

NEWSLETTER

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UNITBV ALONGSIDE THE PUPILS ON THE JOURNEY TO THEIR PROFESSIONAL FUTURE

An essential step in each pupil's personal and professional development is the exploration of the study options and an analysis of the career potential after high school graduation. Given the challenges that future students face in choosing the right career path and faculty, Transilvania University of Brașov organised during the year 2024, through the project CNFIS-FDI-2024-0419 f2f/e-DESTIN as well, several promotion visits to high schools and other educational institutions of our country.

These visits had as their main objective to acquaint the pupils with the university's educational offer, to present the advantages of studying in Brașov and the international openness offered by the academic environment, as well as to guide them in making an informed decision.



Thus, throughout the year 2024, the representatives of Transilvania University of Brașov, academic teaching personnel of the 18 faculties and coordinators of the support structures, interacted with an impressive number of pupils, totalling over 3,800 participants in the promotion visits across our

country. These visits were paid in 12 counties (Argeș, Bacău, Bistrița-Năsăud, Brașov, Buzău, Covasna, Dâmbovița, Harghita, Mureș, Prahova, Sibiu and Vaslui), with most of them in Brașov, Prahova and Sibiu. The programmes within which visits were organised include "A Different Kind of School", "Career Guidance", "Fair for the Future", "TehnoSKILLS Seminar" and "Leaders of Tomorrow".



The promotion visits are an effective way to present UNITBV as an attractive option for the academic studies. Through these visits, the pupils have the opportunity to discover the structure of the faculties, the study programmes offered by the university, the modern facilities on campus and their career opportunities after graduation.

Prof. Dr. MD Liliana ROGOZEA Vice-Rector for Public Relations Prof. Dr. Ioana CHIȚU Coordinator of the Compartment for the Liaison with the Pre-University Environment Assoc. Prof. Dr. Victor BRICIU Coordinator of the Compartment for Marketing and Image

BLUESTREAMLINE - 1ST FORMULA STUDENT MEETING IN ROMANIA

On the occasion of the 13th edition of the *International Congress of Automotive and Transport Engineering* (CONAT), the first official meeting of the Romanian Formula Student teams was organised at UNITBV.

Sixteen years ago, BlueStreamline would become the pioneer of the Formula Student phenomenon in Romania. This trend then spread from the centre to the extremities, four other teams being formed, namely ART TU Cluj-Napoca, T.U. Iași Racing, UPB Drive and UPT Racing Team.



More than a decade and a half after our country saw its first single-seat race car driven on Silverstone, there are five Romanian teams in Formula Student. Although this situation lasted for years on end, there was no other official meeting of these student teams until this autumn.

In the engineering setting of the congress meant to expand the attending students' knowledge and to light the paths of the future professionals who will leave through the gates of the universities in our country, the meeting of the five Romanian Formula Student teams took place in the Rectorate building on 7 November.

On this opportunity to reinforce the relationships formed in the Formula Student competitions, each team presented its history, results and pursuits, in presentations that made us all understand that we were fighting for the same goal, simultaneously with representing Romania in a top-level competition.

In the meantime, before "Sergiu T. Chiriacescu" Conference Centre of Transilvania University, which had attracted the young engineers with music performances, exhibitions and various workshops for three days, the Romanian Formula Student teams aligned their singleseaters. BlueStreamline exhibited five of its remarkable models, namely: BS21, BS22, the champions BS23 and BS24, but also the classical BS09, the first Romanian Formula Student single-seat race car. Along with these, each guest team brought a single-seater.



The CONAT congress ended on Friday, 8 November, after enriching the end of the week with valuable information and experiences. It was attended by 466 students and professors from 14 countries whose presence helped make a significant event for the engineering world happen.

For us, this event has a deep meaning, as we had the honour to host the 1st *Formula Student Meeting* in Romania. It allowed us to meet people who share the same goals and passions, gave us the opportunity to exchange experiences, but also to create a real visual show in front of "Sergiu T. Chiriacescu" Conference Centre, by exhibiting nine student single-seaters, creations of steady work, perseverance, and academic excellence.



We take this opportunity to express our thanks to the University for the support provided in organising the meeting, as well as to all Formula Student teams of our country for the efforts made in view of our participation. These have shown us that through collaboration and exchange of experience we can continue to grow and innovate.

> Robert PINDIC Press Officer for BlueStreamline 3rd-year student Digital Media (taught in English)

20 YEARS OF EXISTENCE AND THE 20[™] EVENT FOR THE FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION SCIENCES

The event "International Conference on Education and Psychology. Innovative Perspectives in the Digitalized Society" conducted between 27 and 29 November 2024 at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences was a double celebration.



First of all, the conference was the 20th out of 20 events organised on the occasion of the faculty's 20th anniversary. Although we have a "brief history" - a 20-year one, "the past is long" and connected to the university's beginnings, as shown in her opening speech by the Faculty Dean, Prof. Dr. Ana Maria Cazan. The presence of the professors who contributed to the establishment and development of the faculty (Prof. Dr. Stan Panțuru, Prof. Dr. Aurel Clinciu, Lect. Dr. Cornelia Cocan) is a strong argument for us to hold that the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences has the power to grow and stand out, by relying on people, who are its most important resource.

Secondly, the international conference was an opportunity to share research ideas, to debate on current topics of education and psychology in an atmosphere of authentic collegial dialogue. The presentations of the Romanian keynote speakers, Prof. Dr. Romita lucu (University of Bucharest), Prof. Dr. Musata Bocos (Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca) and of the guests from Italy (Prof. Dr. Paola Nicolini; Daniello Fabrizoi), Portugal (Prof. Dr. Rosaria Pedro), Poland (Prof. Dr. Urszula Markowska-Manista), sparked exchanges of ideas and outlined new directions for collaboration.

The workshops added value as they addressed a varied range of topics: from sports psychology to the education for reading, from the students' well-being to the development of motor skills through artificial intelligence.

The event was supported by the faculty's partners and collaborators, that is, Brașov County School Inspectorate, County Centre for Psychopedagogical



Resources and Assistance of Brașov, College of Romanian Psychologists, School Centre for Inclusive Education of Brașov, but also the sponsors Transilvania Bank, as well as Lingemann, Miele and Stabilus companies.

We thank the student volunteers

who got involved all through the conference for the effort, enthusiasm and availability they showed.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mihaela VOINEA Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

THE 12[™] EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND COMMUNICATION ACUM 2024

Between 25 and 26 November 2024, the Faculty of Sociology and Communication within Transilvania University of Brașov hosted the 12th edition of the International Colloquium of Social Sciences and Communication ACUM 2024, themed "From Crisis to Resilience: Rethinking Social Science in a Transformative Era". The event brought together over 150 participants, including research scientists, professors and practitioners, in an interdisciplinary setting dedicated to the exploration of the current global challenges.

The programme of the colloquium included



lectures given by three internationally renowned keynote speakers. Luis M. Arciniega (ITAM, Mexico) opened the conference with the presentation "An Emerging Global Classification of Employees Based on Work Ethic Levels", exploring the changes in the attitudes towards work within various cultures, particularly in the post-pandemic context. Kai A. Schafft (Penn State University, USA) continued with "Divided Democracy: Comprehending the Spatial Polarization of Politics in the Global Moment", analysing the rural-urban political polarization and its implications for democracy in USA and Europe. On the second day, Katarzyna Drag (Pontifical University of John Paul II, Poland) concluded the plenary session with the presentation "New Communication Patterns - New Communication

Skills. Challenges of Today's Information Society", highlighting the essential skills for navigating the mediatised communication landscape.

The two days of the colloquium included over 12 parallel sessions, addressing topics such as organizational dynamics, challenges of artificial intelligence, social policies for equity and resilience, global sustainability and changes of communication in the digital age. The discussions were complemented by a round table dedicated to HR managers, which provided practical insights into the emerging trends and solutions for the future.

A highlight of the event was the collaborative atmosphere, which fostered the exchange of ideas and the partnerships between the participants from various fields. The impact of the colloquium was emphasised by the participants, who appreciated the opportunity to discuss critical issues of contemporary society in an academic setting.



The organizers would like to thank everyone involved – keynote speakers, moderators, participants and team of volunteers – for their contribution to the success of the event. In this spirit, we announce with enthusiasm that the next edition of the ACUM colloquium will take place between 4 and 7 November 2026.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arabela BRICIU Vice-Dean for Internationalization and Public Relations Faculty of Sociology and Communication

PSI WEEK – THE 19TH EVENT IN THE SERIES DEDICATED TO THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF FPSE

Starting on 5 November, the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences organised three events within the "PSI Week", in partnership with TREI Publishing House and Cărturești Bookstore in the Council Square.

Every evening, from Tuesday to Thursday, the faculty's teaching personnel and psychology experts addressed various topics:

The Pressure to be Perfect. Psychological Challenges and Solutions for Youth



Daniela Popa talked about the impact of perfectionism on children and adolescents, about the psychological challenges that young people face in trying to achieve sometimes too high standards, and about the related emotional and behavioural risks. Moreover, she showed a few effective support and intervention strategies meant to help young people develop a healthy and realistic attitude towards success and failure.

Life is like the Seasons



Laura Teodora David offered some benchmarks on the personal and professional path which can be tortuous and complicated especially when we are the ones who hold back or blame ourselves. Her presentation included various life stories that teach us to accept and understand ourselves better.

Support for Young People on their Way to Academic and Professional Success



Ana Maria Cazan, Camelia Truța and Maria Magdalena Stan emphasised that student life could be often challenging, especially in the first year, when the difficulties of adapting to a new and complex environment were greatest. At the same time, they argued that the transition to higher education involved new academic tasks, the use of effective learning strategies, the integration into social networks, and the development of a new identity. All this is the result of the collaboration between the research scientists at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences (UNITBV) and at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences (University of Buchrest), preoccupied with the students' adaptation and the reduction of the academic dropout rate, given the longterm impact on the integration into the labour market. (https://www.edituratrei.ro/carte/adaptareaacademica-teorii-cercetari-si-interventii/13559).

As always, in a relaxed atmosphere, readers of all ages, students, practicing psychologists and teachers of pre-university education showed a real interest in the proposed topics by asking questions to the specialists and engaging in discussions on each day's topic.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Laura-Elena NĂSTASĂ Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CIBv2024

The international scientific conference CIBv is one of the most important and traditional scientific events of the civil engineering and construction services in Romania, enjoying international visibility.



The CIBv conference aims at offering a platform for research scientists, engineers, academics, as well as professionals all over the world to present their research results and development activities. Moreover, it offers the participants opportunities to exchange new ideas and research result application expertise, to establish research relations and to find other partners for future collaborations.



This year's event reached its 19th edition, was organised by the Faculty of Civil Engineering along with Shenyang Jianzhu University of China and the Technical University of Moldova, and took place in the amphitheatre of the Faculty of Civil Engineering on 7 and 8 November. This year, it was attended by guests from 12 countries who gave10 plenary presentations and 72 presentations in six parallel sessions: *Building Materials and Renewable Energy*; *Design for Energy Efficient Buildings, Circular Economy and Urban Planning*; *Analysis and Design of Structures. Numerical Approaches; Vulnerability* Assessments and Risk Analysis; Technologies and Design in Roads, Railways and Bridges; Processes and Optimization Methods Used in Civil Engineering.



We were honoured to have as guests who gave lectures in the plenary sessions Prof. Ashok Vaseashta from the International Institute for Clear Water, Manassas, USA, Prof. Guanchong Li, Prof. Zihao Zhao and Prof. Baoxin Qidin from Shenyang Jianzhu University of China, Prof. Borko Bulajic from the Faculty of Technical Sciences within the University of Novi Sad, Serbia, Prof. Yousef Nazzal from the College of Natural and Health Science within Zayed University, United Arab Emirates, Prof. Ercan Işik from Bitlis Eren University of Türkiye, Prof. Marijana Hadzima-Nyarko from the University of Osijek, Croatia, and Prof. Vadim Țurcan and Prof. Cutia Evgheni from the Technical University of Moldova.

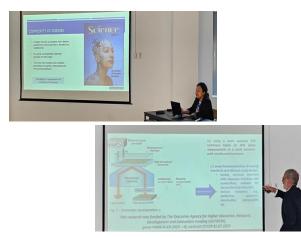
Through the content of the presentations and debates that took place, this scientific event achieved its goal, this is, to promote exchanges of ideas on current topics in the latest advancements in the field of constructions and civil engineering.

For everyone interested, details about the event are available on the conference website – <u>https://cibv.unitbv.ro/</u>.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Dorin RADU Vice-Dean for Research and Informatization Faculty of Civil Engineering

THE 7[™] EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE *NEW TRENDS ON SENSING – MONITORING – TELEDIAGNOSIS FOR LIFE SCIENCES*, NT-SMT-LS 2024

Between 20 and 22 September 2024, Transilvania University of Brașov coordinated the organization of the seventh edition of the international conference *New Trends on Sensing - Monitoring - Telediagnosis for Life Sciences*, NT-SMT-LS 2024, conducted in a hybrid format.



This year, other institutions of our country and abroad, namely "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Bucharest, Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy), Université de Perpignan Via Domitia (France), University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), University of Lisbon (Portugal), Italian Liver Foundation (Trieste, Italy), but also the sponsors Synevo Romania, Dexter, Altium, Zeiss, Infratech and PalmSens (Netherlands) supported the event, too.

The participants came from various universities, research institutes or companies of Romania (Brașov, Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Sibiu, Galați) or other countries (Italy, France, Slovenia, Belgium, USA, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Norway, Czech Republic, China, Indonesia, Philippines, and more).





Details about the approached topics can be found at the address:

https://healthfoodenviron.unitbv.ro/2024/wpcontent/uploads/2024/12/NT-SMT-LS-Book-of-Abstracts.pdf.

The papers presented at the conference are included in special issues of international journals with scientific impact:

(https://healthfoodenviron.unitbv.ro/2024/?page_id=15).

This international conference facilitated exchanges of information and results from various research teams, and identified new collaboration opportunities between the participants.

> Prof. Dr. Mihaela BADEA Faculty of Medicine



From 8 to 11 November, the Faculty of Music organised the 14th edition of the international conference *Science of Music – Excellence in Performance.*

The conference programme was highly generous and diversified, including the launch of specialised volumes by representatives of the Faculty of Music and Theatre in Timișoara, respectively of the Faculty of Music in Brașov; thus, Prof. Dr. Lucian Emil launched 303 Carols with Lyrics and Tune Collected and Written Down by Sabin V. Drăgoi, 1925; Prof. Dr. Ioan Oarcea – Choral Conducting, Adj. Prof. Dr. Iuliana Isac - Stylistic Reflection of the Minimal and Archetypal Trends in the Latter 20th Century's Romanian Musical Creation. Essentialized Minimalism. Vol. I, and Adj. Prof. Dr. Paula Duca - Emancipation of the Female Character in Puccini's Late Creation. Moreover, the guests held several masterclasses and workshops for the students of the Faculty of Music: on 4 and 5 November, "Stefan Baciu" House Memorial Museum hosted a vocal mastery course given by the renowned mezzosoprano Prof. Dr. Liliana Bizineche of Universidade de Évora, Portugal. On 8 November, the masterclasses Musical Ornaments in the Baroque Era and Early Music Workshop for Keyboard Instruments were given by Prof. Ingomar Reiner, Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien, Austria, as well as Cello Performance Workshop, by Prof. Alfia Nakipbekova, Leeds Conservatoire, United Kingdom. On 9 November, Prof. Nicoleta Ardelean and Prof. loan Ardelean, "Ovidius" University of Constanța, held the masterclass Vocal Technique and Performance Workshop, and on 10 November, Prof. Mario Margues, Universidade de Évora, Portugal, gave the Saxophone Masterclass, and Gonçalo Pescada, Universidade de Évora, Portugal – the Accordion Masterclass. A special colour was brought by Ángel Jiménez Cervantes, Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá. He held the workshop Traditional Dance of Panama.

The series of masterclasses continued in the following days with Piano Performance Workshop, given by Prof. Constantin Sandu, Higher School of Music and Performing Arts of Porto, i2ADS, Research Institute in Art, Design and Society, University of Porto, Portugal, Opera Workshop, given by Prof. Charles Wood, University of Montevallo, United States, and Practice Methodology. Training the Musical Attention, Enhancement of Attentional Skills in Music Performance, given by László Stachó, Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in Budapest, Hungary. The conference programme was invigorating due to its integrating musical recitals given by Adj. Prof. Amalia Nicolau (panpipe), Jr. Ject. Dr. Botond Szőcs (piano), Sabina Panturu, 2nd year in Assoc. Prof. Dr. Anca Preda's piano class, Gustav Királyhalmi, 1st year in Prof. Dr. Stela Doina Drăgulin's piano class, but also by the conference guests- Mario Marques (saxophone) and Gonçalo Pescada (accordion). Special moments were offered through the recitals of traditional Romanian music performed by Lect. Dr. Florin Bălan, as well as by undergraduate and graduate students of the Faculty of Music.

On 10 November, a special concert was given at Patria Concert Hall of the Brașov Philharmonic by two pianists with an impressive artistic activity, Dr. Corina Ibănescu, professor at the Faculty of Music in Brașov, and maestro Constantin Sandu, professor at Conservatório de Música do Porto. They performed Ma mère l'Oye, M. 60, piano suite for 4 hands by Maurice Ravel, and Scaramouch, suite for 2 pianos, op. 16, by Darius Milhaud. During the same concert, we had the honour of listening to the famous violinist Luminitza Petre who performed the Violin Concerto in E minor by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy with the Symphonic Orchestra of the Faculty of Music in the city of Brașov.

Apart from the activities, the attendees had the opportunity to consult specialised books, original works, musical arrangements and to talk with Ehsan Ronagh, Islamic Azad University, who created, especially for our conference, an impressive sculpture and painting exhibition in which he captures the essence and beauty of Islamic culture.

> Adjunct Prof. Dr. Iuliana ISAC Faculty of Music CONTENTS



THE THIRD EDITION OF THE UNITBV CONFERENCES: SCIENCE IN CONVERSATION

The third edition of the UNITBV Conferences: Science in Conversation (in the framework of the project "Development of UNITBV's academic research: fostering performance, partnerships and community involvement", CNFIS-FDI-2024-F-040) took place on 29 November 2024. The event aims at bringing the world of research closer to the community, proving with each edition that researchers don't just sit in an impenetrable ivory tower, but open themselves up to the public to explore together the means by which both scientific research can make a concrete contribution to society and community can support scientific research.



The topic was "Photocatalysis: How to Purify Water with Solar Radiation", which the guest, Maria Covei, Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Product Design and Environment within UNITBV, presented in an original and very attractive manner.



The presentation was highly appreciated by the participants, regardless of their level of familiarity with the guest's field of research, which includes development and testing of advanced materials for applications in environmental protection, with a focus on wastewater treatment and creation of self-cleaning surfaces.



Doctor in chemistry since 2015, Maria Covei has published over 40 scientific papers, most of them in ISIindexed journals, and presented papers at numerous international and national conferences, being involved in 14 research projects, including as a project manager. She is the co-author of one patent and three patent proposals, and is known for her innovative research. She is the first author of the book Transparent Conducting Oxides in Solar Energy Conversion and coauthor of other works issued by prestigious publishing houses, such as Springer and Elsevier. An internationally active researcher, with a significant expertise in global research collaborations and a constant preoccupation for identifying innovative and efficient solutions in the field of environmental protection, Maria Covei covered, with professionalism doubled by the relaxation that only the thorough mastery of a field can offer, a topic of obvious relevance, which sparked related discussions.

The online or physically present participants' curiosities found their answer in the pertinent explanations provided by Maria Covei, who approached aspects such as: the fields in which the use of water purified by photocatalysis would be recommended; the extent to which photocatalysis is an inexpensive purification method, so that it could destabilise the market of classic products or technologies, or whether photocatalysis can be integrated into an existing water treatment system, without significantly affecting the operating costs.

The UNITBV conferences will continue in 2025 as well, with other topics of relevance and interest to the community.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Roxana MATEFI Faculty of Law

NeedEDU4.0: TRAINING FUTURE ENGINEERS FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

In response to the need to adapt the study programmes to the requirements of the Industry 4.0, the project "Enhancing through Mechanical Engineering Education in Moldova for Industry 4.0" (NeedEDU4.0), 101128623, grant agreement ERASMUS-EDU-2023-CBHE-STRAND-2, financed with the support of the European Commission, the consortium members have set an ambitious goal for themselves: to develop an interuniversity master's study programme in mechanical engineering oriented towards digitalization and new technologies.

The three beneficiary institutions (Technical University of Moldova, "Alecu Russo" University of Bălți and "Bogdan Petriceicu Hasdeu" State University of Cahul) will thus be able to train professionals capable of contributing to the alignment of the curricula to the standards of the industrial environment and to the achievement of the sustainable development objectives in the region concerned.

The activities in the second work package aimed at developing the academic teaching personnel's skills in the use of advanced technologies through *training of trainers* (TOT) activities. Two of the four training sessions were coordinated by our academic community members.

Thus, the third training session, held from 19 to 22 November 2024, focused on two key fields: "Mechatronics and production systems control" and "Organizational change". The sessions were chaired by Prof. Dr. Eng. Marius Luculescu and Prof. Dr. Eng. Luminița Pârv, experts in mechatronics and organizational change.

The fourth session, held between 26 and 29 November 2024, was dedicated to the key fields "CAD for advanced design" and "Structural modelling, simulation and optimization". The trainers were the experts of Transilvania University of Brașov, Dr. Eugen Butilă, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Marian N. Velea.

The similarities of the professors from both the Republic of Moldova and Romania in approaching the didactic process contributed not only to achieving the stated aim of the trainings, namely enhanced teaching skills for the participants from the Republic of Moldova, but also to challenging the trainers from Transilvania University of Braşov to simultaneously fulfil the roles of *trainer* and *trainee*.

Prof. Dr. Eng. Simona LACHE NeedEDU4.0 institutional coordinator for UNITBV Prof. Dr. Eng. Luminița PÂRV NeedEDU4.0 project member



CAREER DAYS AT UNITBV

As we have become accustomed for the last few years, the month of November was destined to the Career Days. Three days in which specialists in the field of Human Resources came in front of the students with attractive and relevant topics.

This year, between 19 and 21 November, nationally and internationally well-known companies such as Stabilus Romania, Siemens Industry Software and Autoliv Romania were by our side.

The first day involved assuming roles (recruiter and candidate), an activity that was carefully coordinated by the team from Stabilus Romania, made up of Andreea Andrei, Ana-Maria Tamaş and Bogdan Andrei Stroe. Thus, the students experienced various states and emotions, thoughts and procedures encountered in the recruitment process, discovering through active learning what to do and what not to do during a job interview.



20 November was reserved for Siemens Industry Software company which brought to the forefront a very important topic, namely personal branding. In this regard, the students, alongside Roxana Spînu, discovered the meaning and importance of this concept, the necessary steps involved in developing a successful personal brand, the common mistakes in building it, found out the advantages and received practical tips for creating a personal brand.



The last day of the event was dedicated to the talks on safety! Both in terms of safety behind the wheel and especially of safety in the context of a job interview. Our guest, Sorin Bonciu, from Autoliv Romania company, emphasised essential aspects that students should take into account when planning a career project. A principle based on five components: curiosity, responsibility, cooperation, simplification and added value.



The experiences we have had this year encourage us to keep and continue these good practices. Moreover, based on the students' keen interest in the field of career, the <u>Career Counselling and</u> <u>Guidance Centre</u> aims at facilitating even more opportunities for meeting and discussion between the students and the partner companies.

> Lect. Dr. Oana Alina BOTA Coord. Career Counselling and Guidance Centre

ALUMNI DAYS AT TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAŞOV

ALUMNI Days, an event that brings together the university's graduates and students, reached its 7th edition.

During this year's event, over 30 guests, graduates of the university's 18 faculties, came in front of the students to talk about the importance of Transilvania University of Braşov for their professional and personal development.



Here are a few opinions of the graduates attending the event:

- "UNITBV has played an essential role in my formation as a person, giving me the opportunity to develop professionally." (Ovidiu Firică, graduate of ITMI, production manager at STABILUS)
- "The multiple activities for the students' benefit, apart from the course and seminar hours, among which I remind of the Scientific Communications Session, Graduates in front of the Companies, the mock trials, brought about, in addition to a deeper understanding of the legal concepts, the development of the basic skills for the legal professions of any kind, namely the way of writing of a legal text, the presentation of the legal concepts in front of a public, and thus provided the practical vision of the acquired legal concepts, too." (Carmen-Beatrice Enache, graduate of the Faculty of Law, permanent attorney at the Braşov Bar)



- "This university's teaching personnel lay the building blocks in the «edifice» that has turned, over the years, into today's successful specialist: a well-trained, dedicated social worker, with strong values and principles, who changes the lives of dozens of children every year, a specialist who, through her work, offers children the chance to stay close to their families." (Alina Micuțiu Stoica, graduate of the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, representative of SOS Children's Villages)
- "My passion and engineering skills for this career have been developed through the courses, but especially through the Centre for Excellence Training in Mechatronics within Transilvania University of Braşov." (Mihai Cosma, graduate of the Faculty of Product Design and Environment)



We look forward to seeing you at the future editions of the ALUMNI Days event!

Prof. Dr. Bianca TESCAȘIU ALUMNI Officer Transilvania University of Brașov

PA-MERAS 2023-2024, "PRIZE OF THE YEAR. ERASMUS+ MOBILITY"

The 8th edition of PA-MERAS "PRIZE OF THE YEAR. ERASMUS+ MOBILITY" took place between 1 October and 14 November 2024, this competition being aimed at promoting the Erasmus+ mobility programme among the students of our university and at enhancing the quality of their professional results during the mobility.



The PA-MERAS competition enjoyed this year the participation of seven student beneficiaries of Erasmus+ mobilities during the 2023-2024 academic year, who highlighted in their essays the added value brought both academically and personally by the Erasmus+ mobility.

Their stories will surely be of use to the students who are about to start their own Erasmus experience. These experiences not only enrich the participants' academic lives, but also open up new cultural horizons for them, which contribute to the development of basic international skills on the global labour market.



The candidates for the best Erasmus+ mobility came from five of the 18 faculties and represented the fields of engineering and humanities alike.

This edition's prize winner is Frank Akomeah, a student at the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration, beneficiary of a study mobility at Radford University, in the United States of America.

His essay highlighted the significant impact of this experience, both academically and personally, proving his remarkable adaptation to a different educational system and a completely new culture. His story will remain as an instance of success story for everyone training to participate in the Erasmus+ mobilities.



The PA-MERAS competition will be a significant opportunity for all the students who want to share Erasmus+ mobility stories and assist in promoting this programme. Although there were fewer participants this year, their essays were of high quality, and each participant proved how the Erasmus+ mobility could give him/her new perspectives on the world and his/her own potential.

> Ec. Oana ȚONEA Ec. Ioana NIȚĂ Officer for outgoing student mobilities

PHILOLOGY STUDENTS AWARDED AT *SHADES OF MEANING* INTERNATIONAL INTERUNIVERSITY TRANSLATION COMPETITION

In the increasingly challenging context of the developing digital technology and its entry into the translation market, the students in Applied Modern Languages (LMA) at the Faculty of Letters, of all three years of study, participated, under the guidance of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Andreea Nechifor, Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics, on 11 November 2024, in *Shades of Meaning*, the international interuniversity translation competition addressed to the undergraduate and graduate students who have English as their first or second major, and who have at



The competition, organised annually by the English Language and Literature Team within the Faculty of Letters, History, Philosophy and Theology under the West University of Timisoara, now in its 8th edition, aims, according to the organizers' intentions (Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eliza Claudia Filimon – president, Prof. Dr. Habil. Dana Percec – Dean, Prof. Dr. Habil. Loredana Pungă – jury officer, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Luminita Frentiu - registration officer, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Adrian Cîntar - public relations officer, and drd. Denisa Ungurean - awarding officer) to provide the students passionate about the field of translation, English culture and language, with a setting for creative expression, specifically in order to raise student interest in developing their creative translation skills, as well as in studying the translation techniques and strategies into and from English.

The competition is structured into three sections: literary translation – prose, literary translation – poetry, non-literary translation – specialised text from various professional fields, and consists in the written translation and retroversion of literary and specialised excerpts, of medium-high difficulty in relation to the students' estimated level of knowledge and skills. The working languages are English and Romanian, and the evaluation criteria take into account aspects such as: correct expression in English and Romanian, creativity in translation and compliance with the thematic requirements.

Held online, under secure technical conditions, the competition allowed, by its regulations, the use of dictionaries of any kind, with the camera being permanently turned on during the tests, and the candidates' answers filled out in a standard form, created by the organizers. For the prose section, the selected fragments were of medium-high difficulty; and for the poetry section, the proposed stanzas implied resorting to prosody elements, too. This year's first prize, offered by the organizers for each section, consists in spending a weekend in Timișoara, at the Christmas Fair.

The translation evaluation committee, made up of: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eliza Claudia Filimon, Prof. Dr. Habil. Loredana Pungă, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mihaela Cozma, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Luminita Frentiu, Lect. Dr. Adrian Cîntar, gave the 3rd-year UNITBV student Cosmina Olaru, majoring in French-English, LMA, 98 points out of 100, thus conferring upon her the 1st prize under the prose section. The other students at the UNITBV's Faculty of Letters: 2nd-year Bogdan Ticău – German-English major, LMA, 1st-year Adela Elena Popescu - French-English major, LMA, 1st-year Antonia Cezara Stefănescu -French-English major, LMA, 1st-year Elsa Gogu -French-English major, LMA, 1st-year Alecsandra Maria Breazu - French-English major, LMA, all of them participating under the same prose section, obtained rewarding scores between 70 and 89 points, benefitted from a valuable experience that they already want to repeat, in an improved format, in next year's competition.

> Assoc. Prof. Dr. Andreea NECHIFOR Faculty of Letters

THE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS' IDEAS AND CREATIVITY STAND OUT AT GREEN CAMPUS HACKATHON

The ideas with a positive impact on the environment are essential for a sustainable future, helping to reduce pollution, conserve resources and adapt to climate change. They facilitate the transition to clean energy, the protection of biodiversity and the development of sustainable business models, proving that change starts with a well-applied idea.

A space dedicated to ideas and collaboration was the international hackathon "Green Campus Hackathon: Building Digital Solutions for SDG and Green Agenda", organised by *The INVITE Consortium* (Hellenic Mediterranean University, Aalborg University, University of Torino, Columbus Association). This hackathon, which took place between 13 and 14 November 2024, was attended by teams from eight countries, six in Europe and two in Latin America.

On behalf of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, three teams presented three special projects, as follows:



Project Student Green App, of TEAM 10 made up of the 2nd-year students Adina Ion, Karina Costandache and Ernest Maxim – majoring in Computer Science, and the 3rd-year student Rareş Moroie – majoring in Applied Computer Science.



Project *FrigiDeal*, of team SLS made up of the 2nd-year students: Gabriel Slav, George Stângă, Laurențiu Porfireanu - majoring in Applied Computer Science. This team was also joined by Jr. Lect. drd. Liana Boca.



Project SusteinHUB, of team EcoEngage made up of the 2nd-year students: Ruxandra Urs, Andrei Priboi, Radu Vișoiu - majoring in Applied Computer Science, as well as by Jr. Lect. Dr. Maria Nuțu.

Our teams performed exceptionally well and highlighted the most important elements of their ideas. The presentation of the EcoEngage team was very well done, drawing the jury's attention, and thus our students won the 1st place in this hackathon.

It is important for the students to give free rein to their creativity and imagination, get involved in various projects and explore new ideas, and we will always be there to back them up and give them the support they need to turn their dreams into reality.

> Jr. Lect. Dr. Maria NUȚU Jr. Lect. drd. Liana BOCA Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

CREATIVITY4BETTER 2024 - INSPIRATION FROM THE TOP OF THE COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY

On 20 November 2024, thirty students at the Faculty of Sociology and Communication had the opportunity to participate in a new edition of the global conference *Creativity4Better*, organised by *International Advertising Association* (IAA) at *FACE Convention Centre* of Bucharest.



The event brought on stage 15 world-renowned personalities in the field of creativity and communication, who shared inspiring perspectives.



The Olympic champion David Popovici made a strong impression upon the audience with his speech about the influencers' impact on the values of the future generations, proving once again that he himself is a role model for the youth.

Clementine Segard, from Carré Noir Paris agency, spoke about the meaning and power of branding, and Jose Miguel Sokoloff (MullenLowe Global) explored the motivations behind our actions.



Marco Hößl, CEO of Kaufland Romania & Moldova, explained why his business philosophy came out of the desire to leave a better world through what he did. Bianca Guimaraes (Mischief) emphasised the courage and resilience needed to turn creative ideas into success stories, and Marius Moga highlighted how music contributed to the creation of memorable advertising campaigns. The Brazilian Fernando Machado, known due to his bold campaigns for Dove and Burger King, electrified the audience with his message: "Be Afraid. Be Very Afraid. But Do It." In his turn, Greg Hoffman, former marketing director of Nike, offered a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the most important campaigns that built the identity of this brand.

The participation in *Creativity4Better* was this time as well an extraordinary opportunity for the students to learn from the industry leaders and to develop their vision for a future career in communications.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Florin NECHITA Faculty of Sociology and Communication



THE SIX MAGNIFICENT STUDENTS IN MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

The students at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science are interested and involved in innovative projects and variedly themed competitions, which reflects in their ongoing success.

From 15 to 16 November 2024, the UniCHIP team participated in the *Open Your Mind* hackathon organised by Sibiu IT Cluster.



The UniCHIP team consists of six 2nd-year students majoring in Applied Computer Science, namely Andrei Priboi, Gabriel Slav, Ruxandra Urs, Laurențiu Porfireanu, George Stângă and Radu Vișoiu. They presented their project CULTURALINK to the expert jury and scored the most points, winning the 1st place at this prestigious hackathon.



Jr. Lect. drd. Liana Boca and Jr. Lect. Dr. Maria Nuțu stood by the side of UniCHIP team, offering the students the necessary support all through this special experience.



For the students in the UniCHIP team, the week from 13 to 20 November was one of fire, as they took part in three different hackathons: between 13 and 14 November 2024, they participated in the international hackathon "Green Campus Hackathon: Building Digital Solutions for SDG and Green Agenda", between 15 and 16 November 2024, they participated in the hackathon *Open Your Mind*, organised by Sibiu IT Cluster; and from 18 to 20 November 2024, in EduTech Hackathon, organised by the Student Entrepreneurial Society within Transilvania University of Brașov.



Cipi, their mascot, brought them good luck and accompanied them at each step, as it had promised in summer, after the in4IT

hackathon of Alba Iulia.

The six magnificent students at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science have proven through their work, creativity and dedication that they are trained and ready to face the greatest challenges, to step into the future with confidence, valuable memories and essential information for their professional path.

> Jr. Lect. drd. Liana BOCA Jr. Lect. drd. Maria NUȚU Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF LIFE SCIENCES



The symposium *First steps for young scientists in the field of Life Sciences. A partnership between high schools, universities and research institutes*, an event hosted by the Research and Development Institute within Transilvania University of Brașov, and at the same time a project

approved for funding by the Ministry of Education, took place with great success between 14 and 15 September 2024.

The symposium was national in scope, through the involvement of the colleagues and collaborators from other universities of our country, from Braşov County School Inspectorate, as well as from research institutes and companies.

Research papers were presented by pupils at colleges of Brașov, Constanța and Ploiești, along with students at the Faculty of Medicine within Transilvania University of Brașov, and students at "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Bucharest. The studies were conducted during the extracurricular activities in the high school/college or faculty laboratories, but also in collaboration with research institute labs.

Details on the organizers, participants and the symposium programme are available at the address <u>https://fshl.ro/junior/</u>. The papers presented by the pupils were interesting and of a very high scientific level, combining elements of chemistry, biochemistry, microbiology, physics, biophysics, biology, genetics, bioinformatics, ecology with applications in life sciences.

The pupils and students presented their study results, mainly original (lab experiments, studies in nature, case studies, questionnaire-type studies, advanced (bio)statistical analyses, process simulation, etc.), but also from the literature. The systematization of the obtained data in order to extract important conclusions, the critical analysis of the obtained results, as well as the correlation with the literature data stood out.



The symposium was a good opportunity for the young pupils and students to exchange ideas on the acquired information, developing their skills of communication and response to the questions asked by the participants.

The coordinating teaching personnel, full of enthusiasm, who stood by the side of the pupils and students while conducting their studies, making their presentations and respectively, during the actual presentations, are worth noting.

We are always happy to have with us the pupils and students of Braşov, but also from all over the country, along with their coordinators, discovering with each edition of our symposium that the passion for science has no minimum (or maximum) age, and they, the young people of Romania, have the potential to become great personalities in the world of knowledge in the field of life sciences.

> Prof. Dr. Mihaela BADEA Faculty of Medicine



BRAŞOV EXPRESS 2024

Brașov Express - the promotion of cultural and creative tourism in Brașov, is a project initiated by the students of the Faculty of Food and Tourism which highlights the role of young people's creativity in urban revitalization.



Brașov Express, in its 2024 edition, was dedicated to the high-school pupils of Brașov, and took place within the project CNFIS-FDI-2024-0419 e-Destin, having a twofold purpose, that is, to make connections between the high schools of Brașov and Transilvania University of Brașov, as well as to support the cultural and creative tourism in a participatory high school - university setting.



The event organised by the students in the Engineering and Management in Tourism Industry and Engineering and Management in Food Service and Agri-tourism study programmes was attended by 12 teams from four high schools in the city of Brașov: "Andrei Bârseanu" National Economic College, "Johannes Honterus" National College, "Nicolae Titulescu" College of Brașov and "Dr. Ioan Meșotă" National College. The participating teams travelled a route that tested their prowess, creativity, but also knowledge of the city.



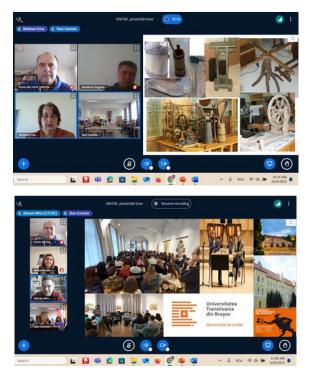
Along the route, the pupils got acquainted with our university's students through the competition tests organized in the city's various famous places – Tiberiu Brediceanu Park– Tower of Arts, Museum of Art, First Romanian School, Rectorate of Transilvania University of Braşov, Eroilor Park.

On 8 November 2024, the pupils and students, together, attached new meanings to the city of Brașov: "exploration", "merging of friendship with general knowledge", "fun", "adventure", "challenge", "surprises", "adrenaline", "unforgettable" event.

Students Bianca STAN and Alexandru STOICESCU Lector Dr. Simona ȘOICA Faculty of Food and Tourism

ONLINE UNITBV PRESENTATIONS IN HIGH SCHOOLS

An important step in each pupil's professional development is also his/her timely preparation to explore the options after graduation, the choice of the right faculty and ideal study programme. Because we know how difficult it can be for the future students to choose the right path, in the months of October and December 2024, six online sessions were organised in order to provide a general introduction to Transilvania University of Brașov, as well as to present in detail the educational offer of four of our university's faculties.



The activities conducted within the project CNFIS-FDI-2024-0419 f2f/e-DESTIN were aimed at supporting the pupils in making informed decisions and promoting UNITBV as an option for their future.

Thus, on 8 October, two presentations at "Bălașa Doamna" High School of Arts of Târgovișt were made by our colleagues: Sr. Lect. Dr. Emanuela Beldeanu and Sr. Lect. Dr. Bogdan Bedelean, Faculty of Furniture Design and Wood Engineering, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alexandra Belibou, Faculty of Music, and Jr. Lect. drd. Răzvan Mitu, Faculty of Letters.



On 3 and 4 December, three other presentations were organised for the 11th and 12th graders at "Eremia Grigorescu" Technological High School of Târgu Bujor; whereas on 3 December, the offer of UNITBV was presented for one of the 11th-grade classes at "Petru Rares" Theoretical High School of Târgu Lăpuș. The pupils of Târgu Lăpuș also had the opportunity to meet Prof. Dr. Mark Brennan, UNESCO Chair on Global Citizenship Education for Sustainable Peace through Youth and Community Engagement, from The Pennsylvania State University, who shared with them the experience of the youth projects developed at the American university. This institution will also be one of the partners of the international interdisciplinary project Transilvania Creative Camp, which will be organised in late August 2025.

> Assoc. Prof. Dr. Florin NECHITA Faculty of Sociology and Communication

TRAINEESHIP AT SYNEVO LABORATORIES ROMANIA (CHIAJNA) AND "CAROL DAVILA" UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY OF BUCHAREST

On 18 November 2024, some 39 students in the Clinical Laboratory and Medicine study programmes participated in a traineeship at Synevo Laboratories of Romania (Chiajna) and at "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Bucharest.



Synevo is the leading supplier of laboratory diagnostic solutions in Romania, offering over 2,000 common and advanced analysis types, from prevention and primary diagnosis tests, to monitoring tests for various therapies. Synevo Romania provides essential information that supports the doctors, medical facilities, pharmaceutical companies, research scientists and patients in making informed decisions, and boosts innovation by offering access to digital platforms that provide a personalized experience to its customers. The students benefited from the explanations of the specialists in various fields biochemistry, immunology, microbiology, haematology, genetics, etc. - MD Mirela Popovici, MD Delia Sabău, MD Claudiu Morjan.

The mini-reports made by the students at the end of their visit were conclusive for the experiences during the field trip.

"Once inside, I had a very pleasant feeling, there was a welcoming atmosphere, everything was very clean, friendly and pleasant. [...] In terms of influence on my future career, the visit to Synevo Central Laboratory gave me a valuable insight into the technological advancements in the field of Clinical Laboratory, and the direct interaction with these cutting-edge equipment and methods showed me how beautiful and interesting this field could be; its automation, which at first I was quite sceptical about, now seems to me fascinating and without limits. We have understood how important a correct and quick diagnosis is, and this path is a benefit for our patients, as well as for us as staff. The visit [...] was a transformative experience that I highly recommend to all students interested in developing professionally in this fascinating field." (Alexandra Hustiu – LC3).

During the trip to Bucharest, the students also paid a visit to the anatomy museum within "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Bucharest. Under the coordination of Jr. Lect. Dr. Laura Stroica, the students learned that "this museum is a valuable educational resource for the students and visitors interested in the structure of the human body."



Located inside the faculty, the museum houses an impressive collection of anatomical pieces, teaching aids and preparations that illustrate various aspects of human anatomy. [...] The preparations are used for both teaching and research, facilitating a detailed understanding of human morphology" (Ioana Mieluca - LC3).

Prof. Dr. Mihaela BADEA Faculty of Medicine

INTERNATIONAL ERASMUS BIP SUMMER SCHOOL *BIOANALYTICAL (TELE)MONITORING FOR LIFE SCIENCES - MEDICINE, FOOD CONTROL, ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING*

Between 13 and 21 September, within the Erasmus Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) - Bioanalytical (Tele)Monitoring for Life Sciences – Medicine, Food Control, Environmental Monitoring - 2023-1-RO01-KA131-HED-000139307-1 - an international interdisciplinary summer school, with courses and practical works, took place in Brașov (https://erasmus.fshl.ro/lectures/).



The summer school aimed at exposing the participating students from Romania (Brașov, Bucharest), Slovenia (Ljublijana), Spain (Zaragoza), Italy (Brescia, Torino), Portugal (Guarda, Beja) to the current advancements in research and to the latest technologies in the fields of bioanalytical (tele)monitoring for the sciences of life - medicine, food control and environmental monitoring.

The 38 attending students were encouraged to actively participate in discussions around the lectures given by internationally recognised professors from Romania (Brașov, Bucharest, Sibiu, Târgu Mureș), Slovenia, Italy (Milano, Trieste, Brescia, Torino), France (Perpignan), Portugal (Lisbon, Beja), Czech Republic (Pardubice), Republic of Moldova (Chișinău), USA (Duke University), Republic of China (Shanghai). It is worth mentioning the special involvement of the research group within Italian Liver Foundation, AREA Science Park Basovizza (Trieste, Italy), INOE 2000 (Măgurele, Romania), International Centre for Biodynamics (Bucharest), Synevo Romania, DDS Diagnostics (Romania).

The students were involved in practical laboratory works in various teaching/research fields: highaccuracy electrophoretic analyses, microbiology, electrochemical and chromatographic measurements, also using some of the equipment recently purchased by the Centre for Fundamental Research and Preventive Strategies in Medicine (C17A). These activities will strengthen the (undergraduate, graduate and doctoral) students' problem-solving skills, stimulated by teamwork, participation in discussions and oral communication. The students benefited from the interaction with colleagues from other European universities and made connections that open directions for further professional collaborations. The students received 3 ECTS upon fulfilling the requirements of the summer school (attendance at classes and laboratory hours, presentations of laboratory work results).

> Prof. Dr. Mihaela BADEA Faculty of Medicine



INNOVATION AND RESEARCH AT THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY

In the month of November, the Centre for Skill Valorization and Transfer (CVTC) within the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, in collaboration with AOSR and ASTR, organised an event dedicated to strengthening the connections between the academic and industrial environments. The main aim was to provide the students with valuable insights into the requirements and opportunities of the industry.



The event was opened by Sr. Lect. Dr. Eng. Ioana Corina Bogdan and Sr. Lect. Dr. Eng. Horia Modran, organizers of the initiative, along with Prof. Dr. Phys. Doru Ursuțiu, president of CVTC, Prof. Em. Dr. Eng. Cornel Samoilă; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Titus Bălan, Faculty Dean, Sr. Lect. Dr. Eng. Cornel Stanca, Director of the Department of Electronics and Computers.

The students had the opportunity to present their projects in front of the industry experts, proving their technical skills and innovative abilities. The internationally recognised works included:

- "Integrating AI and UAV Technologies for Enhanced Workplace Safety", (C. Badea, A. Costea, A. Halmaghi, A. Hancu, I.C. Bogdan, H. Modran);
- "Education and Mental Health through Artificial Intelligence Virtual Assistant", (D.T. Ioniță, I.C. Bogdan, H.A. Modran, A. Dinu);
- "Programming Examination Platform: Generative AI-Driven Evaluation Tool for Computer Programming Classes", (F.P.

Velicea, A. Ghimbășan, R. Filip, G. Danciu, C. Kertesz).



The event was supported by industry leaders from renowned companies who provided feedback and insights on the demands of the labour market: Alina Dumitrana, HR Business Partner, Canam; Dr. Liviu Jelenschi, R&D Location Manager, Schaeffler; Eng. Anton Kaplun, Co-Founder & CTO, Conjoin; Eng. Antal Matis, Infineon; Aurelia Florea, Organizational Development Director, Miele; Daniela Caluian, Head of People Development, Miele; Eng. Mădălina Vasile, Steinel.

The guests also included Prof. researcher Florin Munteanu, founding president of the Centre for Complex Studies - UNESCO; Eng. Mihai Motoașcă; Emil Canciu, Manager Rubico; Eng. Petru Epure, Manager EPI SISTEMS SRL; Andrada Dioszegi and Anamaria Simirad, IESC promotion team members.

The interactive question and answer session concluded the event, strengthening the relationships between the academic and industrial environments.

The action aimed at supporting personal and professional development, encouraging innovation, and promoting the faculty as a centre of excellence in education and research.

> Senior Lecturer Dr. Eng. Ioana Corina BOGDAN Students Andrada DIOSZEGI and Anamaria SIMIRAD

THE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS ALSO EXPLORE THE WORLD OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The students of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science not only love technology, but also explore the world of entrepreneurship! A perfect combination for an innovative future! Between 18 and 20 November 2024, several students of our faculty participated in EduTech Hackathon, organised by the Student Entrepreneurial Society within Transilvania University of Brașov.

Our students were part of four teams full of energy and creative ideas, as follows:



■ Bluescreen team - InKa (*Talent Bridge* project) made up of students at various faculties and majors, this way: Alexandru Edveş and Andrei Ovidiu Daniel Cîrstea – 1st-year graduate student at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, majoring in Modern Technologies in Software Systems Engineering, 1st-year graduate students Angela Kaplina and Constantina Livia Moroşanu at the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration, majoring in Management and Business Strategies, and 2nd-year undergraduate student Ioniță Constantin Cosmin, at the same faculty, majoring in Marketing.



ETER team (*KronFresh* project) was made up of the 2nd-year students in the Applied Computer

Science major: Liviu-Vlad Opriș, Radu-Andrei Marin, Mihăiță-Eduard Lupașcu and Tudor-Ioan Pirău.

■ SLS team (*CulturaLink* project) was made up of three 2nd-year students at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, majoring in Applied Computer Science: Gabriel – Bogdan Slav, Laurențiu Porfireanu, George Stângă, but also of the 2nd-year student Valeria Bologan, Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration, majoring in Economy of Trade, Tourism and Services.

DataDivers team (*Insightly* project) was made up of three 2nd-year students of our faculty, majoring in Applied Computer Science: Ruxandra Mihaela Urs, Andrei Priboi and Radu Vișoiu



Bluescreen team – InKa attracted the jury members' attention and received the special BCR award.

The participation in interdisciplinary projects and competitions helps students develop essential skills, such as collaboration, critical thinking, and adaptability, necessary for their future success. We agree with their decisions and strive to be always by their side, offering them the necessary support.

> Jr. Lect. drd. Liana BOCA Jr. Lect. dr. Maria NUȚU Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

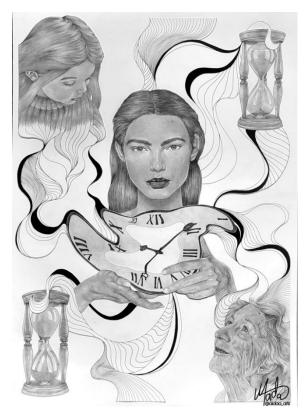
THE EXHIBITION "REALISM IN COLOUR TONES" AT NORBERT DETAEYE MEDIA LIBRARY

Between 8 November and 15 December 2024, the Auditorium of Norbert Detaeye Media Library hosted the first personal exhibition of Aida-Ioana Minciu, 2nd-year student at the Faculty of Furniture Design and Wood Engineering. Entitled "Realism in Colour Tones", the exhibition consisted of 12 portraits in A5 format, accompanied by monochromatic backgrounds and details, along with a board in 50 x 70 cm format themed on "Time".



Drawing is Aida's great passion, which she has been cultivating since the age of 4. A graduate of the Sports High School of Câmpulung Muscel, county of Argeș, she developed her artistic skills within "I. D. Negulici", Cenacle of Arts, respectively "Alexandra Doinici" Painting Circle, organised at "Tudor Mușatescu" Cultural Centre of Câmpulung. At only 16 years old, Aida was oscillating between design and architecture, searching for her artistic path. In 2021, she was awarded the prize "Order of Small Arts" at the "Small Arts" Salon of Motru, county of Gorj; and in 2022 she got a mention in the 15–18 age group within "Young Artist's Odyssey" National Competition of Bucharest.

Aida enthusiastically confesses: "I draw anything, but I am most fascinated by the human body, more specifically the portraits and hands!" Her talent intertwines with imagination, materialising in creations that come to life under the guidance of her left hand.



Aida's colleagues, along with students in different years, junior and senior alike, participated in the opening. We all enjoyed listening to her talk about the harmony characterising her portraits and watching the captivating dialogue between the artist and the public who asked her interesting questions.

We wish her the best of luck in the artistic career!



Sr. Lect. Dr. Eng. Antonela LUNGU Faculty of Furniture Design and Wood Engineering

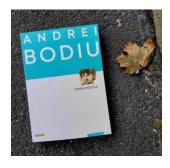
BOOK LAUNCH - ANDREI BODIU. POETIC OEUVRE



The volume Andrei Bodiu. Poetic Oeuvre (Rocart, 2024). edited and prefaced by Simona Popescu, was launched at the Multicultural Centre, on 29 November. The event was attended by Simona Popescu, Caius

Dobrescu, Adrian Lăcătuș, Svetlana Cârstean, Romulus Bucur and Georgeta Moarcăs.

The volume contains all the poems published by Andrei Bodiu in book form along with a few new poems, three interviews made by Mihai Vakulovski, Svetlana Cârstean and Iolanda Malamen, and a portrait of the writer made by Viorel Marineasa. "Andrei Bodiu's poetry, contained in a few not very voluminous books, has an extraordinary power of absorbing reality/realities. Like the dewdrop reflecting the sky. [...] He succeeds in creating a world of his own and a character, with his dismays and his dazzling, moving, overwhelming visions, with a complex psychology, with a complex psyche. And he finds a way to talk about all this in his poetry." (Simona Popescu).



Andrei Bodiu was a poet, essayist, prose writer, literary critic and historian, professor and public intellectual. He published many volumes of poetry

such as: Pause for Breath, together with Simona Popescu, Caius Dobrescu and Marius Oprea (1991), The 24-hour Race (1994), Patriotic Poems (1995), Life and Death Studies (2000), Fatigued People (2008) and The White Thread (2014). As a historian and literary critic, Andrei Bodiu published Mircea Cărtărescu - A Monograph (2000), The Eighties Movement in Romanian Poetry (2000), George Coșbuc - A Monograph (2002), Seven Themes of the Post-forty-eight Novel (2002), Ion Barbu - A Monograph (2005), Escape from the Void. Studies on the Late 20th-Century and Early 21st-Century Romanian Poetry (2008). Between 2004 and 2012, he was Dean of the Faculty of Letters within Transilvania University of Brasov. He is the founder of the Poetry Marathon under the Faculty of Letters, which reached its 24th edition this year.

> Anca PAPANA Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University

SIMONA POPESCU AND CAIUS DOBRESCU IN DIALOGUE AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

On 11 November, within the third edition of the Literary Brașov project, organised by *Literary Bets* Publishing House, a meeting with the writers Simona Popescu and Caius Dobrescu took place at the Multicultural Centre. On this occasion, the volume *Juventus* (Simona Popescu) and the newspaper dedicated to Caius Dobrescu's oeuvre and coordinated by Victor Cobuz were launched.



"Juventus is a book about, among others, youth, friendship and poetry. (We stop at these three words here) I began to write it in my student days, in a time unfavourable to the young spirit, as if I had been writing a message put in a bottle to throw into the ocean." (Simona Popescu). This edition was released by *Literary Bets* Publishing House, and includes, apart from the poems of the first edition (1994), a few poems written between 1984 and 2021 and published in other volumes, but which are part, according to the author, of the same *juventus* fabric.

Simona Popescu is a writer, literary critic and associate professor at the Faculty of Letters within the University of Bucharest. She published the volumes of poetry: The Xylophone and Other Poems (1990), Pause for Breath (together with Andrei Bodiu, Caius Dobrescu and Marius Oprea, 1991), Juventus (1994), Night or Day (1998), Juventus and other poems (anthology, 2004), Works in Green. My Plea for Poetry (2006); prose: Exuviae (1997, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2011, 2016) and Rubik (collective novel, 2008); essays: Volubilis (1998), Saving the Species. About Surrealism and Gellu Naum (2000), Clava. Critifiction with Gellu Naum (2004), The Author, a Character (2015).

The launch of the volume signed by Simona Popescu was followed by the presentation and free distribution of the newspaper dedicated to Caius Dobrescu's oeuvre, which continues the series of the publications dedicated to the writers of Brașov, such as Alexandru Mușina, Andrei Bodiu, Simona Popescu, Marius Oprea, Romulus Bucur or Mihai Ignat.

Caius Dobrescu is a poet, essayist and professor at the Faculty of Letters within the University of Bucharest. The volumes he published include: Pause for Breath (collective volume, 1991); Efebia (poems, 1994); Madhouse or the Space Pioneers (novel, 1994); Deadeva (poems, 1998); Ultimate Modernity (essays, 1998); The Impersonal Enemy (essays, 2001); Demigods and Landlords. About the Imaginary of Modern Bourgeoisie (a cultural history, 2001); Ode an die freie Unternehmung (poem, 2006); Doctoral Thesis (novel, 2007) and Euromorphotikon (a novel in verse, 2010).

> Anca PAPANA Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University

CHAMBER JAZZ AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

The second event of the Chamber Jazz (a) Transilvania University programme, at its 2024-2025 season, took place on Friday, 15 November, and had as its guests the vibraphonist Răzvan Florescu and the pianist Vlad Briciu.



Their collaboration came to light out of desire to explore the improvisational and interplay possibilities of the two music instruments, the project being based on their own repertoire and shared experience within other projects.

Răzvan Florescu graduated from the National University of Music (UNMB) of Bucharest with a master's degree in jazz, under Prof. Dr. Mircea Tiberian's guidance, and previously with a bachelor's degree in percussion. He has a vast concert activity as a soloist, but also as a part of chamber music ensembles (Luiza Zan Quintet, RVQ, PERCUSSIONescu, TUMBE, etc.), both in Romania and in Europe (France, Germany, Russia, Czech Republic). He has also collaborated with some of the most important orchestras in the country (National Radio Orchestra, "George Enescu" Philharmonic Orchestra, Romanian Youth Orchestra, Philharmonic Orchestra of Sibiu, and more). Throughout his career, he has won numerous awards, including Best Band Award at "Johnny Raducanu" 2023 International Jazz Festival (JazzQuarters), Excellence Scholarship offered by UNMB in 2021 and 2019,

Best Composition Award at 2021 Jazz Competition of Sibiu (RVQ), the first prize under two categories within 2020 Jazz Competition of Iași for the best songwriting and the best performance (RVQ).

Vlad Briciu graduated from the National University of Music of Bucharest with a bachelor's degree in Jazz Composition. He leads JazzQuarters Trio, with whom he has successfully participated in competitions such as "Johnny Răducanu" International Competition (first prize for ensembles), "Jazz in Park" International Competition (second prize), Jazz Napocensis (first prize, solo participation) and the Jazz Competition of Sibiu (jury award), and more.



Distinguished with the Revelation of the 2022 Year award at the Jazz Awards Gala, he has had the privilege of performing within major jazz festivals all over the country: JazzX, Jazz in Park, Bucharest Jazz Festival, Csiki Jazz, Jazz at Bran Castle, Jazz on the Rooftop, Samfest Satu Mare, "Johnny Raducanu" Festival Contest.

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STUDENTS WE TAKE PRIDE IN - DRAGOȘ IORDACHE

In 2009, the last generation of the Physical Engineering major, under the aegis of the Chair of Physics within Transilvania University, was fresh out of school. Among these students, we kept in touch, as is natural, with several of them, including the valedictorian of this class, Dragoș Iordache.

Since the first years of study, Dragoș has stood out through his thirst for knowledge, his academic performance, and his solid programming knowledge. His aptitudes culminated in the final years of study, a period in which we had the opportunity to collaborate closely, as he coauthored with me and professor Cornel Samoilă various scientific papers, as well as chapters in engineering books.

Upon completing his bachelor's education cycle, Dragoș made a transition to the field of web development, specifically focusing on the creation of user interfaces (UI). His previous expertise in interface development and solid programming knowledge were an excellent basis for him in this regard. From 2010 to 2016, he activated in the corporate environment, where he continued his professional development, working on e-commerce solutions for internationally renowned brands within a multinational company.

In 2011, returns to the faculty, this time for a master's degree in Internet Technologies, jointly achieved between the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science within Transilvania University of Brașov and a faculty of New Jersey, the United States. Eventually, we co-published another scientific paper and a chapter in an engineering book, both based on this project, which we also presented at REV2012 conference in Bilbao, Spain. In the meantime, Dragoș also activated in the music field, specialising in electric bass guitar. Between 2008 and 2020, he was a member of two bands, a period that gave him the opportunity to explore another creative side of his personality.

Starting 2016, after leaving Brașov, our former student started collaborating with a lingerie brand of New York. This collaboration, which spanned eight years, was guided by his solid knowledge of ecommerce, technical experience, and project management skills.

Dragoș also explored the field of education, he started by teaching Front-End Web Development within Pixellab, a professional reconversion school; and between 2019 and 2024 he became a full-time trainer.

Dragoș is also a co-founder of NERV Romanian brand, established in Brașov during 2013. The main activity of the brand consists in the design and marketing of a wide range of glasses – sunglasses, fashion, sports and, above all, specialized glasses for skiing and snowboarding.



Dragoș can now be found on the modern idea exchange platforms – TikTok, Twitch, YouTube – where, in his leisure time, he creates web development and engineering content. His attention is especially focused on computer graphics and on how the web can be integrated with hardware components, to popularize web programming and engineering among future generations.

Prof. Dr. Phys. Doru URSUȚIU Corresponding Member – Academy of Romanian Scientists