Laparoscopic surgery performed at the “Dr I.A. Sbârcea” Clinical Hospital of Obstetrics and Gynaecology could be watched in real time from the lecture theatre at Aula Magna – a first for the medical academic community.

Between 13th and 25th of June Brașov was the venue for the international training course Balkan Basic Training in Minimal Invasive Gynaecological Surgery organized by our Faculty of Medicine within the framework of ERASMUS IP programme coordinated by Dr Marius Alexandru Moga MD, Dean of the faculty.

For fifteen days our city played host to experts and professors from nine high ranking universities from EU countries.

The programme was targeted at medical interns, who were given the opportunity to gain theoretical and hands-on expertise in minimal invasive gynaecological surgery by means of three pieces of complex laparoscopic equipment manufactured by Olympus.

The state-of-the-art equipment used for the live broadcasts was purchased within the framework of the European ERASMUS Project.

It allows for the implementation of the modern concept of telemedicine by its essential role in keeping medical practice at our Clinical Hospital in sync with similar practices across Europe.

Dr Marius Moga, MD

ROMANIAN-GERMAN PARTNERSHIP

As ever, the University takes an active part in the life of our city, sometimes by teaming up with various local institutions in international joint ventures. In this connection, two actions run within the Romanian-German cooperation framework took place in June: one was related to the professional orientation of high school pupils; the other was aimed at paving the way for a partnership with Nuremberg (Germany).

The partnership between Brașov and Nuremberg, as well as the prospect of town twinning was discussed in the month of June, in Germany by a group of representatives of our local community including the Mayor of Brașov City, local and county councillors, as well as The Rector of Transilvania University, Dr Ioan Vasile Abrudan. This partnership will foster the development of joint business, educational, and cultural projects and will also target the 70,000 Romanians living in the Nuremberg area.

Thus, on the 3rd of June, the County Council of Pupils, The City Hall, Transilvania University and the German Business Club (DWK) concluded a cooperation protocol whose goal is to assist in the professional orientation of pupils and provide them with support in organizing cultural events.

The partnership with Transilvania University will include the Open Doors Days, an action during which pre-university students will be apprised of our educational offer via face-to-face interaction with representatives from different faculties and promotional materials publicised by the University. Besides this, a number of actions aimed at the high school students’ professional orientation will be run by the University, in partnership with DWK. Dr Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of Transilvania University, outlined our University’s interest in attracting local pupils to the academic study programmes available, while also enabling young learners to make an informed choice of the career path they wish to follow.

Dr Liliana Rogozea, MD
Dr Andrea Deaconescu
On June 2nd - 6th, FISITA – The International Federation of Automotive Engineering Societies – in collaboration with KIVIRoyal Dutch Society of Engineers, the professional societies UBIA (Belgium), VDI (Germany), the companies NL DRIVE – Flanders and AutoCluster, together with the Land of Nordrhein-Westfalen organized the 35th World Automotive Congress Intelligent Transport to Solve our Future Mobility, Safety and Environmental Challenges at Maastricht.

During the congress 520 papers by over 1,800 specialists – academics and researchers, car and car parts manufacturers, materials and IT developers – from 32 countries were presented in panel sessions. The Romanian participants were researchers from Transilvania University of Brașov, The Politehnica University of Bucharest, the University of Pitești, and The Construction Institute of Bucharest who delivered four papers. In their paper, our University's specialists showcased a variety of novel aspects regarding the use of shape-memory materials for car safety systems. The research was conducted in the laboratories of the "Automotive High-Tech Products" Research Centre and in those of the University of Applied Sciences of Konstanz, and was the output of a fruitful, long-term collaboration between the two universities.

The FISITA Student Congress, which took place in parallel, included twenty contributions and nine posters by students from thirteen countries, Romania included.

Insights from the discussions and analyses conducted throughout the congress will materialize in future collaborative projects: visits at Transilvania University and its Research Institute – ICDT, and academic exchanges of both students and academics.

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On the 3rd of June took place the second training session dedicated to students at Transilvania University, run within the framework of the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs project.

Funded by the European Commission, Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs is an exchange programme aimed at supporting people who recently started or are considering starting a business by enabling them to take part in one to six months mobilities with a view to developing their entrepreneurial skills.

The young entrepreneurs will cooperate with experienced owners of businesses from the EU in a mutually beneficial exchange during which the former will be given the opportunity to stay with experienced entrepreneurs in order to gain the expertise required to run a small-sized firm.

Transilvania University participates in this programme as an Intermediate Organization, together with Amadeus Association, its partner, through the project Entrepreneurship Development through Learning-By-Doing (LEARN-DO).

The session which took place at the University's Aula Magna introduced participants to the mobility programme launched by the EU in February 2009; the eligibility criteria; the stages which applicants are required to go through in order to participate in the programme; the services offered by Transilvania University, as Intermediate Organization; a guide to designing a business plan; examples of good practice.

The session also included personal development exercises for career path design.

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Between 5th and 7th of June, the Faculty of Letters in partnership with the International Association for Dialogue Analysis (IADA) and the Association of Researchers in the Field of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics (ARTA) organized the workshop (Inter)faces of dialogue: Constructing identity through language use.

The workshop theme was appealing enough to assemble young and seasoned researchers from ten European countries, North America, South America and Asia.

This international scientific event featured prominent specialists such as Dr Edda Weigand (Germany), Dr Billy Clark (U.K.), Dr Jean-Michel Eloy (France), and Dr Péter Furkó (Hungary), who acted as plenary speakers. Over 70 contributions were delivered in panel sessions: their topics were mainly circumscribed to the area of identity studies approached from a sociolinguistic or gender-oriented perspective, considered the relationships between humour and identity or those existing between professional discourse and the construction of political brands.
The conference Perspectives on high-quality master training of specialists in the field of early childhood education (PERFORMER) had as main purpose the dissemination of the results of the POSDRU/86/1.2/S/62508 project developed between February 1st 2011 and June 30th 2014.

The Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences from Transilvania University, 1 Decembrie 1918 University of Alba-Iulia, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, and Istituto di Scienze Psicoligiche della Educazione e della Formazione Rome (Italy) joined efforts to develop this project aimed at improving the academic educational offer by developing a double-degree MA study programme for specialists in the field of primary and early childhood education, tailored to the demands of the European job market.

The Master’s Psycho-pedagogy of Primary and Early Childhood Education – the only programme of this kind in Romania - meets the need to improve the line of integrated education and research, as it particularly addresses graduates from the Pedagogy of primary and pre-school education study programme. The event was attended by over 100 national and international participants, which shows the interest in developing the network of educational specialists, and in setting up partnerships between academic and pre-academic educational institutions.

On behalf of the project management team we extend our thanks to our colleagues (teaching and administrative staff) for their full commitment to the project tasks and activities, which led to the successful completion of the project as a whole.

Dr Mariana Norel

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Dr Gerold Gruber – Special Guest at the Faculty of Music

On the 5th and 6th of June, the Faculty of Music welcomed a distinguished guest, Dr Gerold Gruber, Professor at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna (Austria).

A first time visitor to our country, Dr Gruber is a prestigious personality of the musical world, and a regular speaker at high-ranking universities, among which the Sorbonne (Paris, France), the Royal Academy (London, UK), the New York University (USA) and many other European, American and Canadian universities.

On the opening day, Dr Gruber spoke on the Rhetoric and Meaning of Musical Communication I, II for an audience assembled at the Festive Hall of the Andrei Şaguna Highschool. The next day, at the Mureşenilor House, our guest introduced the public to the paradigm of the second Vienna School, through a meta-stylistic analysis of A. Schoenberg’s piece Verklärte Nacht/Night and Transfiguration, op. 4, for string sextet.

Concluding his series of speeches, Dr Gruber brought to light a novel perspective on musical forms, in Some Intellectual Associations and the Musical Form. This was an interesting opportunity for all of us to acquire not only a unique manner of reading classical music, but also to gain new theoretical insights from the Lexicon of Musical Forms (Lexikon der musikalischen Formenlehre), a work issued in 2012 by Doblinger Publishing House, which Dr Gruber co-authored.

We do hope that visits of such importance will become regular occurrences at our University, as they are an inexhaustible source of inspiration and emulation for students, professors, and music lovers, in general.

Dr Laurențiu Beldean

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The Rhetoric and Meaning of Musical Communication

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Analytical and Nanoanalytical Methods for Biomedical and Environmental Sciences

Between the 13th and 15th of June, Aula Magna of our University was the venue of the third edition of the international conference Analytical and Nanoanalytical Methods for Biomedical and Environmental Sciences. The event was organized by our University in partnership with COST TD 1104 Action, the French Institute in Romania, the Perpignan via Domitia University (France), the Wisconsin University in Milwaukee (USA), and INCDTIM, Cluj-Napoca (Romania).

The conference was also supported by the Romanian Ministry of Education and the local County Council, and sponsored by European Biophysical Societies' Association (EBSA), the Romanian International Chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS), the Romanian Society of Pure and Applied Biophysics (SRBPA), the Romanian Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SRBBM), and reputable companies whose activity is related to the topics discussed at IC-ANMBES 2014. The conference represented an international forum for more than 100 researchers from USA, Canada, Europe and Romania who shared knowledge and expertise in the fields of biophysics, medicine, engineering, environmental protection and food safety.

The various aspects of the analytical methods were presented under two main headings: Analytical and nanoanalytical methods for biophysical and biomedical applications, and Analytical and nanoanalytical methods for the environment and for food safety.

In order to encourage young researchers, a panel of reviewers from the International Scientific Committee selected three young researchers (master students and PhD candidates) as recipients of EBSA scholarships as commendations for their performance in IC-ANMBES 2014, while the best five posters were rewarded by ACS, SRBPA and SRBBM. The COST TD 1104 Action granted six participation scholarships for senior and junior researchers in the field of electroporation, while the French Institute in Romania offered to co-finance the “French Romanian Meetings” as special conference sessions.

Dr Monica Florescu
Upon the invitation of the Department of Automotive and Transport Engineering of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Dr Heinrich Petra, Coordinator of the MINI project at BMW, delivered as visiting professor a series of lectures on the topic of “Project Management in a Car Company” for our master students and PhD candidates.

The lectures, discussions, and applications dealt with topics such as Developing an efficient car from idea to mass production. Project stages, Implications. Responsibilities; The structure of departments involved in developing and finalizing the project; Production lines. Organization. Specifications; “0” Series – “0” Factory; The technical plan and the stages of the mass production project; Project and production logistics; Preparation for mass production; The philosophy of quality; Applications of a concept.

Dr Petra’s extensive professional experience allowed him to share with our students a substantial amount of technical and scientific details from the field of planning, research, production and approval.

Dr Petra also met with third year undergraduate students enrolled in the Automotive Engineering study programme in order to discuss, at their request, the evolution of the car industry worldwide, BMW’s vision of the car of the future, recent achievements of BMW concerning electrical cars and car bodies made of carbon fibre reinforced composite materials; smart cars; advanced car propulsion systems; BMW’s philosophy concerning the cooperation with technical universities in Europe; BMW’s strategy for student internships and the recruitment of specialists.

Dr Heinrich Petra exchanged ideas with the teachers, researchers and technicians at the Department of Automotive and Transport Engineering as well, focusing on their scientific output; this interaction resulted in project proposals for future joint activities.

Dr Anghel Chiru

COMMERCIAL BREAK AT THE BEGINNING OF THE EXAM SESSION

On the 23rd and 24th of June, the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration organized a series of focus-groups on the topic of security strategy in tourism.

The meetings were attended by general public and specialists in the field of tourism – managers of tourism agencies, hotel managers, teachers, and representatives of tourism schools and of the Agency for the Promotion and Development of Tourism Brașov and representatives of the local Police force.

Within the frame of this project, on the 24th of June, The City Hall was the venue for the “Public debate concerning the security strategy for tourism” attended by security specialists, tourism specialists, representatives of the local authorities, locals, tourists and other people interested in this topic.

These activities are part of the project Safety in tourism – for a safe environment in tourist cities, financed by the European Commission and Brașov County.

Dr Ioana Chițu

RESEARCH PROJECT CONCERNING THE SECURITY STRATEGY IN TOURISM

The Faculty of Sociology and Communication assisted, as previously, Leo Burnett in organizing the Cannes Predictions event in Romania.

At Brașov, on the 13th of June, Cannes Predictions gathered fifteen students, publicity and advertising aficionados, who viewed 25 adverts and case studies, and made predictions of the potential winners of the International Cannes Festival.

Our students were delighted with the diversity and quality of the advertisements, their design and especially, with their impact on the audience.

Cannes Predictions takes place worldwide every year, a few days before the beginning of the well-known advertising festival Cannes Lions. Initiated by Donald Gunn (Creative Director, Leo Burnett Chicago), the first selection of advertising agencies by Leo Burnett Worldwide made up of advertisers, marketing experts and specialized journalists dates back in 1987.

The goal of this type of events is to keep young people up to speed with developments in the advertising industry and the new trends promoted by agencies.

Dr Florin Nechita
The Faculty of Food and Tourism – the Department for Food and Tourism Management and Engineering, the Research Centre for Eco-Biotechnologies and Agriculture and Food Equipment organized the International Conference New Research in Food and Tourism – BIOATLAS. Continuing the tradition of the previous three editions (2008, 2010, 2012), this year’s conference was also held under the patronage of prestigious European organizations in the field and of the Romanian Academy, and included presentations delivered by prominent specialists.

The papers were presented in five panel sessions dealing with agro-silvicultural biodiversity and its exploitation through tourism, with organic food, public food service and culinary production, with management and IT applications for the food and tourism industries, as well as with aspects related to equipment specific for the food industry and tourism. The interesting solutions put forward at the conference open new vistas for research with applicability in this field.

Participants and paper authors were researchers and academics from Bulgaria, Germany, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, Hungary and Romania. The papers were published in the Journal of EcoAgriTourism (issues 1 and 2 of 2014, http://rosita.ro/jeat/).

Overall, the feedback of our international colleagues on the management of the conference reinforced the high professional status of both our Faculty and of the EBIOTEA Research Centre.

The second NUTRILAB summer school run within the project FP7 PEOPLE-2012-IRSES no. 318946 - NUTritional LABeling Study in Black Sea Region Countries – took place concurrently with the conference and brought together most of the twelve project partners.

Dr Liviu Gaceu

**EVENTS AT THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION SCIENCES**

On the 11th of June, the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences inaugurated the series of presentations on the topic of “Psychology in everyday life”. Held on the premises of St. O. Iosif Bookshop, the event was organized in collaboration with Libris Brașov.

This first presentation focused on topical issues of interest to both specialists and laypeople: the impact of computers on our lives, and the emotional development of children and teenagers in the new technological era.

The Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences was represented by Dr Laura David and Dr Laura Năstasă who spoke about cognitive development and emotional development, respectively, and the way in which these two areas cross paths with technology.

For an hour and a half, the speakers argued for and against computer games and their impact on child development, children-parents interaction, and the elements of emotional intelligence.

The questions and comments coming from the audience testified to the real interest in the issues under debate and to the benefits of such meetings between specialists and the general public.

Dr Laura David

**PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY AND CADI AYYAD UNIVERSITY OF MARRAKECH**

Upon the invitation of Professor Abdelatif Miraoui, President of Cadi Ayyad University of Marrakech (Morocco), Professor Anghel Chiru visited this higher education institution.

The discussions focused on important issues such as the identification of opportunities for scientific cooperation and joint doctoral supervision with the help of AUF, the initiation of a student, researcher and teaching staff exchange programme and delivery of two scientific lectures on topics of mutual interest.

Dr Anghel Chiru had formal and informal talks with the president of Cadi Ayyad University, with faculty and technical department leaders.

He visited the research centres of the university and gave a presentation on the topic of The academic automobile school at Transilvania University of Brașov for the teaching staff, the researchers and the students of Cadi Ayyad University and those at the Superior School of Technology at Essouira.

The outcomes of this visit were setting up and signing a cooperation agreement between Transilvania University of Brașov and Cadi-Ayyad University of Marrakech; setting up the guidelines for the development at Cadi-Ayyad University of a master’s study programme in the field of automotive engineering; identifying two research topics in the field of composite materials; making suggestions for student and teaching staff exchanges within the ERASMUS programme; suggesting criteria for researcher candidatures for the “Eugen Ionesco” scholarship; receiving a Cadi-Ayyad University delegation at Transilvania University in the autumn of 2014.

Dr Anghel Chiru
CHINESE FILM EVENINGS AT TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY

On the 5th and 6th of June 2014, the University’s Multicultural Centre organized the first edition of the Chinese film evenings.

Chinese movie making has recently become more visible internationally, and personalities, such as the film director Kar Wai Wong, have risen to world-wide fame. Moreover, the internationally acclaimed Chinese film productions, second only to US and Indian productions, have been hailed at both Cannes and Oscar festivals.

During the event at the Multicultural Centre were screened films such as SanMao joins the army (1992) Ip Man (2008), Devils on the threshold (2000) – a Cannes award winner by director Wen Jiang’s – and Flowers of War (2011) the highest budget film in the Chinese movie making history.

The cooperation between our University and similar Chinese institutions will pick up the pace following the opening of a new centre of the Romanian Cultural Institute in Beijing, come September. The Romanian Embassy at Beijing and the Brașov County Council are actively involved in this project with a view to promoting our traditional cultural values, as well as to initiating a project to support our University’s efforts to further attract Chinese students in the study programmes available.

In this way the University will extend its cooperation with China, which at present consists in hosting and management of the Confucius Institute at Transilvania University.

Dr Liliana Rogozea, MD
Dr Andrea Deaconescu

THE PDME DEPARTMENT TRAINS HIGHSCHOOL STUDENTS FOR THE WORLD ROBOT OLYMPIAD

On the 1st of June, the Department of Product Design, Mechatronics and Environment (PDME) at the Faculty of Product Design and Environment organized the Regional Competition LEGO Educational Brașov 2014. The venue was Building E on the University Campus; the organizers’ goal was to select the highschool students to participate in the World Robot Olympiad 2014. This competition in the field of educational robotics is part of the 2014 Calendar for National Educational Activities in Technology.

The organization of the competition followed the model of the prestigious World Robot Olympiad™ (WRO) and brought together teams made up of two or three 10+ agemates from Andrei Șaguna National College (Brașov), Dr Ioan Meșotel National College (Brașov), Transilvania Technical College (Brașov), Emil Racoviță College (Brașov) Szekely Miko Theoretical Highschool (Sfântu Gheorghe) and Lower Secondary School No.2, Diaconu Coresi (Brașov).

The young competitors were given the opportunity to fully use their imagination to develop, build and operationalize ingenious mechatronics applications by means of LEGO® MINDSTORMS™ (RCX, NXT or Ev3) products. The winners qualified for the National LEGO Educational Competition to take place in Bucharest on the 4th of October this year.

Dr Marius Luculescu

LEGEND EDUCATIONAL REGIONAL COMPETITION

AUTOMOTIVE – PEDESTRIAN AND AUTOMOTIVE – AUTOMOTIVE COLLISION TESTS

On the 8th June, students from the Department of Automotive and Transport Engineering participated in an automotive – pedestrian and automotive – automotive collision test programme. The event was organised by the teaching staff of the department in order to allow students to perform an experimental analysis of collision while also comparing the experimental data yielded by simulation programmes.

This experiment is part of the series of demonstrations organized nationally by Transilvania University of Brașov, through the teaching staff at the Department of Automotive and Transport Engineering. The event took on an international dimension this year as a result of the participation of Dr Hermann Steffan from Vehicle Safety Institute University of Graz (Austria), founder of PC Crash – the accident reconstruction and simulation programme.

On this occasion, The National Institute of Criminal Expertise in Bucharest was represented by a group of specialists who provided a dummy equipped with technical devices for measuring the automotive-pedestrian tests.

The findings of the tests will be disseminated during the participating students’ defence of their BSc projects and MSc dissertations. The students played an active part in organizing the event, collecting and processing the data, and performing comparative analyses of both real and simulated cases by running special programmes of traffic accident reconstruction.

The tests were coordinated by two teams:
- a team from Transilvania University of Brașov, consisted of Dean Dr Ioan Călin Roșca, Vice-dean Dr Adrian Șoica, Head of the ATR department Dr Nicolae Ispas (logistics); Dr Daniel Dragoș Truşcă, Dr George Togănel, eng. Dragoș Sorin Dima (test organization); Dr Dinu Covaci, Dr Mihai Dogaru (measurements and equipment), and students from the ATR department;
- and the INEC team, made up of eng. Grigoraș Bețiu, Deputy Manager (logistics); Dr Bogdan Boboș and eng. Liviu Loșonți (measurements and equipment).

Eng. Dragoș Sorin Dima
The Faculty of Letters welcomed Ms. Liliana Comănescu, representative of the Directorate-General for Translation (DGT) with the European Commission who introduced undergraduate students from the Applied Modern Languages programme, and Master’s students at our faculty to the employment or collaboration opportunities with DGT in the area of translation.

Ms. Comănescu engaged her audience with the story of her winding professional path as an authorised freelance translator leading up to her current position with DGT. She then provided the participants with a detailed account of what DGT is, how translations are performed at the European Union level, and what the employment procedures consist of.

The selection procedures of applicant translators take between five and nine months and consist of several tests focusing on different skills and abilities. The effort is worth taking, considering the good salary, job security, free foreign language courses, placements in other European member states, promotion opportunities and, last but not least, the professional pride deriving from work done at the highest standards.

Beyond the amount of information, the presentation delivered by Ms. Comănescu gave students a complete picture of the requirements and expectations associated with the job of professional translator nationally and internationally.

Anca Florescu-Bratei
Master student in Language Studies for Intercultural Communication

The 4th edition of the WSEAS Conference (World Scientific and Engineering Academy and Society) took place at Transilvania University of Brașov between 26th and 28th June 2014. Members of the teaching staff and researchers from 26 countries all over the world took part in this important scientific event: Abu Dhabi, United Kingdom, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Korea, Croatia, Germany, India, Jordan, Iran, Italy, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar, Czech Republic, Romania, Russia, USA, Taiwan, Turkey and Ukraine.

The variety of topics covered by the participants in the conference was structured into several panel sessions, as follows: Automatic Control, Modelling and Simulation, Manufacturing Engineering, Quality and Production Systems, Finance, Accounting and Auditing, Economics, Political and Law Science, Risk Management, Assessment and Mitigation, Environment, Ecosystems and Development, Energy and Environment Technologies and Equipment, Agricultural Science, Biotechnology, Food and Animal Science, Mathematical Models for Engineering Science, Sustainable Tourism and Cultural Heritage, Geodesy and Geomatics Engineering.

The conference papers were evaluated and subsequently accepted for publication by a scientific board set up for the occasion. Consequently, a selection of 283 contributions was published in five volumes. Owing to the variety and novelty of the topics approached, the participants’ feedback on this edition of conference was unanimously positive.

Dr Badea Lepădătescu
On June 27th, Aula Magna was the venue for the Valedictorians’ Gala 2014, an event organized by our University through its Vice-Rector for Students and Liaison with the Economic and Socio-Cultural Community.

In a solemn atmosphere, the awards were handed to this year’s valedictorians from each of the eighteen faculties within our University, as well as to first prize winners in different national and international student competitions.

The prizes were offered by Transilvania University and the Brașov branch of the Romanian Commercial Bank.

The gala was presided over by Dr Ioan Vasilie Abrudan, Rector of Transilvania University, together with Dr Daniel Munteanu, Vice-Rector.

The event featured, among the speakers, Mr George Scripcaru, Mayor of Brașov City, and Mr Miheăi Pascu, Vice-president of Brașov County Council.

The valedictorians of the 2014 class were introduced by the Deans of their respective faculties.

The gala also included an artistic moment run by students from different faculties under the coordination of Mădălina Rucsanda from the Faculty of Music and Valentin Muntean from the Students’ Art Club.

The event concluded with a tour of the city in a double decker bus. We extend our congratulations to all the prize winners and wish them good luck in their future activities.

Dr Daniel Munteanu

PROFESSORS WE TAKE PRIDE IN

Dr Simion Popescu was born in 1938, in Șipot, Gorj County. In 1962 he graduated the Polytechnic Institute at Brașov, the Faculty of Mechanics, and started his career as a junior teaching assistant, being promoted to junior lecturer one year later, then to senior lecturer in 1968. Between 1968 and 1969 he became a DAAD scholar, which allowed him to attend an internship programme at the Stuttgart/Hohenheim University.

He earned his PhD in 1970 with the thesis “Study of Dynamic Strain in the Transmission of Wheel Tractors”. He was promoted to associate professor in 1971 and won a full professorship in 1990. Apart from teaching, Dr Simion Popescu was involved in managerial activities at all levels: he was Head of the Department of Agricultural Machineries and Tractors between 1981 and 1990; Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering between 1990 and 1995; Vice-Rector of the University between 1996 and 2000.

Dr Simion Popescu continually updated and extended his professional expertise by taking part in various training programmes and study trips at universities in Germany, Belgium, England, Italy, and Spain. He is the author of seventeen monographs and textbooks, as well as over 420 papers on topics related to tractors and machinery in agriculture and food industry, and published in national and international journals and scientific bulletins. He was also coordinator of research projects with national and international partnership, four of which were European projects. Since 1990 he also assumed the role of doctoral advisor in the field of Mechanical Engineering, mentoring 45 doctoral candidates from Romania and abroad. He currently holds full membership of Gheorghe Ionescu-Șișești Academy of Agricultural and Silvicultural Sciences, being a member in the Committee of Monitoring and Energetics in Agriculture of the Science Academy of Poland – Lublin Branch. Retired since 2008, Dr Simion Popescu has retained his part of the academia as part-time tutor and doctoral advisor in the field of Mechanical Engineering at the Faculty of Food Industry and Tourism.

Dr Carol Csatlos

GOLD MEDALLISTS AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CHESS CONTEST

On the 30th and 31st of May, the Ministry of National Education and the Federation of School and University Sports in collaboration with the Romanian Chess Federation, Victor Babeș University of Medicine and Pharmacy at Timișoara, the Medicina Timișoara Student Sports Club and AJȘ Timiș jointly organized the Pius Brâncuși National University Championship held at Timișoara.

The representatives of Transilvania University, Maria Anușca and Teodor Anton, students at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences and, respectively, the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics, repeated their 2013 performance and won gold medals.

The two students came first in the female and male categories, respectively, of both contests: rapid chess and chess solutions.

Our University’s team also included Rareș Costin Sârbu (Faculty of Silviculture and Forestry), Cătălin Mărgineanu (Faculty of Economic Studies and Business Administration), Andrei Dogaru (Faculty of Law), Dragos Andrei Gaftoneanu (Faculty of Electric Engineering and Computer Science), all of whom performed well in the contest.

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Dr Daniel Munteanu

PROFESSOR ENGINEER SIMION POPESCU, PhD

Dr Elena Cocoradă

RAPID CHESS AND CHESS SOLUTIONS

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Details about the national university finals, rankings, and a photo album are available on the webpage of the Romanian Chess Federation (http://www.frsah.ro).

The pupils trained by gold medallist Mădălina Anușca won three first places, a second place and two third places in the 8, 10 and 12 year categories of Promenada Cup (second edition).

Let’s hope that they will all become Transilvania University students in a few years’ time.

Dr Elena Cocoradă