. KOÇ
Honorary Chairman of the Boards of Trustees and Overseers, Koç University
Honorary Chairman of the Board of Directors, Koç Holding

Ömer M. KOÇ
Chairman of the Boards of Trustees and Overseers, Koç University
Chairman of the Board of Directors, Koç Holding

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Gellhorn Prof. of Law & Jean Monnet Prof. of European Union Law, Columbia University

Professor Sandra BERMANN
Comparative Literature Department, Princeton University

Professor Janice BELLACE
Samuel A. Blank Professor of Legal Studies & Business Ethics, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Professor Philip S. KHOURY
Associate Provost, Ford International Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Professor Walter GILBERT
Former Chairman of the Society of Fellows, Harvard University

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Former Dean, David and Susan Heckerman Professor of Pediatrics, Stanford University School of Medicine

Professor Gerhard CASPER
President, American Academy in Berlin
President Emeritus and Former Director of the Freeman Spogli Institute, Stanford University

Professor Andrew HAMILTON
President, New York University
BOARD of TRUSTEES
The Academic Planning and Development Directorate, Koç University Office of Learning and Teaching, Suna Kırac Library, Registrar’s Directorate, the English Language Center, and Koç University Publications report to the Office of the VPAA in matters related to their academic and/or administrative activities. The reviews, highlights, and issues for these units are given in separate reports below.

**Academic Planning and Development Directorate**

The Academic Planning and Development Directorate works closely with all programs in all matters related to developing academic policies, teaching and learning activities, curriculum development, faculty recruitment, development, evaluation, and promotion processes, supporting the strategic plan of the University with comprehensive academic analysis and planning. The main activities are in the areas of Academic Planning and Development, Institutional Analysis, Academic Projects, and Compliance.

**Academic Planning and Development**

30 new faculty members (12 members for the School of Medicine and 18 members for other Colleges) joined or made a commitment to join Koç University in the September 1, 2016-August 31, 2017 period. During the same period 9 faculty members left the university. The current number of faculty members is 327.

In the September 2016-May 2017 period, 6 faculty members were promoted to the rank of professor and 8 faculty members were promoted to the rank of associate professor.

Faculty promotions, annual evaluations, contract renewal, sabbatical procedures have been revised and the Faculty Handbook was updated.

Undergraduate student regulation has been revised and the new document was published in the official gazette.

Koç University Quality Commission (chaired by the VPAA) was formed to lead quality assurance activities.

An academic program review process has been initiated to conduct a comprehensive review of all programs every 3 years. Media and Visual Arts, History, English Language and Comparative Literature, Physics and Law were selected for the review process in Spring 2017. All programs will go through periodic program review until 2019.

Based on the review in 2015-2016, the organization and delivery of the Core Program has been improved. A detailed program review is scheduled to begin in September 2017.

Student advising is expected to improve now that all undergraduate students will meet with their advisors at least twice a year, before the course enrollment period begins.

The application process for
intended students and transfer students has been improved.

**Institutional Analysis and Planning**

Undergraduate student intake quotas and distribution of scholarships across departments have been planned to attract the best students within budgetary constraints. In 2017, the total quota is planned to be 1,050 (991 in 2016) and the full-scholarship equivalent ratio will be 25% (39.6% in 2016).

In 2016, the VPAA’s office continued to conduct analyses to support the institution’s strategic decision-making.

The Undergraduate Programs Fact Book, which contains key academic data and analyses of undergraduate programs, has been prepared to support the periodic program review process.

A two-year academic plan has been prepared for courses to be offered and the faculty assignment.

**Academic Projects**

The Visiting Scholar Program will provide support to 22 faculty members for their research visits in Summer 2017. The Summer Professional Development Program will provide support to 2 lecturers/instructors.

The Summer Academy and Summer English Camp attracted 105 high school students and included 13 courses in 2016. In Summer 2017, 18 courses will be offered and 150 students are expected.

**Supporting and Improving Academic Processes with Technology**

Our focus for the upcoming year will be on academic curriculum maintenance, producing clean and sustainable KUSIS (Koç University Academic Information System) reports involving critical academic data, and upgrading the on-line application portal for graduate, international and transfer students with IT’s support.

As part of our drive to promote educational technologies in learning and teaching Blackboard is being used as the central learning management system (LMS) at Koç University in addition to Moodle. Koç University has offered 6 courses on Coursera as a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) since 2014, reaching over 60,000 students globally.

In 2016 our Office worked with the IT Department to complete its Faculty Evaluation System project in order to perform all annual evaluations online. A web-based platform now provides an interface where Annual Reports, Annual Evaluation System, Course Evaluations, Consolidated University Annual Report and KUFIS can be accessed. A project to digitize all the documents for Academic Planning and Development, the Registrar’s Directorate and Human Resources has also been started.

**Issues and Challenges**

Our activities in Academic Planning and Development are fulfilled to continuously improve all of our academic processes. This requires close cooperation with all the academic and administrative units of the University. Changing regulations set by the Higher Education Council introduce further challenges to our academic processes.

Institutional Analysis is essential to support all decisions with thorough analysis of existing data. Determining student quotas and allocating scholarships in an optimal way have significant effects on the long-term financial plan of the University as well as quality of the student body.

We are working on developing processes to work more efficiently and sharing updates and useful training documentation with the respective departments for regulatory issues.

Our Summer Academy Program has
been running very successfully. We plan to expand the number of students in this program if we can engage more faculty members.

Koç University Office of Learning and Teaching (KOLT)

The mission of Koç University Office of Learning and Teaching (KOLT) is to improve the learning and teaching environment at Koç University. KOLT activities consist of support for the faculty, students, graduate teaching assistants; support for course and curriculum development, and support for the establishment of educational technologies at Koç University.

In Fall 2016 and Spring 2017, KOLT provided support for faculty through following actions:

Designing a new faculty orientation program on effective teaching; organizing teaching workshops given by experts in the area of teaching and learning in higher education; offering teaching innovation grants for the integration of educational technologies, learning-centered teaching and course redesign, and experimenting with new teaching methods; assisting faculty in the use of educational technologies for course design (using either one of the two learning management systems, Blackboard or Moodle) and for improving student engagement by using clickers; assisting faculty in video recording their lectures and sharing it with students online via Blackboard; providing workshops and full-day training programs to groups of faculty with shared interests and concerns; conducting online mid-semester course evaluations to provide feedback to instructors; providing individual consultations to faculty who request them, to discuss and resolve areas of concern; providing new teaching tools and resources such as Metalog training tools to help faculty design activities in line with the premises of experiential training; assisting faculty while experimenting with new teaching methods and strategies; promoting Coursera to increase the number of Koç University courses to be offered on the MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) platform; addressing ad hoc requests of faculty and academic departments in teaching issues and educational technologies.

In the same period KOLT provided the following services to undergraduate students:

A tutoring center employing tutors for providing assistance in courses for weekly tutoring hours and additional review sessions mainly for large courses; weekly conversation circles to promote fluency in spoken English, French, German and Spanish for ELC, undergraduate students and graduate students; online UNIV101 workshops to help students adjust to university life and increase their awareness about plagiarism and its detrimental effects on academic life; specialized reading and exam-taking workshops for PSYC 100 students; designing and delivering one-credit KOLT 101 Academic Skills Development course for a specific group of students who need development in self-regulation (time-management, procrastination, etc.) and academic skills (effective reading, note-taking and presentation); small group or individual support to promote basic academic skills such as effective reading, note taking, exam preparation, taking an exam, project development, and preparing and delivering effective presentations; individual consultation and follow up with students who have severe
academic problems; provide help for ad hoc requests of students. KOLT provided a series of workshops focusing on effective teaching methods and techniques and micro teaching sessions for graduate students at the Graduate School of Sciences and Engineering, the Graduate School of Social Sciences and Humanities, the Graduate School of Business or the Graduate School of Health Sciences, who are teaching assistants or are considering an academic career.

In order to support course development, KOLT continued to conduct online mid-semester evaluations of courses in Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. In addition, KOLT provided help to colleges and schools in their program review and accreditation processes by organizing workshops, providing program-based consultations and conducting focus group interviews and follow-up surveys. KOLT is also engaged in the effective implementation of the Core Program by conducting evaluation studies and organizing workshops for Core Program instructors.

KOLT’s rigorous attempts for the institutionalization of educational technologies continued in Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. KOLT plays a key role in the wide-spread use of Blackboard and the maintenance of Moodle, which has been widely used by the English Learning Center and the School of Medicine. KOLT also continued to support the integration of some Koç University courses into the COURSERA program, an online learning platform. KOLT also continues to work on the improvement of available educational technologies in use in the newly designed active learning classroom.

In order to support Koç University with the best possible teaching and learning services, KOLT director and staff have continued to produce new projects and to assist their own professional development in 2016-2017, by attending training programs, conferences, and conducting their own research. KOLT Director Sözer was invited for presentations to various Turkish universities’ teaching and learning centers.

As a result of these activities, KOLT has come to be recognized as the leading teaching and learning office in Turkey. We view our current areas of challenge and growth as the following:

Increasing participation in teaching workshops and meetings; developing a new training program for new faculty to improve their teaching throughout their first year at Koç University; providing continuous support to faculty members by designing face-to-face and online professional development seminars or round table discussions to exchange best practices; promoting LMS system (Blackboard) to effectively integrate it into KU undergraduate and graduate courses and to develop blended courses; improving services to KU students by offering new seminar and academic training programs, and also enhancing the quality and number of the tutoring and review services; supporting the use of educational technologies in large classrooms; attracting more students to KOLT 101 Academic Skills Development course; improving the “visibility” of KOLT inside and outside KU; budgeting of new technological tools to run trials and tests at KU to see benefits and capacity of them in teaching practices; launching new services for students such as study groups and new trainings on employability skills that emerged as “needs” from the needs analysis conducted by KOLT; improving Teaching Assistant (TA) training program to include all TAs from graduate schools, and also extending the program.
by having academic year-long workshops and seminars specially designed for teaching assistants; designing research and projects in higher education teaching and learning and sharing their results on different platforms.

**Suna Kıraç Library and Its Branches (ANAMED, KUH, VEKAM & AKMED)**

Koç University’s Suna Kıraç Library continues to support the University in its mission to “cultivate Turkey’s most competent graduates, well-rounded adults who are internationally qualified; who can think creatively, independently and objectively.”

The Library has been serving library users in three cities and at 5 locations. These locations are the Main Library at Rumeli Feneri Campus, the Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (ANAMED) Library in Taksim, the Koç University Hospital Library, the Vehbi Koç and Ankara Studies Research Center (VEKAM) Archives and Library in Ankara and the Research Center for Mediterranean Civilizations (AKMED) Library in Antalya. Each branch library has its own distinct set of characteristics that influence many factors, from collection development to service hours. This diversity leads to strengths that also bring opportunities.

AKMED Library, which joined the Suna Kıraç Library system in May 2016, has now been fully integrated in terms of inventory and service commitments. Budgetary adjustments will be realized in 2017. The total number of books at the AKMED Library currently stands at 15,486. Koç University Suna Kıraç Library’s “Platform for Beyoğlu Research Centers and Library Joint Catalogue” project that won the support of Istanbul Development Agency under the Innovative Istanbul Financial Assistance Program with a grant of 501,319 TL is now in use at https://www.bibliopera.org/. BiblioPera has also been acknowledged by Koç Holding and it received first prize in the category of ‘Collaboration’ and earned the title “En Başarılı Koç’lu/Most Successful Koç Member”.

In 2016, the Library continued to make significant progress in expanding its digital collections and its digital cultural heritage initiatives. 8 collections were added to the existing stock. The Library could not have realized these digital initiatives without the continued support of the Vehbi Koç Foundation and University administration. We are reaching new levels of success with increasing user statistics and scholarly use requests for exhibitions and publications. The items on the Digital Collections platform have been viewed 84,074 times.

As part of our current conservation project in 2016, the protection of old manuscripts from further damage was undertaken. 341 manuscripts have so far been submitted to a dry cleaning process and placed in acid and lignin-free storage boxes.

The Koç University Institutional Repository (KU IR), a centralized location for digitized research and scholarship, continues to grow. At present it provides access to 461 articles, mostly from 2012 through to 2016, while KU Theses and Dissertations total 1,206 items.

In 2016, Koç University Suna Kıraç Library’s total collection reached 322,214 items. Our online collection now encompasses 52,884 e-journals, 157,584 e-books and 112 databases.

**Registrar’s Directorate**

In 2016, Registrar’s Directorate completed its new organization with 10 staff members and moved to a new location in the ELC/Registrar’s Building, completed in February 2017.
The main activities in 2016 included the following: Improvement of user experience in the Koç University Student Information System (KUSIS); eliminating manual enrollment of graduate students to graduate courses by completing more than 80% of the enrollments on the system; providing document and information requests (14,000 information requests, 11,000 enrollment verification and 5,500 transcript requests in 2015) on a timely basis; preparing the Academic Calendar for the next three years with firm dates for finalizing the course offerings, providing syllabi, faculty assignments, and schedules; starting a digital archiving project in order to process and deliver document requests more efficiently; improving online international and transfer student online application process; integration of KUSIS with YOKSIS (Council of Higher Education Student Information System).

Finally, the ELC continues to expand its range of educational offerings to include an Executive English program (KEEP) and a high school Summer English Camp. ELC instructors also provide educational support to the School of Medicine.

**Koç University Press**

Koç University Press (KUP) is in the process of becoming the leading academic publisher in Turkey. In 2016 it published 41 titles (including reprints), adding to the previous 79 titles published between 2010 and 2015. In 2017, KUP will be publishing 60 titles in humanities, the arts, literature, social sciences, natural sciences, medicine, business, and technology.

The aim of the publishing house is to contribute to science and scholarship through the publication of new research and to publish state-of-the-art books in all fields of science that are accessible for a wider audience, thus contributing to the cultural life of Turkey.

KUP began making its English titles available on Amazon in 2015; most of its titles are now available on Amazon throughout the world.

In 2016, KUP sold more than 23,000 copies (44% increase on previous year) with a revenue of 380,000 TL (58% increase on previous year). Press coverage (not paid-for advertisement) of the titles published in 2016 amounted to the equivalent advertising value of 4,160,000 TL (235% increase on previous year). KUP balanced its budget in 2016 and aims to end 2017 with a profit. KUP pledges to donate its profits to Koç University in the form of student scholarships.

KUP operates from the ANAMED building on İstiklal Avenue with 5 personnel. As of January 1, 2016, it is part of UNVEST AŞ.
Office of Vice President for Research and Development

M. İRŞADI AKSUN, VPRD

The Office of Vice President for Research and Development (VPRD) oversees the operations of and provides necessary guidance to the University’s graduate schools, its research centers and the Research, Project Development and Technology Transfer Directorate (RPDTT).

Graduate Schools
During the last several years (starting from 2013), the top priority of our graduate schools at Koç University has been to recruit top PhD candidates and to shift the emphasis towards PhD programs, thus supporting Turkey’s strategic roadmap of increasing the number of PhD researchers from 32,000 to 160,000 by 2023.

Our goal has been largely achieved, especially during the initial few years, as far as the numbers of PhD students enrolled in the graduate programs of Koç University are concerned. However, simultaneously increasing not only the quantity but also the quality of our domestic and international PhD candidates remains one of our graduate schools’ most significant tasks.

The graduate schools at Koç University address this problem by offering a variety of scholarship options to top graduates of highly ranked universities in Turkey, as well as trying to attract PhD candidates from the neighboring region.

For the financing of graduate students at Koç University, it may be worth noting that approximately 10% of MS/A students and 45% of PhD students are being supported by Koç University and the rest are financed by outside sources. These numbers also demonstrate that our strategic goal of increasing the PhD student body is being achieved.

Research, Project Development and Technology Transfer
The Research, Project Development and Technology Transfer Directorate works very closely with faculty to provide a full range of administrative services in their pursuit of increasing externally funded research projects while reducing the administrative burden on researchers. It is worth noting that since its inception in 2009, this office has continued to improve the number of sponsored projects from external sources and their financial contribution to research at Koç University.

Perhaps the most important news this year is the decision to establish KUTTAM, the Koç University Research Center for Translational Medicine, with the support of the Ministry of Development, which has approved a budget of 33 million TL. This center is expected to significantly promote and increase already available collaboration between faculty at the School of Medicine and those at the University’s others Schools and Colleges, and to contribute to the leadership of Koç University in the field of research, innovation and product development activities in medical science and technology. Since the main emphasis
of KUTTAM is for translational medical research, it is expected to act like a center of gravity attracting faculty work on health-related problems from engineering to science, social science, administrative science and law in addition to faculty at the School of Medicine.

On the EU front, the contracts of three new European Research Council (ERC) grants (worth about 16 million TL) were signed in 2016 and one additional starting grant application by Assoc. Prof. Seda Keskin, from the Chemical and Biological Engineering Department, has been selected for the second round for an interview with a panel.

Research Centers
The purpose of research programs at Koç University is to make qualified and genuine contributions to universal science and to positively influence the intellectual, technological, economic and social development of Turkey. Academic members recognize the value of interdisciplinary collaboration and work as a team while also sustaining their independent research. Our research centers and forums therefore constitute a key element in the creation and ongoing research operation of Koç University.

As of May 2017, Koç University hosts 17 of research centers and 5 research forums for the purpose of conducting scientific and application studies in specific fields, to propose policies, and to convey academic knowledge to society in social, economic and legal fields.

Research Forums
- TÜSİAD – Koç University Economic Research Forum (EAF)
- Koç University Migros Retailing Education Forum - KUMPTEM
- Koç University Social Impact Forum (KUSIF)
- Koç University Maritime Research Forum (KUDENFOR)
- Koç University Corporate Governance Forum (CGF)

Research Centers
- The Vehbi Koç and Ankara Research Center (VEKAM)
- Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (ANAMED)
- Center for Research on Globalization, Peace, and Democratic Governance (GLODEM)
- Koç University Gender Studies Center (KOÇ-KAM)
- Migration Research Program at Koç University (MIReKoç)
- Dr. Nüsret-Semahat Arsel International Trade Law Application and Research Center (NASAMER)
- Social Policy Application and Research Center (KU-SPM)
- Surface Technologies Research Center (KUYTAM)
- Koç University Tüpraş Energy Center (KÜTEM)
- Koç University Center for Survey Research (KUCSR)
- Koç University Drug Research Center (IAM)
- Koç University Arçelik Research Center for Creative Industries (KUAR)
- KWORKS Entrepreneurship Research Center
- Koç University Center for Global Public Law (CGPL)
- Koç University Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for Late Antique and Byzantine Studies (GABAM)
- Suna & İnan Kıraç Research Center for Mediterranean Civilizations (AKMED)
- Center for Asian Studies (KUASIA)

Support Centers
- Koç University Support Center for Disabled Children and their Families (EÇADEM)
Research Project Development & Technology Transfer Directorate

The Research Project Development and Technology Transfer Directorate is positioned under the Vice Presidency for Research and Development and provides intellectual property rights management-licensing and entrepreneurship-new venture development services in addition to project development, management and university-industry research collaboration services.

Highlights of the Year

In the academic year of 2016-2017, the RPDTT office has continued to provide support for grants applications and has actively pursued project development opportunities. As a result, these efforts have led to a solid performance in terms of growth in number of projects as well as the granted amount from these projects. Overall, 2016 has been a successful year for the RPDTT Office.

There were 60 externally funded projects in 2016 with a record total budget of 71 million TL. Most significantly, establishment of the new Translational Medical Research Center was supported by the Ministry of Development with a budget of 33 million TL. The establishment and operationalization of this center, in 2017 and beyond, will significantly contribute to the leadership of Koç University in the field of research, innovation and product development activities on medical technologies. In addition, contracts of three new European Research Council (ERC) grants (worth about 16 million TL) were signed in 2016. Between January-April 2017, 17 projects have been funded with a present value of 13 million TL.

In 2016, Koç University’s success with the prestigious European Research Council (ERC) award program continued. Dr. Elif Nur Firat Karalar’s (Molecular Biology and Genetics) ERC Starting Grant contract of about 6 million TL; Dr. Alp Atakan’s (Economics) ERC Consolidator Grant contract of about 4 million TL, and Dr. Erdem Kabadayı’s (History) ERC Starting Grant contract of about 6 million TL were signed this year. New projects were also approved: Dr. Erdem Yörük (Sociology) was awarded a new ERC Starting Grant of about 6 million TL, signed in 2017, and Dr. Hakan Ürey (Electrical and Electronics Engineering) was awarded his second ERC Proof of Concept grant, concerning the commercialization of his original ERC Advanced Project, with a value of 600,000 TL (pending signature). With these welcome developments, Koç University continues to be the leading institution in Turkey for ERC grants: Koç University now hosts 9 of the 16 active ERC grants in Turkey.

Concerning the European Commission’s Horizon 2020 Program, in 2016 Koç University was declared by TÜBİTAK the most successful university in Turkey in terms of the number of contracts and budgets received.

RPDTTD continues to manage TÜBİTAK’s Technology Transfer Office (TTO) Support Program project. The fourth year budget of the project is expected to be 1.2 million TL.

In 2016, patent applications for 13 new inventions were filed, 9 of them being international PCT patent applications. The Patent prosecution process for 57 patent applications are still in progress and national entries of 6 patents were realized in 2016. Overall 14 patents were granted in 2016 alone, 2 of them in Turkey, 4 European Patents, 3 US patents, 4 patents in Japan and 1 in Canada.
Current Externally Funded Projects
As of April 2017, there are 164 ongoing externally funded projects with a present value of 186.5 million TL. Of this amount, 98 projects totaling 74.1 million TL are funded by national agencies, while 29 projects totaling 71.4 million TL are funded by European funding institutions. A further 22 active projects totaling 26 million TL are funded by industry sources. Other sources, such as non-governmental organizations, universities abroad or umbrella organizations, comprise the rest of the project portfolio of the University with 15 running projects, with a total budget of about 15 million TL.

Development of Research Grants (by years and funding institutions)
The total number of externally funded projects, starting from January 2004 up until April 2017, is 713 and the total amount granted is around TL 287.7 million (present value). 49% of the total granted budget has been received from the public sector, 30% from European funding institutions, 15% by industry sources and 6% by other funding institutions.

Project Development at Koç University
Since 2014, RPDTTD especially increased its efforts in University-Industry collaboration and entrepreneurship support. The office further improved its support and evaluation services provided to researchers for licensing, patent applications and commercialization. Following the 2014 initiation of the new research and innovation support program of the European Commission, namely Horizon 2020, the office helped Koç University researchers prepare applications for various collaboration calls. Awareness-raising and information distribution activities continued for the second year of the new 7-year research and innovation support program of Horizon 2020. RPDTTD continued to support the strengthening of Koç University researchers’ networks with European research organizations.

In 2016, the University’s success with Istanbul Development Agency funding continued with three additional projects and a total budget of around 2.6 million TL.

TÜBİTAK continues to be the main source of national research funding, especially as our University has been selected to be among the first 10 universities to be supported by TÜBİTAK in 2013. Large-scale TÜBİTAK grants continue to be very important for Koç University, and KU researchers are successful in this program.

Our team members attended several international brokerage events, such as Eureka Innovation Week, Celtic Plus Proposers Day, ICTurkey 2016, TechInnovation 2016, Biomedical Partnering Event, BIO Conference 2016, among others. Our faculty members attended several brokerage events through RPDTT’s coordination. These events aim to match project proposals for European Commission’s and other cooperative calls. The office also organized several workshops and training sessions on different topics, such as technology transfer, new venture development, etc.

In 2016, RPDTT continued to complete the tasks under its two approved projects for Capacity Development for Technology Transfer Offices: The first one of these projects (PROGRESS-TT) is supported by Horizon 2020, the second one (TTA Turkey) is co-financed by the EU and the Republic of Turkey under the Regional Development Component of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) funds and managed by EIF.
Overview
Several major issues have dominated our administrative efforts for the 2016-2017 academic year at Koç University College of Administrative Sciences and Economics (CASE). One area concerns recruitment of new faculty. Another major undertaking was the finalization of our curriculum review. This process is tied to our upcoming renewal of EQUIS accreditation in 2017. We had a very successful EQUIS peer review team visit in February and received its positive feedback in April 2017, recommending a five-year re-accreditation. This decision is due to be finalized in the EQUIS accreditation committee meeting on June 6, 2017. We also did preparatory work for accreditation by the AACSB (The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) in the form of an initial self-assessment report.

Review of the Current State of the College
As of April 2017, CASE has 64 full-time faculty and 1,879 undergraduate students in its three programs: Business Administration, Economics, and International Relations. As such, the student body of CASE is the largest at our university.

Faculty
CASE has an internationally distinguished faculty. 97% of faculty members received their PhDs from renowned universities abroad and many of them worked at international institutions before joining Koç University. 42% of CASE faculty members are women, 3% are foreign nationals. A careful and sophisticated recruitment process for new faculty and the nurturing of a productive environment for existing faculty remain to be our top priorities.

Research Activities
CASE faculty continues to have the highest number of publications in top international journals, the highest number of citations, and the highest number of awards received from the Turkish Academy of Sciences and Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey among their peers at other schools in Turkey.

Despite fluctuations, our faculty’s academic productivity remains high and competitive compared to not only our Turkish competitors but also with renowned institutions worldwide.

Our publications during 2012-2017 period in the leading business journals place us again as the top research institution in Turkey in the University of Texas World Rankings for Business Schools. Similarly, our Economics program ranks No. 1 in Turkey based on QS World University Rankings.

Our International Relations program was also ranked among the top 200 institutions worldwide in this year’s QS World University Rankings.

There are currently 8 active research projects funded by the European Union, the Turkish Scientific and Technological Research Council.
(TÜBİTAK), and other sources at CASE with a total budget of 7.3 million TL. In 2016, 7 new projects were funded with a total budget of 6 million TL.

Students
Following the successful development of our student body rankings over the past year, we continued improvement in 2016 on top of these past two years. In 2016, 50% of CASE students ranked in the top 26,000, up from 30,000 in 2015 and 37,000 in 2014. These results show a substantial increase in student selectivity.

Another major point to note is the extent to which our students undertake double major programs. Of 1,879 CASE students 333 students (18%) undertake a double major program. Typically, most of these are within our faculty (187). However, a significant number of students (146) are also doing double major degrees in Engineering (40), Social sciences and Humanities (79), Sciences (5) and Law (22). Similarly, we received 191 students from other faculties, mostly Engineering, Social Sciences and Humanities, and Law, doing double majors at one of our three departments.

Internationalization
CASE has achieved international recognition with the quality of its faculty, research, and teaching programs. Our faculty continues to take a leading role in all initiatives for the continued internationalization of our university.

Our College is currently the only EQUIS-accredited business school in Turkey. We are the Turkish partner in CEMS, the Global Alliance in Management Education. Koç University is also the only school with an internationally ranked program in Turkey and in the surrounding region. Today Koç University is listed among the best European business schools by the Financial Times. We are not only a member of AACSB and EFMD, but also a CFA Partner institution and member of Global Business School Network and United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Academic Network. We are also a signatory of the United Nations Principles of Responsible Management Education.

Distinguished Research Fellows and Visiting Professors
Our “Distinguished Research Fellows” (DRF) program continues to develop with new participants. In this capacity, we invited two new DRFs to contribute to our research programs by conducting collaborative research with our faculty members, supervising graduate students, and organizing research seminars and workshops.

Promotions
• Dr. Özlem Altan Olcay has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of International Relations.
• Dr. Nilüfer Aydinoğlu has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of Marketing.

Awards and Appointments
• Asst. Prof. Belgin Şan Akça (International Relations): 2017 Science Academy’s Young Scientist Awards Program.
• Assoc. Prof. Seda Ertaç (Economics): 2017 Science Academy’s Young Scientist Awards Program
• Assoc. Prof. Şener Aktürk (International Relations): 2017 Science Academy’s Young Scientist Awards Program
• Prof. Kamil Yılmaz (Economics) was elected as a member of the Science Academy.
• Prof. Zeynep Akşin Karaesmen (Operations Management and Information Systems): Second place, 2016 Wickham Skinner Best Paper Award for the best paper in POM.
Overview
Koç University College of Engineering is in a unique position, with its excellent faculty and facilities, to be recognized as the leading engineering college in Turkey and a world-class institution. One of our main distinguishing features is our insistence on high impact interdisciplinary research.

Review of the Current State of the College
The notable curriculum change this year took place in Chemical and Biological Engineering with the initiation of a new required introductory class. Existing MÜDEK-ENAEE accreditations in our Electrical and Electronics Eng. and Industrial Eng. programs are due for renewal in 2017-18, and this gives us an opportunity to review our curricula and quality assurance processes in depth. This includes more systematic feedback mechanisms from students, alumni and employers and better internal mechanisms for evaluating this feedback.

Faculty
The College of Engineering currently has 50 full-time faculty members (excluding President İnan and Vice-President Aksun). Five new faculty members with very high research potential joined our College in 2016. Our faculty search processes for a further 10-15 faculty members are ongoing for 2017, and we are hopeful that it will be completed successfully in 2016.

Research Output and Grants
The quantity and quality of our scholarly research output was maintained in this period. The new research facilities being built at our University’s main campus will be completed in 2018, and we expect that this will give a further boost to our research output in the coming years.

Students
The total number of undergraduate engineering students reached 1,551 in this academic period. Our undergraduate student quality as measured by the university entrance exam performance has significantly improved in recent years. The number of new students admitted through the central university entrance exam in 2016 increased by 11% over 2015. Despite this notable increase, the bottom rankings in the entrance exam for our new students remained stable. We want to focus new efforts on raising student awareness and motivation for careers in high-tech engineering and design.

Promotions
Dr. Alper Erdoğan (Electrical and Electronics Eng.) was promoted to Professor and Dr. Mehmet Sayar (Mechanical Eng. and Chemical and Biological Eng.) was promoted to Associate Professor in 2016-2017. We anticipate several further promotions in 2017-18.

Major Awards and Achievements
In 2016-2017, Engineering Faculty received several awards. Highlights are listed below:
• Prof. Murat Tekalp (Electrical and Electronics Eng.): 2016 Koç University Outstanding Faculty Award.
• Prof. Attila Gürsoy (Computer Eng.): 2016 College of Engineering Outstanding Faculty Award.
• Prof. Alper Erdoğan (Electrical and Electronics Eng.): 2017 Koç University Outstanding Teaching Award.
• Assoc. Prof. Erdem Alaca (Mechanical Eng.): 2017 College of Engineering Outstanding Teaching Award.
• Prof. Ö zgür Barış Akan, (Electrical and Electronics Eng.): Selected IEEE Distinguished Lecturer by IEEE Nanotechnology Society
• Asst. Prof. Alper Uzun (Chemical and Biological Eng.): 2016 Turkish Academy of Sciences Encouragement Award (TÜBA- GEBİP)
• Asst. Prof. Mehmet Gönen (Industrial Eng.): 2016 Turkish Academy of Sciences Encouragement Award (TÜBA- GEBİP).
• Asst. Prof. M. Cengiz Onbaşlı (Electrical and Electronics Eng.): 2017 Science Academy Encouragement Award (BAGEP)
• Assoc. Prof. Seda Keskin (Chemical and Biological Eng.): 2016 Young Researcher Award of Feyzi Akkaya Foundation (FABED)
Overview
The mission of the College of Sciences is to educate future leaders who can design strategies based on scientific principles and to do cutting-edge research with high impact. Our criteria of success is not only to attract the best students, but also to create opportunities for our students to improve themselves so that our graduates are the top choice of both industry and academia. For this, we include our students starting from their first year as researchers in our ongoing projects that find answers to important scientific questions and combine fundamental science and applications by interdisciplinary approaches. The College of Sciences has four departments, namely Chemistry, Mathematics, Molecular Biology and Genetics, and Physics.

Review of the Current State of the College
In the 2016-2017 academic year, CS faculty offered core and required courses to more than 7,000 students in a total of 160 sections of 111 different courses, corresponding to 44 students per section.

Students
The rankings of students enrolled in CS in 2016 showed significant improvement in Chemistry, Mathematics, and Physics compared to 2015. The rankings of the class of 2016 were within the top 16600, 4900, and 6500, for Chemistry, Mathematics, and Physics, respectively. The rankings of students admitted to the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics remained within the top 50,000 in 2016. Overall rankings of students admitted to College of Sciences has improved considerably since 2012. Currently, there is a total of 57 double-major students at our College, in comparison with 54 during the previous period. Of the 57 double-major students, 44 are from other Colleges.

Faculty
As of Spring 2017, CS comprises 40 full-time research faculty, 10 full-time instructors, and 4 part-time instructors across our four departments.

Research Activities
CS faculty members continue to produce high-impact research output in leading scientific journals. As of April 2017, the total number of CS publications since 1993 reached over 1,400. Based on the total research output of Koç University, as documented in the ISI Web of Science (as of April 2017), the top 3 most cited Koç University publications have come out of the College of Sciences. In 2016, CS faculty published 84 research articles as listed in the ISI Web of Science (with proceedings), corresponding to 2.1 papers per faculty member.

In 2016, a total of 10 new external projects led by CS faculty were funded with a total budget of over 8 million TL. Currently, there are 60 active, externally funded projects led by CS faculty with a total budget of approximately 30 million TL. The total amount of externally funded research projects by CS faculty since 2004 has reached over 56.7 million TL.
The College is affiliated with four of the University’s inter-disciplinary research centers, namely KUYTAM (Koç University Surface Science and Technology Center), KUTREM (Koç University Tüpraş Energy Center), KUARF (Koç University Animal Research Facility) and KUBIC (Koç University Biological Imaging Center), and currently hosts 21 research laboratories in Chemistry, Molecular Biology and Genetics, and Physics:

- Inorganic Synthesis/X-ray Diffraction Laboratory
- Quantum Dot and Nanoparticle Synthesis Laboratory
- Ceramics Laboratory
- Surface & Polymer Physical Chemistry Laboratory
- Catalysis Research Laboratory
- Polymer Research Laboratory
- Laser Research Laboratory
- Metamaterials and Plasmonics Laboratory
- Microphotonics Research Laboratory
- Optofluidics and Nano-Optics Research Laboratory
- Bioimaging Technologies Research Laboratory
- Brain Imaging and Control Laboratory
- Computational Chemistry Laboratory
- Computational Physics Laboratory
- Cell Biology and Proteomics Laboratory
- Cytoskeleton Biology Research Laboratory
- Mitochondrial Biogenesis Laboratory
- Molecular Neurobiology Laboratory
- RNA Biology and Function Laboratory
- Ecology Lab

**Promotions and Appointment**

Three CS faculty members were promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in June 2016. (Menderes Işkin, Alkan Kabakçıoğlu,UGHUHV,ÇDU$QFORD@ÝX0QDO

- Dr. Hasan İnci (Mathematics) and Dr. Ayşe Koca Çağdaş (Molecular Biology and Genetics) will be joining the College of Sciences in 2017. Four more appointments are pending.

Three external faculty, Prof. Ataç İmamoğlu (Physics), Prof. Mete Soner (Mathematics), and Prof. Çağan Şekercioğlu (Biology/Ecology) contributed to our research and teaching programs as Distinguished Research Fellows this year.

**Awards**

In 2016 and up to April 2017, 10 new research awards were received by CS faculty members from external organizations.

- Of our 40 full-time research faculty members, so far 7 faculty have received the prestigious TÜBİTAK Science Award; 11 have received the TÜBİTAK Young Scientist Award; 20 have received TÜBA (Turkish Academy of Sciences) Young Scientist Award and 11 have received The Science Academy Young Scientist Award.
Overview
The College of Social Sciences and Humanities is a challenging and inspiring element of Koç University committed to the advancement of knowledge and creative activity through the pursuit of teaching, learning, research, and performance. Our departments and support programs enable students in building their capacity to think freely, critically and incisively about ideas, people, communities and societies in the past and contemporary world. The College offers a vibrant, multi-disciplinary research environment revolving around several innovative, high-quality research groups. The faculty members are internationally recognized for their research, and this research is relevant to the needs of the students and stakeholders so as to meet local and global challenges faced by individuals and societies.

Review of the Current State of the College
The College is composed of seven degree-granting departments and three supporting programs. The departments are: Archaeology and History of Art, English and Comparative Literature, History, Media and Visual Arts, Philosophy, Psychology, and Sociology. The supporting programs are Academic Writing, Foreign Languages, and Turkish Communication Skills.

The College of Social Sciences and Humanities offered 272 course sections in Fall 2016 and 269 in Spring 2017. These numbers correspond to nearly 50% of all the undergraduate courses taught in the University.

Faculty
Currently there are 15 full professors, 16 associate professors, and 37 assistant professors in seven departments (total of 68 faculty members). With full-time and part-time instructors as well as adjunct professors, the number of faculty reaches 124. In the next academic year, we expect the number of total full time faculty members to increase at the level of assistant professorship and full professorship through new hires and promotions.

Appointments and Promotions
Six new faculty members joined the College in the 2016-2017 academic year, one at the level of full professor, one at the level of associate professor, and four at the level of assistant professor.

- Amir Hetsoni: Associate Professor of Media and Visual Arts
- Ayşen Üstübüci: Assistant Professor of Sociology
- Çetin Çelik: Assistant Professor of Sociology
- Nikos Kontogiannis: Assistant Professor of Archaeology and History of Art
- Terry Eskenazi: Assistant Professor of Psychology
- Ivana Jevtic: Assistant Professor of Archaeology and History of Art
There will be one full professor joining us in the next academic year.

In addition, one faculty member became a full-time assistant professor after serving our college as a full time instructor for several years.

Research Activities
The upward trend in the total active amount of external research funding continued in the 2016-2017 academic year, rising from 25 million TL to 39 million TL. While the number of projects funded respectively by government agencies and European funding institutions are comparable to the previous year, there is a decline in the number of projects receiving funding from other sources. This year, a considerable proportion of funding received from EU funding institutions was from two European Research Council (ERC) grants. This underlines an important success for the College in terms of securing funds from a highly competitive funding scheme.

Research productivity is increasing, especially among the new young faculty of the college. However, what is needed is to encourage and facilitate the faculty to disseminate and publish their research findings in high impact venues (such as well-respected interdisciplinary journals). We also need to be more effective in supporting certain types of non-conventional academic and artistic activities such as exhibitions, archaeological excavations, policy research, and civil society activities. These represent well-defined target challenges for us to address in coming years.

We have remained successful in increasing the student quality as measured by the university entrance central examination. As with the previous year, despite the increase in total enrollment numbers, there were no students with a ranking below 50,000 among incoming CSSH students (5% in 2014).

We aim to expend more effort to recruit even better students to our departments. The performance of freshman students in particular can be improved by bolstering their motivation and interest in the course material taught. To this end, decreasing the number of students per section can be an effective first step solution at multiple levels.

Awards
The following awards and honors were received by faculty members in the Psychology Department: Associate Prof. İlke Öztekin received the Turkish Academy of Sciences Young Scientist (TÜBA- GEBİP) and TÜBİTAK Incentive (TÜBİTAK Teşvik) Awards, which are considered as the most prestigious awards given to junior researchers in Turkey, Assistant Prof. Yasemin Kisbu Sakarya received the Science Academy Young Scientist Award (BAGEP), and Associate Prof. Fuat Balcı has been elected as a member of Global Young Academy.

Associate Prof. Lemi Baruh from Media and Visual Arts received the Science Academy Young Scientist Award (BAGEP).

We have admitted 156 students in 2016 making the total number of students
Overview
Koç University Law School aims to nurture creative and sophisticated lawyers with its content-rich courses in public law, private law, and its core program, which enables students to excel in a variety of disciplines. The Law School program responds adeptly to meet Turkey’s need for lawyers who possess both professional language competency and an international perspective. Law School students have the opportunity to meet professional lawyers in regular seminars for their academic and career development. Further, exchange programs in partnership with outstanding universities around the world and international internship opportunities are designed to support international experiences for students.

Recognized as one of Turkey’s top law schools, Koç University Law School is a member of the Law Schools Global League (LSGL), the European Society of International Law (ESIL), and the European Law Faculties Association (ELFA).

Students
Total number of the students at Law School is 458 (301 female students and 148 male students). 20 full-scholarship students were admitted in 2016 from highest ranking students (7-150th in the ranking). The number of non-scholarship students was 76. Each year some of the admitted law students attend the English Language Center in a preparatory academic year. Total number of law newcomers at ELC is 29 in 2016-2017, four of whom are Anatolian scholarship students.

Koç University Law School was represented by a team of 4 students at the 24th Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (also known as the ‘Vienna Moot’). Another team of 4 law students participated at the Raoul Wallenberg Contest on Individual Application before the Constitutional Court, a nationwide moot court competition. Turkish National Rounds of the 2017 Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition (Jessup) were held at Koç University in February 2017. The Jessup team of Koç University Law School won the national rounds and the best memorial price. It represented Turkey in international rounds of the 58th Jessup Moot Court Competitions in Washington D.C. organized by the International Law Students Association and known to be the world’s oldest and largest international moot court competition, with participants from over 550 law schools in more than 80 countries. The team has won also the Best Applicant Memorial prize in the international rounds.

Law School will also be represented for the first time in the International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot (IMLAM) in Singapore. The 18th International Maritime Law Arbitration Moot is organized by Murdoch University, Australia and will be hosted this year by the National University of Singapore between June 29-July 5. The Koç University IMLAM team is the first ever team from Turkey to participate in the competition.
PhD in Law Program
A new PhD in public law program has been launched by the Law School under the umbrella of Graduate School of Social Sciences and Humanities in 2016-2017. PhD in law programs offer a structured research framework in national, comparative and international legal studies with its commitment to cutting edge research. Its unique approach with strong focus on research skills and bilingual coursework (Turkish-English) prepares the candidates for sincere legal scholarship under close supervision of leading scholars in an intellectual environment dedicated to excellence in research and teaching. The PhD program in public law has recruited successful students from Brazil, Ukraine, Romania and Turkey in its first year, which broadens the international vision of our education and research.

Faculty
Law School has 16 full-time research faculty members as professors and one full-time instructor. Additionally, there are 6 adjunct professors, 3 post-doctoral fellows and 10 research assistants at Law School. This year, international guest professors have lectured intensive courses in the field of jurisdiction in global competition law, international contract law, comparative constitutional law, intellectual property law, and international trade law.

Research faculty publications (including technical reports) amounted to 112 according to Faculty Information System (FIS) data. Faculty members participated as invited speakers in 58 major conferences.

Awards and Honorific Appointments (Selected) (2015-2017)

- Bertil Emrah Oder, Professor of Constitutional Law:
  → UNESCO Chair for Gender Equality and Sustainable Development (2017)
  → Full Member, Science Academy (since April 2015)
  → President, Law Schools Global League (July 2015)
  → Principal Investigator, Turkish National Science Foundation (July 2015)
  → Member of Working Group on Science and Ethics, All European Academies (ALLEA) (August 2015)
  → Advisory Board Member, Cambridge University Press -American Society of Comparative Law Book Series (December 2015)
  → Jury Member, Sedat Simavi Social Sciences Award (November 2015)
  → Vice-President, Association of Constitutional Law Research (November 2015)
  → Vice-President, Association of Constitutional Law Research (November 2015)
  → Member of Scientific Committee, Erasmus and Joint Master Program LUISS University, University of London Legal Advanced Studies and Complutense University (March 2016)
  → Jury Member, Gender Projects Award, Ahmet - Şirin Tekeli Foundation for Support of Female Lawyers (April 2016)
  → UN Women and Inter-Parliamentary Union Advisor (January 2016)
  → Horizon 2020 Threshold Award
  → Ambassador, Capital Turkish Connections (December 2016)

- Billur Yaltı, Professor of Tax Law:
  → President of International Tax Research Association-IFA Turkey (Elected)
→ Jury Member of Young Tax Professional of the Year Award organized by Ernst&Young (May 2015)
→ Member of Tax Law Education Committee of the Turkish Bar Association

- Başak Çali, Associate Professor of International Law:
  → British Academy Newton Advanced Fellowship Award (September 2015-September 2017)
  → Horizon 2020 Threshold Award
  → Secretary-General, European Society of International Law (appointment)
  → Member, Executive Board, European Society of International Law (elected)
  → Chair, International Human Rights Special Interest Group, European Society of International Law (co-founder)
  → Editor, ESIL Reflections (appointment)
  → Fellow, University of Essex Human Rights Centre (honoricific appointment)
  → Member, Academic Advisory Panel, Universal Rights Group (appointment)
  → Founder and Director, Judgment Watch (appointment)
  → ECHR Specialist, Council of Europe (appointment)
  → Advisory Board Member, Universal Rights Group, Geneva, Switzerland
  → Member, Peer Review College, United Kingdom Economic and Social Research Council (appointment)
  → Council of Europe Scientific Expert on the Long-Term Reform of the European Court of Human Rights to the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers (April 2015)
  → Member, Academic Advisory Board Implementation Project, Joint Turkey Human Rights Platform (iHop) (honoricific appointment)

- Tankut Centel, Professor of Labour Law:
  → Member of the Executive Board of Mobbing Association (MEYAD) since September 2015

- Cumhur Özakman, Professor of Civil Law:
  → Outstanding Teaching Award (2017)

- Işık Önay, Assistant Professor of Civil Law:
  → Outstanding Teaching Award (2016)
  → Head of Program Committee YCC Annual Conference (2016-2017)

- Ayşegül Buğra, Assistant Professor of Maritime and Insurance Law:
  → Director of Dr. Nüret–Semahat Arsel International Business Law Implementation and Research Center (2017)
  → Science Academy’s Young Scientist Award (BAGEP) (2016)

- Murat Önk, Assistant Professor of Criminal Law:
  → Press Council Solidarity and Development Foundation: Executive Board Member and comptroller (May 2014)
  → Press Council: Member of the High Council (reelected on 29 March 2015) and Vice-President (reelected on 3 April 2015)
  → Member of Executive Board, Transparency International
  → Horizon 2020 Threshold Award

- Zeynep Ayata, Assistant Professor of EU Law and Competition Law:
  → Consultant to Koç Holding A.Ş. Competition Law Coordinator (2014 onwards)
  → Member of TÜSİAD Competition Law Working Group
  → Horizon 2020 Threshold Award
  → Chair of LSGL Research Group for Law and Business
Coordination of Legal Awards
- Yavuz Abadan Award of Constitutional Law (25 May 2017)
- Law Schools Global League (LSGL) Innovation in Legal Education Award
- LAWARDS: Innovation in Law Awards

Research Conferences and Distinguished Speaker Seminars (Selected)
Research conferences organized by the Law School during this academic period include:
- Young Labor Law Scholars Conference II, November 17, 2016
- The European Commission 2016 Progress Report on Turkey, 7 December, 2016
- Recent Legal Arrangements Regarding Sexual Abuse, 15 December, 2016
- The 4th Young IFA Network Seminar, 20 January, 2017
- 6th International Student Symposium on Law and Global Issues, March 10-12, 2017
- Annual Conference of American Society of Comparative Law Younger Comparativists Committee (YCC), April 28-29, 2017
- Distinguished Speaker Seminar, Professor Jürgen Basedow, October 25, 2016
- Distinguished Speaker Seminar, Professor Helena Alviar Garcia, April 28, 2017

In this period, Law School also organized 7 workshops/panel meetings and 17 seminars/certificate programs on a wide range of topics of law with the participation of eminent speakers from Turkey and abroad.

Funded Research Projects and Global Research Impact
- Prof. Dr. Bertil Emrah Oder (Principal Investigator), Prof. Dr. Başak Çali (Consultant) –TÜBİTAK 1001 Research Grant on Individual Application before the Constitutional Court
- Associate Partnership in EUPADRA Project EU Funded Joint Master Degree
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Ayşegül Buğra – BAGEP Science Academy Project
- Prof. Dr. Başak Çali – Newton Project (in partnership with the Essex Human Rights Centre)

Internationalization
Law School has undertaken new cooperation and exchange agreements with LUISS University School of Government, National University of Singapore Faculty of Law – In process, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, India – In process, Universal Rights Group (URG), Jindal Global School of Law (Memorandum of Understanding-MoU), Peking University Faculty of Law, University of California, Berkeley Law School (Boalt), Leiden University (Faculty Exchange Agreement), FGV Direito GV- Sao Paulo)

Guest professors and speakers at the Law School included Prof. Jürgen Basedow (Director of Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law in Hamburg), Prof. Helena Alviar Garcia (Robert F. Kennedy Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School and Former Dean of the Law School at the Universidad de Los Andes), Prof. Stefan Enchelmaier (Professor of European and Comparative Law, University of Oxford), Prof. Jakab Andras (Professor of European and Constitutional Law, Director of the Institute for Legal Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Centre for Social Sciences, Budapest), Assoc. Prof. Yaniv Roznai (Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Radzyner Law School, Israel), Dr. Francisco de Elizalde Ibarbia (Professor in International Contracts and

114 REPORTS FROM THE SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES
Property Law in IE Madrid Law School),
Dr. Amrita Bahri (Assistant Professor and Director of Global Legal Skills and Common Law Program, ITAM University, Mexico), Can Yeğinsu (Barrister, 4 Newsquare, London), Dr. Kaya Köklü (MPI for Intellectual Property and Competition Law, Max Planck Society, Germany).

**Books, Proceedings and Reports**

Overview
Now in its seventh year, KUSOM has already reached a point where it attracts the best and brightest high school graduates who want to pursue a career in medicine. This result is achieved with our high quality faculty, innovative teaching and assessment methodology coupled with a continuously improved curriculum, active student participation in research, spiral integration of basic and clinical sciences, close monitoring and advising of students, spread mostly by word of mouth among prospective medical students and their families. This remarkable progress should be continued in clinical teaching, research and service. Our current search and recruitment process for new faculty shows that KUSOM has become the most desirable academic institution in Turkey for academics and physicians.

Review of the Current State of the School
It has been 8 years since KUSOM was established in 2009, and 7 years since admission of our first 40 students in Fall 2010. Nineteen of this initial set of medical students, i.e., class of 2016, completed their 6th year and graduated on June 30th, 2016. By the end of June 2017, they will be joined by 28 graduates from the class of 2017.

Our students in their 4th and 5th years started to take the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) since fall 2014. I am extremely proud with their performance so far. We do not have sufficient residency data yet as almost all of our Class of 2016 graduates are in temporary research or clinical positions before residency. We are expecting to receive initial results by mid 2018.

Another current topic for KUSOM is our accreditation process. A prerequisite to apply is to have graduates, so KUSOM applied in AY 2016-2017, and we will have a site visit in fall 2017. More than 20 of our faculty members formed an Accreditation Task Force to review and document that our processes are fully in line with US and international accreditation criteria.

Our goal for the following academic year of 2017-2018 is to revise the freshmen curriculum based on competencies needed at the beginning of PY1, maximize elective time in their initial year so that they can integrate better with the rest of Rumelifeneri campus, take classes in non-medical fields to their liking, and enjoy non-curricular activities.

Students
KUSOM continues to attract some of the best students in Turkey. This was also reflected in new undergraduate enrollment in 2016: while the student with the highest score in Turkey chose KUSOM, the score of the least successful student who entered KUSOM was above the lowest rank of all other medical schools in Turkey. 15 full-scholarship students admitted through the national entrance and placement exam were ranked in the top 69, while 25 half scholarship students were ranked in the top 2064 among the over 2.2 million students entering the national university entrance.
exams this year. In addition, six of the highly successful but economically disadvantaged half-scholarship students are enrolled under the special Anatolian Scholarships program of Koç University.

Early exposure of medical students to research was one of our founding principles. This system is now fully in place and functional. Recently, our 4th Student Research Symposium and 3rd Mini Symposium on Public Health took place on April 5-6, 2017 at the Rumelifeneri Campus. In addition to poster sessions, 35 medical students presented their research projects in oral presentation sessions. In 2017, our Student Exchange Committee evaluated over 39 applications: full financial support will be provided for 13 students and partial support for another 7. Focus on research has resulted in 41 papers, including one in Nature, and 58 presentations in international meetings by our students.

Our goal in building a liberal MD program, minimizing compulsory courses and allowing students to make their own choices is reflected throughout our curriculum. As mentioned earlier, 20% of their time in PY1 and PY2 is dedicated to research of their choice. Their options are practically unlimited and we actively support projects with faculty from Mechanical Engineering, Law, Psychology, Chemical and Biological Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Global Health, Healthcare Management, Bioinformatics, and more. Medical students also have a total of 3 months in CY2, and an additional 3 months of electives during internship.

Faculty
In KUSOM’s early years, several Turkish and international invited professors provided lectures and clinical teaching in the 2nd to 5th years of our MD program. We are rapidly approaching a point where we can be self-sufficient and limit invited faculty to exceptionally prominent names in topics where they will enhance our teaching. A search committee founded by President İnan has worked actively throughout the year to identify, invite and interview a large number of candidates for prospective faculty positions. As a result, 3 instructors, 4 associate professors, 7 professors and 6 visiting professors have been appointed to this date since July 2016. The process of evaluation is continuing and it is expected that most of the key clinical positions will be filled soon.

Seminars and Events
A total of 27 workshops, courses and symposia were organized since June 2016. In addition, KUSOM organized 44 research seminars on topics related to health sciences.

Awards and Research Grants
KUSOM faculty has received 31 prestigious awards or grants from national and international organizations.
Overview
Koç University School of Nursing was founded in 1998 in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing to provide a 4-year undergraduate nursing program. The School’s aim is to create leading nurses that can help protect human health, take an active role in patient treatment and rehabilitation, and which have an evidence-based, critical and research-minded approach. The academic year 2016-2017 marked the completion of the 17th year at Koç University School of Nursing (KUSON). A total of 340 students have so far been awarded the Bachelor of Sciences in Nursing degree at Koç University.

Review of the Current State of the Nursing School
The formation of KUSON as a “College” has been legally acknowledged by the Council of Ministers’ Decision No. 2016/8700, which came into effect on April 8, 2016. KUSON has the privilege of being the first “College of Nursing” among privately funded universities in Turkey.

A new, intra- and interdisciplinary, competency-based, complete learning focused curriculum was designed and integrated with Koç University’s Core Program. The new curriculum is structured to provide professional skills competency by means of integrated laboratory and clinical practices, internship, clinical practice programs both within the academic year and during the summer. English will be the medium of instruction in 70% of classes within 3 years.

Another important development this year has been the ACEN (Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing) accreditation received on April 7, 2017, making KUSON the first internationally accredited nursing undergraduate program in Turkey.

Faculty
There are 27 faculty in total at KUSON. Faculty consists of 7 professors, 4 associate professors, 3 assistant professors, 7 instructors, 2 English language instructors, 1 part-time professor, 1 part-time associate professor and 1 part-time instructor. This year, 4 of our instructors earned their PhD degrees in Fundamentals of Nursing and Surgical Nursing.

Students
There are 115 students studying at KUSON in the 2016-2017 academic year (35 sophomores, 28 juniors, 21 seniors). 30 students enrolled in 2016 take preparatory classes at the University’s English Learning Center. Our faculty-student ratio of 1:5 enables very intensive academic advising.

New students’ average ranking was 57,079, placing KUSON in leading position according to LYS results.

99% of KUSON students are full scholarship students.

The number of students enrolled in Koç University Nursing Graduate Programs for MS and PhD degrees in Nursing reached 91 in 2016, an increase of more than 30% over the previous year.
Research
Field-weighted citation impact (FWCI) of our faculty members’ publications in 2016 increased to 0.80 compared to 2015. At the same time, the number of published articles increased by 44% over 2015/2016 according to SCOPUS data.

Preceptor Training Program
Among the many symposia, workshops and training programs organized by KUSON this year the Preceptor Training Program, held over two days on September 21-23, 2016, was especially significant. The program is beneficial for the professional development of nurses as well as providing advanced training for student nurses. It helps students to learn as individuals through the creation of a supportive learning environment while supporting the development of their professional attributes, identities and competence.

Semahat Arsel Nursing Education and Research Center (SANERC)
SANERC, which offers a continuous education program for professional nurses through courses and certification programs for nurses and other healthcare providers, was re-accredited by the ANCC (American Nurses Credentialing Center) on March 23, 2015. SANERC organized 12 continuous education and 2 seminar programs between May 2016 and May 2017, welcoming a total of 210 participants; of these 164 were nurses, 12 doctors and 34 other healthcare providers.

Two Nursing Certificate Programs, a 240-hours Wound Care Program and a 320-hours Critical Care Program, which were approved by the Turkish Ministry of Health in 2016, will be offered in September and October 2017.

Three issues of the SANERC journal Hemşirelikte Eğitim ve Araştirma (Nursing Education and Research) were published in 2016. This journal is indexed at EBSCO& CINAHL since 2016.

Five nursing research projects were funded through the Vehbi Koç Foundation Nursing Support Fund in 2016.

Koç University First Aid Education Center (KÜİYEM)
First set up in 2010, the Koç University First Aid Education Center (KÜİYEM) provides first aid training courses for companies and their employees under the headings Basic First Aid Training, Refresher Training and Basic First Aid Information Seminar. KÜİYEM organized 17 Basic First Aid Courses, 17 First Aid Renewal Courses and 5 seminar programs for a total of 609 participants between May 2016 and May 2017.
Koç University Graduate School of Business (GSB) continues to be the leading graduate school of business not only in Turkey but also in the region evidenced by its accreditations (EQUIS and AMBA) and international partnership and networking programs (CFA, CEMS, GNAM, PIM, and EMBA Council).

Following up on our long-term objective to join the select group of triple-crown accredited business schools worldwide, we have successfully applied for accreditation of our MBA and EMBA programs by the Association of MBAs (AMBA), which represents the highest standard of achievement in postgraduate business education and is earned only by the best programs.

Despite the challenges for Turkey this year and the constraints it poses on incoming international students and incoming study trips, GSB has upheld, and in various ways improved, the quality of its academic and executive education programs.

We offer a select set of master programs: Executive Master of Business Administration, Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Finance, and Master of International Management. In each of these programs, we blend academia with business application in order to prepare our students to make informed decisions in real-life situations in uncertain and turbulent environments. In addition to the master-level programs, we also offer a PhD in Business Administration program with specializations in Finance, Management & Strategy, Marketing, Operations and Information Systems, and Quantitative Methods.

Currently, we have a total of 256 students in the academic programs of GSB. All our programs are reviewed to ensure that they reflect the latest trends in business education. In 2016-2017, we have created Alumni Advisory Boards for our MBA program, the Master of Science in Finance, and the EMBA program.

Our programs are increasingly international thanks to our participation in international partnership and networking programs, exchange programs, and the organization of international study trips. Increasingly, GSB is uniquely positioned in Turkey and the surrounding region by its global connectivity, a unique advantage that we emphasize consistently in our communications to various stakeholders.

GSB Executive Education has shown significant growth in the portfolio of strategic partners, firms, customers, and participants, leading to an increase in revenue and income. The Executive Education program customer database reached a total of 42 large companies in 2016, as compared to 5 in 2012. The total number of participants in both customized and open-enrollment programs reached 4,648 annually. Several of our existing programs have been continued and extended upon the request of our client firms, such as Merck Group Leadership Academy. We also started new initiatives in 2016-2017, such as the Arçelik Technical Academy, where 1,500 participants will be trained until end of 2018.
The Graduate School of Health Sciences (GSHS) was established in 2011 to offer multidisciplinary graduate programs to students with undergraduate degrees from different disciplines, including such fields as Science (Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and Molecular Biology), Engineering (Chemical and Biological, Mechanical, Electrical Engineering), Pharmacology, Medicine, and Nursing. Students graduating from our MS and PhD programs are equipped with a strong foundation in health sciences, broad analytical vision and extensive hands-on research experience.

The founding aims of GSHS graduate programs have been:

- To establish graduate programs with a broad vision that combines the expertise and backgrounds of our faculty members from the School of Medicine, the Faculty of Sciences, the Faculty of Engineering, and the School of Nursing,
- To offer a well-balanced graduate education to students from various disciplines with different backgrounds, with a strong emphasis on fundamental research and the practical aspects of health related problems,
- To initiate and improve interactions and interdisciplinary research cooperation between Koç University faculty members and to establish a platform for joint projects on healthcare research.

In the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 semesters, a total of 5 MS and 13 PhD students were accepted to various GSHS programs while 23 MS and 2 PhD students were accepted into respective Nursing programs. Currently, 39 PhD and 9 MS students are completing various GSHS programs at Koç University’s Rumelifeneri and Topkapı campuses, as are 85 MS and 8 PhD students in the Nursing programs.

In collaboration with Graduate School of Sciences and Engineering and the Graduate School of Social Sciences and Humanities, GSHS submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Development to establish a Research Center for Translational Medicine (KUTTAM) at Koç University (total budget 33,500,000 TL) in 2015. The project was accepted in January 2017 and is being funded by the Ministry of Development. The establishment of KUTTAM was approved by the Higher Education Council YÖK in April 2017. The Center aims to become an outstanding research organization with a clear focus on progressing basic scientific discoveries to solutions that can improve the care and treatment of patients. The Center will bring researchers into closer contact with pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries to allow strong industry–academia collaborations to progress new therapies to the marketplace. The Center will also provide the translational bridge between bench to bedside to all the graduate students of the Graduate School of Health Sciences and serve as an important education platform for future medical scientists.
We continue to be highly selective, aiming to attract only top-level Turkish and international students to our graduate programs. This naturally limits the number of candidates to whom we can offer positions.

The new Koç University Hospital Campus has solved all of our major concerns regarding sufficient research laboratory capacity at the main campus. Specifically, the opening of Koç University Hospital Labs in September 2015, a world-class teaching and research hospital at the University’s Topkapı Campus, is now providing a whole range of cutting-edge research facilities to all graduate students. Furthermore, KUTTAM will have approximately 2,900 m² of core research laboratories in new buildings at the main Rumelifeneri Campus, which will resolve any remaining space and laboratory problem at the main campus by 2018.

Our objective of strengthening inter-campus collaboration is ongoing with the hiring of new faculty members and research staff and with the establishment of new graduate programs. Though the University’s Rumelifeneri and Topkapı campuses are physically in different locations, we have already established multiple digital connections between the two campuses that allow real-time communication in addition to shuttles to transport researchers between the two campuses during the week.

Koç University Graduate School of Health Sciences has become a success in the first 6 years since its inception. Interest in its programs has grown dramatically during this time period as well. Preliminary outcomes have been very successful with graduates pursuing high-impact careers both on a national and international level. GSHS has the potential to be the leading educational program in Turkish Health Sciences.

Current programs at GSHS:
- Medical Physiology (MS)
- Medical Microbiology (MS)
- Reproductive Biology (MS)
- Biomedical Sciences and Engineering (MS and PhD)
- Molecular Biology and Genetics (MS and PhD)
- Cellular and Molecular Medicine (PhD)
- Neuroscience (PhD)
- Reproductive Medicine (PhD)
- Nursing (MS and PhD - Turkish only)
- Intensive Care Nursing (MS-Turkish only)

We are also planning to offer an MD-PhD Physician Scientist Training Program. This seven-to eight-year program is designed for a limited number of students who are interested and strongly motivated toward a career in academic medicine. The approval process for our MD-PhD program is ongoing.
The Graduate School of Sciences and Engineering (GSSE) is running 38 programs (13 MS with Thesis, 13 MS without Thesis, 12 PhD) with a current student population of 491 (153 MS, 338 PhD) supervised by 108 faculty members.

All the applications to our programs are taken on-line. We received a total of 1,586 applications in 2016 (Fall 2016 & Spring 2017). The total number of graduate students admitted in 2016 was 127 (68 MS, 59 PhD) with an acceptance rate of 8.0%. The total number of degrees given in 2016 was 69 (49 MS, 20 PhD).

At the moment we have 158 foreign students at GSSE, and we plan to increase this number by attracting more self supporting students.

We encourage both our faculty and prospective students to follow the direct PhD path without a MS degree. We think that this is going to help to increase both quality and quantity of research conducted at Koç University.

The non-thesis option for all our MS programs is active. The basic requirement for a non-thesis MS degree is a minimum of 10 courses and a graduation project. We hope to attract students directly from the industry by offering various specialization areas in different programs where they can complement their expertise. Providing on-line education opportunities for non-thesis MS programs has also been ongoing.

Graduate (English) Language Program (GLP) within the ELC provides an opportunity to attract bright graduate students who cannot satisfy the English language requirements for admission. The program supports exceptional candidates to learn English for a year. This will certainly help to enlarge our pool of graduate student admissions and we plan to announce it more effectively.

Only 31% of our graduate students receive support directly from the University. The current proportion of students who receive scholarships from outside sources is 69%. Outside support comes mainly from TÜBİTAK, which is the primary funding agency in the country, and other sources, including ERC-funded projects. GSSE aims to further increase this year the proportion of graduate students supported by outside agencies.

We expect to graduate approximately 100 science and engineering graduate students in 2017 with an increasing proportion of PhD degrees. The quality of both the students who are admitted and of those who graduated from Koç University has improved by all standards during the last few years.
Koç University Graduate School of Social Sciences and Humanities (GSSSH) completed its 14th year with 27 graduate programs, a current student population of 310 and alumni population exceeding 480.

The Psychology Department successfully launched the very first Erasmus Mundus Joint Master’s Program in Turkey with EUR 2.6 million funding from the European Commission, partnering with four European universities: ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal; SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Warsaw; University of Oslo, Norway; and the University of Limerick, Ireland.

60% of our PhD graduates have been placed in prominent universities in Turkey and abroad as assistant professors or in post-doc positions while others are hired by prestigious international companies. Our PhD graduate Ayşen Ezgi Üstübici-Onay, who completed a joint PhD program with the University of Amsterdam, has been appointed as Assistant Professor at Koç University Department of International Relations.

With the launch of our new PhD Programs (History, Law, and Sociology), the total number of PhD applications increased by 76% while the number of international applications doubled. PhD student admissions increased by 58% over 2012/2013.

There has been a slight decline in the number of students admitted with external funding and a marginal increase in students funded by Koç University compared to 2015/16 figures due to constraints on TÜBİTAK and external funding opportunities.

GSSSH students’ participation in renowned international platforms continues to provide increased recognition of the academic rigor of Koç University’s GSSSH graduate programs: Gökçe Elif Baykal, PhD student in Design, Technology and Society (DTES) program was invited to organize a full-day workshop at the Interaction Design and Children conference (IDC 2017) at Stanford University. DTES PhD students were accepted to present their papers at Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI). CHI is considered to be the most prestigious conferences in the field of human-computer interaction and our students were accepted to this conference with full papers second year in a row. Last year’s acceptance of a Koç University graduate student’s paper was the first full paper acceptance from Turkey in CHI’s 35 year history.

We have sent graduate students to the Chicago Forum on Global Cities for the 3rd year in a row. The forum is hosted annually by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the Financial Times. Graduate students are admitted to this event after a rigorous selection process.
Our Master’s Program in Economics continues to attract top students, as evidenced by the number of highly prestigious PhD placements, all with full funding.

GSSSH currently offers MA-Thesis/MA-Non-Thesis and PhD degrees in the following areas:

- Archaeology & History of Arts (MA & PhD) (*interdisciplinary program combining Archeology & History of Arts*)
- Art and Creative Media (MA Non-Thesis only)
- Comparative Studies in History & Society (MA) (*interdisciplinary program combining Sociology & History*)
- Design, Technology, Society (MA & PhD) (*interdisciplinary program combining MAVA, Psychology, Sociology, Archaeology, and Engineering*)
- Economics (MA & PhD)
- History (PhD) (New)
- International Relations (MA & PhD)
- Master’s in Law (LLM)
- Philosophy (MA Thesis Only)
- Private and Public Law (PhD) (New)
- Psychology (MA & PhD)
- Sociology (PhD) (New)