

GENERATION OF INDEPENDENCE









Bakhrom Mirkasimov Rector of Westminster International University in Tashkent

Dear friends of WIUT!

It has become our tradition to collect and capture some of the brightest moments of University life in our annual Almanac. Westminster International University in Tashkent is approaching the 20th anniversary of its establishment and the end of 2021 declared as the Year of the Youth Support to realise five main initiatives of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to serve the interests of young men and women. We proudly note that it has grown stronger than ever before, representing the excellence of Uzbekistan's education in the global arena. At the same time, one of the distinguishing features of the education offered by WIUT is the strongest effort given to support students in their all-round development. Equally, with offering quality academic services, here at WIUT we pride ourselves in nurturing an environment that promotes experiential learning, development of creativity, leadership, and a range of other soft skills that make up the core of the attributes that we aim to see in our graduates.

The socio-cultural life of the University that students enjoy so much helps them discover the hidden talents, grow and excel personally and professionally. We are glad to note that the diverse range of clubs and societies of the University organised by the Students' Union, the traditional events, such as the Talent Show, the Fashion Show, the Culture Fair and many others increasingly engage not only the students and staff at our University, but also the students of our partner institutions and universities. This enables the exchange of ideas and development of the youth's creative potential.

This year's Almanac reviews the activities of two consecutive academic years as the biggest part of which the world was engulfed in the COVID-19 pandemic. In the conditions of the global lockdown and the remote study mode, social engagement of students was challenging. However, at the same time this served as an impetus for the University to explore alternative online methods of administering socio-cultural projects. In the summer of 2020, students were invited to participate in the Lockdown Unlocks Creativity contest, which was extremely well received by students undergoing the pressure of psychological side-effects of social isolation. The competition gave them an opportunity to feel the community spirit, while at the same time encouraging them to explore their creative skills and talents.

Another bright example of the most successful projects of the term in review was the Photo-Art Exhibition held on the occasion of the 28th Anniversary of Uzbekistan's Independence, which became part of the International Biennale of Contemporary Art in Tashkent. There has been welcoming praise and positive reviews offered by the representatives of the Arts Academy and the renowned national artists of Uzbekistan in regards to the works of WIUT students providing a solid foundation for further development of our collaboration.

I sincerely hope that as you look through the pages of this Almanac you come to share our views on the importance of students' socio-cultural engagement and wellbeing.



Preface

The State Youth Policy Law was approved in September 2016 bringing a new impetus to the support of youth in Uzbekistan and spurring the efforts of both public and private sector institutions in enhancing the personal, intellectual, physical, moral and spiritual development of the nation's youth. Special focus has been placed on the work to develop the quality of education and in raising graduate employability through the growth of the creative, intellectual and entrepreneurial potential of young people, stimulation of innovative activity amongst students, young scientists and entrepreneurs.

This was further supported through the National Action Strategy on Five Priority Development Areas for 2017-2021 which was put forward by the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev. Specifically, this Strategy placed emphasis on raising social engagement of youth with the purpose of supporting their physical, spiritual and intellectual development, enhancement of their entrepreneurial and creative potential through broad engagement in social, cultural and sports activities. This year, yet again, the President highlighted the importance of the Youth programme by announcing 2021 as the “Year of Supporting Youth and Strengthening the Population's Health”.

This Almanac is portrayed as an images gallery that brings together some of the most notable highlights from the social and cultural life of WIUT, student initiatives and projects, which support their all-round development. The images present a range of the events held by the University administration, clubs, societies and student organizations in the academic years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Social Engagement Section

Medical Center

Sports Center

Counselling

Student
Support

Department -
Information

and
Customer Service

Academic

Accommodation Support

Support
Centre

Career Center

Centre

International Studies

Orientation Week

The most memorable time for students. It is the period when students are introduced to the new educational environment, educational programs and social life, regulations, Students Union, clubs and other important aspects of studying at WIUT. Orientation week is a great chance for students to meet their peers and faculty and to acclimate to the University atmosphere.





“You can't wait for inspiration.
You have to go after it with a club”

-Jack London

Clubs Day

Clubs Day is an event where various extracurricular activities are presented to students. The University has more than 30 clubs of different spheres that students are interested in, such as sport, education, politics, art and music.



Book Club



Learning Resource Center of WIUT encourages creativity and intellectual growth by providing access to its resources, empowers the skills of evaluating resources critically through delivering instructions of the effective usage.

The Book Club is an initiative carried out by LRC for both promoting active use of Library resources and engaging students into creative work. Book Club is aimed at building a culture of reading within WIUT and AL WIUT and constructing dialogue between students and staff members through books.





Photo Club members successfully participate in various regional and international contests. One of the Photo Club members has recently become one of the finalists of the UNESCO Youth Eyes on the Silk Roads International Photo Contest.



PHOTO CLUB



art club



To improve students' creativity skills and support their passion, Art, Photo, Drama and Vocal clubs were launched.

Vocal CLUB



Drama club



LAW SOCIETY

Law Society is a club for Law students where they practice their professional skills in mooting and engage in other professional events.



ZAKOVAT

As one of the intellectual clubs, Zakovat conducts its tournaments among students. These tournaments are broadening their knowledge, developing their erudition and help meet like-minded friends.



TIMUN

TIMUN is the event conducted by the club members with 200 participants from all around the world and traditionally attended by high ranked guests such as the UNODC Regional Representative, UK Ambassador to Uzbekistan, and other local authorities who work with the young generation in Uzbekistan.





WIUT UNITE Club was organized to gather all international students and engage them in activities in order to support their adaptation in the University



WIUT Students' Union



Students' Union (SU) is the representative and self-governance body of the students of Westminster International University in Tashkent, who is concerned to assist, support and engage students with and in their academic and social life, represent their rights and cooperate with the administration on behalf of the Students and in their best favor, as well as organize non-academic activities. Students' Union serves as a connecting bridge between students, the university administration and other organizations and departments.

WIUT RESEARCH SOCIETY

WIUT actively supports undergraduate and postgraduate research with strong collaboration between faculty and students. WIUT Research Society is a platform to stimulate students' research capacity and experience, interdisciplinary collaboration and celebrate research activity.



Volunteering



The School of Volunteers is one of the first Student Volunteer Societies to be formally set up in Uzbekistan. Annually it recruits a great number of members, ready to engage in the most diverse volunteering projects. Thus, SoV actively supports many different activities both at WIUT as well as external municipal and other types of projects.



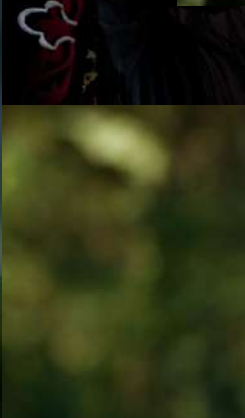
"To merely observe your culture without contributing to it seems very close to existing as a ghost."

- Chuck Palahniuk

PHOTO & ART EXHIBITION



Westminster International University in Tashkent organized an exhibition celebrating Uzbek traditional heritage, 'GENERATION OF INDEPENDENCE: My Country – My Inspiration'. The exhibition was part of the 2nd International Biennale of Applied Arts. In total, over a hundred photographs and art projects were presented at the exhibition. Among these was a joint project with the students of the Kamoliddin Behzod National Institute of Fine Arts and Design, and students from the Historical Costumes Department at the Republican Specialized Art School. A runway show of traditional regional costumes of the Republic of Uzbekistan, both modeled and designed by University students was conducted as part of the event.



UZBEK LANGUAGE DAY



On the National Language Day students performed folk songs, dances and participated in a language quiz.

WIUT & BIRTHDAY AWARDING CEREMONY



Uzbek-British Culture Day was organized to celebrate the university's birthday. Unforgettable performances along with the awarding ceremony of the most active students who have won the contests and sports championships took place at this event.



POETRY SLAM



A collaboration of Reading Club and Students Union, where students read their poems, notes as well as showed their original music to the guests of the event.

Open Air in Central Park

Our talented students took part in the Open Air concert with their musical performances at ZIYO stage with the cooperation of Ziyo Forum in Tashkent Central Park.

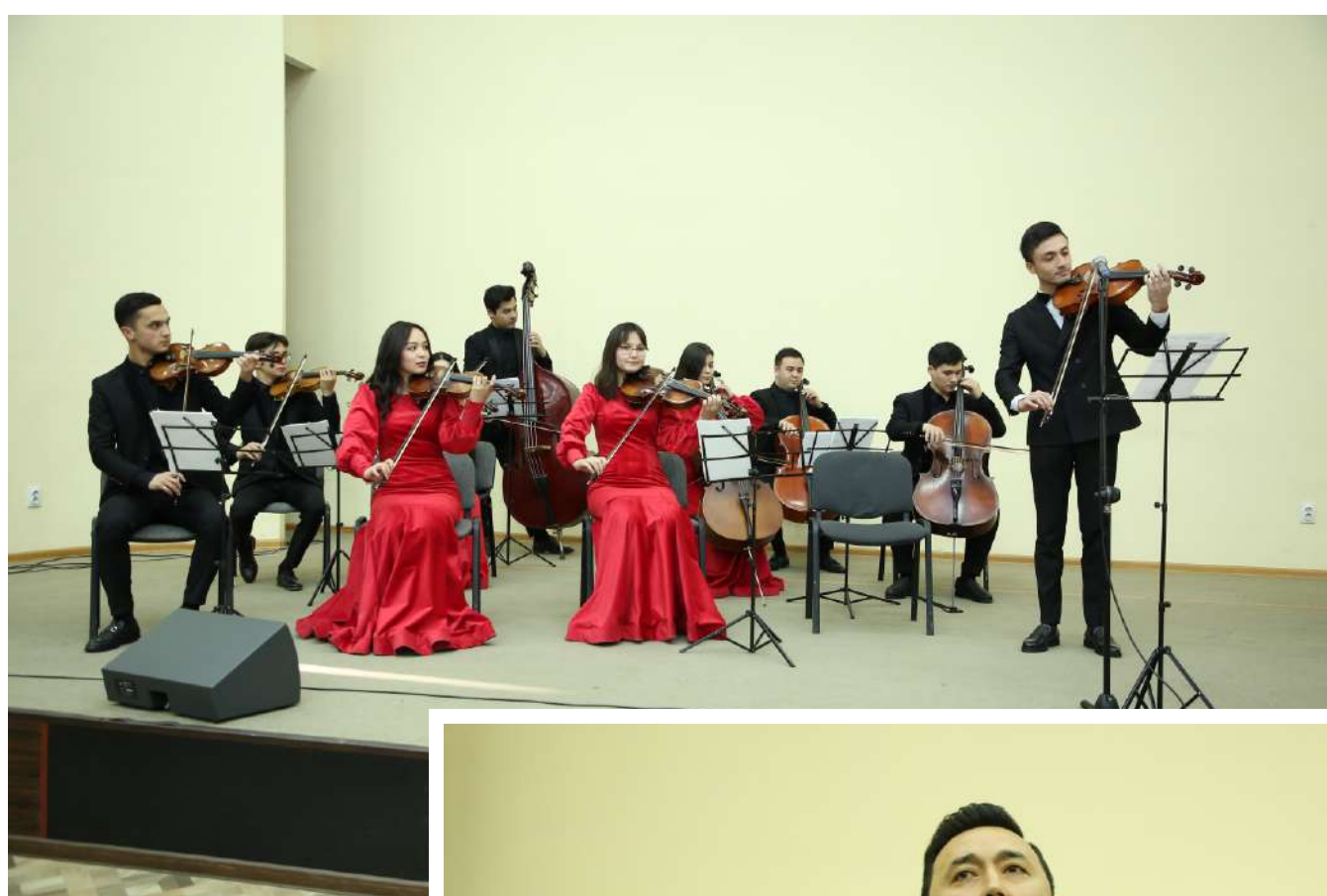


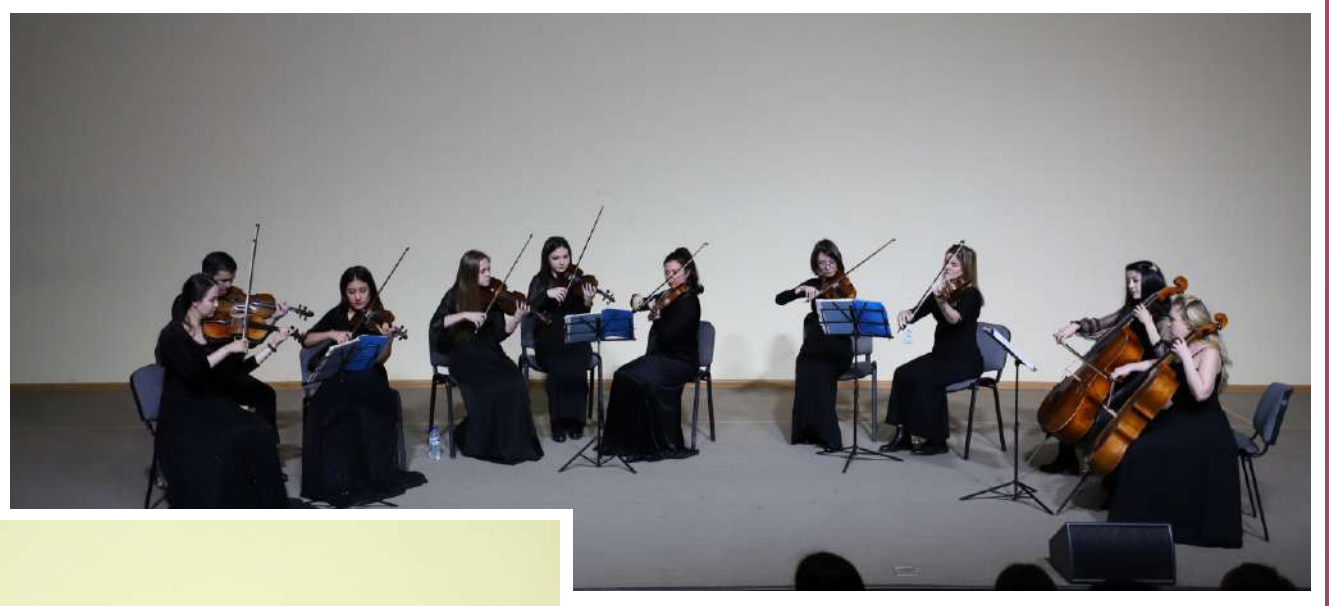
FEEL THE FUSION EXHIBITION

Feel the Fusion Art Exhibition is a joint project of WIUT graduates along with members of the Academy of Arts of Uzbekistan which took place in Autograph Gallery in Tashkent. The paintings presented at the exhibition are distinguished by their uniqueness with notes of symbolism and expressionism



Concerts at WIUT





Music plays a great role in personal development of our students. For this purpose, the university organized a series of concerts with the famous tenors such as National Artist of Uzbekistan, Ramiz Usmanov, rising opera stars, Rustam Alimardanov, Damir Rakhmonov and Umid Israilov, Honored Artist of Uzbekistan, Yunus Gulzarov and such event as Orchestra Night with the invited musicians.

ONLINE Events

The COVID-19 pandemic did not become an obstacle for students to engage in social life. Most events took place on online platforms: Lockdown Unlocks Creativity contest, WIUT Talents contest, Motherland's Defenders Day, National Language Day, Teachers Day, etc.

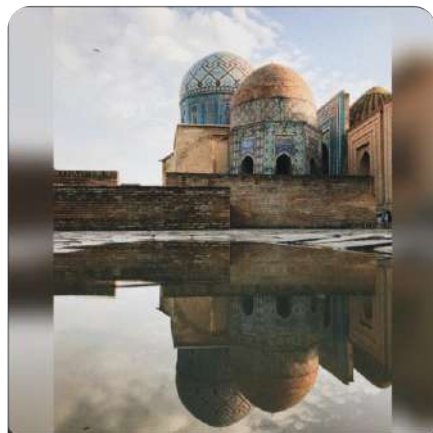


"Tranquillity"
Watercolor, gouache
20x20
Munira Zakirova
#Artwork

1K 4:30 PM

👍 Artistry 52

👍 Originality 13

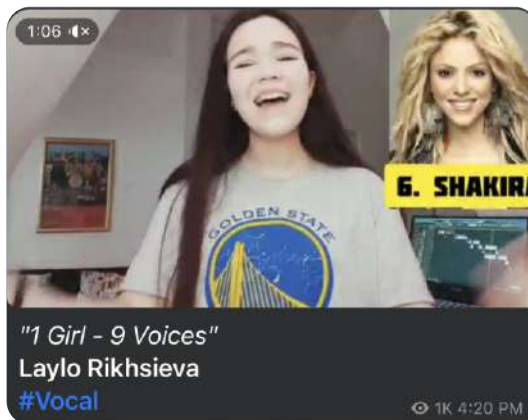


"Pearl of the Orient"
Samarkand, Uzbekistan
Malika Abdushukurova
#Photography

708 2:30 PM

👍 Composition...

👍 Theme 24

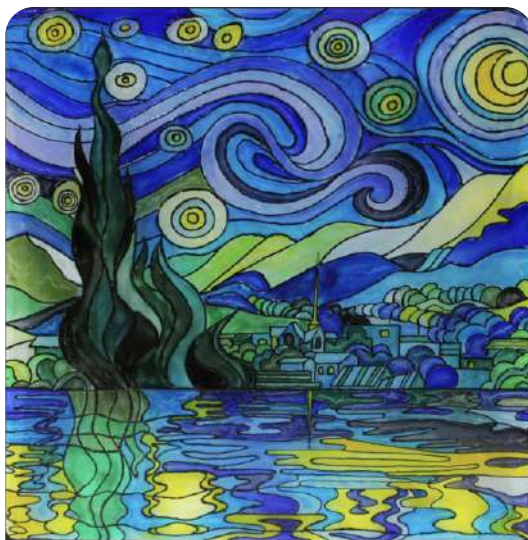


"1 Girl - 9 Voices"
Laylo Rikhsieva
#Vocal

1K 4:20 PM

👍 Voice 100

👍 Impression 31



"The Starry night"
60x60 cm
Stained glass window
Abdullaeva Malika
#Artwork

986 12:59 PM

👍 Artistry 72

👍 Originality 21



"Fly away"
Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Ph: Maksudova Charoskhon
Md: Gloria
#Photography

958 4:00 PM

👍 Composition...

👍 Theme 41



"Diana"
40x50cm
Pencil
Noila Rasuljanova
#Artwork

1K 3:29 PM

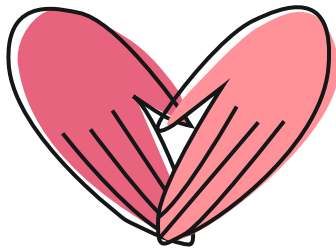
👍 Artistry 38

👍 Originality 12



“We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.”

-Mother Teresa



WARM HEART



WIUT charity organization, Warm Heart Foundation, has been organizing various fund raising activities for more than 10 years now. Every year Warm Heart helps those who are in need by donating funds, supplying needs or by organizing a variety of recreational activities for children.



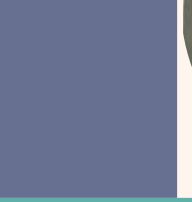
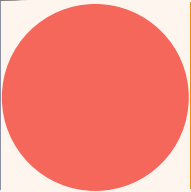
Education for Change

Charity course

Education for Change is a charity movement for children in need. Throughout the whole academic year our students provide Math and English classes for children from low-income families or in boarding schools for children with disabilities.



Special Charity Campaign



One of the biggest charity campaigns organized most recently was the design and equipment of the Music & Gymnastics room in school for children with special needs №57.



ART CLASSES



Our students are not only willing to share their academic knowledge, but also their creativity skills. Art club members have conducted art classes in the school №57 for primary level students.



Professional Development

The future depends on what you do today.

-Mahatma Gandhi



For an undergraduate or graduate student, alumni, or employers, the Career Center is eager to provide full support to help parties achieve their goals. The Center's first-class staff, programs, and resources are ready to support every student's step along their career path.

The Career Centre is a unit of strategic importance that helps students develop their employability skills and perform their best in recruitment and selection.

It actively collaborates with employers not only to arrange for job opportunities, but also help establish the dialogue with the faculty to make sure the educational programmes reflect the market needs.



CAREER DAY



Career Day is an annual event that brings together representatives of business structures, companies and students, who wish to get in contact with promising young professionals and find dream jobs.



Alumni



Alumni Relations is a strategic area of the Career Centre's activity. Alumni play a crucial role in empowering WIUT students to explore and pursue potential career paths. WIUT's comprehensive alumni engagement strategy allows students to benefit from a broad range of opportunities to connect with alumni for networking, mentoring and recruiting. WIUT alumni participated in events like Alumni Reunion and Rector Meets Alumni.



Globalization Course



The course led by Dr. Sodyq S. Safoev, the First Deputy Chairman of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, provided an in-depth look at the shortcomings of current and past global economies, and the insights on why and how globalization and sustainable development has become the universally prioritized agenda for the future of our world.



FALLING WALLS LAB

The Falling Walls Competition took place in WIUT, where students presented their best business ideas to the juries - Deputy Head of Mission at German Embassy in Tashkent, WIUT Rector and WIUT First Academic Deputy Rector. The winner of the competition will visit Berlin to present Uzbekistan in the Grand Finale.



Guest Lectures

WIUT has developed strong-bonded bilateral partnership with top employers and leaders in Uzbekistan. WIUT students have a great opportunity to communicate live and learn from some of the most successful people in the country, such as the Governor of the capital Jakhongir Artikhodjaev or a successful businessman Murad Nazarov



Spring School by HR

WIUT Career Development Center in cooperation with the American Chamber of Commerce has organized the Spring HR School by Practitioners for graduates and students of WIUT. The program included a series of guest lectures by HR practitioners representing some of the renowned companies in Uzbekistan.



Interns at WIUT

WIUT offers students a wide range of internship opportunities with our employer partners as well as on campus. Some of the most popular on-campus internships include programmes offered by Ask. WIUT, Inquiry Office, Call Centre, Career Center, Marketing and Legal Departments.



Student Exchange

WIUT and the University of Westminster are keen to grow activities, including increasing mobility and student exchange. Both institutions are also looking to develop new collaborative opportunities for student and staff interaction. As part of this area of collaboration, in 2019-2020 two students from Uzbekistan traveled to London to study in the UoW for the period of one semester.



Dormitory life!

One of the most recent innovations at WIUT is affiliation of each of the dormitories with one of WIUT's two schools – the School of Law, Technology and Education (SOLTE) and the School of Business and Economics (SOBE). Within the frames of affiliation with particular school, the students are offered accommodation depending on their course of study, and throughout the year the dormitories host a range of relevant events and activities, including frequent visits and lectures by the faculty.





Women Empowerment



'Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something and that this thing must be attained.'

— Marie Curie

WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

It is very common for WIUT to conduct guest lectures with invited successful ladies in entrepreneurship, so they would share the experience with the students.



Additionally WIUT organizes educational courses that help women achieve growth in their careers.



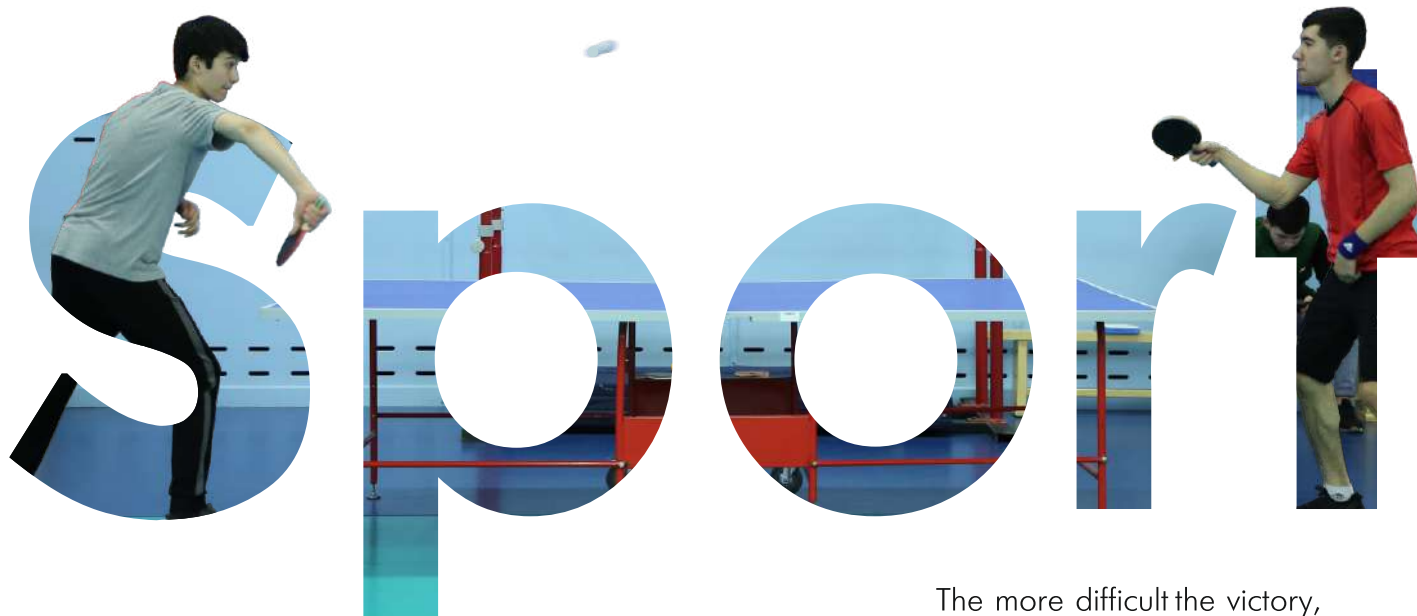
Ladies Club



WIUT pays special attention to empowering and supporting its female staff and students. Such clubs as Yoga Club and Ladies Club are highly demanded among ladies of WIUT. The clubs' activities support women health, help to develop their communication, management, organizational and creativity skills.

Yoga Club





The more difficult the victory,
the greater the happiness in winning.

-Pele

Sports Day

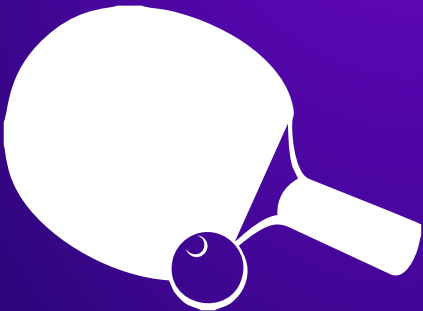




To promote healthy lifestyle the Sports Day was organized in a relay race way where students competed in a variety of active sport games.

Basketball, Football, Table Tennis and other sport games tournaments are annually organized in WIUT. Additionally WIUT is an active participant of Inter-University Championships.

TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP



Archery Tag



Football Championship



Basketball Championship

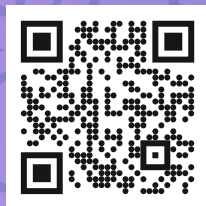


Acknowledgment

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The editorial work on this Almanac is the result of the joint efforts of the Social Engagement Section, the Multimedia Department and the senior administration of WIUT.

“NEW UZBEKISTAN - NEW YOUTH”



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