



**Transilvania
University
of Brasov**

NEWSLETTER

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- ▣ UNITBV IN WEBOMETRICS RANKINGS
- ▣ UNITBV SPECIALISTS GET INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL FOREST STRATEGY
- ▣ THE ONLY XYLOTHEQUE IN ROMANIA
- ▣ "INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RESEARCH WEBINAR IN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE" IN ITS SECOND EDITION
- ▣ AN EVENT DEDICATED TO ROSE PSE-STUDENT PROJECT: "LET'S KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER"
- ▣ PSE STUDENTS ALL ASTIR...
- ▣ MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUTOMOTIVE HIGHER EDUCATION AT BRAȘOV
- ▣ "HAVING A TALK WITH..." AT RADIO CAMPUS TRANSILVANIA
- ▣ ALONE TOGETHER - A SIX-PART SERIES OF SOLO PIANO CONCERTS
- ▣ IN MEMORIAM - PROF. DOC. DR. ENG. GHEORGHE NIȚESCU (1924 – 1986)
- ▣ IN MEMORIAM - PROF. DR. ENG. IVAN ERLICZ (1912 – 1997)

UNITBV IN WEBOMETRICS RANKINGS

Transilvania University of Braşov is among the top universities in Romania, according to the latest report published by *Ranking Web of Universities* (Webometrics) on 27 January 2021 (<http://webometrics.info/en/Europe/Romania>).

RANKING WEB OF UNIVERSITIES

The ranking measures the results of over 31,000 universities worldwide, of which 102 are Romanian higher education institutions. According to the Webometrics report, UNITBV ranks fifth in Romania, 567th in Europe and 1422nd in the world (at the time of publication of this ranking).

The ranking released in early 2021 came up with new rules compared to the indicators taken into account in previous editions. Thus, the indicator “presence” was excluded, which had a weight of 5% and represented the “online presence”, directly proportional to the size (number of pages) of the main web domain of the institution. The current indicators taken into account by Webometrics are:

- visibility – number of external networks (subnets) linking to the institution’s webpages (50%);
- transparency – number of citations registered by the authors of the institution on Google Scholar platform (10%);
- excellence in research – number of papers amongst the top 10% most cited in each of all 26 disciplines of the full database in the reference period 2015-2019 (40%).

Webometrics ranking is published twice a year (the data are collected in the first weeks of January and July to be made public at the end of these months)

and measures the results of 31,000 higher education institutions worldwide in over 200 countries.

Set up in 2004 by Cybermetrics Lab (Spanish National Research Council, CSIC) in Spain, Webometrics is a ranking system for universities around the world, which is based on indicators that take into account both the volume of web content and the visibility and impact of scientific papers.

ranking	World Rank	University	Dist.	Impact Rank*	Openness Rank*	Excellence Rank*
1	834	University Babeş-Bolyai	👉	1267	717	997
2	980	Alexandru Ioan Cuza University	👉	1370	848	1236
3	1035	University Politehnica of Bucharest	👉	3022	933	850
4	1365	West University of Timisoara	👉	3098	1228	1360
5	1422	Transilvania University of Braşov	👉	3812	1240	1282
6	1463	Universitatea Tehnică din Cluj-Napoca (North University of Baia Mare)	👉	2262	1046	1872
7	1561	Gheorghe Asachi Technical University	👉	3120	1007	1798
8	1694	University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iuliu Haţieganu Cluj-Napoca	👉	6194	890	1349
9	1761	Politehnica University Timisoara	👉	3775	1080	2045
10	1859	Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy	👉	9263	1132	1100
11	1868	University of Bucharest	👉	1577	5954	1319
12	1966	Dunarea de Jos University Galati	👉	4434	1416	2138
13	2145	University of Craiova	👉	4039	1368	2649
14	2280	Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies	👉	1270	5954	2212
15	2298	University of Medicine and Pharmacy Gr.T.Popa	👉	8587	1133	1863

The main objective of this web ranking is to promote the knowledge generated by universities in the Open Access system. According to the principles of this ranking, the best strategy to improve the site is to increase the quantity and quality of web content.

Given that other rankings focused only on a few issues considered relevant, in particular on the research results, the ranking based on web indicators better reflects the whole institutional picture, as many other activities of the professors and researchers are evidenced by their presence on the internet.

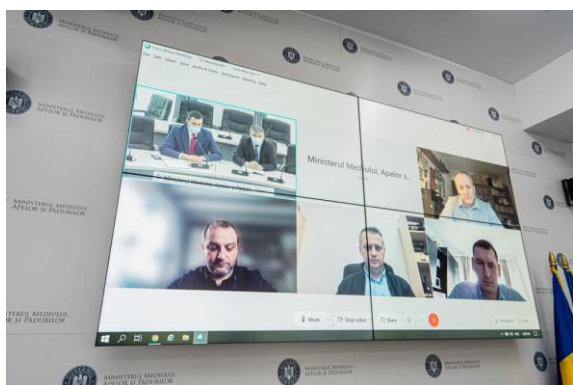
Synthesis made by Victor BRICIU,
Office of Marketing and Imagine

Sources:
www.unitbv.ro/stiri-si-evenimente
<http://webometrics.info>

■ CONTENTS

UNITBV SPECIALISTS GET INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL FOREST STRATEGY

The Central Public Authority in charge of forests invited all stakeholders in the forestry sector to participate in a structured dialogue, with a view to substantiating strategic options for the development of forest policy. The design and moderation of the consultation process were based on a collaboration protocol between the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests, the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering within Transilvania University of Braşov and the Faculty of Silviculture within Ştefan cel Mare University of Suceava.



Held from July 2020 to February 2021, the consultation process took place mostly online and aimed at involving all stakeholders in forest management in a structured dialogue in order to formulate concrete and substantiated positions on the development directions of forest policy.

The consultation process also aimed to ensure an objective, transparent and supportive dialogue framework. In this way, it was possible to involve in the consultation process 226 participants, represented by both organizations and independent

experts, who covered all areas of activity relevant to the forestry sector. The entire process, including the results obtained, can be watched on the dedicated website

<https://optiuni.strategieforestiera.ro/doku.php>

The final report paves the way to the development of the long-awaited national strategy for the forestry sector, clarifying the position of stakeholders on both consensus issues and sensitive or controversial issues. At the same time, it directs the efforts of the central authority towards finding effective, efficient solutions with a high level of acceptance.

The report contains valuable information on the ability of stakeholders to contribute constructively and professionally to the future of the forestry sector. But above all, the results of the consultation process show that a transparent and rigorously structured dialogue makes possible the positive and civilized exchange of views, even in the online environment, commonly used to radicalize the opinions expressed.

The team involved in the project, from Transilvania University of Braşov, consisted of Eng. Gabriela Baban, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Aureliu-Florin Hălălişan, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Adrian Indreica, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Victor Păcurar and Prof. Dr. Eng. Bogdan Popa.

Prof. Dr. Eng. Bogdan POPA
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Aureliu-Florin HĂLĂLIŞAN
Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering

■ CONTENTS

THE ONLY XYLOTHEQUE IN ROMANIA

The Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering owns the largest collection of wood samples (xylotheque) in Romania.

This collection contains about 3,000 wood samples of over 500 species, mostly wood of species from other continents (Africa, South America, Asia) among which we mention: eucalyptus, mahogany, ebony, makkasar ebony, okan, zebrano, khaja, etc.

This collection belongs to the endowment of the Forest Products Laboratory and is useful in training future forestry engineers, serving as study material for wood characteristics, physical and mechanical properties or durability and conservation.



The wooden samples have standard dimensions (0.5x3x6 inches) in line with the instructions of the

International Wood Collectors Society - IWCS. The faculty collection also contains some very old samples from Romania, the oldest being 138 years old (cherry species, 1882, Bolintinu-Cotroceni location).



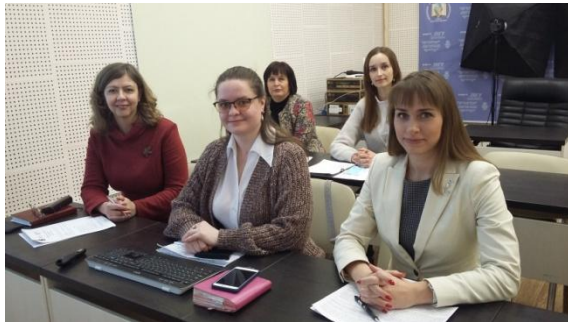
The xylotheque is currently being restored, the students of the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering being also involved.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Aureliu-Florin HĂLĂLIȘAN
Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering

■ CONTENTS

"INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RESEARCH WEBINAR IN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE" IN ITS SECOND EDITION

On 19 January 2021 the second edition of *International Student Research Webinar in Language and Culture* took place, a meeting for graduate and undergraduate students, organized in partnership by the Department of English within Penza State University, Russia, and by the Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics of the Faculty of Letters within Transilvania University in Braşov.



It is worth mentioning that this event is the result of several years of collaboration between the two universities, between which there is a cooperation agreement, but also a close relationship within the Erasmus+ programme, which enabled several mobility exchanges for students and professors.

The event brought together students from the two universities who addressed in their presentations various topics in the field of linguistics, such as methods of building the identity of authors of political blogs; hybridity of the Romanian political television interview; representations of collectivism in the professors' online communities; intercultural communication from the perspective of foreign students attending courses at Transilvania University of Braşov; Germany's language policy

reflected in the country's legislation; analysis of the anti-immigration discourse in Hungary.

Although these concerns might seem very different, the questions and discussions that followed each presentation highlighted many common areas of interest, including the issue of building identity through language or the manipulation through the media.



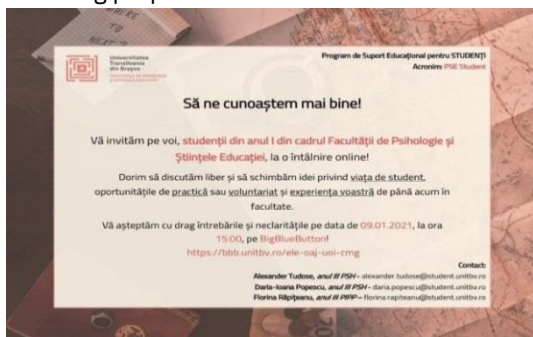
We thank our colleagues at Penza State University, especially Professor Tatiana Dubrovskaya, for providing the infrastructure necessary to carry out this event. We hope that the meeting provided an opportunity for the participating students to establish connections with colleagues who have similar research concerns.

Lect. Dr. Raluca SINU
Faculty of Letters

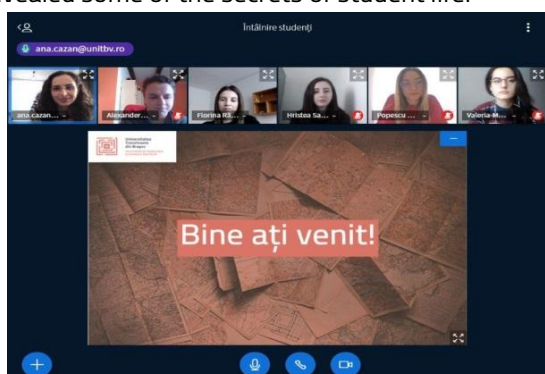
■ CONTENTS

AN EVENT DEDICATED TO ROSE PSE-STUDENT PROJECT: "LET'S KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER"

Who says that online school can't be fun? And that the university's e-learning platform can only be used for teaching purposes?



The students at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences met online on 9 January 2021... Their colleagues in earlier study years, Alexander Tudose, Daria Popescu, Florina Răpîțeanu și invitații lor Valeria Paraschiva, Sabina Hristea, Maria Bratu and Liviu Oprea mentored them for a few hours and revealed some of the secrets of student life.



The event organized under the auspices of *Project ROSE PSE Student* included two sections:

I. Presentations made by student organizers and guests who addressed the following topics:

- The activity as a student senator and student life in general; importance of internship (Sabina Hristea).
- The activity as an ARACIS student evaluator and about the National Union of Students in Romania (UNSR); discussion on student rights and obligations (Valeria Paraschiva).
- Volunteer activity within Save the Children Association, Romania (Maria Bratu).
- Erasmus Programme (Liviu Oprea).

■ Student life and the activity of student representative in the Faculty Council (Daria-Ioana Popescu, Florina Răpîțeanu, Alexander Tudose).

II. Free question and discussion session about student life. The participants asked many questions about volunteering, about career opportunities at the end of their studies, about the possibility to access educational and psychological counselling services within the university, about the importance of teacher evaluation.



At the same time, the participants proposed activities they would like to attend in the future, such as exchanges of experience between UNITBV students and students from other universities in the country, personal development workshops or regular meetings organized by students.

The large number of first-year students, about 80 students, and the fruitful discussions made them feel part of PSE community, even beyond the classes.

The organizers of the event ended the meeting on an optimistic note: "Thank you very much for participating and getting involved in this meeting! We hope it was useful and enjoyable for you, just as it was a great experience for us. We look forward to seeing you at another such event soon. Good luck with your assignments and learning for the session!"

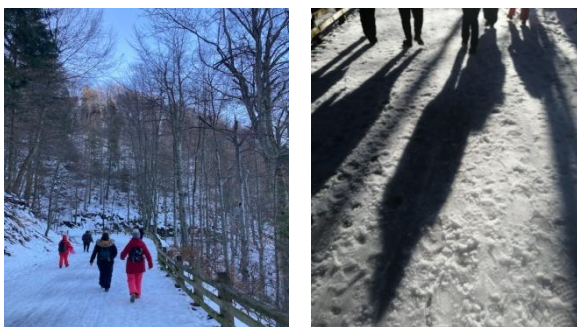
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ana-Maria CAZAN,
Alexander TUDOSE, 3rd-year student Psychology,
Daria POPESCU, 3rd-year student Psychology,
Florina RĂPIȚEANU, 3rd-year student Pedagogy of
Primary and Preschool Education,
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

PSE STUDENTS ALL ASTIR ...

We have all felt and still feel the less pleasant effects of online activity. This is not the place to debate the issue of virtual education. Sedentary lifestyle looms large and it's not so easy to deal with it. Fatigue and wear are also present. All in all, extra pounds are no laughing matter ...

An increasingly common reality among our students, who stated on many occasions that they felt overwhelmed by the new learning environment. Nevertheless, they withstood it all! And so did we! Everyone at some point finds refuge. Sports, reading, why not sleep, meditation, etc. In this case, the desire to move brought us together, but at the physical distance imposed by the need for safety.

What can you do about it? A first step is taken: awareness of the fact! But this urges you to take the thought further. Literally, that is, on foot. Yes, it means movement in any form. A common saying goes that „it takes two weeks to feel a change, four weeks to see a change, and eight weeks for others to notice it, too“. However, no other moment is better than the present moment! Every time you can find many other reasons (in sooth many) not to do something, than to do that something



And yet it seems that the world is starting to move.

Because movement, in this case in the form of hiking, does not cost. Well, a cost still exists, but in a different form: a little effort, a little motivation and an infusion of energy (a small bar of chocolate and the problem is solved).

However, the benefits of these invested costs speak for themselves: good mood, optimal oxygenation, irrigation of body and brain in particular, a better ability to memorize,

communicate and socialize, in short, an altogether different health condition. That state in which you feel more productive, in which the tasks piling up in front of you no longer seem so overwhelming or difficult.



It is known that sustained exercise is positively associated with optimizing intellectual and academic performance and henceforth with an increased self-image and self-esteem.

In full exam session, a few students from our faculty accepted my invitation to come for a walk, either on the Old Road up to Poiana Mică, or under



Tâmpa to Iepure.

We then continued with a different kind of movement: the evening tour frontally on Postăvaru. It's still snowing, so the tour continues.

People keep coming!

In fact, the agenda of the Vice-Dean's office for students includes an activity of physical motion every week, which we hope will become a habit. So, let's move!

Lect. Dr. Oana Alina BOTA
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF AUTOMOTIVE HIGHER EDUCATION AT BRAȘOV

Invitation to reading

The celebration in 2019 of 70 years of existence of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and implicitly of 70 years of automotive higher education in Brașov revived the interest in highlighting the essential moments of their evolution, an interest also manifested due to the appearance of "Monograph of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering 1949-2019".



The pages of the book "Moments in the history of automotive higher education at Brașov" resulted from the effort to offer students at the Department of Automotive and Transport Engineering (DATR), the graduates of the study programmes "Cars and Tractors" and "Road Vehicles", the young teaching staff in the department, as well as all those interested, the essential and determining aspects of the creation, evolution and development of Brașov automotive education in its 71 years existence, in the awareness that the present and the future are built naturally on the knowledge of the past.

These pages of the history of Brașov automotive higher education are based on documents related to the various phases of its evolution, but also on the oral history transmitted from generation to generation by the masters who served the automotive school.

This material available at <http://auto.unitbv.ro/datr/index.php/ro/> section "History", presents the period 1949-2020 and it was conceived in the idea of subsequent completion with the achievements of the years to come.



Furthermore, the emergence and evolution of automotive higher education in Brașov are organically related to the creation and development of the Faculty of Mechanics within the current Transilvania University of Brașov. For these reasons, a special space was given to the history of the establishment and development of the Faculty of Mechanics.

It is also worth mentioning here the chapter "Images from the archives of AT (AM) Department", in which the reader will discover the Central Library of the A/C building during 1950-1965 or the Laboratory of Engines with Ono-Sokki Japanese stand, destined to the ICPAT automotive students in the years 1974-1990, and last but not least the references in the chapter "Professors having formed the graduates of the Department Cars and Tractors/ Road Vehicles".

Volume Coordinator
Emeritus Prof. DHC Dr. Eng. Gheorghe Alexandru RADU
Member of the Academy of Technical Sciences

■ CONTENTS

"HAVING A TALK WITH..." AT RADIO CAMPUS TRANSILVANIA

Through the project *Radio Campus Transilvania* we always succeed in highlighting the most beautiful and interesting topics that target and attract students and not only them. One of the most broadcast shows is, without a doubt, "Having a talk with...", a radio show format through which we aim to invite the officials of Transilvania University of Braşov and other personalities from different fields of activity who achieve extraordinary things.

About the beginning of the second semester, the student problems and questions, we discussed with Prof. Dr. Eng. Mircea Țierean, President of the Senate of Transilvania University of Braşov; and about how to make our dreams come true, we spoke with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Mihai Comşiţ. Both discussions were for the students' benefit, with and about life, passion and desire for self-assertion. I have always believed in the power of the word, the dream and the desire for self-assertion. Without much introduction, I'd like to tell you that these people, role models in education, offer a perspective through which we, the young generation, can train and educate ourselves.



With the President of the Senate of Transilvania University of Braşov, Prof. Dr. Eng. Mircea Țierean, we approached the topic of 28 January 2021, entitled *Leadership*, which in his vision means the art of knowing how to say "No", because many of us know how to say "Yes". How do we come to master the art of leadership? Three simple steps: it is necessary to have an open mind, to understand

what is at stake, and finally, to stay in position, that is, to keep our firmness. For us young people, it is necessary to follow the three steps: to be well prepared from a professional point of view, to know our limits and to have a solid education.



With this motivational speech, we turned to another role model among young people, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Mihai Comşiţ: "a man, a dream and an achievement!". A self-characterization that does not need explanations, but only wisdom to be understood. The discussion included three elements that take us through a "complete racing route" - perseverance, work, ambition. Competitiveness must always be seen as a motivation, not an obstacle, and it is up to us how we understand this. Students bear their professors' imprint; therefore, faculty is meant to deliver quality products, that is, specialists in various fields of research. The conclusion glimpsed from the discussions with the two guests of January would be that the dream is not enough! You have to believe in it; and what we define as problems are just projections that we wrongly relate to!

Arina-Codrina TACU,
Radio Campus Transilvania
2nd-year student, Communication and Public
Relations

■ CONTENTS

ALONE TOGETHER – A SIX PART SERIES OF SOLO PIANO CONCERTS

Alone Together is a series of six solo piano concerts conceived during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Organized by the Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University of Braşov, and curated by the pianist Lucian Ban, the series borrows the name of a classical jazz standard and presents, between January and June 2021, six of the most representative Romanian jazz pianists improvising solo - perhaps the absolute expression of chamber music - and answering questions from Lucian Ban and Adrian Lăcătuş, Director of the Multicultural Centre.



Through this fifth season of Chamber Jazz@ Transilvania University, taking place in unusual conditions, we aim to bring the musicians close to community again. The series consists of six solo piano recitals starring Mircea Tiberian, Alexandru Olteanu, Toma Dimitriu, Lucian Ban, Sebastian Spanache and Romeo Cozma, and it is filmed and recorded live on the University's extraordinary D-series Steinway, and broadcast on the [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages of the Multicultural Centre.

"As we know, the health crisis has marked the world, across countries and continents, and affected our communities in an unprecedented way. Perhaps the performers were among the most affected, seeing their lives completely suspended. Although the distancing measures still keep us away from each other, we hope that this project will show, once again, that music and arts can bring hope and relief. For any jazz pianist, solo performances are the ultimate challenge, since you have nowhere to hide and you have to face not only your own demons, but also the entire history of the piano in jazz and of the instrument itself." (Lucian Ban)

Maria GHIURȚU
Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University

■ CONTENTS

IN MEMORIAM - PROF. DOC. DR. ENG. GHEORGHE NIȚESCU (1924 – 1986)

He graduated from the Polytechnic Institute of Iași in 1950, obtaining in 1953 the scientific title of Doctor of Engineering in the Tractors specialization at the Polytechnic Institute in Kharkov. After obtaining the title of Doctor, he became Associate Professor and Director of the Institute of Mechanics in Brașov.

In 1956 he initiated and achieved the unification of the higher education institutes in Brașov into one. He led the new Institute until 1961, when he was appointed ambassador to Prague.

Between 1966 and 1971 he was Professor and Rector of the Polytechnic Institute of Brașov, initiating investments for the buildings in Colina Campus, under the name of the Faculty of Mechanics.

At the same time, he was a partisan of the unification of the Polytechnic Institute with the Pedagogical Institute. By their unification, the University of Brașov eventually came into being in 1971. Based on his achievements, he obtained the scientific title of Docent Doctor in 1972.

Lect. Dr. Janos TIMAR
ALUMNI Officer,
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

Photo source and photo notes:
Emeritus Prof. DHC Dr. Eng. Gheorghe Alexandru RADU
Member of the Academy of Technical Sciences

■ CONTENTS



Graduates of Cars and Tractors Department (class of 1967), in front of D building (later M Building). In the second row (standing), in the middle - from left to right - Assoc. Prof. Stelian Năstăsioiu (with tie), Prof. Gheorghe Nițescu (with scarf), Assoc. Prof. Ivan Erlicz (with tie), Prof. Radu Mărdărescu (with tie).



IN MEMORIAM - PROF. DR. ENG. IVAN ERLICZ (1912 – 1997)

He graduated from the Technical University of Stuttgart in 1938. After graduation, he worked at Ganz company in Budapest as a mechanical engineer and transmission designer. In 1941, he was hired at the Enterprise of Cars and Automobiles S.A., in Arad, the Romanian representative of the Ford company.

From 1949 to 1965, he was the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture at the Tractor Plant in Brasov. Starting with 1965, he transferred with the basic position to the Polytechnic Institute of Braşov.

Between 1952 and 1977 (year of his retirement) he conducted his activity as a Professor within the Chair of Cars and Tractors of the Polytechnic Institute of Braşov. He taught the disciplines "Manufacture and repair of motor vehicles and tractors", respectively "Operation and technical maintenance of motor vehicles".

In 1971 he obtained the title of Doctor of Engineering in Vehicles and Tractors.

Over the years, he led numerous scientific research works and coordinated with a series of groups in charge of writing university textbooks, being the first author of the courses of "Technology of manufacture and repair of motor vehicles" in the country.

Lect. Dr. Janos TIMAR
ALUMNI Officer,
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

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■ CONTENTS