

# NEWSLETTER

No. 137 September 2023

- THE VISIT OF H.E. HAN CHUNLIN, THE AMBASSADOR OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, TO UNITBV
- MHELM A PROJECT ABOUT LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT
- FIRST PRIZE AT THE 2023 AMD/XILINX OPEN HARDWARE COMPETITION
- INNO3D PRINTING CENTER THREE YEARS OF OPERATION
- THE UNITBV STUDENTS' PARTICIPATION IN THE *IDEEA* INTERNATIONAL PROIECT
- JUNIOR RESEARCHER PROGRAMME JSCHOOL 2023
- JUNIOR RESEARCHER PROGRAMME CONFERENCE 2023
- THE FIRST EDITION OF THE MATH CAMP "MATHEMATICS... DIFFERENTLY"
- PROFESSORS, RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS AT TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAŞOV, COLLABORATORS OF "LIFE SCIENCES" SUMMER SCHOOL
- IS IT ABOUT MALPRAXIS OR NOT?
- EXPERIMENTAL DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOPS AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE
- WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR STUDENTS!
- SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI MEDEEA KATERINA PETROVAN

# THE VISIT OF H.E. HAN CHUNL IN, THE AMBASSADOR OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, TO UNITBV

This year, on 2 August, Transilvania University of Brașov hosted a delegation from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, a delegation led by His Excellency Han Chunlin, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of this country to Romania, in Bucharest.

On behalf of UNITBV, Prof. dr. MD Liliana Rogozea, Vice-rector for public relations, Assoc. Prof. dr. Adrian Lăcătuș, Dean of the Faculty of Letters and Director of Confucius Institute, Transilvania University of Brașov, and Assoc. Prof. dr. Corina Silvia Micu, coordinator of UNITBV International Relations Office, participated in the event. On behalf of Brașov County Council, Mihai Pascu, General Director, was present at the meeting. The meeting was themed on the academic, scientific and cultural cooperation between Transilvania University of Brașov and higher education institutions of China - achievements and perspectives.

In closing, H.E. Han Chunlin visited Confucius Institute of UNITBV.

Assoc. Prof. dr. Corina MICU Coordinator of UNITBV International Relations Office



#### MHELM - A PROJECT ABOUT LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Between 14 and 18 August 2023, the University was visited by Prof. dr. hab. Larisa Bugaian, head of the ERASMUS+ Centre, and by dr. Daniela Pojar, Vice-rector for financial issues and international relations (UTM), the project manager of MHELM.

The project Moldova Leadership and Management in Higher Education was designed to contribute to the achievement of the national priorities of the Republic of Moldova in higher education, namely the consolidation of the priority "Policy-making, strategic planning and management of higher education institutions".

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

The nine fields targeted in the project are: leadership, resource management, people management, information and intelligence management, as well as personal characteristics, such as motivation and productivity.

The partnership consists of 11 carefully selected partners: three from the European Union area (Great Britain, Germany and Romania) and eight from the Republic of Moldova, representing higher education institutions and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, as well as an associated partner - the Rectors' Council of the Republic of Moldova (CRM).

The project comes as a support in continuing the reform of the higher-education sector in the Republic of Moldova, by strengthening the capacity of the leaders and managers to negotiate, plan and deliver the changes necessary for the transformation of the sector, and it led to the development of a continuous training programme – Leadership and Management Development.

The main topics of discussion were the framework of the management and leadership skills and abilities in higher education, the resistance to change and its management, the implementation of group projects with national impact, coaching methods for training leaders, the impact of the project.

> Assoc. Prof. dr. MD Florin LEAȘU Prof. dr. MD Liliana ROGOZEA



## FIRST PRIZE AT THE 2023 AMD/XILINX OPEN HARDWARE COMPETITION

Between 28.02 and 30.06.2023, a new edition of the Open Hardware competition, organized by the AMD/Xilinx company, took place online. The competition is addressed to the European technical universities. The participants developed digital systems by means of reconfigurable hardware developed by AMD/Xilinx. At the end, the participants submitted a presentation about the project and a technical description of it. The competition had two sections: one for bachelor's/master's degree students, and the other for doctoral students. The finalists of this year's edition came from 22 prestigious universities in 12 countries.



This year, Transilvania University of Brasov was represented by three students, namely loana Ailenei, Mihai Florian Miu and Alexandru Puscasu - who, at the time of the actual competition, were in their 4<sup>th</sup> study year at the IESC Faculty, in the Computers study programme. After completing their undergraduate studies, two of the above-mentioned students chose to continue their studies within UNITBV, at IESC, in the Electronic and Communication Integrated Communications master's degree programme. The team was coordinated by Lect. dr. Eng. Cătălin Bogdan Ciobanu and Prof. dr. Eng. Dan Nicula. The UNITBV team won the AMD/Xilinx Open Hardware 2023 competition, under the *Student* section, together with Politecnico di Milano. The results are available here.

The students in this team also had other academic achievements and are very involved in the community. Two of the students, Mihai Florian Miu and Alexandru Puşcaşu, were volunteer instructors for high school pupils within the InfoTRON project. Ioana Ailenei and Alexandru Puşcaşu got 10 - the highest mark, for their diploma project. Moreover, the two students published a scientific article in ISI IEEE SIITME 2023 conference proceedings. Ioana Ailenei is co-author of another paper accepted at the aforementioned conference. Alexandru Puşcaşu was the valedictorian of the 2023 class, Computers major, Department of Electronics and Computers.

The winning project at Open Hardware 2023 was a solution for self-checkout cash registers. The team proposed a new approach, using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to detect barcodes. The solution has three hardware components: i) a web camera (for collecting images); ii) a Field Programmable Gate Array board for running AI; iii) a display system (for displaying purchased products and customer interaction).



Since running AI applications requires a lot of computing power, the students chose to use a dedicated hardware solution. The FPGA board is AMD/Xilinx Kria KV260. The team came up with an efficient solution in terms of energy consumption, yet yielding a very high performance.

The demo presented at the competition consists of adding barcoded products to a shopping cart. As products are added to the cart, they are identified and added to the tax receipt. The system also allows detecting the removal of products from the shopping cart, when the products are removed from the cart. The presentation and demo can be accessed at https://youtu.be/-n1rPmGHM w.

Lect. dr. Eng. Cătălin Bogdan CIOBANU Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

#### **INNO3D** PRINTING CENTER - THREE YEARS OF OPERATION

The University makes available the INNO3D Creation Centre to students – *makerspace* – on the *Colina* Campus, the A building, 6<sup>th</sup> floor.



Makerspaces are important to students for several reasons: they give them the opportunity to learn about technology and develop their engineering and design skills, they promote creativity and innovation, they can help students connect with other students pursuing similar interests.

The INNO3D Centre was opened in 2020 for the purpose of providing students with access to 3D printing technology. 3D printing is a revolutionary technology that has the potential to change the world. Through our centre, we want to help spread this technology and facilitate access to it.



The centre was run by a group of volunteer students. Volunteering at the centre is a great way to learn about 3D printing, develop your technical skills and get involved in the community.

We thank the students involved so far: Andrei Vasile Marcu and Ștefan Lazăr, at the Mechatronics specialization; Ștefan Mitrea, Iulian Nichifor, Alexandra Marian, Petruța Cristina Nicolae, at the Medical Engineering specialization, the DPM Faculty; and Theodor Stănescu, at the Automatics specialization, the IESC Faculty.

They assisted in the printing of 1,066 pieces, for 156 beneficiaries, during 2,658 hours of printing. Four events, 3D printing courses, were held. More information can also be found on the dedicated <u>Facebook</u> page.



At this moment, all volunteer students have graduated, that's why we are recruiting new volunteers, we are waiting for everyone who wants to acquire new skills, create unique projects and be members in a community of 3D creators.

3D printing is a complex technology that can be learned.

Prof. dr. Eng., dr. Marketing Angela REPANOVICI Lect. dr. Eng. Cornel DRUGĂ Faculty of Product Design and Environment



Between November 2022 and July 2023, under the coordination of the *International Design and Engineering Education* Association (IDEEA), the fifth edition of the international project dedicated to engineering and design students, IDEEA, (https://ideea.network/projects/), initiated by automotive industry companies of North America, took place.

The goal of this project is to contribute to the creation of skills for future engineers and designers in new technologies, relevant to mobility, product development and industry 4.0, thus encouraging the students to experiment, solve and develop new methods and visions in design by fostering collaborative engineering in global teams.

In this edition, the activities proposed by the organizers were attended by students from 22 universities in America (Mexico, Canada), Europe (Germany, Italy, Romania) and Asia (India, China, South Korea), who formed 12 teams with members (more than 170 students) located on three different continents, at least five hours apart in the time zone. Each team was supervised by two professors - mentors from the participating universities, and all activities were carried out online, organized by the students.

This year's theme was proposed by the Volkswagen group, in the field of green mobility, referring to the *business to business* (B2B) or *business to consumer* (B2C) transport of goods for the next decade.

The final gala was organized at McMaster University Hamilton, Canada, between 25 and 27 July; and the jury, made up of staff members in US and Canadian companies, pursued several project development directions, finally offering prizes in the following sections: *Best Product Innovation, Best Design, Best Engineering, Best Collaboration, Best Presentation, Best Product Award*, coming to a total of 13 awarded prizes.

The teams that our students were part of had an appropriate course, with Team #5 standing out, as the team that won the best prizes: *Best Overall* (1<sup>st</sup> place), *Best Design* (1<sup>st</sup> place), *Best Engineering* (3<sup>rd</sup> place). The student Teotim Barbu (DPM), a member of this team, had a special activity, as he succeeded in delivering his team's presentations at all intermediate phases of the project.

The sustained and consistent activity of the students Iulian Negraia and David Fulgeanu (DPM), members of the teams #6, awarded 3rd place under the *Best Design* section, and respectively #7.

For next year, it is expected that the theme of the project will also be proposed by the representatives of the Volkswagen group, and the final phase will take place at Transilvania University of Brașov, in July 2024.

Prof. dr. Eng. Silviu BUTNARIU Department of Automotive and Transport Engineering Faculty of Mechanical Engineering



### JUNIOR RESEARCHER PROGRAMME - JSCHOOL 2023

The *jSchool* summer school, the first stage of the Junior Researcher Programme (JRP), dedicated to students interested in research in the field of psychology and behavioural sciences took place from 31 July to 6 August.



This week, together with an international team, we laid the foundations of the research project "The role of confirmation and narrative biases in the effects of narrative and factual frames on vaccination intentions", through which we want to deepen the knowledge related to the process of influencing attitudes and behaviour in the digital age. This project will be carried out over the next year, in Romania, Germany, Slovenia, Australia, Hungary and Great Britain.



In addition to the project preparation sessions, we participated in research methodology workshops where we explored useful aspects of design, ethics, data collection and open science practices. At the same time, we had the chance to openly discuss the challenges of doctoral studies and to share both the results of our own research and ideas for future studies.



However, the *jSchool* experience is not just about research. A fundamental element of the programme was the social and cultural dimension. This week can be likened, metaphorically, to an hourglass in which, protected from the often jerky rhythm of daily life, we were able to let loose our enthusiasm for knowledge, to be vulnerable in revealing our own fears, anxieties and timid dreams which we would like fulfilled, but for which we sometimes feel unprepared. Thus, we have created together a network of passionate, inquisitive people, eager to jump into the waves of science and ready to work together to navigate these waters.



I am grateful for the chance to participate in this programme and look forward to the next events.

Alexandra CONSTANTINESCU 3<sup>rd</sup>-year student in Psychology, Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

#### JUNIOR RESEARCHER PROGRAMME - CONFERENCE 2023

An ending can often be a new beginning. With joy, Simona Cioceanu and Alexander Tudose, graduates of the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, the master's degree programme of Clinical Psychology, Psychological Counselling and Psychotherapy, have successfully completed *Junior Researcher Programme* (JPR) that they started last year at Certosa di Pontignano, in Italia. They are now officially members of *JRP Alumni Network*, an international network of researchers in the field of psychology.

Junior Researcher Programme Conference (JRPC) 2023 took place in Cambridge from 11 to 14 August 2023, where the teams of the 2022-2023 class presented the progress of the research projects carried out during the 13 months since the project started. To mark the formal graduation of the research programme, a gala evening was held in one of the grand halls of Corpus Christi College. Besides, the participants were able to explore the landscapes of the historic city of Cambridge, and were able to participate in socializing and networking events, in a scientific poster session and a workshop. Although the JRP research programme came to its end, the research projects continue with the goal of publishing at least one article in a peer-reviewed journal.



Simona Cioceanu: My path was not smooth. Over the course of 13 months, I participated in over 30 online meetings and collaborated with team members residing in different corners of the world: UK, Australia, Netherlands, Italy, Germany, United Arab Emirates. I participated in two conferences: "Process-based and Problem-focused Internet Interventions" in Linköping, Sweden, and "International Convention of Psychological Science" in Brussels, Belgium, where we presented the partial results of our research "The hidden price of perfection: how beauty filters impact well-being in the social media".



I firmly believe that this experience will give me new opportunities for research in psychology, and I am grateful that I had the chance to live these unique moments and learn from the best in the field.

Alexander Tudose: The research project I have been involved in looks at how European cities approach the topic of mental health among residents: "Improving mental health through urban policy: How do European cities address the social determinants of mental health?" We are trying to build up an answer to this question through qualitative research conducted in six cities in Europe, which involves interviews with representatives of local authorities, representatives of NGOs active in the cities, or experts in mental health. I am glad to have represented the city of Brasov in this international project, together with 10 passionate about research. other students Furthermore, we set out, once the research is completed, to disseminate the results obtained in the local communities, to raise awareness of this topic and the development of sustainable cities.

We thank everyone who has been with us on this journey!

Simona CIOCEANU and Alexander TUDOSE Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

## THE FIRST EDITION OF THE MATH CAMP "MATHEMATICS... DIFFERENTLY"

Between 28.08 and 01.09.2023, the first edition of the math camp "Mathematics... differently" for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, organized in partnership with the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science within Transilvania University of Brașov.

The math camp was carried out on the basis of an agreement between UNITBV and "Ștefan cel Mare" Secondary School, Zemeș. The activities were coordinated by the director of the school, teacher Dana Marian, and were carried out with the support of the Zemeș Municipality Town Hall.



The purpose of this math camp was to prepare the pupils for the National Assessment, through remedial activities. These activities were carried out under the guidance of graduate students in the Fundamental Mathematical Structures programme: Octavia-Maria Hapenciuc and Cosmin Bucătaru. Furthermore, other teachers and auxiliary teaching personnel from the school of Zemeș commune were involved in this project.

Each day of camp was split into two. In the first part of the day, the students attended a "numbers game", which consisted of recapitulating algebra notions and of exercises. In the second part, the didactic activity was focused on the recapitulation of the main geometric shapes and the appropriate applications. In order to relax, between the two didactic activities, every day, the children attended recreational activities on the soccer field of the commune.



On the last day of the camp, a "countryside feast", was organized, where representatives of the parents' committee, together with the pupils and teaching personnel, sang and shared impressions about the camp.



At the end, the 34 participating children declared themselves very pleased with the initiative and the educational and recreational activities.

> Octavia-Maria HAPENCIUC Cosmin BUCĂTARU 2<sup>nd</sup>-year graduate student, SMF Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

# PROFESSORS, RESEARCHERS AND STUDENTS AT TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAŞOV, COLLABORATORS OF "LIFE SCIENCES" SUMMER SCHOOL

We are glad that this holiday as well we were collaborators in the second edition of "Life Sciences" organized by "Dr. Ioan Meșotă" National College (31 July – 12 August 2023), to support the young people of Brașov to learn as much as possible about the secrets of the sciences that combine elements of biology, biochemistry, molecular biology, genetics, bioinformatics, ecology and more.



Thus, a group of academic teaching personnel, researchers and students at UNITBV joined this year as well the friendly group of teaching personnel within "Dr. Ioan Meșotă" National College of Brașov (under teacher Vasilica Diaconu's coordination) to provide the participants with some theoretical and practical information.

The students together with Assist. Prof. dr. Cristina Păcurar (Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science), a former graduate of "Dr. Ioan Meșotă" National College, learned some of the secrets of biomathematics, an interdisciplinary field that favours the understanding of biological and medical processes through mathematical concepts and statistical methods, playing an important role in numerous subjects, such as: genetics, ecology, epidemiology, neuroscience.

During the visit to the Research and Development Institute within Transilvania University of Brașov (ICDT), at the Centre for Fundamental Research and Preventive Strategies in Medicine, the pupils received information about amino acids and their properties, but also about the possibilities of separation and analysis. After understanding the theoretical part, they had the opportunity to apply what they learned in the biochemistry laboratories of the institute, alongside students in the Medicine, Clinical Laboratory and General Nursing study programmes, who helped them throughout electrophoresis, chromatography and spectral analysis. The visit to the ICDT genetics laboratory, along with Assoc. Prof. dr. Eng. Elena Ciocârlan who presented them with the laboratory equipment, but also with some of the DNA separation and characterization methods, was also very interesting. Together with the scientific researcher Dr. Tudor Badea, the pupils received cellular and molecular biology information on the evolution of the sensory organs of invertebrates and vertebrates and, respectively, on embryonic development and the functioning of neural systems.

After two weeks filled with scientific activities, the attending pupils were tested and awarded. Some of them continued their "scientific adventure" by carrying out and presenting some scientific projects in the framework of the international seminar "Focus on science - a workshop dedicated to high-school pupils and university students" organized by the International Centre for Biodynamics of Bucharest, Transilvania University of Brașov and "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Bucharest (12 September 2023), where our Meșotă pupils' papers were positively valued by the analysis committee.



In order to see through these special children' eyes the aforementioned activities to which UNITBV also made its contribution, we invite you to access their <u>"diary"</u> online.

Prof. dr. Mihaela BADEA Assist. Prof. drd. Cristina GĂLBĂU Assist. Prof. drd. Ligia CHELMEA Faculty of Medicine

### IS IT ABOUT MALPRAXIS OR NOT?

Between 20 and 21 July 2023, the webinar themed on "Is it about malpraxis or not?" of the *Standing Committee on Rights and Peace* (SCORP) departments within the Medical Students' Society of Brașov (ASSM), in collaboration with the Medical Students' Society of Bucharest (SSMB), took place.



The desired goal was for the medical students to learn about the medical code of ethics, while developing their critical thinking and a better vision of the career they will pursue after graduation.

Since it is essential that young doctors understand the importance of medical ethics and responsibility, and how malpractice cases are often encountered in hospitals, we thought to come to the future doctors' aid. By organizing this online event, we wanted to inform the participants about what such a delicate subject implies and how malpractice can be avoided.



With the support of Prof. dr. MD Liliana Rogozea and Lwy. Ruxandra-Cristina Duțescu as the main speakers, this project addressed the topic both from a legal point of view ("Medical malpractice - the limits of the medical personnel's liability") and from a medical point of view ("Malpractice, incorrect medical practices and defensive medicine"). These presentations were complemented by those of the students at Transilvania University of Brașov and "Carol Davila" Bucharest, who showed seriousness and interest in the core idea.



Each student had the opportunity to freely express his/her point of view reinforced by concrete clinical cases in the field of malpractice, followed by a debate with the other participants, who turned out to be very captivated by the topic.

> Eduard Fabian URSACHE Delia Alexandra BADEA, Students, Faculty of Medicine

### EXPERIMENTAL DEMONSTRATION WORKSHOPS AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

On 6 and 7 July 2023, two experimental demonstration workshops were held at the Research and Development Institute within Transilvania University of Brașov, with the collaboration of DDS Diagnostic company in partnership with the Faculty of Medicine: "Rapid diagnosis in a family doctor's activity" (on 6 July) and "Nanotechnologies: rapid tests and point-of-care systems. Their importance in clinical diagnosis. From the design to the manufacture of a rapid immunochromatographic test" (on 7 July).



The practical workshops organized by the team coordinated by dr. Chem. Dana Stan were attended by students at the Faculty of Medicine, in the Medicine and Clinical Laboratory bachelor's degree study programmes, and Management of Preventive Strategies and Health Policies, and Integrated Environmental Management master's degree programmes, by doctoral students and students at Medicine Laboratory, Microbiology, Infectious diseases, ATI, family doctors and other specialist doctors.

The workshops aimed to present rapid tests and point-of-care systems, with importance in establishing medical diagnosis for various types of conditions: respiratory diseases, digestive diseases, kidney diseases, inflammation, diabetes, allergies, as well as for monitoring the treatment of the patients who are on therapy with indirect anticoagulants.

During the workshops, different types of rapid commercial tests were presented that do not require specific equipment to perform/interpret the results by category of conditions, two *point-of-care* equipment and related tests were presented for the determination of biochemical, viral, microbial markers, coagulation times in a family doctor's office.

The demonstration and practical implementation of rapid tests for respiratory, digestive, renal disorders, for anaemia, vitamin D and blood groups was of real benefit, with the attendants of the practical training sessions being explained the principles of obtaining the tests, validating them and respectively interpretation of the results obtained.



Following the activities carried out within the workshops, both students and doctors will have the opportunity to choose the most effective methods of testing patients, of assessing the benefits of these tests and of experiencing the performance of *point-of-care* devices with a range of over 50 types of analyses.

Prof. dr. Mihaela BADEA Assoc. Prof. dr. MD Andrea NECULAU Faculty of Medicine

# WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR STUDENTS!

Between 8 and 10 June 2023, the Energy – Resources – Environment Symposium (SEMRSudo), now in its twelfth edition, took place in Stâna de Vale. Organized by the University of Oradea, Faculty of Energy Engineering and Industrial Management, the purpose of the event was to present the results of the scientific and professional research of students at several academic centres, an opportunity to stimulate their personal development and to create connections and partnerships.





From the Department of Electrical Engineering and Applied Physics, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, the attendants were two students, accompanied by their coordinator, Lect. dr. Eng. Laura Lelutiu: Adrian-Valentin Crudu, a 4<sup>th</sup>-year student, Electrical and Computer Engineering (English Ib.), who obtained the 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the S4 section, and Bogdan-Ioan Oprea, a 2<sup>nd</sup>-year student in Electrical and Computer Engineering (English Ib.), who obtained the 2nd prize in the S2 section.

Assoc. Prof. dr. Eng. Lia Elena ACIU, Director of the department Lect. dr. Eng. Laura LELUȚIU, student coordinator Department of Electrical Engineering and Applied Physics Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

#### SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI - MEDEEA KATERINA PETROVAN

A graduate of Transilvania University of Brașov, Medeea Katerina Petrovan began her higher education in 2008 at the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration, completing her degree in the Finance and Banking study programme in 2011.



Following this achievement, she continued her studies with the master's degree in Accounting Policies, Audit and Management Control, which she graduated from in 2013 with an average mark of 10.

During this period, Medeea's career evolved within organizations such as AIESEC (corporate relations manager), Schaeffler Romania (excellence internship: project management, quality management) and Iceberg Consulting (senior consultant, trainer), where she acquired the necessary knowledge to become a good team leader, manager and organizer.

Moreover, volunteering was another important branch that Medeea chose at that time in her career, a branch that she successfully carries further to this day. 2012 is the year in which one of the most ambitious local volunteer projects began, under the name of "Brașov Debates!", initiated within *Rotaract* NGO, later developed nationwide under the name of "Romania Debates!"



This project aims to raise the high-school pupils' involvement in non-formal activities based on the "debate" educational technique. Over time, Medeea had several roles in this project, starting from project manager, later becoming vice president, district trainer and then president, a position she still fills today. After completing her graduate studies, Medeea Petrovan started working on projects such as "Startup Weekend Brașov" and "Business.ro", which she has continued to date. In addition to these achievements, in the years that followed her faculty graduation, Medeea filled the position of Financial Director at ALT Brașov (Innovation and Technology Cluster), being in charge of monitoring and implementing EU-funded grants within the Operational Programme "Increasing Economic Competitiveness" In 2016, she expanded her career portfolio, becoming a co-founder of Excelsum Consulting company, which offers integrated services for SMEs, and an expert in regional ecosystem reporting at the Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI).

Currently, Medeea Petrovan is a senior consultant in business projects and European financing, having as main competencies project management, business modelling, planning and budgeting, operational



management and the delivery of educational training. She took part in coordinating and implementing over 60 projects within the business and NGO environment. She is a member of Brașov Rotary club, being involved in organising projects based on the

community's needs. Among them, one of the most complex is "Generation Tech", which has just started in Brașov, and now is in its third edition, a project through which 1,000 Brașov residents receive scholarships for personal and professional development and attend training courses in avant-garde fields. Medeea Petrovan is the coordinator of this project on behalf of Brașov Metropolitan Agency and we wish her much success in this new adventure!

> Darian Gabriel SILIȘTEANU, student in practical placement Nicolae MARINESCU, Alumni coordinator Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration