



UNIVERSITY
OF CENTRAL ASIA

19 August 2020

Professor William Flanagan
President, University of Alberta
Office of the President
2-24M South Academic Building (SAB)
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada T6G 2C7

Dear President Flanagan,

On behalf of the University of Central Asia (UCA) and my own self, I write to congratulate you on your appointment as the 14th President of the University of Alberta (UofA). This is indeed a testament to your remarkable academic and research credentials, and longstanding leadership in higher education.

We look forward to continuing the excellent and long standing cooperation between our two institutions which started nearly a decade ago. UofA's then Provost, Dr Carl Amrhein visited UCA in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in 2011. Upon his return to Alberta, he very graciously supported funding two doctoral scholarships for UCA scholars at the UofA.

Late last year, we were delighted to welcome Mr Dan Fredrick, Director, International Projects and Manager, Sponsored Student Programme, to our residential campuses in Naryn, Kyrgyzstan and Khorog, Tajikistan. His visit resulted in UCA signing the Collaborative Agreement for a Graduate Sponsored Student Programme in July 2019. As such, two of our faculty have gained admission to pursue postgraduate and doctoral studies at UofA this Fall.

Our other past and very significant collaborations come from the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) the umbrella organization to which UCA belongs. As you may already be aware, His Highness the Aga Khan, Chairman of AKDN, and Chancellor of UCA and the Aga Khan University, gifted UofA the 4.8 hectare Aga Khan Gardens, as a symbol of the continued intellectual, educational and cultural collaboration between the University and the AKDN.

We remain certain that the traditions of your great institution and its future are in excellent hands under your leadership. From educating the now much changed next generation, to advancing ground-breaking research, many of the intended outcomes also resonate with UCA, particularly relating to interdisciplinary research and education, including through the use of technology, to enhance teaching and learning which is so important in our changed world.

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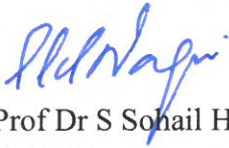
Campuses in: Naryn, Kyrgyzstan • Khorog, Tajikistan • Tekeli, Kazakhstan

www.ucentralasia.org

Lastly, I take this opportunity to invite you to visit UCA, once travel restrictions have eased, for a first-hand look at some of our achievements, challenges, and opportunities. I hope you will also consider on that occasion to deliver a lecture in one of your specialty areas such as international law or any other topic of interest to you.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, students and Board of Trustees of the University of Central Asia, please accept our sincere wishes for every success during your Presidency.

With my best wishes,



Prof Dr S Sohail H Naqvi
Rector
University of Central Asia

CC: Dr Shamsh Kassim-Lakha, Chairman Board of Trustees, UCA