

BUANEWS

Balkan Universities Association E-Bulletin

June 2017 / 8





Balkan Universities Association

90 YEARS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

ARISTOTLE
UNIVERSITY OF
THESSALONIKI

Eleftherios Venizelos, a legendary statesman of Modern Greek history, envisioned a university in Thessaloniki at a time when northern Greece had just been liberated, in order to support the local communities and economy.

In 1926, the first academic unit, the Faculty of Philosophy, opens its doors to the first students of the new University of Thessaloniki. After the Second World War and the Civil War, the University grows rapidly into a

campus developed following international urban planning standards. Today, the University operates in more than 450,000 m² of building facilities.

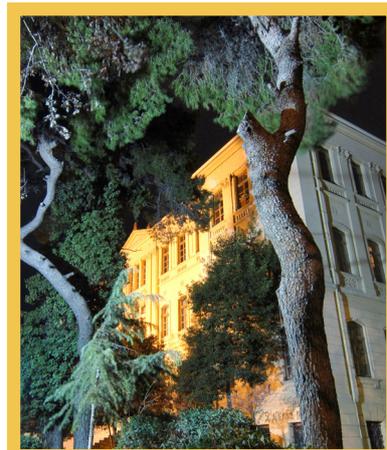
During its first 90+ years, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) has grown into one of the finest teaching and research universities in the world. With more than 70,000 students in 41 Departments, it is the largest and the most multi-thematic university of Greece and one of the largest of its kind in Europe.

AUTH actively promotes interdisciplinarity, research and innovation, in a fertile academic environment. AUTH strives for excellence and continuous improvement in all fields of its activities and fosters a strong program of funded research, while at the same time providing access to a large variety of cultural and recreational facilities including a summer camp by the sea.

Through the Erasmus mobility program and its partnerships with hundreds of universities around the globe, AUTH offers

a wide range of international experiences to its students. Our students and faculty regularly achieve distinctions at national and international level for their academic and research performance. Our alumni excel in Greece and abroad, either when pursuing further studies in the best Universities or when working for major companies and organizations all over the world.

With its main campus in the heart of Thessaloniki, a lively, vibrant, multi-cultural city at the crossroads of civilizations over the millennia, AUTH offers an exciting everyday student life!



Rectorate Authorities

Pericles A. Mitkas

Rector

*Professor at the School of
Electrical and Computer Engineering,
Faculty of Engineering*

Theodoros L. Laopoulos

Vice Rector for Research & Coordination

*Professor at the School of Physics,
Faculty of Sciences*

Paraskevi K. Argyropoulou-Pataka

Vice Rector for Human Resources

*Professor at the School of Medicine
Faculty of Health Sciences*

Despoina I. Klavanidou

Vice Rector for Planning & Development

*Professor at the School of Law,
Faculty of Law*

Ariadni Stogiannidou

Vice Rector for Academic & Student Affairs

*Professor at the School of Psychology
Faculty of Philosophy*

Nikolaos Ch. Varsakelis

Vice Rector for Finance

*Associate Professor at the School of Economics
Faculty of Economic and Political Sciences*



Aristotle University of Thessaloniki was established as a city university and has grown into the largest university in Greece and a leading research institute ranked in the top 200 universities in Europe.

IN VISION UNIVERSITY ORGANIZED “BI DOLU MEDYA” SHOW



International VISION University in co-organization with Cevahir Holding, hosted “BI DOLU MEDYA” show which was prepared by TGRT (Turkish Television Chanel) news speaker Mehmet AYDIN, and by the famous DJ of TRT FM known as “Hop Dedik” AYHAN.

Among the guests of the show were Okan KARACAN, Oğuz Altuğ DEMİREL and Niyazi HANCI, and they showed pleasant moments to the participants.

Gostivar citizens also participated, following the famous Turkish song “Bir Başkadır Benim Memleketim”, and the ceremony continued with the awarded plaques by the management of International VISION University to the Eser CEVAHİR, Board Member of Cevahir Holding, TGRT news speaker Mehmet AYDIN, TRT FM’s famous DJ Ayhan GÜNGÖR and Okan KARACAN for their contribution.



INTERNATIONAL VISION UNIVERSITY LAUNCHED THE SECOND BLOOD DONATION CAMPAIGN



Within the scope of International VISION University and Macedonian Red Cross cooperation, the 2nd Blood Donation Campaign activity was held on 23th of March, 2017 at International VISION University campus.

To the blood donation which organized under the “Blood Saves Life” Slogan, beside the students was also participated the Rector and Vice Rectors of International VISION University.

AT VISION UNIVERSITY WAS HELD A CONFERENCE IN THE TITLE “ADMINISTRATIVE JUDICIARY IN TURKEY”



Based on the cooperation agreements of International VISION University with the various institutions and organizations from Republic of Turkey, Head of the First Chamber of Presidency of the Council of State in Republic of Turkey Dear İlyas ARLI, the Member of the First Chamber of the Council of State, Dear İbrahim ER, Ministry of Interior, General Director of Civil Registration and Citizenship of Republic of Turkey, Hüseyin Engin SARIİBRAHİM, were the speaker participant in the conference that hold at International VISION University.



To the conference that was organized in the ceremonial hall of International VISION University, besides the Minister of the government of Republic of Macedonia and Head of the Turkish Democratic Party (TDP), Dr. Beycan İLYAS, Vice Rector of the Uludağ University from Republic of Turkey, Prof. Mehmet YÜCE, PhD, Turkish Television (TRT) representative in Republic of Macedonia, Dear Bekim MUHTAREVIÇ, Dear Bedri NUREDDİN from the National Education Inspectorate in Republic of Macedonia, was also participated the Rector, Vice Rectors, Deans, Academic Staff and large number of the students of International VISION University.

INTERNATIONAL VISION UNIVERSITY AT “OTHELLO” PLAY

Due to the 27th March of World Theaters Day, the OTELLO play that was exhibited for the fourth time in the Skopje Turkish Theater, on 28th of March 2017 was specifically exhibited for the International VISION University students.

Among the audience, International VISION University Rector Prof. Fadil HOCA, PhD; Vice Rector Assoc. Prof. Mensur NUREDİN, PhD; Head of the Şar Vardar Association, Mefail RECEP; International VISION University Secretary General, Dr. Vesna POPOSKA; Head of the Student Affairs, Nuri MAZLAM and Head of the Skopje Turkish Theater Dear Atilla KLİNCE was also took a part.

The OTELLO play, where theater lovers participated, was highly appreciated by the students of International VISION University and applauded for a long time.



ITU AND TAI SIGN OFF ON THE NATIONAL VERY LIGHT AIRCRAFT



ITU and Turkish Aerospace Industries Inc. (TAI), in cooperation, have green-lighted the first “very light aircraft” to be produced domestically. The aircraft, referred to as Very-Light Aircraft (VLA) will be developed and designed by ITU’s students in Turkey. According to the protocol, production of the aircraft will be undertaken by TAI.

With this protocol, ITU’s students will design and develop a two-person prototype airplane in the VLA category. The production, assembly, integration and testing activities of the aircraft will be completed by TAI with participation by students. It is reported that the design work of the project which will start this month will last one year and that the entire project will be completed within 24 months.

Prof. Mehmet Karaca: “An important contribution from ITU students to the study of national airplanes.”

Speaking at the ceremony, considered the first important step of this collaboration, Rector of ITU, Prof. Dr. Mehmet Karaca, emphasized that the ceremony was a historical moment, saying that the people that our university has cultivated will play a role in making the domestic aircraft in the future.



Stating that this is one of the best examples of the university-industry cooperation, Karaca added that the project to be run by ITU students and advisor academics is a source of pride for the university. He said that ITU, owing to its being a pioneer in engineering education, will provide the technical infrastructure of the project (know-how); the Rector who emphasized that the project will be produced entirely by our students and engineers at ITU, also stated that this type of cooperation is also in line with the university’s mission. He also underlined that ITU is the right address for this job.”

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Temel Kotil: “This start was destined for ITU”

TAI General Manager Assoc. Prof. Dr. Temel Kotil expressed his happiness with this project thanks to ITU. He stated that that when project is completed, the aim will be that the aircraft will be awarded a European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) certificate, and that two people will be able to safely fly in it, creating commercial value.

ITU HOSTS POLAR SCIENCE PROGRAM WORKSHOP



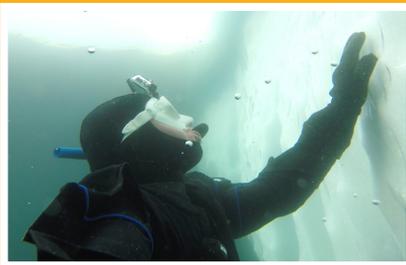
The Arctic and Antarctic Science Program Workshop was held to evaluate the polar research carried out in Turkey by experts on the subject and those who participated in studies related to the field. At the event held at Ayazağa Campus, April 12-13, researchers who participated in the Antarctic expedition talked about the studies and experiences gained in the region.

Rector of ITU, Prof. Mehmet Karaca: "We must think globally and act globally."

Rector of ITU, Prof. Dr. Mehmet Karaca recalled that ITU PolReC is the first and only polar research center from our country that conducts scientific studies in Antarctica and Turkey was proud of the studies conducted there. He summarized his view with the following: "We can refer to Antarctica as the world's 'refrigerator', which is why it is extremely valuable in terms of climate characteristics and underground resources. Of the world's greatest water potentials, about 60 countries are working on scientific research there and as Turkey, we should also be there. Science is universal, it cannot be local. In this direction, we are signing projects in accordance with the mission of our university. When we look at it from this point of view, we have to think globally and act globally in this kind of research."

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Burcu Özsoy: "We will contribute to both to our country and to the world of science"

Speaking at the workshop, Turkish Antarctic Expedition Team (TAE) Leader and ITU Maritime Faculty member Assoc. Prof. Burcu Özsoy emphasized that the studies they have done for a month on the continent are an infrastructure preparation for the science base that Turkey will establish in the future.



ITU SETS QUALITY IN TEXTILES

In Turkey, one of the most important players in the world's textile industry, the Istanbul Technical University Textile and Apparel Quality Control Laboratory, having successfully completed the Turkish Accreditation Agency (TÜRKAK)'s tests, has cemented the quality of service for university-industry cooperation and scientific-industrial R&D processes by raising the bar with its analysis and research.

The laboratory which is the most comprehensive university laboratory in Turkey's textile sector, supports the research activities of textile and ready-to-wear companies, determining quality in textiles with their studies.

The laboratory established using the advanced technology of ITU, one of Turkey's most rooted universities, can conduct research and testing in more than 60 categories. The Advisor to the Rector Responsible for ITU Laboratories, Dr. Emel Önder Karaoğlu stated "Our laboratory, as a unit of the Textile Engineering Department, has over 30 years of experience providing industrial services to meet the demands of government agencies and private sector organizations."



A perfect score from the Turkish Accreditation Agency

She continued "We applied to the Turkish Accreditation Agency (TÜRKAK) and we were successful with all 33 test methods. Our laboratory accreditation is the most comprehensive among the university laboratories in the field of textile testing in Turkey, according to the TSE/ISO 17025 standard. Thus, the quality of the services provided to either public institutions or to the textile and apparel sector.

Providing information about the analyses conducted in

the laboratory, Prof. Dr. Emel Önder Karaoğlu said that they are able to carry out about 60 tests according to the methods defined in national standards such as TSE and international standards like ASTM. In addition, it is possible to characterize structural, superficial, thermal and thermo-mechanical material properties at the molecular scale with instrument systems such as FTIR, UV Spectrophotometer, Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) and Dynamic Mechanical Analysis DMA.



A BRIEF INFORMATION ABOUT KIRKLARELI AND KIRKLARELI UNIVERSITY



Located in the northernmost point of Turkey, Kırklareli is Turkey's gateway to the West, bordering Bulgaria with its fertile soil and industrial organisations. Kırklareli has an important potential because it is located on the European highway which links European countries to Turkey, it is neighbour of Turkey's

cultural and economic metropolis, Istanbul and there are daily bus services to the Balkan countries. It is a secure, peaceful and calm city with its cosmopolitan and tolerant population structure, which is composed of predominantly Balkan immigrants.

Founded in 2007, Kırklareli University is one of the youngest and dynamic universities of our country with its 7 faculties, 3 institutes, 3 schools, 7 vocational schools and 14 research and application centres.

The University in numbers:

- 27.000 students
- 600 foreign students
- Foreign students from 25 different countries
- 800 academic personnel
- 500 administrative personnel

Website: www.klu.edu.tr

Email: international@klu.edu.tr



"TURKISH EDUCATION DAYS" IN THESSALONIKI

Our University has participated "Turkish Education Days" between 10-14 May 2017, which is organised by Thessaloniki Turkish Consulate as part of the 14th Thessaloniki Book Fair. Turkish universities, including Kırklareli University, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Trakya University, Istanbul University and Namık Kemal University have found the opportunity to promote their academic programs and social - cultural facilities.

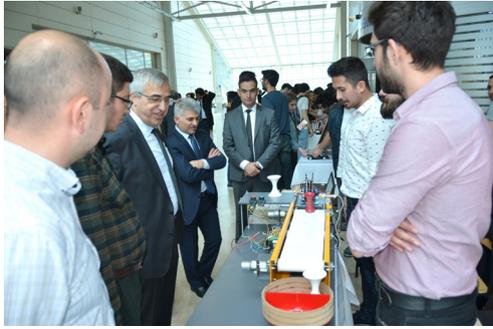
Turkey's Thessaloniki Consul General Orhan Yalman OKAN hosted a reception in honor of University rectors and accompanying committees, on 10 May 2017 and held a press conference the next day. Consul General emphasized

importance of investment in education and referred it as "smokeless industry". He also underlined the necessity of improved relations between Turkey and Greece on every possible ground.

Rector of the Kırklareli University, Prof. Dr. Bülent Şengörür pointed out the fact that it's the first activity of the Thrace Universities Union in Thessaloniki and expressed his gladness for general attention received. The event was planned as part of Kırklareli University's long term higher education strategies for internationalisation. It is estimated that roughly 20 thousand people visited the fair.



II. "PROJECT MARKET" OF KIRKLARELI UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICE



Technology Transfer Office of KLU organized its 2nd "Project Market" on 17 May 2017 in order to encourage students, scholars and scientists, to create a project culture and to introduce new ideas. The market, which hosted 38 projects was opened by our Rector Prof. Dr. Bülent ŞENGÖRÜR. The primary objectives of the "Project Market" were to reveal creative project ideas and inventions with high industrial applicability, also sustain research & development and innovation efforts.

In his opening speech, Şengörür stressed the importance of new projects and the added-value they create for turning Kırklareli, Thrace Region and Turkey into a centre of attraction in the context of science, technology and innovation. Our Rector also underlined the significance of continuity of such events: "As Kırklareli University, we are taking firm steps forward. We welcome participation of all our students and scholars in such activities. I strongly believe that the number of projects will increase next year. I thank to all participants and wish them success."

CAREER AND EMPLOYMENT FAIR



The fair was held in Kırklareli University with the collaboration of the Thrace Development Agency and Kırklareli Job-creating Agency on 24 May 2017. As part of the fair, several workshops and panels were performed

with the intent of bringing together employers, professionals and students. Private sector firms, public sector and non-governmental organization representatives participated in the fair. The aim of the event was to introduce

career opportunities to students and also to inspire them to achieve their potential via panel sessions by a variety of experts.

**Medical University
of Plovdiv****BG PLOVDIV02**<http://mu-plovdiv.bg/en/>**DEDICATED TO
HUMANITY**

only Bulgarian university named "Best University" by Europe Business Assembly (2013). The University holds International Quality Certificate ISO:9001-2008 in educational activities. As of 2017, the number of university hospitals has grown to 5: University Hospital St. George, UH Plovdiv, UH Kaspela, UH Pulmed, and UH Evrohospital.

One of the first universities in the country, Medical University - Plovdiv is situated in the second largest city in Bulgaria, Plovdiv, which is also the oldest living city in Europe and Culture capital of Europe for 2019. Medical University-Plovdiv is a state university, comprised of Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Faculty of Public Health, Medical College and a Department of Language and Specialized Training.

Medical University-Plovdiv is the

Department of International Relations and Project Activity

Plovdiv 4000, Bulgaria

15A Vasil Aprilov Blvd.

Prof. Mariana Murdjeva, MD, PhD, MHM

Vice Rector for International Relations and Project

Activity 00359 32 602321

vicer_ms@meduniversity-plovdiv.bg<http://mu-plovdiv.bg/en/><http://mu-plovdiv.bg/za-nas/razgledai-mu-plovdiv/videoklipove/><http://mu-plovdiv.bg/mezhdunarodno-satrudnichestvo/struktura-sastav-mspd/><http://mu-plovdiv.bg/en/erasmus/general-information/>

With on its low student-to-faculty ratio of 7 to 1 (almost 800 university teachers training more than 5000 students), Medical University-Plovdiv offers first-rate education to:

- **703 students in Professional Bachelor's Programs (of which 50 foreign students)**
- **522 students in Bachelor's Programs**
- **3868 students in Master's Programs (of which 1477 foreign students)**
- **112 PhD students (of which 4 foreign students)**

Undergraduate programs**Professional Bachelor's Degree programs:**

Public Health Inspector

Assistant Pharmacist

Medical Laboratory Technician

Physiotherapist

X-Ray Laboratory Technician

Dental Technician

Instructor in Nutrition and Food Safety

Medical Cosmetics

Bachelor's Degree programs:

Nursing

Midwifery

Healthcare Management

Graduate and Postgraduate Programs**Master's Degree programs:**

Medicine

Dental Medicine

Pharmacy

Healthcare Management

Social Activities and Public Health Management

Public Health and Healthcare Management

Rehabilitation, Wellness, and SPA Treatment

PhD Programs and Post Graduate Specializations in all specialties offered by the University

Multiple Continuing Education courses



The largest Simulation Training Center in Bulgaria, inaugurated in 2017

<http://mu-plovdiv.bg/za-nas/tsentrove/simulatsionen-tsentar/obshta-informatsiya-simulatsionen/>

A one-of-its-kind in Bulgaria Technology Center for Emergency Medicine, opened in 2015

tcemed.net/запоекта/структура.html

Research Complex for Translational Neuroscience with latest equipment services launched in 2013

<http://mu-plovdiv.bg/za-nas/tsentrove/kompleks-translatsionna-nevrounauka/>

UNIVERSITY OF PRISHTINA



University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" is a public institution and the largest in the country in the provision of higher education. As such, UP is responsible for the proper state and civic education of youth of the Republic of Kosovo to prepare them as useful and worthy citizens of the country.

UP's role since its establishment until today, has been and is a source of intellectual, political, economic, and social progress of the country and our society. UP has been leading the most leading processes for Kosovo which, despite the challenges has survived wild time, was committed to the education of new generations for a better future for all.

Even today, when in the country have increased higher

education institutions, whether public or private, UP remains as the first institution more credible and attractive for youth of Kosovo for learning knowledge. This fact not only does the institution of UP favorite for young Kosovars, but also adds its responsibilities and obligations of the institution to provide quality services to fulfill the requirements of students and society in general. The large number of students and the study programs that UP offers, market needs for qualified people to increase its responsibilities and challenges for continuous development to keep pace and meet the needs of the Kosovar economy.

UP in recent years has worked uninterruptedly to strengthen and expand the institution following the steps of the development of higher education in Europe and the US. UP has been the leading institution in the region in the adaptation of study programs according to the Bologna system and the application of ECTS in all programs.



The Eight Strategic Areas of Focus and Strategic Initiatives

Eight strategic areas are identified in the plan below. Each strategic area is divided into strategic initiatives with objectives, tasks/activities, measures, timeline, responsible staff, and resources needed to accomplish the initiative. The listing of strategic initiatives provides the UP with focus areas for the next three years. The list is a set of priorities and should be considered as the areas of institutional focus, but progress and the focus should be reviewed based upon the measures (also known as indicators) and a periodic formal review process of the plan at least twice a year. The strategic initiatives listed were drawn with the intent that each would be discreet (not overlap), but in a complex organizational plan, some of the initiatives may overlap.

- 1) Teaching, Research, and Service
- 2) Accreditation and Quality Control
- 3) Market-Driven Degrees
- 4) Human Resources Development
- 5) System Development
- 6) Fiscal Accountability and Improvement of Financial Data
- 7) Infrastructure Development
- 8) Globalization/Internationalization

Republika e Kosovës
 Phone: +381 38 244 183 /244 186
 Fax : +381 38 244 187
 Email : rektorati@uni-pr.edu

For more information regarding the University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina" you can find at the webpage of University: www.uni-pr.edu and Face-book page: <https://www.facebook.com/UniversitetiPrishtines/>

ALBANIAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES ORGANIZED THE CULTURAL MANIFESTATION “THE THREE-ARCHED BRIDGE”

At the University of Tetova was organized the annual cultural activity “The Three-Arched Bridge”, which is a joint project of the University of Tetova, the University of Prishtina and the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Tirana. According to the organizers “The Three-Arched Bridge” has become a challenge for the students of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the three Albanian universities, in witnessing the talent and expressing their vision of art. But there is an opportunity also for exchange of ideas and practical interaction, not just for students but for professors also and why not for the public.

At the opening ceremony of the cultural activity “The Three-Arched Bridge”, present were many personalities of the field of art from the country, Kosovo and Albania, among whom the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, Ambassador of Albania in our country, his Excellency, Fatos Reka, State Secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Behixhudin Shehabi, deans, senators, professors and students.

The organization of this cultural project was preceded by a joint press conference of the three Deans of the Faculties of Arts. The Dean of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Miftar Memeti, said that this event also facilitates the overcoming of national artistic barriers. “Students of our universities come with the best works from various artistic fields, including: music, stage and fine art, by performing together at concerts, theatrical performances, film shows and exhibitions. This cultural

event, by joining all together in one place, facilitates the overcoming of artistic barriers within the nation. With the overwhelming desire of the students to finalize the experiment of their works, which bring us different experiences and stories from the places where they come from, said



Prof. Dr. Miftar Memeti.

The Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Arts in Tirana, Prof. Dr. Isak Shehu, said that this activity has already established a good tradition and for 16 years there have been mutual cooperation's and the same will continue in the future and will be even more productive". It is my pleasure to be one of the initiators of this project, a project that has started 16 years ago. Our cooperation has been very good in all areas, including the exchange of students among them, over the years we have maintained contacts and certainly this project has long life and will be fruitful for every generation", said Prof. Dr. Isak Shehu.

Whereas, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Prishtina, Prof. Dr. Agim Selimi, emphasized that “The Three-Arched Bridge” is one of the highly liked festivals by the students of our three universities. This festival has a tradition that should not be forgotten.

In these gatherings students have the opportunity to exhibit their works, performances, films, and many other activities. It is the most meaningful gathering and this cooperation needs to grow even more in the future, in order to share experiences throughout the Albanian premises”, added Prof. Dr. Agim Selimi.

In the wake of this activity, in the lobby of the Rectorate was opened the exhibition with various works of students and professors from three universities. Professor Jëlldëz Asani said that the exhibition as a whole proves that these students have a special courage to concretize their knowledge through various artistic media,

promising a continuation in their creative work. It should be mentioned that in Prishtina school dominates the traditional expressionism with conceptual tendencies, in Tetovo school prevails the spirit of photorealism, while this time Tirana is present more through drawings and video installations. Video installations, however, enrich the premises with new contents and meaning, by modifying the perceptive experience of the observer through artistic intervention in a concrete premise”, said Professor Jëlldëz Asani.

The exhibition was welcomed also by the Ambassador of Albania, his Excellency, Fatos Reka, praised the project "The Three-Arched Bridge" as a very good example of nationwide cooperation. "It is a special privilege for me today to attend in a ceremony of inauguration of the already consolidated project titled "The Three-Arched Bridge", that under the auspices of the Rector of the UT, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti, is continuing successfully. This is a very significant project because it connects three universities, the

University of Tetova, the University of Prishtina and the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Tirana, As well creates the opportunity to exchange ideas, opinions, joint projects for the benefit of all Albanian-speaking regions. I wish success to the exhibition, as well as to all activities that will be realized within the project titled "The Three-Arched Bridge", said the Ambassador of Albania, his Excellency, Fatos Reka.

In the lobby of the Rectorate was held a concert of instrumental music by the students of the Study Programs of Music

from all three Albanian universities. "The Three-Arched Bridge", continues to function as a perfect ambassador which conveys a whole new image for the art faculties of the three Albanian public universities in the cultural spectrum and at the same time is a valuable contribution that enriches the field of artistic - aesthetic thought, by offering to the new creators and art lovers a wide space of recognition and appreciation.



UNIVERSITY OF TETOVA CONFERRED THE TITLE OF DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA UPON PROF. DR. LISA FREEMAN AND PROF. DR. DAVID L. PHILIPS

With a solemn academy organized by the University of Tetova, on May 31, 2017, Executive Vice President and Provost of Northern Illinois University, Prof. Dr. Lisa C. Freeman and Director of Peace-building Program and Human Rights of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights of the University of Columbia, were awarded the highest scientific title, Doctor Honoris Causa.

The academy was declared open by the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti. In his address to the audience, he said that University of Tetova awards this prize for renowned personalities, who mark extraordinary achievements by giving their incomparable contribution for the advancement of science in general and protecting the principles of universal rights and freedoms. "University of Tetova, beside the generous

intellectual engagement and the support of the people of this country, is a result of earlier commitment of the United States, to serve the justice, that Albanians in Macedonia can be educated in their native language and not to remain in the darkness imposed by the various regimes over the centuries, but to take their own destiny in their hands and to walk toward the knowledge, world civilization and democracy. Sound policy vision of the US toward Albanians has always resulted in a par excellence vision, which has brought fundamental changes in our societies, so we as a people are in debt to the US and we have a moral obligation, by referring to our ancient traditions, to consider them our soul friends. Without US engagement, our existence today would have been questioned, University of Tetova

would not have undergone this rapid development, our people would not enjoy its freedom, democracy would be only an abstract notion, while the gap and social imbalance would have unimaginable proportions. Today, we do not honor only two prominent figures of American society, but we express our deep gratitude to a friendly nation, to the permanent political engagement of US governments for the benefit of Albanian education and our national cause. University of Tetova will never forget 1994, when at the head of the demonstrations, in support of the founding Rector, Prof. Dr. Fadil Sulejmani for the Albanian Education in Tetovo was the Congressman Joseph DioGuardi with his wife", said the Rector, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti.



He also added that the University of Tetova will never forget the valuable contribution of American congressmen and diplomats like, Bob Dole, Eliot Engel, Marshall Harris, Richard Holbrooke, Madeleine Albright, James W. Pardew etc., for tireless engagement and their constant lobbying in the actualization of the Albanian issue globally. University of Tetova will never forget the US decisiveness and intervention with its allies in preventing genocide and bringing the freedom to Kosovo. University of Tetova will never forget the engagement of the American politics in preventing the 2001 conflict in Macedonia, which could have had catastrophic consequences for all of us, and the continuing commitment so far, for amortization of interethnic relations and overcoming the recent political crisis in the country, which could have serious consequences for our well-being. Two personalities that we pronounce today for Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Tetova are distinguished for their political and

social commitment, as well as for their scientific contribution with global proportions. Professor David L. Phillips is already known for the public in the Balkan region. For more than three decades, he is dealing intensively with the Albanian cause and his contribution will remain irreplaceable in the history of the Albanian people. Except as a diplomat and lobbyist, he has contributed in the actualization of the Albanian issue as an academician. To the world and Albanian historiography he has brought a voluminous book titled "Liberating Kosovo" published a year ago by the University of Tetova, in which he throw light on the truth of the Albanian nation for freedom and independence. Prof. Dr. Lisa C. Freeman is Executive Vice President and Provost of Northern Illinois University (NIU) and a prominent activist for the rights of communities, where the Albanian community is in large numbers in the State of Illinois. Due to her engagement, today the University of Tetova has a strong partner in the

US and the corpus of inter-university cooperation encompasses almost all areas: Institutionalized scientific research, joint scientific conferences, exchange of academic and student staff and we are in the process of preparing joint study programs. Our idea to establish a Center for Peace and Trans-cultural Communication, to be more closer to the community, both here and in the state of Illinois has been strongly supported by Professor Freeman and her team and we are already seeing the first outcomes: This year was held the first conference in Tetovo, which gathered renown researchers in this area from Macedonia, the region and the US, whereas on November 2, the next conference will be held in Chicago, whereby one of the main speakers of the conference will be Ambassador James Perdue, honorary member of the academic community of the University of Tetova", said the Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti.

AT UT STARTED ITS PROCEEDINGS THE "SPECIAL STUDY WEEK"

At the University of Tetova, today took place the opening ceremony of the event titled "Special Study Week". This activity is realized by the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Tetova, in cooperation with the Association "Arsimi" from Switzerland.

The Rector of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti said that, our university remains committed in the realization of different projects of educational and scientific character. "I am pleased on behalf of the University of Tetova to greet and wish you welcome in the starting of proceedings of the event titled "Special Study Week" organized by our University, respectively by the Faculty of Philosophy and Association "Arsimi" from Switzerland. University of Tetova remains committed in the realization



of initiatives and projects of education and research interest, including this particularly important project for students and professors, which we believe that will serve in the affirmation of the everyday work and the mission of our teachers, moreover when it coincides with the realization of the Teacher's Day anniversary. In our time, science has fulfilled its duty, it has marked unimaginable successes, by strongly influencing the social developments, like economic, cultural, technical and technological prosperity. However, education and scientific research as universal values of humanity, unfortunately have not progressed with same pace, as in the developed Western countries", said Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti.



He further stated that the education system in these areas, still needs progress and advancement of educational process at all levels, starting from primary education up to the university one. "Special study week", whose proceedings will take place in the premises of our University,

in its program will address these important issues, it will discuss about contemporary teaching experiences, for the most advanced ideas and methods of education and upbringing. Having into the consideration that the exchange of experiences and scientific achievements is one of the best methods for the advancement of educational process, we approached to this project and we hope to fulfill its objectives. We are confident that in this way the new generations will be trained, i.e. will be prepared for the application of their knowledge in relevant areas, at the level of international standards", said among others, Rector of UT, Prof. Dr. Vullnet Ameti.

The Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Tetova, Prof. Dr. Fatbi Osmani, said that the uniqueness of this week is that in this week students will work differently from other days and usual activities. "The objectives of this week are special for the following reasons: students expand their theoretical knowledge and enrich their learning methods; be able to be critical to themselves (what can I do for myself and for others); to revise norms and values, attitudes and personal worldviews; to understand the teacher-educator profession: review of pedagogical attitude and professional sense; analyze and ascertain competencies achieved during the study; the formation and development of the vision for education; which is the leitmotif and identification card of Teacher-Educator; and publication of the book "Young teacher of the 21st century", said Prof. Dr. Fatbi Osmani.



President of the Association "Arsimi" from Switzerland, Professor Mahir Mustafa, before the participants presented the program to be realized within the activity "Special study week". He said that within this week the students will have the opportunity to do researches, studies and different activities and all achieved results will be presented at the end of the week, where according to him in the presentation of the results achieved from "Special study week", are expected to attend this presentation the three Ministers of Education, that of the Republic of Albania, Republic of Kosovo and the Republic of Macedonia.

"Special study week", will be concluded with a scientific debate on the topic of "School and education in the 21st century" where are expected to discuss eminent names in this field, among them three ministers of Education and Science.

TRAKYA UNIVERSITY VISITED UNIVERSITIES IN ROMANIA



The Vice-Rector of Trakya University, Prof. Dr. Cem Uzun and Coordinator of International Relations Office, Assoc.Prof. Murat Türkyılmaz visited Craiova University, The West University, "Victor Babes" Medicine and Pharmacy University, Targu Mureş Petru Maior University, Babeş-Bolyai University, ve Braşov Transilvania University in Romania on May 16th-20th, 2017.

They met with the Vice Rector of Craiova University Prof. Dr. Nicolae Panea; Vice Rector of the West University Prof. Dr. Dana Petcu; Rector of Timisoara "Victor Babes" Medicine and Pharmacy University Prof. Dr. Marius Raica; Rector of Targu Mureş Petru Maior University Prof. Dr. Calin Enachescu and Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Liviu Moldovan; Vice-Rector of Babeş-Bolyai University Prof. Dr. Markon Balint and International Relations Coordinator of Brasov Transilvania University Dr. Corina

Silvia Micu. They also visited the Ambassador of Turkey in Bucharest, O.Koray Ertaş. They also informed the University representatives about bilateral agreements, Erasmus+, Mevlana Exchange program, Balkan Universities Association and scholarship opportunities in Turkey and introduced Trakya University. Joint research programs, projects and the importance of Balkan Universities Association were discussed. Turkology Institute at Babes-Bolyai University was visited and Dr Margareta Aslan told that Turkology Institute was founded in 2010 and more than 500 students have studied Turkish until now and they have 25 students now. It was also told that international students organize festivals every year and introduce Turkish clothes and food in these festivals.



3RD MEETING OF BALKAN UNIVERSITES ASSOCIATION WAS HELD



3rd Meeting of Balkan Universities Association was held on March 24th-25th, 2017 at Sofia St. Kliment Ohridski University with the participation of 34 universities from 7 countries. Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu, Rector of Trakya University, Exp. Nurgül Sarsılmaz ve Exp. Yaşagül Ekinci highlighted the financial resources which Turkey offers for international students and academicians, under three headings. Under the title of education, " Turkey Scholarships " and "Study in Turkey " programs were introduced and the opportunities offered by Mevlana, Farabi Exchange programs and Yunus Emre Institute for foreign academicians and students were emphasized. Especially TUBITAK's programs were told about supports provided for "Research". It was emphasized that thanks to "bilateral and multilateral

cooperation", about financial resources which could be received from abroad, academics world in Balkans could benefit from the research centers, institutes, joint projects of departments with UN, UNESCO, UNDP and government scholarships

Prof. Dr. Cem UZUN made a presentation titled "Suggestions for the Future Activities of Balkan University Union", in which he discussed 20 years of personal and association experience based on science, friendship and peace that they had established in the branch of Ear Nose Throat in Balkans. Our Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Cem UZUN, who summarized the activities performed in Balkan Society of Otorhinolaryngology, stated that his own examples would be a good example to plan future activities for Balkan University Union, and in this sense he offered concrete

suggestions. In particular, he suggested Balkan rectors to organize platforms which would bring together academics and students from Balkan Universities, and to do the official registration of the union in order to increase the international power.

Trakya University was unanimously accepted to be the permanent Executive Member of BUA as well as being a permanent secretariat. Furthermore, Varna Free University from Bulgaria, Alexander Technological University of Thessaloniki from Greece and UBT-University of Business and Technology from Kosovo were unanimously accepted to be a member of BUA. The 4th meeting of BUA will be held at University of Tetova in 2017 and the 5th Annual Meeting of BUA will be at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in 2018.



WESTERN THRACE NIGHT AT TRAKYA UNIVERSITY

International Relations Office of Trakya University held "Western Thrace Night" on May 5th, 2017 at Balkan Congress Centre. Turkish Women's Clothing from Past to Present in Western Thrace, handicrafts and photography exhibition were presented to the participants. Rector of Trakya University Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu, Vice-Rector Prof. Dr. Cem Uzun, Chief Consul of Komotini Ali Rıza Akıncı, President of Friendship, Equality Peace (FEP) Party Mustafa Ali Cavus, Deans, Institute Managers, Western Thrace Turks Cultural Solidarity Association Representative Kubilay Haliloğlu, academic staff, students and art-lovers attended the night.

Kubilay Haliloğlu told that Western Thrace Turks who always protected their culture and heritage from past to present tend towards Turkey, especially Edirne on education. 748 Western Thracian students study at Trakya University now. Chief Consul of Komotini Ali Rıza Akıncı enlightened the participants about the social, economic and international relations of Western Thracian Turks in his opening speech.

Rector Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu told that Edirne is a sacred city and Ottoman Empire made it the capital of the Empire as soon as they arrived in there. It is a city where a civilization and Balkan Empire was created and Ottoman dynasty brought up. Turkey and Balkan countries laugh and cry for the same things that mean we resemble one another. We would like to tell you that we are here for you, for peace and believe that our friendship will contribute to you. As Trakya University, we would like to increase education quality and be beneficial for Western Thrace. In fact, Edirne looks onto Balkans and it firstly comes across with the Balkan countries, then Europe and the world. Western Thrace is a kind of our body; thus, we cannot separate ourselves from them. As Trakya University, we should make a plan and find ways to contribute Balkans. I prefer to use "guest student" rather than the term of foreign student since I consider them as our students. As a son of a Balkan immigrant family, I am indebted to you since you guard our mosques and graves. Thus, We are ready to do what you demand".



“UNTOUCHED FOLK SONGS FROM BALKANS” CONCERT BY MUAMMER KETENCOĞLU & BALKAN JOURNEY



“Untouched folk songs from Balkans” by Muammer Ketencoglu & Balkan Journey was held at Balkan Congress Centre on May 2nd, 2017 within the scope of Culture, Art and Sports Festival of Trakya University. The President of Administrative Court, Yaşar Erdem; Rector Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu; Vice-Rectors Prof. Dr.

Osman Nuri Hatipoğlu, Prof. Dr. Cem Uzun, Prof. Dr. Mümin Şahin, academic staff and art-lovers attended the concert.

Muammer Ketencoglu and his group performed the typical and loved songs of Balkans in the concert. The spectators set out on a journey to Balkan with the folk songs from Bosnia Herzegovina,

Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Kosovo and Macedonia. At the end of the concert our Rector Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu and Vice-Rector Prof. Dr. Cem Uzun gave a present to Muammer Ketencoglu in memory of the day. Our Rector also expressed his appreciation to host a folk singer at Trakya University.

AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF GJIROKASTRA AND UNIVERSITY OF MACERATA (ITALY)

On April 8, 2017 University of Gjirokastra renewed its Agreement of Cooperation with University of Macerata (Italy). The collaboration dates back to 2005; there was held the first meeting with the archaeological mission of University of Macerata. The results were immediate, with the involvement of students and professors in excavations carried out in Hadrianopolis, Gjirokastra and Urbisaglia (Italy). The results were encouraging, thus both institutions took the initiative and signed the

framework agreement in 2006, renewed in 2009 and 2014.

In collaboration with University of Macerata there was also prepared a new Master of Science study program in "Management of archaeological heritage", approved by Ministry of Education and Science in the academic year 2009-2010. A part of the modules in the course are taught by professors from University of Macerata. Thanks to the collaboration, our University was also supplied with a modern lab for restoration.

The new agreement undertakes to make important steps for the two universities, especially for UGJ. For the academic year 2017-2018, both sides have agreed to initiate the procedures so that the Master of Science program in Archeology and Administration of Archaeological Heritage functions as a joint program in the field of cultural heritage, in order to give the possibility to students to take a semester at the partner university.



SCIENTIFIC SESSION "THE CONTRIBUTION OF PROF. THOMA DHIMA IN ALBANIAN LINGUISTICS"

On the 65th anniversary of Prof. Thoma Dhima, Department of Albanian Language at "Eqrem Çabej" University, in cooperation with members of other research centers, organized on 25 April 2017 the Scientific Session

"The contribution of Prof. Thoma Dhima in Albanian Linguistics", honoring the memory of the UGJ professor and linguist who passed away few months back.



SEMINAR FROM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TEACHING METHODOLOGIES

Department of Education and Teaching Methodologies in the continuation of scientific research activities organized a Scientific Seminar "Challenge for Quality in Preschool and Primary Education". This seminar was organized in cooperation with Regional Directorate of Education, Gjirokaster, with teachers of 9-grade schools of the region, schools psychologists and lecturers of the Department. The purpose of this seminar was the cooperation in the field of scientific research in education, promotion of research work of primary and pre-school teachers and young lecturers.

The seminar's topics were various and interesting. Inclusion in education as one of the challenges for a better education held a considerable part.

The seminar also reflected the need for the third mission of the university and the university impact in regional development and specifically the impact of the Department of Education and Teaching Methodologies for a better quality in preschool and primary education.



Balkan Universities Association

BUANEWS



Address :

Secretariat of Balkan Universities Association
Trakya University International Relations Office
22030 Balkan Campus
EDİRNE/ TURKEY

Phone : +90 284 213 96 34

Fax : +90 284 223 42 03

e-mail : bua@baunas.org

www.baunas.org



Editor: Exp. Nurgül SARSILMAZ
Design: Yıldray ERCAN