



AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR
GREEK LANGUAGE AND
CULTURE

* AFGLC *

AFGLC – STRATEGIC PLAN

YESTERDAY

TODAY

TOMORROW

“AFGLC - THE GLOBAL VOICE OF
HELLENISM”

- MARCH 2004 -

www.afglc.org

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR GREEK LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

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INTRODUCTION

The American Foundation for Greek Language and Culture was founded by concerned philhellenes, academic scholars, and other interested parties who seek to preserve and promote the all-important legacy of Hellenic language, culture and values as it applies to fostering a better global understanding of the underpinnings of western thought. This strategic plan represents the accomplishments, current activities, planned activities and proposed initiatives of AFGLC to date. As a draft distributed for public comment, it is hoped that readers will offer amendments and enhancements, which will serve to extend the educational mission of the AFGLC and improve the effectiveness with which it carries out its long-term planning. Comments should be directed to the AFGLC Executive Committee, via email, at exec@afglc.org.

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR GREEK LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

STRATEGIC PLAN

AFGLC ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

AFGLC is a public non-profit educational foundation, registered in the State of Florida with headquarters in Tampa, Florida. AFGLC is administratively and legally structured in accordance with the Laws of the Federal Government of the United States and the State of Florida. AFGLC has been approved by the Federal Government of the United States as an educational, non-profit foundation. Membership dues and other contributions and donations to AFGLC are tax deductible.

AFGLC MISSION

AFGLC's mission is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the Greek language and culture worldwide through the establishment of educational programs and professorships endowed in perpetuity at institutions of higher learning.

INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS FOR HELLENIC STUDIES (ICHS)

AFGLC accomplishes its mission by establishing Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHS) at various academic institutions throughout the United States and internationally. Each ICHS consists of, but not limited to, five endowed professors with expertise in the following areas:



The endowed professorships are legally structured in perpetuity and cover the most important aspects of Hellenic culture, especially as they have impacted modern civilization.

AFGLC's patronage is international, with particular emphasis on the bonds between Greece and the United States. Concurrently, AFGLC highlights the contributions made to Western culture to date by Greeks and their descendants living abroad.

AFGLC CENTERS

AFGLC Centers within the United States and other countries are administratively and legally structured in accordance with the laws governing each State and country in which they are located. These Centers are established and operate within the administrative structure and under the jurisdiction of the AFGLC Central Administrative Center (CAC). The primary mission of each AFGLC Center is to work with the CAC in order to identify academic institutions within or near its geographical area at which a local ICHS may be established. Furthermore, each AFGLC Center is to provide continuous support of their local ICHS once established.

I. AFGLC STRATEGIC PLAN - U. S. A.-

1. AFGLC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following summarize the AFGLC accomplishments since its establishment in May, 1992.

A.1 INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL FORUM ON HELLENISM

AFGLC has established an International Educational Forum held annually by the AFGLC Headquarters at the University of South Florida (USF) in Tampa, Florida. Each year a theme is selected from the broad spectrum of Hellenism and the educational mission of AFGLC. This theme is developed strategically, that is, in such a way as to assist the greatest number of AFGLC communities to achieve their well-defined educational mission. The conclusions reached at these Forums enable modifications, additions, and reorientation of the core strategies by which AFGLC achieves its aims and objectives.

Listed in reverse order are the themes of the AFGLC International Educational Forum since its inception:

- 2004 "Corporate Responsibility for the Support of Education: Lessons from the Classical Athenian Democracy"
- 2003 "AFGLC Mission: Enlightening the Young with the Olympic Torch of Hellenism"
- 2002 "Lighting the Hellenic Torch Through Interdisciplinary Centers"
- 2001 "The Development of Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies: Linking Mission and Objectives with Realistic Strategies"
- 2000 "The Opening of An Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies: Unifying the Building Blocks"

- 1999 "Creation and Support of University-Based Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies"
- 1998 "Support of Hellenism Through University Departments and Programs"
- 1997 "Nurturing Hellenism in an American University"
- 1996 "The Educational Mission of AFGLC Towards Hellenism"
- 1995 "The Interdisciplinary Advantages of Greek Studies Program at our Colleges and Universities"
- 1994 "AFGLC and Its Interplay with the Academic Environment"
- 1993 "Developing the Aims and Objectives of AFGLC"
- 1992 "The Urgent Need for the Teaching of Hellenism at our Academic Institutions"

A.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC CENTERS

AFGLC has established or is in the process of completing the establishment of the following Centers, with the above-defined mission, in the United States:

1. AFGLC-Tri-State Center (Delaware, Southern New Jersey, Philadelphia area);
2. AFGLC St Louis, Missouri Center;
3. AFGLC Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas Center;
4. AFGLC Columbia, South Carolina Center;
5. AFGLC Tampa, Florida Center;
6. AFGLC Boston, Massachusetts Center;
7. AFGLC Chicago, Illinois Center.

A.3 ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC-INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS FOR HELLENIC STUDIES (ICHS)

The fundamental educational mission of AFGLC is realized through the establishment of ICHS at academic institutions of higher learning. To accomplish this mission, AFGLC has developed a dynamic plan that has been successfully applied for the creation of ICHS in the following Universities:

1. AFGLC- ICHS at the University of South Florida, a "Center of Excellence"

2. AFGLC-ICHS at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

By demonstrating the feasibility of the novel but difficult to implement ICHS concept, AFGLC has opened new educational avenues to fulfill its primary mission.

A.4 AFGLC SCHOLARSHIPS

AFGLC has established and awarded the following scholarships:

1. The Dr. Demetrios G. Halkias Annual Scholarship. The initial endowment of \$26,000 remains fixed, as only investment returns are utilized for the scholarship. Any shortfalls are underwritten by the AFGLC-CAC. This scholarship is legally structured for operation in perpetuity.
2. The AFGLC-PK scholarships - \$220,000 donated by Peter Kourmolis for scholarships in six different communities within the United States. The initial endowment remains fixed, as only investment returns are utilized for the scholarship, which is structured for operation in perpetuity.
3. AFGLC financed (100%) the M.S. Degree (two years) of one student from Greece in public health at USF.
4. AFGLC financed (80%) the M.S. Degree (two years) of one student from Greece in business administration at USF.
5. AFGLC financed (50%) the B.A. Degree (four years) of one student from Greece at Pennsylvania State University.
6. AFGLC annually provides three monetary awards for the best papers presented by graduate and undergraduate students at the Annual Classics Forum at USF.

A.5 AFGLC HONORING PROGRAM

Philanthropists who have contributed towards the fulfillment of AFGLC's educational goals are recognized annually. AFGLC has established awards for:

1. Contributors of "AFGLC Named Endowed Professorships"
2. AFGLC members who have worked most diligently to further the educational mission of AFGLC.

A.6 HELLENIC SOCIETY AT USF

AFGLC recognizes the importance of both introducing and deepening among our students the riches of the Greek culture. Thus AFGLC has supported the establishment at

USF of the Hellenic Society, to supplement classroom instruction, with the living experience of Hellenic paideia. In recognition of its active presence in the academic life of the University, the Hellenic Society has been recognized as one of the “Best Student Organizations.”

A.7 AFGLC ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

AFGLC seeks to work with other organizations of similar purpose to further our common educational goals. These mutual missions include:

1. AFGLC has established a working educational partnership with the Academy of Athens, which includes the contributions by members of the Academy of books (some rare) on every aspect of Hellenism, for all ICHS centers in the United States.
2. AFGLC and the Alexander Onassis Public Benefits Foundation (U.S.A.) have embarked on a Distinguished Lecture partnership. The Onassis Foundation supplies, at its expense, outstanding international scholars to lecture at the universities or colleges where AFGLC has established an ICHS.

A.8 COLLEGE STUDENTS’ SUMMER ACADEMIC PROGRAM IN GREECE

AFGLC recognizes and endorses the creation of summer academic programs that allow students to visit Greece. To date, the AFGLC has supported the first summer academic program for students from USF to Greece in the summer of 2003.

A.9 AFGLC LECTURE PROGRAM

AFGLC believes in sharing its educational efforts with the community. To this end, it provides a list of academics and other professionals available who are available to lecture at Greek-American and other civic organizations, universities, schools, and professional groups, on various aspects of Hellenism, and pertinent topics of common interests.

A.10 AFGLC BIOGRAPHY OF GRAND BENEFACTORS

The legacy of our special philanthropists should be preserved for posterity. Thus, AFGLC has established a policy of writing the biography of its *Grand Benefactors* - Greek-Americans who have experienced the American dream both professionally and financially and shared their good fortune with the community. AFGLC's first biography was the life of Gus Stathis, our first Grand Benefactor.

A.11 AFGLC EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXHIBITS

AFGLC is devoted to making available to the public Hellenic educational and cultural exhibits. To this end it has:

1. Assisted and supported the Tampa Museum of Fine Arts in bringing to the United States the exhibit *Magna Graecia, Greek Art from South Italy and Sicily*.
2. Brought the pictorial exhibit *Alexander the Great and the Aftermath* to USF and the Tampa Bay area.
3. Presented the exhibit of works by the modern Greek artist *Ghikas* at the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida.
4. Presented the exhibit *Cavafy-Seferis, Celebrated Poets of the 20th Century*, at the USF Main Library.

A.12 AFGLC INTERNATIONAL CONCERTS

AFGLC recognizes the importance that music and the arts have played and continue to play in Greek culture. Thus it has sponsored the following musical events:

1. "Songs of the Homeland" by Marianna Rigaki, Winner of the Maria Callas International Competition, at Ruth Eckerd Hall in Clearwater, Florida;
2. "Opera is in the Air" by Marianna Rigaki, at the Concert Hall at USF, Tampa, FL.

A.13 "AFGLC GLOBAL VOICE FOR HELLENISM"

AFGLC recognizes the importance of carrying its message and objectives worldwide. Thus, it has created a 15-minute DVD video for distribution, providing a brief description of AFGLC and its mission.

A.14 AFGLC BROCHURE IN GREEK

AFGLC intends to keep the Hellenic officials and public informed about its mission. For this reason, a brochure has been created in the Greek language that identifies the benefits to the Hellenic Republic, which spring from the educational activities of AFGLC.

A.15 AFGLC - COMMUNITY / MEDIA ASSISTANCE

AFGLC believes in supporting local educational community activities. Therefore:

1. AFGLC officers and members have assisted educational television fundraising for WUSF Channel 16.
2. AFGLC officers and members have assisted educational television fundraising for PBS Channel 2.

B. AFGLC PRESENT/CURRENT PROJECTS

B.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL AFGLC CENTERS

AFGLC is presently working to establish additional Centers, with their mission as stated above, in the following cities in the United States:

1. Cleveland, Ohio
2. Phoenix/Tucson, Arizona
3. Northern California
4. Southern California
5. Washington, DC
6. Northern New Jersey-New York
7. Indianapolis, Indiana

B.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC-INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS (ICHS)

AFGLC Headquarters, together with local Centers in Dallas, Texas, and the Tri-State Area, are working to establish ICHS in the following cities:

1. Dallas, Texas
2. Philadelphia, PA.

B.3 EXPANSION OF AFGLC SCHOLARSHIPS

AFGLC is working actively to develop scholarships with financial endowments in perpetuity, similar in structure to the AFGLC-Dr. Demetrios Halkias Scholarship and the AFGLC-Peter Kourmolis Scholarships.

B.4 DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

AFGLC is presently negotiating the establishment of educational partnerships with other non-profit American and Greek-American organizations. The goal is to work jointly towards the establishment of ICHSs in academic institutions throughout the United States.

B.5 ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC FACULTY AND STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM

AFGLC is working to develop faculty exchange programs with public and private universities in Greece and Cyprus.

B.6 PROMOTION OF AFGLC FUNDRAISING THROUGH "CHOREGOI"

The need to expand our donor base is self-evident. Thus, AFGLC is involved in:

1. Establishing a network/database of potential financial supporters (philanthropists, 'choregoi') to contribute to the educational mission of AFGLC.
2. Identifying and creating a database of foundations in the United State with whom AFGLC qualifies for financial support. We will then proceed to prepare and submit the necessary proposals.
3. Seeking to identify which, if any, state or federal agencies AFGLC qualifies to receive financial support from, and then take appropriate action.
4. Working with other non-profit American and Greek American organizations that share similar educational objectives to develop partnerships that jointly establish AFGLC-ICHS at American Colleges and Universities. (Already listed above)

B.7 ESTABLISHMENT OF AFGLC CHARITABLE ANNUITY

The AFGLC is presently discussing with various financial institutions the possibility of establishing an AFGLC Charitable Annuity, whereby AFGLC becomes the beneficiary upon the death of the benefactor. Until that time, the benefactor receives monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually, a tax-free dividend at a competitive rate. Additionally, he or she can deduct annually (IRS compliant) a certain percentage of the value of a charitable annuity. Almost all academic institutions and a very large number of educational and cultural foundations in the United States have established such charitable annuities, which offer an attractive set of advantages for single and married individuals above the age of 50.

B.8 CREATION OF THE AFGLC-GUS STATHIS INTERNATIONAL HELLENIC CULTURE CENTER (IHECC)

AFCLC has been the recipient of \$1,000,000 from Grand Benefactor Gus Stathis. This contribution will be used to establish an IHECC in the Tampa Bay area that will carry his name. It is anticipated that the IHECC will consist of spaces able to accommodate the following:

1. International community library

2. Hellenic historical museum
3. Venues for educational and cultural activities
4. AFGLC Headquarters

AFGLC is presently working with various city officials, civic and business leaders in the Tampa Bay Area on the issue. We will seek additional financial support from city, state and federal government agencies, in addition to individual philanthropists and corporations. AFGLC is proceeding expeditiously on the development of IHECC.

B.9 SEEKING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE (EU)

AFGLC is officially and legally structured as a public non-profit educational and cultural organization in Greece. Thus, as an entity within the Hellenic Republic, AFGLC qualifies to submit proposals to the European Union (EU) for financial assistance for various educational and cultural areas that they support.

B.10 DEVELOPING AFGLC-ICHS DVD VIDEO

AFGLC is developing a DVD video about the administrative structure, academic aims and advantages of Interdisciplinary Centers for Hellenic Studies (ICHSs). This video features, among other things, faculty and student participation.

C. AFGLC FUTURE PLANS

AFGLC is cognizant of the increasing need to focus on the following major objectives:

1. **Expanding our membership drive in all existing AFGLC Centers.**
The Executive Committee of each AFGLC Center will be primarily responsible for the application of integrated "grass root" recruiting strategies. This objective can be significantly enhanced by promoting communication, i.e. exchange of ideas, among centers.
2. **Establishing additional ICHS in strategically located areas.** The Executive Committee and CAC, in association with local organizations and educational institutions, are in the process of identifying proper locations.
3. **Greatly expanding and updating the current AFGLC website to meet the needs of the expanding group of ICHS teams, in addition to the needs of AFGLC Headquarters.**
4. **Fostering a structured and archived vehicle for inter-ICHS collaborative efforts, both in terms of educational, and scholarly pursuits.**

5. **Establishing an international academic journal** that will publish original research manuscripts, special survey papers, and book reviews on all aspects of Hellenism.
6. **Developing an interactive computerized system** that the public can use enjoyably to learn about Greek language, history, philosophy, culture, etc., at their home computer.
7. **Establishing scholarships** for needy students, similar in financial structure to the AFGLC-Demetrios Halkias scholarship.
8. **Increasing** our support of the academic summer program for college students' educational trips to Greece.
9. **Establishing** an AFGLC database of speakers on a broad spectrum of topics to be made available to civic, religious, educational and business organizations, among others.
10. **Helping to upgrade**, both academically and financially, the AFGLC-ICHSs.
11. **Increasing the number of scholarships for needy students**, especially for those interested in entering the classics as a profession.
12. **Assisting** in increasing the library acquisitions of essential books for the ICHS at USF.
13. **Supporting** the republication of rare manuscript books and research monographs related to the mission of AFGLC.

II. AFGLC INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN

A. AFGLC ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PRESENT PLANS

A.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AFGLC ATHENS CENTER

1. AFGLC Athens Center is legally structured under the laws of the Hellenic Republic and European Community.
2. AFGLC Athens Center office space was donated by the Athenian Academy and shares its own headquarters. The Academy is an enthusiastic supporter of the AFGLC's educational mission.
3. The opening ceremonies of the AFGLC Athens Center were held at the historic "Zappeion Megaro", compliments of the Hellenic Republic. The opening

ceremonies were very well attended by Government officials, ambassadors, business leaders, academics, students and the general public.

4. AFGLC Athens Center held its First Annual International Academic Forum in September, 2002, at the National Research Foundation of the Hellenic Republic. The theme of the forum was "The Role of the Hellenic Culture in the Era of Globalization". The forum was outstanding.

A.2 THE MISSION AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE AFGLC ATHENS CENTER

The mission of the AFGLC Athens Center is to work jointly with the AFGLC Headquarters to enhance and expedite the educational mission outside of Greece focusing on the following objectives.

1. Working with various educational and cultural agencies of the Hellenic Republic to seek assistance and support for our international aims and objectives regarding the Greek language and culture.
2. Developing partnerships with Greek foundations, Greek institutes, educational and cultural organizations to collaborate in every manner possible to achieve our global objectives concerning Hellenism.
1. Presently, the AFGLC-Athens Center is in the process of establishing a network of centers in Thessaloniki, Patras, Ioannina, and the islands of Crete and Rhodes. These new centers will be under the jurisdiction of and will report to the AFGLC-Athens Center. The mission of these new centers is to assist the AFGLC-Athens Center with their aims and objectives.
2. AFGLC-Athens Center is assisting Headquarters in establishing partnerships with other educational foundations, academic institutions, and cultural organizations in Greece. The initial responses have been very encouraging.
3. AFGLC-Athens Center is proceeding to establish communication with the appropriate educational and cultural agencies within the European Union (EU) and to submit proposals.

B. AFGLC BOGOTA, COLOMBIA, CENTER

1. The center's primary mission is to work with the AFGLC Headquarters to identify the universities in Colombia where ICHSs can be established and to support those ICHSs. There is significant international interest in this expansion.

2. Bogota was chosen as AFGLC's first center in the Southern Hemisphere because of the city's reputation as the "Athens of South America." There is a deep tradition of interest in the Greek language and culture there.
3. We have elected an executive committee that consists of distinguished academics, university administrators, ambassadors and international business leaders.
4. The AFGLC Headquarters will begin working with the executive committee and our senior advisor for South America to identify universities in Colombia that may be candidates for an ICHS.
5. In the future AFGLC will be establishing centers in other countries in South America. We are presently collecting information for identifying the countries that should be considered for an AFGLC presence.

III. LONG-RANGE GOALS

AFGLC CENTER FOR ADVANCED WESTERN POLITICAL STUDIES

- Washington, D.C.

The AFGLC's mission to preserve Hellenic values at the university level finds its fulfillment in the service of the greater world through a better understanding of democracy, that most Hellenic of values. To this end, AFGLC holds as a long range goal of its educational initiatives the establishment in our nation's capital of an institution that will advance global applications of the Hellenic legacy, centered in the concept of democracy itself. It will achieve this goal through the collaboration of scholars, public advocates and analysts of international law. Activities of the Center will face both outward, offering the riches of Hellenic political theory to the world, and inward, bringing to AFGLC's academic programs a relevance, urgency and expertise that is unique.

Activities of the Center will include:

- ? Guidance in the education for democracy in emerging world democracies;
- ? Ombudsmanship in cases of domestic democratic due process;
- ? Studies on abatement of disenfranchisement;
- ? Studies on enhancing public political awareness and ethos;
- ? Studies in democratic life-cycles;
- ? Constitutional advocacy;
- ? Quarterly global report: *State of the World Democracies*;

Is it hoped that the eventual establishment of such a center will serve to showcase the continued importance of Greek values and culture in the process of world democratization.

IV. PUBLICATION AND FUTURE REVISIONS OF THE AFGLC STRATEGIC PLAN

This Strategic Plan was approved for publication by the Executive Committee of the AFGLC CAC on April 6, 2004.

In the future, the Strategic Plans will be reevaluated and revised annually, following comprehensive discussion at the AFGLC Annual Educational Forum. The next Strategic Plan will be published on April 6, 2005.

WHY SHOULD WE BE VERY MUCH CONCERNED?

*“If we do not succeed in the rejuvenation and
enhancement of Hellenism in the Americas,
History will not forgive us.”* **AFGLC**

