



University
of Gdańsk

INTERNATIONAL OFFICE (IO)

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Visiting Professors Programme UG

Results of the 4th edition of the 'Visiting Professors UG' programme. 14 laureates from all over the world.

The Committee of the 'Visiting Professors UG' Programme has selected 14 scientists from 12 countries - South Africa, Germany, Canada, Iran, the United States, Colombia, Uzbekistan, Japan, Norway, the Netherlands, Rwanda, and Austria - to visit the University of Gdańsk in 2024. This year's edition of the programme attracted record interest.



'The Visiting Professors programme is a strong element of our 'at home' internationalisation strategy. It is about opening our campus to foreign visitors and, above all, about diversity, multiculturalism and multilingualism in our academic life. Thanks to the programme, students and researchers have the opportunity to meet excellent scientists from all over the world,' says UG Vice-Rector for International Cooperation, Professor Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler.

In the fourth edition, the laureates will conduct 164 teaching hours in the form of classes for students, open lectures, seminars, and meetings with students and staff. These activities will significantly increase the internationalisation of education.

'Each of the scientist's visits has the potential to be the start of something great. We have many examples where an innocent exchange of e-mails or a conversation at a conference started a long and fruitful cooperation resulting in joint publications and projects,' said Vice-Rector for Research, Professor Wiesław Laskowski.

The fourth edition of the 'Visiting Professors at the University of Gdańsk' programme attracted record interest among University of Gdańsk staff carrying out research and/or teaching activities in cooperation with foreign researchers.

Thirty-eight applications were submitted for a total of PLN 613 500.

The application review committee assessed the submitted applications in terms of the reputation of the invited researcher, the prestige of their home research centre, the strengthening of existing international cooperation between centres, the interdisciplinary nature of the research topic, the impact on the quality of education and the tangible scientific effects of the visit.

The research proposed by the foreign guests will be carried out in the humanities and social sciences as well as in the sciences and natural sciences. Cooperation between UG staff and scientists from recognised institutions worldwide will contribute to strengthening the scientific potential of the university. The research's direct effects are expected to include new publications in internationally renowned journals and jointly submitted scientific projects.

List of laureates:



Menno van Zaanen from North-West University (South Africa), invited by dr Karolina Rudnicka from the Faculty of Philology.

The purpose of the visit is to conduct teaching activities and interdisciplinary research in digital humanities.



Sigrid James from the University of Kassel (Germany), invited by Professor Justyna Siemionow from the Faculty of Social Sciences. The purpose of the visit is to conduct teaching and research activities in the field of social work.



John P. Smol from Queen's University (Canada), invited by Professor Wojciech Tylmann from the Faculty of Oceanography and Geography.

The purpose of the visit is to conduct scientific research on the state of northern Polish lakes and their eutrophication and to hold two open lectures.



Torsten Waldminghaus from the Technical University of Darmstadt (Germany), invited by Professor Monika Glinkowska from the Faculty of Biology. The purpose of the visit is to conduct a series of multidisciplinary lectures on synthetic biology.



Rasoul Khosravi from Shiraz University (Iran), invited by Professor Małgorzata Pilot from the Faculty of Biology. The purpose of the visit is scientific research in population genetics.



Sarah FitzGerald from Valdosta State University (USA), invited by Professor Magdalena Nowak from the Faculty of History. The purpose of the visit is teaching and research activities in the field of history issues in public space, as well as US history and relations with Poland.



Luis A. Guzman from Universidad de los Andes (Colombia), invited by Professor Monika Bąk from the Faculty of Economics. The purpose of the visit is teaching and research activities in the field of urban planning and transport.



Said Gulyamov from Tashkent State University of Law (Uzbekistan), invited by Professor Edvardas Juchnevicius from the Faculty of Law and Administration. The purpose of the visit is to conduct a series of lectures and workshops in financial law and artificial intelligence and carry out research.



Ulrike Müßig from the University of Passau (Germany), invited by Michał Gałędek from the Faculty of Law and Administration. The purpose of the visit is to give lectures to students and doctoral students and to carry out research on issues of constitutionalism in Central and Eastern Europe.



Satoshi Warita from Aoyama Gakuin University (Japan), invited by dr Jack Splisgart from the Faculty of Languages. The purpose of the visit is to conduct a series of lectures and specialised classes in Japanese, as well as to carry out research work.



Rick Dolphijn from Utrecht Univeristy (Netherlands), invited by dr Irena Chawrilka from the Faculty of Languages. The purpose of the visit is teaching and research activities in the field of cosmophilosophy.



Christine Nyiramana from the Protestant Institute of Arts and Social Sciences (Rwanda), invited by dr Wioleta Gierszewska from the Faculty of Social Sciences. The purpose of the visit is to conduct a series of classes on sub-Saharan Africa's digital transformation and participatory leadership.



Rotem Shneor from the University of Agder (Norway), invited by dr Joanna Adamska-Mieruszewska from the Faculty of Economics. The purpose of the visit is to carry out teaching and research activities related to crowdfunding.



Borivoje Dakić from the University of Vienna (Austria), invited by Professor Marcin Pawłowski from the International Centre for Theory Of Quantum Technologies. The purpose of the visit is to carry out research in the field of quantum physics (reconstruction of quantum states).

The internationalisation strategy of Polish science, the challenges of European University alliances, and the conclusions after the EAIE conference in Rotterdam were the topics discussed during the stationary meeting of the University Internationalisation Commission. The UIC was established by the Conference of Rectors of Polish Universities in November 2022 and brings together university plenipotentiaries for international cooperation from all over Poland.

The meeting, which took place on December 8 at the University of Silesia in Katowice, was opened by UIC President, Professor Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler and UIC Vice-President, Professor Tomasz Pietrzykowski from the University of Silesia.

The floor was then taken by the Rector of the University of Silesia, Professor Ryszard Koziołek, who talked about the events prepared as part of Katowice's obtaining the title of European City of Science 2024. The idea behind the celebrations is to organise 50 themed weeks full of scientific and popular science attractions, as well as cultural, sporting and artistic events created by the academic and municipal communities. Progress in the preparation of the National Internationalisation Strategy was presented by the Director of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA - Narodowa Agencja Wymiany Akademickiej), dr Dawid Kostecki. The inaugural meeting with the Ministry of Education and Science on this initiative was held on September 22, 2023. The NAWA Director outlined the plan to build a national strategy for the internationalisation of higher education and science and invited the community to collaborate.

The key issues related to internationalisation, i.e. micro-certifications and the legal status of European University Alliances, among others, were presented by the UIC President. 'In particular, partners from European University Alliances draw attention to the need to define clear rules for the delegation of staff, joint affiliations, access to research infrastructure, processing of personal data, management of intellectual property or rules for joint procurement of goods and services,' said Professor Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler. After the break, the topic of European Universities was developed by Professor Dominik Antonowicz, and dr Marta Jaworska from the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń.

The academics talked about research on European Universities conducted at the Nicolaus Copernicus University Department for Research on Science and Higher Education.

In Polish universities, this programme is viewed strategically. The long-term future of a university is linked to alliances. The main barriers to the development of the European Universities initiative identified in the study are:

- legal and regulatory constraints - incompatibility of national legal systems;
- organisational constraints - e.g. cumbersome bureaucracy or lack of synchronisation of academic calendars;
- financial constraints - the need to involve funds from outside the consortia, e.g. to finance mobility programmes or to strengthen the language skills of academic staff.

At the end of the meeting, the experience gained during the presidency of the Transform4Europe consortium was shared by the Plenipotentiary for International Cooperation at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Silesia, Professor Małgorzata Myśliwiec.

Expert panels identified the main challenges in internationalisation. The UIC's aim is coordinated inter-university cooperation in these areas, which will allow consistent communication with the Ministry of Science and Higher Education and international institutions related to, for example, the European Union.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF THE CRASP AND CRPU COMMITTEE MEETING

The International Cooperation Committee of CRASP and the University Internationalisation Commission of CRPU jointly deliberated in Poznań as part of the conference 'Foreign students in Poland 2024'.

On 7-9 February 2024, the Poznań University of Technology hosted a conference entitled 'Foreign students in Poland 2024'. The accompanying event was a joint meeting of the International Cooperation Committee of the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland and the University Internationalisation Committee of the Conference of Rectors of Polish Universities. The event was chaired by the Vice-Rector for International Cooperation of the UG, the Chair of the University Internationalisation Commission of the CRPU, Prof. Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler.

During the meeting, Prof. Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler presented "New priority directions for international cooperation and attracting foreign students: experiences and opportunities". The speech "The role of Polish engineering organisations in recruiting foreign students" was given by Prof. Andrzej Nowak from Auburn University. The discussion also included the EUA's recommendations on the shape and structure of FP10 and the role of the 'Polish Returns' and the 'Gen. W. Anders Scholarship Programme for the Polish Community' in strengthening ties with the Polish academic community.

The conference 'Foreign students in Poland 2024' was organised by the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland, the Poznań University of Technology and the Education Foundation PERSPEKTYWY.





Cooperation between European Universities and Ukrainian HEIs. Meeting at the University of Strasbourg and the European Parliament

How to support Ukrainian universities while introducing them strategically to European Union initiatives? This was discussed by representatives of the European Universities programme members and Rectors of Ukrainian universities at a meeting with the Vice-President of the European Parliament, Ewa Kopacz, and representatives of the European Commission.

This was the first meeting of its kind, bringing together state authorities, the European Parliament, the European Commission, Ukrainian universities and alliances of European Universities.

The SEA-EU alliance was represented at the conference by the Vice-Rector for International Cooperation, Professor Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler.

The meeting took place at the University of Strasbourg and the European Parliament on March 13 this year. The conference 'European and Ukrainian Universities Cooperation: state of play and future perspectives' consisted of three panels. In the first, representatives from both sides spoke about the current state of strategic cooperation between European and Ukrainian universities.



The conference 'European and Ukrainian Universities Cooperation: state of play and future perspectives' consisted of three panels. In the first, representatives from both sides spoke about the current state of strategic cooperation between European and Ukrainian universities. Best practices and supporting initiatives were identified by representatives of alliances of European Universities: EUniWell, SEA-EU, EC2U, ENHANCE, and CIVICA.

Deputy Minister of Education and Schooling of Ukraine Mykhailo Vynnytsky and Deputy Minister of Education of the Czech Republic Jiří Nantl also participated in the conference.

'Odessa I. I. Mechnikov National University has been an associate partner of the SEA-EU alliance for almost two years now, but we are constantly striving and making efforts for Ukrainian universities to gain full membership status in the European Universities programme. This is what determines their funding from the Erasmus+ programme. I am glad that as SEA-EU we had the opportunity to present the fruits of our cooperation in front of the Vice-President of the European Parliament and representatives of the European Commission,' says Prof. Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler. 'We showed that our cooperation after February 24, 2022, came about naturally, irrespective of EU funding, as a form of aid for Ukrainian higher education. However, if we want to further support Ukraine and prepare it to join the EU, these initiatives need systemic support from the European Commission.'



FROM LEFT: MAGDALENA ADAMOWICZ, EWA KOPACZ, PROF. ANNA JURKOWSKA-ZEIDLER, PROF. BOGUMIŁA KANIEWSKA

SEA-EU as an alliance of 9 coastal universities has a multifaceted cooperation with Odessa I. I. Mechnikov National University (ONU). The Ukrainian university regularly participates in the life of the consortium, with its students and staff taking part in events and activities organised by UG and SEA-EU, such as the Young Science Congress and the 'Focus on Ukraine' conference. Also attending the meeting at the University of Strasbourg was ONU Vice-Rector for Research, Teaching and International Cooperation prof. Andrii Smitiukh.

Authorities from SEA-EU partner universities discussed support for the Ukrainian university during events such as Ukrainian Day, held as part of Governing Week at the University of Gdańsk. To date, support for ONU's participation in SEA-EU has been made possible through funding from the 'Solidarity with Ukraine' programme run by the National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA).

Read the full article





A NEW LOOK AT INTERNATIONALISATION - THIS WAS THE SLOGAN OF THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE 'FOREIGN STUDENTS IN POLAND', HELD ON 8-10 FEBRUARY IN POZNAŃ. WHY IS THIS NEW LOOK SO URGENTLY NEEDED? IF WE RECOGNISE INTERNATIONALISATION AS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN ACCELERATING POLAND'S INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT, IT BECOMES NECESSARY TO REFORMULATE THE APPROACH TO INTERNATIONALISATION PROCESSES IN ITS KEY DIMENSIONS. AND THIS IS WHAT THE POZNAŃ MEETING WAS HELD FOR! AMONG THE SPEAKERS WAS RECTOR, PROFESSOR PIOTR STEPNOWSKI.

Studenci zagraniczni w Polsce 2024 | 8-9 lutego, Poznań | Study inPOLAND

WŚRÓD MÓWCÓW

 Prof. Arkadiusz Mężyk Przew. KRASP, rektor PŚI	 Prof. Bogumila Kaniewska Rektorka UAM	 Prof. Jerzy Lis Rektor AGH	 Prof. Piotr Stepnowski Rektor UG	 Prof. Grzegorz Mazurek Rektor ALK
 Prof. Teofil Jesionowski Rektor PP	 Prof. Andrzej Jajszczyk Prezes PAN w Krakowie	 Prof. Lucyna Woźniak Prorektor UM w Łodzi	 Prof. Piotr Sankowski Prezes IDEAS NCBR	 Dr hab. Dominik Antonowicz Profesor UMK



DR KATARZYNA ŚWIERK WITH THE STAR OF DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Director of the UG Office of Science, dr Katarzyna Świerk, has been awarded this year's Stars of Internationalisation in the Star of Development category! This is an award for people who have contributed most to the internationalisation of Polish universities.

'This is a great distinction and a great joy for me. But it is also a motivator to keep doing more and better and to look far into the future because the road to academic excellence is very long and bumpy,' said the winner. 'This award recognises my activities in recent years, which would not have been possible without the openness and trust of the rector's authorities. It is, in fact, an award for all of us, for the University of Gdańsk, which I have the honour to represent.' The award chapter highlighted the diversity of dr Katarzyna Świerk's activities, who at the same time heads the UG Office of Science and is the UG Plenipotentiary for Open Access to Scientific Publications. In addition, the laureate has dealt with theoretical and practical problems of higher education for several years. She works with the Institute for Higher Education Development and is a certified EU auditor for HR Excellence in Research and Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe.

In this year's edition, awards were presented in nine categories. The winners' contributions to, among other things, promotion, education or management in the field of internationalisation were recognised. The awards were received by vice-chancellors, deans, academics and administrative staff of universities from all over Poland.



This was the seventh edition of the prestigious Star of Internationalisation award, granted as part of the Study in Poland programme, an initiative carried out by the Educational Foundation 'Perspektywy' and the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland. 'The award promotes people who open our higher education institutions to other experiences and cultures,' says Waldemar Siwiński, founder of the Perspektywy Educational Foundation. 'It is an important community distinction because the work put into the internationalisation of universities is often overlooked, yet it is of great value.'

In last year's edition, the title of Management Star went to the Vice-Rector for International Cooperation, Professor Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler. The jury paid particular attention to the organisation of the 'Solidarity with Ukraine' conference and the micro-grant project for Ukrainian scientists.





ON FEBRUARY 25-27, 2024, THE "STUDY IN POLAND" PROGRAM MADE ITS DEBUT IN A NEW RECRUITMENT MARKET - EGYPT WITH A NATIONAL STAND DURING THE REGION'S LARGEST EDUGATE EDUCATION FAIR IN CAIRO. THE 11 UNIVERSITIES THAT TRAVELED TO CAIRO PRESENTED TO CANDIDATES FROM NORTH AFRICA THE ADVANTAGES OF THEIR EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS AND THE OPPORTUNITIES TO STUDY IN OUR COUNTRY. THE MOST SOUGHT-AFTER MAJORS WERE MEDICINE, PHYSIOTHERAPY AND STUDIES RELATED TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI). OUR INTERNATIONAL OFFICE WAS REPRESENTED BY NATALIA FIERTEK AND KLAUDIA SACZEWSKA. INTEREST IN OUR STAND AT THE STUDY IN POLAND BOOTH WAS HUGE. FUTURE POTENTIAL STUDENTS WERE INQUIRING ABOUT OUR FULL-TIME STUDIES OFFER, WITH INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS, INFORMATICS AND ECONOMETRICS SPEC. BUSINESS INFORMATICS AND QUANTUM INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BEING MOST SOUGHT-AFTER 🎓 ATTENDANCE WAS HUGE, WITH STUDENTS BROUGHT BY SCHOOL BUSES IN ORGANIZED GROUPS AND ARRIVING WITH THEIR PARENTS OR FRIENDS. OVERALL, THE FAIR WAS A GREAT SUCCESS.

See you at the next one!



ORIENTATION DAYS WITH INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

IN FEBRUARY, 150 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICIALLY BEGAN THEIR STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GDAŃSK FOR THE 2023/2024 SUMMER SEMESTER.

ORIENTATION DAYS BEGAN WITH A SERIES OF INFORMATION MEETINGS CONDUCTED BY THE ERASMUS+ OFFICE. DURING THE MEETINGS, THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY WAS INTRODUCED ALONG WITH THE OPPORTUNITIES IT OFFERS AND THE PROCEDURES REQUIRED TO LEGALIZE THEIR STAY IN POLAND. AFTER THE OFFICIAL PART, THE STUDENTS VISITED THE GDYNIA AQUARIUM AND THE EXPERIMENT SCIENCE CENTER IN GDYNIA, WHERE THEY SPENT THE DAY LEARNING ABOUT FIELDS SUCH AS PHYSICS, MEDICINE AND PSYCHOLOGY IN THE CONTEXT OF FUN.

DURING THE WEEKEND, STUDENTS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORY OF GDAŃSK DURING A VISIT TO THE EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CENTER AND THE WORLD WAR II MUSEUM, AND PARTICIPATED IN A TOUR OF GDAŃSK'S OLD TOWN WITH AN ENGLISH-SPEAKING GUIDE.





Next
International
Coffee



Welcome Centre

25th of April

12:30-14:30