

...in the news

ACS LAUNCHES MEDIA STUDIO



A state-of-the-art Media Studio facility is the new addition to the ACS Athens campus, a unique element for K-12 educational institutions. This was marked by the official opening of the Suheil Sabbagh Media Studio which took place on March

29 at the ACS Athens campus with a celebration which included honoring its benefactor, Mr. Suheil Sabbagh. "This is a historic day for ACS Athens", proudly announced Dr. Stefanos Gialamas, President, "as we are the only K-12 institution in Greece, Europe and the region with such a facility." In addition to resources equipping students and faculty to produce and broadcast radio and television projects, this cutting-edge studio space will support all classes in using media as a means to communicate.

TOP CONSULTING FIRMS

Forbes magazine teamed with Statistica to determine the top consulting firms in the United States.

- Deloitte Consulting
- McKinsey & Company
- Accenture
- Bain & Company
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- PriceWaterhouseCoopers (PwC)
- Boston Consulting Group (BCG)
- KPMG
- IBM Global Business Service

GREEKS ON FORBES 30 UNDER 30

Forbes magazine published its "30 under 30" list for 2017, featuring 600 of the brightest young entrepreneurs, breakout talents and change agents in 20 different sectors. They were chosen from over 15,000 nominees. Four Greeks are included in the list, in two categories, Energy and Venture Capital.

- Christina Karapataki – Energy
- Arthur Souritzidis – Energy
- John Melas – Kyriazi – Venture Capital
- Steve Anastos – Venture Capital

ELIAS SPIRTOUNIAS AT AMCHAM CONFERENCE IN U.S.



ELIAS SPIRTOUNIAS

Elias Spirtounias, Executive Director of the Chamber, attended the AmChams in Europe conference from 8-9 May in Washington, DC, followed by a visit to Boston MA. for meetings and briefing sessions.

In Washington the Amcham delegates attended a series of meetings, with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the U.S. Department of Commerce and the U.S. Trade Representative, Google, Hill & Knowlton and Beekeeper Company as well as a number of informal briefing sessions by political strategists, White House correspondents, and senior government advisors.

In Boston visits and meetings were held at Boston Robotics, Mass Challenge, AutoDesk, Analog Devices, IBM Watson, Boston Scientific, MIT Artificial Intelligence and Harvard Kennedy School.

The annual meeting in the United States of Amchams in Europe is dedicated to reviewing policy developments in Washington D.D. and to then visiting innovative and pioneering firms in one city or state that respond to the many challenges of today's fast-moving environment.

BAHAS, GRAMATIDIS & PARTNERS & CYPRUS



YANOS GRAMATIDIS

Bahas, Gramatidis & Partners announced its cooperation with Justitia Advisory LTD, based in Cyprus. This collaboration allows the firm to support Greek businesses and individuals already operating in Cyprus or are planning their business presence there.

Justitia Advisory LTD is headed by Yanos Gramatidis, CEO of Bahas, Gramatidis & Partners (photo) The firm notes that Cyprus offers significant investment opportunities for both Greek and international businesspeople. Cyprus has a highly competitive tax regime and an efficient public administration, aiding in the development of investment in the country.

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Q&A



CHRISTOS CHRISTOU
ELECTRICAL ENGINEER NTUA, MBA, OPERATIONS
MANAGER, AKTOR FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Facility Management

Tell us about Aktor Facility Management.

Aktor FM is a rapidly growing Facility Management company, aiming to become the leader in its field in Greece. Leaders in energy, technical and facility services, providing tailor-made solutions covering the full range of facility management sectors. Our focus is to add value to our customers using our long and vast experience in managing assets in a sustainable way.

How has facilities management changed over the years?

Nowadays, despite the subdued economic backdrop, facilities management (FM) has become a dynamic sector, creating opportunities for those taking proactive steps to adapt to evolving customer needs. Consequently, the level of outsourcing is increasing and clients have become more demanding and sophisticated in procuring FM services. They continue to look for more integrated FM solutions and self-delivery capability, to benefit not just from more efficient service provision. but to reduce the internal cost of procuring and monitoring those services.

What benefits do customers enjoy?

Facility management allows companies' management to concentrate on their core proficiencies and their critical objectives. Cost control is also a driving issue for most companies and a prime motive for facility management. Overall, a FM contractor can provide flexibility in delivering the proper staffing level and required skill set, quickly, with less cost and time investment, as well as expertise that may not be available, or is inadequate, in the company's in-house staff.

GREEKS JOIN AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES!



NICHOLAS CHRISTAKIS

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences announced the election of 228 new members. Among them are five distinguished Greek researchers. Founded in 1780, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences is one of the United States' oldest learned societies and independent policy research centers, convening leaders from the academic, business, and government sectors to respond to the challenges facing the nation and the world.

1. Yannis Kevrekidis is the Pomeroy and Betty Perry Smith Professor of Engineering and Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering with the School of Engineering and Applied Science at Princeton University.
2. Panagiotis Karkanas is the Director of the Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (ASCSA).
3. Nicholas A. Peppas is the Fletcher Stuckey Pratt Chair in Engineering; Professor of Chemical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering and Pharmacy; Chairman of the Department of Biomedical Engineering, and Director of the Center for Biomaterials, Dug Delivery and Bionanotechnology of The University of Texas at Austin.
4. George Triantis is Associate Dean for strategic planning in the Law School at Stanford University.
5. Nicholas Christakis is a social scientist and physician who conducts research on social factors that affect health, health care, and longevity. He directs the Human Nature Lab at Yale University, and is the Co-Director of the Yale Institute for Network Science.

EXXONMOBIL INTEREST

Greece's Energy Minister George Stathakis held talks on May 19 with representatives of U.S. oil major ExxonMobil and France's Total regarding gas exploration off Greek shores. A consortium of ExxonMobil, Total and Hellenic Petroleum are expected to submit an offer "in the coming period" for exploration south of Crete. The meeting focused on "prospects for exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbon deposits," according to the Energy Ministry.

PILLARSTONE ROLE

Greece's central bank has granted a license to Pillarstone, the platform set up by U.S. private equity firm KKR, to provide long-term capital to large Greek corporate borrowers and manage non-performing exposures for Greek banks, Eurobank said.

SPEAKERS CORNER

THE GOOD. THE BAD

Let me give you a definition of ethics: It is good to maintain and further life; it is bad to damage and destroy life

—ALBERT SCHWEITZER

SPACE TRAVEL

The power of imagination makes us infinite.

—JOHN MUIR

TECHNOTRAP

Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men.

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

DATA DEBATE

A good decision is based on knowledge and not on numbers.

—PLATO

GROWING UP

Let us never know what old age is. Let us know the happiness time brings, not count the years.

—AUSONIUS