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# NEWSLETTER

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## GOVERNORS FROM THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ACADEMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA VISIT THE FACULTY OF PRODUCT DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT

Between 3-10 April, the University welcomed guests from Yerevan, Armenia, within the framework of the ERASMUS+ KA107 mobility project. There is a long-standing, rich collaboration with the Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia within the LNSS project – *Library Network Support Services*, an ERASMUS+ *Capacity Building* project whose coordinator was this very institution, and the Faculty of Product Design and Environment was a member and partner.



The guests, namely Dr Arsen Lokyan, Rector of the university, and Dr Theresa Khechoyan, Vice-rector, met with Dr Carmen Buzea, Vice-rector for research and IT, Dr Camelia Drăghici, International Relations

Office, and Dr Ana Ispas, distance learning coordinator.

The current collaboration and particularly the future collaboration plans between the two institutions were discussed during the visit at the Faculty of Product Design and Environment, where the guests met with Dr Codruța Jaliu, Dean of the faculty and other faculty staff; this was also an opportunity to see the labs destined for Optometry, Medical Engineering, and Product Design.

Finer aspects of the collaboration between the two institutions were also approached during the meetings with Dr Mariela Pavalache, Dr Gabriel Brătucu, Dr Claudiu Coman, Deans of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, the Faculty of Economic Sciences, and the Faculty of Sociology and Communication respectively, as well as with the Erasmus coordinator and management of the Faculty of Sociology and Communication.

The talks resulted in the outline of several collaboration paths, among which the development of joint activities developed with these faculties, the development of mobility projects, participations in conferences, co-organizing a conference on *Neuromarketing*, creating partnerships to apply for research projects in competitions and devise a joint program for coordinating doctoral and distance learning students.

Prof. Eng. Angela REPANOVICI, PhD  
Faculty of Product Design and Environment

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## STUDENTS EXPERIENCE PIECES OF LIFE IN A WORLD OF NON-LIGHTS

Chess pieces with little spikes, Braille elements, relief boards, the adapted centimeter, the sensory glove, the smart walking stick for visually impaired people, various smartphone apps. All these practical inventions were presented during the first edition of *Special Psychopedagogy Day*, which will hopefully become a tradition at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences.

On 8 April the students at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences experienced and learned new things masterfully facilitated by professionals in the field of special psychopedagogy: Mr Viorel Dumitru Micu, former student and interpreter of Vasile Adamescu, Mr Virgil Lazăr, President of the Braşov branch of the Romanian Association for the Blind, and Dr Mihaela Baritz from the Faculty of Product Design and Environment.



They were joined by partners from the School Center for Inclusive Education Braşov, represented by Mr Gabor Orban, principal, and Ms Tamara Brătucu, vice-principal, whose center is the setting where our students from the Special Psychopedagogy program can practice their specialized and pedagogical skills.



Some of the objectives of this event were the development of a deeper understanding of the ways to approach sensory deficiencies by exposing the students to formative and interdisciplinary presentations, in close connecting with the acquisition of the intervention skills required when working with special needs learners.

A subsidiary aim related to promoting an inter-institutional collaboration apt to meet the training-development needs of the stakeholders (students, teachers, and representatives of various institutions).

The guests' presentations which balanced the theoretical knowledge on sensory deficiencies, field work, and moving case studies sensitised the students to various issues, strengthening their belief that, despite all obstacles, perseverance and genuine support from all those around us open the world to any one of us.

Lecturer Oana Alina BOTA, PhD

Lecturer Cornelia LAZĂR, PhD

Lecturer Ioana TOPALĂ, PhD

Cătălina CRĂCIUN, student

Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

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## WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY AT BRAȘOV

The World Autism Awareness Day is celebrated internationally on 2<sup>nd</sup> of April each year. At Brașov, this year's slogan was "Light it up blue for autism".



The event was organized by the Crystal Children Association in partnership with Transilvania University of Brașov, and consisted in three public activities, with the participation and involvement of the students from the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences and the Faculty of Sociology and Communication.



The first activity, held at the Multicultural Center, was a three-hour seminar on the inclusiveness of children with special educational needs; the facilitator was Maria Mădălina Turza, expert in inclusive psychology and public politics for inclusive education, and president of the European Centre for the Rights of Children with Disabilities in Bucharest (ECRCD). The seminar was aimed especially at the students from the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences enrolled in the

study programs Special Psychopedagogy and Pedagogy of Primary and Preschool Education.



The second activity was a symbolic march with blue balloons. The participants were children in the Crystal Children Association, their parents, guest Maria Mădălina Turza, tens of students and professors at Transilvania University of Brașov, and volunteers, in support of people diagnosed with autism or other associated disorders.



The day ended spectacularly with the third activity, namely the lighting of symbolic blue on three iconic buildings in Brașov: the Citadel, City Hall, and Council House.

A short video documenting the event is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofSY4DF6wsU>

Lecturer Iolanda BELDIANU, PhD  
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences  
Gabriela PLOPEANU  
President of the Crystal Children Association

## "INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CULTURAL NIGHT OUT" – SIXTH EDITION

A new semester, a new group of incoming students, and a new cultural event designed just for them! The Erasmus+ Office organized the sixth edition of the *International Students Cultural Night Out*, an event becoming a tradition at Transilvania University. The past editions were highly appreciated by our foreign students, which encouraged us to continue organizing them.

The participants were students from 13 different countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ecuador, the Russian Federation, Italy, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Malaysia, Serbia, Sri Lanka, and Turkmenistan. They presented pictures and information about their countries of origin, their traditions and customs, and about their home universities.

They were joined by their Romanian peers as well as by all the Erasmus+ coordinators and guests who

benefitted from mobilities through international partnerships.

With the support of music, food, dancing, and various contests, the atmosphere was friendly and engaging. The foreign students who showed most familiarity with the city of Braşov and with Transilvania University of Braşov were awarded prizes.

At the end of the day, friendships became stronger, the interest and curiosity deeper, and the whole experience was bound to become a lasting memory that may turn each student into a potential ambassador of the Erasmus+ program, as well as of and our university.

Assoc. Prof. Laura Teodora DAVID, PhD  
Incoming Mobilities Coordinator



## STUDENTS AT THE FACULTY OF PRODUCT DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT ON A STUDY MOBILITY AT “UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES RAPPERSWIL”

In the month of April, nine senior students from the Faculty of Product Design and Environment and Dr Daniela Ciobanu participated in a study mobility at *HSR University of Applied Sciences Rapperswil*, Switzerland.



This mobility afforded our students the opportunity to attend courses, lectures, and meetings with specialists in the field of renewable energy systems, automation, mechatronics, and medical engineering, and to become apprised of projects developed by the undergraduate and graduate students of this institute:

- *Experience a study program: HSR and Master of Science MSE*, a presentation by Dr Henrik Nordborg, Coordinator of the program Renewable Energy and Environment Engineering (EEU), member of the management team at *Institute for Energy Technology (IET)* at HSR;
- *Innovative projects at Institute for Lab Automation and Mechatronics (ILT) like HSR Enhanced project*, Dr

Christian Bermes, member of the management team at *Institute for Lab Automation and Mechatronics*,

- *Industrial and medical engineering product design examples from Institute for Product Development and Engineering (IPEK)*, Christian Locher and Dario Niggli;
- *Solar systems and seasonal energy storage at Institute for Solar Technology (SPF)*, Dr Mihaela Dudita, Ozan Tuerk, and Ivo Caduff;
- *EEU course: Photovoltaics, Wind energy, Hidrogen and Fuel cells*, Dr Christof Biba and Lukas Omlin;
- *EEU course: Solar Thermal Systems*, Dr Andreas Häberle, Director of the *Solar Technology Institute*;
- Visit to *Klimagarten 2085*, a project developed by the researchers at HSR related to the effects of global warming.



Assoc. Prof. Eng. Dr Daniela CIOBANU  
Faculty of Product Design and Environment

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## STUDENTS AT THE FACULTY OF LAW PARTICIPATE IN THE INTER-UNIVERSITY MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION, GALAȚI

On 19 April, Diana Adriana Cernat, Ilinca Florina Iosu, Carmen Beatrice Enache, Mihaela Daniela Hofner, Maria Ghilencea, Radu Stan, senior students at the Faculty of Law, under the supervision of Dr Andreea Cătălina Ciurea, Dr Bianca Georgeta Spîrchez, and Dr Oana Șaramet, participated in the second National Mock Trial Competition, organized at the Faculty of Juridical, Social and Political Sciences at "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, in collaboration with the Faculty of Law at Transilvania University of Brașov.



The two competing teams consisted of six students. Each team included three pleading lawyers, the plaintiff/defendant, and two witnesses. Our team acted on behalf of the defendant in a legal case related to Family Law and Civil Law.



According to the rules, both in the written and oral stages of the competition, our faculty's students stood out owing to their extensive legal expertise, ease of making pertinent and compelling juridical arguments, and abilities and skills specific to any legal practitioner, which they managed to acquire and develop throughout their academic studies.

In this competition, the students at the Faculty of Law won the awards for the best plea and for the best witness.

Lecturer Oana ȘARAMET, PhD  
Faculty of Law

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## BUCUREȘTI - BRAȘOV "ENTREPRENEURSHIP BOOTCAMP"

An entrepreneurship bootcamp was organized between 10 and 15 April, within the frame of a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce of Belgium. It involved students from our university and 40 students from high profile Belgian universities. The six days of the bootcamp were devoted to a series of workshops on entrepreneurship-related topics, meetings with successful entrepreneurs and visits to various companies and start-ups in Brașov and Bucharest. Among the local companies visited were Mondly, and Preh—that were also partners in this event.



The visits to the local enterprises and entrepreneurs scheduled during the first half of the bootcamp have managed to break the ice between our students and their Belgian peers.

They benefitted from a one-off experience during which they encountered real-life situations that tested their professional abilities. This event was also intended as a step forward towards strengthening the relationship between Transilvania University of Brașov and Ghent University.



This is the feedback given by two of the Belgian students: "I've learned a lot about entrepreneurship these days, but what I'm most glad about is the wonderful people that I've met here. This has been a very enjoyable experience. Thank you to all those took part in this bootcamp!" (Birgit Wullens); "The perfect balance between work and fun increased our grasp of the matters and allowed us to acquire work experience that we will take with us to Belgium. This has been a unique opportunity to connect with the local entrepreneurs, and this is a strong connection that we established during the past six days (Niels Vandendriessche).

A highlight of this event was the presence, on 11 April of HE, Mr Thomas Baekelandt, Ambassador of Belgium. He shared with both students and local businesspeople thoughts about his diplomatic mission and about the business environment. A networking event took place later during the day, which facilitated the interactions between the students and the entrepreneurs.



Initiated and coordinated by Mr Andrei Neagu, Manager of *Tomorrow Hub*, the event successfully managed to raise the students' awareness as to the opportunities in the area of entrepreneurship, while also contributing towards establishing a closer connection between Transilvania University of Brașov and Ghent University.

Cristina ILISAN, Student  
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

## BRAȘOV "NETWORKING EVENT"

Within the frame of the "Brașov Bucharest Entrepreneurship Bootcamp" developed in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce of Belgium, a networking event took place at Transilvania University's Aula Magna on 11 April. The event opened with a speech delivered by HE, Mr Thomas Baekelandt, Ambassador of Belgium.



The discussions that followed touched upon various business-related topics. They involved all the participants in this event who enjoyed the refreshments and sweets supplied by the Beer Artisans and Luado Chocolate.



"I could feel a lot of energy there", said Armand Sullot, CEO Exghts, "we know that Brașov is continuously changing and we quite liked the attitude of these young people who will undoubtedly infuse a lot of their energy into this city. I've already connected with three of them."



The participants enjoyed the laid-back atmosphere set against a background of guitar music, and the delicious hors d'oeuvres supplied by Grup Belvedere. Credit is due to the participating students, the local entrepreneurs, the partners and sponsors of this event: Grup Belvedere, Trus Horeca Services, Artizanii Berii, Luado Chocolate, DO Security, Warehouse PUB, Times PUB, Mondly, Bramet, Virtuality, Little dots, Webzz, VizPrime.



Cristina ILISAN, Student  
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

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## "BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK", AN EVENT FOR BOOK LOVERS

Reading addicts were in for a treat upon attending the special event organized by the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences. Each participant was asked to bring a book that they no longer wished own together with a short statement. Volunteers then wrapped each book, tagging it with its respective owner's statement.



The turnout was quite impressive, considering that this was a first time event. The participants' feedback was encouraging, motivating us to consider organizing a second edition.



The idea of this event stems from a common practice in American bookstores, where some price books are wrapped up and customers are invited to choose and buy based on a representative quote attached to each pack. We adapted this concept by replacing buying with book swapping, in hopes of promoting reading among people on both sides of the exchange.

Credit is due to the second-year undergraduate students who acted as volunteers: Andra-Maria Aldea, Ana-Maria Lenghen, Alexandra-Mihaela Niculae, and Bogdan Țică.

Cătălina-Cristina CRĂCIUN, Student  
Faculty of Psychology and Education Science

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## ELSA NEGOTIATION COMPETITION

On 12 April, the Faculty of Law hosted the event “Elsa Negotiation Competition” aimed at fostering the development of our students’ abilities required in contract negotiations.



Under its scheme, the competition involves two teams, each consisting of two law students, and each representing a client in a negotiation whose objective is the conclusion of a contract based on a set of pre-established criteria. The negotiation is conducted in front of a panel consisting of two members faculty staff—Dr Cristinel Ioan Murzea, Dean, and Dr Codruț-Nicolae Savu.



The panel decided the winning team, congratulated the organizers of ELSA for the concept behind this event and commended all the participants on their thorough preparation of the (pre-)negotiation stage.

The students received feedback meant to enhance their grasp of contractual issues in general and of negotiation techniques in particular. These recommendations will hopefully lead to an even higher standard of similar hands-on learning contexts.

Prof. Cristinel Ioan MURZEA, PhD  
Lecturer Codruț-Nicolae SAVU, PhD  
Faculty of Law

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## 180 YEARS SINCE THE INAUGURATION OF THE BLACK CHURCH ORGAN. CONFERENCE AND ORGAN CONCERT

On 17 April, a conference held at our university's Aula Magna marked 180 years since the inauguration of the *Buchholz* mechanical organ in the Black Church at Braşov. On this occasion, the Black Church organist Steffen Schlandt performed compositions by J.S. Bach, J. Messner and P. Richter. This event was special because of the amount and quality of the information shared through very interesting audio-visual material, but also because our university's digital organ was set to the frequency and timber of the Black Organ church, so that the original sonority of the musical pieces was preserved.



The initial organ of the Black Church (first recorded in texts as St. Mary Church) was built in the altar, in 1499, modified in 1594, and expanded in 1673. After the fire of 1689, Johannes Vest, a renowned organ builder, made a new organ—also located in the altar—using the remains of the old one to which he added new parts.



Meanwhile, the place at the balcony was prepared for the *Buchholz* organ, built between 1836 and 1839. At that time, it was one of the most important organs in Europe. Apart from some minor repairs, it has to this day endured in its original form.

Steffen Schlandt is the ideal type of organist with a deep understanding of music deriving from an in-depth study of the music sheet. He also possesses a general aesthetics background, a sound musical culture, intuition and sense, which together with his technique, reveal and complement his style. For Steffen Schlandt the form takes a wide range of sonorous perspectives, nothing is excessive, and the listener is in permanent contact with the musician. His studies at Cluj (the organ section) followed by special training in Trossingen, Germany (in church music), and in Würzburg (as choir and orchestra conductor), combined with his passion for organ music validated his unique standing in the cultural life of Braşov, as organist and musicologist.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN, PhD Candidate  
Musical Centre Expert

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## HISTORY. MEMORY. ORALITY.

### REMEMBRANCES OF THE WAR - A *HUMAN LIBRARY* EVENT

On 16 April, *Baciu Hall* hosted the event *Human Library – History. Memory. Orality. Confessions from WWII*. The event was organized by our University in partnership with Casa Mureşenilor Museum. The “human libraries” were actually retired Gen. Ion Petrescu, retired Major Eng. Alexandru Corpade and Traian Dumbrăveanu, museum custodian.



The invitees reminisced about the past and the stories of their families going through the ordeal of the war and shared their memories with pupils from the secondary school in Bod and with the students from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication.

The date at which the event was set is not random: it was on 16 April 1944 that the first bomb attack of the allies was launched on Braşov.



The framework of this special event was the project Europe for Citizens *ACT-Active Telling, ACTive Learning*, in which Transilvania University is also a partner. The other partner institutions are from Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Poland.

Lecturer Daniela SOREA, PhD  
ACT Coordinator

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## THE KUMMER–VANDIVER CONJECTURE – A LECTURE ON ALGEBRA



The Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science welcomed a very special guest, Prof. Preda Mihăilescu, one of the most widely known Romanian mathematicians, from *Mathematisches Institut, Georg-August-Universität*, Goettingen, Germany.

Prof. Mihăilescu went down in the history of mathematics in 2002 when he demonstrated a famous conjecture formulated in 1844 by Eugène

Catalan. The result is known nowadays as Mihăilescu's *theorem*.

Dr Mihăilescu studied at the leading Swiss university *ETH-Zürich*, where he also defended his PhD thesis on *Cyclotomy of rings and primality testing*. Currently, he is tenured professor at Goettingen, having as main research directions the *Iwasawa* theory, the Diophantine equations, and the algorithmic theory of numbers.

Professor Mihăilescu visited our faculty on 14 May, when he delivered a remarkable and much applauded lecture on the *Kummer–Vandiver* conjecture. A feat of mathematical refinement, his much-awaited talk was attended by an eager audience of students and faculty staff.

Assoc. Prof. Eugen PĂLTĂNEA, PhD  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nicușor MINCULETE, PhD  
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

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## ***THE RESTORER'S CARD* TURNS 14.**

### **RESTORATION EXHIBITION AT THE FACULTY OF WOOD ENGINEERING**

On 18 April our university played host to an exhibition entitled "Turning 14 – the restorer's card", an event in line with the tradition of having annual displays of senior students' projects achieved during the Furniture Restoration classes.



The 14th edition this year mainly exhibited pieces of furniture and functional or decorative pieces such as frames, windows and other rustic and vividly coloured wooden items.



In recognition of their hard work, each student symbolically received a restorer card, issued by the *Antique IL* Restoration Club, a student-founded club set up within the *My Faculty* scheme, in 2015. Students actively participated in designing the Furniture restoration lab and in compiling a restoration database. Furthermore, several students volunteered for events concerned with the wood heritage conservation.



The event also furnished the setting for the Students' Conference prize award. Thus, the exhibition became a hub for exchanging ideas between professors, students, academic and cultural representatives, as well as for promoting the faculty and its various activities.

Lecturer Eng. Dr Emanuela BELDEAN  
Prof. Ch. Dr Maria Cristina TIMAR  
Faculty of Wood Engineering

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## COMMUNICATING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES. A PRACTICAL COURSE

On 17 April, junior students from the Faculty of Communication and Public Relations attended a lecture given by Marie Louise Aastrup, doctoral student at *Memorial University* New Foundland, Canada. The Danish researcher, who is also the recipient of a fellowship program within the Romanian Academy, lectured on applying mixed research methods in achieving communication plans with local communities.



Although her current research topic is connected to natural heritage conservation and the conflicts generated by using natural areas, the students were able to find out about the concrete challenges posed by the communication with local communities.

These examples were excerpted from the research conducted by Marie Louise Aastrup in the Făgăraș Mountains over the past two years, a research focused on investigating the proposals of different local authorities regarding the construction of a National Park in the area, and at providing a historical backdrop to the local stories on the conservation of the natural heritage.

In her fieldwork as well as in setting up of interviews, Marie Louise Aastrup was assisted by a senior student from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication.

Lecturer Florin NECHITA, PhD  
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

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## A FACULTY OF WOOD ENGINEERING ALUMNUS ON THE PODIUM AT THE NATIONAL FURNITURE DESIGN CONTEST



Robert Niculescu is a 2014 graduate from the Faculty of Wood Engineering. In 2019, he completed the MA courses of Eco-Design of furniture and restoration, at the same faculty.



Since 2014 Robert has actively participated in the Furniture Design Contest organized by the Romanian Association of Furniture Manufacturers, and was awarded the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for creation and the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for end product in 2018 – Plywood Chair; the 1<sup>st</sup> prize for creation and the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for end product in 2017– Springtime Collection; the 2<sup>nd</sup> prize for creation and a special mention in 2014.



Robert also won several other prizes in national and international competitions.



Currently, he works as a designer with Mobexpert Company and owns his own design studio ([www.robertniculescu.com](http://www.robertniculescu.com)).



Assoc. Prof. Dr Alin M. OLĂRESCU  
Faculty of Wood Engineering

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## STUDENTS FROM THE FACULTY OF PRODUCT DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT MEET WITH SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI

On 9 April, first year students from the Faculty of Product Design and Environment met with two of the faculty alumni, Dr Mihaela Dudiță – Project Manager at *Institut für Solartechnik* from *Rapperswil* Switzerland, and Eng. Meda Gheorghe, doctoral student.



This was an opportunity for our undergraduate students to find out first-hand about what it takes to build a successful career in the field. Our alumnae volunteered their support by tutoring students. They generously and patiently answered all the questions from the audience in the Q&A session that concluded the meeting.

Assoc. Prof. Dr Daniela CIOBANU  
Faculty of Product Design and Environment

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## THE THIRD EDITION OF THE PRACTICAL ANNUAL FAIR AT TRH FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, in collaboration with the IT partner companies from Braşov organized this year, on April 11 the Annual Practice Fair - for the students of the second year.



The event enjoyed a wide involvement from the economic environment of Braşov, the partner and collaborating companies of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science being present at the stands arranged in the "P" building of the Transilvania University of Braşov, with supporting materials for promoting their own internships offered to our students.

The representatives of the companies present answered the students' questions in an open, constructive and professional atmosphere.

More than 170 second year students from all study programs were present. After the end of the fair, all the information collected represents a basis for completing the CVs, letters of intent and, finally, the

applications for the internships covered by each student.



We thank all the present companies and we wish them all, partner companies and students alike, success and long-term professional achievements, starting with these internships.

Lecturer Anca VASILESCU, PhD, Vice-Dean  
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

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## CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE OF GERMAN EXPRESSION

At the invitation of the Faculty of Letters, the writers Carmen Elisabeth Puchianu, Horst Samson and Traian Pop met at the Multicultural Center of the University of Transylvania for an afternoon of reading.



In the presentation, the moderator of the meeting, Adrian Lăcătuș, the dean of the Faculty of Letters, emphasized the importance of German expression literature for the Romanian literature of the 1970s - 80s and its influence on the eighties poets, noting, at

the same time, that Traian Pop continues as an editor promoting the writers' work which was made before 1989 by the Kriterion publishing house.

Traian Pop also spoke about the niche in the literature market, which is addressed to writers of German expression. Horst Samson read from his new works "Das Imaginaere und anoere Anwesenheit darin" and "Heimat als Versuchung - das nackte Leben", Carmen Elisabeth Puchianu from "Die Professoressa. Erotikon in gebundener and ungebundener Rede", and Traian Pop from "Bleierne Fluegel" and "Absolute Macht".

The author Horst Samson mentioned the political context in which he wrote the literature, considering it in the 80s as a valve that helps you to live and survive. The public reading ended with a dialogue between writers and the public.

Lecturer Ioana Andrea DIACONU, PhD

Lecturer Laura Elena MANEA, PhD

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## GLOBAL ENGINEERING DEANS COUNCIL INDUSTRY FORUM

At the end of March, 50 participants from 16 countries came to Bucharest, Romania, for the first regional *GEDC Industry Forum*, organized in partnership with Petrus Communications. Transilvania University of Braşov was a key partner of this event. The program focused on encouraging innovation by facilitating the participation of representatives of universities and industry leaders, by addressing the ever-widening gap between digital skills and the absence of skills and by developing key skills, including intra-entrepreneurial skills, with a view to introducing young people into the labor market.



The event was attended by deans, directors of the research and human resources departments, directors of companies, innovation and learning specialists and representatives of the student organizations: IFEES, Board of European Students for Technology (BEST) and Electrical Engineering Students' European Association (EESTEC ), along with representatives of the Transilvania University of Braşov (IESC dean Prof. Carmen Gerigan and Prof. Doru Ursuţiu) and three representatives of the MIELE company in Braşov. Other companies that participated in the event were: Zitec, Arctic, Total, IBM, Boeing, Avison Young Commercial Real Estate.



The feedback from the event was extremely good, the participants saying that this was the most interesting event they have ever attended. The team sessions, presentations and interactivity of the event were the most appreciated aspects, and the participants showed a high interest in joining the next GEDC Industry Forum.

Central and Eastern Europe has one of the greatest development potentials, and through this event the GEDC has expanded its network, connecting with deans and representatives of major industries in this important strategic part of the world.

GEDC will organize, on July 3-5 2019, the next event in Fontainebleau, France, as part of the global edition of the GEDC Industry Forum. For updated details on the GEDC Industry Forum events, or to register for the next event, please visit the [GEDC-IndustryForum.com](http://GEDC-IndustryForum.com) website.

Prof. Dr. Doru URSUȚIU  
Transylvania University of Brasov  
Alina GHEORGHIȚĂ  
Account Manager, Petrus Communications

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## THE CONCERT OF THE JESUS COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE CHORUS AT TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV – A MAJESTIC PERFORMANCE

On 14 April, the *Jesus College Cambridge* choir gave a majestic performance, covering a wide range of voice timbres and a vast repertory. Founded in 1496, at the same time as the College, as a boys' chapel choir, it became a mixed choir in 1982, thus expanding its repertory.



Having earned an outstanding international reputation, the choir collaborates regularly with well-known soloists, professional orchestras and instrumental ensembles, such as Britten Sinfonia, Fretwork and Saraband Consort. Their educational projects, in progress in Great Britain, as well as in Sri Lanka and India, can be added to their tours in Australia, South Africa, Scotland, the Netherlands, Malta, China, Hong Kong, Italy, Germany, France, the USA and now Romania.



The audience had the chance to listen to 46 voices combined to perform a series of different musical creations. The concert was planned by the conductor

Richard Pinel, musical director of Jesus Cambridge College and head of the Edington Music Festival.

The program included classical and gospel religious choral creations, both *a capella* and with organ accompaniment from the organists David Rees and Jason Richards.



The choir featured naturally energetic, versatile and pure voices singing compositions including *Vox in Rama* by George Kirbye, *Ave Maria* by Robert Parsons, *Ne Irascaris* by William Byrd, *O Sing Joyfully* by Adrian Batten, *Fantasia in Gm BWV 542* by J.S. Bach (organ), *Drop, drop slow tears* by Robert Walker, *There is an old belief* by Hubert Parry, *Ave Regina* by Cecilia MacDowall, *Follow up* (from Hudson Preludes) by Nico Muhly (organ), *Magnificat* by Giles Swayne, *Ave Verum* by Colin Mawby and *Makakusikelele uYehova (The Lord bless you and keep you)* by Ralf Schmitt.

In addition to quality and professionalism, the Choir of the *Jesus Cambridge* College brought joy to the public – the joy of sharing music in a candid, emotional, often surreal and fascinating way, in a surge of passion and sensibility.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN, PhD Candidate  
Musical Centre Expert

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## FANTASM - JAZZ AT ITS BEST

The evening of 18 April marked one of the most beautiful events in this season of Chamber Jazz at Transilvania University. On this occasion we delved into a multitude of sounds and musical compositions, alongside three outstanding players: the pianist Lucian Ban, the violist Mat Maneri and the violinist Albrecht Maurer.



The album *Fantasm*, named after a composition which belongs to the famous drummer Paul Motian, a former collaborator of Mat Maneri, was the outcome of the chemistry existing between the three musicians. Equally responsible is the way the viola, the violin and the piano play together in perfect harmony, surprisingly completing each other's notes, like a reunion between three old friends.



A trio which, at first blush, seems rather atypical for a jazz concert managed to present the local jazz lovers with an unprecedented musical experience.

From the beginning to the end, the performance was a true embodiment of contemporary jazz which felt, every step of the way, like an expression of our times.

All concerts from this season were special in their own way, because each of them brought an element of novelty to the stage of the Multicultural Center. Thus, creativity, passion and originality were just a few of the defining elements of this unique show. This time the innovative component was introduced by Albrecht Maurer through the strange, but at the same time spectacular, sound effects performed with the help of a different instrument – the human voice.



*Fantasm* was an amazing experience, a short journey into a distant universe at the end of which the audience had the opportunity to express their curiosity and ask questions during the discussion with the artists moderated by Adrian Lăcătuș.

Alexandra Rotariu, Student  
Faculty of Letters

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## RAMONA OROS – A GRADUATE DESIGNING THE FUTURE IN BRUXELLES



Ramona Oros graduated 10 years ago, as part of the second class of the Telecommunications study program at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. Then she graduated from the part-time program of International Economic Relations at the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration. She also completed the Master's program "Entrepreneurship and Leadership". Her graduate studies afforded her the opportunity to interact with the local businesses and to understand the importance of European funds in their development, which subsequently influenced the course of her career.

She also continued her training in the technical field as part of the Doctoral School at the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering, in collaboration with the Centre for Valorization and Transfer of Competence. Her research focused on distance wireless measurements of temperatures for the industrial galvanization equipment, a toxic environment that makes this approach necessary. The study resulted in a system that is still in use today in the galvanizing hall at IAR Braşov. Being enrolled in an EU-funded doctoral program, she had the opportunity to undergo a three-month internship abroad at *Carinthia University of Applied Sciences* – Villach, Austria. This study visit paved the way for a future collaboration, because at the end of her PhD program she returned to *Carinthia University of Applied Sciences* in order to start her professional career, first as *Junior Researcher* and then as *Assistant Manager* on European projects.

Her career turned towards European funding opportunities in education. During the five years she spent at *Carinthia University of Applied Sciences*, she

was involved as a research team member, then as coordinator at department level, in 14 more projects.

Pursuing her interest in keeping abreast with the current technological developments, she left the academia and started working in the management of European projects. Thus, she became *Project Acquisition Manager* for an organization meant to support the collaboration between industry and education in the field of renewable energy, mobility and everything related to developing a safer, cleaner and more pleasant environment for future generations. In this context, she had the chance to coordinate a major project at the European level, in the field of urban mobility, supported by the *European Institute of Innovation and Technology* (EIT), a program of the European Commission that funds research, collaboration with the industry and the business environment by promoting innovative solutions, regardless of their origin. She believed that the motto of this organization, as well as its long term plans were really useful, this is why she became *Innovation Analyst* at EIT Digital, position which gives her the possibility to apply the technical and economic knowledge she acquired during her years of study at our university, her experience in European projects, and, at the same time, challenges her to participate in defining the directions in which the digital world is going to develop in the years to come.

Her plans are to be actively involved in the development of European programs through solutions meant to support valuable initiatives, regardless of the field, with the aim of creating a pleasant social, economic and cultural environment for the next generations. She is currently working in Brussels, occupying a position from which she can substantially help the digital development of her native country with the help of European funds.

Prof. Dr. Doru URSUȚIU  
Prof. Dr. Cornel SAMOILĂ

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