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# NEWSLETTER

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## MARCH 1st - A CELEBRATORY MOMENT AT TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY

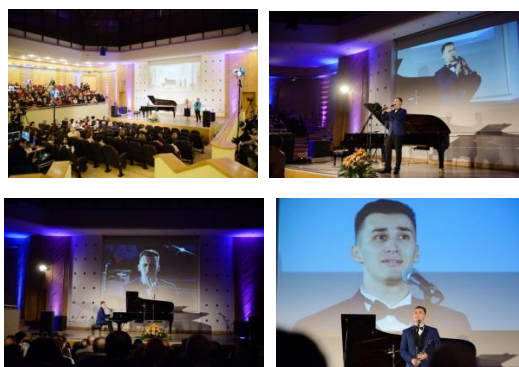
On the 1st of March, Transilvania University of Brasov celebrated its anniversary. Already on its seventh edition, the event coagulated a series of scientific, cultural, artistic and sports manifestations prepared by our University's students and staff, as well as by other stakeholders.



Between 26 February and 1 March, the university as well as each of its 18 faculties celebrated Transilvania University Day.

The celebrations kicked off at Aula Magna on the 1st of March with the chess championship; Norbert Detaeye Media Center invited our city residents to discover "The Beautiful Book", an event presented by two famous book designers from Bucharest, Alexandru Şchiopu and Cristina Sabău who talked about the science and art of book graphic design; the literature "went out to town" as the Faculty of Letters organized, in collaboration with several bookshops, public reading sessions of poetry, prose and drama composed by students, alumni and academics.

Throughout the day, the doors of the Multicultural Centre were open for viewers of the exhibition entitled "American Parks by Dan Dinu". Also high school students from Grigore Moisil National College, Dr. Ioan Meşotă National College, and Johannes Honterus Theoretical Highschool participated in a meeting with representatives of Benchmark Electronics and AUTOLIV under the framework of The Creativity Lab/ the Centre for Valorisation and Transfer of Competence. The evening ended on a musical note with the recital given by Mihai Teacă, student at the Faculty of Music.



Both before and after the 1 March, all the faculties within our University organized workshops, seminars, symposia, debates, exhibitions, contests and shows. One could therefore discover, among others, how to build a functional scale aircraft, how to design and print a 3D model, as well as the basics of first aid in case of emergency. In addition, the alumni of the Faculty of Psychology met with current students, while students from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science met with employers from the local industries.



Such events are pivotal for both academic and local community. As a landmark institution in our region, our university intends to keep on being an active participant in the life of our city.

Lecturer Victor BRICIU  
Marketing and Image Office  
Professor Med. Liliana ROGOZEA  
Vice-Rector for Public Relations

## THE ELEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING – BRAMAT 2019

Between 13 and 16 of March, the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering at Transilvania University of Braşov organized the eleventh International Conference on Materials Science and Engineering – BRAMAT in Poiana Braşov, and enjoyed great success ([www.bramat.ro](http://www.bramat.ro)).



Attended by 260+ participants, the event which began on 13 March with two exceptional presentations by Dr Nachum Finger, former Rector of Ben Gurion University in Beer Sheva (BGU), Israel, and Dr Henrik Rudolph, editor-in-chief of *Applied Surface Science* (Elsevier). Prior to these presentations, Dr Joseph Kost, distinguished professor and scientist from Ben Gurion University, was awarded the Doctor Honoris Causa degree of Transilvania University, in a ceremony held in front of the members of the University Senate.



The plenaries and the eight panel session on 14 March were held at Poiana Braşov resort, attracting professors, researchers, specialists in industry, doctoral and undergraduate students involved in the

area of materials science and engineering from Romania and other countries like Portugal, Israel, Germany, China, Spain, USA, the Netherlands, Australia, Italy, Cyprus, Hungary, Turkey, Sri Lanka, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Great Britain etc.



In order to publish the most valuable contributions, Bramat 2019 Conference was once again supported by two prestigious journals in the field of materials science and engineering, namely *Applied Surface Science* (Elsevier) and *Journal of Materials Science* (Springer). Both editors-in-chief of the journals attended the conference.

Furthermore, two other partner journals supported the publication of the papers, namely *Materials Today Proceedings* (Elsevier) and *Bulletin of Transilvania University of Braşov – Engineering Sciences Series*.

During the BRAMAT 2019 festive dinner, the most valuable posters of young doctoral students were rewarded and diplomas of loyalty were awarded to the participants.

Owing to the high profile of its participants (including the journals represented at the conference), the quality and complexity of the matters approached, and the exceptional atmosphere, BRAMAT can be viewed as one of the highly regarded international conferences in the field of materials science and engineering.

Professor Dr. Eng. Daniel MUNTEANU  
President of BRAMAT Conference

## LITERATURE AND ITS CURRENT CONSTRAINTS – THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMPARATIVE LITERATURE AND CULTURAL STUDIES

On 21 and 22 March, Department of Literature and Cultural Studies within the Faculty of Letters in collaboration with the *Institute of Modern Languages Research*, and with the support of *Agence universitaire de la Francophonie*, organized the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Conference on Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies *Littérature sous contraintes en Europe de l'Est après 1989/ Literature under Constraint in Eastern Europe after 1989*.



The invited speakers, Tiphaine Samoyault, from Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris 3 and Oana Panaite, from Indiana University, Bloomington, redefined the idea of contemporaneity, based on its significance that transcends history and time, and explored the latest political and cultural constraints on literature and art in the global and postcolonial era.



The first day of the conference was mainly dedicated to presentations on Francophone literature, while the second day's presentations focused on analyses and case studies on pieces of literature from Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, the Republic of Moldova and Romania. The presentations were given mostly by young researchers; they illustrated a multiplicity of literary vantage points, as well as the structural analogies between the cultural environments peculiar to East European countries. The panel sessions were great opportunities to engage in interesting debates and discussions.

Diana FRANȚ  
Master student, Cultural Innovation

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## "TRANSILVANIA" LAW CONFERENCE – THE ARCHITECTURE AND PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW COMMERCIAL CODE OF ROMANIA

Between 21 and 23 March, our university hosted the first edition of *Transilvania* Law Conference, whose main topic was *The Architecture and Progressive Formation of the New Commercial Code of Romania*.



The project was coordinated by the Faculty of Law from *Transilvania* University of Braşov, in collaboration with the Civil Law Office Piperea & Associates, the Civil Law Office Savu & Associates, S.O.R.O.C.A.P.P., the Faculty of Law from *Babeş-Bolyai* University, the Faculty of Law from *U.M.F.S.T.* in Târgu Mureş, the Bar of Braşov, the INPPA – Territory Centre Braşov, the Bar of Mureş, The Bar of Harghita, The Chamber of Trade and Industry of Braşov, C.H. BECK Publishing House and the Centre of Applied Research in Law and Business.

The interactive presentations offered clearly defined solutions to the most controversial issues

in current legal practice, circumscribed within the area of commercial law, as well as all adjacent branches. Essentially, the entire event was marked by the concept of legal interdisciplinary with a view to correlating and integrating the upcoming Commercial Code of Romania within the current legal framework.



This event was attended by a large number of participants, among whom representatives of national courts of justice, assistant-magistrates of Romania's Constitutional Court, academics, attorneys, insolvency practitioners, legal counsellors, representatives of publishing houses, as well as other specialists who are part of the initiative group in charge of drafting the upcoming Commercial Code of Romania.

Lecturer Codruţ-Nicolae SAVU, PhD

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## THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON *YOUTH IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT*

The celebration of Transilvania University Day this year concluded with the International Scientific Conference on *YOUTH IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT* (8-9 March).



The most important personalities in the field of physical education and sports in Romania (representatives of the Government, the Senate, the Parliament, the local authorities, and of sports federations, deans of the faculties of physical education and sports in Romania), were joined in this event by prominent professors, doctoral students, and researchers from Germany, France, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Croatia, Portugal, Slovenia, China, and Great Britain.

The first day of the event showcased research conducted by high profile authors, among whom the following:

- Dr Branislav Antala, Slovakia – president for Europe of the International Physical Education Federation – *FIEP and its Future Projects and Activities for the Quality Physical Education Development*;
- Dr Jürgen Beckmann, Germany – *The holistic development of young athletes*;
- Dr Jorge Caesar Vilela de Carvalho, Portugal – *Can the vulnerable population achieve the high performance?*;
- Dr Miran Kondric, Slovenia – *Physical*

*preparation of very young table tennis players to avoid injuries – a critical view*;

- Dr Guillaume Martinent, France – *Young elite athletes in intensive training centres: Is the optimization of performance potential inconsistent with the preservation of well-being and mental health*.

This was followed with an official meeting took place between Dr Bogdan Matei, the Romanian Minister of Youth and Sports, and the deans of the faculties of physical education and sports and the representatives of the sports associations and clubs in Braşov.



On the second day of the event, the presentation sessions, were followed by a poster competition, as well as a workshop on the topic *New tendencies in adapted sports*.

Considering the international magnitude of this conference and its role in the development of physical education and sports in Europe, we hope to become even more competitive in this field in the future.

Assist. Prof. Dr Ioan TURCU – Dean  
Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports

## THE EDITORIAL DESIGN AS AN AESTHETIC EVENT

In an era of e-book readers and Kindle, promoting the visual and tactile image of a printed book may seem a rather outdated endeavour. Cristina Sabău, art and design critic, and Alexandru Şchiopu, graphic artist and designer were invited by *Norbert Detaeye* Media Centre to touch upon the topic of *The Beautiful Book* in an event dedicated to the celebration of our university's anniversary.



The free and elegant presentation testified to the speakers' highly professional, enthusiastic, and unabated commitment to upholding printed book publishing. Besides the intrinsic value of the book's content, the art of graphic design is a mark of exceptional editorial accomplishment.



Deciding on the shape and size of fonts, determining the right balance between text and image, achieving the harmony between content and graphic shape, designing the book cover as a magic attire alluding more or less directly to the content, piquing the reader's curiosity and eliciting their desire to own such a thing of beauty, all these

are aspects which make up the felicitous art of creating beautiful books.



The books thus created by Cristina Sabău and Alexandru Şchiopu are among those that you really need to buy and dearly embrace while having the acute feeling of selfishly possessing a beautiful thing.

The audience had the chance to share in the magic of touching the books designed by the two artists. Among these books, the one entitled "Thinking about rural and local spirit. Seven years of design and crafts based research on site", authored by an international team, including professors from Transilvania University, is a volume with a minimalist and austere graphic vision meant to suggest the importance of book design in concentrating the reader's attention on actually reading the ideas.

By way of conclusion: the printed book remains a strong intellectual anchor, and its attractiveness is enhanced by its graphics. We are grateful to our invitees for having highlighted the fact that beauty is in the design of details.

Professor Dr Marina CIONCA

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## THE UNIVERSITY DAY AT THE FACULTY OF TECHNOLOGICAL ENGINEERING AND INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT

Just as in previous years, the Faculty of Technological Engineering and Industrial Management celebrated University Day in a series of events highlighting the state-of-the-art in the field of industrial engineering and technical innovation.

An eclectic public interested in the subject, but particularly high-school students, were invited to attend several activities meant to promote advanced technologies.

The participants in the workshops entitled *Connecting to new technologies. 3D. Printing Live* and *How to build a functional scale aircraft?* had the opportunity to actively participate in practical demonstrations in the field of additive technologies and aerospace constructions.



After a brief theoretical introduction, several complex plastic pieces were manufactured by 3D printing. Four 3D printers were simultaneously operated to obtain separate parts which were then assembled. Several promotional pieces were also printed and offered to the most active participants. In the aerospace construction lab, under the supervision of 3-rd year students, the guests were involved in the assembly process of the flight control components of a scale aircraft previously built in the faculty lab.

For those who were keen to participate in Lectures on digital design and 3D printing or presentations in the field of Digital Production

Systems from the angle of the fourth industrial revolution as the challenge of the first part of the century, this was a great opportunity to keep updated on the concepts and the principles with increasing applicability in industrial production.



A special moment was the presentation entitled *Applications of non-conventional technologies in industry – demonstrations and technological applications*, held in the L2 Lab from the Research and Development Institute of our University.



It was a hub for exchanging ideas between students, invitees and professors from the Faculty of Technological Engineering and Industrial Management and the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering.

After a full day's work, one can only conclude that the event was a true success, the participants enjoyed the hands-on character of activities, which is reason enough to organize similar events in the years to come.

Professor Dr Mircea Viorel DRĂGOI  
Assist. Professor Dr Flavius SÂRBU

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## EVENTS AT THE FACULTY OF CIVIL ENGINEERING ON THE UNIVERSITY DAY

The Faculty of Civil Engineering celebrated Transilvania University Day by organizing, between 27 February and 1 March, three major events on interesting topics specific to the field.



*The pride and joy of working as a civil engineer* was the overarching theme of the meeting held on 27 February, at 1:30 pm, at *Atanasie Talpoși* lecture theatre, involving faculty staff, students, and a group of pupils from *Mircea Cristea* High School.

The meeting was an introduction into the secrets of civil engineering and installations for civil engineering, with presentations and interactive discussions among the pupils and teachers, followed by a visit to the Civil Engineering Lab (which includes the sub-labs Construction Materials, Geotechnics and Foundations, Communications) and the Radiant Surfaces Lab.

*The employers' perspective on the competences and skills after graduation* was the topic of the meeting between the students and representatives of the industries concerned with civil engineering and installations.

The event was held on 28 February and consisted in discussions and presentations of

images depicting the activity of ICCO FM, with emphasis placed on the employers' expectations regarding the competences and skills gained after graduation.

*Open BIM solutions for design in architecture and civil engineering*, and *Elaborating civil engineering projects using STABICAD* respectively, were the topics of the events held on 1 March, which brought together 70+ teaching staff, undergraduate and graduate students.



ALLBIM NET presented the design software and its practical applications; the results it yielded in the intermediate and final stages stimulated the students' interest, as they benefit from attending free training courses organized by the faculty.

The representative of STABIPLAN – Holland, "Research and Development" Department gave a product demo for the application resulted from the STABICAD program, which the students also found extremely interesting.

Professor Dr Eng. Ioan TUNS – Dean  
Faculty of Civil Engineering

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## ON STAGE PERFORMANCE OF CARAGIALE'S PLAYS FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, to celebrate spring's return, Transilvania University's Day, and to bring joy to the residents of the nursing home in Noua neighbourhood, students from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication gave two shows they had prepared within the "Erving Goffman" Scientific Students' Circle of Dramaturgical Sociology supervised by Dr Ștefan Ungurean and stage-directed by Dr Mihai Ignat.



The first group entitled *Battalion 3, in vain*, made up of Drăgan Cornelia, Guțoiu Emanuel Gabriel and Cristea Cătălin, performed the short play *Justice* while the second group named *Scandal* and made up of Dumitrică Emanuel Dumitru, Bondoc Mihaela, Guran Alexandra, Fage Diana, Dăscălașu Lorena and Dumitru Mihaela performed two scenes from *One Stormy Night*.



"Who would have thought that we, students at the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, can also act? The dramaturgical sociology offered us the chance to build an emotion which then we

turned into tradition. Our representations are a transposition, through a metaphorical lens, of the social world we live in.



We managed to elicit reactions, put smiles on people's faces, get applause and become memorable to our audience... We shall only be characters perhaps few times in our lives, but it is essential that we etched each part we played deeply in our soul. We are symbols that need to be filled with significance and this thing is possible only by performing beyond the scene also", said Cornelia Drăgan, one of the student-performers.



This is the third year running when, on our University Day, students generously and passionately perform for the entertainment of elderly people.

Assist. Professor Mihai IGNAT, PhD  
Faculty of Letters

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## ***ERASMUS WELCOME MEETING AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE***

On 6 March, the Erasmus+ Office welcomed 90 incoming students from 24 countries: Italy, France, Poland, Portugal, Greece, Latvia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Moldova, Bosnia Herzegovina, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine, Belarus, Azerbaijan, Albania, Armenia, Sri Lanka, Morocco, Tunisia, Malaysia, the USA, Canada, and Ecuador. The aim of the event was to familiarize students with the local and national history and culture and to update them on our university's educational offer and on the activities they could participate in.



As with the previous editions, we were supported by the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) – a group of volunteers at our university who assist incoming students to adjust to the academic life and become acquainted with the socio-cultural life in our city.

The success of such meetings represents an incentive for all those involved in the project to pursue similar promotion ideas and to continue with such welcoming activities for the ever-increasing number of incoming students.

We have once again proved the efficiency of the program and of the effort of our team, and we are thankful that all former participants in the mobility programs have returned to their homes with pleasant and useful experiences and have recommended the program to their peers.

Assist. Professor Laura Teodora DAVID, PhD  
Incoming Mobility Overseer

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## ALUMNI DAYS

In the context of the celebratory events devoted to the University Day, on 6 and 7 March the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences organized, within the frame of ALUMNI DAYS, three meetings between the students and graduates of the faculty.



At the students' request, the meetings were open to all students, not only to seniors, so the ALUMNI FPSE 2019 guests were distributed according to their specialisms, as follows:

The undergraduate students specializing in PIPP and PPS, and the Master's students from PETSM enjoyed the presence of Ms Cristina ELEKES – preschool teacher, Ms Laura IACOB – principal of PREMS School, and Ms Carmen PĂLĂȘAN – learning support assistant. The students specializing in PSH and PCCPP had the opportunity to talk at length about the road to becoming a psychotherapist with Livia CĂCIULOIU and Alex Octavian CĂCIULOIU, who are private school teachers in Bucharest.

Roxana BELEAUA and Raluca KERESZTEZ – HR at Schaeffler Romania, and Elena SECHELI – Vice-principal at Middle School No. 11 in Brașov – shared thoughts with the Master's students in PMO and RUE about the corporate professional experience in contrast to the managerial experience in the education sector.

The alumni shared with the future teachers stories about their dreams versus the reality of everyday work, about what they wanted to do and what they were able to do, the joy of their accomplishments and the bitter taste of disappointment which they turned into lessons for their next career step.



They showed that being a teacher and/or a psychologist is not only a calling and a gift, but especially a responsibility and a permanent effort in training, involvement, courage, and interest for the materials used and the manner in which the seeds are planted or re-planted, so that there will be future adults who are created and in turn create, who are gifted and in turn gift, who are trained and in turn train further into the framework of a balanced, responsible life.



Sitting together in the classroom were graduates, teachers, and psychologists, students interested in finding out what their future will (or will not) look like, as well as other teachers who look fondly over the fruit of their work throughout the years past, present, and future. Thanks are due to the distinguished guests who strengthened the hope that together we can create the footpaths along which all those who choose to become psychologists and teachers will tread more confidently.

Lecturer Iolanda BELDIANU, PhD  
FPSE ALUMNI coordinator

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## EECS STUDENTS AND COMPANIES - 2019

On 7 March, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science organized the third edition of the annual event *EECS students and companies* at Aula Magna, the last event dedicated to celebrating University Day.



Twenty companies supported the event financially and also kindly accepted our invitation to interact with our students. Each company prepared a presentation stand aimed at disseminating information about their field, achievements, and programs for students. Some of the companies organized interactive activities, contests, workshops or seminars where they presented modern technologies used in their respective fields.



The schedule for the day included launching a state-of-the-art lab equipped with iMACS acquired through a sponsorship facilitated by Mondly

company from Braşov. The students will be able to use the lab for practical activities in software disciplines.



The event enjoyed a large turnout consisting of students from all years of study. The ground floor and the first floor of Aula Magna were packed all day; the presentation stands were interesting and the rooms where the activities took place were also full.

The interest expressed by the students and the companies validates the importance of the collaboration between the industry and the university, in which the common subject is the student and the objective is to send competitive specialists on the work market with a strong basic training, who are also familiar with modern technology.

Thanks are due to ARK, ATOS, Autoliv, Benchmark, Caditec, Celesta, Cerner, Elektrobit, FotoNation, Intel, Miele, Mondly, NTT DATA, Preh, Siemens, Stabilus, Tata Technologies, Tehmin, Total Electric and Waters.

Professor Dr Eng. Carmen GERIGAN – Dean  
Faculty of Electrical Engineering and  
Computer Science

## STUDENTS FROM THE FACULTY OF MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING EXCHANGE IDEAS ON FIELD RESEARCH INSTITUTES

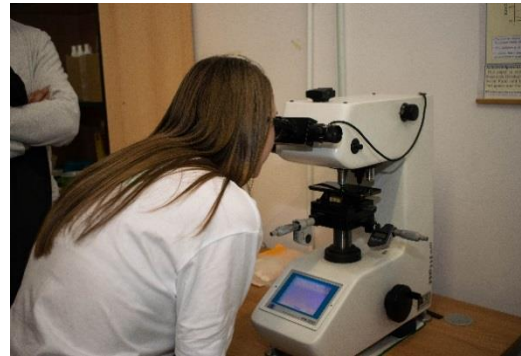
The events celebrating Transilvania University Day succeeded in imparting the main objectives of the activities developed by the different research centres within our R&D Institute to junior students from the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering.



The students were offered the chance to participate in practical activities, ranging from using robots in the welding industry, 3D printing and testing the mechanical properties, to employing fine methods that include characterizing thin layers and nanometric structures.



Students were also involved in operating thermal procedures, including induction heat treatment and characterizing materials by means of thermogravimetric thermal analysis and analysis with differential scanning. Another advanced technology that caught the participants' attention was the use of a water jet-cutting machine.



This visit piqued our students' interest; they expressed their wish to get more and more involved in the activities of the research centre. This feedback ensures the success of pre-doctoral level research as part of academic training.



Lecturer Dr Eng. Ioana POPESCU

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## TRANSILVANIA GAME JAM COMPETITION

Between 15 and 17 March, from 5 pm to 7 pm, the first edition of the contest “Transilvania Game Jam” took place at the Research-Development Institute of Transilvania University of Braşov.



The competition enjoyed the support of Tomorrow HUB at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, and was centred on the topic of the eHERITAGE project (Expanding the research and innovation capacity in cultural heritage virtual reality applications).



Approximately 50 participants divided into teams of up to four members proved their skills for programming games or game concepts. The contest involved two categories, namely digital games and board games, and the most original ideas were awarded.

The second day was dedicated to free workshops on game development aimed at assisting the participants. Throughout the two competition days, they were provided with the necessary space to create while benefitting from guidance from mentors in the field.



Tomorrow HUB and the Virtual Reality and Robotics Department within the R&D Institute at Transilvania University organized the event and supplied the necessary infrastructure for the activities during the two days, facilitating the creative process, as well as hosting workshops about game development. The theme of the games created was “The cultural heritage of Braşov, seen from a past, present, and future perspective”. To stimulate the participants’ interest for technology, they were introduced to the equipment available at the Institute, including the holographic booth and the other VR systems designed within the framework of the eHERITAGE project, as well as the robots and the haptic equipment in the lab.



Although in its first edition, the large number of participants in the contest proves the students’ interest for gaming. The organizers’ aim for the event was to stimulate young people who are passionate about games and to encourage team work.

Daniel VOINEA – doctoral student  
Lecturer Dr Mihai DUGULEANĂ

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering  
Cristina ILISAN – undergraduate student, 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Communication and Public Relations



## REGISTRATION FOR *SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD ROMANIA 2019* IS OPEN, A COMPETITION WITH AWARDS OF 5,000 EUROS FOR IDEAS FOR SOCIAL BUSINESSES!

In March, Transilvania University of Braşov hosted a workshop entitled *Generating impactful ideas for the community*, organized by the *Social Impact Award* team. Within the workshop, the participants and the invited entrepreneurs debated current topics relevant for the youth in our country, discovered what social entrepreneurship is about and how it can generate impactful ideas for society. It was an inspiring evening in which the participants exchanged many ideas and solutions.



The young professionals, the students, and the high schoolers who want to become social entrepreneurs are encouraged to register their applications in the eighth edition of *Social Impact Award Romania*, using the link [apply.socialimpactaward.ro](http://apply.socialimpactaward.ro).

After the close of the registration period on 17 May, the jury will select 15 projects that will undergo a stage of development and incubation of the ideas over the summer. The jury consists of experts, among who are *Social Impact Award Romania* partners Raluca Cocuz, sustainability specialist @ Enel Romania and Nicoleta Deliu, @BCR. The incubation period comes with the necessary resources, so that young people can continue to develop their idea. The incubation provides:

- individual mentoring sessions;
- work methods and instruments specific to social entrepreneurship;
- a community of young social entrepreneurs;
- support in understanding priorities and acting

on them.

On 3 October, the jury consisting of experts in social entrepreneurship will award three prizes of 1,500 euros, plus the popularity award of 500 Euros chosen by community vote, as well as participation scholarships in *Social Impact Award International Summit* in Kiev, Ukraine, in November.

The organizers' objective is to train and encourage young people to create and develop their own ideas and to become part of the solutions that Romania needs, representing our country with pride through their ideas in international networks. For this purpose, they developed programs dedicated to learning, initiation and financial support, such as *Future Makers* ([www.futuremakers.ro](http://www.futuremakers.ro)), *Shaping Conversations*, and *Social Impact Award*.

In Romania, the competition—now in its eighth edition—has for the past four years been organized by the Alternative University, an alternative education model and a personalized study program, *Social Innovation Solutions* – design and consultancy for social innovation, and *Global Shapers Bucharest Hub* – the youth network initiated by *World Economic Forum* which has supported 40 social business ideas so far. The partners of SIA Romania 2019 are BCR and Enel Romania.

The project is currently running in 17+ countries, among which Austria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Kosovo, Macedonia, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine, Turkey, Uganda, Kazakhstan.

Ovidiu Mircea ȚIEREAN, Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration

Cristiana BÎGIU

Adelina ȚÎRNOVANU

Project Manager of Social Impact Award Romania 2019

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## TRANSILVANIA TOURISM FAIR 2019

Between 22 and 24 March the Faculty of Food and Tourism participated, as exhibitor, in the regional tourism fair *Transilvania Tourism Fair 2019*.



A sample of gastronomic success was the brioche called "By the Faculty", specially baked, wrapped and labelled in such a way as to promote the Faculty of Food and Tourism. The success of the brioche was measured by the number of tasters who asked for the recipe.



This event was also an opportunity to promote the study programs taught at the Faculty of Food and Tourism.



Our students visited other stands and were in turn visited by tourism professionals and representatives of companies in the field who kindly offered advice and asserted their availability for student internship schemes.



This interaction resulted in a number of partnership proposals and practicum agreements with potential partners from the hospitality industry.

Lecturer Dr Diana FORIS  
Event coordinator

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## OUTSTANDING RESULTS FOR STUDENTS IN THE *FORESTRY VERSATILITY CONTEST* IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Between 25 and 30 March, a group of students at the Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering consisting of Andreea Arhip, Laszlo Szasz, Darius Hărdăalău, and Dănuț Pavel participated in the European contest "Forestry Versatility".

The 33rd edition of the competition held in Brno, the Czech Republic, brought together students from 11 countries. Laszlo Szasz and Darius Hărdăalău won the first and second place respectively, in the individual section.

In the team section, the students from Braşov came in fourth place.

The trials consisted in precision cuttings using a chainsaw (horizontal cutting, vertical cutting, delimiting etc.); cutting using a bow saw; simulation using a John Deere Harvester; orienteering and identification of species using maps and a compass; inventory of a sampling lot; estimation of diameter, height, and volume of a standing tree from 25 m away without using any instruments; shooting plates with a shotgun –

(skeet and trap); shooting a small-bore rifle.



Professor Dr Alexandru Lucian CURTU – Dean Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering



## THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENTS FROM THE FACULTY OF PRODUCT DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT

The University Day was celebrated at the Faculty of Product Design and Environment with the organisation of the exhibition entitled *PDE students and their achievements*.



The event was designed as an opportunity to showcase some of the most significant undergraduate student achievements: solar-powered functional models, redesigning the faculty hallways, robots, drones, orthotic prototypes, spinal implants, a briquetting machine, lab-testing devices.



The exhibition was targeted at students and faculty staff from the entire university, as well as at high-school students. The event was indeed a success, as all the visitors appreciated the

creativity and impressive results of the students.



Furthermore, the Faculty of Product Design and Environment (PDE) signed a partnership agreement with the technical College *Mircea Cristea* with a view to organizing orientation activities for high-school graduates, and to allowing the transfer of best practices between the two education institutions.



Professor Dr Codruța JALIU - Dean  
Faculty of Product Design and Environment

## RESTORATION EXHIBITION AT THE FACULTY OF WOOD ENGINEERING – THONET AT ANTIQUE IL

University Day and the beginning of spring were celebrated on 1 March at the Faculty of Wood Engineering with a new restoration exhibition. This year's March talisman brought into the spotlight nine Thonet chairs from the Antique IL collection, an example of the unity and diversity of this type of "revolutionary" furniture in the XIX-XX century, with industrial implementation in Romania as well.



The history of the Thonet chairs is tied to Michael Thonet's patenting the methods of plasticizing and bending beech wood 150 years ago. The most famous exemplar is chair no. 14, created and awarded the gold medal at the Paris exhibition in 1867.



Factories in Romania used to make Thonet chairs or derivatives as early as the XIX-XX century. For instance, the wood factory Wood Borlova-Armeniș S.p.A from Caransebeș was bought in 1921 by Mundus, which later merged with Thonet, becoming an important Thonet-Mundus chair manufacturer.

In Codlea, Brașov, the first Transylvanian factory manufacturing bent furniture was established in 1871, "Hornung Brothers".



The nine chairs showcased in the exhibition, including two pieces with original labels: *Thonet-Mundus* and *Hornung*, were restored throughout the years by the students of the faculty. They became the centrepieces in an area arranged with March talisman strings, white interlocked with red, invoking a dialogue between generations and Thonet models manufactured in Romania over time.

Under the title *My Brașov*, the exhibition also included images of the heritage buildings in Brașov city caught in various states of disrepair; these images were intended to act as a clarion call to the fact that cultural treasures can be lost in the absence of adequate conservation and restoration measures. This year, historical buildings on Lungă Street in Brașov were presented, which is one of the oldest streets in the city, attested since the XIII century with Bartholomew Church. This type of action was launched in 2016 and was carried out this year by 1st year Master's students in Furniture Eco-Design and Restoration.

As in the previous years, the visitors appreciated the novelty of the exhibition and the involvement of the youth in rediscovering the cultural heritage close to us and the history of the local community. Furthermore, the showcase was an opportunity for those present to learn about the story of the chairs, as well as the history of Brașov and its inhabitants.

Lecturer Dr Eng. Emanuela BELDEAN  
Professor Dr Maria Cristina TIMAR

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## CATALYST CODING CONTEST – PROGRAMMING CONTEST AT THE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

On 22 March, the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science played host to the CCC programming contest *Catalyst Coding Contest*, organized by Catalyst, a company headquartered internationally in Austria, and locally in Cluj-Napoca.

This biannual contest is in its 30<sup>th</sup> edition, with the latest three editions organized by our faculty. Participants from universities in Europe, Africa, Asia and America attended this edition. Besides the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, our country was represented by the universities in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Timișoara, Craiova and Oradea.

Although promoted as a general programming contest, it is rather targeted at algorithmic methods, logic, abstraction and optimization capacity. Each team was free to choose their programming language. Teams of maximum three members (students or pupils) were allowed to sign up for the contest.

The contest is held online, on a dedicated platform, and its duration is four hours. It begins simultaneously in all the participating centres, and it displays seven levels of difficulty (1 – the lowest, 7 - the highest). The final ranking is done in descending order relative to the level reached, and in ascending order relative to the elapsed time. The results are announced live, online.

This edition too was a successful one both for students and pupils, being an excellent opportunity for personal development, as well as a chance to be awarded with state-of-the-art equipment.

The absolute winner was a team from Bucharest and the runner-up was a mixed team made up of students from the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science and from *Grigore Moisil* National College of Computer Science Brașov.

The next edition will be held on 6 November, when students and high schoolers are invited again to sign up for the contest.

Assist. Professor Dr Silviu DUMITRESCU



## LITERATURE GOES OUT TO TOWN AGAIN

It has already become a tradition with our Faculty of Letters to celebrate Transilvania University Day by organizing Literature goes out to town, an event aimed at keeping literature buffs current with what is new on the writing front, locally.

This year's event consisted of two actions devoted entirely to poetry. The former showcased the poetic output of students, while in the latter, the centre stage was held by faculty staff and alumni. The event kicked off at Şt. O. Iosif bookstore with the help of some of the members of *Building T* literary circle.



The performance by Florin Gherman and Dumitru Galupa brought a refreshing vibe, the two of them reciting in tandem a poem by Andrei Bodi. Student Bianca Buta took her inspiration from the gothic pop movement adapting it to her ironic even

cinical voice, whereas Mădălina Coman took refuge in a world where things belonged but did not fit to perfection. Ioana Zenaida Rotariu's poetry surprised through her ordinary life scenery, swinging back and forth between imagism and a poetry of personal experience. Denisa Păun's writing had a hard science vocabulary that created a cold atmosphere powerfully contrasting with Anastasia Tache's sensible and delicate poetry, as if painted in pastels.

The second part, held at The Humanitas bookstore, gave the floor to teachers and alumni. The poems written in German by Carmen E. Puchianu, mundane and self-ironical, found their counterpart in Romanian in Romulus Bucur's social commentary filled poems. Robert G. Elekes brought forward some of his narrative poems, a mixture of comedy and tragedy; they cleared the floor for Anca Dumitru, whose poetry went into a territory of objects that only suggest a hint of emotion.

The frame of the event may be the same, but each year there is a fresher and more surprising literature that goes out to town.

Monica CUCU  
Master student in Cultural Innovation

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## AUTOMATICA PING-PONG 2019

On 22 and 23 March, the Department of Automation and Computer Science within the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science organized the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the ping-pong competition for students, teachers and all the employees of our university.

The competition gathered 45 participants who played an overall of over 200 games. The winners of the competition were: 1<sup>st</sup> place – Bălășescu Ionuț, from the Faculty of Technological Engineering and Industrial Management; 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Popescu Daniel, from the Faculty of Medicine; 3<sup>rd</sup>

place – Cioca Raul, from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, and the 4<sup>th</sup> place – Sterie Anca from the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports.

The winners received prizes offered by Eng. Cătălin Ursache, General Manager of Atos Brașov company. The venue of the competition was *Remus Răduleț* Technical College, whose principal, prof. Ioan Sorin Bukșa, allowed us to use their table tennis room.

Professor Dr Francisc SISAk



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## TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY CHESS CUP, 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

On March 1st, in celebration of the University Day, the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science organized the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of *Transilvania University Chess Cup*.



The contest brought together valuable competitors, including five teachers: Dr Claudiu Coman, Dr Radu Păltănea, Dr Nicușor Minculete, Dr Adrian Damșescu and Dr Gabriel Stan, nine students, one university employee and the veteran chess player Ion Damșescu.

Two of the participants were professional players: Andrei George Constandache (ELO rating: 1730) and Daniel Prisecaru (ELO rating: 1915). The contest was supported by the International Grandmaster Costică Ciprian Nanu, the coach of the national women's chess team. The organizers adopted the Swiss system of rapid chess (15 minutes + 12 seconds), in 6 rounds.

The competition was very tight, with intense and much disputed games, at a very high level. The ranking of the competitors with the same number of points was based on the international criteria for tie-break at chess competitions.



The university chess cup was won by Andrei George Constandache, third year student at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science. The final results of the competition after six rounds are the following:

Constandache Andrei George	5 points
Stan Ion Gabriel	5 points
Prisecaru Daniel	4,5 points
Păltănea Radu	4 points
Coman Claudiu	3,5 points
Damșescu Adrian	3 points
Calavar Daniel	3 points
Nedianu Viorel	3 points
Damșescu Ion	3 points
Călburean Alin	3 points
Minculete Nicusor	2 points
Șuteu Șerban	2 points
Dumitru George	2 points
Benete Arnold	2 points
Bivol Ștefan	2 points
Mantale Daniel	1 point

Congratulations and thanks are due to all the participants in this year's edition of the contest.

Lecturer Dr Ion Gabriel STAN – Pro-dean  
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

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## BASKETBALL COMPETITIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY

On 2 and 3 March, the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports organized the first edition of the *Student 3x3 Basketball Championship*, intended to promote physical exercise, a healthy lifestyle and fun. According to the regulations, in the spirit of fair-play, the teams entering competition had to include at least one female student.



The majority of the faculties within our university were represented in a celebratory competition that also included a free throw contest whose participants received various prizes. The success of this competition encouraged the organizers in their resolve to turn it into an annual championship.

A second event organized in the same period by the faculty was *Transilvania University Phoenix Cup*, for *baby basketball* and *mini-basketball*. It was the second edition of this event, which

gathered participants from all the clubs in Braşov with baby- and mini-basketball teams (future basketball players aged under 10, and 12, respectively).

Around 300 very young basketball players participated in the two days of competitions, proving that the future of sports in Braşov is on the right track. Our university's students had the opportunity to practice specific pedagogical skills, but also to lay the foundations for future scientific research.



Lecturer Dr Bogdan OANCEA  
Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports

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## SKI & SNOWBOARD NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIP 2019

Between 4 and 6 March, Poiana Braşov resort was the venue of the *Ski & Snowboard National University Championship* organized by the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports in collaboration with the Federation of School and University Sports and the Romanian Biathlon Federation. The event attracted many athletes/students from nine universities in Romania, as well as teachers and former professional athletes.



Despite the unfavourable weather, the competitive itch was manifest in all the participants, who approached the competition head-on.

Following their performance, the students of the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports obtained the following notable results:

Competitor	Event	PLACE
Keresztes Zsolt	Giant Slalom National Championship	I.
Preda Raluca	Giant Slalom	II.
Keresztes Zsolt	National Slalom Championship	I.
Tulburean Alin	Slalom	III.
Preda Raluca	Slalom	II.
Ion Gabriela	Snowboard	II.

These results brought our university the second place in the national university ranking. The first place was won by Babeş Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, while the third place went to "1 Decembrie 1918" University of Alba Iulia.

Lecturer Dr Wilhelm Robert GROSZ  
Competition Director

Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports

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## THE UNIVERSITY DAY AT THE FACULTY OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

To celebrate the University Day, the students of the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration took part in a creativity contest, which has already become a tradition.

This year, the title of the contest was *Student at the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration*.

The participants were tasked with creating and presenting a montage of photos documenting student life at our faculty, and suggesting an extracurricular activity to take place within the faculty.

Eleven teams entered the competition; they consisted of undergraduate and graduate students in International Business, and Marketing Policies and Strategies, respectively. The first place went to *The Business Men* - a team called of third year students from the study program International Business.

Congratulations to all the participants!

Assist. Professor Dr Ioana CHIȚU



## 1 MARCH AT CVTC – TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY DAY

Two or three decades ago candidates for a tenured engineering position would “bloom” like a rare flower on the University Campus, in a sea of representatives of the (so-called) sterner sex. The popular belief seemed to be that engineering sciences were reserved for men—a prejudice almost always dispelled by the actual performance of female candidates who, like men, met the requirements of this select and indispensable field to human progress.

It is true that, in the meantime, working conditions for engineers have changed significantly: an engineer’s work is now mostly done on a computer, which favours the creative qualities of those involved in designing projects and in their implementation.

We salute the idea of Transilvania University to organize on 1 March a meeting of the pupils at “G. Moisil” National Informatics College in Braşov and at “Dr. Ioan Meşotă” National College in Braşov with young female engineers from large companies in and around Braşov, to discuss the topic “Women can be engineers too.”

It was impossible for the Creativity Lab not to get involved – CVTC (the Center for Valorisation and Transfer of Competence), owing to Dr Doru Ursuțiu’s openness and commitment to supporting the young generation. For almost three hours, young female engineers from Miele, Autoliv, and Benchmark described the greatest and most difficult moments in becoming an engineer.

The female pupils present gradually overcame their initial shyness and reserve and launched a host of questions relative to “what an engineer actually does” or “if a girl can win, professionally, the fight against the sterner sex”. They learned that there are no obstacles on the road to becoming engineers and asserting themselves in a competition (and not a fight) with men. Some participants expressed their opinion on this insightful meeting:

*“The experience at Transilvania University was both an opportunity to discover a new career option worth considering by female candidates,*

*and a learning environment for the pupils who had already decided to work in the field of engineering. On the first day of spring, various representatives of international firms like Miele, Benchmark, and Autoliv passionately described what engineering entails, proving that it is not a “job exclusive to men”. Furthermore, we had the opportunity to learn new aspects about the Romanian culture, like the fact that the first woman engineer was a Romanian from Galați, Elisa Leonida Zamfirescu. I’m happy that I was able to participate in this eye-opening presentation which motivated me to believe that anything is possible as long as you’re willing to fight for it”,* said Boroica Florentina, grade XI E at “Dr. Ioan Meşotă” National College, Braşov.

*“The meeting at the university helped me broaden my horizon as far as choosing a faculty and a career. I had the chance to hear the opinions of women who studied engineering. I will surely take their advice to heart”,* said Larisa Bularca, Xth grader at “Dr. Ioan Meşotă” National College.

*“I think the event dedicated to women working in engineering was a good initiative in the context of our society, and unique, at least for me. As one of the many pupils who want to study a similar field, specifically computer science, I think the event helped me look at my future from a different perspective. The fact that the event featured women working in this field “specific to men”, women who talked about their experiences, was another good idea of the organizers. All in all, the event was great and I don’t regret participating”,* said another Xth grader, Viorica Puşcaş, from “Dr. Ioan Meşotă” National College.

The most significant argument in favor of organizing such events is the fact that at the end of the meeting, the ladies kept posing the question “When are we meeting again to debate this topic, because I had a whole different concept of this area of activity?”. The answer came from the main organizer of the event, Dr Doru Ursuțiu: “Let’s get organized and make this happen as often as possible. CVTC is at your service.”



Dr Ion-Dan CHIRILĂ, Teacher  
"G. Moisil" National Informatics College Braşov  
Teacher Octavian Florin POLEXA, Teacher  
Mirele SABĂU, Teacher  
"Ioan Meşotă" National College Braşov

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## EVERY WALL IS A DOOR – A KINEDOK INTERNATIONAL SCREENING

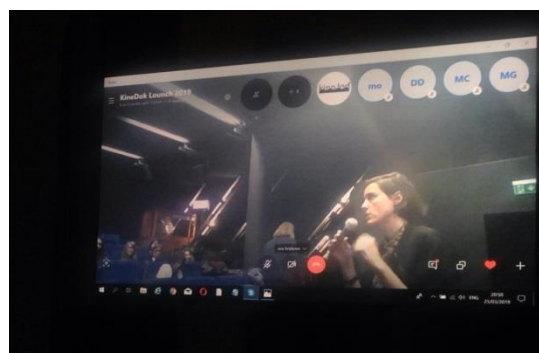
On 25 March, The Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University hosted an event launching the opening of a new season of Kinedok, a platform for alternative distribution of European documentary movies, which returns to Braşov for the fourth year running.

The launch, which took place simultaneously in all seven partner countries, consisted in the screening of “Every Wall is a Door”, a film by Elitza Gueorguieva.



Drawing on VHS tapes of a program hosted by the filmmaker’s mother in the 1990s, the film takes us to post-revolutionary Bulgaria. Elitza Gueorguieva selects moments that reveal how the concept of democracy was born in the minds of the people of this formerly communist country, an image echoed in a personal narrative that

traverses the film, guiding the audience through the phenomenon.



The screening was followed by an online discussion with the filmmaker, who was in Bratislava at the time, an option that highlights the expansion of KineDok into the virtual space. Thus, starting from this year, movies from previous editions will be available on the kinedok.net page in an interactive video library developed in partnership with DAfilms.com.

Maria GHIURȚU, PhD  
The Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University

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## M·A·P TRIO - SPANISH JAZZ AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY

On 20 March a new concert from the Chamber Jazz series took place at Transilvania University. This musical experience was afforded us by Marco Mezquida, Ernesto Aurignac, and Ramon Prats – a sensational trio, on their first trip to Romania.

Three different sounds and personalities brought to life one of the most special concerts of the season. The innate ability of the musicians to connect emotionally with the audience felt through every single song they performed.



The sensitivity of saxophonist Ernesto Aurignac, the expressivity of pianist Marco Mezquida, along with the imagination and versatility of Ramon Prats created a unique performance of contemporary jazz. An alternate universe, out of touch with our reality, where creative freedom and the harmony of sound were in foreground.



Novelty and unpredictability are two other defining elements of this event. Unlike the musicians invited so far, this trio managed to step away from the traditional concert patterns, doing away with the breaks between the different musical pieces, and surprising the local public with their unbroken chain of songs.

The state of reverie, which became a leitmotiv of the performances in these jazz series, was enhanced by the intense and novel sounds, changeable from one composition to another. The space and the lights, along with the respect and the silence of the audience were the external factors which inspired the artists to create a memorable moment of improvised jazz.

The pleasure and passion with which they staged every single representation was also felt at the end of the event, when the band members were actively engaged in a dialog with the public, further revealing some insights from the life of a jazz artist.

Alexandra ROTARIU  
student, Faculty of Letters

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## MIHAI TEACĂ'S RECITAL – UNIVERSITY DAY

The recital held by Mihai Teacă, first year student at the Faculty of Music (the class of Professor Stela Drăgulin) took place under the heading *THE MAGIC OF MUSIC AND WORDS*. The recital was highly original, comprising two parts: classic piano and Romanian authentic folklore music.



Mihai's performance was boosted by his imposing presence and exceptional execution. But above all, the primal role of music—that of conveying feelings and emotions—was fulfilled in a performance meant to engage the audience through a felicitous choice of music, impeccable execution, and masterful use of visual elements.

Mihai's double role was a challenge for the young musician and, at the same time, an opportunity to impress the audience through his agility and mobility. His choice of folklore pieces was special, and was doubled by his convincing rendition.



Playing popular songs and ballads, Mihai drew on his full range of abilities as a singer, piano and taragot player, combining them into a complex and emotionally charged performance. The second part of the recital included three of the 12 *Transcendental Studies*, S.139 and *Mephisto Waltz no. 1* by Franz Liszt. The technical difficulty of the studies allowed the young musician to demonstrate his talent; the execution was a brilliant combination of musical nuances and accents.

Playing the waltz demonstrated Mihai's passion, sensuality and dramatic spirit, which had a great emotional impact on the audience. Undoubtedly, Mihai Teacă's debut on the Aula Magna scene was auspicious and a clear step forward on his road to success.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN  
Musical Centre Expert



## ALINA BERCU'S RECITAL – ALL THE PIANO SONNETS COMPOSED BY LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN II

On 29 March, the pianist Alina Bercu held her second recital of the piano sonnets composed by Ludwig van Beethoven, at Aula Magna, the venue for the events organized by the Musical Centre of our university.



The recital was special because of Alina's interpretation, but also because of the five sonnets in the repertoire – *Sonnet in C major op. 2 no. 3*, *Sonnet in E flat major op. 7*, *Sonnet no. 5 in C minor op. 10 no. 1*, *Sonnet no. 6 in F major op. 10 no. 2*, *Sonnet no. 7 in D major, op. 10 no. 3*, a unique event in the Romanian musical landscape.

The audience could follow the evolution of Beethoven's pianistic language in the sonnets presented, offering a clear overview of the specificities of his artistic expression, of his distinctive moments of inspiration, of the Beethovenian preoccupations and techniques.

In his sonnets, Beethoven depicts his own suffering, pouring his soul into music. The composer trespasses the traditional structures, lending a Romantic pathos to his melodic lines and harmonies, while he also makes use of intense severe polyphony and fugue, which Alina interpreted passionately.

From the specific brilliant melody, articulated in symmetrical phrases, from typical topics, significant dynamic contrasts and up to the problematic language, Alina Bercu's recital was a true pianistic demonstration. The acme of the recital was probably *Sonnet for piano no. 4 in E flat Major, Op. 7*, where one could notice the pleasant sound, the accomplished technique and the clarity of the movement appropriate for Beethoven's piano music.

Quite outstanding were the quality of the execution, the brightness and volubility of the music, a real tour de force for both Alina and her audience. The combination between the art of the composition and that of the execution captured the audience's attention, resulting in an extraordinary musical event.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN  
Musical Centre Expert



## CONCERT OF THE FACULTY OF MUSIC CHOIR

On 1 March, the University Day was celebrated by the Choir of the Faculty of Music through a festive concert. The program included the *Missa in G* by Franz Schubert (1797-1828).

The impressive and popular composition with liturgical values, set against a charming melodic theme, a subtle and original harmony, was accompanied on the piano by Dr Gina Mihaela Pavel.

The originality of the concert consisted in the fact that the conductors were two undergraduate students enrolled in the Music study program, Roșca Diana (third year) and Opra Balasz Jozsef (second year), who, through an alternative

interpretation, gave colour and personality to each section, demonstrating their ability to coordinate the choir. The soloist part was interpreted by Mădălina Bourceanu, second year master student.

Along with the other students' activities dedicated to the University Day, the concert of *Gheorghe Dima* Choir displayed the discipline and emotional involvement necessary for a high quality performance. It also evidenced the capacity of our music students to design and implement a remarkable artistic and educational event.

Professor Dr Ioan OARCEA



## ANNIVERSARY OF THE RETIRED TEACHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY

The initiative to celebrate the birthday of our retired colleagues, first implemented by the university a few years ago, continued this year as well. On 12 March, the Rector's Office hosted a touching celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our retired teachers.



This year's event was dedicated to four academics—Dr Ion Moleavin, Dr Gheorghe Ciolan, Dr Ovidiu Mocean and Dr Corneliu Marius Tecău—to whom the Rector, Dr Ioan Vasile Abrudan and Vice-Rector Dr Liliana Rogozea awarded diplomas and presents bearing the university logo; but the most important reward lies in the respect and good professional reputation they earned for the years spent teaching classes of students.

Sharing in the celebration were colleagues from various faculties: Professor Ioan Călin Roșca - dean, Professor Mircea Năstăsoiu - vice-dean, Profesor Adrian Țoica - vice-dean, and Professor Nicolae Ispas - head of department (Faculty of Mechanical Engineering); Dr Ioan Scârneciu - vice-dean (Faculty of Medicine); Dr Adrian Lăcătuș - dean (Faculty of Letters).



The anniversary was also a moment for discussions, sharing memories and hopeful thoughts about continuing to support the teachers of our university, about acknowledging the value of the human resources, positions also held by our Rector: "It is an initiative we started in the past years and which we intend to continue in the future, so as to turn the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our colleagues into a special moment, showing our respect for their work in educating students and in research."



Lecturer Victor BRICIU, PhD  
Marketing and Image Office

## ALUMNI AMBASSADOR - MIHAELA DUDIȚĂ



Mihaela Dudiță graduated from the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering of Transilvania University of Brașov in 2005. She stayed on as a Master's student in *Engineering Design of Renewable Energy System*, a program related to renewable energy systems taught in English. She did her PhD thesis in the field of materials for solar-thermal collectors. Her first job was at Transilvania University of Brașov, where she progressed from the position of teaching assistant (2006-2009) to an assistant lecturer (2009-2011), then head of works (2011-2017). Between 2010-2013 she was a postdoctoral researcher at Transilvania University of Brașov, and attended a second postdoctoral program at the University for Applied Sciences HSR (Hochschule für Technik Rapperswil) in Switzerland (2014-2015). As of 2016, Mihaela Dudiță has been working as a researcher and project manager within HSR, at the Solar Technologies Institute SPF (Institut für Solartechnik SPF).

Her area of research—materials for solar-thermal collectors and seasonal energy storage—materialized in the publication of various studies and the participation in specialized conferences: *Heat and power storage using aluminium for low and zero energy buildings*, published in *Proceedings of the 13th REHVA World Congress CLIMA 2019, Bucharest (2019)*; *Influence of environmental stresses on the performance of*

*new selective coatings for unglazed solar thermal collectors*, *Solarthermie Symposium, Kloster Banz, Bad Staffelstein, Germany (2018)*; *Closed Sorption Seasonal Thermal Energy Storage with Aqueous Sodium Hydroxide*. In *Nearly Zero Energy Communities*, published in *Proceedings of the Conference for Sustainable Energy (CSE)(2017)*.

All her work and research was also validated by the academic awards received, namely the Award for Research and Patenting, Transilvania University of Brașov (2007-2011), awards for the results of research in 2007, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2014 by UEFISCDI, *Young Scientist Award*, 5<sup>th</sup> *International Conference on Nanosciences & Nanotechnologies - NN08, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, 2008*.

Furthermore, Mihaela Dudiță initiated and coordinated the project for publishing the book *Spheres and energy*—the first scientific Romanian children's book about energy. The original title of the book is *Globi und die Energie – Globis Reise in die Energiezukunft de Atlant Bieri*.

The project was implemented by the Tot mai Verde Association in Brașov, with help from the following partners from the education sector in the translation and adaptation from German to Romanian: Transilvania University of Brașov (the Faculty of Letters, the Theoretical and Applied Linguistics Department, the Faculty of Product Design and Environment, the Research-Development Institute of the university and the University for Applied Sciences in Rapperswil (Hochschule für Technik Rapperswil HSR), the Solar Technologies Institute SPF (Institut für Solartechnik SPF) and the study program Renewable Energies and Environment (Studiengang Erneuerbare Energien und Umwelttechnik, EEU).

Assist. Professor Dr Bianca TESCAȘIU

## PROFESSORS WE TAKE PRIDE IN – DR IOAN SCHIAU



A graduate of the Faculty of Law, Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, 1972-1976 promotion, Dr Ioan Schiau attended postgraduate courses in Commercial Law, International Commerce Law, and International Economic Relations, and received his PhD in Law from Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca in 2000.

The theoretical knowledge on commercial law combined with his practical activity gave rise to an outstanding professional career. He worked as a legal counsel at Autoexportimport/Universal Autotractor Braşov (1976-1991), and as Director of Law and Arbitration within the Braşov Chamber of Commerce and Industry (1991-2001). He is prime vice-president of the Braşov Chamber of Commerce and Industry (since 1993), a mediator and referee at the International Commercial Mediation Court near the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Romania (2001-present), and as of 2001 he has been working as a lawyer (managing partner) at "Schiau, Prescure, Teodorescu, Crişan" in the Braşov Bar, becoming an important name among the practitioners of commercial law in Romania.

Drawn to teaching, he navigated the university hierarchy, from senior lecturer at the Faculty of Law at I. C. Drăgan European University (1991-2001), to associate professor (2001-2013) and professor (2014-present) at the Faculty of Law at Transilvania University of Braşov, teaching Commercial Law, International Commerce Law,

and Insolvency Law. Over time, his students have seen him as a specialist in the disciplines he teaches whose courses are always attended with interest.

He was able to capitalize on the managerial skills gained previously, using them in his university career, especially in his position of HOD at the Faculty of Law.

As an author of 50+ articles and studies published in prestigious law journals or presented at national and international conferences, courses and monographs, Dr Ioan Schiau has made his mark in Romanian Commercial Law as an important author, being one of the founders of what is known as "the Braşov School of Law".

His academic and law practitioner expertise recommended him for becoming a leader, observer or expert in scientific research teams within various projects of the World Bank, the European Commission and UNCTAD, like: *Comparative Assessment Study On The Current Insolvency Status In Romania And Worldwide*, project of the World Bank (2002); *Trainers for EXport Training*, project of the European Commission, (1999-2000); *South East Europe Dissemination of Electronic Commerce (SEED)*, project of the European Commission (2000-2002); *Public Key Infrastructure Based on Smart Cards in South-Eastern Europe (La Mer)*, project of the European Commission; *Assistance for the High Court of Cassation and Justice*, project financed by the European Union through PHARE.

A remarkable personality on the local legal landscape, professor Ioan Schiau has left his mark on Romanian law enriching it, as well as on the various generations of students he trained, inspiring in them love for commercial law.

Lecturer Dr Ramona CIOBANU  
ALUMNI Coordinator, Faculty of Law

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## STUDENTS WE TAKE PRIDE IN – ANA MARIA ANGELESCU



Ana Maria Angelescu, a 4th year student at the Faculty of Wood Engineering, specializing in Wood Products Engineering and Design, was born on 13 September 1997 in Moreni, Dâmbovița. She attended primary and secondary school in Ghirdoveni, Dâmbovița. She attended high school between 2011-2015 at "I. L. Caragiale" Theoretical High School in Moreni, Mathematics-Informatics specialization.

In 2015 she was admitted to the Faculty of Wood Engineering where she became actively involved as student representative elect and AIESEC member – oGIP department (outgoing Global Internship Program). She also successfully participated in Erasmus mobility at the Life Sciences University in Poznan, Poland, specializing in Design.

She participated as a team member and organizer in various national and international product design workshops, organized by the Faculty of Wood Engineering in partnership with the Brașov County History Museum (2017), New Design University, St. Pölten Austria (2017 and

2018), "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism Bucharest (2017, 2018), Transylvanian Furniture Cluster, and West University Hungary, Sopron (2018). Under these circumstances, she proved to have an outstanding creative capacity doubled by a desire to learn more. Ana Maria Angelescu had a good command of English as well as of various CAD designing software. She has presented some of the results of her activity within the framework of specific scientific events and national and international exhibitions.

Since her first year of faculty, she excelled as an active presence, becoming involved in university life, a member of the student team that organized the Etnovember Art Festival (a project of Transilvania University of Brașov, financed by Brașov County City Hall through a competition), every year between 2015-2018, and she was awarded a diploma for Best Organizer. She proved to have critical and analytical thinking, fast capacity for assessment, finding and applying optimal solutions.

Furthermore, Ana Maria was a member in the pilot team for promoting the Faculty of Wood Engineering (2016-2018), once again showing good communication and interaction skills.

Overall, Ana Maria is a dynamic and inquisitive person who possesses the features which hold the promise of a successful and fulfilling professional and personal life.

Assist. Professor Dr Bianca TESCAȘIU

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