

BUANEWS

Balkan Universities Association E-Bulletin

June 2021 / 24





Balkan Universities Association

**UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK TIRANA, PART OF TURKISH MAARIF FOUNDATION,
A NEW PERSPECTIVE OF COLLABORATION AT UNIVERSITY OF ELBASAN
“ALEKSANDËR XHUVANI”**

Strengthening and diversifying its internationalization remains a priority and a challenge for University of Elbasan “Aleksandër Xhuvani”. The university is making every effort to internationalize and further enhance international cooperation with universities and higher education institutions. In this way, it is necessary to continue the implementation of the existing agreements for international cooperation, as well as to promote the conclusion of new agreements, being aware that every joint research project is in function of the principle of scientific research activity in the institution.

On 06.07.2021, the Rector of the University of New York Tirana, Prof. Dr. Ismail Kocayusufoğlu, welcomed the Rector of the University of Elbasan ‘Aleksandër Xhuvani’, Prof. Dr. Skënder Topi. Both Rectors signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two universities on future collaborations in the research and academic endeavors. Professor Topi expressed his congratulations to the UNYT Rector on the academic activities during this difficult year and conveyed his commitments to strengthen the partnership between the two universities on

future joint research activities and possible exchange of best practices.

In his remarks, Professor Kocayusufoğlu pledged continued joint activities between the two universities: “As part of Turkish Maarif Foundation, we will continue strengthening our role in the higher education in Albania and we are optimistic on the prosperous contribution that Maarif will bring through UNYT and other educational institution to the Albanian society.”

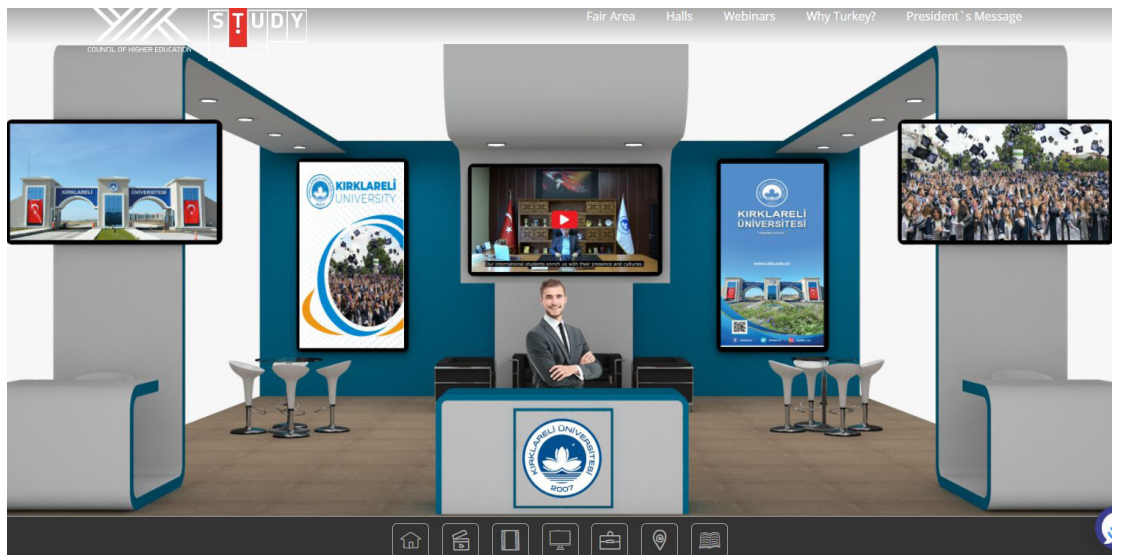
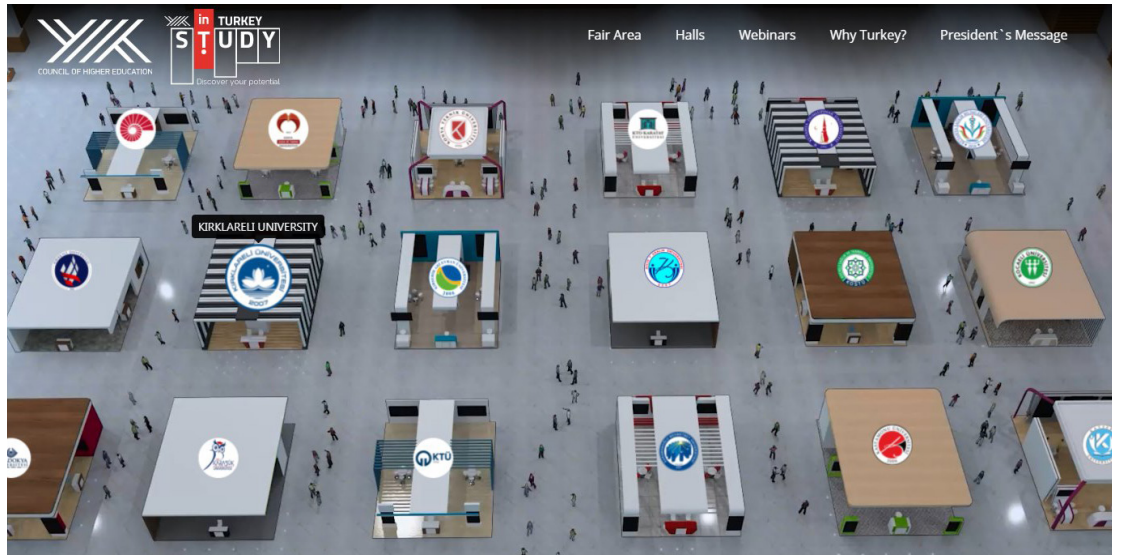
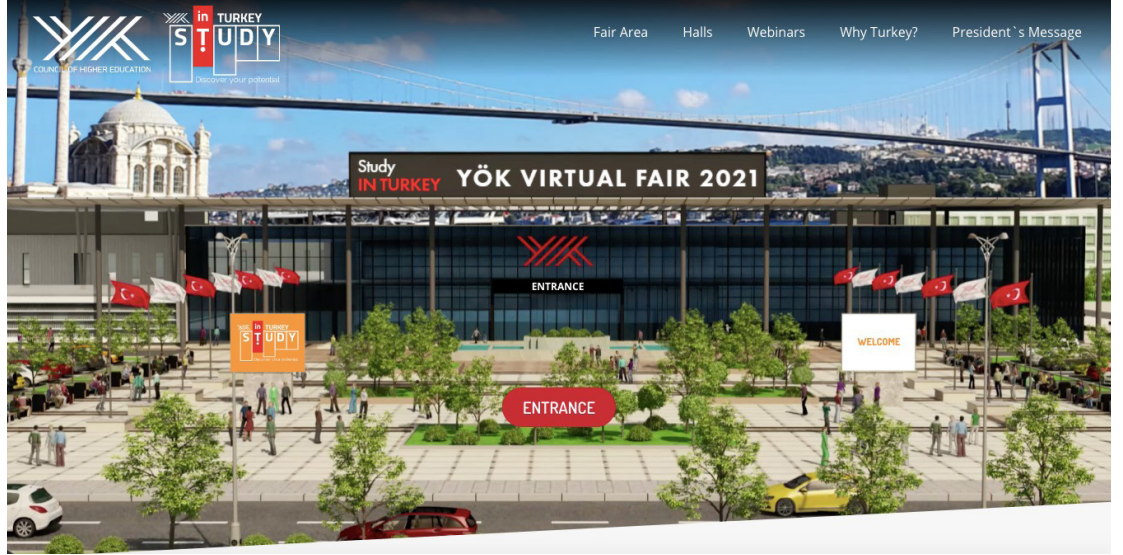
Rector of the University of Elbasan, stated: “I am confident that we are going to have a successful exchange of the know-how in the future, and I am pleased to collaborate with UNYT and get the best experience from the Turkish Universities as institutions who beside having a long historical tradition in excellence, have the best innovative methods and practices in education.” In the capacity of the Vice Chairman of the Conference of Rectors of Albania, Professor Topi appreciated the efforts and initiatives that UNYT under the leadership of the Rector Professor Kocayusufoğlu has taken.



KIRKLARELI UNIVERSITY ATTENDED STUDY IN TURKEY VIRTUAL FAIR

“Study in Turkey Virtual Fair 2021” was organized for the second time this year within the scope of the “Target-Oriented Internationalization” approach, by the Council of Higher Education (CoHE) between 27-29 July 2021. The aim of the event was to reduce the negative effects of student mobility restricted during the Covid-19 pandemic and to promote Turkish universities abroad in the digital environment.

During the fair, Kırklareli University met with international student candidates from 180 countries. Lecturers of our university gave detailed information to international student candidates about the associate degree, undergraduate and graduate programs of KLU, terms of international student admission, quotas, scholarships, accommodation, social and cultural opportunities, and student mobility programs. In addition to that, our lecturers answered the questions from international student candidates, in English, Turkish and French.



**OFFICIAL VISITS OF PROF. DR. MARIANNA MURDJEVA, MD, PHD,
MHM - RECTOR OF MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF PLOVDIV TO PARTNER
INSTITUTIONS FROM THE BALKAN COUNTRIES**

The Rector of MU-Plovdiv and a delegation from Bulgaria officially visited Trakya University – Edirne, Turkey within the Exchange of Good Practices with Universities and Health Organizations in the Republic of Turkey in June, 2021. Prof. Murdjeva attended the scheduled meeting with the Rector of Trakya University – Edirne, Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoglu, and

representatives of the Faculty of Medicine and discussed future activities within the memorandum between both educational institutions. The agreement was a result of the visit of Prof. Dilyana Vicheva, MD, PhD – Vice Rector of International Relations and Project Activity and experts of the International Relations Department in the beginning of 2020.



Medical University of Plovdiv and European University – Skopje have established a new partnership within a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Rectors during an official visit of a delegation from the European University – Skopje to Plovdiv in January, 2020. Following this inter-institutional cooperation Prof. Marianna Murdjeva has been greatly recognized and

honoured with the title Professor Honoris Causa of the European University, Skopje. The Inauguration Ceremony was held in North Macedonia on the 2nd of July 2021 and the awarded title is a proof of the high recognition of experience, expertise and international reputation of the Rector of Medical University of Plovdiv.





Joint Forum

11th South-East European Conference on Infections and Cancer and 31st Annual Assembly of International Medical Association Bulgaria

28-31 October 2021
Medical University-Plovdiv



Dear friends and colleagues,

On behalf the Organizing Committee of the Joint Forum **11th South-East European Conference on Infections and Cancer & 31st Annual Assembly of International Medical Association Bulgaria**, we would like to remind you and friendly invite you once again to participate in the scientific event that Medical University of Plovdiv will host and co-organize between 28th and 31st October, 2021.

Our Organizing team would like to realize the initiative in-person in case the local and global evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic allows that.

The Registration form attached contains the following section options:

- . Medicine;
- . Biomedicine;
- . Dental Medicine;
- . Organization and Control of Healthcare;
- . Round table focused on "Coronavirus, Global Pandemic and the Experience in Bulgaria".

We would like to kindly ask you to submit the Application form before 15th September 2021 in order to plan the preliminary number of participants and prepare the draft Programme.

In case you have any questions regarding the event or your participation do not hesitate to contact the Organization Committee at: seec_imab@mu-plovdiv.bg

You can follow the updates for the event on MU-Plovdiv website:
https://mu-plovdiv.bg/seec_imab/

Co-Chairs of the Joint Forum SEEC & IMAB:

Marianna Murdjeva, MD, PhD
Rector of Medical University-Plovdiv

Krasimir Metodiev, MD, PhD, DScMed
President of IMAB, Honorary Chair of SEEC

TEKİRDAĞ NAMIK KEMAL UNIVERSITY RECTOR PROF. DR. MÜMIN ŞAHİN PARTICIPATED IN THE PROJECT PROMOTION WEBINAR OF “URBAN AND RURAL SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS RESEARCH PROJECT IN TURKEY”

Our University Rector Prof. Dr. Mümin ŞAHİN participated in the project promotion webinar of “Urban and Rural Settlement Systems Research Project in Turkey”, in which the Minister of Industry and Technology Mustafa VARANK has also participated as a speaker.

After the opening speech of Barış YENİÇERİ the General Manager of Development Agencies, Minister of Industry and Technology Mustafa VARANK made his speech at the introductory seminar of the online “YER-SİS Project” and remarked that the findings obtained as a result of this research are important in the planning of public policies and private sector organizations will also constitute an input as one of the main data sources in investment, supply and logistics planning. Stating that development is a multidimensional structure, Minister of Industry and Technology Mustafa VARANK explained the concept includes many policy areas from education to health, from human resources to infrastructure and superstructure, from investment and production to technology.

In the rest of the meeting, the Project Coordinator of the Ministry of Industry and Technology, Leyla BİLEN KAZANCIK, made a presentation on the Urban and Rural Settlement Systems Research in Turkey (YER-SİS).

The subject of “The Outputs of the YER-SİS Project, Home Usage Areas” was presented by Deputy Minister of Environment and Urbanization Fatma VARANK, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Fatih METİN and Dokuz Eylül University City and Regional Planning Department Lecturer Prof. Dr. K. Mert ÇUBUKÇU under the moderation of Deputy Minister of Industry and Technology Çetin Ali DÖNMEZ.

The closing speech of the panel to which Vice Rectors of our University Prof. Dr. Bulent EKER and Prof. Dr. Yılmaz ÇAKICI also participated was made by Cevdet YILMAZ, Chairman of the Parliamentary Plan and Budget Committee.



OUR UNIVERSITY CONTINUED UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY COLLABORATIONS FOR STUDENTS DURING THE PANDEMIC

Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University continued to create on-the-job and on-site training opportunities for students to gain work experience before graduation during the difficult Covid-19 period.

Within the scope of University-Industry collaborations, which were activated thanks to the protocols signed in this process, joint R&D activities with the private sector and laboratory use opportunities arose for the scientists of our University. With these collaborations, career-oriented studies were aimed for students as well as creating added value for the country's economy. The work experience to be gained before graduation is considered very important by our University in order to train qualified intermediate staff. With these protocols signed with the business and Organized Industrial Zones (OIZ) in our region, where Turkey's most active industrial establishments are located, on-the-job training opportunities were captured. Engineer candidates and Vocational School students studying in technical

departments will continue to utilize the opportunities for their careers thanks to these protocols.

In this context, cooperation protocols has been signed between Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University and Dal Technical Machine Industry and Trade Inc. ;Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University Çorlu Engineering Faculty and Optima Chemicals Industry and Trade Inc.; Çorlu Vocational School and Muratlı Vocational School and Coca Cola Drinks Inc. and Muratlı Vocational School and Erak Clothing Industry and Trade Inc.

Our Rector, who signed the protocols on behalf of our University, Prof. Dr. Mümin ŞAHİN stated that "I believe that our collaborations with the private sector will produce benefits for our country as well as for our students, who are our future. It is our greatest desire that our university-industry collaborations continue increasingly."



'TEKİRDAĞ NAMIK KEMAL UNIVERSITY YUNUS EMRE SYMPOSIUM' OPENING PROGRAM HELD

On the occasion of '2021 Yunus Emre and Turkish Year', "Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University Yunus Emre Symposium" was held in cooperation with the Turkish Language Association and the opening session was organized under the auspices of the speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly Prof. Dr. Mustafa ŞENTOP.

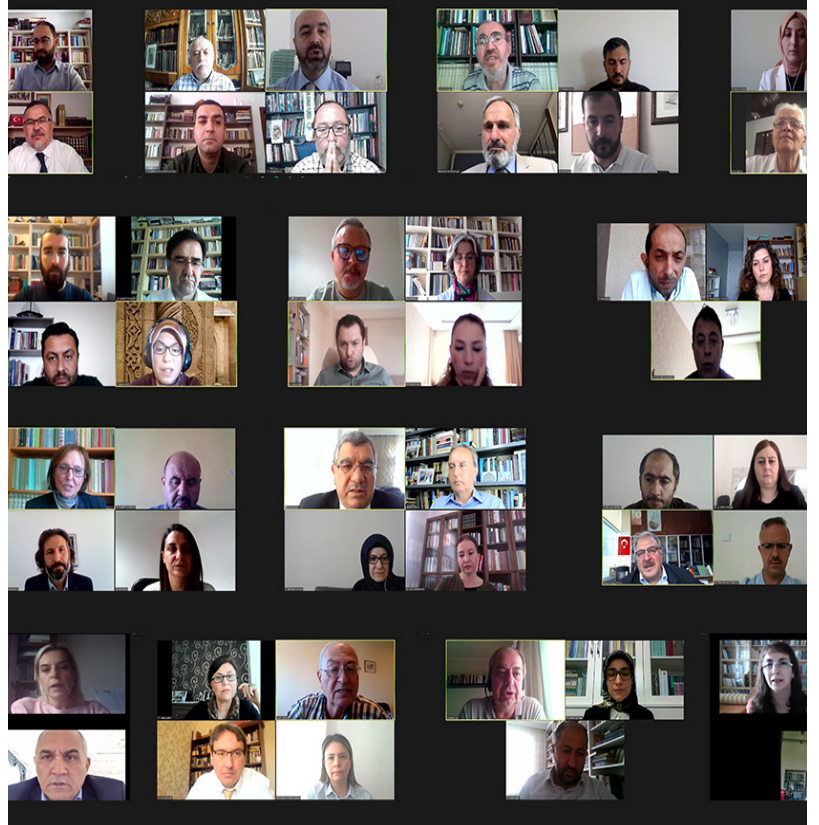
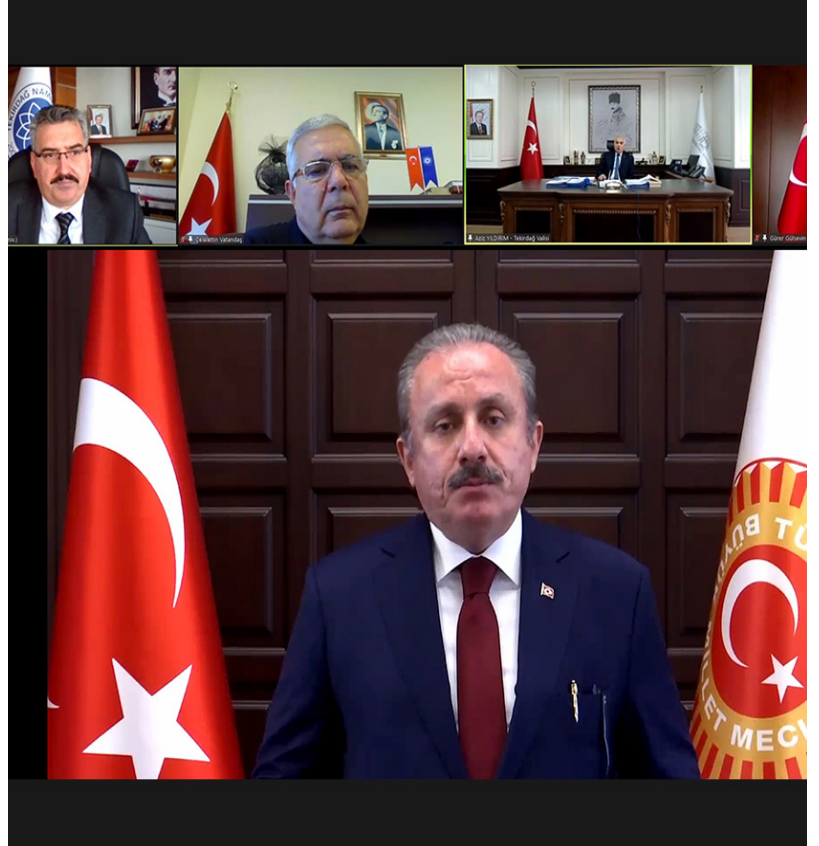
The opening program of the symposium on the first day started with the opening speeches of TNKU Faculty of Arts and Sciences Dean Prof. Dr. Celalettin VATANDAŞ, Rector Prof. Dr. Mümin ŞAHİN and the President of Turkish Language Association Prof. Dr. Gürer GÜLSEVİN Tekirdağ Governor Aziz YILDIRIM.

Our University Rector Prof. Dr. Mümin ŞAHİN stated that "We came together here today on the occasion of the 700th anniversary of Yunus Emre's death. In this symposium that will last for three days, we will try to commemorate and understand that blessed person and enlighten our way with his wisdom. Yunus Emre is the representative of the values that make the Muslim Turkish Nation sublime and unique. He is the architect of the knowledge and wisdom that made the Turkish Nation great. He is the representative of the immortal spirit living in the Islamic Ummah beyond time and space".

After the opening speeches, the video message sent by the Speaker of Grand National Assembly Mustafa ŞENTOP has been shared with the participants. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Şentop in his message said that "With the Presidential Circular dated January 29, 2021, the decision to commemorate this year as 'Yunus Emre and Turkish Year' was announced and it was decided to organize events with the titles 'Our Yunus' and 'World Language Turkish' throughout the year. I sincerely thank our University Rectorate and the Turkish Language Institution for contributing to the organization of such a scientific meeting about Yunus Emre, one of the founding great poets of Turkish held in Tekirdağ whose compatriot I am proud to be."

61 scientists from many universities in Turkey attended the Symposium, the sessions of which were held on the Zoom platform and simultaneously broadcast live on Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University YouTube Channel NKÜTV, and presented 58 papers.

Yunus Emre Book, which is based on the symposium, will be published by the Turkish Grand National Assembly in the coming days and will be presented to the science world in the Autumn of 2021.



ANOTHER ACHIEVEMENT THAT MAKES TRAKYA UNIVERSITY PROUD AT THE 2020 TOKYO OLYMPICS

At the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, Merve Coban, a graduate of Trakya University in women's karate, won the bronze medal. At the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, there was another news of success that made Trakya University proud. National athlete Merve Coban, a graduate of Trakya University's Kirkpinar Faculty of Sports Sciences, brought a bronze medal to our country at the Olympic Games held in Tokyo, Japan.

Merve Coban, the successful karate player who won the gold medal for our country in the women's kumite 61kg at the

2019 European Karate Championships (EKF), faced Serbia's Jovana Prekovic in the semifinals of karate competitions held at Nippon Budokan. Our successful athlete, who competed in karate women's kumite at 61 kilos, lost 2-0 to her opponent and lost her final chance and finished 3rd in the Olympics. The number of medals in karate at Tokyo 2020 increased to 3, 1 silver and 2 bronze with Merve Coban's medal,

As Trakya University, we congratulate Merve Coban, who made us and our country proud at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, and wish him continued success.





National athlete Yasemin Adar, a student at Trakya University, became the first female athlete to win an Olympic medal in wrestling for Turkey. Yasemin Adar, the national wrestler who won the gold medal for our country at the European and World championships, won the bronze medal at the Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan, by beating Kyrgyzstan's Aiperi Medet Kzyz at 76 kilos.

Another historic achievement news came from our national athlete and record-breaking student Yasemin Adar. The national athlete, who is a student of Trakya University's Department of Physical Education and Sports, became the first female wrestler in our wrestling history to win an Olympic medal.

Yasemin Adar, a successful athlete who previously won gold medals for our country at the European and world championships, faced Kyrgyz opponent Aiperi Medet Kzyz in the bronze medal competition at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic

Games. Our female wrestler Yasemin Adar, who managed to key her opponent in a short time in the fight, won the bronze medal.

Yasemin Adar, who has the title of being Turkey's first European and World Champion female wrestler, also made history as the athlete who won our country's first Olympic medal in women's wrestling. With this medal of Yasemin Adar, the number of medals we won in Tokyo increased to 5.

Yasemin Adar, who won the gold medal in Turkish women's wrestling for the first time with her historic achievement at the European Championships in Latvia in 2016, managed to reach the top of Europe for 4 years in a row and became Turkey's first female world champion wrestler at the World Championships in Paris in 2017.

As Trakya University, we congratulate our student Yasemin Adar and his coaches who made us and our country proud and wish them continued success.



MUSEUM OF THE YEAR AWARD GOES TO TRAKYA UNIVERSITY HEALTH MUSEUM

Complex of Sultan Bayezid II Health Museum has been awarded the “Museums of the Year Awards” which have been determined by the International University Museums Association Platform every year since 2014 and distributed regularly by the votes of platform members.

Following the “Extraordinary Museums” panel of Heritage Istanbul Fair at the Istanbul Lutfi Kırdar Convention Center, the “Museums of the Year Awards” were given by Prof. Dr. Fethiye Erbay and Prof. Dr. Mutlu Erbay, President of the International University Museums Association Platform. The award of the Complex of Sultan Bayezid II Health Museum which was awarded by the International University Museums Association Platform, was presented to Rector Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoglu by Prof. Dr. Fethiye Erbay.

Rector Erhan Tabakoğlu expressed his satisfaction with receiving the award and said, “As Trakya University, we attach great importance to museums that are the memory of societies. In this sense, we are very happy that our work is valued, appreciated and rewarded. As you know, our museum has many national and international awards. We are pleased to have added such a prestigious new award to these awards. It is of particular importance to receive this award from my esteemed Academicians Prof. Dr. Fethiye Erbay and Prof. Dr. Mutlu Erbay, who are the first names that come to mind when it comes to museums in Turkey. I thank them very much on behalf of myself and my university.”

The 2021 awards of the International University Museums Association Platform were presented to Trakya University Rector Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoglu, Baksı Museum and Culture and Arts Foundation Founder Prof. Dr. Hüsametdin Koçan, Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanical Garden Deputy Director Salih Sercan Kanoglu, Turkish Parliament Museum Director Fatma Hicret Un and MASK Architect Founder Öznur Pınar Çer.



THE STUDENTS OF VFU “CHERNORIZETS HRABAR” ASSESSED THEIR UNIVERSITY WITH AN EXCELLENT MARK

The students of Varna Free University “Chernorizets Hrabar” gave an overall mark of excellent 5.63 for the quality of the educational process that takes place at the university. The results became clear after the regular survey on student satisfaction at the end of the academic year. The analysis was discussed at a meeting of the Academic Council of VFU “Chernorizets Hrabar”. It is based on 3864 student surveys in various disciplines taught at the university.

With one of the highest marks - 5.75 - are the disciplines in the Department of Economics. The students gave 5.72 for the quality of education in the Department of Administration and Management. In the top three is the Department of Construction of Buildings and Structures with 5.68, followed by the disciplines in the Departments of Psychology and Law with one hundredth. Teaching in the specialties in the Department of Architecture and Urbanism is rated with an excellent 5.56. An indisputable favourite for students are the specialties in the Department of Foreign Language Teaching and Postgraduate Qualification, which receive the highest mark - 5.83.

The opportunity for good career prospects has attracted 53 percent of the first-year students. The topicality of the studied disciplines is leading in the choice of specialty at 45%. Nearly 40 percent are attracted by distance or part-time learning. For more than 1/3 of the students, the reputation of the specialty was leading, and every fourth respondent was impressed by the good material base of the university.

95 percent of all surveyed students have stated that they will recommend the specialty in which they study to their acquaintances and friends. 79.6% of students want to continue their education in the next educational qualification degree at Varna Free University.

The candidate student campaign of VFU “Chernorizets Hrabar” is in full swing. The application is both on the campus of the university and online 24/7 at www.vfu.bg.

For further information visit <https://bit.ly/3CFIHvQ>

PARTICIPANTS IN A COURSE FOR PROFILERS, ORGANIZED BY THE FACULTY OF LAW AT VFU “CHERNORIZETS HRABAR”, ESTABLISHED A CRIMINOLOGY CLUB

Over 160 participants took part in the course “Profiling of Unknown Perpetrators of Crimes”, taught by Prof. Yonko Kunchev, D.Sc. - Dean of the Faculty of Law and Head of the Master’s degree Programme “Forensic Expertise” at the University. Prof. Kunchev is also the author of the monograph “Course in Forensics”, which has already been published in two volumes, and two more are to be published.

Representatives of various spheres of public life participated in the training - psychologists, lawyers, pedagogues, security experts, representatives of state and municipal

structures, journalists and students from various specialties at VFU “Chernorizets Hrabar”, as well as graduates from other universities. They got acquainted with cases from the past related to the detection of perpetrators of crimes. Participants were also given the task of creating their own profile of an unknown homicide on the basis of evidence provided, and subsequently had the opportunity to compare their assumptions with the FBI’s analysis.

For further information visit <https://bit.ly/3CvlsEI>

**VFU “CHERNORIZETS HRABAR” IS IN TOP 3 OF THE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES IN THE COUNTRY AND IN TOP 10 OF THE BULGARIAN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

Varna Free University “Chernorizets Hrabar” is in the TOP 3 of the private universities in Bulgaria and in the TOP 10 of the higher educational institutions in the country for 2021, according to the ranking of UniRank - the independent

global information search engine for higher education.

For further information visit <https://bit.ly/3CyvoNq>



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