



**Transilvania  
University  
of Brasov**

# NEWSLETTER

No. 103 November 2020

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## OPENING OF 2020 – 2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

On 1 October 2020, the academic environment of Braşov, the special guests and the representatives of the local and county authorities received, as always, "Welcome!" greetings in Aula Magna of Transilvania University of Braşov at the opening ceremony of the academic year 2020-2021, and were greeted with the academic anthem *Gaudeamus igitur*, under specific conditions of distance and safety, in the context of COVID-19 pandemic; therefore, the event was broadcast *live* on the website of Transilvania University of Braşov ([www.unitbv.ro](http://www.unitbv.ro)) and on the Facebook page.

In this new complex situation we are going through, the entire academic community of Braşov remains as strong as in the previous years, as evidenced by the largest number of "freshmen" enrolled in 2020 in the last decade: 5.731 undergraduate students (of whom 4.658 in full-time programmes), 1.886 graduate students and 99 doctoral students in their first year of studies. Along with them, 135 foreign students from 37 countries will step on a new path of personal and professional development.



In his welcome speech, Prof. Dr. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of Transilvania University of Braşov, emphasized the role and responsibility which the university must have in these moments marked by the national and international epidemiological situation, in connection with ensuring a balance aimed at maintaining the health of the entire academic community of Braşov and the quality of academic processes, stating that: "I assure you that, at the level of the university management, we will take all the necessary measures to get through this period."



Short speeches were then addressed to the audience in *Transilvania* University's Aula Magna by Mihai-Cătălin Văsii, Prefect of Braşov county, Adrian-Ioan Veşteţea, President of Braşov County Council, George Scripcaru, Mayor of Braşov municipality, who emphasized the University's position as part of Braşov community, which is why the collaboration between UNITBV and the local and county authorities is essential for the community's proper functioning. Student representatives attended the opening of the new academic year and expressed their thoughts and hopes about the academic experience: Cristina Pupezescu, 1<sup>st</sup>-year student, admitted with an average grade of 10 to two faculties of Transilvania University of Braşov, namely the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration, and the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, and Hank Steve Andia Prado, originally from Peru, doctoral student in the field of Materials Engineering, grantee of the scholarships for foreign students, with exceptional results.

The festivity ended with a musical moment appreciated by the public, the performance given by Diana Ichim – Faculty of Music, student of Mrs. Prof. Dr. Stela Drăgulin, as an invitation for everyone to the opening of the University's concert season for the academic year 2020-2021.



Prof. Dr. MD Liliana ROGOZEA,  
Vice-Rector for Public Relations  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Victor BRICIU,  
Office of Marketing and Image

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## TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV – THE THIRD UNIVERSITY OF ROMANIA IN “2021 BEST GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES” RANKINGS




According to “2021 Best Global Universities Rankings” published on 19 October 2020 and made by *US News & World Report*, out of a total of 1.748 hierarchized universities from 86 countries, Transilvania University of Brașov occupies the 328<sup>th</sup> place in Europe and the 792<sup>nd</sup> globally.



Best Global Universities also included other Romanian universities: West University of Timișoara, 241<sup>st</sup> in Europe, respectively 557 worldwide, and Babeș Bolyai University of Cluj Napoca – 259<sup>th</sup> place in Europe and 595<sup>th</sup> worldwide. These rankings also include the Polytechnic University of Bucharest (the 330<sup>th</sup> place in Europe and 801<sup>st</sup> globally), the University of Bucharest (330<sup>th</sup> place in Europe and 959<sup>th</sup> globally) Carol Davila Faculty of Medicine (403<sup>rd</sup> place in Europe and 1022<sup>nd</sup> globally).

The first places in these global rankings are occupied by Harvard, MIT, Stanford University and the University of California-Berkeley, all in the United States, followed by Oxford in the United Kingdom. At European level, the rankings are dominated by Great Britain; the best universities were designated as Oxford, Cambridge, University College London, Imperial College London, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich, University of Edinburgh, King's College London, University of Copenhagen, University of Amsterdam and the Sorbonne

### University

	<b>West University of Timisoara</b> Romania   Timisoara #1 in Best Universities in Romania #557 in Best Global Universities (1st) <a href="#">READ MORE</a>
	<b>Babes-Bolyai University</b> Romania   Cluj-Napoca #2 in Best Universities in Romania #595 in Best Global Universities (1st) <a href="#">READ MORE</a>
	<b>Transilvania University of Brașov</b> Romania   Brasov #3 in Best Universities in Romania #792 in Best Global Universities (1st) <a href="#">READ MORE</a>

The 13 performance indicators of *2021 Best Global Universities Rankings* measure the research performance, and the regional and global reputational impact.

These are: global reputation (12,5%), regional reputation (12,5%), number of publications (10%), number of books (2,5%), number of conferences (2,5%), standardized impact of citations (10%), total number of citations (7,5%), number of publications found in the top 10 most cited publications (12,5%), percentage of publications found in the top 10 most cited publications (10%), the percentage of publications with international collaboration in relation to the total by country (5%), the percentage of publications with international collaboration of the institution (5%), the number of cited works found in the top of the most cited 1% works in the reference field (5%), the percentage of publications found in the top of the most cited 1% papers (5%).

Complete data on the methodology can be obtained at the link:

<https://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/articles/methodology>.

Synthesis made by Victor BRICIU,  
Office of Marketing and Image  
Source: [www.unitbv.ro/stiri-si-evenimente](http://www.unitbv.ro/stiri-si-evenimente)

## OPENING OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> CONCERT SEASON OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV

### Piano recital - Diana Ichim



On 1 October 2020, *Sergiu T. Chiriacescu* Aula hosted the opening of the Concert Season of Transilvania University in Brașov, and the young pianist Diana Ichim delighted the music-loving audience with a repertoire composed exclusively of Sergei Rachmaninov's pieces.

During this period when artistic events cannot take place in a normal setting, the Music Centre of Transilvania University of Brașov decided to resume its live broadcasts on the official website of Transilvania University of Brașov, as well as on the Facebook page of the Music Centre. Thus, Diana's recital could be listened to and watched online, which did not prevent the talented pianist's emotion from reaching the listeners' souls.

The recital began with *Variations on a Theme of Corelli, op. 42*, the theme *La Folia* underlying many baroque pieces, including pieces by Bach and Vivaldi.

The young pianist's performance brought to the fore the beauty of the melody, the complexity of the harmonies, but also the technical difficulty. The

simplicity of the aforementioned theme built a perfect atmosphere for revealing each variation, Diana knowing how to lead each phrase with a perfect interpretive maturity

The *10 Preludes, selections: op.3, nr. 2, op. 23, op. 32* came next in the evening's programme, another climax of this recital.

The force and expressiveness were felt at that moment as well, and the audience, although not physically present, was certainly transposed into the musical framework created by the young pianist. The scores, of high difficulty, the emotions and feelings in each note, went beyond the objective of the camera and reached straight into the people's souls.

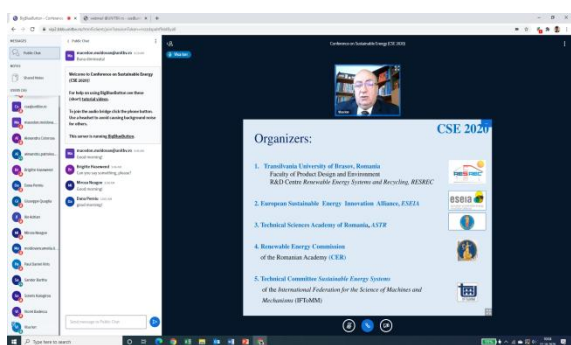
The evening ended in a nostalgic atmosphere, the final piece being *Elegy op.3, no.1*, another masterpiece of the Russian composer. Its pain and sadness were wonderfully conveyed by the young pianist.

The pianist Diana Ichim is known for her special sensitivity, making her mark on every music piece by her delicate, and yet strong nature. This is what she proved by choosing this repertoire, which meant a real challenge and months of study.

Diana CRISTEA,  
Student in Instrumental Music Performance,  
3<sup>rd</sup> year,  
Faculty of Music

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## THE SIXTH EDITION OF “CONFERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY” (CSE 2020)



The sixth edition of the *Conference for Sustainable Energy*, CSE 2020, took place between 22 and 24 October 2020 under the coordination of Prof. Em. Dr. Eng. DHC Ion Vişa – Faculty of Product Design and Environment, and Renewable Energy Systems and Recycling Research Centre (RESREC).

The conference was organized by Transilvania University of Braşov, RESREC Centre, in collaboration with the European Association for Innovation in Sustainable Energy (ESEIA), the Technical Sciences Academy of Romania (ASTR), the Renewable Energy Commission of the Romanian Academy (CER) and the Sustainable Energy Systems Committee of the International Federation for the Promotion of Mechanism and Machine Science (IFTToMM).

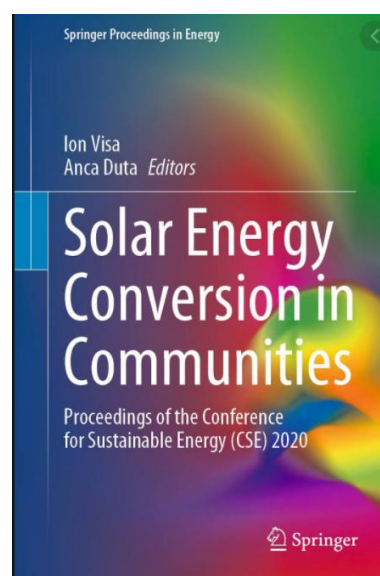
In compliance with the restrictions of that period, CSE 2020 was organized online, and it included the following sections:

- Solar-thermal conversion in communities;
- Conversion of solar energy into electricity within communities;
- Sustainable energy mixes implemented in communities;
- Sustainable communities;
- Nanocomposites with carbon compounds and oxide matrix for applications in the field of energy and depollution.

The 37 papers proposed in these sections were published in the volume of proceedings “Solar Energy Conversion in Communities”, published by Springer.

The conference had a high scientific level and benefitted from the following special guests’ presentations in the plenary sessions: Acad. Prof. Dr. Viorel Bădescu (editorial board member in numerous

ISI international journals including *Energy*, *Renewable Energy*, *Journal of Energy Engineering*), Prof. Dr. Eng. Neven Duic (editorial board member in numerous ISI international journals including *Energy Conversion and Management*, *Energy*, *Journal of Applied Energy*, *Thermal Science*), Prof. Dr. Eng. Maria Gavrilescu (editor in chief of *Environmental Engineering and Management Journal* - ISI), Brigitte Hasewend (Director ESEIA) and Prof. Dr. Eng. Soteris Kalogirou (editor in chief of the ISI journal *Renewable Energy* and editorial board member in other 16 international journals).



The last day of the conference was dedicated to the workshop “Climate Change – Education for all” organized together with ESEIA, in which current issues of educational needs were discussed in order to implement the European Green Deal strategy, analysed for all levels, from primary education to university education and adult training.

The conference created the appropriate space for the communication of scientific results and the exchange of valuable ideas in the field of sustainable energy, a premise for the development of (inter) national collaborations in the field.

Prof. Em. Dr. Eng. DHC Ion VIŞA,  
Chairman of CSE 2020

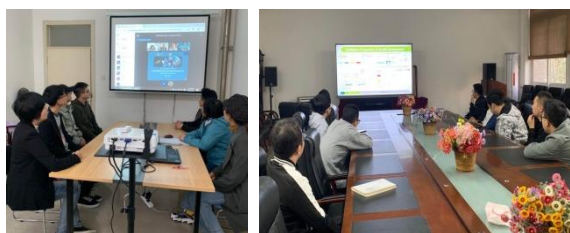
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## COSME'20 CONFERENCE – A SCIENTIFIC EVENT WITH GREAT INTERNATIONAL VISIBILITY



The fifth edition of the International Conference *Computing and Solutions in Manufacturing Engineering* – CoSME'20 took place between 7 and 10 October 2020. This edition was organized in partnership by Transilvania University of Braşov, Faculty of Technological Engineering and Industrial Management, Department of Manufacturing Engineering, and by Shenyang Jianzhu University of China, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Joint International Research Laboratory of Modern Construction Engineering Equipment and Technology. Due to the epidemiological situation in October, the conference took place online, on the e-platform of Transilvania University of Braşov.

Following a rigorous review process in which each paper was evaluated by 2-4 reviewers, 72 papers prepared by authors from 15 countries, 39 universities / research and industry institutes were eventually accepted.

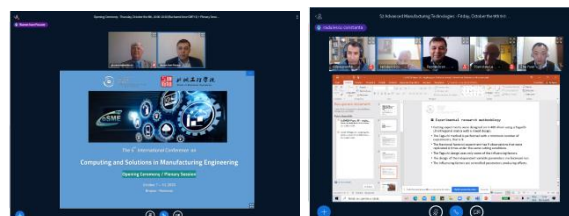


After the opening ceremony of the conference, in the plenary session, four renowned professors from Great Britain (2), Greece (1) and China (1) participated with presentations on topics of major interest in the field of Manufacturing Engineering. All accepted papers were presented in the seven sections of the

conference, with the participation of a total of 151 teachers and researchers from 13 countries: Bulgaria, China, United Arab Emirates, Germany, Greece, Iraq, United Kingdom, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Taiwan.



The papers presented at CoSME'20 Conference will be published in an open-access volume by the prestigious publication: *IOP Conference Series: Materials Science and Engineering (MSE)* which is indexed in several databases, including SCOPUS and Clarivate Analytics.



Given the excellent collaboration with the partners from Shenyang Jianzhu, the quality of the works presented and the interest shown by the participants from the country and abroad, we can say that this fifth edition of the CoSME Conference was also a success, with a very good international visibility.

Prof. Dr. Eng. Gheorghe OANCEA,  
Chairman of the Organizing Committee,  
Dean of the Faculty of Technological Engineering  
and Industrial Management

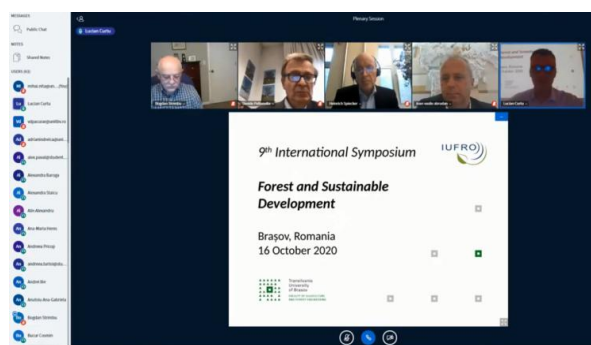
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## THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM "FOREST AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT"

Ninth edition, 16 October 2020, Braşov, Romania

The ninth edition of the *International Symposium Forest and Sustainable Development* organised by the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering of Braşov took place on 16 October 2020.

Due to the epidemiological conditions, this edition of the symposium was held online, with over 100 participants taking part in the event, through the dedicated platform of Transilvania University of Braşov.



The conference was opened by the Rector of Transilvania University of Braşov, Prof. Dr. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan and by the Dean of the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering, Prof. Dr. Eng. Alexandru Lucian Curtu.

In the plenary session, world class researchers (Dr. Santiago C. González-Martínez, INRAE, France; Prof. Dr. Heinrich Spiecker – University of Freiburg, Germany; Prof. Dr. Davide Matteo Pettenella – University of Padova, Italia; Prof. Dr. Hans Rudolf Heinemann – ETH Zurich, Switzerland; Dr. Ioannis Manakos – Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH), Greece; Prof. Dr. Kevin Lyons – Oregon State University, SUA) gave exceptional presentations on topics of interest to the forestry field.

This plenary session can be seen again at the address: <https://silvic.unitbv.ro/cercetare/518-live-conference.html>.



The second part of the symposium was organized in sections (*Forest ecosystem management, Forest engineering, Wildlife management and Informatics, modelling and statistics*), bringing together over 40 oral presentations.

Several posters were also presented, themed on the determination of species phenology, genetic diversity of spruce in seed orchards, allometric biomass models and research methods on factors that may have an influence on the dynamics of small game populations.

The conference was a real success, especially given the particular conditions in which it took place, that is, online, due to the situation caused by the COVID-19 virus. The presentations were very captivating, and the participants actively contributed to the discussions and raised many questions and debates.

Prof. Dr. Eng. Ovidiu IONESCU  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Florin HĂLĂLIŞAN  
Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Exploitation

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## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN DIVERSITY

Equal Opportunities in Diversity (CNFIS-FDI-2020-0562) aims to improve student life quality, through an integrated approach to their needs, and through increased access to education, by informing pupils on the facilities provided by UNITBV for students.

The interactive map developed and made available to all study programme coordinators is a tool based on a format easy to understand and use, very well done visually, which allows a quick identification of the information, and which is useful in the campaigns promoting the university's study programmes. It is a perfect complement to the database (Excel) with all the information underlying the interactive map.

A UNITBV promotion campaign was carried out by the students in Communication and Public Relations in June; the campaign for December was prepared; a campaign is also planned for the spring of 2021. If initially the campaign had been thought in a classic format, in the current pandemic conditions the campaign was conducted only online. In this regard, the process of upgrading the information in the faculty promotion videos has also started.

The increase of the teaching, auxiliary-teaching and non-teaching staff's professional competence, with a view to integrating the students in a situation of social, medical or disability risk was ensured by the creation of the proposed guides (Psychological

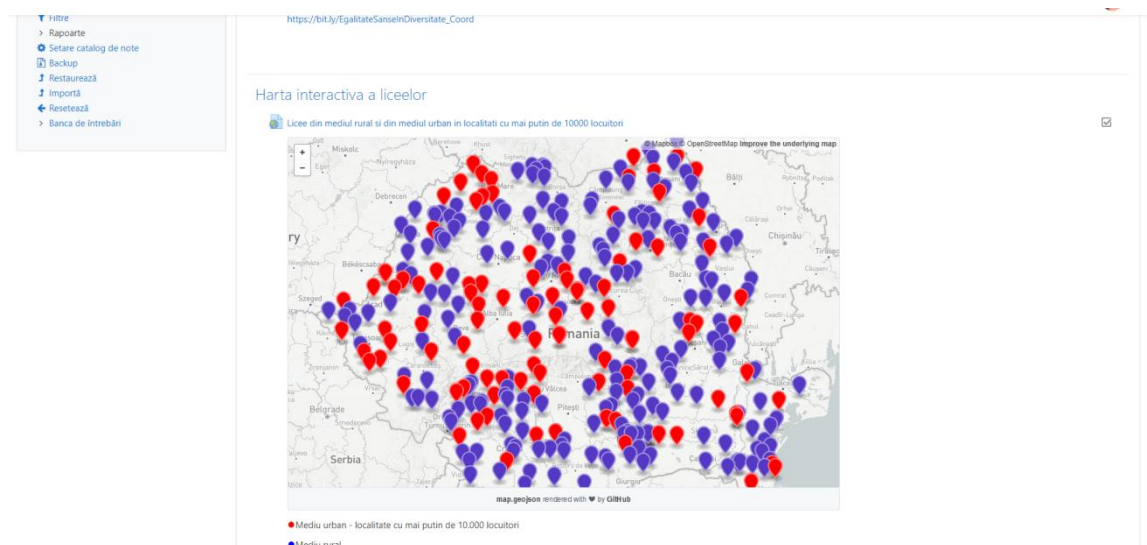
profile of the students with disabilities, Guide of good practices in the communication with the students with disabilities, Guide for creating online teaching materials for the students with hearing and visual impairments, etc.) by professors and students at the faculties of Psychology and Education Sciences, Sociology and Communication, Product Design and Environment.

Starting from this year, the edu.unitbv.ro platform is functional; it was a real support in conducting, under the current conditions, the preparation for the Baccalaureate, organized by UNITBV through the Faculties of Letters and Mathematics – Computer Science.

Considering that the pandemic is a factor likely to influence the interaction of students at medical risk with university structures, the professors and students of the Faculty of Medicine, programme of General Nursing got involved in providing information through the chat made by professors and students of the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration – programme of Economic Informatics.

Prof. Dr. MD Liliana ROGOZEA,  
Vice-Rector for Public Relations

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## CONCERT LEGENDS – MATEI IOACHIMESCU & PERCUSSIONescu

At the Multicultural Centre, we celebrated the opening of the academic year with a unique concert: classics of rock music in the vision of some classical music performers and composers, on three instruments with a special sound (flute, marimbaphone and vibraphone).



Led Zeppelin, Metallica, Iron Maiden, Aerosmith, Nirvana, Depeche Mode, Deep Purple, Guns N' Roses are just a few of the rock music legends featured in this programme developed with the composers Sabina Ulubeanu, Andrei Petrache, Mihai Măniceanu and Gabriel Mălăncioiu, for a unique chamber formula in Romania. For the ten concerts, including those in the *Legends* National Tour, Matei Ioachimescu, a flutist already known to the public of the Multicultural Centre after the *Romanian Rhapsody* concert, supported by Mara Dobrescu,

Irina Rădulescu and Răzvan Florescu (PERCUSSIONescu) were co-opted.



The tour took place between 26 September and 6 October, in eight cities of Romania (Cluj-Napoca, Mediaş, Deva, Timișoara, Sfântu Gheorghe, Braşov, Ploieşti and Bucharest). The project was organized by Art&Co Association with the support of the Austrian Cultural Forum Bucharest and is co-financed by the National Cultural Fund Administration (AFCN). The event in Braşov was organized in special conditions, with limited access, and broadcast *live* in partnership with TamTam Festival.

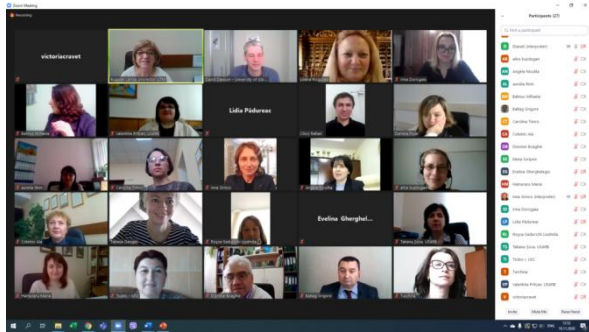
Maria GHIURȚU  
Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University

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## THE LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN MOLDOVA

Genuine support in continuing the reform of the higher education sector in the Republic of Moldova, by strengthening the ability of the leaders and managers to negotiate, plan and provide the changes needed to transform the sector, MHELM is a project involving both universities from the Republic of Moldova and partners from the EU; Romania is represented by Transilvania University of Braşov, a strategic partner of the Technical University of Moldova, the project coordinator.

The project will ensure the good governance of higher education institutions in Moldova, as soon as the reforms are implemented.

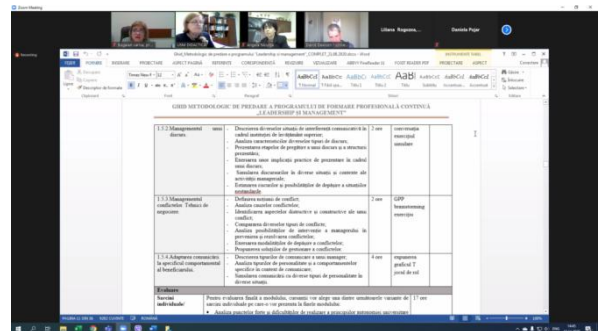


The framework of this project was developed based on the results of the research conducted for 20 years in Australia, Canada, France, UK and USA upon the qualities and skills needed by leaders and managers for the good governance of higher education institutions.

The framework includes nine fields: leadership, resource management, human management, information and intelligence management, as well as personal characteristics, such as motivation and productivity, and it underpins the development of the new curriculum, which will ensure the formation of a wide range of qualities and skills necessary for good governance of higher education institutions.

Second stage: WP2.2 ensures the Piloting of the new Leadership and Management Development

Programme, its purpose being to pilot and review the staff training workshops and the new PDLM programme, in order to make sure they are of high quality, both in terms of presentation and content, and in terms of applicability. Its main objectives are: to train the staff in the use of new equipment installed in Leadership Development Laboratories; to pilot, assess and improve the staff training workshops; to pilot, assess and improve the new PDLM.



Professors of Transilvania University also contributed to the training of trainers, and held one of the training sessions, which was appreciated by the participants in a positive way.

Although the training session conducted by UNITBV had to be held online on 26 November 2020 on Zoom platform, it was interactive and represented a good opportunity to exchange experience for the professors of our university and those of the over 20 universities in the Republic of Moldova who participated in this event.

Liliana ROGOZEA, Florin LEAŞU  
Transilvania University

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## "HAVING A TALK WITH..." AT TRANSILVANIA RADIO CAMPUS ABOUT #ERASMUSDAYS

By Radio Campus Transilvania project, we always succeed in highlighting the most beautiful and interesting topics that target and attract students. One of the most broadcast shows is, without a doubt, "Having a talk with...", a radio show format in which we invite representatives of Transilvania University of Braşov, as well as other personalities from different fields of activity. The show can be watched on the radio's website (rct.unitbv.ro), and on the Facebook page - Radio Campus Transilvania, where the live shows are broadcast, too.

We chose to invite representatives of the University in Braşov, because many students are curious to find out as many details as possible about the activities during this pandemic period.

In this context, on 15 October 2020, the guest of the radio broadcast "Having a talk with...", was Mrs. Prof. Dr. Eng. Simona Lache, Vice-Rector for internationalisation and quality assurance.



The topic of discussion focused on Erasmus+ programmes. Erasmus is a programme implemented in Romania since 1998. It is worth noting that Transilvania University of Braşov was among the first universities to propose this new system. We found out that two categories of institutional projects are offered to those interested: K103 (where we discuss partnerships with

institutions within the European Union member countries) and K107 (a line of projects after 2015 with partner countries that are not part of the European Union).

It is very important to remember that students can choose the university centre in which to carry out their mobility, provided that Transilvania University of Braşov has a cooperation agreement with that institution.

The main step is to contact the ERASMUS coordinator for the relevant faculty, who will present the Erasmus + offer specific to the study programme. There is a selection process that involves passing a foreign language test, and the actual selection. Then, the registration is made on the Erasmus online platform, where the necessary documents are submitted.

The important thing is to be a student at Transilvania University of Braşov during the registrations. First-year students cannot apply for this programme, but they can register for the second year of college. All this being said, Erasmus mobility is worth experiencing no matter what.

Moreover, as an important detail presented by our guest, the Vice-Rector, we found out that sessions entitled *#ErasmusDays*, organized and conducted online, took place between 15 and 17 October 2020, at faculty level, being addressed to both students and teaching staff, for promotion and information purposes, to let know of the opportunity, possibility, obtaining and carrying out a mobility funded by the Erasmus + programme.

Finally, as a member of the student team of Radio Campus Transilvania, I believe that such an experience can change or strengthen your perception of your chosen career and the professional path that opens up for you. All these opportunities do nothing but contribute to our evolution and build our self-confidence in front of the unknown.

Arina-Codrina TACU,  
Radio Campus Transilvania

2<sup>nd</sup>-year student, Communication and Public Relations

## PROFESSORS WE TAKE PRIDE IN - PROF. EMERIT DR. ENG. DHC GHEORGHE-ALEXANDRU RADU, FULL MEMBER OF THE TECHNICAL SCIENCES ACADEMY OF ROMANIA



He was born in Braşov on 1 February 1941. He graduated from "Andrei Şaguna" National College of Braşov in 1957, as a Valedictorian, with Honorary Diploma. He graduated then the Polytechnic Institute of Braşov, the Faculty of Mechanics, Department of Automobiles and Tractors, in 1963, as a Valedictorian.

His university career began in October 1963 as Head of Laboratory at the Chair of Automobiles and Tractors of the Polytechnic Institute in Braşov and continues with the positions of Assistant Professor, Lecturer, Associate Professor at the Chair of Automobiles and Tractors, and from 1990 Professor at the Chair of Automobiles and Engines - Department of Automobiles and Transport within the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of "Transilvania" University in Braşov. Since 2015 he has been a consulting Professor at the same university.

He obtained the scientific title of Doctor of Technical Sciences in 1972, at "Transilvania" University of Braşov, in the field Internal Combustion Engines, with the thesis "Theoretical and Experimental Research on the Application of Injection to Spark Ignition Engines", under the supervision of Professor Radu Mărdărescu.

The national and international recognition of Professor Gheorghe-Alexandru Radu's personality is underpinned by the following:

- Full member of the Technical Sciences Academy of Romania (2004);
- Professor Emeritus of Transilvania University of Braşov (2014);

- Honorary Professor of the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (2016);
- Member of "Society of Automotive Engineers of USA" (S. A. E.);
- Member of "Deutscher Verband für Schweisstechnik und verwandte Verfahren", (DVS), Germania;
- Visiting Professor: FH Konstanz, Germany (1992); FH Bochum, Germania (1996); Technische Universität Carolo-Wilhelmina, Braunschweig, Germania, and University of Poitiers, France (1998); "Paul Sabatier" University of Toulouse, France (1999); Institut für Kolbenmaschinen, Technische Hochschule Karlsruhe, Germany (2002);
- Founding member of the Society of Automotive Engineers of Romania (SIAR);
- Founding member of the Romanian Society of Mechanics and Applied Technique (SRMTA);
- Founding member of the Institute for Advanced Training in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering of Vehicles (IPIMEA);
- President of the Aerospace Engineering, Automotive and Transportation Commission within CNATDCU (National Council for Attesting Titles, Diplomas and Certificates) in the period 2006-2011;
- Vice President of the Braşov Branch of the Technical Sciences Academy of Romania;
- Doctor Honoris Causa of "Ovidius" University of Constanţa (2010);
- Doctor Honoris Causa "Gheorghe Asachi" Technical University of Iaşi (2018).

Lecturer Janos TIMAR  
ALUMNI Officer,  
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

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