

# BUANEWS

Balkan Universities Association E-Bulletin

July 2015 / 2



**2<sup>ND</sup> BALKAN UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION MEETING  
HOSTED BY TRAKYA UNIVERSITY,  
EDIRNE, TURKEY  
8<sup>TH</sup> - 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2015**



**AT 17<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY EKMEKÇIZADE AHMET PAŞA  
CARAVANSARY**

**» AGENDA «**

- Participation and introduction of the new members.
- Joint activities in the fields; music, archaeology, theatre.
- Round table meetings with thematic groups.
- Strengthening exchange programs: Erasmus +, Mevlana and mobility via protocols.



***Dear BUA Members,***

We are extremely excited and proud to announce the second issue of BUA e-bulletin in July. None of this could have been done without your excitement, support and interest for the edition of the journal. "BUANEWS" prepared together with and involving members' contribution from different Balkan countries provide news and good practice examples from their Universities. It's believed that through this e-bulletin; solutions, recommendations and project results become more visible and eligible.

It's an honour to emphasize that BUA set out for the coordination of scientific network among Balkan Universities for mutual beneficiary on different fields with the representatives from Universities from the Balkans, which provides concrete projects. In the issue of July 2015, we are also happy to announce plans for the 2nd Annual Meeting of Balkan Universities Association, which is going to be held October 8th, 2015. We will have opportunity to have round table meetings with thematic groups and introduction of the members, talk about joint activities in the fields; music, archaeology, theatre and strengthening exchange programs: Erasmus +, Mevlana and mobility via protocols.

Looking forward to carrying out more joint concrete projects in the hope of your support and cooperation.

## THIRD INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL IN MOSTAR

**International Summer School in Mostar is a result of cooperation between Dzemal Bijedic University of Mostar and Buskerud and Vestfold University College from Norway. Third summer school hosted by our Faculty of education was held from May 25 to June 6.**

Students from Norway, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark, Turkey and Spain had a chance to test their knowledge of English language by enjoying the lectures of professor Lars Peter Soltvedt in charge of international human rights class and Arnt Fabru, professor of social entrepreneurship from Norway. International human rights course also had a lecture in sociology of culture held by Merima Jašarević from the Department of sociology of Faculty of education. Every student received letter of verification of course participation and will obtain 7.5. ECTS in the course they attended after they successfully pass the exam. International human rights course included study of basic philosophical ideas and theories that the modern international regime for human right has come to rest upon,

description and analysis of the Universal Declaration of Human rights, analysis of the major human rights conventions and their monitoring mechanisms that has been adapted in the post second world war period. The goal of social entrepreneurship class was to teach every student techniques to analyse and prioritize product functions and to name the quality of the product by correlating functions against market requirements and technical specifications. The team process requires focus on team cultivation and knowledge development through self-studies and tutor guiding.

In total 49 students attended the summer school. Apart from intensive and interactive classes, students had an opportunity to visit the region of Herzegovina and enjoy the summer time in Mostar.



## STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES AT DZEMAL BIJEDIC UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAR

FIT Coding challenge ver. 7 and XI competition of students in market planning are events that enable students to test their theoretical knowledge in practise. By counting solely with their gained knowledge students get to explore the real working environment set by labour market.

The finale of the seventh version of FIT Coding challenge was held at Faculty of information technologies on June 5, 2015. This nationwide competition was opened to all students and high school pupils that wished to challenge their own innovation skills and capacities in the field of programming. They could enter the competition as individuals or in groups comprising of two members. The competition includes three different categories of challenges: programming, innovation and game challenges. Game

challenge task was to create a game for any platform active today. The judges based their decision on originality of the game, its design and gameplay. Innovation Challenge task was to create Windows Phone or Android applications. The best challenge had to show originality and functionality of the application. The contestants of Programming Challenge had to solve 4 problems in C++ programming language in 60 minutes. NSoft and SPARK. business park supported competition. Link for video presentations of project that qualified for finale at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2dH2rssdMKoRy6SGu97klmRaf7Fwk16v>

XI Competition of students in market planning was held from June 4 to June 5 at the Faculty of economy of Dzemal Bijedic University of Mostar. The students of second year of economy had to defend their marketing plans on companies from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Throughout the semester, students were researching and gathering data on assigned companies, which for this year's competition included Face TV, Hercegovina Promet - Citroen, BH Telecom, Unicredit Bank, Radio Television Mostar, New Marketing Solutions, Sparkasse Bank, Hepok and Tavern Taurus. The very event was sponsored by BH-Telecom.



**A CULTURAL BRIDGE IS FOUNDED BETWEEN THE IOANIAN UNIVERSITY AND THE SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY**



*The "6th World Women University Presidents Forum" participant's photograph in China.*

**DAFNI EVANGELATOU RECEIVES AN HONORARY DOCTORATE OF THE IU**



*The Rector of the Ionian University welcomes Professor Dafni Evangelatou to the Institution's 'academic family'.*

On Saturday, the 4th of April 2015, the Ionian University organized the honorary ceremony of Professor Dafni Evangelatou, a ceremony that awarded her with the Ionian University's Honorary Doctorate.

The event took place at the Corfu Reading Society, the first cultural institution of Modern Greece and guardian of the traditions and specific characteristics of the Ionian Islands.

Professor Dafni Evangelatou received a very warm welcome by the Rector of the Ionian University, Professor Anastasia SALI PAPASALI,

The Ionian University, within the framework of cooperation with the Shanghai International Studies University (SISU), paves the way for the first Chinese students.

The cooperation comes as a result of the Ionian University Rector's participation at the "6th World Women University Presidents Forum" in September 2015. Moreover, prof. Anastasia Sali Papasali's visit in China shortly afterwards, as an official member of the Greek Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs' mission, constituted a unique opportunity for promoting a mutual academic

bilateral cooperation and the designing of a strong exchange program for students who wish to delve into the Greek language and ancient culture.

During the current year, six Chinese SISU students are expected to study at the Ionian University, while many additional cooperation agreements with Korean and Japanese Universities are to be signed. In addition, the Japanese Ambassador's visit, which took place at the Ionian Academy in Corfu, reflects the great interest for the creation of a unique cultural bridge of academic excellence.

who expressed her great pleasure for the Ionian University's Music Studies Department initiative to honor such an important personality of international status.

The guest expressed her sincere thanks and gratitude to the Rector and the members of the academic community for the great honor. During the ceremony, Prof. Dafni Evangelatou received the praise from the Music & Audiovisual Arts Faculty's Dean, Professor Charalampos Xanthoudakis, while the Music Studies Department's Deputy President, Associate Professor Efstathios Makris read the Department's official Doctorate decision document.

The Rector of the Ionian University offered the Honorary Doctorate Diploma to Prof. Dafni Evangelatou.

After the end of the event, a musical performance of songs, some of which deriving from Kavafi's poems and Prof. Dafni Evangelatou's father, the musician Antiochos Evangelatos, in French, German and Greek, on behalf of the guest and the pianist Mr Dimitrios Giakas, filled the impressive Corfu Reading Society's room.



*The honored guest, Prof. Dafni Evangelatou*

## AN EXTENDED VISIT OF THE RECTOR, PROF. ANASTASIA SALI PAPASALI

**The Ionian University's extroversion and reflection of its worldwide academic presence promotes new challenging and close cooperation with the Greek community living abroad.**



*The Rector with the Greek delegation at the March 25 Greek Independence Day's celebrations at the 5th Avenue, Manhattan.*

The Rector of the Ionian University, Prof. Anastasia SALI PAPASALI, visited the USA, after the Greek community's formal invitation to participate at the March 25 Greek Independence Day celebration and parade in New York.

During her stay, the Rector had the opportunity to meet not only with a great number of Institutions' representatives, but with His Eminence the Archbishop of America, Demetrios as well, who expressed his kind support for the Ionian University's initiatives.

The foremost priority of the Rector's trip was the creation of a new Academic Seat in the USA concerning the unique history of the Greek community living abroad that could enrich the academic map of Greece.

Prof. Anastasia SALI PAPASALI, in the wider context of academic and cultural cooperation perspectives, met with the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York's President, Mr Petros Galatoulas and the Director of the Queens College's Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies' Center, Mr Christos Ioannides. The Queens College's students, after her speech at the Center, favored her with a small reception ceremony.

In addition to academic meetings, the Rector, as a guest of honor of the Greek community in New York, attended the March 25 Greek Independence Day's celebrations.

Moreover, the Rotary Club of New York, one of the most



*The Rector of the Ionian University and His Eminence the Archbishop of America, Demetrios.*

historical groups in America, established 106 years ago in the United Nations, organized a luncheon in celebration of the Greek Independence Day with the Rector being the guest speaker of the event, an event of absolute success. Important personalities of the Greek community and the corporate and spiritual world attended the great event.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE IOANNINA UNIVERSITY

**For five decades, the University of Ioannina has been committed to the creation and transmission of knowledge, to innovation, and consolidation of cooperations on a regional, local and international level. Since its founding in 1964, the University has become a leading teaching, learning and research institution throughout the country.**



Currently, the University has 15 Departments, attended by 20.295 students. The members of the Teaching staff (Faculty members) are 521. The Special and Laboratory Teaching Staff (Teaching Assistants) has a total of 24 and 71 members form the Special Technical Laboratory Staff. The administrative services of the University are staffed by 274 employees.

The Schools and the Departments of the University of Ioannina are defined as follows:

**School of Philosophy**

- Department of Philology
- Department of Philosophy-Education-Psychology
- Department of History-Archaeology

**School of Sciences**

- Department of Physics
- Department of Chemistry
- Department of Mathematics
- Department of Computer Science and Engineering
- Department of Material Science and Engineering

**School of Health Sciences**

- Department of Medicine
- Department of Biological Applications and Technologies

**School of Education**

Department of Primary School Education

Department of Early Childhood Education

**School of Fine Arts**

Department of Plastic Arts and Arts Sciences

**School of Economics and Social Sciences**

Department of Economics

**School of Architectural**

**Engineering**  
Department of Architectural Engineering

The student organizations and the university facilities (Dining Hall, University Sport (Indoor Gym, Running Track and football grounds), Cultural Centre of Peristera Dourouti Monastery

, University Library and Information Center, Computer Center and Network operation system, International Center of Hellenic of Education- Culture and Vocational Training, University Conference Center "Karolos Papoulias", Center of Career Development & Employment) in combination with the numerous multicultural events guarantee an academically rewarding study at the University of Ioannina.

Our Institution has already been included in the following international rankings: the CWTS Leiden Ranking 2014, U-Multirank, GreenMetric Ranking of World Universities of Universitas Indonesia (UI), National Taiwan University Ranking/NTU Ranking, Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers for World Universities 2014, Webometrics Ranking of World Universities.

**News from University of Ioannina:**

[http://www.uoi.gr/gr/conferences/extended.php?post\\_id=6970](http://www.uoi.gr/gr/conferences/extended.php?post_id=6970) (The 13th International "Border Crossings" Students' Conference : Balkan Worlds, Balkan Lives: Experiencing, Sensing and Imagining the 'realities')



## THE ROLE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IOANNINA FOR THE NOMINATION "IOANNINA-EPIRUS EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2021"

The University of Ioannina unanimously decided to contribute to the effort for the nomination of the city as the European Capital of Culture. For this reason, the University Principles, the Heads of the Departments and the Administration Services, taking into consideration the importance of this attempt, held a meeting with the Mayor and his associates, in order to plan together the strategy to be followed that will bring the desired effects. The meeting took place on June 12 2015 at the Senate Board Room of the University of Ioannina during which, it was discussed the role of the University and its potential to support the candidacy. On behalf of the University, this can be done with the following ways:

- Presentation of the scientific and academic work (international congresses, symposiums, ceremonies of Professor and Doctor Honoris Causa)
- Promotion of research, innovative work and international prizes awarded
- Focus on the cultural activities and historic heritage of the University of Ioannina since its foundation (1964, the 3rd University in Greece) till today



- International collaborations and agreements with Institutions, Universities abroad and with outstanding scientists and exceptional personalities who share a great global impact.

## SUMMER HE.LA.S PROGRAM



The Center for the Study of the Hellenic Language and Culture of the University of Ioannina is hosting, from July 1st till July 28th 2015, 52 students from 18 different countries (Albania, Bulgaria, French, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, UK, USA, Iraq, Spain, Korea, Cyprus, Lithuania, Hungary, Ukraine, Russia, Serbia, and Turkey). This summer course makes an effective contribution to the continuous action of the Center for the Study of the Hellenic Language and Culture on the promotion and spread of the Hellenic language and culture. This course is open to everyone (age 18+) and includes: Modern Greek lessons, visits to archaeological sites and places, educational trips, lectures and traditional folklore dance lessons. More information available at the <http://hellenic-center.uoi.gr>

## IU HAS BEEN THE UNIVERSITY THAT HAD MOST NUMBER OF PATENT APPLICATION IN 2014

Fourth Turk Patent Rewards has been delivered with the participation of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in Ankara Sheraton Otel. In ceremony, "The Reward of The University That Had Most Number of Parent Applications" has been given to İÜ. Prof. Dr. Mahmut Ak, Rector of İÜ has taken the reward on behalf of İÜ.

Total 81 inventions were applied for patent from İÜ. Rector Prof. Dr. Ak, in his statement, extended his thanks to all academicians congratulate all of them.

"Idea Capital of Turkey Is Improving"

President Erdoğan thanked all who developed and enriched idea pool of Turkey and said, "Today, before you, I congratulate research-development

employees, engineers and designers that brought the firms in getting rewards. Right this way, I salute all nameless heroes who products innovation in their fields and wish that their eagerness and excitement of making inventions, solving problems, making designs last forever."

President Erdogan, requesting directors of award granted firms to gratify research-development employees, designers, said "thus, at every stage from bottom to top, I believe that we will have such a system in which innovation and solving problems are promoted. Turkey, as being in all fields, proceeds to improve and develop, make an impression aourn world in industrial

property. Patent application numbers being basic indicator of improvement in this field, is increasing regularly. This situation shows that idea capital of Turkey continue to expand."



## IU HAS SCALED NUMBER OF FACULTY UP 22

### The First Faculty of Transportation and Logistic Has Been Established in İÜ

### IU Has Scaled Number of Faculty Up 22 With New Established Sport Science Faculty and Faculty of Transportation and Logistic

IU has added two new faculties to its 20 faculties. With the enactment the number published in official gazette dated 5 Jun 2015 numbered 7723, İÜ School of Physical Education and Sports was transformed into İÜ Sport Sciences Faculty and İÜ School of Transportation and Logistic was transformed into İÜ Faculty of Transportation and Logistic.

### Field of Education is Expanding

Prof. Dr. Mahmut Ak, Rector of İÜ, in his statement about establishing of İÜ Sport Sciences Faculty and İÜ Faculty of Transportation and Logistic said that with two faculty, İÜ would also provide fort the important needs of our country. Rector Prof. Dr. Ak continued his speech in this way, "İÜ whis is the first university in Turkey, is continuing to provide service in field of education by maintaining contributions as academic and scientific. With these two new faculties, we will transfer our scientific power to trade fields and take

our country much further. In akademik field, We will structure sports and logistic better that are so important in developments of countries and their internationalizations."

### The First Faculty of Transportation and Logistic Has Been Established in İÜ

Bringing in something new, İÜ has established the first faculty of transportation and logistic in Turkey. İÜ School of Transportation and Logistic that has maintaining its services of education since 1999, hereafter will provide service as İÜ Faculty of Transportation and Logistic.

### A Great Need of Our Country is Contributed

İÜ Faculty of Transportation and Logistic that aims to contribute to healthy growing of youth psychologically and physically in addition to training directors, physical education teachers, trainers, hereafter provides service as İÜ Sport Sciences Faculty. İÜ, sharing its experiences and savings with Turkey and World, will answer the purpose of a great need.





## A HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION FROM OVIDIUS UNIVERSITY OF CONSTANTA, ROMANIA, VISITED FOUR PRESTIGIOUS BEIJING UNIVERSITIES

**At the invitation of Beijing Language and Culture University, a high level delegation led by Professor Sorin Rugină, M.D., Ph.D., Rector of Ovidius University of Constanta, visited Beijing between May 19 and 25, 2015.**

At the invitation of Beijing Language and Culture University, a high level delegation led by Professor Sorin Rugină, M.D., Ph.D., Rector of Ovidius University of Constanta, visited Beijing between May 19 and 25, 2015. The visit included meetings at Hanban, the Confucius Institute Headquarters, Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU), Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU), Peking University, and Beijing University of Chinese Medicine. The meetings revealed a mutual interest in developing or strengthening the relations of collaboration between the higher education institutions, with a particular focus on the language studies and the Confucius Institute program. The delegation from the Ovidius University has pledged to assist BLFU and BLCU with lecturers of Romanian Language and to begin the procedures for authorization of a bachelor's program in Chinese with support from the two universities.

As a comprehensive higher education institution with study programs in medical and natural sciences, humanities and engineering, economics and business administration, law and administrative sciences, theology and



arts, Ovidius University attracts over 1100 international students, and has the potential of becoming an Eastern gateway to Europe for students from China. For that purpose the university will initiate the formalities to authorize new master's programs in English in fields such as international trade and finance, business administration, international law, political sciences and international relations.

Research was another strong point

in the discussions, with common interests in medicine, mathematics and natural sciences, computer science and engineering, etc. The partner universities will explore ways to establish double supervision doctoral programs, to stimulate academic exchanges and to organize common scientific events.

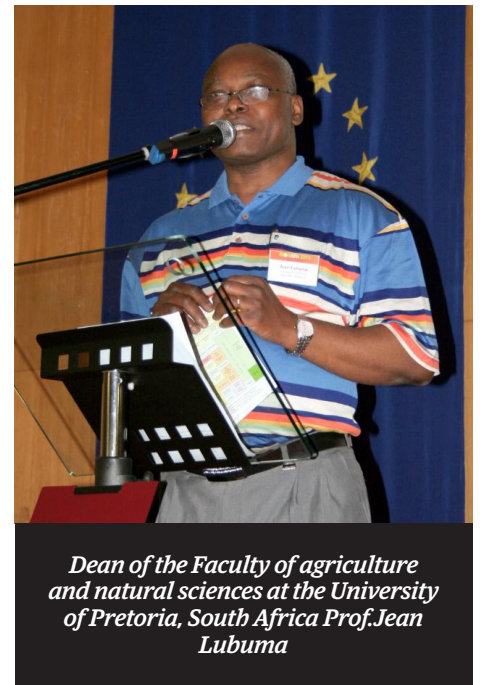


# SWU "NEOFIT RISLKI" WAS A HOST OF THE PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**On June 15, 2015 was the Grand opening of the Annual international conference on mathematical methods and models in life sciences "Biomath 2015" at the SWU "Neofit Rilski" University Center "Bachinovo".**



*Exhibition of books at the conference*



*Dean of the Faculty of agriculture and natural sciences at the University of Pretoria, South Africa Prof. Jean Lubuma*

The conference was opened by the Rector of SWU Prof. D.Sc. Ivan Mirchev. Assoc. Prof. N. Peševa read a congratulatory letter from the Minister of Education and science Prof. Todor Tanev, Prof. Ivan Ivanov member of the Union of Mathematicians in Bulgaria and Acad. I. D. Ivanov, who read a congratulatory personally by Acad. Stefan Vodenitcharov, chairman of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. The organizers thanked all BAS institutes, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Plovdiv University, Ministry of Education, the Union of Mathematicians in Bulgaria and the European Society for Mathematics and Theoretical Biology (ESMTB). One of the most interesting greetings was from the Dean of the Faculty of agriculture and natural sciences at the University of Pretoria, South Africa Prof. Jean Lubuma. He shared with all guests and attendees for the upcoming and first-ever satellite

conference "BIOMATH 2015", hosted by the University of Pretoria. Program over the next two days continued with plenary report of Lander Litov ("Kliment Ohridski"), Catherine Auer (University of Applied Sciences, Weimar, Germany),

USA), Vlastimil Krivan (Biological Center CAS, Czech Republic), Christina Kutler (Technical University Myuhen, Germany) and Cyril Piou (Department of Development and Research of agriculturally, France). The conference was devoted to recent research in life sciences based on applications of mathematics as well as mathematics applied to or motivated by biological studies. It is a multidisciplinary meeting forum for researchers who develop and apply mathematical and computational tools to the study of phenomena in the broad fields of biology, ecology, medicine, biotechnology, bioengineering, environmental science, etc. The conference was attended by about 80 scientists from USA, Russia, Ukraine, South Africa, Germany, France, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Brazil, Chile, Indonesia Ireland, Morocco, Iran, Romania, Turkey, Bulgaria and others.



*The opening ceremony*

Ivan I. Ivanov (Institute of Molecular Biology, BAS), Ivan Ivanov (College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, A & M Texas University,

## SOUTH-WEST UNIVERSITY WON A PRESTIGIOUS PRIZE IN GENÈVE, SWITZERLAND



The project of the South-West University "Neofit Rilski" - Youth Mobilization - Cultural Heritage and Athletic Valorization (YMC (H) A) won in the category "Cultural and linguistic diversity and identity."

More than 300 projects were nominated for the contest, but only 18 managed to get to the prestigious awards ceremony. Prizes are provided by online voting, involving over 100,000 participants from around the world.

Forum itself represents the largest annual gathering of the largest information societies in the world. WSIS-forum is jointly organized by

International Telecommunications Union (ITU), UNESCO and other organizations as well as in close collaboration with UN Women OON, regional commissions of the United Nations and UNICEF. The forum aims to create an effective mechanism for coordination of activities, exchange of information, sharing of best practices to assist in the development of new projects and to provide structured opportunities for networking.

The ceremony was attended Assoc. Prof. Borislav Jurukov, Vice-Rector for of the South West University "Neofit Rilski" - who receive the prize on behalf of the Rector.

The project "YMC (H) A" / Youth Mobilization - Cultural Heritage and Athletic Valorization

/ is the framework of the European Territorial Cooperation "Greece-Bulgaria 2007-2013" programme and is led by Prof. Petar Milanov and Prof. Ivan Mirchev. On the Greek side, the university is in a partnership with Christian Youth Association in the city. Thessaloniki, Greece. The project's budget is around 700 000 euro, from which 351 000, were for SWU "Neofit Rilski".

**World Forum on Information Society. (WSIS Forum 2015) was held in Geneva, Switzerland from 25 to 29 May, 2015 The event was opened by Mr. Ban Ki -Muun, chief sektretar United Nations and Julio Zhao, Secretary General of the International Telecommunications Union.**



## SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE WITH INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION IN BULGARIA

**Two decades ago a few enthusiasts, group of scientists laid Trakia University's foundations in the town of Stara Zagora, Bulgaria. This idea led to the unification of insitutions with a long history into University.**

The main focus of the celebrations to the 20th Anniversary of Trakia University was the Scientific Conference with International Participation which took place on 19th May in all faculties of the University. Prof. Ivan Vashin, DSc - Acting Rector of Trakia University delivered a speech at the opening. A plenary lecture on the prospects for the development of higher education and research in universities in the new programming period was delivered by prof. Nikolay Denkov, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Bulgaria. Official guests of the event were Vice-rector of Volgograd State Agricultural University, Russia - prof. Elena Patrina, representatives of Prof. Dr. Y. Yörük

- Rector of Trakya University-Edirne and President of BUA - Prof. Dr. Levent Öztürk and Assist. Prof. Dr. Gülnur Öztürk, representatives of Uludag University-Bursa, Turkey - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdulkadir Orman - Vice-dean of Veterinary Faculty, Assoc. Pror. Dr. Nureddin Celimli, Assist. Prof. Dr. Artun Yibar and Vet. Med. Dr. Honaris Causa Mustafa Uluoz.

The event was attended by scientists and researchers from Turkey, Romania, Serbia, Macedonia, Kosovo, Italy. In the conference were presented 430 scientific reports. The meetings attracted great interest and lively discussions among all participants in the event.



## THE CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRAKIA UNIVERSITY

On May 20, 2015 in the State Opera of Stara Zagora professors, students, employees and guests celebrated 20th Anniversary of the founding of Trakia University as a result of the unification of previously independently existing institutions with a long history and educational traditions. The celebration was held under the patronage of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Rosen Plevneliev.

In his speech Prof. Ivan Vashin - Acting Rector of Trakia University noted that the days of the 20th Anniversary of Alma Mater in Stara Zagora are days of joy, satisfaction and pride in the achievements.

The ceremony was attended by the secretary of the President of Bulgaria in education, science and civil society R. Kolarova, Minister of Ministry of Agriculture and Food D. Taneva, the governor of Stara Zagora G. Ranov, prof. I. Stankov, Rector of Trakia University and MP, President of SAA Professor

T. Trifonova, many foreign guests and representatives of universities from the country and abroad.

Greetings were received from the President of Bulgaria R. Plevneliev, National Assembly Chairman

Prof. S. Statev, Rector of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv, representatives of state and local institutions, rectors and vice-rectors, deans and vice-deans of universities, media, high schools and businesses.

With Jubilee sign "20 years Trakia University" was awarded the President of Bulgaria R. Plevneliev. Prof. I. Vashin handed Jubilee signs to activists for creation and validation of Trakia University and to the current principals of the structural units of Trakia University and through them to the academic community for their contribution to the development of the University.

"Phantoms of the musical"

was congratulatory performance from the Stara Zagora Opera.

The events to mark the 20th Anniversary of the University, began in April. Besides the International Scientific Conference there were various cultural and sporting events.



Ts. Tsacheva, Prime Minister B. Borisov, Ministers of Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Ministry of Education and Science and Ministry of Interior, Mayor of Stara Zagora, the Governors of Stara Zagora and Yambol, Chairman of the Council of Rectors and Rector of Medical University - Sofia Acad. V. Mitev, Vice President of the Council of Rectors and Rector of UNWE

## STATE UNIVERSITY OF TETOVA JOINED THE INITIATIVE OF THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION FOR SOLIDARITY WITH THE VICTIMS OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

**State University of Tetova joins the initiative of the European University Association - EUA, for solidarity with the victims of the terrorist attacks at Garissa University College in Kenya on 2 April, 2015, killing 147 students and wounding at least 79 other people.**



State University of Tetova joins the initiative of the European University Association - EUA, for solidarity with the victims of the terrorist attacks at Garissa University College in Kenya on 2 April, 2015, killing 147 students and wounding at least 79 other people. Today at noon, students and the academic staff of the State University of Tetova, in the amphitheater of SUT's Rectorate held a minute's silence in memory of the victims of Garissa University College. In this occasion, the head of the Information Office of SUT, Mr. Selam Sulejmani read the joint declaration of the European Universities Association, with the motto "Protect universities from attack". He said that "after the terrorist attack that happened at Garissa University College in Kenya on Thursday, 2 April, killing 147 students and wounding at least 79 people, European Universities Association invites all European universities to observe a minute's silence on Monday, 27 April, 2015 (at 12:00), in memory of all those who died and were affected by the attack on Garissa and other attacks against universities and university values around the world. While events in Garissa are noted for their barbarity, we draw attention to the terrible reality where attacks continue to occur every day. In calling for this observance, EUA confirm its belief that any act of

violence or attack on education contradicts the fundamental university values of freedom of thought and speech, tolerance and autonomy and undermines the ambition and the fundamental right of every individual to qualify and contribute for his nation, society and the world. Attacks on universities, students and scholars, weaken or obliterate the academic freedom; have a devastating impact on research, teaching and access to education; and impair society's long-term development. Safeguarding of freedom and safety of universities and university communities is therefore vital in ensuring the progress of knowledge and cultural and scientific development of mankind" said Selam Sulejmani. It was also mentioned that the quest for knowledge has no boundaries and universities transcend geographical and political frontiers. In keeping with its endorsement of the principles of the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack, EUA calls on universities across Europe and beyond to unite in solidarity in condemning these recent and any other forms of violence against education. It further appeals to the international community to take action to protect universities from attacks and prevent them from happening in the future.

# SHORT INFORMATION ABOUT ST. CYRIL AND ST. METHODIUS UNIVERSITY OF VELIKO TURNOVO

**St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo was established in 1963 as the Brothers Cyril and Methodius Higher Institute of Education . Officially it is proclaimed as a second Bulgarian University on October 14, 1971.**



Currently the training in the university is provided by nine faculties: Faculty of Modern Languages, Faculty of History, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Philosophy and Faculty of Orthodox Theology; a branch college in the town of Vratsa and a Pedagogical college in the town of Pleven.

The total number of students is about 11 000 from Bulgaria and abroad. Bachelor's degree is acquired in 63 degree courses, Master's degree - in 103 degree courses, and PhD - in more than 50 degree courses.

The University of Veliko Turnovo is a respected and preferred partner by academic institutions across Europe, the United States, Africa and Asia. The University maintains active contacts with lots of higher institutions all over the world and has more than 90 agreements for direct bilateral cooperation.

Within the framework of Erasmus + programme the University has about 300 agreements for academic mobility

and research with universities from all European Union countries.

One of the most significant international programmes that the University of Veliko Turnovo has established and actively supports is the annual International Summer Seminar in Bulgarian Language and Culture. Over the years these seminars have been attended by hundreds of students, teachers, scholars, journalists, among others, from five continents. The one-month study program includes an intensive course in Bulgarian for the different language proficiency levels. The majority of those who study Bulgarian use the language in their scholarly research or for business purposes. The participants in the summer seminars have the opportunity to attend daily lectures on a variety of topics connected with Bulgarian language, literature, history, and artistic movements.

The university complex includes the main campus, ceremonial hall (aula) of 500 seats and study buildings, the central library, a sports centre,

student dining hall, dormitories, plus three campuses in the centre of Veliko Turnovo with libraries, student dining halls and dormitories.

The University of Veliko Turnovo is located in a peaceful and romantic town which combines historical grandeur and unique beauty, values and traditions. The history of the Second Bulgarian State began here when the city was the capital of Medieval Bulgaria, in a time when knowledge and culture reached their peak. Today Veliko Turnovo has a leading position in the Bulgarian academic and cultural life.

In the beginning of 21<sup>st</sup> century the University of Veliko Turnovo is the largest Bulgarian university outside the capital and it is a highly-respected centre for humanities and arts, maintaining a wide range of international contacts and enjoying both a national and international reputation.

Since May 25, 2015 the new rector of the University of Veliko Turnovo was elected - Prof. Hristo Bondzholov, PhD.

On a session of the Academic Council from June 1, 2015 the other members of the governing body were elected:

Prof. Stoyan Burov, Dr. Habil - Vice-rector for Academic Affairs

Prof. Rozaliya Kuzmanova-Kartalova, PhD - Vice-rector for Quality Management and Accreditation

Assoc. Prof. Dimitar Dimitrov, PhD - Vice-rector for International Relations

Assoc. Prof. Nikolay Prodanov, PhD - Vice-rector for Academic Research and Career Development

Assoc. Prof. Milen Mihov, PhD - Assistant Rector

Oleg Bozhanov - Head of Administrative Staff

## 9<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECT SINAN SYMPOSIUM



9<sup>th</sup> International Architect Sinan Symposium was held at Trakya University, Balkan Congress Center on 21st April 2015. Edirne Governor Dursun Ali Şahin, Rector Prof. Dr. Yener Yörük, Rector of the Technical University of Gabrovo Prof. D.Sc. Raycho Ilarionov, Rector of University of Tuzla Prof. Dr. Enver Halilović, Dean of Engineering Faculty of University of Sarajevo Prof. Dr. Mustafa Hrasnica, Dean of Faculty of Architecture of University of Sarajevo Prof. Dr. Neriman Rustempasić, academicians from Greece Democritus University of Thrace, Italy Florence University and Trakya University

participated to the opening ceremony of the symposium which starts with the concert performed by Trakya University State Conservatory Faculty members "quartet".

At the opening speech, Dean of Faculty of Architecture of Trakya University Prof. Dr. Burcu Özgüven expressed the importance to work on Architectural borders which both combine and separate areas then the Rector Prof. Dr. Yener Yörük pointed out that Architecture Sinan Symposium has become a tradition for years and it is necessary to give importance to Symposium due to the many

monuments and arts Sinan constructed one of which is a spectacular work; Selimiye Mosque that can be seen from the all sides of Edirne. The Rector also emphasized that constructing such a work requires great knowledge of architecture, mathematics, economy and culture therefore we can learn much from Architecture Sinan with his works.

During the symposium various exhibitions and events: exhibition of the architecture students, exhibition of the products of the workshop results called "Design of the Culture Bridge in Edirne", exhibition called "Architecture and Mathematics" by Prof. Alexander Asanowicz from Poland Bialystok University, painting exhibition called "Breezes of Selimiye" by Mehtap Kodaman and her friends, photo exhibition named with "Çanakkale martyrs", EFOD slide shows and informative activities by EDOSK were done with the participation of guests, academicians and students.

## "THE 3<sup>RD</sup> BALKAN SPORT GAMES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES" WAS HELD WITH A GREAT ENTHUSIASM AND SUPPORT



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Balkan Sport Games, that was organized by Trakya University and supported by Turkish Foreign Ministry and Promotion Fund of the Turkish Prime Ministry, was held in Edirne by the attendance of the children from Greece, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey. The games included steps for the visually, mentally and hearing impaired children. The families and the audience watched them with anxiety.

In this context, Balkan Sports

Games, whose aim is to raise awareness, give chance to children to realize themselves, has contributed the development of emotional ties between the disabled individuals and their families in the borders of this geography. Furthermore, Balkan Sport Games which is the first in its field can be considered a heart touching project since its focus is the disabled children.

The Rector of Trakya University, Prof. Dr. Yener Yörük told that the games are important to unite the children with the society. In this sense, Trakya University continues the academic and social studies over these disadvantageous groups. Post graduate and doctorate programs about children with disabilities in Trakya University are the indicators of the reparative and healer side of our point of view.



## THE OPENING OF COMPLEX OF SULTAN BAYEZID II HEALTH MUSEUM



Darüşşifa part of the Complex of Sultan Bayezid II Health Museum has been renovated by the biggest drug company in Turkey, Abdi Ibrahim and opened on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Edirne Governor Dursun Ali Şahin, Edirne Mayor Recep Gürkan, Rector Prof. Dr. Yener Yörük, Chairman of the Executive Board of Abdi Ibrahim Nezhil Barut, Founder Rector of Trakya University Prof. Dr. Ahmet Karadeniz, Former Health Minister Kazım Dinç, Ambassadors, Consul Generals, guests and press participated to the opening ceremony. Besides, messages from the President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Vice Prime Minister Bülent Arınç, Health Minister Dr. Mehmet Müezzinoğlu were read at the opening.

At his opening speech, Chairman Nezhil Barut said that Darüşşifa part of Sultan Bayezid II Health Museum which goes back to 500 years ago, has been renovated in terms of modern understanding of museology and proper to its original architecture by Abdi Ibrahim. As it was very important medical center between 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, visitors will have a chance to learn about the history like how smallpox vaccine by Turkish method became widespread, how



surgeries on Janissaries were operated by women surgeons and other treatments and operations were applied.

Rector Prof. Dr. Yener Yörük started his opening speech by congratulating firstly the Founder Rector Prof. Dr. Ahmet Karadeniz then all those who cooperated in order to renew Darüşşifa part of the Museum. Giving information

about the historical process of the Museum the Rector reminded that Darüşşifa part of the Museum from its beginning in 1488, provided service especially for psychiatry patients with music, aromatherapy, and occupational therapy and during the First World War, in 1915, the hospital stopped its service. After it was transferred to Trakya University in 1984, said Rector Prof. Dr. Yener Yörük, its fate completely has changed and it was restored until 1996. In 1997, the hospital converted to The Health Museum and from beginning of 2000s, the renovation has been started. During fifteen years, the Museum drew considerable attention from both Turkey and the World.

After the ceremony participant protocol members signed the electronic diary which has been developed by Trakya University Information Technologies Office and which is the second diary after Anıtkabir's diary in Turkey.

## THE GREEK LANGUAGE COURSE



The Greek language course started on March 9<sup>th</sup> 2015 at Trakya University Faculty of Letters by the participation of Edirne Governor Dursun Ali Şahin, our Rector Prof. Dr. Yener Yörük, Ambassador Murat Ahmet Yörük, Deans, academicians and students. At the opening, our Rector stated that the course will be in three periods and this course will enable to students who come from western Thrace to improve their Greek in efficient way.

At the opening speech of the course, Governor Dursun Ali Şahin underlined the importance of language learning. He emphasized that the importance of continuity in language learning and reminded Latin proverb "A drop hollows out the stone not by force, but falling many times". For continuity in language learning, he said, targets are important, and students should make an effort to succeed determined targets.

After opening, Vice-Dean of Faculty of Letters and lecturer at the Department of Balkan Languages, the chief of department of Modern Greek Language and Literature, Assist. Prof. Dr. Ferhan Kılıdökme gave the first lesson.





## OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION "DOMINICAN ORDER STUDIUM GENERALE IN ZADAR (1396 - 1807)"



To mark the 2014-2015 academic year's end, the University of Zadar and the Alumni club of the University of Zadar have organised a programme dedicated to the 619th foundation anniversary of the Dominican Studium Generale in Zadar. The programme started with the opening of the exhibition entitled the Dominican Order Studium Generale in Zadar (1396 - 1807) in the University's Great Hall.

The exhibition on the foundation, work, and development of the first University on Croatian territory was prepared by Ante Blaće, PhD, Assistant Professor Robert Bacalja and Assistant Professor Serđo Dokoza. The exhibition represents documents belonging to the State Archive in Zadar

and the Scientific Library in Zadar, which chronicle work at the university throughout centuries of its existence.

Besides the original documents, four posters have also been set up at the exhibition, each representing general information on the University's achievements gathered during a research conducted by Full Professor Sjepan Krsić, a Dominican and a long-term professor at the Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas.

The exhibition is open from 15 to 19 June as a part of the scientific conference Agreements across Borders Conference 2015 programme, organised by the Department of linguistics, and the Experimental Morphosyntax of South Slavic project.



# BUANEWS



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