

## Leadership 100 Approve \$2.9 Million in Grants

### Announcement Made at Annual Conference in Palm Desert, CA

By Theodore Kaimoukos  
Special to The National Herald

BOSTON — Leadership 100 approved a total of \$2.9 million in grants for 2008 during its recent conference in Palm Desert, California from February 14-17. More than 400 members participated in the conference from across the country.

According to Leadership 100's official news release, "New grants were made primarily to the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, including the Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministries (\$150,000), Office of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations (\$250,000 over two years), Department of Outreach and Evangelism for Home Mission Parishes (\$105,000), Saint Basil Academy for The Archdiocese of Archbishop Michael (869,300), Center for Family Care (conditional grant of \$175,000), the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians (\$50,000) and Hellenic College/Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology Leadership 100 Scholarship Fund (\$285,000), \$100,000 for a Family Wellness Center in the Metropolis of San Francisco, and more than \$400,000 to departments of the Archdiocese.

Leadership 100 has \$67.8 million in its coffers and total assets of \$84 million. Chairman George Petrakis decided not to seek another term as chairman. Stephen Venas, who was the Vice-Chairman succeeded him in the chairmanship.

Mr. Petrakis brought up the issue of supporting Hellenic schools and youth, which were not included among the grants. He suggested that all the proceeds from the special drive on the 25th anniversary of the 100 be given to our schools and youth. This was taken and there was no official statement. Archbishop Demetrios, who was also present at the conference, remained speechless on the pivotal issue of supporting Hellenic schools, culture, and heritage. Leadership 100 has never given any grants to Hellenic schools and churches, but only once to the Education Department for the creation of a web page.

The lion's share went again to Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. According to the Organization's announcement, "Continuing grants for 2008 included \$1 million for the scholarship fund, \$250,000 for a technology infrastructure at the... (continued on page 4)

## Albanians Euphoric but Serbs Defiant

By William J. Cole  
Associated Press

PRISTINA (AP) — Residents fired guns into the air and fireworks lit up the skies over Kosovo after Albanian Kosovans proclaimed their independence last Sunday, February 17, defying Serbia and Russia, and the objections of at least seven other countries by declaring they are the world's newest nation.

Across Pristina, revelers danced in the streets, set off firecrackers and honked car horns in jubilation. Ninety percent of Kosovo's 2 million people are now ethnic Albanians — most of them secular Muslims — who see no reason to stay loyal to the rest of Orthodox Christian Serbia.

Kosovo had formally remained a... (continued on page 12)

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## U.N. Envoy Presents Latest Proposals for FYROM Name Dispute



United Nations Envoy Matthew Nimetz, right, shakes hands with Greek Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyanni in Athens this past Tuesday, February 19. The U.N. mediator tabled new proposals to end a thorny dispute over FYROM's official name with neighbor Greece. The problem has poisoned bilateral relations for years and has added to the Balkan region's woes.

## Dora Meets with Condoleezza on FYROM

By Demetris Tsakas  
Special to The National Herald

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Greek Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyanni's official visit to the United States came to a close last Friday, as Greece's top diplomat resoundingly reaffirmed Greece's intention to stick to its long stated positions regarding the name dispute with its northern neighbor FYROM. Ms. Bakoyanni was in Washington D.C. since last Wednesday for a series of meetings with top State Department officials, Congressmen and other Government officers, seeking to pre-

sent Greece's position on its dispute with future NATO candidate FYROM over the latter's name, as well as a series of other bilateral and international issues.

The most important of these meetings took place last Thursday when the Greek Foreign Minister met with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and other high-ranking U.S. officials. The meeting was capped off by Ms. Bakoyanni's staunch refusal of Secretary Rice's overtures that Greece accept a dual name solution to end the FYROM name dispute, which would clear the way for the Balkan

state to join NATO. Ms. Bakoyanni reaffirmed Greece's position on this issue to Secretary Rice and informed her that the Greek Government would make good on its threat to block FYROM's accession into NATO and the EU if a mutually acceptable solution to the name dispute is not previously reached. The results of this meeting are currently being analyzed by the Greek Government to determine the position the United States will follow in its window of opportunity to resolve the name dispute between... (continued on page 5)

## Greece Urges FYROM to Move Forward, Nimetz Expects Response within Two Weeks

By Evan C. Lambrou  
Special to The National Herald

NEW YORK — United Nations Special Envoy Matthew Nimetz made his long-awaited new proposals this week to end a dispute between Greece and FYROM over the latter's official name, a thorny issue which has poisoned bilateral relations for years and has added to Balkan region's festering ethnic tensions.

Dramatic developments in Serbia have overshadowed the festering name dispute, but the U.N.-revised talks have acquired greater urgency following the ethnic Albanian declaration of independence in Kosovo and Greek threats to block FYROM's bid to join NATO unless the dispute is resolved.

"The sooner this can be resolved and the sooner Athens and Skopje can work together on mutual issues of security in the region, the better it is for everyone. It would be a tremendous success for the region and for the two countries to resolve this issue," Mr. Nimetz said after talks in Athens with senior diplomats from the two countries.

Athens maintains FYROM's current use of the name Macedonia could imply territorial claims on the northern Greek province of Macedonia, something the government in Skopje (Skopje) denies.

FYROM is officially referred to at the United Nations and other international bodies as the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. But more than 100 countries — including the United States — have recognized it as Macedonia. The landlocked state of 2.1 million people, a quarter of whom are ethnic Albanians, split peacefully from Yugoslavia in 1991.

Mr. Nimetz, a veteran American diplomat, refused to reveal any details about his proposals, which he described as "a fair and valid compromise and a dignified solution which, in my view, meets the aspirations of both countries."

The Athens daily Kathimerini reported that four of the five proposed names are Democratic Republic of Macedonia, Constitutional Republic of Macedonia, Independent Republic of Macedonia and... (continued on page 5)

## An Odyssey Through Story and Song

By Steve Frangos  
Special to The National Herald

The history and experiences of Greek Americans West of the Mississippi River is getting ready to take to the airwaves. As you see in this article, editing and production are underway for "Greek Odyssey Through Story and Song," a multi-part radio series to be presented on KJZZ (Bozeman, Denver's community radio station) something in July. The series will be offered to multi-radio stations nationwide. It will also be available on the radio through the radio coalition (www.radiocoalition.org) as well as stations in Utah and other points west where Greeks have settled and where communities meet the radio. The series may also be available for sale from Hellenic organizations after its initial airing.

This entire project is the brainchild of writer-producer Southern, who first conceived the project in 2006 when she was in Denver. She was inspired by the Greek Assumption festival in Denver and the 100th Anniversary Southern had as time compelling for funding a \$7,000 grant from the Howard Foundation for the Humanities and the Colorado Humanities for the project. Southern was inspired by the project and was inspired by the rich history that not many appreciate — much of it tied to the early mining days and the gold rush. Ongoing field research involved phone and location interviews... (continued on page 7)



The Director of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Andreas Dracopoulos, presents the new look of Yale University's Hellenic Studies Program's website during a presentation announcing a \$4 million grant the Foundation has pledged to the university. Standing to the right is Yale Provost Andy Hamilton.

## Niarchos Gives \$4 Million Grant to Yale

By Demetris Tsakas  
Special to The National Herald

NEW YORK — Andreas Dracopoulos, a Board Member of The Stavros Niarchos Foundation was on hand for an event organized this past Monday evening at Yale University to celebrate the finalization of a \$4 million grant which SNF approved for the Ivy League University's Hellenic Studies Program — whose creation it also funded back in 2001 — in memory of the late Maria Dracopoulou. "I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the pilot Hellenic Studies Program, which has translated into a permanent collaboration between The Stavros Niarchos Foundation and Yale University. I would like to thank Professors John Geanakopoulos, Stathis Kalyvas, George Syrimis, Maria Kaliambou, and Giorgos Antoniou for the efforts they made towards the realization of this mutual dream. We

offered the funding, but the true heroes are the faculty and students who contributed their utmost to ensure that this grant would take root," Mr. Dracopoulos said.

Yale University Provost Andy Hamilton, who was also in attendance, praised the Hellenic Studies Program for its contribution to the academic community and hailed SNF for their continued generosity in sponsoring the program. Greece's Consul General in New York Aghi Balta, Dr. Ian Shapiro, Director of the Yale University Center for International and Area Studies, Yale faculty members, and students from the Hellenic Studies Program, as well as many representatives from the local Greek American Community of Connecticut came out to join in this celebration.

Dr. Hamilton conveyed the heartfelt greetings of Yale President Richard C. Levin, and proceeded to speak about the successes of the Hellenic Studies Program, which

are related not only to the quality of its courses, but also to the conferences, seminars, lectures and activities it organizes both onsite at the Yale campus as well as in Greece.

Following the addresses, the audience saw a screening of the documentary "The Journey: The Greek American Dream," by director Maria Iliou and Greek American historian Alexander Kitroeff. Prior to the screening, George Tselos, Head of Reference Services at the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island Immigration Museum spoke about the documentary, along with Professor George Syrimis.

Dr. Stathis Kalyvas, who serves as Co-Director of the Hellenic Studies Program, together with his colleague Dr. John Geanakopoulos, noted that "the program began seven years ago and the decision of the... (continued on page 5)

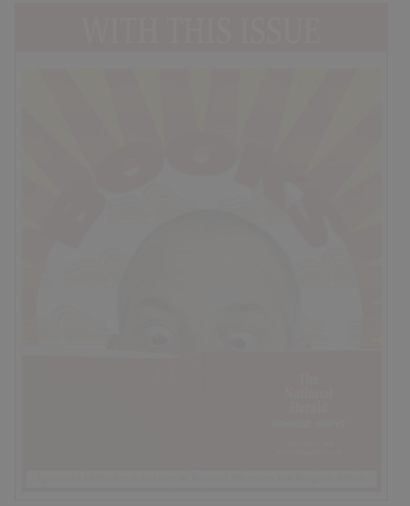
Republic of Upper Macedonia, and that Mr. Nimetz said FYROM could keep its "constitutional" name for use in domestic and bilateral relations, while using a composite name in all its dealings with international organizations and on its citizens' passports.

Acknowledging that his proposal would not overcome all the objections of either side, Mr. Nimetz asked for a response from each government within two weeks so that a final solution could be reached before the upcoming NATO summit in Romania this April, when the Alliance will decide whether or not to admit FYROM.

"I do think that this is a really opportune time to resolve the issue," he said. "It's a compromise solution which does not satisfy either side 100 percent, but overall, I believe it's a fair, decent, reconciliatory solution that fulfills the expectations of both countries and can lead to a settlement."

Mr. Nimetz also met with Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis for a half hour at Maximus Mansion in Athens this past Wednesday morning, February 20. During the meeting, which was also attended by Greek Foreign Minister Dora Bakoyanni, the Premier was briefed on the U.N. mediator's proposals, though no statements were made afterwards.

Continued on page 9



## Papadopoulos Ousted in First Round Shock

By Menelaos Hadjicostis  
Associated Press

NICOSIA (AP) — Republic of Cyprus President Tassos Papadopoulos was eliminated in the first round of Cyprus presidential voting, a surprise result signaling the start of a renewed drive to end the island's 32-year division.

Though he had been widely expected to advance to the second round, Papadopoulos watched his bid for a second term crumble in a surprise election during which voters rejected the incumbent. Papadopoulos refused to concede the election, saying he would continue to lead the government.

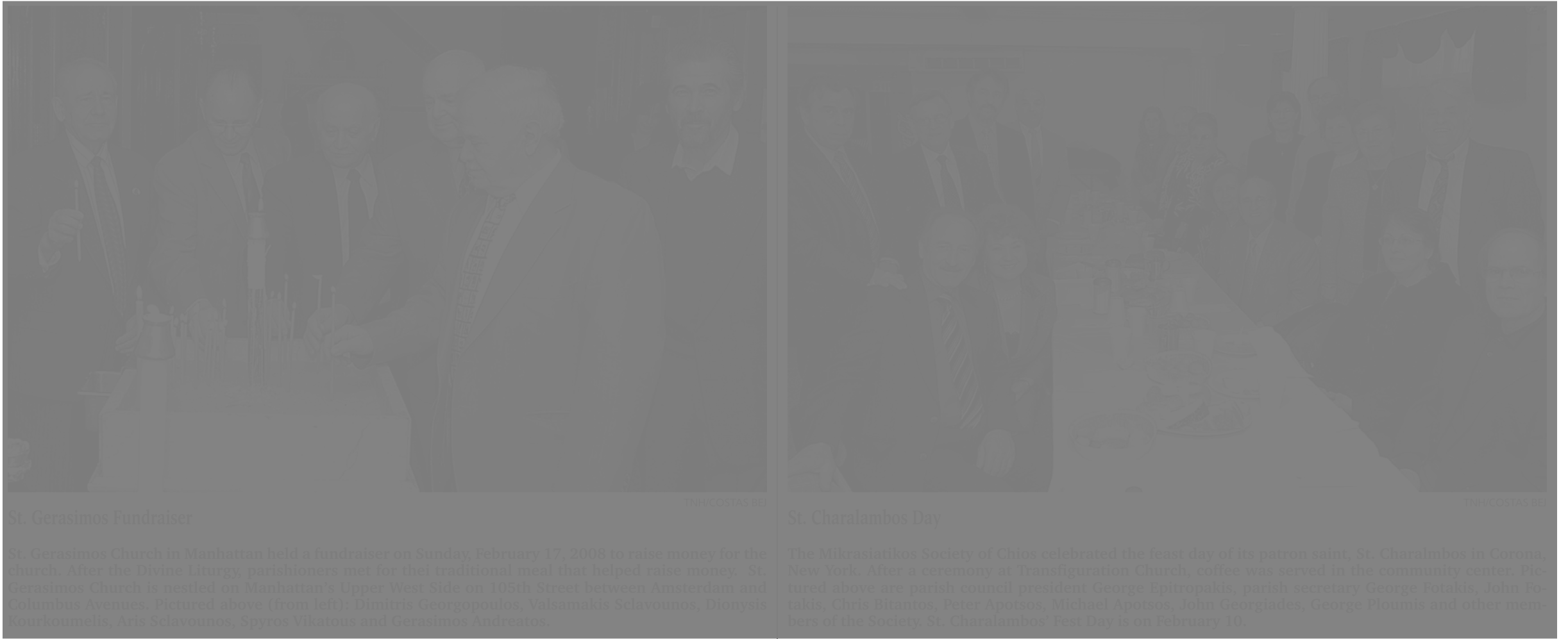
The election was held on Sunday, February 24, and was the first since 1974. It was a surprise because Papadopoulos had been widely expected to advance to the second round. Papadopoulos watched his bid for a second term crumble in a surprise election during which voters rejected the incumbent. Papadopoulos refused to concede the election, saying he would continue to lead the government.

The election marked a chapter in the island's long and complex history. Papadopoulos, a former politician and businessman, had served as president since 2003. He was widely expected to win a second term, but his defeat was a surprise. The election was held on Sunday, February 24, and was the first since 1974.

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# Niarchos Foundation Finalizes \$4 Million Grant for Yale's Hellenic Studies Program

Continued from page 1

Stavros Niarchos Foundation to offer Yale's Hellenic Studies Program a grant played a key role in our advancement. The fact that Greece is entering one of the most prestigious educational institutions not only in the United States but the entire world in such a dynamic way is a great success, and gives us the opportunity to promote Greece in a way that was not so easy to do in the past."

When asked how the grant will be allocated, Dr. Kalyvas said that the four million dollars will be used as an endowment, and that the Hellenic Studies Program will be funded by the interest from this amount, along with funds that the University administration pledged to give after the grant was announced.

Dr. Kalyvas spoke about student interest, and pointed out that the summer classes which the Hellenic Studies Program offers in Greece attract a large number of students. "When they return, they take classes in Greek history, and later follow up with classes in Greek language and culture. Therefore, we do not operate on the isolated practices and activities that one particular professor may use, but there is a whole entire web of interlocking activities, which affords us the opportunity to realize our dreams and offer services to students, the university and the community," he said.

"Now that we have received this latest grant from the Niarchos Foundation, we will be able to bring over visiting professors, who either come to do research or lecture. Professor Manolis Karagiannis, who will be giving a lecture in this very hall this Thursday, has come to the United States to conduct research within the parameters of this framework," Dr. Kalyvas added.

The Hellenic Studies Program Co-Director commented that there were over ten Greek and Greek American faculty members teaching at Yale, in field involving both the Arts and Sciences. "The approach taken by the Niarchos Foundation is very interesting. It initially allocated some funds for a pilot program, and after six years of testing the program, only now did it finally decide to proceed with this major donation; after it became certain that its funds would be well spent and the program would progress. This is proof of exactly how serious the Niarchos Foundation takes this matter. By the same token, Yale does not view this as an opportunistic relationship, but



ABOVE: The Stavros Niarchos Foundation finalized a \$4 million grant for Yale University's Hellenic Studies Program. The Foundation's Director, Andreas Dracopoulos (second from right) speaks to guests after the announcement. RIGHT: Professor Gus Ranis, Jan Shapiro, Stathis Kalyvas, John Geanakoplos, Maria Kaliambou, Andy Hamilton, Mr. Dracopoulos, Greek Consul General Agi Balta and George Syrimis.

more as an effort that will stand the test of time."

When asked if Yale received other donations from Greek Americans, Dr. Kalyvas replied that there were other donations coming in, but clarified they were smaller and come from Greek Americans who have personal ties to Yale. Moreover, he explained, these funds are set aside for particular projects, like supporting the university library, or creating some sort of award, which will carry on their family legacy.

The Associate Chair of the Hellenic Studies Program Dr. George Syrimis added that "every major work needs a very strong foundation, and thanks to its original grant, the Niarchos Foundation laid a very strong foundation which we have been building upon over the past six years. With the help of fac-



ulty and students, we have achieved something very important for Greek Studies in the United States."

Dr. Syrimis also added that "we are grateful to the Niarchos Foundation for their vision to set up this program at Yale, and we are happy

that we can continue our work. We hope that we will continue as we have up until today and enjoy the support of the public and students in the future as well, so we can bring Greece and the U.S. as close together as possible."

Furthermore, Dr. Syrimis

praised all the Hellenic Studies Programs in the U.S. and Canada on the excellent work they are doing. "Each program tries to progress by making full use of the statutes and finances that are at its disposal. We are one of the most successful programs because we received this fi-

nancial backing from the Niarchos Foundation. Without this support, we would be unable to put together concerts with top performers like Maria Farantouri, Alkistis Protopsalti and Nikos Xydakis. These concerts cannot be funded by student tuitions alone. They need the cultural vision of an institution like the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, which takes the issue of educational and cultural contribution seriously," he said.

The Cypriot born Associate Chair of Yale's Hellenic Studies Program also pointed out that the program does not only service the needs of Yale students, but offers a public service to the local Greek Community. "Our program offers courses in language, history, literature, and culture. Registration runs between 20-30 students. It also organizes lectures, panel discussions, and other events which foreign students from Greece who do not need to take language classes can attend. Therefore, aside from the 20-30 students who attend a course, there are scores of students who attend the many events our program offers, like conferences, speeches, concerts, etc.," he said.

"I consider us lucky to have had an opportunity to work together with this Foundation, because we simultaneously received total freedom of choice with regards to the direction of our program and full support from the foundation at the same time," Dr. Syrimis said.

Dr. Maria Kaliambou said that "I am very happy that this program has established itself and we can all work to realize its full potential and give students the opportunity to learn Greek and familiarize themselves with our country. We have very good colleagues and the students are very nice. It is great working here," she said.

Nicki Stelin-Hesberg, an American student involved in the Hellenic Studies Program, commented that she visited Greece last summer thanks to a study abroad opportunity offered by SNF. "I am grateful that I was given an opportunity to visit Greece for two months and familiarize myself with the Greek language. I love the Hellenic Studies Program because we have great professors like Maria who help us learn Greek," she said.

Ms. Stelin-Hesberg said that she started learning Greek last year, and that her two-month stay in Greece played a major role in helping her better learn the language. "I love Greece and I can hardly wait to go again," she said.

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Helen Dumas is the authority in teaching Greek as a second language. She was the Director of Hellenic Education and Culture for the Western United States for 25 years. Helen received special recognition awards from the Greek government for teaching Greek to the non-Greek speaking in the "most original and effective way". Helen has been nationally recognized as "The Teacher of the Year" for high school and JC. Her unique teaching method is the result of 30 years of research, field-testing, and development.

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