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NEWSLETTER

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THE HE *NUCLEAR PHOTONICS 2018* CONFERENCE

24 – 29 JUNE, in Braşov, România

Between 24 and 29 June, Aula Magna was the venue of the second edition of *Nuclear Photonics 2018*, a biennial conference devoted to nuclear science research and photon applications. The organizers of this event were *Horia Hulubei* National Institute at Bucharest, *Extreme Light Infrastructure – Nuclear Physics* and Transilvania University of Braşov.



On 24 June, a field trip was organized for the conference participants at Măgurele (Ilfov County), the location of *Extreme Light Infrastructure – Nuclear Physics*, the world's largest research institute concerned with the study of photonuclear physics and its applications.



The formal opening of the conference took place on 25 June in Braşov, at Transilvania University in the

presence of a number of prominent figures who gave their welcome speeches: Mr Hans Klemm, US Ambassador to Romania, academician Nicolae Zamfir, Managing Director of *Horia Hulubei* National Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Mr George Scripcaru, Mayor of Braşov City and Dr Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of Transilvania University.

Coming from all over the world, the around 200 participants in the conference were involved in research areas such as the development of high power laser systems, high brightness gamma-rays, nuclear physics and applications. The papers delivered focused on fundamental research in nuclear physics and nuclear spectroscopy, interaction of high-intensity laser with plasma, high brightness gamma-rays, nuclear medicine, non-destructive industrial evaluation of materials, nuclear materials detection and management, nuclear astrophysics and cosmology, the production of rare isotopes by means of photons, etc.



The conference program and paper abstracts are available on the event's website, at <http://nuclearphotonics2018.eli-np.ro>.

Dr Laura Floroian

90 DE YEARS OLD, 70 YEARS IN THE SERVICE OF CHEMISTRY

On 3 July, the Faculty of Faculty of Product Design and Environment hosted a special event: the celebration of Professor Eugen Chiş on his 90th anniversary. The emotion-charged event brought together former students, colleagues and collaborators who took the opportunity to give the professor their best wishes. In recognition of his contribution to the development of our university, including that as Rector, between 1960 and 1971, professor Chiş was awarded the "Diploma of Excellence".



He was born on 1 July 1928 in Haţeg. Upon graduating the Faculty of Chemistry in Cluj, he was offered a position with the Forestry Institute at Braşov, in 1952. In 1960 he was appointed Rector of the then recently established Pedagogical Institute, where he remained in office until 1971. Between 1971 and 1972 he was Vice-rector of the University of Braşov.

Holding an impeccable professional record, the professor was actively involved in the management of the faculties within the Institute, planning and supervising the development of their teaching infrastructure, the training of their staff and the selection of their students.



Throughout his career, professor Eugen Chiş stood out through his high commitment, fortitude, drive and respect for everyone around him. He officially retired in 1994, but stayed on as adjunct until 2000 teaching Biochemistry to forestry students.



His former colleagues and students were unanimous in paying homage to a truly remarkable person who earned the respect and admiration of the people he came in contact with.

Dr Rodica Ţică

■ CUPRINS

THE VALEDICTORIAN GALA - 2018

On June 25, 2018, the valedictorians of the 2017-2018 academic year and the winners of the Session of the Student Scientific Circles were rewarded by the Transilvania University of Braşov in a gala held at the Multicultural Center.



This year, the students who obtained the overall highest marks were Andrei Ioan Opreş, Dan Andrei Şlick, Ştefania Popa, Ioana Raluca Chiriacescu, Andrea Mezei, Ştefania Paşăre, Beller Robert Pongratz, Andreea Hegeduş, Alexandru Constantin Tulică, Cristina Maria Păcurar, Georgiana Cătălina Rogozan, Gyorfy Hajnalka, Mihail Alberto Dinu, Maria Magdalena Boroş Lazăr, Theodora Ciurezu, Ronald Engel, Botond Csaba Szocs, Răzvan Tătaru, Vlad Babei, Bianca Ioana Bucur Brînză, Andreea Roxana Boriceanu and Alina Ioana Văcaru, valedictorians of their respective faculties, while the Transilvania Excellence Scholarship, awarded annually, by competition, to students with outstanding academic performances, went to Gellert Attila Gyurka, a student of the Faculty of Medicine.



As part of a wider program meant to encourage academic performance, this form of recognition reserved to the best students of Transilvania University of Brasov comes to define once again a community that values rigor, curiosity, integrity and intellectual vocation.



While most of the valedictorians invited to address the audience have attributed part of their success to the environment in which they were educated, it is equally true that, by their contribution, they leave behind a stronger academic community, one inspired to constantly rise to the level of its elite.

Maria Ghiurţu
The Multicultural Center
of Transilvania University of Braşov

■ CUPRINS

A DIFFERENT KIND OF GRADUATION PARTY FOR OUR SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS

On 12 July, students from the social work undergraduate program at the Faculty of Sociology and Communication went to the kindergarden in Cutuș village (Brașov County) in order to bring food and toys to the children there. Instead of the traditional graduation party, the students chose to mark off the completion of their undergraduate studies by spending quality time with young children living in a social risk area.



The children from Cutuș village were happy for the gifts of food and toys, as well as for being able to interact with the future social workers, playing and sharing thoughts and emotions together.



Apart from the desire to brighten the children's day, one of the goals of this action was to sensitize the students to their responsibilities as possible role-models and, as such, to encourage the children to stay in school and acquire an education – their only chance to succeed in life.

Joy is not exclusively tied to material possession: it is brought about by goodwill, sound advice and whole-hearted support. This is a fact demonstrated during the many social projects that our students have been involved in over the years.

Dr Diana-Cristina Bódi

THE FIELD THAT UNITES US

On 7 June, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science organized an event called *The Field that Unites Us*, to celebrate the Romanian centenary 1918-2018.



The event gathered faculty collaborators, students and teachers, present and past. The festive reunion lasted 100 minutes, in honour of the centenary.

The event was intended as an opportunity to recall the contributions of certain personalities to the development of electrical engineering, personalities who were involved in the activity of our faculty or who marked its evolution. The speakers who reminded us of some important names were Professor Gheorghe Toacșe, Professor Elena Helerea and Professor Mihai Ivanovici.

We all listened with interest to stories about Remus Răduleț, member of the Romanian Academy, Professor Alexandru Spătaru, Professor Vasile Buzuloiu, Professor Andrei Nicolaide, about their contributions to the development of electrical engineering during the last century, about the impact of their activity on our faculty and scientific community. These stories, showing how our faculty was created, how it evolved within the local community, and mainly who made it all possible, were meant to inform the younger generations and to bring joy to the older ones.



Knowing the history of this field can only unite those who work in it – this was the atmosphere which permeated our celebratory reunion.

Dr Carmen Gerigan

■ CUPRINS

INTERNAȚIONAL INTERNATIONAL „COMPETENCE – CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES ON TEACHING PERFORMANCE”

Between 8 and 10 June, the Department for Teacher Training at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences of our university organized its first international conference, focused on the history, the present state, and the educational perspectives of initial and continuing teacher training.



The international partners of the event were Istituto di Scienze Psicologiche di Educazione e di Formazione (I.S.P.E.F.) of Rome, Italy, and University Jan Kochanowski (JKU) of Kielce, Poland, while the national partner was “Aurel Vlaicu” University of Arad.



The event was, at the same time, a celebration of the Romanian centenary, with the support of the Brașov County Prefecture, represented by the prefect Marian Rasaliu. The conference was supported by our department’s traditional partner, the local school inspectorate, represented by the general school inspector Ariana-Oana Bucur and specialty inspectors. Professor Vasile Oltean, head of the Museum of the

First Romanian School in Brașov, highlighted the role played by Brașov as a reference point in the history of Romanian education.



The plenary speakers during the first two days of the conference were specialists in the field of education from the United States of America, Italy, Poland, Romania. The conference also included 20 workshops on topics related to education (as a scientific challenge, but also as a defining cultural element, adapted and adaptable to contemporary needs and perspectives in teacher training), held by national and international experts. The panels and workshops gathered almost 400 teachers (from universities and secondary schools) and students.

The international conference COMPETENCE 2018 has helped consolidate the existing partnerships and has created new opportunities to collaborate with national and international education institutions.

Dr Mariana Norel,
Dr Iolanda Beldianu

CONFERINȚA PE TEME ISTORICE ÎN ANUL CENTENAR: ALEX MIHAI STOENESCU



On 5 June 2018, Alex Mihai Stoenescu was invited at our university to deliver a lecture concerning the aftermath of World War I, and the preparation of the Great Union of Romania of 1 December 1918. Alex Mihai Stoenescu is a graduate of the Faculty of History (1972) and of the Faculty of Equipment Engineering (1978); he is a writer and journalist. His historical writings deal with sensitive issues, such as the Jewish population or freemasonry in Romania.

The conference entitled *The Centenary Means Two Years: 1918-1919* was held at Aula Magna in front of a diverse audience made up of historians, academics, students at the Faculty of Sociology and Communication and the Faculty of Materials Science and Engineering, members of the press.

The conference highlighted various historical episodes and characters who actively participated in writing the document signed at Alba Iulia.

Alex Mihai Stoenescu emphasized the role of two personalities in preparing and carrying through the Great Union, namely Queen Marie of Romania, who was a Red Cross nurse, and a subtle and skilful diplomate during and after the war, and the liberal leader I. C. Brătianu. The historian's presentation led to a series of questions, comments and additions from the public, to which the speaker answered patiently, using information from primary sources.



In his closing speech, Dr Ioan Vasile Abrudan, Rector of our university, underlined the fact that throughout this year our university will be hosting a series of lectures delivered on the topic of the Romanian centenary by specialists in history.

Dr. Mariana Borcoman

■ CUPRINS



VIZITA STUDENȚILOR ȘI PROFESORILOR DE LA PROGRAMUL MBA AL AEGEAN UNIVERSITY

Within the frame of an Erasmus+ agreement concluded in 2014, the Faculty of Sociology and Communication of our university and Aegean University, Greece, have since been involved in mobility sessions for staff members from both faculties.



Between 26 June and 1 July this year, a group made up of seven teachers and 17 master students from the program *Master of Business Administration* at *Aegean University* were on an educational visit to Braşov.



The visit was aimed at affording the MBA students the opportunity to learn about many case studies and examples of good practice in a varied and dynamic business environment and in the public administration. The group of Greek students and teachers were joined by students and teachers from the Faculty of Sociology and Communication, as well as by the head of the Department of

Communication and the Vice-Rector of Research from the *University of Dunaujvaros*, Hungary, who were guests of our university at the same time. They visited the *Olympus Milk Factory*, *Ina Schaeffler*, *Râşnov Town Hall*.

The group also visited Bran Castle, the university's Aula Magna and Main Library, and attended a course on Creative communication of destinations.



Our Greek colleagues considered it a successful visit, and agreed to extend our joint programmes. As a result, a study trip in 2019 for Romanian students will be planned, together with the next edition of the international summer school *Creative Communication for Cultural Heritage* on Chios Island. In addition, the students of our faculty interested in the internship programs financed by Erasmus+ can choose from among 15 large companies which are partners of the *Aegean University*.

Dr Florin Nechita

THE STUDENTS IN THE INDUSTRIAL DESIGN PROGRAM, PARTICIPANTS IN THE „GLASSBERRIES DESIGN CONTEST”

GLASSBERRIES is a contest in the field of *Packaging Design*, promoted by BA Glass, a very important European manufacturer of glass packaging. The aim of the contest is to discover young talented designers, and to bring together members of the academia, companies and clients. The contest, proposes a new topic each year. In its sixth edition, this year's topic was the design of a complete packaging solution, made up of a glass container for wine and a cardboard box to package 3-6 glass bottles.

For the first time, students from the Faculty of Product Design and Environment of our university were invited to this year's edition.



Over 200 students from 11 universities, from five countries (Portugal, Spain, Poland, Germany, Romania) enrolled in the contest, and 139 projects were submitted. The 76 projects selected for the final also included those of our students Roberta Bedners, Alexandra Formagiu, Ștefan Ion, Diana Lică, Flavius Păduraru, Ana Roșca, Robert Slaminek – fourth year, and Incze Zoltan and Ionuț Mușat – third year; two of the projects were team work.

The competition was launched in February, after the representatives of BA Glass, Vanessa Cruz and Nuno Horta, visited Brasov, and the proposal submission deadline was 12 May. The “Glassberries Design Awards” ceremony took place on 7 June, during “Barcelona’s Design Week”, in the Auditorium of Casa Milá (La Pedrera), a masterpiece by the architect Antoni Gaudi. At the ceremony, representatives from all of the participant universities were invited to attend, *Transilvania* University of Brașov was represented by the students’ coordinator, Professor Lucian Bârsan.

Dr. Lucian Bârsan

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Mai multe informații despre Glassberries la:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1YA1FphjB600ay3aEmb3yChFhvu6EJ2yS>

EXPERIMENTAL OPERA STUDIO

The comic opera *Gianni Schicchi* by Giacomo Puccini represented the final project of the canto section within the Faculty of Music, and also marked the close of the 2017-2018 academic year. The event was hosted by Braşov Opera House precisely on June 17, the centenary anniversary of the show's premiere.



Puccini's only comic opera is thematically built around the death of Buoso Donati, the owner of a large fortune, and the conflict that the inheritance stirred in the family. Valentina Mărgăraş, the director of this performance and soloist at Braşov Opera House, contributed with a modern interpretation to a dynamic and vivid show. The performance was given by canto students and two soloists from the Opera in Braşov: Liviu Iftene and Alexandru Aghenie.

The project was indeed a musical and acting challenge, which is why the topic of staging it was a focal point for weeks in a row.

The musical part was evenly distributed between roles and the success of the performance was granted once every member of the team realized that such an

achievement relies on teamwork. Personally, the opportunity to perform on stage next to leading artists from the Opera House in Braşov helped me define my character and realize its contextual uniqueness.

The rehearsals, each of them a show in its own right, were masterfully coordinated by Ovidiu Mezei, Opera House Manager.

The cast included the two soloists from the Opera House Alexandru Aghenie – *Gianni Schicchi* and Liviu Iftene – *Rinuccio*, as well as canto students : Edith Adetu – *Lauretta*, Lövenberger Orsolya – *Zita*, Corina Purcărea – *Betto di Signa*, Gabriel Ştefan – *Simone*, Norbert Gârbea – *Marco*, Cristina Trandafir – *La Ciesca*, Mădălin Groza – *Gherardo*, Bianca Timaru – *Nella*, Denisa Topan – *Gherardino*, Cătălina Radu – *Maestro Spinelloccio* and *Guccio*, Stela Jugaru – *Ser Amantio di Nicolao*, Diana Suciu – *Pinellino*, Mădălina Groza – *Buoso Donati*, assisted by a skilled technical crew.

We are grateful to our professors for having taken the time and effort to introduce us to this wonderful musical world, of Puccini's , in particular, as well as to Mr Ovidiu Mezei for his constant support and encouragement.

Nella- Bianca Timaru

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PROCESSIONS FOR VANISHING PARTS – EXHIBITION BY SASHA MERET

Between 17 June and 7 July, our university's Multicultural Centre hosted Sasha Meret's exhibition titled *Processions for Vanishing Parts*.



The opening, on the 17 June, took place within the frame of *vibrate!festival*.

In Sasha Meret's work *nothing is lost, everything is transformed*, as the artist manages to turn old and worn out material into surprisingly harmonious installations. His art is a projection of the perpetual change in everything that surrounds us.



As a viewer, one may find it hard to decide on what is more fascinating and catching in Sasha Meret's art: putting together apparently trite things, or the story that they tell? Because with each new shape comes a new story, which prompts the question, which side of the artist is the more prominent – Sasha Meret *the storyteller*, or the architect?

I would say that it is these two sides which make the artist's work complete, personal, and complex, and the universe it projects is all the more engaging for both its maker and those who dare tread down its paths.

Maria Nițu, student

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CREATIVITY VS. PARKINSON'S . ART AS THERAPY



On Monday, June 18, New York artist born in Romania Sasha Meret held a conference called Creativity vs. Parkinson's at the University's Multicultural Center, an exploration of the therapeutic role of art based on the artist's personal experience.

Sasha Meret was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2003, but, finding empirically that the symptoms of this disease diminished when he devoted himself to creative activities, he chose to understand his condition as a challenge, an invitation to constantly test his limits.

As in several other conferences and workshops on the same subject presented at the University of Beijing or in New York, at the invitation of the New York University School of Medicine, or at Gettysburg

College, to name a few, Sasha Meret highlighted the fundamental role of art in slowing down the progression of the disease, illustrating the way in which the latter shaped his artistic trajectory.

By documenting his own creative process, in recent years Sasha Meret started devoting himself to raising awareness of the disease, of the limitations it comes with, and also of the unexplored potential it can reveal.



The event was a part of this year's edition of vibratel festival, an international festival of classical music and art, in which the university was a partner.

Maria Ghiurțu
The Multicultural Center
of Transilvania University of Brașov

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RELAXING TONESAT, *VIBRATE!FESTIVAL* 2018

Between 18 and 22 June, the Multicultural Centre of Transilvania University played host to a series of cultural events part of the *vibrate!festival* 2018. The program included several masterclasses and open rehearsals performed by talented artists who experimented and improvised with piano, cello, wind instruments and string instruments.

The first open rehearsal of the sort was performed by Gémeaux Quartett, one of the leading ensembles of its generation, and a winner of several much coveted awards.



And because string instruments vibrate and reverberate, following this wonderful performance, on the 21st of June it was Bartholomew LaFollette's turn to prove his cello artistry in a second open rehearsal.



To complete the program on playful notes, came the masterclass offered by Diana Ionescu, 1st prize winner of George Enescu International Piano Contest.

In a symbolic celebration of the centenary anniversary of the Grand Union, *Aula Magna* hosted on the 19th of June the Musical Centenary Concert, a successful performance which gathered an impressively large audience.

For an entire week the talent and dedication of young artists made the audience resonate to the relaxing sound of musical notes.

Sidonia Cristina Ilișan, student

A PIANO FANTASY

RECITAL BY - DIANA ICHIM

On 8 June, the Multicultural Centre hosted a midsummer evening to remember thanks to the superb performance given by young pianist Diana Ichim.



Diana Ichim has just completed her 1st year as an undergraduate student at the Faculty of Music,

where she studies piano, her favourite instrument ever since her early childhood. On her way to becoming a true artist, Diana is guided by Dr Stela Drăgulin, an exceptional teacher whose technique helped shape the talent of numerous young artists.

Diana delighted the audience with a selection of musical pieces including Chopin's *Fantasie*, Schumann's *Sonata*, Rachmaninov's *Elegy*, Bach and Busoni's *Chaconna*, and, last but not least, *The Lark* by Glinka and Balakirev.

The overwhelming emotions experienced by both the young pianist as well as by her audience during this first recital revealed the undeniable potential that Diana has, and it certainly represents an incentive for her to continue growing as an artist.

Alexandra Gîrbea, student

CONCERT SEASON CLOSES

PIANO RECITAL BY BALÁZS DEMÉNY



On 14 June, *Aula Magna* was the venue of the piano recital given by pianist Balázs Demény, a well-known by now messenger of the musical life from Hungary and Germany where he completed his studies.

Balázs Demény is well-acquainted with the Romanian audience as he was invited to perform several times on Romanian stages, such as those in Bucharest, Braşov, Cluj-Napoca, and his musical repertoire covers piano recitals, chamber recitals and solo concerts. While witnessing his expressivity and the exquisite instrumental technique, we

cannot but notice the affinity the young pianist displays with the piano work of Franz Liszt.

This performance given by Balázs Demény was tailored to his own choices and included Joseph Haydn's *Sonata D Major*, Franz Liszt's *Bagatelle sans tonalité*, *La lugubre gondola*, *Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen* and *Aprés une lecture du Dante* and Claude Debussy's *Reflets dans l'eau*. The program covered a wide range of stylistic means peculiar to the selected composers, highlighted through the performer's fine connection with his audience.



The young pianist gave a unique performance in which technique, intertwined with feeling, merged with the audience's need to get engaged in a dialogue of emotions.

Fulvia Anca Constantin,
Musical Centre Expert

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THE FIRST GRADUATING CLASS OF THE UNIVERSITY'S KINDERGARTEN



In 2015, *Transilvania* University initiated the University Kindergarten project targeted at the children of both staff and students. The curriculum was designed to meet the educational requirements and the developmental needs, in accordance with the standards of the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Pre-University Education.

Structured on an eight-hour school day basis, the kindergarten schedule was carefully coordinated by specialized personnel consisting of two teachers,

two caretakers, assisted in the process by parents and grandparents.



The little learners did their best throughout the year and won several prizes in extracurricular contests organized within the framework of educational partnerships. Hence their joy on this exceptional graduation event.

Dr. Ecaterina Unianu

■ CUPRINS