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NU Research is steadily boosting up. NU has become one of the top producers of quality research publications, which can now be considered at the top end in the region and which are making an impact globally. NU Medicine closely collaborates with international partners and already serves as a model for other university-based medical systems in Kazakhstan.

We made big strides in shaping a vibrant innovation ecosystem, which now actively generates, enables growth, and brings technology-oriented startups and research output of our scientists to the market. Furthermore, we established an investment fund to support emerging entrepreneurs and to give a jumpstart towards entrepreneurial development around Nazarbayev University.

We have continued to focus on our responsibility of sharing knowledge and good practices with Kazakhstani universities. More importantly, now we intend to build a strong network of quality research universities in the country, so that together we will be able to better meet the national needs and break new grounds globally.

When looking back, I can proudly say that we have managed to establish meritocracy as a governing principle at Nazarbayev University. This has been at the heart of building an institution of excellence. Thanks to our committed university community, we were able to pursue our vision and goals and to build up a flagship university with clear principles.

Looking back at the ten-year journey, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the work we have accomplished together. The first decade has been monumental for NU. We have come a long way from the exciting moment when NU opened its doors to the first cohort of students in 2010. I am grateful to everyone who contributed to the establishment and development of Nazarbayev University: our students, faculty and staff, partners, our trustees and donors, government and of course, Kazakhstani society. Thank you for being a part of our extraordinary story.

International experts, partners and stakeholders have motivated us by providing a positive feedback on our activities, but we understand that our biggest tasks are still ahead. We have to further step up our efforts in all our mandates. Our next big focus will be on establishing NU’s spot in the international arena. We want to join the ranks of leading global universities, receive accreditation of our various programs, as well as international institutional accreditation. Moreover, NU is embarking on a focused journey to make disruptive technology and data-driven development work for us and the nation.

While the first decade was intense, I believe that the next 10 years will be even more challenging. Neither world nor Kazakhstan stands still. We need to be prepared for any of the future challenges that ever more volatile, more unpredictable, more complex and more ambiguous (VUCA) world might bring. We have to adapt, innovate, and constantly evaluate what works and what doesn’t. These are the big challenges, and I hope that we will not lose our sense of purpose and enthusiasm that has been helping us all these years.

SHIGEO KATSU
PRESIDENT OF NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY
Nazarbayev University (NU) was founded by the first President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev in 2010.

The University aims to be a world-class research university combining quality education, influential research and visionary innovation in service of the country and society. Throughout its history, NU has established values and standards to achieve educational and research excellence, meet both the local and global community's expanding needs and challenges, and prepare graduates ready for the future.

VISION
To give Kazakhstan and the world the scientists, academics, managers, and entrepreneurs needed to prosper and develop.

MISSION
To be a model for higher education reform and modern research; to contribute to the establishment of Nur-Sultan City (formerly Astana) as an international knowledge, innovation, and medical hub; and to prepare students for a world of increased volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity.

CORE VALUES:
• Merit-based institution open to all talented and bright students, faculty and researchers;
• Instilling Integrity in teaching, administration, and student life;
• Equal access to education – regardless of race, religion, gender, physical capacity, or socioeconomic status;
• Professionalism and high ethical principles for students, faculty, and researchers;
• Transparency and openness, public access to all aspects of university operations;
• Embracing diversity – integrated into every aspect of education, research, and community.
At its early stage, NU defined 5 strategic directions. Commitment to these goals, as well as the autonomy of the university and strong principles of governance has been supporting NU in becoming not only a higher education institution nurturing the best talents but also an organization responding to the needs of society and making an impact.

In December 2018, the Supreme Board of Trustees approved a new Strategy of Nazarbayev University for 2018-2030 which intends to prepare NU for change in the age of globalization and technological disruption, while also building on the foundation already created. In the new strategic document, NU remains dedicated towards the five initial mandates.

**HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM LEADERSHIP**
To imbue Kazakhstan’s higher education system (HES) with global standards and systems, sharing of NU’s experience and lessons learned with other universities in Kazakhstan is a high priority.

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
To develop and maintain a culture of academic excellence.

**RESEARCH EXCELLENCE**
To develop a faculty-led program of world-class research and partner with the world's best researchers and research institutions.

**INTEGRATED ACADEMIC HEALTHCARE SYSTEM**
To establish an academic healthcare system that will serve as a model for healthcare services throughout Kazakhstan.

**INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF RESEARCH**
To become Kazakhstan's main driver of innovation, leading the way for Nur-Sultan City to become a regional innovation hub.
SCHOOLS AND PARTNERS

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

02
Foundation (preparatory) programs for undergraduate (NUFYP) and graduate students (NUZYP)

22
Undergraduate programs

30
Master programs

16
PhD programs

Office of the Provost as of March 10, 2022

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Initial partners that contributed to the development of NU:

• iCarnegie (USA) 2010-2013
• University College London (UK) 2010-2015
• The University of Warwick (UK) 2015-2016

NU’s development began by developing partnerships with a number of top-ranked universities around the world. Over the initial years, the strategic partners provided wide-ranging support in building the university, setting its governance and academic structures, developing its academic programs and quality assurance, student support systems, and much more. As NU has matured, we are prepared to develop deeper relationships with our partners creating opportunities for faculty, researchers, and students exchange.
WHAT OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERS SAY ABOUT US?

Rebecca Blank  
Chancellor  
University of Wisconsin

“To the faculty, staff and students of Nazarbayev University on behalf of all of us here, at the University of Wisconsin congratulations on this important milestone. We are proud to have been one of your original partners and prouder still to see how you have grown into a beacon of higher education in Central Asia. To start and successfully grow a new research university is no small task. But NU’s leadership team is not afraid to do big things. Which is why Nazarbayev University is setting a new standard with its mission to serve the community. We look forward to continuing collaborations. Congratulations on your remarkable achievement and happy 10th anniversary!”

Peter Eckel  
Director of Leadership Programs  
Graduate School of Education  
University of Pennsylvania

“It has been a great pleasure and a privilege to work with Nazarbayev University these past 5 years which is actually a part of its life span. It has been a tremendous experience to watch NU grow, from literally a few buildings in the outskirts of town to now a major university. Happy anniversary!”

Francesco Mancini  
Associate Dean and Director of Executive Education  
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy  
National University of Singapore

“Congratulations on this great anniversary achievement! We at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy are extremely proud and honored to have been partners of Nazarbayev University since the very beginning. We are strategic partners of the Graduate School of Public Policy. We have seen the School growing larger, bigger, but also stronger. Our partnership is in multiple areas and it involves all stakeholders of the School. Thank you very much for your trust and this partnership. We look forward to 10 more years to come. Thank you!”

William Boulding  
Dean, The Fuqua School of Business  
Duke University

“We have been on a journey now together for over 10 years and it has been a journey full of accomplishment and great joy. I speak with confidence for my colleagues here at Duke University and the Fuqua School of Business that we are looking forward to the ongoing journey in the coming years.”

Ann Thompson  
Vice Dean, School of Medicine  
University of Pittsburgh

“We were laded when Nazarbayev University opened its School of Medicine in 2012 with our medical school serving as its strategic academic partner. We wholeheartedly supported NUSOM’s mission which focuses on bettering the human condition, advancing the fundamental understanding of medical science and improving healthcare in Kazakhstan, Central Asia and beyond. All of us in Pittsburgh are delighted to continue standing side by side with our colleagues and friends at Nazarbayev University on their journey of metamorphosis and transformation. Congratulations on your 10th anniversary! You make us proud and fill us with hope for the years ahead.”

David Duncan  
Senior Vice President and Program Director for Scientific Assessment and Workforce Development  
Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU)

“ORAU is proud to be a strategic academic partner for the Nazarbayev University Research and Innovation System, managing the peer review process for the institution. Since 2012 we have helped NU review 1,070 proposals using 2,470 reviewers. We look forward to continuing our partnership and being part of NU’s vision for becoming a leading model for higher education in Kazakhstan and the world. Congratulations on celebrating your 10th anniversary!”
NU STUDENTS

Students are the top priority for NU. We strive to attract the most talented students from Kazakhstan and beyond. Merit-based admission and progression policies, academic integrity as DNA, and critical thinking skills have ensured the success of the graduates. NU will continue to grow while, of course, preserving quality. NU intends to increase the student population to 8000 by 2025, having the goal to expand the number of international students to 10%.

Total number 6365

- **Undergraduate students**: 4,249
- **Graduate students**: 1,467
  - 1036 Master's students
  - 287 Ph.D. students
  - 107 Doctor of Medicine students
  - 37 Residency Program
- **Foundation students**: 649
  - 597 NUFYP* students
  - 52 NUZYP* students

Enrollments have been steadily increasing since NU opened its doors. We are proud to see more and more talents from Kazakhstan, Central Asia and other parts of the world choosing NU for spending the most important years of their life and obtaining a high-quality education. It also inspires us to continue creating conditions for creativity, constant quest for ideas, research and innovation.

Enrollments from 2010 to 2020

*Student that have not yet chosen their study track
Source: NU Office of the Registrar, as of March 10, 2022
WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY ABOUT US?

Artyom Andreyev, 
SSH, 3 year, UG, 
Economics

“To me, Nazarbayev University embodies the recognition, by the people of Kazakhstan, of the essential role of qualitative research-focused education in nation-building and an invaluable investment in tomorrow’s leaders. Having passed through the Master’s Degree Program in Electrical and Computer Engineering at NU, I am more prepared for a successful career in Analog Design, thanks to my mentors, professors and the support structure available to me at NU.”

Zhaniya Mukatay, 
SSH, 4 year, UG, 
Economics

“NU is the fusion of curiosity and friendliness. Most universities try to protect their students from harsh reality. NU encourages us to engage in intellectual and scientific debates and appreciates curious minds. But although ideas are welcomed, it’s the place where “bad” ideas can be discarded (with evidence), and you can get assistance to move beyond these ideas and advance yourselves as a researcher, and most importantly, individuals.”

Elochukwu Onyejegbu 
SEDS, 2 year, PhD, 
Electrical Engineering

“NU is a place where I can grow and learn, while studying and doing things I genuinely enjoy.”

Yingkar Bahetnur, 
SEDS, UG - Graduated, 
Civil Engineering

“NU is a place where I belong. It has equipped me with courage and strength.”

SSH - School of Sciences and Humanities
SEDS - School of Engineering and Digital Sciences
NU places a high premium on faculty excellence and diversity. We are building an internationally competitive research-active faculty with many winners of awards and members of honorary and professional societies. **All professors hold a western type PhD or equivalent highest-level degree in their respective fields.** Our diverse faculty hails from 58 countries. The **top 10 countries** of origin are the US, UK, Canada, Turkey, Russia, Korea, Australia, India, Greece, China, Iran. NU faculty and teaching community consists of 521 full-time faculty (including 34 postdoctoral scholars) and 76 teaching assistants.

**WHAT OUR FACULTY SAY ABOUT US?**

“NU values first and foremost excellence and ambitions in all its forms, critical thinking and a desire to provide its students with tools that will enable them to play an active role in the development of their country. In this sense, in a profit-oriented world where benefits are counted solely in terms of money, Nazarbayev University has rather chosen to make itself a vector of collective prosperity and wealth that will benefit the Kazakhstani people. We are an institution of exception that truly reflects what higher education should be all about and we should take pride in that.”

**Jean-François Caron**  
Associate Professor/Chair  
Department of Political Science and International Relations  
School of Sciences and Humanities  

“NU is the first international-level research university in Kazakhstan, which implements international standards in its research system: the transparent peer-review system which is not only helping to select projects for funding but encourages to prepare good proposals and learn. NU has its own grant-awarding system which allows establishing research groups, internal and external collaboration. All these provide opportunities to build on excellent academic career with excellent research achievements and background. Further development of infrastructure will help to attract and maintain the best professionals.”

**Zhumabay Bakenov**  
Professor/Vice Dean for Research  
School of Engineering and Digital Sciences  
Director, Center for Energy and Advanced Materials Science, National Laboratory Astana

“NU is the first international-level research university in Kazakhstan, which implements international standards in its research system: the transparent peer-review system which is not only helping to select projects for funding but encourages to prepare good proposals and learn. NU has its own grant-awarding system which allows establishing research groups, internal and external collaboration. All these provide opportunities to build on excellent academic career with excellent research achievements and background. Further development of infrastructure will help to attract and maintain the best professionals.”

**Naureen Durrani**  
Professor  
Graduate School of Education  

“NU values first and foremost excellence and ambitions in all its forms, critical thinking and a desire to provide its students with tools that will enable them to play an active role in the development of their country. In this sense, in a profit-oriented world where benefits are counted solely in terms of money, Nazarbayev University has rather chosen to make itself a vector of collective prosperity and wealth that will benefit the Kazakhstani people. We are an institution of exception that truly reflects what higher education should be all about and we should take pride in that.”

**Constantinos Valagiannopoulos**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Physics  
School of Sciences and Humanities  

“As a young Professor, I had the opportunity to mentor some of the most talented students nationwide, advise them towards the production of original research published at high-profile journals and send them for the continuation of their studies to top Universities. My approach is to start from very simple concepts and increase gently the degree of complexity for the analyzed topics; I aim at encouraging a stand-alone way of thinking instead of just using already deduced results. I also firmly believe that the student should draw in his/her mind “a red line” between those conclusions that are thoroughly validated and those few principles which should be accepted “as are” or described only roughly.”

**Zhumabay Bakenov**  
Professor/Vice Dean for Research  
School of Engineering and Digital Sciences  
Director, Center for Energy and Advanced Materials Science, National Laboratory Astana
Our young university has been growing rapidly with the help of committed and talented administrative staff. NU gathered a team of dedicated professionals, including a substantial number with international academic and professional experience. NU staff have various professional and career development opportunities, including pathways to transit to academic programs.

106 Bolashak* graduates

22 Talap** scholarship awards

104 NU Alumni work at NU & its organizations

* Presidential scholarship established in 1993
** NU graduate studies scholarship for staff

Source: NU HR as of March 10, 2022
THE FOLLOWING PAGES WILL INTRODUCE OUR 5 MANDATES:

1. HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM LEADERSHIP
2. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
3. RESEARCH EXCELLENCE
4. INTEGRATED ACADEMIC HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
5. INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF RESEARCH
Since its establishment, NU has been a core element of Kazakhstan’s broader higher education reform agenda. NU serves as a testing site for innovative educational and research projects, the successful results of which are to be transmitted to the country’s higher education system (HES). The Graduate School of Education (GSE) leads this task.

**HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM LEADERSHIP**

**IMPACT ON HES IN KAZAKHSTAN**

**Partnerships with pedagogical universities**

GSE has created a network with pedagogical universities of Kazakhstan to bring in the change to teacher education. The School together with 45 faculty from seven universities is currently implementing a partnership project to modernize and improve the quality of teacher education in Kazakhstan. GSE also serves as a local expert to the World Bank project, which aims to design a new curriculum for Kazakhstani pedagogical universities.

**Training for university top managers**

In support of the higher education governance reform initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science (MES), GSE trained more than 300 top executives of local universities to help them manage the complex process of transformation in higher education.

**Trilingual education**

To facilitate the development of trilingual education GSE has tailored special graduate programs and together with the Educational Excellence Center provided English language training for about 4000 subject teachers from across Kazakhstan.

**Workshops for faculty of universities**

As a part of the translation of NU experience, GSE provides training for faculty of local universities on the following topics: strategic planning and corporate governance, development of educational programs, inclusive education, per capita financing, interactive teaching methods, research methods, publication of research articles, etc.

**STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH MEDICAL UNIVERSITIES**

The School of Medicine (SOM) serves as the strategic advisor to the Ministry of Healthcare and the six national medical universities. This partnership was established to modernize medical education, share best practices and translate SOM’s experience. SOM together with the Graduate School of Education (GSE) has trained more than 70 senior leaders of medical universities.
Dissemination of NU’s experience and best practices to education stakeholders is one of the priority institutional tasks for NU. The University uses a broad range of activities to transfer its expertise to local HEIs and research institutes. These include study visits, training programs, seminars, webinars, workshops and the annual Eurasian Higher Education Leaders’ Forum. The Office for Experience Sharing, created in 2017, functions as the “one-stop shop” facilitating efficient interaction with local HEIs.

KEY AREAS:

NU Library
The NU Library has developed into a reference training center for professional development and capacity building of librarians of Kazakhstani universities. NU librarians actively publish on library operational work.

NU Registrar
The NU Registrar’s Office is at the core of the initiative to modernize academic Registrar’s Offices at Kazakhstani universities. NU Registrar’s Office is heading to the creation of the Kazakhstan Association of Academic Registrars.

Academic Integrity
Since 2016 NU and KAZGUU University co-host Annual International Conference on Academic Integrity. The Conference aims to share best practices and promote recent developments in theoretical and empirical research on academic integrity. Since 2020 Office of the Provost has been conducting practical webinars on academic integrity on request for HEIs of Kazakhstan.

Research and Innovation
The NU Collaborative Research Grants Program coordinated by the Office of the Provost has been set up to foster cooperative research with local HEIs. In addition, Nazarbayev University Research and Innovation System has established close cooperation with regional universities to promote joint research and innovation.

Professional Associations
NU has promoted the creation of professional associations to foster the exchange of ideas and best practices in various areas of higher education: Young Researchers Alliance, Kazakhstan Educational Research Association, International Association of Kazakh Language Teachers.

Other Workshops
Special workshops on sharing experience are conducted by the Office of the Provost, Admissions Department, and Department of Student Affairs. NU Career and Advising Center launched a series of webinars for about 200 career centers’ professionals from 35 HEIs of Kazakhstan. The Office of the Provost hosted the first Institutional Research Forum (IRF) in Kazakhstan in 2019, under the theme “Using Data to Support Academic Quality, Planning, and Decision-Making in Higher Education”. It brought together 80 professionals from more than 25 Kazakhstani universities.
The Forum brings together education stakeholders to share their ideas and engage in lively debates about the most pressing issues higher education leaders are facing worldwide. Typically, the Forum attracts about 500 participants both nationally and internationally.

**SINCE 2012 EHELF HAS ADDRESSED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:**

- **2019** Future Ready Graduates.
- **2018** Innovating Higher Education in the Age of Disruption.
- **2017** Governance, Management and Leadership in Higher Education.
- **2016** Higher Education and Modernization of the Economy: Innovative and Entrepreneurial Universities.
- **2015** Graduate Employability in the 21st Century.
- **2014** Successful Universities: What are They and How to Build One?
- **2013** Educational Policy Achievements in Kazakhstan.
- **2012** Global Trends in Higher Education and Their Impact on the Region.

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"We are at the point where for the first time in human history we don’t know what the jobs of the future are. So we are operating in a blind way. If we don’t know what the jobs are, how do we, as educators, train our students and guide them into this brief new future? It is very topical at the moment and it is not something with a clear easy answer. Both from the perspectives of the students and educators. I think it is about going on this journey together to understand very deep questions..."  

Crystal Lim-Lange  
Co-founder & CEO, Forest Wolf

"We do have a sense that something dramatic is going to happen as we shift into the digital revolution that continues to evolve. I think one of the big problems in getting universities to balance is to address those questions and think about how we train the faculty..."  

Charles F. Zukoski  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Southern California (USC)

"Forums like this are good spaces also for us to share our different wisdom with each other, and I must say I am really pleased with this quite significant amount of students’ participation in this conference. Because what it also says is that students are partners in learning devotion.”  

Susan Robertson  
Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge

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* EHELF 2019 archive
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Education at NU extends beyond academic programs. Complimentary to quality academic programs across a broad spectrum of disciplines, we provide a wide range of extracurricular activities, interdisciplinary programs, research experiences, internships, opportunities to study abroad, and many more. We encourage innovation, discovery and entrepreneurship in our students. Academic excellence is the cornerstone of NU. High-quality educational provision is supported by an internal quality enhancement system, which involves a rigorous process of program approval and annual review, relying extensively on inputs from faculty, external experts and, most importantly, students.

BUILDING BLOCKS OF NU’S ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Integration of teaching and research | Multicultural environment

Academic integrity | Core curriculum

Merit based admission and progression | Study abroad opportunities

Academic excellence | Educational technologies

Student-centered environment

INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION AND EXTERNAL EVALUATION

NU has successfully passed an external institutional evaluation by the European University Association (EUA) Institutional Evaluation Programme (IEP). The University underwent an external review of its academic quality, research and strategic management practices through an extensive process of collective self-reflection.

Graduate School of Public Policy received accreditation from the European Association for Public Administration Accreditation (EAPAA) for both the Master in Public Policy and Master in Public Administration programs.

Center for Preparatory Studies received accreditation from the British Association of Lecturers in English for Academic Purposes (BALEAP) for its English for Academic Purposes program.
NU GRADUATES

Within 10 years, Nazarbayev University has educated a new generation of young people, equipping them with knowledge and skills that allow them to fully channel their inner potential and succeed in various areas of life. These days, NU graduates work in a wide range of industries, continue their education, or start their own businesses.

NU alumni are our best “business cards”. They represent our core values - excellence in education and research, both in Kazakhstan and abroad. Together with the 4,769 graduates from six classes, the current 6049 students and alumni together are closing in on the 11,000 mark, constituting an emerging critical mass of future leaders of Kazakhstan.

NU has been graduating students since 2015. The commencement of the sixth graduating cohort has taken place on June 14, 2020 in digital format. This has become the first digital graduation ceremony in the history of the University.

A large number of our first-degree graduates have chosen to continue their studies. They are very competitive internationally and are welcomed at the worlds’ top universities.

Examples of their international academic destinations include:

- Columbia University
- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- National University of Singapore
- Seoul National University
- Stanford University
- The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- Tokyo Institute of Technology
- University College London
- University of Oxford
- University of Cambridge
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of York
- Yale University and others.

**NU AMBASSADORS AROUND THE WORLD**

A large number of our first-degree graduates have chosen to continue their studies. They are very competitive internationally and are welcomed at the worlds’ top universities.

Examples of their international academic destinations include:

- Columbia University
- Harvard University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- National University of Singapore
- Seoul National University
- Stanford University
- The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- Tokyo Institute of Technology
- University College London
- University of Oxford
- University of Cambridge
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of York
- Yale University and others.

**TOTAL GRADUATES 2015 - 2020**

(including Class of 2020)

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<th>Undergraduate - 3023</th>
<th>Advanced Degrees - 1746</th>
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<td>4769 Total</td>
<td>3023 Undergraduates</td>
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- **60%** Employed
- **24%** Pursuing graduate education
- **7%** Seeking employment
- **9%** Other*

- **77%** Employed
- **11%** Pursuing graduate education
- **6%** Seeking employment
- **6%** Other*

*Currently on a career break or on maternity leave.

Source: NU CAC as of December 31, 2021
EMPLOYMENT

Graduating from NU has always been an advantage for students’ career prospects. Starting with the first cohort of graduates in 2015, NU has been one of the top universities in Kazakhstan targeted by the most demanding employers and the biggest industry players. 92% of graduates are employed in Kazakhstan and the rest 8% work for different companies around the globe.

EMPLOYMENT IN KAZAKHSTAN

Top 10 companies in 2015 (Employed more than 5 graduates)
1. Electrovoz kurastyru zauyty
2. Ernst & Young Kazakhstan
3. Eurasian Resources Group (ERG)
4. Information-Analytic Center JSC
5. KPMG
6. Nazarbayev Intellectual Schools
7. NCOC N.V.
8. PWC Kazakhstan
9. Samruk Kazyna
10. Tengizchevroil

Top 10 companies in 2021 (Employ more than 20 graduates)
1. BI-Group
2. Ernst & Young Kazakhstan
3. KPMG
4. National Bank
5. NCOC N.V.
6. Nazarbayev Intellectual Schools
7. PWC Kazakhstan
8. Samruk Kazyna
9. Schlumberger Kazakhstan
10. Tengizchevroil

INTERNATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Nazarbayev University graduates work in Asia, Europe and North America. They received jobs in leading technological giants based in Silicon Valley, in large industrial and engineering companies; world class universities and research centers etc.

Examples of International companies:

- Aeroscan GmbH (Germany)
- Amazon (Poland)
- Amsterdam Trade Bank (Netherlands)
- Apple (USA)
- BMW (Germany)
- Booking.com (Netherlands)
- Carnegie Mellon University (USA)
- Electrolux Professional Italia (Italy)
- Facebook (UK)
- French National Research Center (France)
- Google Inc. (Germany, Japan, UK)
- Imperial Digital Limited (New Zealand)
- Lenovo Group Limited (China)
- Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)
- Schlumberger (Azerbaijan, UAE, Russia)
- TechReach (Portugal)
- Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology (South Korea)
- Yandex (Russia)

* International organizations, Services, Telecommunications, Transport and Logistics, Marketing and Sales.

Source: NU CAC as of December 31, 2021
Some NU graduates have chosen an entrepreneurial path and started their own businesses. They have launched more than 40 startups and businesses to date. Some examples:

**AQUA POINT** – production of devices for high quality drinking water in public places

**BLACK RAINBOW** – animation studio

**ECOPROT (BEYOND)** – production of sports nutrition

**HEALTH PROJECT** – production of healthy nutrition

**MAMA PRO** – the support fund for socially vulnerable women who find themselves in difficult situations.

**QMOBOT** – first EduRobot kit produced in Kazakhstan and training program that helps to acquire beneficial knowledge and useful skills in robotics and IT.

**REFILLME** – a network of vending machines for selling liquid cleaning products on tap.

**REMONTEKA.KZ** – IT repair services

**SKILLS PRO** – robotics courses for kids

**SMART HEATING MANAGEMENT** – production of the smart battery valve that allows to adjust the temperature via a smartphone and reduce heating costs

**TURAQ SHARE** – a mobile application for easy and fast parking in the city

**ZAF LEATHER** – manufacturing of leather products
ALUMNI SPEAK

Talgat Bainazarov
NU GSE Alumnus 2017 (MA in Educational Leadership)
Currently doing PhD in Michigan State University, USA; Principal NIS Taraz

“I feel blessed to have experienced world-class education and professional development from NU. NU has not only stretched my educational thinking and skills, bolstered my career, and laid a strong foundation for my doctoral studies, but also it has impacted thousands of lives across the nation positively through its top-quality teaching and research. I wish NU a happy 10th anniversary and a prosperous, bright future!”

Aigerim Abdiorazova
NU SOM Alumna 2018 (Master of Public Health)
Current employment status and occupation: Head of Department at the “National Research Cardiac Surgery Center” JSC

“Graduating with Master’s degree in Public Health at NUSOM was one of the most rewarding experiences for me for many reasons, the main one being the opportunity to be educated by the brightest specialists in the field, with best academic knowledge and practical experience from world’s top institutions.”

Yerdaulet Absattar
NU BSc in Computer Science’2016, Master in Engineering Management’2018
Current employment status and occupation: CEO at Alpha Design

“The time I spent at Nazarbayev University was unique. I dedicated 7 years doing my bachelor’s and master’s degrees. NU gave me more beyond the knowledge. I have learned not only academic knowledge, but also developed my soft skills, self-discipline, communication skills, teamwork, and creativity. Many thanks to the professors, staff, and the whole community of Nazarbayev University that helped me to realize my potential. My congratulations on the 10th anniversary!”

Tamirlan Seidakhmetov
NU BS in Chemical Engineering ‘2015, Stanford University MSc in Management in Science and Engineering ‘2016
Current employment status and occupation: Data Scientist at Apple.

“Nazarbayev University taught me to think outside of the box, overcome challenges, achieve big goals and provided tremendous networking opportunities!”

Nazerke Kalidolda
NU SST Alumna 2018 (BS in Computer Science)
Current employment status and occupation: Software Engineer at Google

“Nazarbayev University was a unique and definitely unforgettable experience filled with travels. I would always be grateful to my alma mater for so many opportunities given and the lessons taught in its walls. Thank you and happy 10th birthday!”

Aigerim Abdiorazova
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RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

NU is committed to achieving excellence in research, and to ensuring that its research contributes to the socio-economic development of Kazakhstan and the region.

NU research covers both fundamental and applied predominantly STEM disciplines, life sciences, social sciences, and education, reflecting Kazakhstan’s priority development areas. Moving forward, NU will continue to build research capacity to tackle global challenges in partnership with government, industry, research centers and other stakeholders.

Doctoral and postdoctoral programs are two rapidly developing elements of NU’s education and research landscape. NU is building a dynamic postdoctoral community in order to jumpstart the development of strong research culture. Postdoctoral researchers will serve as role models for students and support faculty research.

KEY RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

1. Socio-economic Transformation and Human Capital Development;
2. Intelligent Systems and Human-Machine Interface;
3. Health and Wellbeing;
4. Advanced Materials and Emerging Technologies;
5. Energy, Natural Resources and Environment.

RESEARCH CENTERS

Institute of Smart Systems and Artificial Intelligence (ISSAI)
ISSAI conducts interdisciplinary research on machine intelligence for solving real-world problems of industry and society. ISSAI provides an agile framework for research, innovation and collaboration with national and international partners in education, industry and government and contributes to the digital ecosystem of Kazakhstan in the advancement of national development goals.

The National Laboratory Astana (NLA)
NLA conducts predominantly applied research funded by the Government that aims to address the nation’s most pressing science and technological challenges. There are two centers rooted under the NLA: the Center for Life Sciences and Center for Energy Research and Advanced Materials Sciences.

NAC Analytica
NAC Analytica provides economic and other policy consulting and analytics services to the state and private sector. It has a long history of conducting policy research for the Government serving as an information source for the Prime Minister’s Office and providing analytical support and consultation for policymakers.

Energetic Cosmos Laboratory Project Group
The Energetic Cosmos Laboratory, founded by Nobel Laureate Dr. George F. Smoot, is one of the leading international cosmology and astrophysical research laboratories with state of the art facilities. The center investigates the fundamental questions of cosmology and energetic processes in cosmos, including the birth and evolution of the Universe, study of The High Energy Universe, gravity, dark energy and cosmology.
RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

New generation battery
NU received a US patent for “Water Lithium-ion Battery”. The invention relates to the electrochemical industry and solves the problem of creating environmentally-friendly, rechargeable batteries with low cost and long life compared to analogues (School of Engineering and Digital Sciences).

Al-based diagnostic solutions
ISSAI researchers jointly with the University Medical Center work on developing AI-based diagnostic solutions. ISSAI team reached state-of-the-art diagnosis results on glioma brain tumors from magnetic resonance images using deep learning. The center is launching projects on the early diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease and the interpretation of chest X-rays using artificial intelligence.

Qazaq symphony of bioinformatics
National Laboratory Astana launched the first high-performance bioinformatics computing platform in Kazakhstan to deal with “big genomic data” and solve problems in bioinformatics. This platform uses “Qazaq symphony of bioinformatics” (Q-Symphony) and other optimized methods.

Prototype of human bones
NU researchers are working on creating biological tissue cells outside of the human body using 3D printing, which will allow more effective treatment of patients with bone diseases and will solve the problem of a donor shortage. Now the healing properties of the drug can be tested on a specially printed model of a bone with a prolapse.

The Kazakh speech recognition Bot
NU researchers developed the largest publicly available database to advance various Kazakh speech and language processing applications such as speech recognition, speech synthesis, and speaker recognition. The Kazakh speech recognition system can be used by the developers of virtual assistants and will allow them to understand commands in Kazakh in various smart home technologies, cars etc.

Stochastic epidemic simulator
NU’s Institute of Smart Systems and Artificial Intelligence (ISSAI) has developed a stochastic epidemic simulator that uses real data, ranging from population density to health care capacity for each region of the Republic of Kazakhstan to predict the dynamics of the spread of COVID-19 in the country.

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NU’s digital twin
In partnership with Tengri Labs and KazAeroSpace companies, ISSAI is creating a digital twin of the NU campus with all engineering networks (electricity, heating, ventilation, fire protection, canalization, plumbing, and low current systems). The model is integrated with augmented reality technology.

The thermal face image database
ISSAI team is creating a large-scale dataset of voice commands with visual and thermal video streams. The dataset is designed to encourage research in the general areas of user authentication, facial recognition, speech recognition, and human-computer interaction.
NU has been increasingly focusing on STEM research. NU researchers have made contributions in emerging areas like robotics, energy demand modeling, new generation lithium batteries, engineering, and human genomics. On the medical side, new technologies have yielded pioneering discoveries in heart and organ transplants.

Over the last five years, the field-weighted citation impact of NU publications has grown significantly, fixing at 34 percent above the global average in March, 2021. It shows that our research is making a national and global impact, contributing to NU’s international presence and standing.

Source Scival via Scopus database
as of March 10, 2022 and Office of the Provost as of March 10, 2022
RESEARCH LABORATORIES

NU set up a well-equipped modern laboratory complex with advanced technologies to support the research endeavors of students, faculty and researchers. The complex includes the laboratories allocated along 9 research clusters:

1. Space, Industry and Transportation Cluster;
2. Fundamental Science Cluster;
3. Electronic and Photonic Systems;
5. Environmental and Energy Research;
6. Intelligence, Cognition and Robotics Cluster;
7. Cluster for Behavioral Science, Education, and Gender;
8. The Environment and Resource Efficiency Cluster;

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

Due to its solid reputation and relevance of research, NU brings in the projects of well-known international organizations and global research centers. Few examples of such projects are as following:

- NUSOM faculty received a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to pilot an innovative minimally invasive tissue sampling technique to determine the cause of perinatal and infant death in Kazakhstan (50 000 USD).
- SEDS professor received a grant from the European Union under the Horizon 2020 framework to develop novel materials and technologies for remediation of contaminated soils and ground waters from man-made contaminants. The grant involves eight partner organizations.
- NUSOM in collaboration with SEDS and NLA received a grant from the Science for Peace Program of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to develop a fiber-optic-based portable device for the early detection and diagnosis of emerging biological threats (134 200 EUR).
- GSE received a grant from the Global Partnership in Education and International Development Research Center (2.5 million USD for 3 years) to build stronger education systems in the Central Asian countries addressing regional challenges.
- GSE received funding from the World Bank Kazakhstan for scoping research on Inclusive Education in Central Asia (125 000 USD).
- GSE in partnership with 4 international universities received a grant from the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in the United Kingdom for the development of a grounded approach to political economy analysis of education that will help policymakers to make socially just decisions about investments in education that benefit children in contexts of conflict and crisis. (424 000 GBP for 3 years).
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN RESEARCH

NU offers its students comprehensive research experience and exposure to research frontiers. We encourage research involvement of students at all levels to enrich and supplement their in-class learning. With the support of our faculty and researchers, students participate in multidisciplinary projects and competitions, publish international research publications and aim to contribute to national and international discourse.

CONVERTING RESEARCH INTO BUSINESS

To give students practical experience on how to convert research into business NU’s Innovation Cluster in collaboration with professors from the School of Engineering and Digital Sciences designed the Capstone + Incubation program. It helps to enhance project-based learning by providing business development tools. The program is aligned with the curriculum and students tailor their project outcomes to real case scenarios, which further receive industry feedback.

COMPETITIONS AND PROJECTS

Rehabilitation Robot
Relive is an NU research startup that focuses on the rehabilitation of stroke patients. ReLive includes equipment and software for reading and recognizing brain signals, a microcontroller and an exoskeleton of the upper limbs. The project was given the best digital solution award at the International Digital Health Astana exhibition. Upon the invitation of UNICEF, the research team took part in the 2019 world exhibition on assistive technology for children in Geneva. ReLive received a World Bank Grant and is developing plans for future expansion.

Smart Heating Management
Smart Heating Management is a research project implemented by a group of Nazarbayev University students. The group created a smart battery valve that allows adjusting room temperature via a smartphone and reduces heating costs. The smart battery valve can be installed at both residential apartments and industrial facilities with autonomous heating. It enables real-time tracking of electricity consumption and can reduce heating costs by 20-40%.

International Student Research Competition
For the last 3 years NU student teams have taken part in iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine) competition – a prestigious international undergraduate competition in synthetic biology, where the goal is to develop a novel system utilizing genetically engineered organisms. The team iGem NU Kazakhstan in 2017 and 2018 won a Gold Award and Best Environmental Project nomination, in 2019 received a Bronze medal and was nominated as the “Best Energy Project”.

The Electric Scooter SteelG
The Team consisting of the students from three NU schools has developed a SteelG electric scooter and won in the Smart Scooter category in the “Castelloli Smart Scooter Challenge” international competition (Barcelona, July 2019). The electric scooter models the technical specifications of the world’s largest manufacturers. The scooter has a folding design and uses a SmartApp to monitor speed and battery charge, that also functions as an electronic key to start the engine, which significantly reduces the risk of theft.

“E-Vehicle” for Shell Eco-Marathon Asia 2018
A team of engineering, science and technology, and social sciences students designed and built an energy-efficient car under their capstone project and successfully participated in the Shell Eco-Marathon Asia 2018 in Singapore, one of the world’s leading energy efficiency competitions.
NU has established NU Medicine, a vibrant academic healthcare system based on international standards and developed in partnership with the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (UP SOM) and its Medical Center (UPMC). NU Medicine consists of the School of Medicine (SOM), University Medical Center (UMC), Center for Life Sciences (CLS), and other NU schools. Its objectives are:

- To improve the quality of healthcare and predictive prevention in Kazakhstan;
- To develop a comprehensive Academic Medical Center (AMC) that provides services across the spectrum of care, from everyday needs to the most specialized procedures and treatments;
- To engage in innovative biomedical research that translates to the highest quality care, innovative education, and training;
- UMC has embarked on an ambitious transformation initiative to remake itself into a truly world-class university hospital system. The partnership with Pittsburgh Medical School and UPMC will accelerate its transformation, so that Nur-Sultan City can become a medical hub nationally and in Central Asia.
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
The School of Medicine continues to expand its educational and research programs together with its strategic partner University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine to train the new generation of health care professionals (doctors, nurses, biomedical scientists and public health specialists). Together with UMC, Center for Life Sciences and other NU Schools the School of Medicine has developed an integrated research program in biomedicine to bridge the gap between basic science discoveries and its clinical applications to disease prevention, diagnostics and therapeutics. Prevention, diagnostics and treatment of COVID-19 have been at the forefront of our research efforts over the last 12 months. Research projects span from basic science projects on the characterization of the mechanisms by which SARS-CoV2 (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2), the virus responsible of COVID-19, causes the disease to the understanding of the social and economic impact of the pandemic in Kazakhstan to the development of novel diagnostics and therapeutic interventions.

All SOM students actively participate in research projects as a requirement for graduation, focusing on the main health priorities like chronic non-communicable diseases (cancer, infectious diseases, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases) as well as infectious diseases, including COVID 19. In our research projects, we encourage creativity, collaboration and interdisciplinary approach to solve major health care problems.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:
• Doctor of Medicine (MD);
• PhD in Biomedical Sciences;
• Master in Public Health (MPH);
• Master in Molecular Medicine (MMM);
• Master in Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation;
• Master in Pharmacology and Toxicology;
• Bachelor in Nursing;
• Bachelor of Science in Nursing;
• Bachelor in Biomedical Sciences.

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS*:
• Internal Medicine;
• General Surgery;
• Pediatrics;
• Anatomic pathology;
• Surgery;
• Obstetrics and gynaecology;
• Pediatrics;
• Family medicine.

* developed in accordance with the international standards of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER (UMC)
UMC operates 4 modern hospitals, 3 of them are accredited by the Joint Commission International (JCI): National Research Center for Maternal and Child Health (JCI), Republican Diagnostic Center (JCI), National Research Cardiac Surgery Center (JCI)*, Shymkent Cardiac Center*. They serve as modern teaching hospitals for SOM, providing the clinical base for the training of future doctors and nurses and also as a research and innovation hub to develop and apply novel preventive measures, diagnostics and therapeutic interventions. UMC closely works with UPMC and international specialists to develop modern protocols for diagnosis and treatment of rare and severe forms of diseases. UMC is a full member of the Association for Medical Education in Europe.

In 2019 UMC started its transformation into Academic Medical Center focusing on integration with NU Schools, clinics, academic and scientific institutions with the implementation of a new organizational structure, and the first two Clinical academic departments in Women’s Health and Pediatrics were launched to integrate patient care, research and education. We now have five additional fully integrated Clinical academic departments including Laboratory Medicine, Pathology and Genetics, Anesthesiology and Intensive Care, Radiology and Nuclear Medicine, Internal Medicine and Surgery. The Biomedical Council continues to facilitate the effective interaction between our academic medical center, NU schools, and Kazakhstani clinical and research organizations.

CENTER FOR LIFE SCIENCES (CLS)
CLS strives to transform medicine and healthcare in Kazakhstan through innovative scientific research, rapid translation of breakthrough discoveries, educating future clinical and scientific leaders, advocating and practicing evidence-based medicine, and pursuing research in personalized and predictive medicine. Regenerative medicine and artificial organs, biomedical engineering, innovative cell technology and cell therapies, healthy ageing and translational medicine are the main research priorities.

CLS has launched the first high-performance bioinformatics computing platform in Kazakhstan for dealing with “big genomic data” and solving problems in the field of bioinformatics. The CLS team of research scientists is at the forefront of biomedical science winning competitive commercialization grants funded by the Science Fund of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and producing patents as well as publications in high impact factor journals.
HOW DID WE COPE WITH COVID-19?

Crisis management and communication. The team, consisting of NU leadership, healthcare and security experts held weekly meetings since January 2020 in order to disseminate fact-based information to NU community and mitigate pandemic-induced anxiety.

Face-to-face instruction shifted to online classes (April 2020). Our faculty reconsidered the curriculum design and reshaped approaches to teaching, learning and assessment by using various forms of communication and course management systems in their classes.

COVID-19 related research. Competitive grant system was launched in July 2020. Our researchers initiated twelve COVID-19-related projects that will provide valuable insights to mitigating the negative consequences of the pandemic in the national context.

COVID-19 testing and diagnostic center. In August 2020, NU established a fully certified Covid-19 testing lab in the Republican Diagnostic Center to provide testing services to the NU community and to the public. The lab operates at its full capacity providing over 100 tests per day on average.

NU Community COVID-19 Solidarity Initiative was established to support hospitals and the frontline healthcare workers in the fight against coronavirus. As of January 2021, it has raised around KZT 48.1 million.

Engineers of the NU Machine Shop prototyping center have arranged the 3D printing of protective face shields. They were successfully tested and distributed to infectious disease hospitals in Nur-Sultan City.

Student support services. Having shifted to online mode, NU paid special attention to student support services securing access to all students in order to ensure that no one is left behind. We supported our students by arranging regular school level and university-wide Town Hall meetings, psychological counselling, providing technical and financial support to the students in need.

as of March 1, 2021
INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF RESEARCH

NU INNOVATION CLUSTER

The idea of the Innovation Cluster, first articulated by the Head of the State Nursultan Nazarbayev in early 2012, laid a foundation for the Innovation Mandate in the NU Strategy 2013-2020. In 2015, the development of the Cluster became part of the “100 steps” National Plan as it will serve as an important element of the innovative development of Kazakhstan. Since then, NU Innovation Cluster developed into a unique platform that brings together entrepreneurs, researchers, professors, students, investors, companies and organizations from Kazakhstan and other parts of the world. NU Innovation Cluster is breaking new ground both by commercializing the work of our scientists and by facilitating and promoting technology-oriented startup enterprises powered by our own students and graduates as well as by a diverse group of tenants at NU’s Technopark.*

There are four major elements that form the Innovation Cluster: Technopark, Business Incubator, 12BF-ABC Seed Fund and Commercialization Office. A major infrastructure element - the science park Astana Business Campus (ABC) has started to take shape on NU’s campus but a major scaling up is on the way.

*From “Nazarbayev University: Vector for Modernization”.

From “Nazarbayev University: Vector for Modernization”.
NU INNOVATION CLUSTER

ATTRACTING AND NURTURING ENTREPRENEURIAL TALENT

NU has already become a magnet for talented faculty, students and researchers. Now, NU focuses on nurturing entrepreneurial and innovation mindsets, both inside and outside the university. The Innovation Cluster offers training, seminars, master-classes and guest lectures to discuss digital electronics, video editing and animation, 3D-modeling, internet marketing, technological and innovative entrepreneurship. Challenging events and idea competitions are organized in partnership with major national and international companies. These events inside and outside NU attract a growing number of actual and would-be startups, and provide networking opportunities for people of different professional backgrounds.

NU TECHNOARK

The Technopark is a multifunctional complex that houses facilities to carry out research, create product design, prototyping and pilot production.

NU Technopark is a full member of the International Association of Science Parks (IASP), which includes more than 400 technology parks and innovative companies from 77 countries, constantly cooperating on professional and technological interests. Currently, it has 23 tenant companies that implement innovative projects with access to a range of services provided there.

Fab Lab (Fabrication Laboratory) is a co-working laboratory with advanced equipment for digital production, which allows translating any idea into a finished product.

Prototyping Center provides equipment for designing, manufacturing, and modification of parts and mechanisms.

Digital Creativity Lab is the first co-working space in Nur-Sultan City for designers, digital artists, video-makers and photographers.

2BF-ABC SEED FUND

NU has established seed funding facilities to support successful projects and innovative endeavors. The portfolio of applicant projects have a wide industrial focus in robotic technology, the Internet of things, new materials, clean energy, energy efficiency, and industry 4.0. The Fund invests up to $ 100,000 in startups at an early development stage. The projects are selected based on rigorous criteria, such as a breakthrough nature of the product/model, a significant market for distribution, the company’s growth potential in regional and global markets, an experienced team, high profitability and return on investments, co-investors.
**COMMERCEIALIZING RESEARCH OUTPUT**

The Commercialization Office helps projects with high commercial potential to reach the next stages of development, prototype creation, patenting, or pilot production, as well as management of intellectual property rights and entering the market. In Kazakhstan, the Office has unique expertise in Intellectual Property (IP) management and provides relevant services such as patent search, trademark registration, and more.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINCE 2012</th>
<th>31 projects financed</th>
<th>106 patents received</th>
<th>164 IP applications filed</th>
<th>7 license agreements signed</th>
</tr>
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**INCUBATING IDEAS**

The Business Incubator supports unique business ideas and innovative startup projects at an early stage by providing active business guidance and specialized professional advice. The Business Incubator runs several major programs: ABC Incubation and ABC Quick Start Acceleration. The programs help participants to form teams, receive business education, mentorship and professional support, as well as access to technology for prototyping. Further, participants have the opportunity to scale the project, attract investments and be placed in the Technopark. Over the last four years, NU hosted four Incubation and five Acceleration programs. Overall, 85 projects have successfully graduated from both programs and formed new startups.

**EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS**

Annually, NU hosts more than 50 events with more than 1500 participants. The large-scale competitions such as ABC Makeathon, Climate Launchpad, Astana Science Festival, Markethon, Hackathon, Tech Central Asia Acceleration Program are run in partnership with businesses, industry, international organizations, and embassies.

The competitions invite talents to provide solutions for real-life engineering and technical tasks of big companies, solve technological tasks for people with disabilities, provide green business ideas and digital marketing solutions for business etc.

**STARTUPS**

Several startups that graduated from ABC Incubation and ABC Quick Start programs have attracted outside investments and continued their development.

**HYDROPLAT**

Unique biomass production technology to replace platinum in the electrocatalyst of hydrogen cars. Winner of Theme awards nomination - “Clean mobility” on Grand Final of the ClimateLaunchpad in Amsterdam, November 2019. The startup received 5,000€ and was invited to Startup Energy Transition Tech Festival as well as to the Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue to pitch in front of German investors.

**OPTOCULUS**

Asymmetric fiber-based security systems. The startup did a pilot implementation of the technology at Arcelor Mittal JSC, negotiations are underway to implement this technology at Kazakhmys Corporation LLP, Kazzinc LLP.

**AERO**

An online proctoring service for remote exams. It uses face recognition technologies and artificial intelligence to verify the presence of a student, prevent unauthorized persons in exams, track browser activities, and other applications. AERO has been ranked as one of the 100 best EdTech projects in CIS. The startup received $50K from the Singapore venture fund Quest Ventures and the Kazakhstan QazTechVentures. AERO has generated an income of 30 mln tenge in a few months after launching.
TOP
A smart system for spraying agricultural areas with herbicides, which allows cost-saving and productivity increase using computer vision technology and a conventional camera. The startup received 110 000 USD investment from Hong Kong Venture Fund “Artesian” and has been accepted to a Hong Kong hardware accelerator “Brinc”.

EGISTIC
Agritech startup EGISTic, is an online platform that helps farmers to monitor the crop areas via space images to obtain information on the saturation for vegetation, soil moisture and vegetation health. EGISTic received the investment of 300 000 USD for further development of the product.

QOQYS
A smart waste collection system, integrating hardware for measuring level of fullness of garbage bins, and software for revealing information about the fullness, and using route optimization for waste collection.

CLEVEREST TECHNOLOGIES
Production of robots and high technology sophisticated IT products including the first Kazakhstani educational robots Qmobot and the online Danahub platform for shops, schools and services.

A-PSORIN
Non-hormonal antipsoriatic cosmetic gel that helps to get rid of the symptoms of psoriasis in the phase of exacerbation in a short period of time. Won 2nd place (800 000 KZT) in the National Innovation Contest “Qazaqstan Technology Forum”, October 2018.

INFINITE BILIM
Educational online platform that provides STEM classes in Kazakh language. The startup received funding of 4 million tenge from various contests and programs. Currently it has more 1000+ active users in the platform.

AI-LEGAL
Legal online consultant based on artificial intelligence. The founders developed MVP and posted on ai-legal.kz. The system is being tested in the corporate sector. The project participated in Skolkovo soft-landing program.

OKOO
An interactive online educational platform for teaching programming in rural schools using artificial intelligence. The startup received 50,000 USD from the Singapore venture fund Quest Ventures together with the Kazakhstani QazTechVentures.

FOODCOGNIZER
An application that optimizes the service for public catering through automation of counting and payment systems using artificial intelligence. The system helps to reduce long distribution lines at canteens caused by slow checkout.

JOISS
An online platform that enables small and medium-size businesses to sell and reduce the stock of unsold products, and customers to find discounted goods and thus save money.

S Cube
Intelligent video analytics platform that combines video analytics, biometric authentication technologies, and analytical tools. The platform helps to improve security at public places.
Our impact spans far beyond the boundaries of our campus. We have expanded our collaboration with the Government, industry, educational institutions and public organizations to support the implementation of national initiatives and programs, and to promote technology and innovation. These partnerships enable us to further increase contribution towards the achievement of national goals. As the leading research university in the country, NU provides engineering solutions to industry as well as consulting services to the government agencies in the areas of its expertise.

The School of Engineering and Digital Sciences (SEDS) acts as a key advisor to the Government in preparing and implementing the “Digital Kazakhstan” program. SEDS organized weekly seminars for senior Government officials and national companies to increase understanding of data science and build awareness of key concepts and applications in the public sector.

Faculty of the Graduate School of Public Policy have been members of the Advisory Council of the Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan for Civil Service and Anti-Corruption Affairs, the Supervisory Board of the Republican Centre for Health Development of the Ministry of Health, Expert Working Group on Interethnic Relations for the National Assembly of People of Kazakhstan, the working group for legislative amendments on Civil Service Reforms in Kazakhstan, and the working group of the Science Committee.
INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS

NU faculty are involved in sharing expertise and providing technical solutions for the industry and the real sector of the economy of Kazakhstan.

- Research and engineering projects have been carried out for major companies and organizations such as Shell, Samruk-Energy, Karachaganak Petroleum Operating B.V., Petrofac, Chevron Munaigas Inc., ERG, UNDP Kazakhstan, USAID, Ellevio AB, and others.
- School of Mining and Geosciences (SMG) professors and students are engaged in a research project with the Research and Development Engineering Center of the Eurasian Resources Group (ERG). The main scope of this project is 3D modeling of Ash and Iron content in Shubarkol coal deposit in Karagandy region for mine planning.
- Sponsored by the Ministry of National Economy, the Graduate School of Business (GSB) and Duke Corporate Education have developed an executive program for SME owners and managers: each cohort constitutes up to 400 participants from all regions in Kazakhstan. For the last seven years, GSB has also conducted business skills development programs for over 2500 SME owners and executives.
- GSB leads the national research team on the GEM project (Global Entrepreneurship Monitor) in collaboration with Economic Research Institute of Kazakhstan.
- The Graduate School of Public Policy (GSPP) jointly with the Academy of Public Administration developed a new training program for political appointees in the civil service and specialized program for Corps A civil servants.
- GSPP offers advanced executive courses for public sector officials: more than 1800 professionals government agencies, national companies and non-profit organizations have participated in the programs. Themes include leading change in civil service, crisis communications, principle-oriented leadership, investment promotion, transformation leadership.
- NAC Analytica provided data and analysis to the World Bank Country Economic Memorandum on Kazakhstan “Reversing Productivity Stagnation”.
- Datamine, Micromine, Halliburton, and Schlumberger companies have donated their software solutions for research and educational purposes.
- Schlumberger, Tengizchevroil, KazTransOil, Kazakhstan Aselsan Engineering, PSI group, ERG, KPMG, E&Y, Mars, Bi-Group, Beeline and other major companies cooperate with NU in the field of student professional development, internship, and on-campus recruiting.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND ACADEMIA

NU increasingly hosts workshops and conferences with ADB, IMF, OECD, UNDP, World Bank, industry and business associations, as well as other international academic conferences. NU has about 100 active MoUs with other Kazakhstani and international universities and organizations.
GIVING BACK TO SOCIETY

Developing students as responsible and compassionate citizens of the world is an essential part of higher education. Today many initiatives of NU students have reached out to the local community. The student-led projects and innovative products contribute to supporting the socially vulnerable and underprivileged as well as empowering children from rural areas and making education accessible to everyone.

SOCIAL INITIATIVES OF NU STUDENTS

KÜNDE CAFÉ

Kunde Cafe is a social project that was opened in 2016 by NU students. It aims to reform Kazakhstan’s psychiatric care system by providing training and employment for adults with developmental and learning disabilities. Kunde’s team combines restaurant and medical professionals who have provided rehabilitation and employment for 28 people with special needs. Currently Kunde is scaling the project to other cities in cooperation with the government agencies, NU and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

EDUCATION FOR ALL

Education For All is a nonprofit organization aimed at promoting inclusive education and access for children with special needs to educational, social, and professional opportunities. Now the Center provides services to over 50 families, and 70% of the students have different conditions such as ASD, Down syndrome, mental delays, cerebral palsy, speech impairments, etc. The Center also runs professional development courses, Russian sign language course, and an inclusive theater.

NU CHILDREN’S DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

CDF was established in 2017 with the aim of advancing child education and expanding educational opportunities for socially vulnerable populations. The main three programs are: Garage Sale - a traditional sale of goods donated by the NU community for charity. Part of the crowdfunding campaign was raised for the medical treatment of NU’s 4th-year student.

Mentoring Program is a free educational program for students of all backgrounds. The Program helped students from socially vulnerable segments of the population prepare for the entry exams to the best Kazakhstani schools and admission to universities. NU’s 94 students participated in the Program as mentors in 2019.

Warm Winter is an annual charity project. More than 200 children from 58 low-income families got warm winter clothes from NU students, faculty, and staff in 2019.
GLOBAL PROFILE

Crossing over the first decade, NU continues to build and diversify its external relations aimed at raising its international profile and promoting its brand. NU’s global engagement is defined by meaningful and high-impact relationships with universities, research institutes, laboratories, clinical sites, and industry across the world. These partnerships and networks open up unique global opportunities for our community, enabling our students, faculty, researchers, and staff to thrive in times of volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity and achieve their full potential.

International collaboration is embedded into every aspect of NU, starting from welcoming international students, faculty, and staff, to developing cooperation ties worldwide. Ultimately, supporting the University’s strategic goals, NU strives to enhance its global connectedness reinforced by the national relevance.

NU faculty and researchers have developed a wide international research network by partnering with more than 800 international institutions including Columbia, Harvard, Princeton, Cambridge, Oxford, Seoul National University, Tokyo University, Hong Kong University and others. NU’s commitment to collaborate with well-known international organizations is evidenced by growing cooperation agreements, such as the European Union (Horizon 2020), Erasmus, World Bank, British Council, and other institutions.

International students from 38 countries

Faculty members from 58 countries

1289 NU students have had study abroad experience since 2013

361 (+27 online) students visited NU for cultural summer schools since 2015

86 (+11 online) NU students visited cultural summer schools abroad since 2016

As of March 11, 2022

NU is a co-founding member of the Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) along with other fourteen top Asian universities. Launched in 2017, AUA’s mission is to jointly address regional and global challenges by fostering faculty and student mobility and research collaboration, discuss higher education strategies and policies in Asia and raise the international profile of Asian universities.

UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE OF THE SILK ROAD

Nazarbayev University is a member of the Executive Council of the University Alliance of the Silk Road, a network of higher education institutions in the countries located on the historical route of the Great Silk Road. UASR promotes student exchange and joint research projects between the member institutions. Currently there are 150 universities from 38 countries in the network.

HARVARD PROJECT FOR ASIAN AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

In 2019 NU hosted The Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations (HPAIR) Asia Conference. The Conference was established as a platform for students and young professionals to debate the most important economic, political and social issues for countries of Asia and the Pacific. More than 500 participants from over 45 countries attended the Conference.
WHAT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SAY ABOUT US?

ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The Association of International Students (AIS) aims to facilitate the integration of international students into the NU community. AIS represents the interests of all international students at NU through the organization of cultural activities including also cuisine and language. The members of the Association take care of international students from the moment they arrive by offering pickup services, conducting campus and city tours, and offer academic and social support. Any student irrespective of nationality can join the Association.

“Since being in the MBA program I have had the opportunity to meet global industry leaders, including the chairman of Royal Dutch Shell, and other leaders in tech, consulting, and finance. The best part of the MBA program is networking with the future business leaders of Kazakhstan (my classmates), and learning from top tier faculty who have degrees from Harvard and Stanford.”

Anthony Russell Heykoop
USA, MBA candidate at GSB

“I must say Nazarbayev University has paved a path for me to complete my goals and as an international student, I received everything well beyond my expectations. I show my sincere gratitude towards Nazarbayev University’s management for providing such excellent opportunities and facilities to international students. I strongly recommend students from all over the world to come and join the global research community of Nazarbayev University for future endeavors.”

Rizwan Muneer
Pakistan, 2nd year PhD Petroleum Engineering, SMG

“While studying at NU, I had the opportunity to explore my research interest in the history of Kazakh-Chinese relations. For me, the opportunity to become part of Nazarbayev University was invaluable because I was not only able to expand my research interest by taking various courses related to the history of Central Asia and conducting research on the Kazakh-Chinese trade relations in the 19th century, but also I was able to learn more about Kazakh language and culture. I am very grateful for having great support from the faculty who truly care for the students, always supporting them to pursue their academic interests.”

Di Wang
MA in Eurasian Studies, SSH, Class of 2018

“While studying at NU, I had the opportunity to explore my research interest in the history of Kazakh-Chinese relations. For me, the opportunity to become part of Nazarbayev University was invaluable because I was not only able to expand my research interest by taking various courses related to the history of Central Asia and conducting research on the Kazakh-Chinese trade relations in the 19th century, but also I was able to learn more about Kazakh language and culture. I am very grateful for having great support from the faculty who truly care for the students, always supporting them to pursue their academic interests.”

Basit Gulzar
MA in Political Science and International Relations, SSH, 2nd year student (class 2021)
NU has a rich history of visits by distinguished guests. Since the University’s inception in 2010, our students and faculty have had a number of unique opportunities to attend the lectures of the presidents and prime ministers of different countries, influential politicians, world-renowned athletes, scientists, entrepreneurs, activists, and others. Listening to their inspirational stories, being exposed to firsthand professional experience and visionary ideas of people who create world history not only did enrich students’ learning experience, but also have left unforgettable impressions that affected their lives.

**PROMINENT GUEST SPEAKERS**

PRESIDENTS AND POLITICAL LEADERS (in chronological order)
- Justin Yifu Lin, Vice President of World Bank
- Tony Blair, ex-Prime Minister of the UK
- Dmitry Medvedev, Prime Minister of Russian Federation
- Albert II Grimaldi, Prince of Monaco
- Truong Tan Sang, President of Vietnam
- Sauli Niinistö, President of the Republic of Finland
- David Cameron, Prime Minister of the UK
- Mr Xi Jinping, General Secretary of People’s Republic of China
- Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain
- Park Geun-Hye, President of South Korea
- Hassan Rouhani, President of Iran
- Jose Manuel Barroso, ex-President European Commission
- Narendra Modi, Prime-Minister India
- Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister Japan
- John Kerry, Secretary of State USA
- Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, President of Afghanistan
- Hamid Karzai, ex-President of Afghanistan
- Macky Sall, President of Senegal
- Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund
- Ela Gandhi, Peace Activist
- Alexander Vucic, Prime Minister of Serbia
- Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS
- Eric Maskin, Economist, Nobel Prize Laureate in Economics in 2007
- Finn Kydland, Economist, Recipient of the 2004 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics
- Professor George F. Smoot, the Nobel Prize in Physics (2006)

FAMOUS SPORTSMEN
- Gennady Golovkin, WBA, WBC, IBF, and IBO middleweight champion
- Rafael Nadal, Professional Tennis Player
- Alexander Vinokourov professional road bicycle racer and golden medalist at the 2012 London Olympics
- Ilya Ilyin - a weightlifter, a four-time world champion in three different weight categories
- Denis Ten (1993 – 2018) - a figure skater, Olympic medalist, a five-time national champion of Kazakhstan.

WORLD RENOWNED EXPERTS AND ENTREPRENEURS
- Michio Kaku, theoretical physicist, futurist, and popularizer of science
- Ben Goertzel, Chief Scientist and Chairman of Aidyia Holding
- Stephen Wolfram, Creator of “Mathematica”, Founder & CEO of Wolfram Research
- Dave McClure, Entrepreneur and Founder of 500 Startups
CAMPUS LIFE

Student learning extends beyond the classroom. NU pays special attention to creating learning environments in which students develop not only academic skills, but also their potential as the leaders of their communities.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The NU Student Government is a student self-governance system representing the interests of students to the administration of the University and the global community. Students’ self-governance is a proactive and independent joint activity of students aimed at solving issues related to academic and extracurricular activities.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

NU clubs and societies provide various opportunities for students to assume an active and progressive role in shaping their social environment; a wide range of student-run organizations that give students an opportunity to put their ideas and initiatives in action. NU has more than 200 clubs and societies covering various areas of interests and skills, including research, culture, arts, sports, charity, entertainment, etc. It makes NU campus packed with events and activities throughout the year. NU hosts many major student-run events, including NU TEDx, Debates, KazMyth Festival, Mixed Dance Festival, Annual Ball, Annual Film Festival that facilitate active collaboration with other universities’ student organizations across Kazakhstan.

NU ORCHESTRA

Nazarbayev University Orchestra club, established in 2010 from a small club performing Kazakh national music at student events, developed into a prestigious orchestra that is invited to perform in the city and republican level events. Orchestra gained a wide audience and popularity after the creative adaptation of the main soundtrack of the series “Game of Thrones” to Kazakh folk instruments, collecting more than 100,000 views on YouTube. NU Orchestra’s repertoire has a wide range of compositions - from folk music to the world’s legendary hits that orchestra members learn by themselves.

NU VOLUNTEERS CLUB

NU Volunteers Club is one of the largest student clubs in our university. Since 2013, more than 1500 volunteers have taken part in more than 450 events, including Annual Astana Economic Forum, EXPO 2017, Astana Marathon, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic Charity Tennis Match, Winter Universiade 2017 in Almaty, HPAIR, Ironman, IQanat and concerts of various Kazakhstani and world celebrities.

NU IGEM CLUB

NU IGEM club was established in 2017 in order to promote and popularize the synthetic biology science among students of NU, design novel projects and provide practical training for students. Since then NU IGEM team participated in the prestigious international student competition in the US winning gold and bronze awards. NU IGEM club leader Daulet Aitymbayev serves as an iGEM-2020 competition ambassador in Central Asia.

Source of the photos: NU image
NU campus is a comfortable place for the academic, professional and social development of students. The campus has a modern library, lecture halls, research laboratories, sports centers and sports grounds, residence halls, dining facilities, shops, and support services for students.

RESIDENTIAL LIFE

University residence halls are modern buildings; 8 residential buildings at NU accommodate 70% of students. Many daily-life facilities, such as grocery stores, barbershop, laundry, library, and banks are available within the campus.

LIBRARY 24/7

The NU library has become even more accessible and comfortable. New halls and rooms with a total area of 10 000 sq.m. offer superior conditions for the NU community. The updated library includes new computer rooms, multimedia rooms, classrooms for group activities and individual study, equipment for inclusive education, conference rooms, an audio-visual studio, a visual communications room and much more.

SPORTS AND ATHLETIC CENTERS

The Sports Centers support students in their athletic endeavors providing a range of opportunities to do sports for recreation, for intramural and intercollegiate competition at various skill levels.

NU Athletic Center has a wide range of sports facilities: an Olympic-size swimming pool, a climbing wall, a squash court, a gym, a martial arts hall, a yoga hall, a fencing hall, etc. It hosts many international and national level events, including the World Belt Wrestling Championship, the International Karate Tournament, “Kazakhstan - 2019”, etc.

The Center is actively cooperating with the National Olympic Committee and Directorate of Sports Development of Kazakhstan.
EMBRACING DISRUPTIVE CHANGE
WHILE PRESERVING CONTINUITY AND QUALITY

In December 1, 2018 - the Supreme Board of Trustees approved NU Strategy for 2018-2030

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUTURE DIRECTIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STUDENT NUMBER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025: 8000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030: up to 10 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERNATIONALIZATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025: 9-10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030: 12-15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>FACULTY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025: 620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030: 770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESEARCH. CITATION IMPACT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025: &gt;1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030: &gt;2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCREDITATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024: program level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030: institutional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INNOVATION.COMMERCIALIZATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025: complete the ecosystem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030: full scale vibrant research, commercialization and innovation ecosystem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOBAL RANKING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2030: top 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESEARCH BUDGET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025: USD250 mln</td>
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<tr>
<td>2030: USD500 mln</td>
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REENGINEERING NU FOR VUCA WORLD. NU TRANSFORMATION

The anniversary year has given NU time to reflect on the achievements it has made in its first decade. NU has grown to become a complex and diverse institution, established itself as a national brand, and started to gain international recognition. Moving forward NU is determined to keep up the pace and not slip into complacency, as there are many new grounds to break and new heights to be scaled.

As a young and dynamic university, NU constantly evolves responding to technological disruption, increasing competition, changing higher education landscape and stakeholder demands. Acknowledging the importance of the existing and emerging pressures we must resist being change-averse. In the new journey, we are embarking on the next decade, the development of a stronger, creative and more flexible organizational culture is crucial.

Mindful of those challenges, in 2019 NU launched a system-wide transformation exercise to create new capabilities and reimagine its work processes. The transformation is organized along four Clusters: Academic & Research, Administrative, Medical, and Innovation.

Within the upcoming 3-5 years, we expect that it will enable us to simplify work processes, enhance user’s and administrator’s experience, encourage good risk-taking and create more accountability, while keeping in mind that all processes are student and faculty-oriented.

In the VUCA world disruptions such as Covid-19 rush in abruptly, swiping off conventional ways of doing things. Like many HES across the world, NU had to shift to online learning in order to ensure an uninterrupted learning experience for our students. Now we have to operate in the new reality and find ways to continue providing our students with the learning experience that they have grown accustomed to, while keeping in mind that safety is a top priority. As NU has focused on technology-enhanced and blended learning for the past years, it helped to soften the shift to online learning.

We expect that successfully completing the transformation exercise we will become even more flexible, agile, and adaptable to changes, so that the University will be able to thrive in a VUCA environment.
RATIONALIZATION EXERCISE

In order to achieve the ambitious goals that NU set for a new decade, we conducted a rationalization exercise by reviewing and restructuring the University’s organizational set-up. Taking a strategic view of how our units are organized, we carried out a broad-scale review of the administrative structure, operations and functions performed at all levels. The rationalization exercise introduced changes to the organizational structure of the University leveraging the effectiveness of our human and financial assets. In the long run, this exercise will help NU to build institutional resilience and better navigate in the constantly changing environment.

RESTRUCTURING OF NU SCHOOLS

As a part of the transformation, we redesigned our undergraduate schools and academic programs in 2019 by merging the School of Engineering with the School of Sciences and Technologies, and expanding the School of Social Sciences and Humanities. This transformation enabled us to deliver coherently the new innovative core curriculum and its common set of learning outcomes, to boost innovative initiatives of schools by further development of cross-disciplinary collaboration; and to empower new School of Engineering and Digital Sciences to vigorously focus on Artificial Intelligence and related technologies.

As we always put students and faculty first, this restructuring enabled us to offer the best possible student experience, to expand further faculty and students’ research capacities, and to increase the efficiency of academic and research programs.
KEY MILESTONES

2006

MARCH
Announcement by the President of the intent to create a world class university (annual address to the nation)

FALL
Appointment of project team to establish the university. Creation of “New University of Astana” JSC

2009

JUNE
Opening ceremony of Nazarbayev University

SEPTEMBER
Start of the Foundation program; Opening of Research Centers - Center for Energy Research and Center for Life Sciences

2010

JUNE
Signing of the Law “On the status of Nazarbayev University, “Nazarbayev Intellectual schools” and “Nazarbayev Fund”

AUGUST
Opening of undergraduate schools

FALL
First research publication under Nazarbayev University name; First medical research conference at Nazarbayev University

2011

SEPTEMBER
Launch of the ABC Quick Start Acceleration Program

OCTOBER
First PhD Defense (GSE); Launch of the institutional self-evaluation exercise

2012

MARCH
First JCI accreditation of a National Medical Holding hospital

FALL
Opening of the Graduate School of Public Policy and the Graduate School of Education

2013

SPRING
Launch of Executive MBA program at the Graduate School of Business; Approval of Nazarbayev University Strategy for 2013-2020 by the Supreme Board of Trustees;

2014

MAY
First Oxford University Press publication by NU “Kazakhstan -2050”

JULY
Opening of the Pilot Technopark

2015

MARCH
Establishment of the National Laboratory Astana

JUNE
First Graduation Ceremony with participation of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

AUGUST
Opening of the School of Medicine

FALL
Establishment of the University Medical Center with three of the former National Medical Holding hospitals

2016

SEPTEMBER
Launch of the ABC Quick Start Acceleration Program

OCTOBER
First PhD Defense (GSE); Launch of the institutional self-evaluation exercise

2017

APRIL
Launch of the Asian Universities Alliance

JUNE
Commencement of the first PhD graduates

AUGUST
EUA’s independent external evaluation of NU is published

SEPTEMBER
Opening of School of Mining and Geosciences; Opening of GSSPP’s PhD program in Public Policy; Opening of the Zero Year program for graduate students

2018

AUGUST
Introduction of the Undergraduate Core Curriculum Framework (UCCF)

DECEMBER
Opening of Laboratory complex C4; Approval of Nazarbayev University Strategy for 2018-2030 by the Supreme Board of Trustees

2019

FEBRUARY
NU Transformation announced

MAY
Opening of the Athletic Center; Fifth Graduation Ceremony First Doctors of Medicine and Bachelors in Applied Nursing graduates

AUGUST
Restructuring of NU Schools

SEPTEMBER
Accreditation GSSPP - 2 academic programs

2020

APRIL
CPS’ program English for Academic Purposes received accreditation from BALEAP

JUNE
1st digital graduation ceremony

JULY
Asian Universities Alliance’s Executive Presidency for 2020-2021

2021

FEBRUARY
Recolonization Exercise
Completion of Institutional Transformation Program Phase #1

APRIL
UMC accredited by JCI as a single Medical Center

OCTOBER
Presentation of the Phase #2 of the Institutional Transformation Program

DECEMBER
Full membership in the European University Association and the European Network for Academic Integrity
GLOSSARY

ABC – Astana Business Campus
ACGME – Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education
AHRC – Arts and Humanities Research Council
AIS – The Association of International Students
AMC – Academic Medical Center
AUA – Asian Universities Alliance
BALEAP – British Association of Lecturers in English for Academic Purposes
CAC – Career and Advising Center
CDF – Children's Development Fund
CLS – Center for Life Sciences
EAPAA – European Association for Public Administration Accreditation
EH ELF – Eurasian Higher Education Leaders Forum
ERG – Eurasian Resource Group
EUA – European University Association
Fab Lab – Fabrication Laboratory
GEM – Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
GSB – Graduate School of Business
GSE – Graduate School of Education
GSPP – Graduate School of Public Policy
HES – Higher Education System
HPAIR – Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations
IASP – International Association of Science Parks
IEP – Institutional Evaluation Program
IGEM – International Genetically Engineered Machine
ISSAI – Institute of Smart Systems and Artificial Intelligence
JCI – Joint Commission International
KERA – Kazakhstan Educational Research Association
MES – Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan
NATO – North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NLA – National Laboratory Astana
NUFYP – Nazarbayev University Foundation Year Program
NUZYP – Nazarbayev University Zero Year Program
ORAU – OAK Ridge Associated Universities
SEDS – School of Engineering and Digital Sciences
SMG – School of Mining and Geosciences
SOM – School of Medicine
SSH – School of Sciences and Humanities
UASR – University Alliance of the Silk Road
UCCF – Undergraduate Core Curriculum Framework
UMC – University Medical Center
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
UPMC – University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
UPSOM – University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
USAID – United States Agency for International Development
VUCA – Volatile, Unpredictable, Complex and Ambiguous