



# NEWSLETTER

No. 79 November 2018

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## 70 YEARS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AT BRAȘOV

Transilvania University celebrated its 70th anniversary in a special festivity organized at the university's Aula Magna on 26 October. Present at the event were members of our academic community, joined by 400+ guests from over 30 countries representing all the continents. Among those in attendance were Ligia Deca, State Adviser in the Department of Education and Research, Prof. eng. Gigel Paraschiv, PhD, State Secretary with the Ministry of National Education, Prof. eng. Sorin Câmpeanu, PhD, President of the National Council of Rectors, delegates of the local and regional administrative bodies, members of the National Council of Rectors, former Ministers of Education.



This celebration was also attended by rectors of important universities all over Europe, prominent members of the academic communities in the USA, Israel and South America, a delegation from China consisting of 59 rectors and officials, as well as by a delegation from Turkmenistan made up of five rectors, the State Secretary for education and the Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Romania.

His Excellency Mr Klaus Werner Iohannis, President of Romania, sent our academic community an address in which he expressed his belief that *"Transilvania University is well well prepared to face the challenges of the future"*, wishing many more years ahead to the entire staff.

The event was also an opportunity for the current Rector to acknowledge the major contribution of his predecessors, Professors Eugen Chiș, Filofteia Negruțiu, and Ioan Vișa, former rectors of our university, who were awarded anniversary diplomas and plaques in commendation of their career achievements.



As Prof. eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, PhD, Rector of Transilvania University, stated, "This year, when our university celebrates 70 years since its foundation and Romania, her Great Union Centennial, we pay homage to all men and women whose passion, never-ending effort and sacrifice, contributed to the development and recognition of Transilvania University of Brașov.



The way opened 70 years ago has been taken by the present academic community, whose members have invested their professionalism, open-mindedness and enthusiasm into strengthening the national and international reputation of our university.

*Vivat, Crescat, Floreat Transilvania University of Brașov!* This festive day concluded with a piano concert featuring musical pieces by Beethoven, Kreisler – Rachmaninov, Chopin and Prokofiev performed by pianist Alina Bercu as part of the university's concert season.

Prof. Med Liliana ROGOZEA, PhD  
Vice-Rector for Public Relations

## ACADEMIC COLLABORATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROMANIA AND TURKMENISTAN

On 26 October, during the celebration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Transilvania University of Braşov, a partnership agreement between academic institutions in Romania and Turkmenistan was concluded.



The event was attended by the cosignatory Rectors, and officials of the two states: Prof. Eng. Gigel Paraschiv, PhD State Secretary for Higher Education, Prof. Ioan Ştefan Groza, PhD, State Secretary for International Relations and European Affairs, and Prof. eng. Sorin Câmpeanu, PhD, President of the National Council of Rectors.

The Turkmen delegation consisted of His Excellency Mr Shohrat Jumayev, Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Romania, Ms Aknabat Atabayeva, Vice-Minister of Education, and the rectors of five Turkmen universities.

On behalf of Transilvania University, the Rector, Prof. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, PhD, signed a collaboration agreement with the University of Economy and Management of Turkmenistan, represented by Sulgun Atayeva, Rector. The document includes eight provisions referring to the cooperation in the field of education and research.

On this occasion, two more agreements were signed between *Ion Ionescu de la Brad* University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Iaşi, which partnered up with *S.A. Niyazov* Agricultural University, and Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies which signed a partnership with the University of Economy and Management of Turkmenistan.

Mirela CORNEA



## THE ROMANIA-CHINA ACADEMIC FORUM, A UNIQUE EVENT CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRAȘOV

Sixty-three presidents, vice-presidents and other representatives from thirty-six Chinese universities exchanged ideas with peers from seventy Romanian universities on the new perspectives for academic cooperation. Organized within the China-CEEC Higher Education Institution Consortium, the event hosted by Transilvania University of Brașov on 26 October provided an excellent forum allowing for mutual discovery. Moderator of the exchange was Prof. Adrian Lăcătuș, PhD, Director of the Confucius Institute at Transilvania University.



In the plenary session, Prof. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, PhD, Rector of the host university, Prof. Ioan Ștefan Groza, PhD, Secretary of State at the Ministry of National Education, and Ms. Fu Bo, Director of the International Exchange Department within *China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE)* gave the introductory addresses. The objectives of the delegation of Chinese experts and chancellors were to gain firsthand knowledge on Romanian universities, their specificity and priorities, and to create ties and sustainable frameworks for future joint projects.



The first presentation was delivered by Prof. Sorin Mihai Cîmpeanu, PhD, President of the National Council of Rectors, who took on the role of providing our Chinese partners with a concise and intuitive image of higher education in Romania. Professor Gang Wenzhe, Vice-president of the Academic Council of the National University of Law and Political Science in Beijing, gave a talk on the importance of internationalization at his university.

Prof. Ioan Bondrea, PhD, Rector of Lucian Blaga University at Sibiu—the first university in Romania to open a Confucius Institute—talked about the current progress and the prospects of cooperation between Romanian and Chinese universities.

Professor Li Yingdong, PhD, president of the Academic Council of the University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Gansu, described the strategy for making traditional Chinese medicine internationally accessible.



The Rector of Transilvania University overviewed the diversity of ways to cooperate with the Chinese academic world. The last presentation belonged to Professor He Changzhong, Director of the Department for International Cooperation at Jiaotong University in Xi'an, who spoke of the very promising future of these partnerships. The Forum continued with a Q&A session, debates, and bilateral discussions between representatives of Romanian and Chinese universities.

Professor Adrian LĂCĂTUȘ, PhD  
Director of the Confucius Institute

## THE OPENING OF THE 2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR

The spirit during the opening of the new academic year was consistent with the university motto, and the event was an opportunity to apprise all those concerned of the study opportunities offered at Transilvania University, of the strategies to support the development of its best students, as well as of the variety of its educational offer.



Of the 19,000+ student population enrolled in the 18 faculties of Transilvania University, 5,000 are starting out a new study cycle. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, The University's Aula Magna played host to the opening ceremony of this academic year, an event attended by students, professors, invitees, local authorities, parliament members, as well as partners belonging to the local industries and cultural bodies.



In his welcoming speech, the Rector, Prof. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, PhD, pointed out that Transilvania University—an important HEI in terms of both size and output—is committed to achieving excellence and forging its own identity, becoming an essential part of the local community, as well as of the larger national and international community.

Following the Rector's address were speeches given by Mr Marian Rasaliu, Prefect of Braşov County, Mr Adrian-Ioan Veşteu, President of Braşov County Council, Mr George Scripcaru, Mayor of Braşov City, and by Mr Alexandru Iliescu, alumnus of our University and well-known online entrepreneur.

The speakers congratulated our students on their choice of academic institution, "a city within the city itself and a pillar of our community" as the Mayor of Braşov described it, and encouraged them to make the best of the opportunities afforded them.



The festivities were concluded with a wonderful performance by pianist Botond Szöcs, master student at the Faculty of Music, and soprano Renata Vari, Transilvania University alumna.

Lecturer Victor BRICIU, PhD

## TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY GUESTS PROGRAM

### WELCOMING REPRESENTATIVES OF *NATIONAL CHUNG CHENG UNIVERSITY CHIAYI, TAIWAN*

Between 8 and 12 October, the Department of Manufacturing Engineering received the visit of Prof. De-Shin LIU, PhD, Director of *Advanced Institute of Manufacturing with High-tech Innovations (AIM-HI)*, Prof. Shyh-Leh CHEN, PhD, Director of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Prof. Chih-Chun CHENG, PhD, President of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.



The three guests from *National Chung Cheng University - NCCU Chiayi, Taiwan*, gave lectures to an audience consisting of staff and students from the Faculty of Technological Engineering and Industrial Management; the guests also introduced the educational offer of scientific collaboration with our university, as well as their current international research scholarship program for students.



The schedule also included visits to the Research and Development Institute of Transilvania University of Braşov, to the Aula Magna and the University Library, and to Ina Schaeffler Company at Braşov, Romania.

The talks focused on further collaboration projects, and on inviting researchers from the NCCU to the CoSME'20 International Conference; the parties also agreed on applying for the financing of an international mobility package for students and professors from the two universities, within the framework of Erasmus+ Program.



Our three guests deemed as promising the prospects of collaborating with our university and, based on the good bilateral relations already in place, confirmed the preferential status that our students will be granted within the NCCU scholarship program.

Professor Eng. Mircea-Viorel DRĂGOI, PhD  
Department of Manufacturing Engineering

## THE NATIONAL DAY OF CHINA CELEBRATED AT TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY'S CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE

On 1 October the Confucius Institute and the Multicultural Centre at Transilvania University hosted the Reception dedicated to the National Day of China.



Participants in this event were, on behalf of the university's management, the Rector, Prof. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, PhD, and Vice-Rectors Prof. Mihaela Gheorghe, PhD, Prof. Daniel Munteanu, PhD, Prof. Med. Liliana Rogozea, PhD, as well as Director Sun Yuanyuan and Director Prof. Adrian Lacatus, PhD of Confucius Institute. In their speeches, they imparted their joy at being part of this celebration.



The event began with an opening speech by the Rector of Transilvania University, Prof. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, PhD, who highlighted the importance of this day for China and for our Chinese partners, referred to the friendship between Romania and China, and to the efforts made by the Confucius Institute towards developing the existing good relationship, promoting education and intercultural exchanges. The Rector concluded his address by reiterating his wish for a promising and

long-lasting partnership between Shenyang Jianzhu University and Transilvania University of Braşov.

Among the activities organized by the Confucius Institute staff in celebration of China's National Day were the Uigurian dance, a mini play, a Qipao show, instrumental and chorus performances – all of which demonstrated the cultural diversity of different ethnic groups across China.



To honor his highly important moment for the Chinese people, the flag of China was raised by the local authorities, in a gesture which marked the importance paid to the relationship between Braşov county and Liaoning Province.

The 1st October marked the 69th anniversary of the People's Republic of China, and the 25-year friendship between Braşov County and Liaoning province. Their relationship has over the years been expanding through exchanges in the fields of business, trade, education as well as culture.



George CHEN, PhD Candidate



## DRACULA CONGRESS – INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

Between 17 and 19 October, the first edition of *Dracula Congress* was organized in parallel to the Dracula Film Festival. The initiators of the event were Hans de Roos, independent researcher, and Assist. Prof. Magdalena Grabias (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland), a cinema expert, together with Lect. Florin Nechita (Faculty of Sociology and Communication at Transilvania University of Braşov) and Marcia Heloisa Amarante Goncalves, PhD, researcher at Universidade Federal Fluminense of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and translator of the Brazilian editions of the novels *Dracula* and *Power of Darkness*.



Many scientific conferences, symposia and colloquia organized around the world are centred on themes inspired from Bram Stoker's famous novel, *Dracula*, and on the numerous media productions stemming from it. The first edition of the conference organized in Braşov brought together participants from all over the world, from the United States of America, Brazil, Japan, Great Britain, Germany, Poland, the Philippines, Portugal and Romania.

"As organizer of the workshop *Where's the place of Dracula: (De)constructing Stereotypes in the Study of the Mythical Space in Literature and the Arts*, and of other international conferences dedicated to fantasy literature, I know that there are many specialists and researchers worldwide interested in this topic. At the end of 2017, I edited the volume *Dracula: An International Perspective* at Palgrave Macmillan, which includes contributions from acknowledged experts in

this field" – stated Assist. Prof. Marius-Mircea Crişan, from the Department for Teacher Training, at the West University of Timișoara, one of the keynote speakers at the conference.



The academic conference also included two workshops, held in partnership with the organizers of Dracula Film Festival, targeted mainly at students, one for acting and another for mobile phone photography. A team made up of four students from Digital Media, a new study program at the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, was registered directly in the final stage of the Dracula Digital, a contest for short films shot with mobile phones. The next edition of Dracula Congress will be organized in 2020.



Lecturer Florin NECHITA, PhD

## SYMPOSIUM ON THE TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ASPECTS OF THE MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Between 15 and 17 October, the Symposium "Healthy Workplaces Manage Hazardous Substances" was held as part of the European Week for Safety and Health at Work, organized by the Ministry of Labour and Social Justice, the National Labour Inspection, Braşov Work Inspectorate, represented by Adrian Reit, chief inspector, Dorin Senchetru, deputy chief inspector in Safety and Health at Work, and Dan Suci, deputy chief inspector in Human Resources, and Transilvania University of Braşov, represented by its Rector, Professor Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan and by the dean of the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering, Professor Teodor Machedon-Pisu. The local authorities were represented by Marian Rasaliu, the prefect of Braşov county, and Adrian Gabor, the vice-president of Braşov County Council.



Out of the 21 papers presented at the symposium, we would like to mention a highly-innovative one: "Software Application for the Optimization of Safety and Health at Work Systems in the Industrial Field", authored by eng. Petru Iulian Mureşan and Professor Ioan Miloşan, from the Department of Materials Science, at the Faculty of Materials and Engineering.



Turning Europe into a safer, healthier and more productive workplace represents a fundamental goal of the activity of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) for the 2018-2019 period.

The aim of the "Management of Hazardous Substances" Campaign is to increase awareness to the risks posed by dangerous substances at the workplace, as well as to promote a safety prevention culture.



Professor Eng. Teodor MACHEDON-PISU, PhD  
Professor Eng. Ioan MILOŞAN, PhD

## THE 8TH EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM “FOREST AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”

Between 25 and 27 October, the eight edition of the International Symposium “Forest and Sustainable Development” took place, marking 70 years since the creation of the Forestry Institute, which represented the beginning of higher education in the field of forestry engineering in Braşov.



This edition attracted international participants from all over the world, who presented the results of their research, and exchanged opinions and views on common interest topics.

Of the 170+ specialists who attended the conference, 86 came from abroad. The Romanian participants consisted of teaching staff and doctoral students at our faculty, many collaborators from universities across the country, researchers from *Marin Drăcea* National Institute for Research-Development, and representatives of the National Forest Administration – Romsilva.

The first day of the conference began with a ceremony celebrating 70 years of higher education in the field of silviculture at Transilvania University of Braşov, followed by the official opening of the international symposium and the plenary session.

The second day was dedicated to the four panels: *Forest Ecosystem Management*, *Forest Engineering*,

*Wildlife Management*, and *Advanced Geomatics*, the interesting discussions offering the participants the possibility to initiate further collaborations.

The last day of the conference was reserved for a trip in the area managed by Mureş Forest Administration.



The feedback received during the event, as well as the high number of specialists who took part in the symposium, confirms that we are on the right track. For the next edition, in 2020, we hope to rise to the level of our guests' expectations, and offer them an unforgettable experience in Braşov.



Lecturer Eng. Elena Camelia MUŞAT, PhD

## CLIMATHON 2018—ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

On 26 October, the international *hackathon*-type event Climathon 2018 was organized as part of the Copernicus program of the European Union by the innovation community Climate-KIC. The aim of the event was to offer solutions to problems related to climate change, using *in-situ* and satellite data from the *Sentinel* satellites of the Copernicus program. This year the event was held simultaneously in 113 important cities all over the world.



Climathon 2018 Braşov took place at the Research and Development Institute of Transilvania University of Braşov, organized in the research center C13 Integrated Electronic Systems and Advanced Communications. The event was organized under the aegis of the Copernicus Academy, a network of education and research institutions created by the European Commission to promote the Copernicus Program of the European Union. Our university has been a member of the Copernicus Academy since 2016 when the network was created.

Participants in the event were students, PhD candidates, young researchers, and companies from

the industrial field. The representatives of ESRI Romania, Bucharest, and ATOS Convergence Creators, Braşov, contributed to the event with presentations.



The winning team consisted of Maria Marincaş and Romeo Panait, students of the bachelor program Computers, at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science of our university.

Professor Mihai IVANOVICI, PhD  
Organizer of Climathon 2018 and Pro-Dean of  
Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer  
Science

## SPECIALIST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AT THE FACULTY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Between 25 and 26 October, the Department of Mechanical Engineering, in collaboration with the Academy of Technical Sciences of Romania, the Braşov Branch, the Romanian Society of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics and the Romanian Acoustical Society (SRA), organized the following international conferences: *The 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Advanced Composite Materials Engineering – COMAT 2018*, *The 42<sup>th</sup> International Conference on "Mechanics of Solids, Acoustics and Vibrations" – ICMSAV 2018* (travelling conference which was held in Braşov this year), and *The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Experimental Mechanics in Engineering – eMECH 2018*.



These events focused on the issue of excellence in *mechanical engineering*. They brought together participants from several universities and research centers in the country (Bucharest, Iaşi, Reşita, Ploieşti, Piteşti, Cluj Napoca, Braşov, Galaţi, etc.), and from abroad (Italy, Hungary, Bulgaria, etc.). The papers presented attracted the researchers' interest; the success of the conferences was guaranteed by the exchange of ideas and the transfer of knowledge in the field of mechanical engineering from senior generations to the younger ones. A selection of papers will be published in prominent specialist journals.

The conferences were headed by Professor Carmine Pappalettere from the University of Bari (Italy), former chair of the international organization *Society for Experimental Mechanics*.



At the same time, these conferences paid homage to Professor Polidor Bratu, president of the department of Technical Mechanics of ASTR, outstanding personality in the field of mechanics and dynamics applied to constructions and equipment, and a longtime friend of our university.



During his career, Professor Polidor Bratu trained cohorts of specialists, combined fundamental and applied scientific research, successfully represented the field of Romanian engineering abroad, and was a steadfast supporter and mentor of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of our university. For all his contributions, he received an honorary plaque and an anniversary diploma.

Professor Eng. Sorin VLASE, PhD  
Lecturer Eng. Mariana Domnica STANCIU, PhD

## THE PROJECT LNSS ARMENIA, BELARUS AND MOLDOVA CONCLUDES

Between 3 and 5 October, the Academy for Public Administration in Chişinău, the Republic of Moldova, was the venue for the final conference of the project “Library Network Support Services: Modernising libraries of Armenia, Moldova and Belarus through library staff development and reforming libraries” (LNSS), project funded by the European Union within the Erasmus+ program.

The project was implemented between 2015-2018, with the aim of consolidating and modernizing libraries, improving the competences and skills of library staff in the countries in question through the development of innovative libraries offering support to education, research and lifelong learning. The project included 13 universities from seven countries - Ireland, Germany, Greece, Romania, Armenia, Moldova, and Belarus.



The conference was attended by the management and teachers at the Academy for Public Administration, partners from Germany, Ireland, Greece, Romania, Armenia and Belarus, representatives of the diplomatic missions accredited in Chişinău, of the education institutions from partner countries in the project and from the Republic of Moldova.



Tereza Khechoyan, coordinator of the project, Vice-Rector of the Academy for Public Administration of the Republic of Armenia, presented the final report. The libraries of the beneficiary education institutions - three universities from the Republic of Armenia, four universities from Belarus and two higher education institutions from the Republic of Moldova – the Academy for Public Administration and “Alecu Russo” State University in Bălţi – consolidated their institutional development. The libraries were endowed with modern equipment, expanded the network of services offered to their readers, including online services. Library staff, as well as hundreds of teachers and students, benefitted from training workshops and study visits.

Transilvania University of Braşov contributed to the content of the eight training modules, to the partners’ training and to the evaluation of the activities.

Prof. Eng. Angela REPANOVICI , PhD  
Project Coordinator on behalf of Transilvania  
University of Brasov

## THE FIRST EDITION OF TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY CHESS CUP

On 20 and 21 October, our university organized, in partnership with the Chess Sports Club Braşov and the local School Inspectorate, the first edition of Transilvania University Chess Cup, sponsored by Dino Parc Râşnov.



The competition used the Swiss nine-round system, and was aimed at attracting people of all ages to play the game of chess, also known as the mind game. Thus, very young players experienced or not, such as pupils, as well as students and adults, were able to take part in the competition, by registering with Ciprian Nanu, International Grandmaster, one of the initiators of the project. Together with Dana Nanu and the other partners involved, he managed the tournament. The competition brought together 120 participants (20 from the university, 70 children and 30 adults), not only from Braşov, but from other counties too.



The participants also included juniors with numerous medals at the national and European championships. At the end, the winners of all the four tournaments received awards for all age categories. The *Open General* competition was won by a student from our university, Răzvan Dicu, third year student in Electrical Engineering and

Telecommunications, the second place was won by Ileana George (Alba Iulia), and the third place by Lehel Vrencian, former student of our university.

From among the teachers who participated the best result was obtained by Professor Claudiu Coman, the Dean of the Faculty of Sociology and Communication.

The awards were presented by Professor Daniel Munteanu, Vice-Rector of our university, and by Associate Professor Ioan Turcu, Dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Mountain Sports.



The first edition of Transilvania University Chess Cup was a success, reaching its objectives. The competition brought together players of all ages who share the passion for chess. The detailed results of the competition are available at [www.chess-results.com](http://www.chess-results.com).



Ciprian NANU, International Grandmaster  
Professor Claudiu COMAN, PhD  
Denisa Alexandra ANGHEL, student

## BUSINESS LAW CONFERENCE – 14th edition

Between 12 and 13 October, the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Business Law* Conference took place in Braşov. Co-organized by SCA Piperea & Associates and S.I.F. Transilvania in partnership with the Braşov Bar Association and Transilvania University of Braşov, the event gathered mainly specialists in corporate law, interested in laying the foundations of a Corporate Code, considered both necessary and desirable.



The relevance of this initiative was supported with arguments by specialists in certain sub-areas of corporate law. Among them there were teachers from the Faculty of Law of our university, such as Professor Cristinel Ioan Murzea, Professor Titus Prescure, Professor Ioan Schiau, and Assist. Codru Nicolae Savu.



This conference really benefitted specialists and law students alike. The debates which took place helped clarify certain issues in corporate law. The discussions about insolvency law consolidated the existing knowledge, while the debates represented an introduction to the field for first and second year students.

The conference therefore addressed the students' needs; the speakers supplied practical examples and analogies for each element presented, which facilitated the comprehension of new concepts. This conference afforded specialists in corporate law the possibility to debate current problems in this area of private law, as well as to identify possible legal solutions. As for the students, the conference offered them the opportunity to acquire new knowledge and meet law specialists, proving that success entails perseverance and professionalism.

Assistent Codru Nicolae SAVU, PhD  
Carmen Beatrice ENACHE, student



## STUDENTS FROM THE FACULTY OF PRODUCT DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENT PARTICIPATE IN THE *ECOATTITUDE* PROJECT

EcoAttitude is a project aimed at raising awareness of the importance of a selective management of domestic waste. The project spans over a ten-year period (2010 to 2020), and is implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Environment, the National Authority for Regulating Community Services of Public Utilities (ANRSC), associations of intercommunity development (ADI), administrative and territorial unities (UAT), transport and collecting operators, organizations for responsibility transfer (OTR) and recyclers.



The project is geared towards changing mentalities and apprising the general public of the importance of green or eco attitude and behaviour. Emphasis is laid on waste sorting, and the idea is for the young generation to comprehend that reusing, reducing and recycling are simple actions that can save our environment.

Therefore, between 15 October and 30 November, Braşov played host to a pilot project aiming at actively involving students, teachers and locals residing in the Schei area in the selective waste collection, and in enhancing civic engagement and responsibility.

This pilot project has brought about a partnership agreement established between ADI ISO Mediu Braşov Association and the Faculty of Product Design and Environment, through its Industrial Environmental Engineering and Protection program. The volunteering students were directly involved in the outreach activities within the target schools: middle

schools (no 5, 14, 1), Tudor Ciortea Musical Highschool, Andrei Andrei Şaguna College, Andrei Bârseanu College.

Throughout the entire process, the volunteering students accompanied the sanitation operator, monitoring thus the selective domestic waste collection. Simultaneously, the students conducted opinion surveys on the EcoAttitude campaign.



The pilot project concluded with an award giving ceremony hosted by the City Hall of Braşov. The ceremony was attended by all the parties involved: pupils and their teachers, all the volunteers together with Assist. Prof. Cristina Cazan, their supervisor, Gabriela Predoiu, Economic Director of Brai-Cata Sanitation Company, Laszlo Barabas, Vice-Mayor, Cezar Spătaru, representative of ADI ISO Mediu Braşov, and Stere Creţu, Director of EcoAttitude Project. (<http://ecoattitudine.eu/index.php/concursuri-brasov/brasov>)



Assistant Professor Cristina CAZAN, PhD  
Faculty of Product Design and Environment

## NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE

On 5 and 6 October Transilvania University of Braşov hosted the annual symposium on Psychosomatics organized in partnership with the Faculty of Medicine and the Romanian College of Physicians in Braşov.



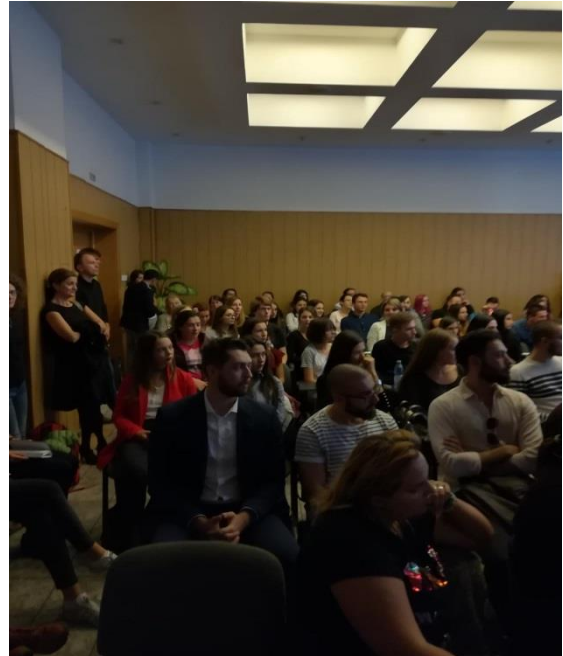
The program started with a pre-symposium course aimed at familiarizing the younger physicians with the basic concepts of this paradigm.

Psychosomatics is not psychiatry, psychoanalysis or psychotherapy, but an operational paradigm which everyone who practices medicine should acquire.

Although it is a medical specialization in some countries, in Romania psychosomatics is merely an optional discipline with a number of medical schools such as Bucureşti, Cluj-Napoca, and Sibiu.

According to the classical model underpinning

medicine, an illness is the result of certain risk factors. The psychosocial model emphasizes the psychosocial factors which lead to the manifestation of illness, reporting symptoms, as well as to life quality, before or during treatment.



The large number of students and resident doctors who participated in this event showed the interest in the symposium, and the quality and variety of the papers, as well as the professional level of the guests, guaranteed its success.

Assistant Professor Med. Laurenţiu NEDELICU, PhD

## THE FOURTH EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE *NEW TRENDS ON SENSING-MONITORING-TELEDIAGNOSIS FOR LIFE SCIENCES-NT SMT-LS 2018*

The conference NT SMT-LS 2018, which took place between 30 August and 1 September was organized by Transilvania University of Braşov in collaboration with the University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila" – Bucureşti, Università Degli Studi Di Milano (Italy), University of Perpignan Via Domitia (France), Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain), the Romanian Order of Biochemists, Biologists, and Chemists of the Health System in Romania (OBBCSSR), the Order of Nurses, Midwives and Medical Assistants in Romania (OAMGMAMR), Synevo, MedLife, and the Ministry of Research and Innovation.

Also worth mentioning is the important support of sponsors NovalIntermed, PalmSens, and Pharma Nord, who organized workshops and presentations on their products and services.



The international conference NT SMT-LS 2018, whose final program can be viewed at <http://www.healthfoodenviron.unitbv.ro/2018>, brought together specialists from the fields of life sciences (medicine, food safety and quality, environment protection, bioengineering, informatics) in order to discuss multi- and interdisciplinary topics aimed at identifying current problems and possible innovative solutions designed to increase the quality of human and animal life, as well as for environment protection.

Awards were given to contributions, by young Romanian and foreign researchers, introduced in poster or oral presentation sessions, on topics in line

with the priority domains of National Research, Development and Innovation Strategy in Romania.



This event contributed to the promotion of collaborations among researchers from various countries and having specific professional experience, encouraging participation in joint international projects developed by younger as well as more seasoned Romanian researchers.



This event clearly contributed towards strengthening the existing partnerships and identifying prospective collaborators for future international projects and partnerships, such as Horizon 2020 or national research programs.

Assistant Professor Laura FLOROIAN, PhD  
Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer  
Science  
Professor Mihaela BADEA, PhD  
Faculty of Medicine

## THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL *FOOD SAFETY AND HEALTHY LIVING* – FSHL 2018

Between 26 and 30 August Transilvania University of Braşov organized the international summer school *Food Safety and Healthy Living* in partnership with the University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila" in Bucureşti, Università degli Studi di Milano (Italy), Universite de Perpignan Via Domitia (France), Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain), Synevo România, and the Ministry of Research and Innovation.



In order to guarantee the success of the summer school, the team involved in the project CEEPUS – *Food Safety for Healthy Living* - CIII-RO-1111-02-1718 (network coordinator – Transilvania University of Braşov) lent their experience to facilitate the arrival in Braşov of the professors and students in the network, as well as of some special guests.

Transilvania University of Braşov provided accommodation for the CEEPUS participants and covered the travel costs for Dr Mark Shamtsyan (*St. Petersburg State Institute of Technology*, the Russian Federation).



The summer school brought together participants from Romania (Braşov, Bucureşti, Cluj-Napoca, Constanţa), Spain, Portugal, Slovenia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Italy, Croatia, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, affording them a

chance to give or audit lectures, exchange good educational practices, and develop collaborations at regional and European level.



The topics presented during the FSHL 2018 summer school (<http://fshl2018.wew.ro/program-summer-school.pdf>) indicated preoccupations with the latest in the field of nutritional analysis and environmental factors which can give rise to associated toxicology issues. Topics related to the connection between environment-food-health and the elements of personalized nutrition for various age groups were also presented, which emphasized fast and enhanced analysis methods (chromatographic methods, respectively sensors and biosensors for food control), as well as new tendencies in the field of nutritional sciences. As the first summer school centred on this topic organized at our university, the event proved a good platform to promote the scientific community in Romania and Braşov at local, regional, national, and international level.

Assistant Professor Laura FLOROIAN, PhD  
Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer  
Science  
Professor Mihaela BADEA, PhD  
Faculty of Medicine  
Professor Liviu GACEU, PhD  
Faculty of Food and Tourism

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE – BOOKFEST BRAȘOV, INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

The fourth edition of Bookfest, the international book fair hosted by Transilvania University started on 18 October.



For four days, Bookfest brought to Brașov “the most important authors and the best books at the most affordable prices”, as stated by the organizers. Similarly to the previous years, there were many book launches and autograph sessions by several personalities of contemporary Romanian literature (Adrian Lăcătuș, Radu Paraschivescu, Lucian Boia and others).



The event was opened on the first evening by Professor Claudiu Pozna, from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Starting from the issue of artificial intelligence, the

speaker invited the audience to reflect on it as a topic located between myth and reality. He referred to the human mind as a very complex machine which depends on many mechanisms; this makes it difficult to define, let alone understand in detail. Artificial intelligence is based on the combination of formulas used to create algorithms which result in certain actions similar to human actions, in agreement with the logical part of humankind.



On the other hand, human creativity is much more difficult to replicate by a mathematically programmed mechanism. Evolution shows us that society depends on certain features which we cannot classify at this moment as good or bad for preserving life and, as the title of Professor Pozna's presentation, “myth or reality”, suggests, this problem will find an answer only with time, because of the accelerated modernization of human life.

Alexandra GÎRBEA, 3<sup>rd</sup> year student  
Communication and Public Relations

## THE SCIENCE OF MUSIC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Between 28 and 31 October, the Faculty of Music organized the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Conference *The Science of Music – Excellence in Performance*.



As with the previous editions, this year's conference proved a good opportunity for researchers to exchange ideas, and for doctoral students to introduce their latest research in a special panel section.



The festive opening included an exquisite chamber music recital given by professors from the Faculty of Music and by Prof. Constantin Sandu, pianist from Portugal. A unique presence was that of Prof. Jean-Christoph Frisch from the Sorbonne University of

Paris, who performed a conference-recital accompanied by Romanian musicians. The panel presentations were given by professors and doctoral students from Romanian universities in Cluj-Napoca, Constanța, Oradea, Piatra Neamț, Timișoara and Brașov, but also from England, France, Germany, Poland, Portugal, and Serbia.

The panel sessions covered a wide array of interesting topics such as *Musicology, Musical Education and Pedagogy, Children's Folklore, The Arts of Performance, Ethnomusicology and Ethnology, Cultural Management, Musical Therapy*.



To ensure the continuity of a fine, unitary musical training in pre-university education, among the invitees at this year's conference was also music teachers from vocational highschoools.

The conference proceedings reviewed by the expert committee will be published in *Bulletin of Transilvania University of Brașov – VIIIth series- Arts*.

Professor Ioan OARCEA, PhD  
Faculty of Music

## INAUGURATION OF THE BENCHMARK ELECTRONICS LABORATORY AT THE FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year, the Department of Electronics and Computers within the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science has acquired a modern electronics laboratory to which Benchmark Electronics Romania contributed state-of-the-art equipment, educational modules, and furniture. The American company Benchmark is among the top 10 providers of integrated services for electronic production, offering anything from product development to building printed circuit boards. Benchmark Electronics Romania covers the control, testing, and measurement industrial segments, the data and electrical energy management, as well as the medical industry, on the European and global markets.



The laboratory is a result of the partnership between Transilvania University of Brasov and Benchmark Electronics Romania, a partnership where all the activities carried out has the student in the center, the quality training of the future specialist. In the dynamic field of electronic technologies, the industry file and the academia have understood that joint involvement and common effort make it possible for the future specialist to be well prepared to meet the professional challenges. The laboratory is equipped with current technological standards for practicing classes of practical applications in the field of electronics.

The workstations are provided with a complete set of specific devices: power supply, digital multimeter,

function generator, oscilloscope, synthesizer, RLC bridge, frequency meter, soldering station and computer.



Besides the technical items, the lab includes modern educational equipment (screens, videoprojectors), a modern setting which replicates the working stations in the testing-troubleshooting area of production and, last but not least, and a youthful atmosphere.



The lab was inaugurated on 16 October in the presence of the Rector, Prof. Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, PhD, and the General Manager of Benchmark Electronics Romania, Mr Florin Onu. The event was extensively publicized by the local and online print and digital media.

Professor Carmen GERIGAN, PhD  
Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer  
Science

## A NEW *SIEMENS INDUSTRY SOFTWARE* LAB AT THE FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND INFORMATICS

On 17 October Transilvania University of Braşov in partnership with Siemens Industry Software SRL inaugurated a modern lab equipped with state-of-the-art educational resources at the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics. Once again, the event marked the constant collaboration between the two partners by means of actions which primarily benefit students.



*“The Lab at the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics, established by Transilvania University of Braşov and Siemens Industry Software SRL, looks quite unlike a regular classroom; instead of rows of desks, we chose furniture similar to a co-working space apt to hold future graduates for agile team work. Instead of white walls, we opted for colors and shapes that will stimulate creativity”,* explained Eng. Cristi Irimia, PhD, General Manager of Siemens Industry Software SRL.

*“Our faculty has had collaborations with 40+ IT companies, both for student practice and for the application of other partnership programs that will contribute to building a future in this field for students. What we are inaugurating now is a modern lab, established by a prominent company in Braşov. Definitely, our partners and our faculty’s aim in to increase our students’ performance by practical training and we are sure that this lab will help”,* added Prof. Eugen Păltănea, Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics.



The teaching and practical activities which take place in the new lab benefit from powerful dual-monitor calculation systems, modular and attractive furniture due to the options for configuration and placement of the target group and, the main attraction for most visitors, a wall equipped with foil instead of the traditional chalkboard.



A good beginning of the new academic year, the outcome of partners working together towards developing a new concept for teaching a lab.

Lecturer Anca Vasilescu, PhD, Pro-Dean  
Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics



## SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION: SCUT ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE FACULTY OF SOCIOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION – THE LIVE LIBRARY 2018

On 6 October, SCUT Association for Social Services in partnership with Transilvania University of Braşov organized the 8th edition of Live Library, an event developed within the frame of the project "SCHIMBARE ÎN BINE PENTRU TINERI", co-financed by Braşov Country Council. The Live Library is an international concept that can be essentialized in these three words: "Face your prejudice!" The "books" in the Live Library are actual people belonging to different groups that have to face certain prejudices and stereotypes.



This year, the books in the Live Library were interesting people with a story to tell, who had lived intriguing experiences and had to deal with the prejudice of others.

The readers—approximately 200 pupils, students, and general public—had the opportunity to gain first-hand information meant to help eradicate certain prejudices and stereotypes related to different categories of people.



During the event, two flashmob moments were presented, by means of which the two main categories working with Scut Association for Social Services, namely youth with disadvantaged backgrounds and people who suffer from mental chronic illnesses, had the chance to introduce themselves in a creative way.



We were joined by fifteen volunteers from Andrei Bârseanu Economic College and five volunteers from Transilvania University of Braşov, the study programs Social Work, Psychology, Medicine, and Management, whose efforts contributed towards expanding the scope of this event.

Lecturer Diana BODI, PhD

Faculty of Sociology and Communication

Diana-Maria COVACI,

Social worker, SCUT Association for Social Services

## THE FAMILIAR CITY – A FRANCO-ROMANIAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECT ON URBAN AND SOCIAL CHANGES

Between 31 October - 2 November, there took place the first public presentation in Romania of the project coordinated by Lumière Lyon 2 University (LADEC – the Laboratory of Anthropology of Contemporary Issues) in partnership with the Faculty of Sociology and Communication of Transilvania University of Braşov. The main topic of “The Familiar City” project concerns the manner in which people grow familiar with their city: the constant adjustments, the routine, the attachments through which they lend continuity to their life practices even when they are faced with disruption, dislocations of space (transformation of spaces, demolitions and moving, invasion through traffic etc.).



*“Two cities were our particular focus: Braşov in Romania and Lyon in France. We didn’t necessarily aim to contrast them, as the contexts and phenomena observed were very different. Our purpose was rather to identify the common issues that the residents of these two European cities are faced with and the citizens’ reactions to them”,* said Bianca Botea, anthropology professor at Lumière Lyon 2 University. A result of field research, the materials presented will be compiled on a website and will not invite any constrained reading or reading guided by a researcher isolated in their ivory tower.



More specifically, the research consists in a participatory study in which the residents themselves film their city or neighborhood using a portable camera and are invited to write materials or comments alongside the members of the project. The purpose of these materials is to hold up to view certain aspects we have stopped seeing because of our daily routines. This will lead to widening the circle of alert citizens, preoccupied with what is going on in their city.



The project collaborators are the Memorable city – Braşov (the Romanian Order of Architects – Braşov-Covasna-Harghita branch), the Francophone Regional Center for Advanced Research in Social Sciences (CEREFREA)-Bucureşti, the “Education, Culture, Politics” Lab-Lyon 2 University, the Social Center Sauvegarde Duchère- Lyon, and the Center for Youth and Culture of Duchère- Lyon.

Lecturer Diana BODI, PhD  
Lecturer Florin NECHITA, PhD  
Faculty of Sociology and Communication

## DR TITUS CONSTANTIN BĂLAN AMONG THE WINNERS OF THE FIRST EDITION OF THE NATIONAL COMPETITION “ANIS SCHOLARSHIPS”

This year, ANIS – the Employers’ Association of the Software and Services Industry, launched the first edition of the national competition ANIS Scholarships. The program was organized in partnership with the economic environment in Romania and its mission is supporting excellence in didactic initiatives in teaching, and in research.

According to the competition regulations, the participants must be lecturers, aged 40 or younger, and the project proposal must include new courses or an update of at least 50% of an existing course in such areas as *Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning, Big Data, Fintech, Cybersecurity* and *Healthtech* and / or the use of some innovative teaching methods. The first edition of the ANIS Scholarships program took place with the active support of Atos, Adobe, Bitdefender, Softelligence, Cornerstone, Enea, companies with a constant preoccupation for developing dialogue with the educational environment and supporting the teachers’ performance.

The competition lineup consisted of 35 proposals and 10 scholarships were awarded worth 5,000 Euro each.

Dr Titus Constantin Bălan, lecturer at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science of Transilvania University of Braşov, was awarded a scholarship for proposing a new course - *Network Security and Perimeter Defence*, taught in English. The novelty of the course is the high specificity degree, aimed at the methods of securing network infrastructure with dedicated elements (firewall, IDS/IPS). The innovative element introduced is the implementation of a lab network in a virtual system which the students can access via VDI (*Virtual Desktop Infrastructure*). The course will be taught in the second semester of this academic year to the 26 Master’s students enrolled in the newly launched English language program *Cyber Security*.

Professor Carmen GERIGAN, PhD  
Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer  
Science



*Titus Constantin Bălan receiving the award from Florin Talpeş, CEO of Bitdefender*

## THREE YEARS OF COLLABORATION IN EDUCATION AND RESEARCH BETWEEN TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY AND GEORGIA SOUTHERN

The partnership between the two HEIs began in 2016 with the conclusion of an Erasmus+ agreement. The actual exchange between our Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and the Faculty of Engineering within Armstrong University - Atlantic Savannah Georgia, USA. The mutual goal was to develop and promote joint educational and research projects.



In 2017 the two institutions cosigned an Erasmus+ cooperation agreement, with Professor Paul Nicolae Borza from Transilvania University and Professor Felix Hamza-Lup from Georgia Southern as contact persons. On each side, the collaboration was facilitated by Professor Eng. Ioan Vasile Abrudan, the Rector of TUB, Professors Simona Lache and Carmen Buzea, Vice-Rectors and, respectively, by Professor Dorothee Mertz Weigel from GSU, Head of the International Student and Scholar Services.



Georgia Southern University is a large-size university in the state of Georgia; since the beginning of 2018 GSU and Armstrong State University have been consolidated under the name of Georgia Southern University.

Teacher mobilities between the two partner institutions took place every year, with visiting staff running courses on topics relevant to the host faculty, such as the management and storage systems of electrical power, X3D technology for data visualisation using Web technologies for the spatial visualisation of data. Professors Profesorii Felix Hamza-Lup and Paul Nicolae Borza were actively involved in promoting and running these courses. In 2018 the collaboration took a step further under the form of a jointly authored paper submitted for publication and a course designed in partnership. In the months of March and November of 2018, a number of lectures were delivered under the following titles: *"Introduction to X3D – Paradigms, Static and Dynamic Scenes"*, *"Web-based 3D User Interfaces"*, and *"Electric Energy Storage Systems – Super Capacitors"*.

For the following years the aim is to design and implement joint courses to be integrated into the syllabi of relevant master's programs at the two universities, and to draft a common research agenda.

Professor Paul BORZA, PhD  
Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer  
Science

## THE OPENING OF THE 2018-2019 CONCERT SEASON *CORONENSIS DANSANT – CODEXOLD MUSIC ENSEMBLE*

On 1st October, to celebrate the opening of this concert season, *Codex* Old Music Ensemble gave an exquisite performance entitled *Dialogues between old court and popular music in the Transylvanian and European space*.



The sounds of old Transylvanian music from the XVIth through the XIXth centuries, manuscripts, the Caioni Codex, the music from Central and Eastern Europe, and early Baroque French, Italian and German music intertwined with brief presentations and lessons of musical culture. The concert was designed in the *authentic historical performance* style, employing Baroque and Renascent instruments and a manner of interpretation that was recreated based on treatises, methods and ancient documents which *Codex* Ensemble recovered, which brought to light valuable if less known musical material.

We thus relished in the sounds of the first recital that proved the virtuosity of László Kovács (rebec, violin), Éva Kovács (vielle), Csaba Adorján (viola, vielle), Zsombor Lázár (bass vielle, cello, cobsa),

Árpád Szógyör (contrabass, gardon, viola da gamba), Éva Szabó (Baroque flute, straight flute, percussion) led by Dr Ignác Csaba Filip (straight flute, transverse flute) – artistic director and professor at the Faculty of Music.



It was indeed an evening to remember, highlights of which were the lessons in Renascent dance; it showed why that the performance of *Codex* Old Music Ensemble in high profile music festivals and events in Romania and abroad is so appreciated by music buffs.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN, PhD Candidate  
Musical Centre Expert

## CELEBRATING THE 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF *TRANSILVANIA* UNIVERSITY EXTRAORDINARY RECITAL GIVEN BY ALINA BERCU

On 26 October, a highlight in the festivities devoted to the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our University was the piano recital given by Alina Bercu.



The young pianist is notorious for her musical instinct disciplined by her work capacity and willpower. A true perfectionist, she turns each musical piece into a unique experience. In her interpretation, the pianist relies naturally and effortlessly on her excellent memory, logical thinking, and concentration power.

The secret of Alina Bercu's success seems to be the sheer pleasure she takes in playing the piano, no matter whether it is Beethoven's sonata in F minor *Appassionata*, or Kreisler's *Liebesleid* and

*Liebesfreud* in the piano arrangement of S. Rachmaninov, or Chopin's Nocturnes no 1 and 2 and Prokofiev's Piano Sonata No. 7 in B ♭ major.

Despite her young age, the mature artistic dialogue that Alina Bercu establishes with her audience is impregnated with joy and passion. In her interpretation, the music breathes naturalness, as the classical Beethovenian notes intertwine with Kreisler's lyricism, Chopin's romanticism and Prokofiev's technique.



Alina Bercu's recital was an elegant conclusion to the anniversary of *Transilvania* University; at the same time, it represented an outstanding moment in the university's concert season organized by our Musical Centre.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN, PhD Candidate  
Musical Centre Expert

## MUSICA CORONENSIS AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

On 5 and 6 October the Multicultural Centre hosted two wonderful concerts within the framework of *Musica Coronensis* Festival.

Making its debut precisely within this festival, the Baroque music concert came as a unique gift to Braşov, being an exquisite display of musical pieces and historical instruments.



Our city prides itself with two such ancient instruments: the Neupert Blanchet clavecin (copy of a 1737 Parisian model), acquired by *Transilvania* University, and the Neupert Hemsch clavecin (copy of a 1754 Parisian model), acquired by the Black Church.

Raluca Enea and Steffen Schlandt, the soloists of the evening, were accompanied by Melinda Beres – violin, Mircea Ionescu – violin, Csaba Adorján – viola, Zsombor Lázár – cello, Árpád Szőgyör – violone/

contrabass. They performed three concerts for clavecin and orchestra by Johann Sebastian Bach.



The second concert began with the presentation of the digital volume "Braşov - a Musical History of a Multicultural City Until 1918" by Wolfgang Sand, perfectly framed by the soloists Alexandra Ducariu, Teodora Ducariu, Roxana Bârsan, Vanda Multhaler and Ioan-Dragoş Dimitriu. "Romanian dances for two pianos" and "Introduction and Allegro for solo flute" were some of the works that attracted us that evening.

Alexandra GÎRBEA, 3<sup>rd</sup> year student  
Communication and Public Relations

## STRANGER IN PARADISE - FILM SCREENING AND DEBATE

On 7 November, the university's Multicultural Centre played host to a film screening, featuring an interesting movie dedicated to a highly topical issue in Europe today—the refugees.

Viewers were afforded an insider's perspective on what the life of a refugee really looks like: the film centres on a white male in a small room, who speaks to a few young refugees.

He lays out three different scenarios related to their attempts to find refuge in Europe.

Film director Guido Hendrikx give artistic dimensions to a thought-provoking view. His docufiction paints an apposite albeit crude picture of the refugee crisis, compelling us to reconsider our opinions on this global issue, and masterfully capturing the spirit of our present times riddled with confusion about geographic borders and even the borderline between fact and fiction.



The post-screening debate was moderated by Gabriela Leu from UNHCR - the UN Refugee Agency and Astrid Hamberger from the local Regional Centre for the Integration of Foreigners.

Alexandra GÎRBEA, 3<sup>rd</sup> year student  
Communication and Public Relations

■ CUPRINS



## PARADOX TRIO

### OPENING OF THE THIRD SEASON OF THE CHAMBER JAZZ@UNIVERSITATEA TRANSILVANIA SERIES

For the third year, on 9 October, the Multicultural Center of Transilvania University of Braşov opened its gates for a novel world of modern jazz – a musical genre characterized by expressivity rather than sound harmony.



The Matt Darriau's Paradox Trio - consisting of Matt Darriau (saxophone and clarinet), Brad Shepik (guitar and Balkan instruments), Rufus Cappadocia (five string cello) and Seido Salifoski (drum, percussion) - opened the third season of Chamber Jazz by combining traditional Balkan music with the dynamics of New York improv.

This group managed to bridge between two apparently opposite worlds. Their unique style, not only in terms of expression, but also in its sources of inspiration, merged the European and American cultures into a mixture of musical notes that may at first sound strange.

The trio gained notoriety in the past 12 years both in the United States of America, as well as Canada and Europe, by performing extravagant concerts which explore the gypsy Balkan style and the music of the Middle East in an original manner.

They charmed us with a sensational and hypnotic performance marked by a brilliant technical execution and a novel style, as well as by the emotion they managed to impart to the audience.



Their artistic creativity was notable, and the audience felt it with every note. The audience was challenged to widen their horizons for the vast world of jazz and modern improv.

Andrei PEPTINE, student

## THE ALEX SIMU QUINTET LAUNCHES NEW ALBUM

On 20 October Alex Simu Quintet launched its latest album, "Echoes of Bucharest", in an event which took place at the university's multicultural centre.



The theme and the music on this album centre on Alex Simu's memories of his hometown, his feelings towards it and its history.

The songs drove home the intended message and struck a chord with all those familiar with the city of Bucharest. In this way, the quintet led by Alex Simu managed to turn personal emotions into a shared experience.

Besides some original pieces, the album included reworkings of musical phrases originating with classical composers, such as George Enescu, which

are performed in a manner which makes them compatible with contemporary jazz and free improv.

The concert was a real success.

Each piece sounded in the packed concert hall and echoed in each listener's imagination. The atmosphere was relaxed and conducive to storytelling, where the past and the undertone of contemporariness came together on the common soil of music.



Nicoleta ŞIMON, 2<sup>nd</sup> year student  
Faculty of Letters

## THE YOUNG POETS – CONTEMPORARY POETRY FESTIVAL DEDICATED TO ANDREI BODIU

On 12 and 13 October, the Faculty of Letters organized the contemporary poetry festival, "The Young poets", dedicated to the memory and work of Andrei Bodiu, former dean of the Faculty.



The concept of "young poets", depicted majestically in Andrei Bodiu's poetry, was illustrated by the young poetess Anca Dumitru, whom Andrei Bodiu discovered, by Veronica Ștefăneț, a brilliant poetess from the Republic of Moldova, the Hungarian poetess Kali Ágnes, one of the most relevant voices of young contemporary Hungarian poetry, Radu Nițescu, Merlich Saia, the poet who won the Eminescu award for debut in 2015, the young undebuted poetess Anastasia Gavrilovici, Vasile Leac, whose poetry is viewed by many young poets as having an essential influence on contemporary poetry, Andrei Dósa, one of the most publicized and awarded poets who graduated our university, poet and editor Claudiu Komartin, who coordinated Andrei Bodiu's anthology „Oameni obosiți” ("Tired People"), Ioan Moldovan, poet and close friend of Andrei Bodiu, Romulus Bucur, from Transilvania University, and Svetlana Cârsteian, poet and editor from București.

The readings by Simona Popescu, Marius Oprea, and Caius Dobrescu represented a special moment in the program, as they are writers who debuted alongside Andrei Bodiu in the collective volume „Pauză de respirație” ("Breathing Break").

With them also performed a reading poet Ioan Liviu Stoici, whose debut volume had a major impact on the Brașov school of poetry.



Friday evening ended with a Biofilm group's dancing, musical, and Darknet poetry performance; on Saturday, music producer George Pandrea presented a DJ set inspired by the poem whose title named the festival.

Assistent Robert ELEKES, PhD  
Faculty of Letters

## KINGA TÓTH AT THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER – PERFORMANCE WITH A CLOTHES DRYER

On 19 October, the Faculty of Letters organized an interesting event whose guest was poet Kinga Tóth.

The usual reading evening was replaced by a *performance*. The combination of “poetry” and “performance” might suggest that the poet will recite poems with music playing in the background, accompanying them with images or body movements. Hungarian poetess Kinga Tóth’s performance included all these elements, but not as one may expect.



Besides the sound system, the projection screen, and a table with various objects, the main item was a clothes dryer. While the screen showed images with Hungarian lines written by the poetess, which were complemented by graffiti representing the message behind them, also belonging to the poetess, Kinga Tóth made all kinds of sounds with the help of a synthesiser, while clenching on the floor. After a while, she stood and produced something similar to an incantation, by rubbing the

microphone to the thin lines of the dryer.

During the conversation with the audience at the end of the performance, the poetess explained these elements as attempts at bringing poetry to a new level.

Thus, the poems fall into the category of experimental poetry, created with the human body and the imaginative exploration of its possibilities.

For Kinga Tóth, body movements can depict poetry and form a text in and by themselves. As for the dryer, perhaps she used it to express her disapproval of the Hungarian prime-minister’s message, Viktor Orbán, who stated that women should return to their true mission, that of being mothers and homemakers.



New methods to capitalize on and create poetry can therefore be discovered. It all depends on freeing the imagination, being honest with oneself, and getting rid of prejudice, traditions, and conventions.

Andreea CIURARU, student  
Faculty of Letters

## BEYOND THE FENCE. VISUAL SOCIOLOGY PROJECT

On 1 October, an open air exhibition was launched. Dedicated to an atypical topic, the event—now in its third edition— was co-organized by the Faculty of Sociology and Communication and the university's Multicultural Centre, in partnership with Braşov City Hall.



Entitled "Beyond the Fence", the exhibition included projects created by first year students in Sociology and Communication enrolled in the Sociology and Social Work study programs.



The exhibition coordinated by Dr Ştefan Ungurean and Cristian Bălăcescu presents the lives or moments in the life of different subjects, their confessions about work, sacrifice, poverty, pain and joy disclosed to the students, who had to interpret and analyze them.

At the same time, the exhibition was intended as a gift made by our academic community to the citizens of Braşov.



It is hoped that bringing these untold stories to light may change perspectives and ideas.

Alexandra GÎRBEA, 3<sup>rd</sup> year student  
Communication and Public Relations

■ CUPRINS

## ***NOUVEL ENSEMBLE CONTEMPORAIN - PACIFIC 231.1***

On 31 October, the Music Center in partnership with the Multicultural Center of Transilvania University of Braşov organized the concert of the Swiss orchestra *Nouvel Ensemble Contemporain* within the framework of the University Concert Season. The ensemble consists of 20 professional musicians from all over the world whose aim is to promote 20th-21st century music using arrangements that highlight the various facets of music, so it will not only be listened to, but also enjoyed.

The concert was opened with the screening of the movie "Pacific 231" by Jean Mitry, the main theme and a rhythmic leitmotif of the show. In a modern vision, the screening was accompanied by Arthur Honegger's music, the famous Swiss composer, performed live. They were followed with compositions by Eric Gaudibert, Olivier Cuendet and Thomas Kessler.

In the spirit of discovering and promoting new talent, the NEC orchestra performed Romanian composer Vlad Maistorovici's *Opera nouă pentru*

*trompetă, trombon și pian (The New Opera for Trumpet, Trombone, and Piano)*, an expressive connection between the contemporary composition technique and the influence of Honegger's music which fit perfectly in the context and was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

The architectural and scenography elements accompanied the music, and the placement of the musicians in the room created the effect of distance not only of sound, but also visually.

The NEC concert ended with Laurent Estoppey's *321 Challenger pentru orchestră (321 Challenger for Orchestra)*, and a new movie screening.

The audience were offered the opportunity to widen their cultural horizons and understand the new contemporary music style, an image of the musical future, bridge between different modes of expression.

Fulvia Anca CONSTANTIN, PhD Candidate  
Musical Centre Expert



## SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI - ANDREI CONSTANTIN NEAGU



Andrei Constantin Neagu is a 2013 graduate of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science of our university who earned his master's degree in 2016 and is currently pursuing his studies as a doctoral student here.

He set up his first company while he was still an undergraduate student, displaying managerial skills and abilities which proved useful in his career.

His theoretical and practical knowledge was backed up by significant international experience gained during as an Erasmus student at Ghent

(Belgium), an internship in Hamburg (Germany), and Ghent (Belgium), which enabled him to start up his first international company in Belgium.

His research and entrepreneurial experience recommended him for the position of *Business Consultant Developer* at Ghent University and of *Lean Business Developer* within a Belgium business consultancy company.

In 2016, Andrei Neagu became a business consultant at Leonardo Group Romania, and since October 2017 he has held the position of general manager of StartIN, a local company offering consultancy in the field of European business projects.

Andrei Neagu is also involved in research, as the co-author of three articles published in specialist journals, as well as in developing the entrepreneurial competences of students at our university, in collaboration with its Student Entrepreneurial Society.

Assistant Professor Bianca TESCAȘIU, PhD