This report has been prepared for evaluating overall performance and development of TASSA
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Dear Members of the TASSA Community,

I am very pleased to present to you the 2012 Annual Report of TASSA. This annual report describes TASSA’s significant achievements during the last year. The initiatives in 2012 reflect a commitment to our enduring values of open and rigorous inquiry. At the same time they reflect the ambitions of the Turkish Science Diaspora in the U.S.A. to see these values manifest in new and innovative ways.

The following are highlights of the achievements of TASSA in 2012:

- Successfully organized TASSA Annual Conference in March 2012.
- Completed its reorganization and all the committees are up and functional.
- Held two Board of Directors meeting, five Executive Committee meeting, five Technical Group meetings and two Standing Committee Meetings.
- TASSA individual and institutional memberships have been activated and once again are on the rise.
- TASSA activates have been noticed by other Science Diaspora groups in the U.S.A and are being offered as a role model to these groups.
- Published four issues of TASSA’s newsletter, The Bridge and reached out around 1,500 readers.
- Significant initiatives are being conceptualized (e.g. TASSA-Academy and TASSA-Connect) to strengthen the science bridge between the U.S.A. and Turkey.

I hope the contents of this report will encourage you to remain engaged with TASSA, as we continue to build on our tradition of inquiry in ways that make a positive impact on the science-based relationship between the U.S.A. and Turkey.

Enjoy our 2012 Annual Report and stay tuned in the future.

Sincerely,

Haluk Ünal,
Professor of Finance
TASSA President and Chairman of the Board
1. Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Technical Groups and Standing Committee Meetings

- Board of Directors meeting (March 14, 2012 and September 8, 2012).

- Executive Committee meeting (April 5, August 5, September 1 and November 18, 2012) and Vice Presidents’ meeting (August 8).

- Technical Group Meetings:
  - Social Sciences and Arts & Humanities: September 19
  - Natural Sciences: September 21 and October 12
  - Engineering and Applied Sciences: October 1
  - Health and Biomedical Sciences: October 2

- Standing Committee Meetings:
  - Membership Committee: September 11
  - Web Committee: September 24 and October 1
2. TASSA Reorganization

- General Assembly elected TASSA President and Board of Directors at the TASSA Conference. Subsequently, the Board conducted an election for a vacancy in the Board.

- TASSA President appointed the four vice presidents of TASSA (Hasan Ayaz, Levent Güntay, Nilay Papila and Candan Tamerler) and the Editor of TASSA newsletter (Aylin Sagay).

- Executive Committee with consultation from the Board selected the nominees of Standing Committees and Technical Groups. TASSA President invited the nominees and invitations were accepted enthusiastically.

- In accordance with the TASSA Bylaws, Chairman of the Board, Haluk Ünal appointed the Chairs of the Nominating Committee and the Audit Committee. The Nominating Committee members are Hüseyin Abut (Chair), Ayşe İmrohoroğlu, Candan Tamerler, and Mehmet Toner. The Audit Committee members are Şebnem Kalemli-Özcan (Chair), İşıl Erel, and Daver Kahvecioğlu.

- Thus, TASSA re-organization is completed.
3. Membership Activities

- Contacted TASSA 2012 Conference sponsors and 2012 institutional members to collect the sponsorship payments and membership dues. All commitments by sponsors and institutional members are fulfilled.
- Carried out a descriptive statistical analysis of the TASSA members and contacts. Merged various TASSA member contact databases to obtain a unified database of member profile information. The databases that are merged are as follows: TASSA member database, 2012 Conference Registration, Conference Surveys, hand-collected email database, Google.docs survey database, and bounced e-mails database.
- Membership Committee conducted an institutional membership campaign. 142 universities in Turkey were invited to be institutional members via email and standard-mail in September 2012.
- TASSA has four official Technical Groups: Engineering and Applied Sciences, Health and Biomedical Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences and Arts & Humanities. Executive Committee has started a project to update/correct the information of individual contacts in the TASSA database for these technical groups.

4. Communication with TASSA Community

- Uploaded TASSA 2012 Conference videos and pictures to the TASSA website.
- Announced Upcoming Events and Job Openings on the TASSA website.
- Provided support services on TÜBİTAK’s Co-Circulation Program to TASSA contacts. TASSA Vice-president Dr. Nilay Papila started writing a regular column for “The Bridge” newsletter on grant opportunities that are available in Turkey and the European Community.
- Constructed a database on contact information of Senate and House Science committee members.
- The success stories and news of Turkish scientists and scholars were announced in “The Bridge” issues.
- Members were informed about various activities (e.g. students in the TASSA database were informed about a dinner gathering at the Turkish Embassy in Washington DC.)
TASSA Newsletter – The Bridge

- TASSA bi-monthly newsletter, *The Bridge*, was launched. Four issues were published and sent to all contacts in the TASSA database in May 2012, July 2012, September 2012 and December 2012.

- *The Bridge* readership reached around 1,500.

5. TASSA Meetings with Other Institutions

- TASSA President, Board and Executive Committee members (Haluk Ünal, Füsun Özgüner, Turgay Ertekin, Tuğba Güntay and Levent Güntay) met with the representatives of the U.S. Department of State on April 9, 2012 and discussed the role of TASSA for the science and technology cooperation between the U.S. and Turkey.

  Attendees: Brian T. Carter (Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Science and Technology Cooperation), Aprille C. Raabe (Foreign Affairs Officer, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs), Semahat Demir (Biomedical Engineering Program Director, National Science Foundation).

- TASSA President, Board and Executive Committee members (Haluk Ünal, Füsun Özgüner, Turgay Ertekin, Tuğba Güntay and Levent Güntay) met with the representatives of Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) at the Turkish Embassy. The agenda of the meeting was to develop a road map to make Turkey attractive for Turkish scientists and scholars abroad.

  Attendees: Yunus Çengel (TÜBİTAK’s Vice President), Ali Rıza Özdemir (TÜBİTAK Acting Head of Department, International Cooperation), Elif Özkaragöz (TÜBİTAK Scientific Program Expert).

- TASSA President, Board and Executive Committee members (Haluk Ünal, Füsun Özgüner, Turgay Ertekin and Tuğba Güntay) visited H.E. Namık Tan, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the United States on April 9, 2012 at the Turkish Embassy in Washington, DC.
6. Participation in Conferences

- TASSA President and Managing Director attended TÜBİTAK’s Research Destination Turkey 2012 Workshop at the University of Maryland, University College on April 10. TASSA President gave a keynote speech at the Workshop.
- Managing Director attended ATAA’s 32nd Annual Convention on April 12 and 13, 2012 in Washington, DC.
- TASSA President Haluk Ünal and Board member Mehmet Toner gave presentations at the TÜBİTAK Congress of Turkish Scientists Abroad on July 12-13, 2012 in Istanbul. In addition, TASSA Board members, Murat Günel, Aydoğan Özcan, and Füsun Özugüner were also at the conference.
- TASSA Vice President Hasan Ayaz and Managing Director Tuğba Güntay attended the Global Diaspora Forum and Science Diaspora Conference on July 25 and 26 in Washington, DC.
- TASSA Vice Presidents, Candan Tamerler and Nilay Papila initially were planning to attend the Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) on Science and Technology Cooperation between USA-Turkey hosted by the Turkish Ministry of Science, Industry, and Technology on November 1-2, 2012 in Ankara. JCM was cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy but the working groups conducted discussions in conference calls and exchanged comments via emails.
- TASSA President, Haluk Ünal gave a presentation at the Globalization of Turkish Universities Workshop (Yükseköğretimde Uluslararasılaşma) on December 10, 2012 at Istanbul University.

7. Research Workshop Series

- The first Econ-Fin seminar was held at Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center on September 23, 2012. The presentation was by TASSA Board member, Prof Şebnem Kalemli-Özcan. The presentation and videos of the event were provided at the TASSA website.
- The first Engineering workshop was held at the Ohio State University campus on December 6, 2012. The presentation was by Prof Ümit V. Çatalyürek. The presentation slides and the videos of the workshop were provided at the TASSA website.
8. Other TASSA Activities

TASSA Grant Application

TASSA Vice President Hasan Ayaz led the effort to prepare and submit a grant application to the U.S. State Department for the funding of TASSA Boost Project.

Turkish Council of Higher Education (YÖK) Proposal

TASSA committees and technical groups analyzed the pros and cons of the YÖK’s proposal and provided comments on the new Turkish higher education legislation. The comments were compiled in a detailed report. The report was submitted to YOK for consideration.

TASSA Web Committee Activities

TASSA Web Committee started working on improving to the membership functions of the website. New membership signup and profile pages were designed and implementation phase started. A backup web server has been prepared for test and development purposes before changes are finalized.

TASSA Web Committee started design and planning work for a new portal for TASSA members and affiliates to exchange information and resources. The portal, code named TASSA Connect, is planned to incorporate social networking features and initially will present a medium to post job openings and opportunities.
9. TASSA Organizational Chart, Members of the Board and Committees

Board of Directors: Eight Directors and the President, who is also the Chairman of the Board.

Executive Committee: President (CEO), Vice President, Treasurer (CFO and Chairman of the Finance Committee), Managing Director (COO), Editor, Standing Committee Chairs (4)
Board of Directors
Hüseyin Abut, San Diego State University
Turgay Ertekin, Pennsylvania State University
Murat Günel, Yale School of Medicine
Orhan Gürbüz, Tobolski Watkins Engineering Inc. & Gürbüz Consulting
Şebnem Kalemli-Özcan, University of Maryland
Aydoğan Özcan, UCLA
Füsün Özgüner, Ohio State University
Mehmet Toner, Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology
Haluk Ünal, University of Maryland (Chairman of the Board)

Board Committees
Audit Committee
Şebnem Kalemli-Özcan, University of Maryland (Chair)
İşıl Erel, Ohio State University
Daver Kahvecioğlu, American Institutes for Research

Nominating Committee
Hüseyin Abut, San Diego State University (Chair)
Ayşe Imrohoroğlu, University of Southern California
Candan Tamerler, University of Washington
Mehmet Toner, Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology

Executive Committee
Haluk Ünal, President
Hasan Ayaz, Vice President
Levent Güntay, Vice President
Nilay Papila, Vice President
Candan Tamerler, Vice President
Tuğba Güntay, Managing Director
Aylin Sagay, Editor
Refik Soyer, Treasurer
Standing Committees

Finance
Turan G. Bali, Georgetown University
İşıl Erel, Ohio State University
Ferhat Esen, The World Bank
Pınar Güvenir, Cagal and Associates, LLC
Levent Güntay, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Refik Soyer, George Washington University
Murat Tarımcılar, George Washington University

Membership
Hasan Ayaz, Drexel University
Sümer Can, Diodes, Inc.
Levent Güntay, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Nilay Papila, Science Connect Inc.
Candan Tamerler, University of Washington

Public Relations
Gizem Dönmez, Tufts University
Şeyda Ertekin, MIT
Nilay Papila, Science Connect Inc.
Burhaneddin Sandıkçı, University of Chicago

Relationship with Turkey
Hasan Ayaz, Drexel University
Turgut Gür, Stanford University
Daver Kahvecioğlu, American Institutes for Research
Ümit Özgüner, The Ohio State University
Nilay Papila, Science Connect Inc.
Candan Tamerler, University of Washington
Bülent Yavuz, Nanostellar, Inc.

Rules
Timur Edib, Timur Edib Law Office
Ferhat Esen, The World Bank
Tuğba Güntay, Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association
Daver Kahvecioğlu, American Institutes for Research

Web
Murat Aksoy, Stanford University
Hasan Ayaz, Drexel University
Fatih Culha, Department of Defense
Yalçın Sert, Customs and Border Protection
Senay Solak, University of Massachusetts
Technical Groups

Engineering and Applied Sciences
- Ertuğrul Çubukcu, University of Pennsylvania
- Şeyda Ertekin, MIT Sloan School of Management
- Metin Sitti, Carnegie Mellon University
- Selim Ünlü, Boston University

Health and Biomedical Sciences
- Hatice Altuğ, Boston University
- Gizem Dönmez, Tufts University
- Bahri Karaçay, University of Iowa
- Nilgün Tümer, Rutgers University

Natural Sciences
- Bülent Akgün, National Institute of Standards and Technology
- Ertuğrul Taciroğlu, UCLA
- Serap Erdal, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Batuhan Osmanoğlu, University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Social Sciences and Art & Humanities
- Ayşe İmrohoroğlu, University of Southern California
- Hülya Eraslan, Johns Hopkins University
- Çağlar Özden, The World Bank
- Ahmet Yükleyen, University of Mississippi
10. TASSA Institutional Members and 2012 Conference Sponsors

TASSA 2012 Institutional Members

**Championing Members**

- Ankara University
- TURKISH AVIATION ACADEMY

**Sustaining Members**

- maltepe university

**Promoting Members**

- ANADOLU ÜNİVERSİTESİ
- Kadir Has University
- Kocaeli University

**Sponsor Members**

- Düzce University
- İstanbul University
TASSA 2012 Conference Sponsors

Diamond Sponsors

Gold Sponsors

Boğaziçi University

George Washington University
Journal of Financial Services Research

Silver Sponsors

ACAR LAW FIRM PLLC

Sponsors

Coca-Cola

Eczacıbaşı

Atılım University

Kulen Law Firm P.C.

TÜSİAD
APPENDIX 1

TASSA 2012 Conference
TURKISH AMERICAN SCIENTISTS AND SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION

2012 Annual Conference
March 3-4, 2012
University of Maryland at College Park
Van Munching Hall, Robert H. Smith School of Business

TASSA has completed another chapter with remarkable success by its Annual Conference that brought together more than 400 prominent scientists and scholars from leading American and Turkish institutions as well as decision makers and potential partners.

Please see conference website for more information at http://www.tassausa.org/Annual-Conferences/2012

1526 18th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036, USA
Phone:1-855-827-7204  *  E-mail: conference@tassausa.org  *  Web: http://www.tassausa.org
TASSA 2012 Participant Affiliations

Abbott Bioresearch Center
Abe Shalei Hospital
Abdu Dhabi University
Academy of Sciences
Academic Year Inc.
Adidas University
African University
Aga Khan University
Albany University
Alabama State University
Alcorn State University
American University
Anadolu University
Aneurin Bevan University
Ankara University
Aptalis Pharmaceuticals
ATAA
AT-Axis
Atlantic University
Atlantic Wind Connection
B & E ASSOCIATES
Bahcesehir University
Baruch College, CUNY
Bates White, LLC
Baylor College of Medicine
Berkeley National Laboratory
Bilkent University
Binghamton University - SUNY
Biopitch Corporation
Bogazici University
Boston College
Boston University
BOTAS – IHIU
Brooksman Solutions
Bucknell University
Cadmus Group
Caglayan University
Carnegie Mellon University
Cardiff University
Central Michigan University
Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey
CFTC
CUMH
CHLA-Children Hospital-USC
Columbia University
Cornell University
Copenhagen Research Institute
Council of Forensic Medicine
Council of Higher Education
CSIS
CSU-LB
Daon Inc.
DE Dept. of Natural Resources
DEK-ITK
Deloitte
Diniz Holding
Dogan & Associates
Drexel University
Dumlupınar University
Duzce University
Early Care & Learning Council
Ege University
Embassy of Turkey
EncoreSolar
Everest Production
Exponent Inc.
Fairbanks Public Schools
Fatih University
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Federal Reserve Bank
Florida Institute of Technology
Food and Drug Administration
Gaziantep University
GE Global Research Center
George Washington University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia Tech
Georgia State University
Hacettepe University
Harriet Fulbright College
Harvard Medical School
Harvard University
Hazan and Sawyer
Hitit University
Howard University
Hurtiyet
IBM
IBM Research
IFC
Illinois Institute of Technology
IMF
Impact LLC
Impact International
Indiana University
InnoEngineer Inc.
Istanbul Medeniyet University
Istanbul Technical University
Istanbul University
IWA, WEF, AWWA
Izmir Institute of Technology
Izmir University of Economics
Johns Hopkins University
Kadir Has University
Kaiser Permanente
Kalara Corp
Kean University
Koc University
KOSGEB
Kule University
Law Office of Timur Edib
Lockheed Martin Corporation
Loyola College
Maltepe University
Marmara University
Marymount University
Massachusetts General Hospital
McNamara/Salvia Inc.
Medical College of Virginia
Medical University of South Carolina
Menes Electronics
METU & Cornell
MGH Boston
Michael Baker Jr. Inc.
Michigan State University
Middle East Institute
Middle East Technical University
Middough Inc.
Ministry of Science, Industry, and Technology, Turkey
MIT
MITEQ Inc.
Monell Chemical Senses Center
Montclair State University
MSM Technologies
MTA-LIRR
MUSC
NASA GSFC / UMD ESSIC
National Institutes of Health
Naval Research Lab
New York University
NIH/NCI
NIH/NIAAA
NIH/CIT
NIST
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Northern Virginia Community College
NSF
Office of Science & Technology
Old Dominion University
Opax
Ozyegin University
Pennsylvania State University
PMP
Point Park University
PPD
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
RRI Technologies, Inc.
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rutgers University
Sabah
Sabanci University
Sanford-Burnham
SAP Research
SDSU & Bogazici University
Selçuk University
SETA Foundation
Sewanee University
Siemens Corporate Research
Stevenson & Associates
Stony Brook University / BOHP
Strayer University
Study the Planet.LLC
Suffolk University
SUNY Brockport
TACC
TED University
Teknopark
Temple University
The College of William & Mary
The Ohio State University
The World Bank
theAIrnet.org
Theiss Research, NIST
TOBB University
Toona & Ozisk LLP
TUBITAK
Tufts University
Turkayfe
Turkish American TV
Turkish Armed Forces
Turkish Coalition of America
Turkish Embassy
Turkish Philanthropy Funds
Turkish Radio and Television
Turkish Women’s Initiative
Turkije Daily
TUSISAD
U.S. Department of State
UMass Amherst
UMass Medical School
UMBC
Undersecretariat for Defence
United Nations
University at Albany, SUNY
University of Alaska
University of Bridgeport
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Francisco
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Central Florida
University of Chicago
University of Delaware
University of Erciyes
University of Houston
University of Illinois, Urbana Champaign
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Michigan
University of Mississippi
University of North Carolina
University of Pittsburgh
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of Southern Florida
University of Texas
University of Virginia
UntraAMS, LLC
UT Southwestern Medical Center
Vassar College
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech
Voice of America
Walden University
Walter Reed Army Institute of Research
White Tulip Global
Whitehead Institute
World Bank
Xerox Corporation
Yale University
Yasar University
Yildirim Beyazit University
TASSA 2012 Conference Photos
APPENDIX 2

TASSA 2012 Activities
TASSA Visited Ambassador H.E. Namık Tan

Interview with Science, Industry and Technology Minister of Turkey, May 20, 2012

USA-TR Joint Commission Meeting on S & T Cooperation Nov, 1-2, 2012

TASSA EconFin Seminar by Prof. Kalemli-Özcan, Sept. 23, 2012

TASSA Seminar by Professor Ümit V. Çatalyürek, Ohio State University, Dec, 6th, 2012

TASSA-TÜBİTAK discussed a road map to make Turkey more attractive for scientists April 9, 2012

TASSA launches The Bridge, bi-monthly newsletter
On the request of the Council of Higher Education, TASSA completed a summary report on the legislation draft to provide feedback.
Please start making your plans to attend the next TASSA Conference.

TASSA VALUES YOUR PARTICIPATION AND WISHES YOUR PRESENCE AT THE CONFERENCE

Please contact TASSA with any questions

1526 18th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036, USA
Phone:1-855-827-7204 * E-mail: conference@tassausa.org * Web: http://www.tassausa.org
About TASSA

Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association (TASSA) is an independent, non-profit and non-political organization established in June 2004 in Washington, DC.

*TASSA promotes friendship and fellowship among Turkish-American professionals engaged in engineering, natural, life and social sciences, and related fields.

*TASSA enhances the professional and social status of Turkish-American professionals engaged in engineering, natural, life and social sciences, and related fields.

*TASSA promotes and cultivates the next generation of Turkish-American scientists and scholars.

*TASSA has a large community and network of nearly 5,000 Turkish scientists and scholars. TASSA members come from:
- Engineering and Applied Sciences
- Health and Biomedical Sciences
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities

MISSION

TASSA’s mission is to promote educational, scientific and technological cooperation between the U.S.A. and Turkey and to facilitate the advancement of science in Turkey and the USA through scientific exchange, educational programs and increased networking.

VISION

TASSA’s vision is to build a sustainable science bridge between the U.S.A. and Turkey. This bridge would facilitate the flow of people (scientists and scholars), knowledge, and technology and help link science and technology institutions in the two countries.

THE BRIDGE

TASSA newsletter: The Bridge

The Bridge is a bimonthly newsletter that informs TASSA members about:
- TASSA Board and committee activities
- News and job opportunities from Turkey
- Accomplishments of Turkish scientists and scholars.

The Bridge has more than 4,500 active readers. (http://www.tassausa.org/News-From-TASSA)

TASSA Educational Activities

- **TASSA Academy:** A future project aimed at bringing junior faculty from Turkish universities and distinguished faculty from US together in instructive workshops
- **Workshops:** Regional research seminars in various fields bring together TASSA community members and provide great networking opportunities for the attendees.

TASSA Annual Conferences

TASSA Conferences have the objective to establish a forum and create a dynamic platform for many young and experienced American, Turkish, and Turkish-American scientists and scholars to explore and develop new collaborative initiatives. Past conferences were held at:
- 2012 - Smith School of Business, University of Maryland
- 2008 - Harvard Medical School
- 2007 - Yale University
- 2006 - Drexel University
- 2005 - George Washington University

For more information about TASSA visit us at http://www.tassausa.org/