

# UWC DILIJAN AN INTRODUCTION





# DILIJAN AND ARMENIA



*Dilijan is a 16th century town in north eastern Armenia situated between two capitals – 90 km from Yerevan and 200 km from Tbilisi*



# DILIJAN AND ARMENIA



- A mountainous country in the Caucasus region at the juncture of Asia and Europe, Armenia lies in the highlands surrounding the Biblical mountain of Ararat
- The settlements discovered in the Armenian highlands date from 5,000 B.C. The first united Armenian kingdom dates back to 6th century B.C.
- The first nation to adopt Christianity as its official religion at the beginning of the 4th century A.D.
- The Republic of Armenia today is a sovereign democratic and social state governed by the rule of law
- Population of more than 3 million people, a million of which live in the vibrant capital of Yerevan
- Armenia is a very safe and hospitable country sustained by closely-knit family ties



# DILIJAN AND ARMENIA



- Dilijan was one of the main stop-overs on the Silk Route that passed through Armenia, connecting Tabriz in the south, Tiflis in the north, Baku and Sheki in the east
- For many years it has been a cultural centre and was visited by artists and composers, such as Britten and Shostakovich
- Dilijan is surrounded by the National Park on every side, its lush forests ascending to the tree-line across its 24 000 hectares
- Dilijan lies at an altitude of 1,500 m and is known as a spa-resort since 19th century and favoured for its recuperating mountain air and mineral springs
- The population of the larger Dilijan community is about 27,000 citizens



# UWC DILIJAN





# THE INSPIRATION



- The idea of creating Dilijan International School of Armenia was conceived by impact investors and social entrepreneurs Ruben Vardanyan and Veronika Zonabend in 2006
- The Founding Patrons – Gagik Adibekyan, Noubar and Anna Afeyan, Vladimir and Anna Avetissian, Oleg Mkrтчan and other anonymous donors – supported the idea
- Nearly 300 donors from across the world also joined the initiative
- The School is an integral part of the RVVZ Foundation, a philanthropic organization which invests in education and territory development
- The RVVZ Foundation has established a variety of economic, cultural and educational initiatives, including the development of the Dilijan Educational Cluster (DEC), a strategic programme that will have a transformational effect on the education system in Armenia with Dilijan becoming a regional centre for teaching excellence and educational innovation.



# THE INSPIRATION



- The idea became reality when the School officially opened as United World College Dilijan on 11 October 2014
- The first cohort of 94 students from 49 countries entered UWC Dilijan in August 2014
- UWC Dilijan became the 14th United World College – there are now 17 around the world
- UWC Dilijan was a starting point of turning Dilijan into an educational, cultural and recreational hub



# UWC – UNITED WORLD COLLEGES

*“UWC makes education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future.”*

- Founded in 1962
- 17 schools and colleges
- More than 60,000 alumni
- More than 9,000 students educated each year
- More than 150 national committees run by 3,000 volunteers





# UWC DILIJAN - LIVING AND STUDYING

A wide-angle photograph showing the UWC Dilijan campus in the foreground, featuring modern buildings with brick and stone facades and green roofs. In the background, a traditional village with red-tiled roofs is nestled on a hillside, surrounded by dense green forests under a clear blue sky.

*UWC Dilijan's grounds extend over approximately 88 hectares of spectacular sloping and wooded countryside, located in the Dilijan National Park*



# LIVING AND STUDYING



- A full member of the International Baccalaureate World Organisation (Diploma), UWC Dilijan teaches an academic programme recognised by universities worldwide with the curriculum taught in English
- The IB Diploma is a two-year educational programme primarily aimed at students aged 16–19. It prepares students for effective participation in a rapidly evolving and increasingly global society



# LIVING AND STUDYING



- International body of students - 198 students from 72 different countries
- International faculty of 38 teachers from 16 countries actively engage in community life as tutors, mentors and learners



# LIVING AND STUDYING



*All students are full boarders. In the evenings and at weekends boarders are in a 'home away from home' environment with teachers and staff dedicated to boarding living in accommodation attached to the boarding houses*



# CAS – CREATIVITY | ACTIVITY | SERVICE



- *Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)* - is an integral part of the IB programme and UWC educational model
- *Student-led CAS programmes* mainly aimed at *engaging with the local community and environment*



# CO-CURRICULAR IMPACT PROGRAMMES

Students engage in a number of service activities off and on campus, in Dilijan as well as in the surrounding region.

**WORK** with disabled children at the Bridge of Hope in Dilijan

**TEACH** younger school children internet skills, science and languages

**COLLABORATE** with ORRAN, a local NGO, working with children from low income families in the town and the surrounding villages

**ORGANIZE** a bee-keeping club which has already produced its first stock of honey for this winter

**AIM** to make Armenia a worldwide role model for sustainability and free it from the most harmful type of trash - electronic waste





# UWC DILIJAN CAMPUS



- The highest international standards and most advanced environmentally friendly and renewable technologies employed during the construction
  - harvesting of natural springs
  - rainwater for irrigation
  - services and the recycling of greywater
- Natural Armenian tuf (volcanic rock) and local stones used as finishing materials
- 7,500 square metres of green roofs deliberately nurture wild flowers that are found across Armenia
- 1,300 square metres of living walls that encourage common and rare plants to grow







# FIRST GENERATION OF UWCD ALUMNI

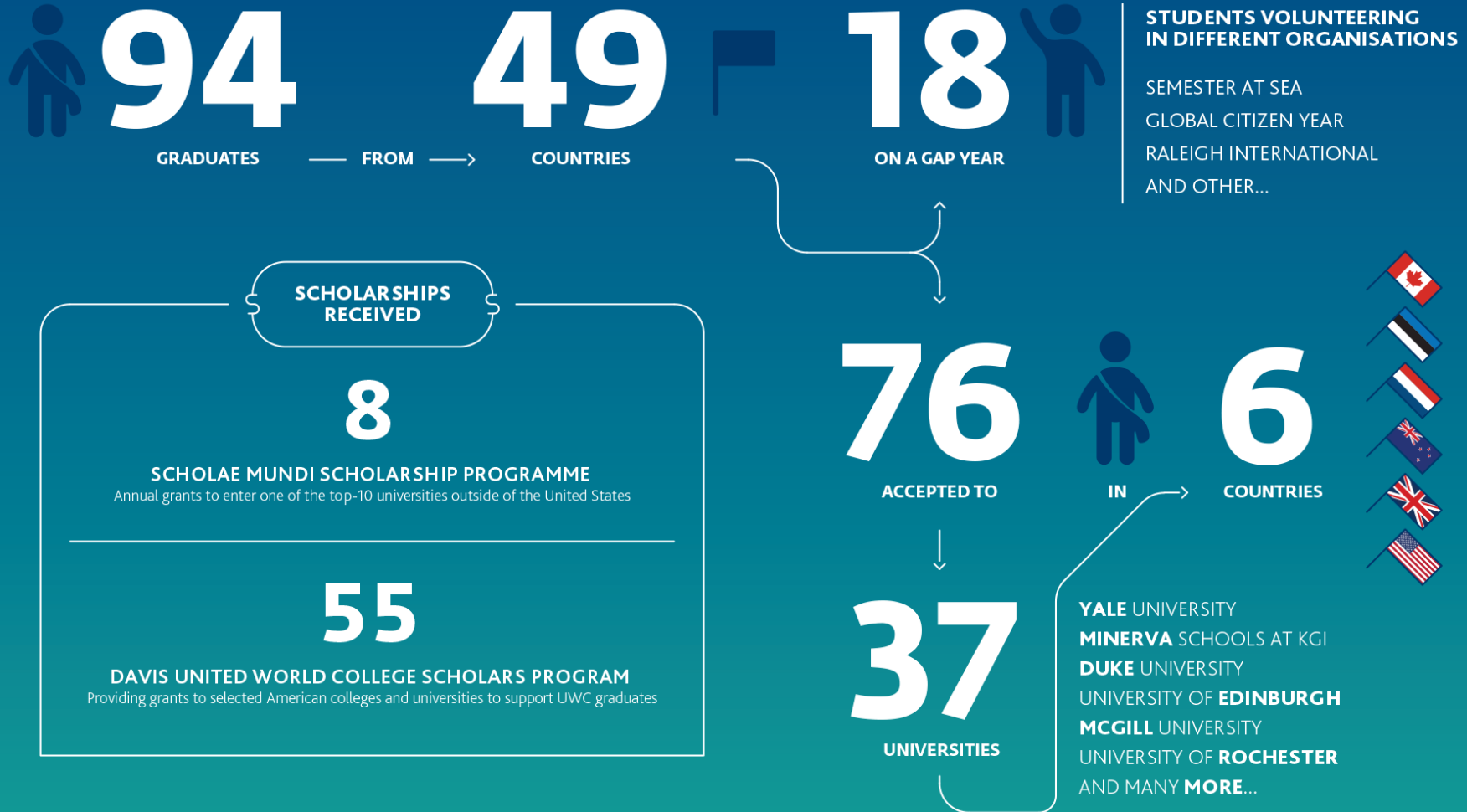


*The first generation of UWCD Alumni graduated in May 2016*



# UWC DILIJAN GRADUATES AROUND THE WORLD

THE GLOBAL DESTINATIONS OF THE CLASS OF 2016 ALUMNI ARE AS FOLLOWS





# GOVERNANCE

There are two governing bodies of the UWC Dilijan – the Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees.





# BOARD OF GOVERNORS

*The Board of Governors has the collective and ultimate responsibility for academic, legal, fiduciary and leadership affairs of the college.*



Elisabet Engellau  
Governor, France



Tim Flynn  
Governor, UK



Vartan Gregorian  
Governor, USA



Ruben Vardanyan  
Governor and Trustee,  
Chair of the Board of  
Trustees, Russia



Veronika Zonabend  
Governor and Trustee,  
Chair of the Board of Governors,  
Russia



Colin Jenkins  
Governor, USA



Grant R. Pogosyan  
Governor, Japan



Ralph Townsend  
Governor, UK



Carol Aslanyan  
Governor, USA

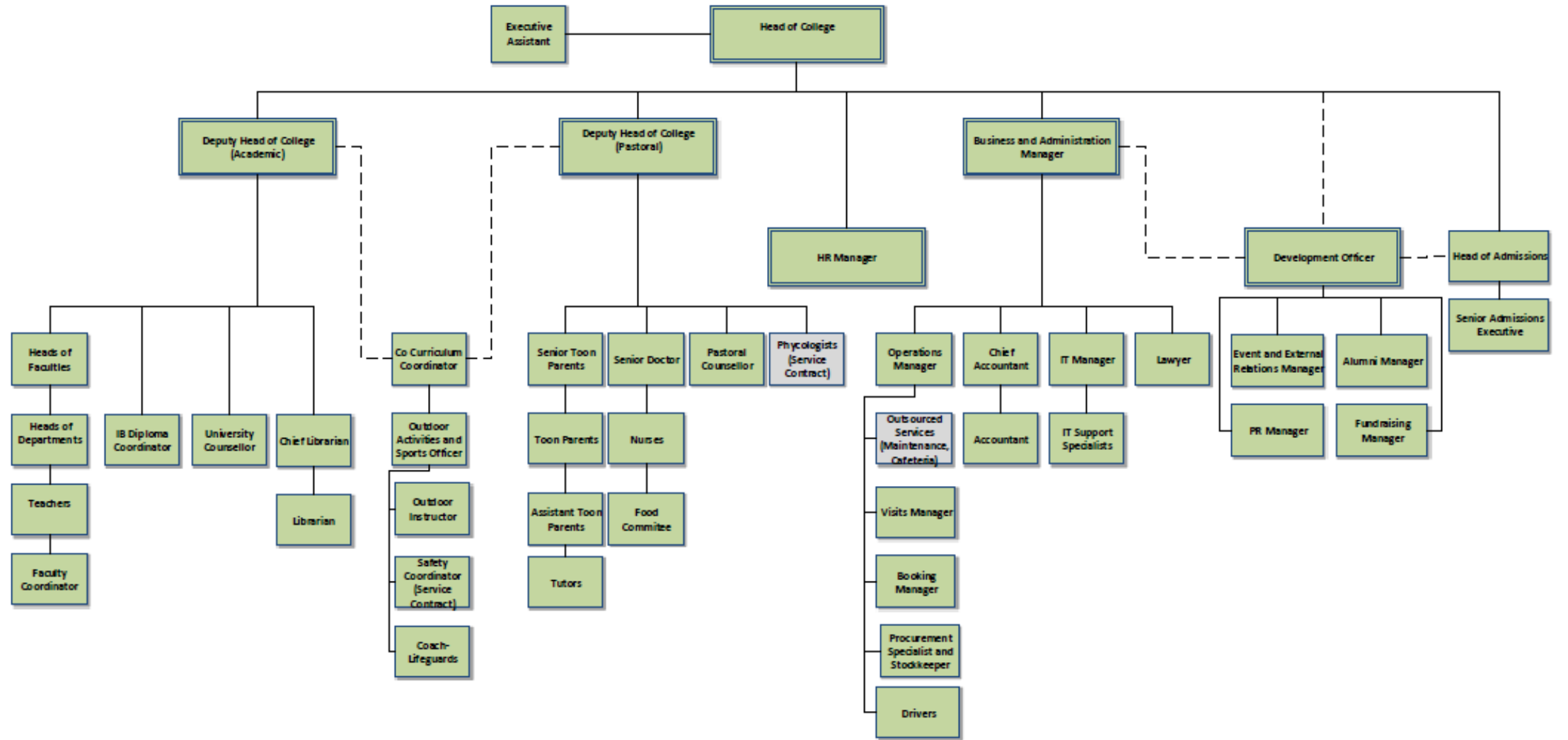


Pierre Gurdjian  
Governor, Belgium



Edgar Manukyan  
Governor, Armenia









WATCH VIDEO: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J00Z1ui79NY&t=1s>





Education is the most powerful  
weapon which you can use to  
change the world.

– Nelson Mandela