

DELEGATES FROM THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

VISIT TO EAST TENNESSEE

NOV. 15-23, 2019

**Ana Kvanchilashvili - from Tbilisi**

**Current position: Vice-Chancellor of Ilia State University** ([www.iliauni.edu.ge](http://www.iliauni.edu.ge))

[ana.kvanchilashvili@iliauni.edu.ge](mailto:ana.kvanchilashvili@iliauni.edu.ge)

33 years of age, speaks conversational English, no health or dietary restrictions, smoker

Her duties include coordinating Public Relations, Student Services and Marketing Recruitment. Ilia State University is one of the leading research and educational institutions in Georgia. Previously, she participated in the creation of the Free University and in the reform of the Agricultural University, which today are Georgia's leading private universities. The goal was to make quality education accessible to all young people, regardless of their financial status.

She is interested in learning about programs that introduce best practices to provide her with policy options to implement international standards in that sector.

Her hobbies include attending science and education-related events, traveling, music, walking.

**Ekaterine Pipia – from Tbilisi**

**Current position: Professor, International Black Sea University** ([www.ibsu.edu.ge](http://www.ibsu.edu.ge))

[ekapipia@ibsu.edu.ge](mailto:ekapipia@ibsu.edu.ge)

37 years of age, speaks fluent English, vegan (no meat), allergic to cats

She serves as Coordinator of Master Programs in Education Administration and General Education Administration. The university opened in 1995 as a private institution to offer national, regional, and international students high-quality degree programs in English, with some in Georgian beginning in 2011. Her focal responsibility is to publish research in higher education policies. She is actively involved in the Embassy-sponsored program, Access, which provides English language classes to less advantaged social groups.

She would like to see the best educational practices in U.S. institutions to adapt and tailor according to the current needs and demands of Georgian context. She states that their country is in need of an educational model that enables minorities and socioeconomically at-risk populations to have equal educational rights.

Her hobbies include watching documentaries on the planet, nature, and animals; travel, and cooking.

**Nana Mikeladze – from Samtskhe-Javakheti**

**Current position: Public Relations Specialist at Samtskhe-Javakheti State University**  
([www.sjuni.edu.ge](http://www.sjuni.edu.ge))

[n.mikladze.nana@yahoo.com](mailto:n.mikladze.nana@yahoo.com)

25 years of age, speaks conversational English, allergic to pets and birds

Her position as PR specialist involves planning and organizing activities at the Akhaltsikhe State University, located in a region populated by national minorities. She has an extensive background working with the national minorities and bilingual education in that region. She works with students, academic staff, and the community. She writes articles for web sites and manages social network.

Nana hopes to receive information about educational news and would like to discuss issues with people who are involved in such processes. She is interested in viewing diversity management approaches taken in the U.S.

Her hobbies include listening to different musical genres, visiting historical places and museums, and walking.

**Nino Svanadze – from Tbilisi**

**Current position: Chief Specialist in the Ministry of Education** ([www.mes.gov.ge](http://www.mes.gov.ge))

[tmerabishvili@mes.gov.ge](mailto:tmerabishvili@mes.gov.ge)

40 years of age, speaks fluent English, no dietary or health restrictions

Her position with the Ministry of Education is in the field of Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia. The ministry is in charge of decision-making for development of the higher education system at institutional, legislative and policy level. Her focus is public outreach and liaison, preparing presentations, press bulletins, and brochures. She also coordinates outreach and students' social aid programs. Since 2008, she has been involved in implementation of the European Integration Program, reporting on implementation of the European Neighborhood Policy Action Plan and the Bologna Process in Georgia.

She would like to learn about how to address the needs of various social and ethnic groups and how to come up with more effective tools and instruments in this regard. Her interest is in a more inclusive and effective education system.

Hobbies include reading and traveling.

**Zurab Zurabashvili – from Gori**

**Current position: Head of the Department of Students Affairs at Gori State Teaching University**  
([www.gu.edu.ge](http://www.gu.edu.ge))

[zura\\_zurabashvili@yahoo.com](mailto:zura_zurabashvili@yahoo.com)

33 years of age, speaks fluent English, no dietary or health restrictions, smoker

Gori State Teaching University is a regional university located in the Shida Kartli region of Georgia. They offer bachelor and master programs in Georgian and English. This university offers higher education opportunities to students from the Occupied South Ossetia. His responsibilities include involvement of students and youth in extracurricular academic activities, involvement of youth in cultural and sports activities, physiological support of the students, and career guidance.

He would like to acquire knowledge and experience examples of the U.S. higher educational institutions. He is interested in learning more about higher education policy-making that is concentrated on providing equal opportunities to people from all backgrounds, allowing them to feel full members of the university community.

Hobbies include travel, sports, hunting, and exploring new cultures.

**Dimitry Gegenava – from Tbilisi**

**Current position: Head of the Department of Representative Council at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University** ([www.tsu.edu.ge](http://www.tsu.edu.ge))

[dimitrigegenava@gmail.com](mailto:dimitrigegenava@gmail.com)

30 years of age, speaks fluent English, no dietary or health restrictions

He will serve as the group facilitator during the Open World visit to Knoxville.

Dimitry holds a PhD in Law (Constitutional Law and Legal Methods). He has worked at the state university since 2010, where his responsibilities include servicing on the legality of documents and minutes of the Representative Council. He is editor-in-chief of the journal, *Legal Methods*. He is director of Prince David Institute for Law.

Hobbies include service on the board of a charity foundation and service as a school patron.