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English Preparatory School

ACADEMIC EVENTS

IAU FLAG FLYING HIGH AT LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

June 10th-12th- On the International front, four of our dear teachers represented **Istanbul Aydın University – English Preparatory School** at the International **ELT** conference in Barcelona, Spain. “**International Conference on New Horizons in Education**”. The articles presented at these **ELT** Conferences will be published in both local and international academic journals. The colleagues who made us proud at this **ELT** International conference are **Henry Tyron, Tülay Dağoğlu, Zeynep Aslan and Hande İsaoglu**.



May 21st - 22nd- This year has witnessed a great boost in terms of academic representations of our teachers at both Local and International conferences. On the local front, three of our teachers made us proud at the **ELT** conference held on the premises of Çukurova University, Adana. These teachers, of whom we are proud of, are **Elif Kabak, Serdil İlk and M. Metin Çameli**. The theme of the conference was “**An Insider Voice Into Practise – Çukurova International ELT Teachers Conference**”.





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English Preparatory School

IN-HOUSE ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOP

June- 18th -In-house training has always been a thing of priority at our **English Preparatory School**. On this day dedicated to in-house workshop, seven of our teachers who proudly represented **Istanbul Aydın University – English Preparatory School** at both Local and International **ELT** Conferences shared their experience with the other colleagues. The day witnessed very informative and professionally rewarding presentations. At the end of the workshop and presentations, every academic staff present benefited significantly. The colleagues who made us proud at these local and international conferences were; **Henry TYRON**, **Tülay DAĞOĞLU**, **Zeynep ASLAN** and **Hande İSAOĞLU** waved our flag high in Barcelona, SPAIN. And, **Serdil İLK**, **Metin ÇAMELİ** and **Elif KABAK** made us proud at the **ELT** conference held at Çukurova University. **Gayane POZHARİNA**, one of our dear colleagues, also relayed her experiences during her **ERASMUS** program in SPAIN.





FOREIGN LANGUAGE ELT (CONFERENCE) IN APRIL

The month of April witnessed an inspiring and fruitful International **ELT** conference organized by The School Of Foreign Languages of **Istanbul Aydın University**, headed by **Assist. Prof. Dr. Muhammed Nacar**. It was the second of its series and the number of attendees was a clear evidence of its proper organization. In attendance were not only dignitaries from the world of **ELT**, teachers - to be (students) from various **ELT** departments were also in attendance.

April 9th - 10th- The conference was themed “**Language Teaching in Higher Education**”. Among the speakers was a distinguished personality in the field of **ELT**, **Assist. Prof. Dr. Necmiye KARATAŞ**, who is also the **Director of Istanbul Aydın University - English Preparatory School**, presented a paper titled “**English Medium Instruction In Higher Education – A Nightmare or A Dream**”. It was an eye opener into whether or not the medium of instruction be Turkish or English.

Also in attendance as a speaker was an **ELT** enthusiast and lecturer at the **English Preparatory School – Istanbul Aydın University**, **Henry TYRON**. Henry TYRON’S paper was titled “**Motivation And Close teacher – student Relationship; Ingredients For Academic Achievement And Cure For Academic Insufficiency (Second Language Learners)**”. The paper gave an insight into the relationship between students’ academic achievement and the degree of closeness of their teacher(s). Feedbacks received from participants explicitly indicated a “**worthwhile experience**”.





TOEFL WORKSHOP (PROPELL)

In-house workshop with the sole aim of providing for personal and academic development of members of staff has always been in the fore-front of all our endeavors. Hence, in an effort to sort of create awareness as to what **TOEFL** is all about and to give tutors an insight into how to go about teaching students the skills to answer **TOEFL** questions, **The English Preparatory School** wholeheartedly accepted the request by **PROPELL** (a representative body of **ETS**) to come and discuss and share information about **ETS** in its totality and **TOEFL** in particular. From the feedback gathered from participants, the workshop, which lasted for almost 7 hours, was a particularly great eye opener as participants were made aware of the scoring system of **ETS (TOEFL)**. The presenter of the workshop **Tülay İmre**, also touched on a few ways on how we could add fun to teaching **TOEFL**, hence grabbing and sustaining the attention of our students.





INTER-PREP. SCHOOLS DEBATE

Yes!, it was the first of its kind. **Istanbul Aydın University – English Preparatory School** played host to its first **Inter-Prep. Schools Debate**. For this particular year, representatives (students) of the English Preparatory School of four pronounced Universities in Istanbul honored our invitation to participate in what could be described as the “**Battle of the Titans**”. We are grateful to **Kültür University, Yıldız Technical University** and **Medipol University**. In what could be described as a platform where representatives of each school put forward a fierce but friendly fight to the pride of their individual schools, with Kültür competing against Yıldız, and Aydın battling it out with Medipol both in the semi-final rounds, the final round witnessed **Istanbul Aydın University – English Preparatory School** competing against **Kültür University**. After a long, intense and applaud deserving competition, members of the jury which comprised of 4 educators from prominent publishing companies(**Pearson** and **Oxford**) almost unanimously voted **Istanbul Aydın University** as the winner of this year’s debate competition.

At the end of it all, the head of our **English Preparatory School, Assist. Prof. Dr. Necmiye Karataş** and the jury members presented the winning team and the first runner up team presents and certificates in appreciation of their outstanding academic sportsmanship. In her closing remark, **Assist. Prof. Dr. Karataş** indicated that taking part in such a competition was equivalent to being a champion. She expressed her gratitude and closed the ceremony by expressing her hope to meeting everyone again in the coming year.





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English Preparatory School

ZIFT PROJECT CLUB

Another project that has further reiterated the commitment of our **English Preparatory School** to exposing our students as much as possible is the **ZIFT** Project. The organization of this project or club has been shouldered yet again by **Zuhal Aydın**. **ZIFT** provides our students with the opportunity to see other towns, cities and even countries. Without a doubt, other than the social exposure achieved, students find themselves in situation where they have no choice but to communicate/practice their knowledge of the English language. Our students have been oppertuned to experience life in countries like **Croatia, Cyprus, Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Germany**, and cities in Turkey including **Ankara, Kırıkkale, Şanlıurfa, Kuşadası**, to mention only a few. Our students went to Europe to participate in the **European Youth Exchange** projects .They were also active in projects which are in Turkey. They had some grants to be able to go to these projects thanks to the **European Commission**.





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English Preparatory School

IAU PREP SCHOOL YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS CLUB

Our **English Preparatory School** gives utmost importance to not only teaching English in classrooms and within the school premises, great importance is also given to exposing students to events happening in the actual world. One way that has proven to be very successful has been to invite dignitaries who have made a name for themselves in their area of professional endeavor to discuss and share experience with students who will sooner or later find themselves facing “the real world” after their studies. Inviting such professionals provides our student with the opportunity to interact, ask question pertaining to their field to profession. Understandably, the feedbacks have been tremendous. This idea, which was originally thought of and commenced some few years back by one of our very capable teachers by the name **Zuhal Aydin**, has been gaining momentum as the year pass by. For this year, so far, **Law, Dentistry, Civil Aviation, International trade** e.t.c student have benefited from this on going organization.





DRAMA

“All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy”. Our students were treated to a spectacular performance by a group of students who featured in a theatrical play, a world classic; **Cinderella**. The tremendous play was a result of the hard work of dedicated teachers – **Tülay Dağoğlu, Zeyno Bingör and Başak Çun.**

It was a 40 minute play and everyone was unconsciously sitting at the edge of their seats and very much glued to everything happening on stage. The play was both humorous and equally thought provoking. We, the teachers who were opported to watch the play were not only moved by the confidence displayed by our students on stage, but also proud to see all our efforts at teaching them English manifest in them on stage.





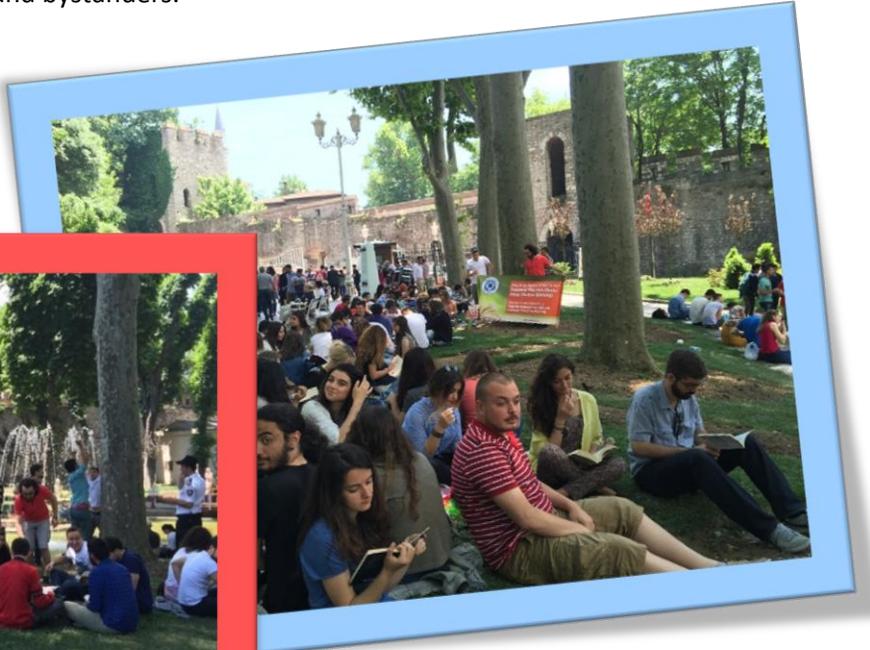
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OUTDOOR BOOK READING ACTIVITY

Under the supervision of one of our lecturers by the name **Sema Yaşar Okay**, a group of our students took it upon themselves to raise awareness and draw the attention of the public to the essence of reading. The students carried out an outdoor reading event at a very public square which in more ways than one, attracted the attention of passerby and bystanders.





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FILM FESTIVAL

As a continuum of one of the most favored traditions by our students, our **English Preparatory School** organized its annual “**FILM FESTIVAL**” ceremony. This year, in exhibition were four short films which had been 100% written, produced and directed by students of **Istanbul Aydın University – English preparatory School** themselves. In order to ensure fairness, our students themselves were the judges. In other words, to decide on the winning movie in each of the pre-determined categories, students were required to cast a vote via a ballot paper. At the end of it all, votes were counted in the presence of witnesses. The winners were then announced at the “**Oscar Ceremony**” that came up on the 27th of May, 2015.





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English Preparatory School

AWARD CEREMONY

"All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy". Our students have worked academically hard and played hard as well. And, it was time to recognize their immense effort put into all that they did both academically and as extra curricular activities. Hence, an unforgettable award presentation ceremony was organized. Amongst the categories that were awarded included, the second and first runner up and eventually the first academically best students per track, the best film, the best film actors and actresses in various categories and e.t.c. Here are some frames from the award.





A VISIT BY A GROUP OF STUDENTS FROM KOCAELİ

A group of friendly and jubilant teenagers who are also members of an association called “**Tuzla Gençlik Merkezi**” bore witness to our hospitality as we treated them to a firsthand experience of what an **English Preparatory School** looks and feels like. After the **School Director, Assist. Prof. Necmiye Karataş** welcomed them in her office and met each and every one of them, students were split up into smaller groups and put in several classes to witness lessons and have a sense of what being a student would feel like for them.



After observing classes, asked how and what they felt about the experience, the spokesperson for the group described it as a “**worthwhile experience**”. The least we could hope for is that these brilliant teenagers have been inspired to forge ahead even further academically. For us, too, it was a worthwhile experience.



CHARITY FUND RAISING ACTIVITY



In the spirit of brotherhood, sharing and lending a helping hand comes naturally... And, it really does come naturally to students in our **English Preparatory School!** In what can be described as an annual event, our school witnessed yet another “tasty”, fun-filled bazaar organization. Some may prefer to refer to it as “**fund raising gathering for charity**”. Although the only things on sale to raise fund were assorted meals, it was evident on the faces of every student that participated that it couldn’t have been a better organization. Everyone ate delightfully and contributed generously. Much thanks to those students who prepared nothing less than the very best home- made food. The money derived from such activities have always been used for charity purposes and this was not an exception.

