

# **NEWSLETTER**

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#### UNITBY, PARTNERSHIP WITH IRANIAN INSTITUTIONS

On the occasion of 120 years of diplomatic relations between Romania and the Islamic Republic of Iran, a series of events took place to celebrate this moment.





At the invitation of the Romanian Embassy in Tehran, a delegation led by the Rector of Transilvania University of Brașov, Prof. dr. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, which included Prof. dr. Eng. Mircea Horia Țierean, President of the Senate of Transilvania University of Brașov, Prof. dr. Ana-Maria Cazan, Coordinator of the Project Management Office, and Lect. dr. Alexandra Belibou, Faculty of Music, paid an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, between 9 and 14 July 2022.





The Ambassador of Romania to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Her Excellency Mrs. Mirela-Carmen Grecu, accompanied the UNITBV delegation to a series of meetings with representatives of the Iranian academic and cultural environment; the discussions aimed at developing cooperation in the field of education and research, and at identifying new opportunities for collaboration.

Thus, the programme of activities included meetings and discussions on the premises of the University of Tehran with which UNITBV has concluded a framework agreement for cooperation and a partnership agreement within the Erasmus+

programme, receptions at the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Organization for Culture and Islamic Relations, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

An important event of the visit was the initialling and signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between Transilvania University of Braşov and the University of Arts of Isfahan. The delegation was received by the Vice-Governor of Isfahan province, responsible for international cooperation in the cultural and economic fields, dr. Amir-Reza Naghs.







The representatives of the two institutions held discussions on possible collaborations between the University of Isfahan and UNITBV. The meeting in Isfahan was also marked by a significant cultural event - a concert prepared by Iranian students.

The discussions held with the representatives of the visited institutions focused on issues of mutual interest regarding scientific research, student and teaching personnel mobility, good practices, attitudes and mentalities that encourage the preservation of traditions and interculturality. The visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran was an opportunity to consolidate the existing partnerships between the institutions of the two countries, but also to develop new academic and cultural collaborations.

Assoc. Prof. dr. Ana-Maria CAZAN Coordinator of the Project Management Office

#### AFECT FESTIVAL AT ITS SECOND EDITION

From 17 to 21 August 2022, the second edition of AFECT Festival took place, with the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences as a partner this year as well. AFECT is a cultural event organized by Hera Foundation, which aims to promote the field of psychology and psychotherapy, through debates, movies, performances and meetings with mental health specialists.

The topics addressed were varied, featuring stories of joy, disappointment, triumph, loss, perseverance and development, while exploring the complexity of human relationships. The Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences was represented by Prof. dr. Mariela Pavalache, the Dean, who moderated, within the festival, the debate entitled *Psychology and Pseudopsychology*, proposing to the participants a reading grid of life and interpersonal relations where logical argument and proofs prevail, even if pseudoscientific explanations are sometimes more attractive.



The festival also included the presentation of the research report on the study *Being Young in Braşov*, a project financed by Braşov County Sports and Youth Directorate, and made by a research team from Transilvania University of Braşov, made up of graduate students Alexander Tudose and Simona Toma, coordinated by Assoc. Prof. dr. Ana-Maria Cazan.

The UNITBV team presented the needs and opinions of young people Braşov county on leisure time, quality of life, civic involvement, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on well-being, entrepreneurial intentions, education, work, services dedicated to young people and more, as they emerged from the study conducted throughout the year.





At the same time, a team of graduate students from the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences (Andreea Cristina Brojbeanu, Andreea-Alexandra Petrescu, Anamaria Petrovici, Valentin Clain, Luminiţa Niţoi and Camelia Lucaci), coordinated by internship mentors from Hera Foundation ran a programme to increase the well-being of employees from various organizations in Braşov. The company representatives and other participants were awarded on the last day of the festival for their involvement in this project.



The topics addressed during the festival were grouped into five categories: anxiety, addiction, depression, couples and children, and trauma. They offered the public opportunities to reflect on the facets of mental life, to engage in dialogue with specialists, to ask questions and get relevant answers about mental health, to understand that accepting imperfection is part of normalcy, and that there are solutions for the emotional problems we might face at certain times in our lives.

We are glad that the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences joined Hera Foundation for this project this year as well. We look forward to seeing you at the next edition with new debates, performances and topics of interest to the general public.

Assoc. Prof. dr. Ana-Maria CAZAN Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

#### COMPLETION OF THE 2030 DRAFT NATIONAL FOREST STRATEGY

The Draft 2030 National Forest Strategy - an important undertaking of Romania in the context of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan - was completed on 31 July 2022 by a multi-disciplinary team, under the institutional umbrella of Transilvania University of Brasov.

In addition to UNITBV specialists, the project team included academic teaching personnel from Ştefan cel Mare University OF Suceava, as well as independent experts.

The drafting of SNP30 was based on a public consultation process carried out between July 2020 and February 2021 under the coordination of the two universities, which aimed to involve all factors interested in or affected by forest management in a structured dialogue, with a view to formulating concrete and substantiated positions regarding the directions for the development of the forestry policy.







Later, the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests proposed additional analyses, debates and studies within the contract for *Research services for the drafting of the independent study and the 2020-2030 National Forest Strategy*, a contract carried out between March and July 2022. This contract was adjudicated through auction, carried out and successfully completed by the team coordinated by Transilvania University of Braşov.

SNP30 is a document which complies with the requirements of the new European Forest Strategy and which meets, through the five thematic areas, all the objectives of the European strategy.







Within these thematic areas, 14 strategic directions of action were established, each of them characterized by a strategic objective towards which the necessary efforts and resources must be directed. SNP30 also defines 60 objectives to be met for the implementation of the drafted strategic framework. SNP30 integrates result objectives that have 2023-2030 as their time limit for completion. The drafted strategic directions aim to direct the national forestry sector towards the achievement, by 2050, of a sustainable and climate-neutral bioeconomy, at the same time offering the guarantee that all ecosystems are resilient and adequately protected. The version of SNP30 that will be subject to public debate is available on the dedicated website: https://strategieforestiera.ro/process/snp30.

The SNP30 draft was publicly presented on 22 August, at "Sergiu T. Chiriacescu" Conference Centre of Transilvania University of Brașov, in the presence of the Minister of the Environment, Waters and Forests, the Rector of Transilvania University in Brașov, the members of the implementation team and the representatives of the main stakeholders in the Romanian forestry sector.

Prof. dr. Bogdan POPA
Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering
Photo source:
https://www.strategieforestiera.ro/docs/glt\_sessions

## Launching event of BS22 single-seat race car organized by the bluestreamline team

A unique event organized by "BlueStreamline" racing team of Transilvania University of Braşov, namely the launch of BS22 single-seat race car, took place on 5 August 2022, at 6:00 p.m., in front of the C building of the University.



During this launch event, "BlueStreamline" team also marked its 14 years of existence by launching the 13<sup>th</sup> single-seat race car, with which the team will participate in two international Formula Student competitions, between 20 August and 5 September: in Croatia, on the Karting circuit the Movi Marof stage and in Spain, on the Parcmotor Castellolí circuit.



The event entitled "Unboxing BS22" was attended by numerous guests, students, teaching personnel, fans of this sport, former members of the BlueStreamline team, but also representatives of Transilvania University of Braşov, through the presence of the Rector, Prof. dr. Eng. loan Vasile Abrudan and the Vice-Rector for Public Relations, Prof. dr. MD Liliana Rogozea. All of them were

welcomed by the BlueStreamline team with a lot of warmth, excitement and determination for the competitions that await them.

The BlueStreamline team, coordinated by Assoc. Prof. dr. Mihai Comșiț, is made up this year of motivated and talented young people, with very good skills and knowledge of engineering and mechanics: Mircea Niculcea (team leader), Mihai Luchian (consultant), Cosmin Chindea, Daniel Marciu, Radu Torpan (bodywork), Daniel Isăilă (marketing and PR), Raul Ardelean, Gabriel Paraschiv (chassis), Cătălin Butiu, Andrei Câmpean, Răzvan Fedorca (engine), Matei Caba, Florin Corciovă, Andrei Cristea, Andrei Spătaru (electronics) and Radu Dumitru.



BlueStreamline came into being in 2009 as an initiative of the UNITBV students, aiming to create and develop a racing car for Formula Student events. Year after year, since 2009, the team has succeeded in designing and building a first-class single-seat race car with which it has competed on the well-known Formula 1 circuits: Silverstone Circuit (Great Britain), Catalunya Circuit (Spain) and on staza Movi Marof Karting circuits (Croatia), Autodromo Riccardo Paletti – Varano de' Melegari (Italy), Castellolí (Spain) motor park.

Victor BRICIU
Office of Marketing and Image

### A STUDY ON BEING YOUNG IN BRAŞOV

The study themed on *Being Young in Braşov* is a project financed by Braşov County Sports and Youth Directorate, and carried out by a team of researchers from Transilvania University of Braşov, Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, consisting of the graduate students Alexander Tudose and Simona Toma (the study programme Clinical Psychology, Psychological Counselling and Psychotherapy), coordinated by Assoc. Prof. dr. Ana-Maria Cazan, Vice-Dean.



Through the research project *Being Young in Braşov*, we aimed to provide a clear and coherent picture of the young people's current perceptions on the fields of interest, with a view to contributing to the creation of strategies, which will change for the better the life quality of the young people in Braşov county. The aspects pursued include perceptions of the quality of life, leisure time, civic involvement, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on well-being, entrepreneurial intentions, education, work and volunteering, migration. The study was presented during AFECT Festival and the most representative results highlighted the following aspects:

- Although most young people are satisfied with their living conditions and the quality of their everyday life, they consider that in Romania the young people's living conditions are a problem.
- The negative effects of the pandemic were felt especially at the level of cultural and social life, but also at the level of mental health.
- A positive aspect is the high confidence in the young people's personal capacities to adapt to the changes generated by the pandemic in society and in their personal lives.
- Young people of Braşov county feel the lack of career counselling and guidance services and

consider that the current education system does not prepare them sufficiently for professional life.

- Most of the respondents show positive attitudes and behaviours aimed at a healthy lifestyle (regular consumption of fruits and vegetables, involvement in sports activities, etc.) but they never sought the support of a mental health professional in the last year.
- Young people have high confidence in institutions such as the European Union, NATO, nongovernmental organizations, and very low confidence in central and local authorities (Government, Parliament, town hall, political parties, etc.). Nevertheless, a low percentage of young people would like to go abroad.

Work, personal effort and good professional training are considered the main factors of professional success; the completion of studies and improvement of professional skills being the priorities of the young people surveyed.





The PSE team gives thanks to Braşov County Sports and Youth Directorate and to Cătălina Tănase, the coordinator of Braşov Youth Centre, for funding the project, the organizers of AFECT Festival for the invitation, to the study participants and all those present at the debate since the launch of the project.

The results of this study are relevant for public institutions and non-governmental organizations that can contribute to increasing young people's quality of life, and for all those involved in supporting young people and their involvement in the life of the local community.

Assoc. Prof. dr. Ana-Maria CAZAN
Graduate student Simona CIOCEANU
Graduate student Alexander TUDOSE
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

# SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SUMMER SCHOOL "LIFE SCIENCES"

From 19 to 29 July 2022, Transilvania University of Brașov was a partner of the first edition of "Life Sciences" summer school organized by "Dr. loan Meșotă" National College.

A group of over 25 pupils from 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades at "Dr. loan Meșotă" National College attended didactic and scientific activities in the biology laboratories of the college (under the coordination of teacher Vasilica Diaconu – topics of comparative physiology of vertebrates, dissections of organs), in the rooms of the research centres within the Research and Development Institute of UNITBV, of the Faculty of Medicine, of the Faculty of Food and Tourism, and respectively of the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering.



The topics in which the academic teaching personnel and researchers of UNITBV were involved were varied, with a strong applicative character, on methods of extraction and separation of compounds from different mixtures, pH determinations, spectral analyses, determination of antioxidant activity (under the coordination of Prof. dr. Mihaela Badea, research assistant Cristina Adochite, drd. Mihaela Stefan, drd. Ligia Chelmea, but also of the students in the study programmes Clinical Laboratory and Medicine). Assoc. Prof. dr Mihaela Idomir and drd. Sarah Costinaș presented the high school pupils with interesting information about the field of microbiology, and dr. Tudor Badea, 2<sup>nd</sup>-degree scientific researcher, discussed elements of cellular and molecular biology, but also the advantages of bioinformatics.

During this meeting, dr. Eng. Oana Oprea presented them with extraction equipment and information about the possibilities of capitalizing on medicinal plants, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elena Ciocârlan talked with the pupils about the genetics and ontogeny of plants; they participated with interest in descriptions of PCR and

sequencing processes; they visited the ICDT exhibit area, and Prof. Dr. Dan Gurean presented them with notions about plant physiology.



As proof of the desire to capitalize on what they learned during those days, some of the pupils attending the summer school participated on 8 September 2022 in the international Workshop "First steps for young scientists in the field of Life Sciences – a partnership between high schools – universities - research institutes" with themes that continued some of the issues covered in the summer school or with new ones identified as related issues but of interest to a complete diet and a healthy lifestyle.



We hope that this first summer school will be the beginning of a long-term collaboration with the preuniversity environment of Braşov in this direction of life sciences as well, and that among today's pupils we will find tomorrow's candidates for the faculties of Transilvania University of Braşov.

> Prof. dr. Mihaela BADEA Faculty of Medicine

### STUDENTS WE TAKE PRIDE IN! 10-GRADE STUDENTS AT THE TENURE EXAMINATION!

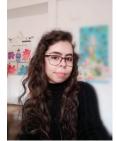
Three study years assiduously invested in forming the necessary pedagogical benchmarks and appropriate attitude for this profession, in consciously and lastingly acquiring specific knowledge, in configuring authentic relationships between people acting in the field of education: they (students), we (teachers) and our collaborators in schools and kindergartens. Briefly, motivation, effort and time guided by one goal: to be a teacher.

On 13 July 2022, the written test of the tenure exam was held and we were very proud of the results obtained by the graduates of the Pedagogy of Primary and Preschool Education undergraduate study programme. In particular, the four grades of 10 obtained by our graduates caught our attention.

We were curious to find out what this exam meant to them, especially in relation to all the previous training provided by our faculty, thinking that their testimonies may further inspire others....

"The tenure exam was a real challenge, considering its importance for my teaching career. That's why I

focused all my energy and devoted all my time to prepare myself as best as possible. It is the knowledge acquired during student years that helped me a lot, but also the experience gained during professional



practice. This success is the first step in my teaching career; it gave me more confidence in myself, motivating me to constantly develop my skills, so that I, in my turn, could help the little ones to develop harmoniously."

Liliana Maria Praf

"The tenure exam meant a lot of work. Knowing that there are few tenured positions in Braşov, this

exam was also a source of stress because I really wanted to become a tenured teacher. The faculty contributed a lot to the grade I got, because it laid my foundations as a future



teacher and formed my necessary skills. I will complete the master's degree also within FPSE, I will

register for the second degree and I will keep on learning from my colleagues in the educational unit that we all belong to in order to become a good teacher."

Elena Florenița Pîrnău

"The tenure exam... A blend of emotions, thoughts

and feelings. To me, it meant training, continuous development, permanent learning, effective time management, but also frustration, fatigue and a lot of patience. The grade (10) that this year allowed me to occupy a tenured position -



every teacher's dream, had behind it three years of study within FPSE and many other hours of self-study. It was a sometimes arduous, difficult and tiresome path, but the clearly established goals, along with the motivation to develop professionally and to have a good start in my career, led me to study rigorously. Instead of a conclusion, may teachers in every field find patience, determination, perseverance and motivation in striving to always be role-models to the children they will mould!"

Florina Răpițeanu

"Since the first grade, my school teacher has sparked my passion for teaching. The three student years as a distance student were a challenge for me and here I am today, in front of the success of passing the tenure exam with a grade of 10. I

worked very hard, I put soul into each project, and all the feedback from my teachers was constructive and motivating. My love for children, for this special profession, stimulated me to develop both professionally and



personally, fulfilling my greatest dream."

Alexandra Ionela PALADE POPEIA Lect. dr. Oana Alina BOTA Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

# THE EXHIBITION "ARTS OF PERSIA", AT "SERGIU T.CHIRIACESCU" INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAŞOV



On 25 July 2022, at 2:00 p.m., "Sergiu T. Chiriacescu" International Conference Centre hosted the official opening of the exhibition "Arts of Persia", which was attended by the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Romania, H. E. Mr. Seyed Hossein Sadat Meidani, by the president of the Senate of Transilvania University of Braşov, Prof. dr. Mircea Horia Ţierean and by the dean of the Faculty of Letters, Assoc. Prof. dr. Adrian Lăcătuș.

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Bucharest chose Transilvania University of Brașov to be the host of this event based on the good collaborative relations between the institution of Brașov and the universities of Iran.

This exhibition, held from 24 to 26 July, featured 16 Iranian artisans who exhibited their works and held interactive workshops. Works made by various techniques such as painting, miniature, wood engraving, inlays, embroidery, processing of semi-precious stones or enamelling technique, could be admired.

Furthermore, the visitors could see the artists at work and masterfully apply the artistic techniques.



The exhibition "Arts of Persia" marked 120 years of diplomatic relations between Romania and the Islamic Republic of Iran; and, in this way, the people of Braşov were invited to a foray into the culture and art of Iran and the city of Isfahan, considered the cultural capital of Iran. Iranian handicrafts have always been renowned for their history and antiquity, cultural authenticity and imaginative approaches to artwork.

Synthesis made by Victor BRICIU
Office of Marketing and Image
Source: www.unitbv.ro/stiri-si-evenimente
Photo credit: The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of
Iran in Romania

### MAGDALENA RĂDULESCU | 120 YEARS OF BOHEMIAN GRACE

The opening of the exhibition Magdalena Rădulescu | 120 Years of Bohemian Grace took place on Friday, 5 August 2022.

MAGDALENA RĂDULESCU

120 de ani de grație boemă



Organized on the occasion of the 120th anniversary of the artist's birth, and curated by Alexandra Ardelean, the exhibition brings together 82 works of art (graphics and paintings) from 10 private collections in Romania, including the collections of Cătălin Casperschi, Mihai Astratinei, I. and L. Gavrilescu și Eduard Uzunov.



Born in Râmnicu-Vâlcea, Magdalena Rădulescu (1902-1983) completed her studies in München, at the Academy of Belle Arte, and at Paris, at Académie de la Grande Chaumière.



The artist worked in the Parisian artistic environment alongside other famous artists such as Brâncuși, Chagall and Giacometti. Magdalena Rădulescu conducted a rich artistic activity, her works can be found in numerous museum collections and dozens of private collections around the world. The works presented in the exhibition deal with themes such as: self-portrait, genre scenes representing the world of the show and the carnival (cavalcades, circus characters and fearless acrobats), Romanian dances (Hora and Călușari dances).



The exhibition was organized by Brasov Art Museum and hosted by the Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University. At the opening, the Director of the Art Museum, Radu Popica, the curator Alexandra Ardelean and the art collector Eduard Uzunov spoke about Magdalena Rădulescu. The exhibition can be visited from 5 August to 30 October 2022, from Tuesday to Saturday, between 11.00 and 19.00. The entrance is free.

> Anca PAPANA Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University

#### IN MEMORIAM - PROF. DR. ENG. IOSIF SOARE (1934 - 2004)



Professor losif Soare was born on 27 May 1934, in the town of Rucăr, county of Argeş. He completed his academic studies at the Polytechnic Institute of Braşov, Faculty of Mechanics, Department of Automobiles and Tractors in 1960, being employed as an Assist. Lect. at the Department of Automobiles and Tractors within the aforementioned institute. From 1960 to 1990, he passed through all the steps of the academic didactic hierarchy.

He became a Doctor in Technical Sciences in 1966, a title obtained in Prague, being the first graduate of the department of Automobiles and Tractors to defend his doctorate abroad. He published nine university courses, five of which in the Didactic and Pedagogical Publishing House, as well as 63 scientific research papers in the field of automobiles, which he presented at domestic and international

conferences and congresses. His didactic activity consisted of courses and applied works in the disciplines: Experimental research of motor vehicles – full-time engineers; Automobile repair – college and engineers; Manufacture and industrial repair of motor vehicles.

Among the academic courses published in central publishing houses, we mention: "Metode şi mijloace de încercare a automobilelor" [Methods and means of testing automobiles], Technical Publishing House, Bucharest. 1982; "Tehnologia reparării automobilelor" [Automobile repair technology], Didactic and Pedagogical Publishing House, Bucharest, 1983; "Încercarea autovehiculelor" [Vehicle testing], Didactic and Pedagogical Publishing House, Bucharest, 1983. The large number of scientific papers is the result of participating in 22 scientific research contracts in the field of construction, manufacture and testing of motor vehicles and their components.

Lect. dr. Janos TIMAR Faculty of Mechanical Engineering