



Transilvania  
University  
of Brasov

# NEWSLETTER

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## ACADEMIC SUPPORT FOR OUR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

### WORKSHOP AND LECTURE BY PROFESSOR LOUIS-FRANÇOIS PAU



In the month of February, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science welcomed prof. Louis-François Pau from Copenhagen Business School, Denmark. A prominent international specialist whose impressive background combines his expertise in teaching, research, and project management, prof. Pau generously agreed to the request by our Interdisciplinary Doctoral School to share some of his experience with doctoral students, advisors and seasoned researchers at Transilvania University. To this end, on 20 and 21 February, the university's R&D Institute was the venue of two activities which, while different in terms of topic and format, were equally interesting and relevant to the participants' needs.

The first activity consisted in a lecture followed by a workshop on the topic of research findings dissemination via publication in high impact journals. Based on his experience as reviewer, prof. Pau touched upon a number of highly relevant issues for the novice writer, such as the structure of the research articles, the conceptual weight carried – from the reviewer's perspective – by different textual units, ethical considerations in the research performed and the research reported, etc. The practical part of this activity involved discipline-specific discussions that prof. Pau had with doctoral students organized *ad-hoc* in several groups, based

on their common academic interests. With remarkable patience and insightfulness, prof. Pau interacted with each group, helping doctoral students to formulate their respective research aims clearly and explicitly, and making recommendations on methodologies and research tools associated with different domains.



The topic of the interactive seminar held on the following day addressed the topic of energy saving. The activity started with an overview of the related phenomena, processes, and implementations in different areas of science and technology. The ensuing discussions were centred around the questions and comments by the doctoral students present.

Exposure to the firmly grounded expertise of theorists and practitioners from other universities is extremely beneficial for the professional development of both students and staff at our university. On this principle, academic activities of this kind constitute landmark events in the academic workflow, enabling us to stay attuned to the developments taking place within the wider, international research community.

Dr Marinela Burada, Dr Paul Borza  
Dr Cristina Maria Timar

## THE 2018 COLLEGE SKIING & SNOWBOARDING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

### TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY TAKES FIRST PLACE IN THE NATIONAL RANKING



Between 27-28 February, the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports in partnership with the School and University Sports Federation and the Romanian Ski Biathlon Federation organized the College Skiing & Snowboarding National Championship on Lupilor ski slope in Poiana Braşov. Approximately 90 competitors from 12 universities in the country entered the contest.



Athletes from the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports scored remarkable results: Zsolt Keresztes, first place in giant slalom – national

champion, Raluca Ciocănel, first place in giant slalom – national champion, Alin Tulburean, second place in slalom, Koppany Pap, second place in slalom, Raluca Ciocănel, first place in slalom, national champion.



With the results obtained, Transilvania University of Braşov occupied first place in the national ranking of universities. Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca came in second, while SNSPA Bucharest ranked third.

Dr Grosz Wilhelm Robert  
Contest director

Photos: Dr Liliana Becea,  
*Politehnica* University of Bucharest

## STUDENTS AND ENTREPRENEURS MEET AGAIN AT THE TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS INCUBATOR

### *ENTREPRENEUR – OPTION FOR THE FUTURE*

On 27 February, Aula Magna was the venue for a new meeting between students and entrepreneurs within the framework of the event *Entrepreneur – option for the future*, organized by the University's Technology and Business Incubator.

The dialogue involved the students at the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration, the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, and the Faculty of Technological Engineering and Industrial Management and the two entrepreneurs invited: Valentin Bărbat (Tipografia) and Radu Aștefănoaie (Redplast).



How to start a business, how to finance it, how to manage risks and failures, how to manage employees, and how to treat customers? These and other topics were debated in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere, in room U.I.3, which proved too small for those who were interested in finding out more.

Dr Silvia Sumedrea  
Director of the Technology and Business Incubator

## AWARDING THE DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA DEGREE ON THE OCCASION OF THE UNIVERSITY DAY

### PROFESSOR FILIPE VAZ TO BECOME THE NEWEST DR.H.C. OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY



On the proposal of the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering, the Senate of Transilvania University awarded the Doctor Honoris Causa to Professor Filipe Vaz, Vice-Rector of The University of Minho in Braga, Portugal.

With a solid international reputation in both teaching and research, professor Vaz has been a long-time collaborator of the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering. Since 2001 he has been involved, together with his Romanian colleagues, in a number of educational and research projects, among which advisorship for 5 doctoral dissertations, 6 M.Sc. theses, 4 BA projects, and 25 research articles published in high profile journals, Erasmus mobilities, etc.

Professor Vaz has acted as manager in 16 national research projects, 11 joint projects, and 10 international projects; his outstanding publication record as well as the 4,000+ citations have contributed to the international visibility of his work.



In his capacity of Vice-Rector, professor Vaz has been instrumental in widening the scope of collaboration between our two universities

We therefore give a hearty welcome to Professor Filipe Vaz upon his joining academic community of Transilvania University as our newest Dr.h.c.

Dr Daniel Munteanu  
Vice-rector

■ TOC

## LECTURES BY VISITING PROFESSOR HUAIWEN WANG

### *TRANSILVANIA FELLOWSHIP FOR VISITING PROFESSORS*



Within the frame of *Transilvania Fellowship for Visiting Professors* program, Transilvania University of Brasov received, between 8 January and 7 March, the visit of Professor Huaiwen Wang, from Tianjin University of Commerce (China).

Professor Huaiwen Wang has published a series of papers in well-known journals in the field of mechanical engineering, and enjoys a high international standing through his activity and research projects.

During his visit, Professor Wang took part in research activities at the Department of Mechanical Engineering alongside some of the teaching staff.

His activities included lectures at the Department of Mechanical Engineering, dealing with two research topics in the field of mechanical engineering: applications of image digital correlation in solid

mechanics (measuring deformations, movements); the analysis of crack propagation in composite materials.

Professor Wang was also invited to deliver a conference at the Faculty of Civil Engineering on 17 January.



Each lecture was followed by Q&A sessions which afforded staff and students the opportunity to learn more about specific aspects concerning the application of the methods under discussion in various research projects.

Dr Camelia Cerbu

## ERASMUS WELCOME MEETING AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV

### EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE ERASMUS+ OFFICE

On 27 February, the Erasmus+ Office gave a warm welcome to the new incoming students. This semester, our university received 68 students from 19 countries all over the world.



On this occasion, the foreign students learnt more about the local history and culture, but also about our university and the facilities it offers. The representatives of ESN (Erasmus Student Network) were also present at the event. ESN consists of volunteers who aim to support the integration of

foreign students at Transilvania University of Brasov.

During the event, the students shared some of their first positive impressions: the beauty of the city, the warm welcome they received, the care and consideration showed by the faculty Erasmus coordinators, the generosity of their Romanian peers.

The general enthusiasm, the interest in acquiring knowledge, but also in gaining a memorable experience represent a source of motivation to continue to develop and improve our university's participation in the Erasmus+ mobility program.

Dr Laura Teodora David  
Erasmus+ institutional coordinator –  
Incoming students

■ TOC

## THE RESTORATION EXHIBITION *THREAD OF MĂRȚIȘOR*

### RESTORED ITEMS SYMBOLIZING THE MĂRȚIȘOR



On 1 March, on the occasion of the University Day, the Faculty of Wood Engineering, represented by the Restoration Club *Antique IL*, organized a new restoration exhibition. The faculty halls became the impromptu site of display for items belonging to the ethnographic heritage from the city of Feldioara. The exhibits – items recovered from local attics and households or collected from donations – were temporarily transferred from Feldioara Citadel Museum.

Thanks to the commendable dedication of volunteers – students from our faculty and from the high school in Feldioara, supervised by the coordinators of the restoration club and specialists in restoration and conservation – the items were restored and symbolically rendered as *mărțișor*. The visitors had the opportunity admire a selection of traditional household implements, such as spinning

wheels, winches, a scutch for hemp processing, tows and shuttles, and several other exhibits as wooden troughs, an oxbow or wreathed baskets. This volunteering activity allowed students to proudly share a unique, memorable experience and the sense of commitment to preserving the local identity and heritage.



When the exhibition closes, all the items will safely find their way back home, to the Citadel of Feldioara.

Dr Emanuela Beldean  
Dr Anca Varodi  
Dr Maria Cristina Timar



## INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING AND TELEMEDICINE - ETBET'18

### THE BEGINNING OF A SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION



The University of Qatar, Transilvania University of Braşov and Brunel University in UK, in collaboration with the International Association of Online Engineering (IAOE) organized the workshop ETBET'18 <http://www.ijcis.info/etbet18.htm>, attended by researchers from Finland, Great Britain, Portugal, Canada, Switzerland, Lebanon, Jordan, Qatar, and Romania.



The organizers of the event, Dr Doru Ursuţiu (*Transilvania* University of Braşov), Dr Jihad M. Alja'am (Qatar University) and Dr Abdul Hamid Sadka (Brunel University), along with Dr Sumaya Al Ma'adeed (Coordinator of the Research Department

of Qatar University) ensured the methodological and scientific framework for the 175 participants to approach, from several angles, the state-of-the-art applied research in telemedicine and medical bioengineering.

The workshop was an opportunity to set up a new partnership between Qatar University represented by Dr Khalifa Nasser Al-Khalifa, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, and *Transilvania* University represented by Dr Liliana Rogozea, Vice-Rector for Public Relations, and Dr Doru Ursuţiu, Manager of the Centre for Valorization and Transfer of Competence, Director of the Creativity Lab and President of IAOE.

All the participants were unanimous in their appreciation of the quality of presentations, the hospitality of the host university, as well as in their belief that the information collected on this occasion would prove very useful in their work.

Dr Liliana Rogozea  
Dr Doru Ursuţiu

## 1 MARCH – THE UNIVERSITY DAY AT THE FACULTY OF LAW

### VISIT TO THE COURT OF APPEAL



Visiting the Court of Appeal in Braşov on the University Day has become a tradition at the Faculty of Law. Therefore, this year the students at the Faculty of Law were given a warm welcome a by Judge Cristinel Costel Ghigheci, faculty staff member.

This gave students an opportunity to strengthen the theoretical knowledge acquired in disciplines such as *Organization of the Legal System and Judicial Professions, General Theory of Law or Civil Law* by matching it with practical aspects drawn from court practice, with details related on court organization and operation, as well as with aspects related to judicial proceedings. Besides these, the students' briefing included elements specific to the

organization and way of practicing other legal professions, such as lawyer or prosecutor, were approached.

These practical examples prefaced a new discipline included in the spring semester curriculum of first year students: *Ethics and Deontology of Legal Professions. Academic Writing.*



A profound and thorough legal training of all students at the Faculty of Law can only be accomplished by a teaching process combining early theory and practice in the field.

Dr Oana Şaramet

## SYMPOSIUM ON PEDAGOGICAL CREATIVITY

### BOOK LAUNCH: *BE A VOLUNTEER IN YOUR COMMUNITY!*

On 22 February, the town of Sf. Gheorghe (Covasna County) was the venue of the eleventh edition of the County Symposium on Pedagogical Creativity, co-organized by Covasna County School Inspectorate, Pro Pinocchio Association, Istituto di Scienze Psicologiche dell' Educazione e della Formazione – I.S.P.E.F. Rome (Italy) and Transilvania University of Braşov.

been included in the *Education* collection of I.S.P.E.F. Rome, Italy and illustrates the 5-year collaboration between the pre-school teachers of Covasna County, coordinated by pre-school teacher Florica Nica, School Inspector for Early Education and Educational Alternatives, and the aforementioned education and training institution in Italy, whose president is Dr Fausto Presutti.

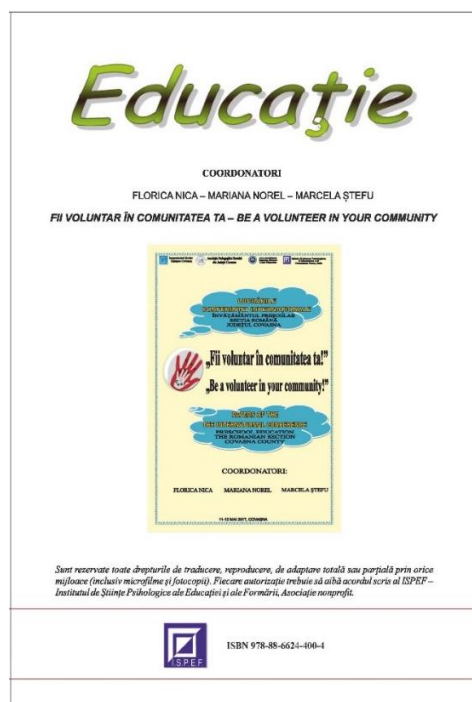
The book is the result of collaborative work by 110 teaching staff members from both higher and pre-university education systems of Romania, Italy, the Republic of Moldova, Turkey, Hungary, as well as specialists, translators and data input workers.

The exceptional value of this volume resides in the harmonious blend of the methodological approaches, and the examples of good practices provided by pre-school teachers from their own experience.

The academic staff's involvement in organizing conferences under the coordination of county school inspectorates highlights the role of the departments for teacher training and the need to promote a national and international cooperation network in the field of education. The foundation of this network was laid by the partnership between Transilvania University of Braşov and I.S.P.E.F. Rome, Italy.

Dr Mariana Norel

Department for Teacher Training (D.P.P.D.)  
Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences



This also occasioned the launch of the volume containing the proceedings of the International Conference organized to celebrate the tenth edition of the Symposium on Pedagogical Creativity. Titled *Be a Volunteer in Your Community!* the volume's coordinator is prof. Mariana Norel, Head of the Department for Teacher Training. This book has

## DAY FOR NIGHT OR TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN

### EXHIBITION AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE OF OUR UNIVERSITY

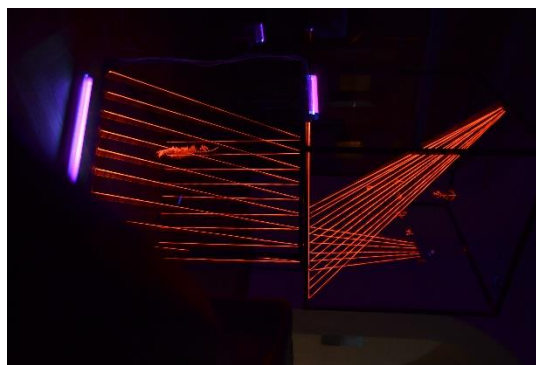
The Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University hosted between 7 and 27 February the exhibition *Day for Night*: a journey beyond the twilight, a means by which O. Florina and Ema Voinescu tried to initiate museum visitors in Braşov into a latent otherness.



Ema Voinescu's vegetal installations are the starting point for the immersion into this otherness. They are also a nexus to the incipient state of materiality that is of interest to the two artists: the incandescent leaves retain the intimation of the sunset, but the black ink resonates with the substance of the charred piece of wood hanging from the ceiling, creating a common background for these works of art and O. Florina's studies in black, white and reddish. Displaying symmetry in their turn, Ema Voinescu's self-lines, along with the vertical arrangement of tree bark and dry flowers, reveal an intention towards order, the cancellation of all flourishes, or even a state of concentration which sets up the fall over the threshold, *day for night*.

The alternative that is designed here exploits the naturalness of darkness and the fascination of the eye with the furtive observation of a world not necessarily inverted, but rather depicted as nightmarish – albeit tamed – matter. In O. Florina's etched acrylic works, the premise of the solar,

familiar everyday world is deconstructed and replaced with a certain *identité inverse*, just like the negative of a photograph. Communication and non-communication, violence diluted by the vegetal reign, by angular inanimation or by theatrical gestures and facial expressions, the apparent death and the bier – all these are transformed into lunar altars that keep burning like the sun, while the subject does nothing but indulge itself.



It is precisely this game of shapes, angles and nuances that accounts for the merits of the exhibition: in the end, it treats its visitors like newly gained sympathizers.



Rareş Călugăr  
II<sup>nd</sup> year student, Faculty of Letters

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

### *A PICTURE WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS*



As part of the events organized on the occasion of the University Day, the students of the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration participated in the fifth edition of a creativity contest that has already become a tradition.



This year, the contest was entitled *A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words*. The participants had to create and present a collage of images depicting

student life at our faculty. The team that won the first prize consisted of George Mihalcea and Elena Nechifor, second-year MA students from the Marketing Policies and Strategies study program.



On the University Day, our faculty also welcomed 150 high schoolers from the Andrei Bârseanu National College of Economics in Braşov. After listening to a presentation about our faculty and study programs, the high schoolers found out from our BA and MA students what being a business student means. The guests viewed the award-winning collages from the contest *A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words*, and discussed with our students.

Dr Ioana Chiţu

## PROFESSIONAL CARPATCEMENT® AWARDS

### GRAND TROPHY WON BY A STUDENT AT OUR UNIVERSITY

Carpatcement is a national contest organized by HeidelbergCement Romania S.A. in partnership with the faculties of civil engineering in Romania and with the support of the student associations agreed by the company. The contest is targeted at students of the respective faculties and consists in solving a grid test based on a bibliography made available by the company, which complements the theoretical knowledge acquired by the students up to that moment. The winners are rewarded with prizes totalling € 9,000.



This contest has reached its thirteenth edition at the national level and has been held from 2010 at the Faculty of Civil Engineering within Transilvania University of Brașov, our students' results being outstanding every time.

The latest edition of Brașov contest took place between 22 and 23 November 2017. According to the regulation, after the completion of all contests in the other faculties of civil engineering in our country, the student who obtains the highest score becomes the winner of the *Grand Trophy*. **Tyiák Csongor**, student at the Faculty of Civil Engineering within Transilvania University of Brașov, obtained the highest score this year (and in the entire history

of the contest) scoring 41 points out of the maximum of 50, and becoming the laureate of the 2017 edition.



The *Grand Trophy* award ceremony took place in a festive setting, on 26 February 2018, in the presence of Dr Daniel Munteanu, Vice-Rector of Transilvania University of Brașov, of Dr Ioan Tuns, Dean of the Faculty of Civil Engineering, as well as of all other teaching staff members of the respective faculty. The venue of this event was the *Atanasie Talpoși* lecture hall and all the students at the Faculty of Civil Engineering were invited to attend.

We extend our thanks to all those involved in well organizing both the contest and the award ceremony, as well as to those supporting and promoting this contest among the students at the Faculty of Civil Engineering.

Eng. Cristian Urs, technical consultant,  
HeidelbergCement Romania  
Dr Radu Muntean, Faculty of Civil Engineering

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ORGANIZED BY THE FACULTY OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND MOUNTAIN SPORTS

### *YOUTH IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT*



On 23 and 24 February the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports organized the International Conference *Youth in the Perspective of the Olympic Movement*.

The overarching theme of the conference was the revival of performance sports starting from the mass sport, which widens the selection range and optimizes the training process.

Participants in this event were Romanian and foreign specialists from the field of Sport Science and Physical Education – academics, coaches,

physical education teachers, PhD students, presidents of sports forums and federations.

Among the participants were Alexandru Dedu, President of the Romanian Handball Federation, prof. Branislav Antala, President of the International Federation of Physical Education (FIEP) Europe, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia, prof. Martin Zvonar, Dean of the Faculty of Sports Studies, Masarik University, Czech Republic, prof. Rado Pisot, Director of the Science and Research Center, Primorska University, Slovenia.

The event started on 23 February with plenary presentations on topics subsumed under the domain of 'Sports Science and Physical Education'; the following day was dedicated to panel and poster presentations.

Dr Dragoş Tohănean

## A VISIT TO PENTALOG BRAȘOV

### STUDENTS AT THE FACULTY OF ECONOMIC SCIENCES AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PARTICIPATE IN THE WORKSHOP THEMED *ROLES IN IT*



On 10 January students at the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration paid visit to Pentalog Brașov, where they also took part in workshop themed *Roles in IT*. The discussions mainly revolved around defining the individual roles that team members typically assume while implementing a project.

Visiting the company and the topic of the workshop were extremely motivating to the participants, who asked questions and interacted with the in-house specialists, among whom Mr Radu Maftai, a 2016 graduate of Transilvania University.

The facilitator of this event was another Transilvania University alumnus, Mr Dan Voinescu, who graduated the Economic Informatics program in 2011. Currently a software engineer with Pentalog Bucharest, Dan was also actively involved with his alma mater during the winter semester of this academic year, when he acted as trainer for our EI students.



Camelia Mișgaciu, Teaching assistant



## SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI

### ING. MARIUS ALEXANDRU DUNCA



Marius Alexandru Dunca is a 2004 graduate of Transilvania University in Braşov, with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Soon after graduation he took up a political career: between 2006 and 2007 he was a parliamentary cabinet counselor, then European parliamentarian counsellor, between 2007 and 2008. In 2009 he acted as coordinating director of Braşov County Council for Consumers'

Protection. From May 2012 to November 2015, Marius Alexandru Dunca went up the ladder to the National Authority for Consumers' Protection (ANPC), where he held the positions of Vice-President, and then President, from February 2014 till November 2015. He was appointed Secretary General of the International Center for Drug Abuse and Human Rights (CIADO). From 11 December 2016, he has also served as Braşov Senator, and held the position of Minister of Youth and Sports between January 2017 and January 2018.

Dr Bianca Tescaşiu

■ TOC