

Armenia Tree Project



October 12, 2003

ATP Tree Planting Marks 10th Anniversary of AUA's First Graduating Class

On October 9, the Armenia Tree Project (ATP) presented the American University of Armenia (AUA) with an evergreen to celebrate the 10th anniversary of its first graduating class. The ceremonial planting arranged by ATP's Country Director, Susan Yacubian Klein, and was conducted by Dr. Mihran Aghababian, AUA Founder and Honorary President, his wife Elizabeth, and Dr. Armen Ter-Kyureghian, AUA Founder and Dean of the Engineering Department. The event was well attended by representatives of the class of 1993, including Anahit Ordian, Administrative Director of AUA and Armenak Mikaelyan, Finance Manager of the Armenia Tree Project. The planting took place at the AUA Business Center and received considerable local media attention.

The Armenia Tree Project will be celebrating its own 10th anniversary next year. ATP was founded in 1994 during Armenia's darkest and coldest years with a vision of securing the new republic's future by protecting the environment. ATP has a full-time staff of 53 (47 in Armenia) who manage two state-of-the-art nurseries, partner with villagers to enhance economic development, create urban green belts for public use, and employ hundreds of part-time workers to restore forest growth from tree stumps. ATP has planted and rejuvenated 415,000 trees at 400 sites from Gyumri to Goris, with funding from thousands of Diasporan Armenians.