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COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Georgian American University LLC (GAU), Tbilisi, Georgia

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: March 2020

To: January 2021

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

March 5th, 2020

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that Georgian American University (GAU) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

R. Michael Cowgill
President

Part II. Description of Actions

Social Responsibility & Community Interaction

- GAU public lectures, twice a month on important issues. Anyone can attend. 40% of the audience are visitors (Not GAU students.)
- GAU Future Students Week - Become GAU student for one week. School students are given the chance to attend lectures and learn more about student life at university lectures without any charge.
- "Georgian Alphabet - 33 Emotions" - is bilingual (Georgian-English) and combines the text of 33 modern Georgian authors. The book is unprecedented and echoes the decision of UNESCO (in 2015), according to which the "three species of Georgian alphabets" was granted status of the national monument of intangible heritage. The collection contributes to popularization of all three types of Georgian alphabet and script.
- Calendar 2018 dedicated to Russian-Georgian war 10-year anniversary - Year 2018 marked 10 years since the Russian-Georgian war of August 2008. In commemoration of the war which brought numerous victims and occupation to our country, GAU team members and students firmly decided to pay tribute to the soldiers and raise awareness among the youth about the results we are still bearing.
- GAU collects books and paper to protect nature and gives them to a special factory, for recycling.
- Certificate course vouchers are given to people with disabilities, so they obtain knowledge and new experiences that contribute to their employment, self-development and independent life. These vouchers are free.
- GAU is one of the founders of CSR Club in Georgia.
- DI(UNI)VERSITY - "DI(UNI)VERSITY" - In December 2018, the Georgian American University organized, and managed various activities related to diversity management in the organization: these measures respond to the values of GAU and the new reality created before it converts the diversity of the organization to a stronger organization.

Charitable Activities

- "Donate Blood - Save the Future" - organized day when students and staff donate blood.
- GAU sponsors lunch for the elderly home "Catharsis" twice a year where GAU volunteer students become involved in the work of the center by serving meals to the elderly.
- For the New Year, GAU students collected toys, money and necessary items for orphanages.
- GAU participated (and sponsored) the Tbilisi Marathon, Wings for Life.

Training (Free of Charge)

- GAU meets with teachers in the educational field of contemporary challenges and together with guest speakers and experts discuss how to address those problems and their solutions. The teachers receive certificates for their participation.
- Trainings about human rights - A series of trainings and public lectures have been made for harmonious integration of the above-mentioned changes, as well as the new guidelines on the topic of discussion, and various events in the context of cultural integration were planned. Trainings: The first stage of trainings included interactive training for staff and students
- GeoLab (an in-house IT research laboratory) conducts monthly training sessions, which are open to anyone.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

- For student enrollment for the 2020/2021 Academic Year, GAU increased the number of incoming students by 2-1/2 times, attributable in part to the publicity of the activities listed above.
- GAU's reputation has greatly increased due to the publicity of such activities, both internally with students as verified by student surveys and externally from anecdotal/verbal feedback.
- On social media and websites, the number of likes, hits and positive comments has more than tripled with respect to these activities.