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# NEWSLETTER

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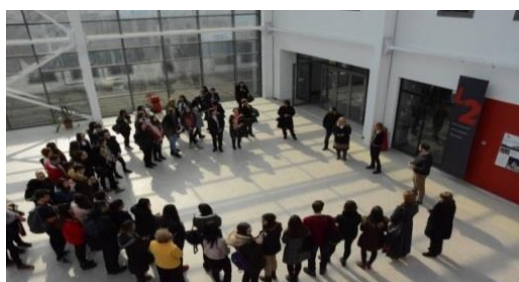
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## TOMORROW'S LEADERS VISIT OUR UNIVERSITY

True to its core objectives, the fourth edition of Tomorrow's Leaders—a program initiated by the Association of Business Women and Female CEOs at Braşov—was aimed at offering students the opportunity to hone their leadership skills while also interacting with leaders of public and private organizations in Braşov, and thereby get acquainted with business branches related to public administration, culture, education, etc.



On the 20 February, Transilvania University of Brasov hosted the 40+ participants in the project, all of them high-schoolers at the National College "Radu Negru" in Făgăraş, "Ioan Pascu" Theoretical High-School in Codlea, "George Moroianu" Theoretical High-School in Săcele, and at two high schools in Braşov: "Grigore Antipa" National College of Sciences and "Emil Racoviţă" National College of Natural Sciences.



The module entitled "Education – the most valuable investment of youth" offered prospective leaders the opportunity to meet Prof. Dr. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of our university and Prof. Med. Liliana Rogozea, Vice-Rector for Public Relations, who updated them on the educational offer, the academic life and the social and research activities our students are involved into.

This was followed with several visits to the University Library and the Research and Development Institute, where they were welcomed

by Prof. Monica Răileanu-Szeles, PhD, Director of the Institute, and by researchers who introduced their latest projects and made brief demonstrations.

A special moment indeed was meeting the BlueStreamline team coordinated by Assoc. Prof. Mihai Comşiţ, PhD, and their monoposts.



Mihaela Nistorică, member of AFAFCI, enthusiastically declared: "When we speak about *Tomorrow's Leaders*, it all comes down to wonderful professors, master students and doctoral students preoccupied with research, to a particular blend of energy that surrounds the place. It's worth studying at home, in Romania".



For Transilvania University, partaking in this project is more than just a means to promote the academia: it is an opportunity to meet with tomorrow's leaders face-to-face.



Lecturer Victor BRICIU  
Department of Marketing and Image  
Professor Med. Liliana ROGOZEA  
Vice-Rector For Public Relations

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## CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE CELEBRATED THE CHINESE NEW YEAR

On 4 February, the Confucius Institute of the *Transilvania* University of Brasov organized various activities celebrating the Chinese New Year. The event was attended by Dr Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of our university, and by Romanian and Chinese representatives and partners, members of the Confucius Institute, as well as by students.

The festivities commenced with New Year songs, greetings of the members of the Institute, and live video feed messages from China.



The Rector reiterated our university's commitment to the ongoing support for the development of the Institute—a bridge of mutual collaboration and strong friendship between China and Romania.



A special act was presented by Jojo, a student at the Institute, whose lively performance of a potpourri of Chinese traditional dances galvanized the audience and spiced up the event.



At exactly 6 PM local time—midnight in China—the participants followed the New Year countdown broadcast of the CCTV Channel, and the special programme afterwards.



The celebration of the Chinese New Year is an opportunity to showcase the Chinese customs and culture; it is also a chance to widen the multicultural perspective of the Institute, which promotes the Chinese-Romanian collaboration and a rich friendship.



George CHEN

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## A SUCCESSFUL EDUCATIONAL PROJECT: "INFORMATICS, THE GATEWAY TO MECHATRONICS - INFOTRON"

Spanning over a period of three months, the project "Informatics, the Gateway to Mechatronics - InfoTRON" completed its first edition. InfoTRON is part of the "Strategic Partnership for Education" program, and involved representatives from *Grigore Moisil* College of Informatics, the Brasov County Inspectorate, the Faculty of Product Design and Environment of our University, as well as two local companies - Miele Braşov and Siemens Industry Software. InfoTRON promotes the MECHATRONICS to 5th–12th grade students by means of lecturettes and contests, targeting the integration of informatics in the process of designing, manufacturing and implementing mechatronic systems.



The direct beneficiaries of the first edition were 300 high school students. They attended extra-curricular courses prepared by trainers – Mechatronics undergraduates and members of the Students Creativity Club CreaTRON, coordinated by professors from the Faculty of Product Design and Environment. The training sessions were followed by contests between mechatronic system projects for all levels (5th–12th grade students). The 5th–8th graders also participated in the LEGO® Educational mobile robots contest.

The final results of the InfoTRON mobile robots contest and the prize awarding ceremony took place on February 1<sup>st</sup>, at *Aula Magna*, and coincided with the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation of *Grigore Moisil*/National College of Informatics.

The double anniversary was attended by over 500 high schoolers, college alumni, academics, representatives of the local community and industries.



The enthusiasm and commitment of the participants were rewarded with significant prizes granted by Miele Braşov and Siemens Industry Software, and by our university. Cristi Irimia, General Manager of Siemens Industry Software Braşov, extended his thanks to the faculty staff and students at the Faculty of Product Design and Environment and the Mechatronics for their active involvement in the project: "You sensitized the participants and shared the required knowhow, as agreed at the project inception. I am glad that what you have promised and planned turned effective by the daily training sessions over a 3-month period. I hope that most of the project participants will become your future students and, why not, our future employees. I'm looking forward to further collaborations regarding similar projects. My sincere appreciation and gratitude for your professionalism and involvement in InfoTRON."

InfoTRON is surely the first project in Braşov having such a wide educational scope, gathering contributions from secondary schools, high schools, university sector and potential employers.

Prof. Dr. Eng. Marius LUCULESCU  
Faculty of Product Design and Environment

## THE *PSI* WEEK FOR PARENTS

Twice a year, in February and November, the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences in collaboration with TREI Publishing House and Cărturești Bookshop organize the event The *PSI* Week. This edition of the event was part of our University Days and was held between 25 February and 1 March.

When should parents introduce their child to sex education? What is and how do we cure children's *burnout*? What changes occur when the couple have their first child? How do we deal with family conflicts and how do we react to children's tantrums? What is reflexive parenting and what myths are there in parenting? How do we raise healthy children in an unhealthy world? These were but a few of the issues debated upon throughout the five evenings dedicated to the event.



Every evening, from Monday through Friday, students, practitioners, parents and teachers attended the presentations and took part in debates raised by current issues, such as:

- How to become empathic parents - Ramona HENTER;
- Facing child anxiety - Ana-Maria CAZAN;
- Little kids - little problems, big kids - big problems - Laura Teodora DAVID;
- Tired to be a mom. How to cope with the challenges of motherhood - Andreea OLA;
- You upset me, I won't talk to you again - Dana Liliana MILITARU.



The invited speakers shed light on issues such as: what is there in the mind of a child or a teenager, when to draw a line and when to indulge, how to make your child feel safe, how to help your child become an independent, self-confident, critical and open-minded adult.

The interesting talks engaged the audience too, which only shows the need for events of the sort and the interest in such topical issues.

Assist. Prof. Ana-Maria CAZAN, PhD  
Assist. Prof. Laura-Elena NĂSTASĂ, PhD  
The Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

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## MONDLY AT THE COMPANIES' PODIUM

On 28 February, *Mondly* Company from Braşov met with students from our university within the framework of the project *The Companies' Podium*.

The event was promoted both online and offline and, to this end, the company's HR representative, Andreea Creangă, collaborated with **Jobstud** (<https://www.facebook.com/jobstud/>) a group that establishes contacts between students and industries, promoting their internship and job openings.

Over the two-hour meeting, *Mondly* introduced their activity, highlighting the company landmarks, their international recognition, but also the features of their main smart device application.

The students were encouraged to participate in a raffle whose prizes consisting in gadgets, backpacks and books, were handed over by Alexandru Iliescu, *Mondly* CEO.

The highlight of the event was the Q&A session over which the students had the opportunity to discuss with the *Mondly* employees in their specific areas of interest – IT, graphics, foreign language acquisition, and marketing.

Both students and *Mondly* employees enjoyed this unique experience and look forward to further such events.



Andra MIRZA  
Delia Gabriela DRAGUSIN  
JobStud Unitbv

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## ***IT WILL BE FUN!*** - IT AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CAMP

The IT camp (<https://tabaradeit.ro>) is a project dedicated to students, alumni and IT buffs who wish to complete their IT knowledge as well as to work on personal development.



Whatever their level of competence, the participants had the opportunity to explore new IT areas and acquire technical skills through non-formal learning techniques.



This year's event was hosted by the Research and Development Institute between 14 and 17 February, and it focused on such topics as: Robotics and virtual reality, Artificial intelligence, IoT, Game design, Aerospace engineering, Cyber security, Geospace applications (Web GIS), as well as on interactive self-knowledge sessions, group work and project management, setting objectives and leadership activities.



The daily schedule blended interactive lectures with workshops and personal development sessions.

Lecturer Mihai DUGULEANĂ, PhD  
The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

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## LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS – ACTIVISTS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The debate on the topic of Learning support assistants—a key factor in the integration of pupils with special educational needs (SEN)—held on 14 February at the Research Institute of Transilvania University of Braşov, was a genuine exercise in collaboration, communication, and understanding of an important community issue from various perspectives.



Students, the interdisciplinary team of professors from the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences and the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, as well as learning support assistants from the Center for inclusive education in Braşov, teachers, school and kindergarten principals in the county participated in the debate.

The stimulating, complex, and current nature of the topic of integrating children with special educational needs in mainstream schools resulted in a diverse turnout. The issue discussed was founded in the results of research conducted within the framework of the interdisciplinary project *Learning support assistants – activists for the integration of pupils with SEN in mainstream schools. An exploratory training program.*

The arguments made from the perspective of learning support assistants, of teachers from mainstream schools, and of managers or parents centred on the idea of changing the mentalities of all the factors involved in the integration process.

Sharing actual experiences from learning support assistants' work was an opportunity for all the people present, especially the students, to acknowledge their important role not only in managing certain sensitive situations related to children with SEN, but also in promoting a culture of inclusion.

Assist. Prof. Mihaela VOINEA, PhD  
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

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## SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN TRANSYLVANIAN COMMUNITIES

Thursday, 28 February, on the occasion of celebrating Transylvania University Day, the students and professors at the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, and the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration respectively, participated in the event "Social Entrepreneurship", dedicated to the development of business with a social impact. The event was organized by the Technology and Business Incubator of Transylvania University of Braşov (ITA-UniTbv).



The students are becoming increasingly interested in taking on the role of active participants in the development of new businesses, while also being aware of how the results of these businesses influence people's everyday lives.



Ms Caroline Fernolend, vice-president of "Mihai Eminescu Trust" ([www.mihaieminescutrust.ro](http://www.mihaieminescutrust.ro)), was invited to discuss this topic with our students and presented some of the most successful projects in which ordinary people from rural communities in Transylvania managed to revive the areas they live in.

Businesses that may seem simple at first glance (construction companies, bakery, knitting shops, hardware stores, woodwork shops, rural tourism) led to the blossoming of an area which has become famous by the way it capitalizes on its local resources and involves all the members of those communities.



"If you're ever in the area, you should visit Vîscri, you won't regret it", promises Ms Fernolend, who became actively involved in these projects from the very beginning.



Following the discussions, the students were able to better understand the role and impact of getting involved in business and of the entrepreneurial spirit on the quality of life in the communities they come from.

Assist. Prof. Silvia SUMEDREA, PhD  
Director of ITA-UniTbv Incubator  
Lecturer Florin NECHITA, PhD  
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

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## THE LAUNCH OF THE SHORT FILM COMPETITION *DRACULA DIGITAL*

On 26 February, the DRACULA DIGITAL short film competition was launched within the framework of the agenda dedicated to Transilvania University Day. Guests at the event were Mr Marian Gîlea, president of the Fanzin Cultural Association, and Mr Gabriel T. Bălănescu, anthropologist, photographer, and jury member.

The aims of DRACULA DIGITAL are to promote cinema education, to offer young people the opportunity to get acquainted with the world of movie making, and to discover and nurture new talents in Romanian cinematography.



Movie and photography buffs were able to learn more about the requirements for participating in this competition and the evaluation process of the movies presented in past editions.



Participants must enter their films by mid-September 2019 on [www.draculadigital.ro](http://www.draculadigital.ro). The films must belong to the horror, Sci-Fi, supernatural, thriller or fantasy genre, must be filmed with a mobile phone, and must be 1 to 3 minutes long. The representatives of the selected films will be able to participate in creative workshops for the duration of the *Dracula Film Festival*.

This year, DRACULA DIGITAL will include a large number of student teams. Besides the students specializing in Digital media, there will also be teams each consisting of three students from various universities which have Erasmus+ agreements with our faculty. The first team from abroad to have confirmed their attendance comes from *Meisei University Tokyo*.

Lecturer Florin NECHITA, PhD  
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

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## THE ONLINE ACADEMY – A NEW EVENT DEDICATED TO FUTURE SPECIALISTS IN DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

Digital Media, the new study program at the Faculty of Sociology and Communication is geared towards developing our students' professional abilities through their participation in various specialized workshops. The most recent such event, "The Online Academy", took place on 27 February. The trainer of the workshop organized on the occasion of Transilvania University Days was Ovidiu Balcacian, co-founder of the online advertising agency *The Pharmacy*, with 6 years of experience in the field. This project was aimed at training the 1st year students in digital marketing, *Facebook Ads*, and *Google AdWords*.



Ovidiu Balcacian's input was delivered interactively, taking on the form of an open discussion accessible to the students present.

One of the topics debated was how technology affects our lives and how, despite certain economic factors, people still invest in it. The trainer mentioned a study according to which the percent of *smartphone* owners is higher than that of people from rural areas who have indoor plumbing. Another topic discussed related to the fact that

most people invest in "the newest gadget on the market", which is a wrong habit, because technology is permanently changing and each model promises something superior to the former version.



Some of the secrets underlying the creation of certain advertising campaigns on social media (Facebook and Instagram) were revealed, as well as ways to select and manage the audience. The workshop illustrated many personal examples, and the trainer encouraged the students to conduct projects individually or within the framework of internship programs at the online communication agency *The Pharmacy*.

The Online Academy represents an opportunity for students who want to learn more about the digital field. The trainers are licensed people, members of *The Pharmacy*, and *Google Premier* partners.

Andreea ZAHARIA  
Student in Digital Media, 1<sup>st</sup> year

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## WORKSHOP ON EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK FOR “KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE” IN THE LOGISTICS SECTOR

On 1 February, the workshop on “European framework for ‘knowledge triangle’ in the logistics sector” was held at Aula Magna. The workshop was organized within the framework of the Erasmus+ project KA2 European framework for knowledge triangle in the logistics sector (FRAMELOG), in which Transilvania University is a partner.



The agenda of this workshop consisted in the presentation of the project and the resulting intellectual products, information available on the project website [www.framelog.eu](http://www.framelog.eu):

- Compendium of good practices in education institutions in the logistics sector;
- European framework for implementing the knowledge triangle in universities, in the logistics sector;
- Manual for Assessment and Quality Assurance within FRAMELOG;
- European validation report regarding FRAMELOG (in progress).

The participants in the workshop, representatives of higher education institutions, research institutions, patronal and professional associations, NGOs and professional and technological middle and high school education, created constructive discussions to consolidate the connections between education, research, and the business sector. They agreed that the education system must logically be placed at the peak of the triangle and it must coordinate all the activities of

the knowledge triangle, as it acts both as provider, and as beneficiary of skills.

The second part of the workshop was dedicated to open discussions about the project. Specifically, the participants analysed how the knowledge triangle in the logistics sector can be created and implemented. For a better understanding of the concept, an example of good practices in the collaboration between education, research, and business was presented: the BiSolar project. Eng. Ioan Totu, the project director, emphasized the importance of the results obtained in the project, as well as the social responsibility to assist students in elaborating their bachelor theses through knowledge transfer from research to education. The business sector benefits from these results.



During the last part of the workshop, the participants were informed about the European framework FRAMELOG in the logistics sector.

The participants’ interventions, whose ideas are highly appreciated, related to the improvement of their contributions to the European workforce in the logistics sector, by the application and operationalization of the knowledge triangle in the sector.

Prof. Tiberiu FORIȘ, PhD  
Lecturer Cristina NICOLAU, PhD  
Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business  
Administration

## THE FIFTH MATH AND COMPUTER SCIENCE WORKSHOP

On 28 February, on the occasion of Transilvania University Day, the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science organized the fifth *Math and Computer Science Workshop*.



Nine valuable contributions were presented during the event, related to the areas of interest and the scientific achievements of the professors in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, in the field of Mathematical analysis, Differential equations, and Geometry.



Dr Radu Păltănea, who acted as moderator, facilitated constructive discussions connected to new directions and possibilities of approaching the research topics presented. The presentations were

innovative and original, reflecting recent scientific results.

The workshop highlighted the special potential for research of the faculty staff.



Some of the relevant results presented will be published in Bulletin of Transilvania University of Braşov (*Series III: Mathematics, Informatics, Physics*) or in other specialized journals.



Assist. Prof. Nicușor MINCULETE, PhD  
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

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## NEW COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT IN BRAȘOV AND THE STUDENTS AT THE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science celebrated University Day by organizing the event *New collaborations between the economic environment in Brașov and the students at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science*, aimed at the 1st year students. Local IT firms which expressed interest in meeting our students and presenting them various collaboration opportunities were invited.



On 28 February, 80+ students in all the study programs of the faculty came to “Cornel Simionescu” amphitheatre to meet with two internationally renowned, new in Brașov companies: *Tremend* and *Fortech*.

Our students reacted enthusiastically to the visit from the two firms, watched the presentations with interest, and became actively and openly involved in the Q&A. The two-part event ended on a note of genuine collaboration, and reciprocal interest was expressed in a reunion within the Faculty Practicum Fair in April.

The feedback from the firms on this event is favourable and hence, our confidence that this step is the beginning of a genuine collaboration and beneficial partnership for the students.

*“Interacting with future programmers and testers was a refreshing experience. Their enthusiasm is really infectious and we encourage them to apply for our internships and pre-employment programs. We believe that only through strong collaboration between the private and the academic sector can we stimulate these young people’s careers and help them develop the skills necessary for the work market.”*, concluded Aurelian Maga, representative for *Fortech* and site manager at the Brașov branch.

The *Tremend* team, represented by Ely Petricioaia (HR Specialist) and Rareș Dumitrache (Engineering Manager at the Embedded department) also appreciated this opportunity: *“We enjoy seeing Transilvania University of Brașov open to events that encourage students to take their first steps towards their future careers and offer them access to practical opportunities for professional development, beyond their academic education. We noticed the large turnout as well as the students’ openness, energy, and curiosity. One of the company’s aims is investing in the education of the future generation of IT specialists. We have been achieving this goal successfully for 5+ years in Bucharest and we want to preserve this culture in Brașov by offering students a great learning experience.”*

The event was particularly special this year due to the participation and involvement of the *Career Counselling, Information and Guidance Centre (CICOC)* of the university and the partner student associations: *BEST* and *AIESEC*. Dr Camelia Truța, CICOC coordinator, talked to the students about the opportunity of participating in the workshop *“Learn how to learn!”*, targeting especially 1<sup>st</sup> year students after their first exam season, in order to improve the drop-out rate. Later on, each one of the student associations present, represented by student-members of our faculty, presented their own agenda for collaboration with the IT firms: the BIT program of *BEST* and the BECOME program of *AIESEC*. Both presentations were very well-received by the students, especially because many of the firms in these projects are already top partners of the faculty.

Thanks are due to all the people who participated and were involved in the success of this event. May they train the most efficient teams on the IT market in Brașov!

Lecturer Anca VASILESCU, PhD  
Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

## VIRTUAL WELDING – CONTEST DEDICATED TO THE STUDENTS AT TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV

On Transilvania University Day, the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering organized the first virtual welding contest aimed at our faculty's students.

Starting with the 2018-2019 academic year, the students at the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering can benefit from a new teaching concept using virtual simulation equipment for the main welding procedures.

The *Virtual Welding* simulator system is aimed at training and perfecting the practical skills necessary to the students specializing in Welding engineering.



Thus, 22 undergraduate students at the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering entered the contest organized on 28 February. The contest consisted in 2 virtual welding trials, procedure 135 (MAG), PA position, and the winner was chosen according to the total points awarded in the two trials.



The winner of the contest was Elena Vulpoi, 2nd year student specializing in Industrial safety engineering, while the second and third places went to Liviu Ciubotaru and Dragoș Spiridon, 2nd year students specializing in Welding engineering.



The Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering hopes that this first edition of the virtual welding contest will become an annual tradition at Transilvania University of Brașov.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Eng. Alexandru PASCU  
Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering



## GOOD PRACTICES IN EDUCATION – ECHOES OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING MOBILITY OF THE STUDENTS IN *PEDAGOGY OF PRIMARY AND PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION*

On 26 February, one of the events dedicated to University Day took place at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences: “Good practices in education – Echoes of the international training mobility of the students in Pedagogy of primary and pre-school education”.



The event was aimed at disseminating the experience gained by the 15 senior-year students at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences, specializing in *Pedagogy of primary and pre-school education*, full-time learning, who participated in pedagogical practice in pre-school and primary school institutions under the supervision of Dr Mariana Norel, according to the partnership agreement between Transilvania University of Braşov and *Education Utility Coordination*, Prato (Italy).

Guests in the event were principals and practice mentors – primary and pre-school teachers from partner institutions in organizing and conducting pedagogical practice, according to the renewed partnership agreement between Transilvania

University of Braşov and Braşov County School Inspectorate.

In 2017, this partnership facilitated international mobility programs for the graduate students specializing in the Master’s program *Human resources in education. Training and management*, and for the undergraduate students in the Bachelor’s program *Pedagogy of primary and pre-school education*.



Sharing in the experience gained through the activities performed in Prato—in primary and pre-school institutions, in meetings with specialists in the field of early and childhood—was done first-hand, via talks with the students who participated in the mobility and dialogue with the participants in the event; emphasis was laid on the formative role of the activities and on the opportunity provided by the international mobility.

Prof. Mariana NOREL, PhD  
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences

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## AMERICAN NATIONAL PARKS – EXHIBITION BY DAN DINU AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV

Hosted by the Multicultural Center of Transilvania University between 28 February and 20 March, the “American National Parks” photographer Dan Dinu’s exhibition captures some of the best known American national parks, as well as some smaller but still very interesting reserves. Its aim was to raise awareness of how Americans protect nature and what lessons can be learnt from the people who perfected this concept.



From the tumultuous history of the Smoky Mountains settlements to the Eastern Congolese swamp forests, from the amazing labyrinth in Badlands to the famous canyons of the American Southwest, from the coast of California to Yellowstone (the first national park in the United States), Dan Dinu’s exhibition tells the story of some of the world’s most emblematic natural reserves.



The exhibition included over 50 images, both in classic and panoramic form, illustrating the natural beauty of the landscapes found in American reserves, as well as the diversity of fauna.

The event was a part of Alpin Film Festival and was organized with the support of the US Embassy in Bucharest.



On March 19—the final day of the exhibition—Dan Dinu also invited the public to a debate about what nature protection means, by showing images that capture the specific infrastructure and the various issues faced by these parks.



Joining Dan Dinu in this event were co-host Erika Stanciu, an expert in protected areas, specialists from the ProPark Foundation, as well as administrators of protected areas and other people working in this field.



Maria GHIURȚU, PhD  
The Multicultural Center of Transilvania University

## JAZZ EVENING AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY

The *Cultural Organisation of the Year* returned with a new concert within the Chamber Jazz series at Transilvania University. Taking place on 15 February, this event featured an exceptional duo formed by Michael Acker and Albert Tajti, who combined the chords of electric bass guitar, piano and sound effects into a unique musical performance.



The outcome of the collaboration begun in 2011 between the two musicians is a synergy based on trust— this was duly reflected during the concert in the naturalness with which the two musicians completed each other's notes. The compositions, marked by originality, were transposed live by simplicity and emotion, in jazz rhythms known to the public as *Patience*.

And indeed, the audience's patience was tested by reducing the electronic effects so common in the contemporary jazz. The acoustic piano and electric bass were more than enough in order to create a dreamy atmosphere that paused for a few moments the hustle and bustle of everyday life.



Reunited in this new, duo-type formula, the musicians offered the local public a chance to explore widely the extent of their instruments. Thus, this time the spontaneity, playful style and imagination had free rein in the musical choices made by Michael Acker (piano) and Albert Tajti (bass).



The positive vibe continued throughout the concert, but also after the concert, when the audience showed their curiosity and made comments in the long-awaited discussion with the artists, which typically marks the end of each event in these series.

Alexandra ROTARIU  
Student, Faculty of Letters

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## OPENING OF KHOZYAIN (GAZDA) EXHIBITION BY MIRCEA ALBUȚIU

Between 1 and 25 February the Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University played host to Mircea Albuțiu's documentary photography exhibition titled *Khozyain*. The environment chronicled here was the village of Sfiștofca located in the Danube Delta, the local community, and their stories.



The photographer visited the area between January 2015 and February 2017; during this time he befriended Vasile Serghevi Sârbov, a local man who dubbed himself as “the last Cossack in Sfiștofca”. Only later did it become apparent that he was using “Cossack” in its etymological sense: “free man”.

The Cossacks living in XVIIth century Russia were reputed for their commitment to defend their religion. The schism within the Orthodox Church caused them to flee Russia and stay away for about two centuries.

Some of them found friendlier shores along the Danube, where they were able to practice their own religion. Although Vasile Serghevi Sârbov—the main character in this visual chronicle—looks nothing like the typical churchgoer, the photographs reveal a special kind of relationship with divinity. While a believer who accepted his lot, his life is about something more than mere survival. He is a leader of the local Russian Lipovans' Community and the organizer of the only local event—the yearly chess competition called “The White Seagull”.



In his photographs artistically strung on a fishnet, Mircea Albuțiu subtly and ably captured the spiritual side of Lipovans, co-existing side by side with their more mundane zest for life.

Oxana ROȘCA  
Student, Faculty of Letters

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## PROFESSORS WE TAKE PRIDE IN – AUREL RADU



Professor Aurel RADU was one of the founders of the Faculty of Wood Processing (at present the Faculty of Wood Engineering) in 1959.

He was born on 17 August 1924, in the village of Sărăcsău, Alba County. In 1955 he graduated the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest then worked, during the following year, as trainee engineer at Cugir Mechanical Plant.

His remarkable teaching career started in 1956 when he took the position of teaching assistant at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of Braşov Polytechnic Institute. In 1958, he was promoted to lecturer. From 1959, within the newly created Faculty of Wood Processing, Prof. Aurel Radu lectured in *Hydraulic and Pneumatic Actuation Systems*, and from 1960 in *Machine tools and equipment for the wood industry*. In 1962 he became Associate Professor, teaching *Machine*

*tools and equipment for the wood industry* at the Department of Wood Engineering.

In 1967 he defended his PhD thesis, and the following year he became a full Professor, teaching *Machine tools for the wood industry*, a field in which he published valuable contributions until his

Between 1966 and 1972 he was dean of the Faculty of Wood Engineering, while in the interval 1972-1990 he was head of the Department of Wood Processing.

His 100+ papers were published in Romania and abroad, and he authored the first fundamental treatises in the field of machine-tools for wood processing.

He completed professional training programs in Finland and in the former German Democratic Republic. He is the holder of several patents, and is a member of various scientific and professional associations, as well as founding member of the "Association of Engineers in the Wood Industry".

Professor Aurel Radu has been and will remain a reputed teacher looked up to by colleagues and his hundreds of students at the Faculty of Wood Engineering.

As his former student, and later his teaching assistant and collaborator, I will always treasure his memory.

Professor Dr. Eng. Gavril BUDĂU

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## SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI - ANDREEA-ROXANA BORICEANU



Andreea-Roxana Boriceanu is a 2018 graduate of the Faculty of Law at our university. A hard working undergraduate student, she participated in various extracurricular activities including the National Student Conference "Education between school and society", organized by the Petroleum

and Gas University of Ploiești, with the paper "Imperfect Obligations" (21-22 April 2016); the Mock Trials Competition part of the International Symposium "Brainstorming in the Agora Student Conference", organized by Agora University of Oradea (19-21 October 2017); the Mock Trials Competitions organized by ELSA Brașov (18 November 2016 and 28 May 2017).

All of these experiences helped her understand and discover the practical side of law, influencing her decision to pursue a career as a prosecutor.

She completed her studies at the top of her class. After graduation, she sat for the exam at the National Institute of Magistracy in July-October 2018, and she passed it.

At present, she is a first year justice auditor and also a master student of the program "Advanced Master in Legal Sciences" at our university.

Lecturer Ramona CIOBANU, PhD  
ALUMNI Coordinator, Faculty of Law

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## SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI - BIANCA IOANA BUCUR BRÎNZĂ



Bianca Ioana Bucur Brînză graduated from the Faculty of Law of our university in 2018. True to her beliefs that only hard work and perseverance are the keys to success, and that students from the Faculty of Law need to be involved in a wide range of activities in order to develop the skills necessary for a future career in the legal field, she chose early on to join in a series of extracurricular activities. Among them were the University Student Conferences, where she defended the papers "Possible rights" (2015); "The Negotiation of Contracts" (2016); "The Effects of Partition by

Court" (2017); Graduates in Front of Companies, with the poster "Offshore", 2016; the Contest of Simulated Court Trials – Criminal Law, part of the International Symposium "Brainstorming in the Agora Student Conference", organized by Agora University of Oradea, 2017; the Contests of Simulated Court Trials organized by ELSA Braşov (18 November 2016 and 28 May 2017). Also, in 2015, she published the article "Possible rights' particularities" in the Journal of Law and Administrative Sciences and in the interval 2016-2017 she was member of the online legal journal Legal ABC.

In light of these experiences, she chose to become a judge. Having graduated top of her class, she sat for the exam organized by the National Bar Association on 31 August 2018, but also for the exam at the National Institute of Magistracy in July-October 2018, and she passed both of them. She chose the National Institute of Magistracy to pursue her dream of becoming a judge.

At present, she is a first year justice auditor and also a master student of the program "Advanced Master in Legal Sciences" at our university.

Lecturer Ramona CIOBANU, PhD  
ALUMNI Coordinator, Faculty of Law

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