Armenian Studies Program

THE POWER

The University of Michigan’s Armenian Studies Program (ASP) is one of the most dynamic and reputable programs for Armenian studies in the U.S. ASP is built on the solid foundation of courses offered by the two endowed chairs in Armenian studies, the Alex Manoogian Chair in Modern Armenian History (1981) and the Marie Manoogian Chair in Armenian Language and Literature (1987). ASP promotes the study of the history, language, and culture of Armenia and Armenians and helps prepare a new generation of scholars in the field.

THE OPPORTUNITIES

The Armenian Studies Program offers an undergraduate major and minor in Armenian studies, while graduate degrees are offered through the University’s departments and centers for regional studies. In addition, the program offers graduate student, post-doctoral, pre-doctoral and visiting scholar fellowships, as well as graduate and undergraduate student research.
support, specialized symposia, workshops and conferences, and public lectures and outreach programs. Through its work in the United States and abroad, ASP strives to contribute to the scholarly analysis and understanding of the challenges the Armenian people have faced at home, in the Near East and the Caucasus, and in the Diaspora.

THE IMPACT

To remain a leading program of Armenian studies, we need to be able to provide language study at elementary, intermediate and advanced levels, in addition to building course offerings related to Armenian history, culture, and literature. The ASP seeks to increase the depth and breadth of resources devoted to Armenian studies through an endowed fund that provides permanent support for the program. Gifts to endow a language lecturer position will ensure that the Armenian language continues to be taught at Michigan in perpetuity.

NAMED ENDOWED PROGRAM

$5M endowed

An endowment to name the Armenian Studies Program will cover the program’s annual needs as well as enable it to do something special on a yearly basis to bring attention to Armenian studies. Gifts could be used for sponsoring a conference or exhibits on campus, hosting cultural festivals, supporting graduate fellows, or inviting visiting professors and artists to Michigan. A named Program will assure that U-M remains an attractive destination for the study of Armenia and will give the director of the program the flexibility to turn big ideas into reality.

- Visiting scholars: $50,000 annually / $1M endowed
- Conferences: $30,000 annually / $600,000 endowed
- Special events: $20,000 annually / $450,000 endowed
- Graduate fellowship: $100,000 annually / $2M endowed
- Directorship: $10,000 annually / $200,000 endowed
- Program staffing: $35,000 annually / $750,000 endowed

ENDOWED LANGUAGE LECTURESHP IN ARMENIAN (NES)

$1M endowed/$50,000 annually

An endowed lectureship will ensure continuity for instruction in Armenian language at the University of Michigan. U-M is among the very few institutions in the country that provide instruction in Armenian at the elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels on a regular basis. With the continuous expansion of course offerings related to Armenian studies, and the increasing interest among graduate students, continuity of language instruction is one of our most pressing priorities. Due to Congress’ deep cuts to international education funding, including support for the less commonly taught languages, private support is crucial to securing Michigan’s role as a preeminent institution for the study of Armenian History, Literature, and Culture.

ENDOWED LIBRARIAN IN ARMENIAN STUDIES (HATCHER LIBRARY)

$1M endowed/$50,000 annually

An endowed Librarian in Armenian Studies is critical to sustain the entire range of research and teaching needs of faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates. Currently, the Slavic and East European Division of the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library houses over 22,500 books in the Armenian language. The graduate library also holds microfilm copies of important Armenian newspapers from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Special Collections Library at the University owns a small collection of medieval Armenian manuscripts as well as a precious collection of posters and calendars by Armenian groups functioning in Lebanon, Syria, Iran, Greece and elsewhere. These treasures constitute an important contribution to the understanding of mass culture in the Armenian Diaspora. The Librarian will build, maintain and preserve the Armenian collection.

ANNUAL ARMENIAN STUDIES LECTURE (NAMED)

$200,000 endowed/$10,000 annually

Resources are needed for the ASP to host an annual lecture by a prominent guest speaker, on a topic related to Armenia or Armenian Studies. This is an opportunity to promote the culture, history, language, politics and society of Armenians.

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