The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering was founded in 1949 as a division of the then Institute of Mechanics – the brainchild of a group of engineers, members of the General Association of Romanian Engineers (AGIR). Within the Institute, the Faculty of Mechanics ran the Motor Vehicles and Tractors Engineering Programme. In 1956, the Institute of Mechanics merged with the Forestry Institute and formed the Polytechnic Institute of Brașov. Back in 1957 the Faculty of Mechanics included four study programmes: Motor Vehicles and Tractors, Manufacturing Engineering, Hot Forming Technologies, and Machinery for Wood Engineering.

As the need for specialized engineers increased, several study programmes within the Faculty of Mechanics evolved into faculties in their own right, such as the Faculty of Wood Engineering (1959) and the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering (1964). Concurrently, new programmes emerged within the Faculty of Mechanics: Agricultural Mechanics (1962) and Electro-Mechanics (1962); in 1970 the Motor Vehicles and Tractors programme became the Automotive Engineering Programme.

Next came the Precision Engineering Programme (1977), the Automotive Engineering programmes in Miercurea Ciuc (1976) and Câmpulung-Muscel (1977), the Electromechanics programme, known as Electrotechnics since 1974, emerged as a separate faculty in 1991.

Keeping the pace with the industrial development, new specialties were set up: Food Industry Equipment (1990), Mechatronics (1991), Automotive Engineering (with English as a teaching language, 2001), and Traffic and Transport Engineering (2003). In 2007, the specialties Machinery and Equipment for Agriculture and Food Industry, on the one hand, and Machinery and Equipment for Industrial Processes in Food Industry, on the other, merged into the Faculty of Food and Tourism.

In 2012, the Precision Engineering and Mechatronics specialty, together with all the related sections, became a stand-alone field.

Nowadays the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering consists of the Department of Automotive and Transport and the Department of Mechanical Engineering, where 65 members of the teaching staff aided by fifteen technicians and auxiliary personnel train around 1,800 students.

The quality of our graduates and the hi-tech research activities run by the faculty have made it one of the major development propellers of our University.

THE FACULTY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TURNS 65

THE SEMICENTENNIAL OF THE FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGICAL ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT

The Faculty of Technological Engineering and Industrial Management celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. On August 10, 1964, the Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering (TCM) was founded, as part of the Polytechnic Institute of Brașov. During the 1964–1965 academic year were launched specialties such as Manufacturing Engineering, Machine-Tools and Cutting Tools, and Hot Forming Technologies.

The Machine-Tools programme along with the Tools, Devices and Apparatus programme are documented as early as 1949, as part of the curriculum of the Institute of Mechanics in Brașov. In 1953 these specialties merged into a single field, Manufacturing Engineering. A decade later, the new faculty acquired the name of this specialty – TCM.

Between 1971 and 1983, new specialties emerged, leading to the most complex structure of the faculty - 14 specialties managed by 11 departments – preserved as such until 1990.

In 1990, the title of the faculty changed into Technological Engineering. One decade later, in keeping with the quantitative and qualitative expansion of the Engineering and Management fields, the faculty assumed its current name, Technological Engineering and Industrial Management.

Nowadays the faculty includes two departments – Manufacturing Engineering, and Engineering and Industrial Management – which coordinate seven undergraduate study programmes, three MA programmes, two doctoral study programmes, various post-graduate courses, and two scientific research centres: Advanced Manufacturing Technologies and Systems, and Economic Engineering and Manufacturing Systems.

By establishing an active partnership with industrial companies the faculty has become a major landmark in the local and regional socio-economic environment.

On our anniversary, we have a lot to be proud of: an excellent team of academic staff and researchers with impressive professional records (didactic and research publications and invention patents) and, particularly, the 50 classes of university graduates among which, prominent engineers in Romania and abroad.
APPLICATIONS OF GEOMETRY IN MODERN THEORETICAL PHYSICS

Between 18 and 23 August the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of our University hosted the 2014 edition of the International Conference on Finsler Extensions of Relativity Theory – FERT, co-organised by The Research Institute for Hypercomplex Systems in Geometry and Physics Moscow.

While the main aim of the conference was to present the significant progress made in Finsler geometry, its goal was also to extend the research area, considering that in order to address the problems raised by relativistic physics, increasingly advanced techniques are required: special problems in the geometry of the Finsler, Lagrange and Hamilton spaces, real or complex, special hypercomplex structures on the total space of a Finsler space, foliations on Finsler manifolds, Yang-Mills theories of unification of physical fields, extensions of quantum mechanics, applications of geometrical analysis in RT, philosophical considerations of the Finsler extensions of RT and Relativistic Quantum Physics.

FERT 2014 gathered 33 foreign participants and 32 participants from Romanian universities. Both the field of Finsler geometry and that of its applications in the relativity theory were well represented by internationally renowned participants, such as Z. Shen and O. Munteanu (USA), I. Vaisman (Israel), A. Bejancu (Kuwait), C. Qiu, C. Zhong, X. Cheng (China), etc.

Following discussions with prominent foreign specialists from China, Russia, USA, Canada, etc. our group of specialists received invitations to collaborate in various projects.

The participants deemed FERT 2014 a complete success. This was also due to the team of organizers, who did an excellent job.

More information on this event is available at: http://www.unitbv.ro/mi/CercetareStiintifica/Manifestari/fert2014.aspx

THE FIRST EDITION OF ADVERTISING AND HERITAGE INTERPRETATION SUMMER SCHOOL

BRAȘOV LEO ADCAMP

Students, teachers, and communication specialists from several European countries and from Japan gathered in Brașov for the two-week International Advertising and Heritage Interpretation Summer School, Brașov Leo AdCamp.

This first edition of the Brașov Leo AdCamp project was organized by the Faculty of Sociology and Communication with the support of the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration, the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering, the Faculty of Letters, the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, as well as that of external partners: Meisei University Tokyo, Universita Politecnica di Marche, Universitas di Macerata, University of Zadar and Salzburg University of Applied Science.

The project included 30 students, graduates and specialists, among which ten students from Italy, Japan and Austria, and four students from other Romanian universities, but also members of our University’s staff, teachers and researchers from Japan, Croatia and Austria and a Dutch advertising specialist. The practical part of this project consisted in the public presentation of the projects designed to promote the First Romanian School Museum, the fortified churches in Tara Bărsei (Burzenland), Piatra Craiului National Park, traditions and customs in Țara Făgărașului, or the museums in the city of Brașov.

In addition to the lectures and seminars held by the Leo Burnett advertising specialists and Romanian and foreign teachers, the participants in Brașov Leo AdCamp were presented with the opportunity to appreciate the tangible assets and spiritual values of our culture.

Overall, the project contributed to increasing the international visibility of our University, to creating new possibilities for research through international collaboration, and to promoting certain representative tourist landmarks from Brașov county.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

The 9th edition of the International Summer School IPCV (Intensive Programme on Computer Vision) was held between 4 and 16 August. This itinerant and biennial summer school was initiated in 1996 by Professor Dietrich Paulus from the University of Koblenz (Germany), co-organizer of all of the previous editions.

This year’s edition was organized by the Department of Electronics and Computers within the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science of our University, with the support of the MIV laboratory for computer vision and artificial intelligence within the D13 Research Centre of the PRO-DD Research Institute. It is the first edition financed, as a result of a grant competition, by IEEE, the largest professional organization in the field of electrical and electronic engineering. This is why IPCV 2014 was held under the aegis of IEEE Signal Processing Society.

The participants came from Germany, Great Britain, Austria, and Romania. Among the prestigious guests of this year’s edition were Professor Reiner Lenz, University of Linköping (Sweden), Professor Heikki Kälviäinen, University of Lappeenranta (Finland), Professor Noël Richard, University of Poitiers (France), Professor Constantin Vertan, Politehnica University of Bucharest, and PhD candidate Michael Ruhnke from the University of Freiburg (Germany). The practical laboratory work, as well as the artificial vision project developed by the participants were supervised by IT specialist Nicolai Wojke from the University of Koblenz (Germany). The special guest of this summer school was dr. Pierre Soille from Joint Research Center, Ispra (Italy). More details on this summer school can be found at http://miv.unitbv.ro/ipcv2014/.

Dr Mihai Ivanovici

Dr Gheorghe Munteanu

Dr Florin Nechita
The Academy of Technical Sciences of Romania is the national forum where authorities in the field of engineering design, initiate, develop and support engineering research and education. The ATSR statute was first drafted by a team consisting of academician Radu Voinea, professors Florin Tănăsescu, Mircea Petrescu, and associate professor Mihail Mihăiţă, strong supporters for the foundation of The Academy of Technical Sciences of Romania. Since 1997 ATSR has operated as an autonomous, non-governmental, non-political, and non-profit professional association. In 2006, ATSR, acknowledged as an institution of public interest, was invited to join Euro-CASE (European Council of Applied Sciences, Technologies and Engineering), alongside 21 other technical engineering academies across Europe.

ATSR is structured in ten scientific departments which include an overall of 247 members, of which 96 full members, 85 corresponding members, and 66 honorary members.

In recognition of the outstanding work performed by the Brașov members of ATSR, it was decided, on the occasion of the AGM held on 8 May this year, that a local branch of ATSR be set up at Brașov. It consists of three full members – Dr Andrei Nicolaide, Dr Ioan Curtu, Dr Cornel Samoilă, four corresponding members – Dr Gheorghe Al. Radu, Dr Ioan Giacomelli, Dr Sorin Vlase, Dr Ion Vișa, and two honorary members – Dr Florea Dudiță and Dr Ioan Goia, all academics at our University.

Among the goals of the local branch of ATSR are developing its collaboration with the local branch of AGIR; participating in different professional events, disseminating results via research articles and books; promoting the visibility of ATSR and of its members; liaising with students from technical faculties via meetings, workshops and lectures delivered by personalities invited from the academic and socio-economic field; providing consultancy for the educational, socio-economic, and other relevant fields.

Marius Giurgiu (35) is Manager of Sortilemn Company at Gherla, a member of Becker holding/group, a top player on the moulded furniture market. A 2003 graduate of the Faculty of Wood Engineering, Marius enrolled in a master's programme and subsequently earned his PhD in 2011. His thesis, “Optimization Study of Wood Composite Lamellar Structures Used in Constructions” (advisor Dr Ivan Cismaru) is an example of scientific rigour and advanced research skills.

Together with my colleagues, members of the teaching staff at the Faculty of Wood Engineering, we visited the factories of Becker holding/group at Gherla two months ago. Marius welcomed us heartily and gave us a guided tour of the three state of the art factories. The company turnover exceeds 25 million euros annually, its exports to very prestigious companies like IKEA, VITRA, BOCONCEPT, Stokke, Varier, Venjakob being predominant.

The fact that innovation is the main concern of our alumnus became even clearer when he showed us to the bright exhibition space, where almost every object is the outcome of genuine creativeness, the spectacular result of successful experiments in furniture design.

The high professionalism of Marius Giurgiu made us all proud to have had such students. I recalled, in particular, all the prizes Marius won in the various editions of The National Contest of Furniture Design. For now, however, he has generously taken upon himself the task of helping other students and young designers create their own prototypes, providing them with internship opportunities at Becker factories.