



PÉCSI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS

uni pécs

2016 AUTUMN

— international —





PÉCSI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS

Dear first-year student!

We are delighted that you have chosen the University of Pécs. Let us congratulate you on your successful preliminary.

You can now start your studies at the first University of Hungary, which was founded by King Louis the Great in 1367.

Our institution is going to celebrate its 650th anniversary next year and we are planning to organise a series of events that might be of interest to the people living within and beyond the borders of our country. As a student of our University, you have the possibility to take active part in our celebration.



PTE-s lettél! Köszöntünk!

You became a PTE (UP) Student! Welcome!



It might seem premature, however, we consider it important to note that our former graduates are doing extremely well both in the domestic and in the international labour markets, so we are convinced that the value of your diploma will be confirmed by the knowledge gained at the University of Pécs.

We suggest that, besides your studies, you also spend time on yourself, on your friends from the University and on the freetime activities offered by the University of Pécs.

Our studies show that those who have already graduated at the University of Pécs look back to this period as the best years of their lives. The active student life of the University of Pécs, its lecturers and researchers guarantee this experience for you, as well.

On behalf of all the citizens of the University of Pécs we wish you all the best.

Info: www.pte.hu/english,
www.pte.hu/deutsch



What can we expect during the fall semester?

Interview with dr. József Bódis, rector of the University of Pécs

The University of Pécs will celebrate the 650th anniversary of its foundation on 1st September 2017 and a series of events have already been launched. What will be the main events of the Jubilee's Fall Programme during this term?

I believe that all our jubilee programmes planned earlier have got a final approval: we have outlined and drafted every event but many of the most important ones require the participation of key figures in Hungarian higher education and of government representatives. As far as I know, the structure of the government is going to change but we have already contacted and cooperated with representative person who mediates between the University of Pécs and the government regarding the anniversary.

The government of Hungary decided, at the beginning of this year, to support the development of the University of Pécs in the framework of the Modern Cities Programme. The aim of this 24-billion HUF subsidy is to double the number of the foreign students studying in Pécs by 2020. What can we expect in this regard during the term?

Essentially, this support programme is not only about attracting more foreign students but also about increasing the quality of our education. We have established the necessary organisations to work with the 24-billion project and the major directions of development. The planning processes have started and in some cases the approval processes have also begun. We hope that the amount, HUF 4.5 billion, provided for this year will be transferred. In addition, I also hope that at least the construction of the so-called International Student Centre at Damjanich Street and the reconstruction of the Clinical Centre at Rákóczi Street will start. What is more, I hope they will be completed.

Has there been an increase in the number of foreign students?

Altogether 2965 foreign students studied at the UP at the end of May including both those who got a scholarship and those who

pay tuition fees. We already enjoy the first benefits of the programme, the applicants of the Stipendium Hungaricum project. If all go well the number of foreign students can exceed 3 000 during the fall. My real ambition is to increase the number of foreign students to reach 4 000 by September 2017. We are working on it, we have much to do to achieve it, but this would really confirm the intentions of the government programme in the framework of which we are supported financially.

The Centre for World University Rankings published its latest ranking of universities at the end of this summer. Among the world's top universities the University of Pécs occupies the 877th place again. Compared to last year's result the UP improved 16 places.

This result is based on several factors: our scientific results, the quality of those, citations, impact factors, etc. However, I think that the data about our alumni has to be inaccurate. As the example of Times Higher Education shows: providing the real, official data produces a more prominent place in the rankings for us. The three institutions of Hungarian higher education have a 0.6 difference among each other in the consolidated list. I am convinced that if we could provide correct data, it could increase the total score by a few tenths and it would mean a lot. The UP would improve its position, up to about 150-200 places. It would be important to include the results from the fields of art and technology, as these are also important, and this extended basis would help us in relation to the rankings.

As for our performance, it should be improved but I think the only reason why we are behind our Hungarian competitors is that we have fewer teachers than the universities of Szeged or Debrecen, and the performance of a smaller staff naturally produces less results. Developing human resources linked to foreign language training can change this.



The University of Pécs reached a better international position!

The Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) has published its latest 2016 ranking list. The University of Pécs demanded a place for itself among the world's top universities as well.

The 877th place means that our University stepped forward 16 places compared to last year and the UP keeps its position and therefore still belongs to the leading 3,6% of international higher education institutions worldwide!

Results are based on the performance of eight criteria by the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR - <http://cwur.org/>), including the quality of education, employment of graduates, the excellence of the instructors, the number of publications, citation rates, and the number of patents.

The first three aspects are taken into consideration as a priority since they are considered 25-25 percent of the total score. The quality of education is measured on the basis of the number of the international awards gained by the alumni of the institution. The number of graduates employed as CEO-s around the world is important at the criterium named "employment of graduates".

József Bódis, rector of the University of Pécs emphasized on the basis of the result: *It is exceptional to belong to the top 900 of the world, moreover, this time we also improved our position compared to last year's. It should be noted, however, that the University of Pécs could be in an even more prominent position if the successes in the areas of art would be count toward these international higher education rankings as well. If these indicators were taken into consideration we we could make a huge step forward.*

Imprint

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UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS

TOP 10 HOMECOUNTRIES
OF THE FOREIGN STUDENTS

★ ★ ★ AT THE ★ ★ ★

UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

GERMANY 



38%

NORWAY 14%

IRAN 14%

 11% CHINA

TURKEY  5%

SOUTH-KOREA 4%

SPAIN 4%

JORDAN  5%

NIGERIA 3%

JAPAN  3%

NUMBER OF FOREIGN STUDENTS OF THE UP: 3366 FROM 105 COUNTRIES



Spectacular modernization at the University of Pécs

The government of Hungary decided, at the beginning of this year, to support the development of the University of Pécs in the framework of the Modern Cities Programme. The aim of this 24-billion HUF subsidy is to double the number of the foreign students studying in Pécs by 2020. This means that a rapid development can be expected at the University of Pécs in the next few years, which can lead to modernising the infrastructure as well as inviting highly qualified lecturers and researchers to come home to work.

After the Government Decree was made public the leadership of UP immediately established a project coordination team to prepare and implement the Modern Cities Programme. The team has carried out the necessary discussions and determined the major guidelines for the development programme. The main decision-making body of the University, the Senate, has recently accepted the guidelines containing the details of this development.

According to the decision, a great part of the financial support will be spent on the development of medical education, as this field has already proved its great popularity among foreign students. This high quality education is also appreciated beyond our borders. This means that the Medical School in Pécs will get a new educational building and the park surrounding the existing building will be completely renewed using approximately 14 billion HUF. One of the most important aspects of medical education is practical training, thus more buildings of the Clinical Centre are going to be modernized using around 4 billion HUF. Consequently, the comfort of the patients and their relatives can significantly increase.

However, the only way to keep the current quality of education is to expand the number of lecturers teaching in foreign languages. Therefore a part of the support will cover the attempts to invite highly qualified Hungarian lecturers and researchers who currently work abroad.


From the remaining 9 billion HUF the Győző Csorba Library - maintained by the Faculty of Health Sciences - and the campus in Szepesi and Vörösmarty streets are going to be renewed. What is more, the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology in Boszorkány street is also going to get new laboratory building. Raising the number of the students also requires the improvement of the accommodation conditions so the Balassa János and Damjanich Student Hostels will also

undergo renovation together with the Hunyor Hostel. The Faculty of Humanities, the Faculty of Sciences, the Faculty of Pharmacy and the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Education and Regional Development are also going to be modernized in the next few years. A new University Business Centre will complete the Faculty of Business and Economics, while the Faculty of Law is going to receive a communication room. The Faculty of Music and Visual Arts will be given the opportunity to buy instruments, which are considered rare even at the international level.

Rector József Bódis spoke about the development of the university: *Pécs is in a special position among the beneficiaries of the Modern Cities Programme, since this is the only city out of the twenty-three involved, where the government's support programme is implemented through the development of the university. As a result of this subsidy the first University of Hungary, which celebrates its 650th anniversary next year, has the chance to develop continuously, which guarantees its success even after the Jubilee Year - emphasized the rector.*

Zsolt Páva, Mayor of Pécs added: *The development of the University using this 24 billion HUF is not a narrow educational programme, but a more complex, priority project in our region, since it has a significant impact on the region's economy. The modernisation affects each faculty and each educational field of the University of Pécs, so both the residents of the city and the citizens of the university will benefit from this development in the following years - told us the mayor.*

Péter Csizi, member of the Hungarian Parliament said: *The greatest achievement of this support is that it ensures advantageous possibilities even for those fields and faculties that have attracted less foreign students so far. We all are aware of the impact the students arriving from beyond our borders exert on the economy of the city and the region - expressed his opinion Péter Csizi.*

A low-angle photograph of a modern building. The building features a glass facade on the right side and a wall covered in a colorful mosaic of small tiles on the left side. The sky is visible in the background.

How much has the SZENTÁGÓTHAI RESEARCH CENTRE ACHIEVED?

The International Board of specialists evaluated the accomplished tasks of the Szentágotthai Research Centre. Professor Gábor Kovács L. summarized the results.



How can a board of specialists from different countries evaluate?
They were on a site visit in the Research Centre, and we also needed to prepare for the visit: we made a report of 600 pages in English that contained the scientific results of the research groups, their role in PhD education and their ability of project generating. The International Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) made interviews during the site visit, they visited all of the laboratories and asked the researchers to present what they exactly do, how they see their future and the continuity of their research. At the end of the site visit they had a closing session where they summed up their findings, then they worked for months to refine their final report that contains not only the evaluation of the research groups but also the evaluation of the whole Szentágotai Research Centre (SzRC) and the management.

What findings did they have?
I would like to start with their probably most important statement: they found most of the research groups outstanding even on an international scale.

This qualification was prepared with meticulous care. They evaluated whether the researches can represent a European quality and can collaborate internationally. After receiving the final report we had two days together with the research group leaders where we presented the evaluations, everyone could see the evaluation of other groups so we could discuss them even the critical parts. During this two days there were also very tough conversation and finally we decided to ask four groups not to continue their work as previously but in a new form as associated member leaving their laboratories back. I think we have parted friendly.

We have also accepted the recommendation of the ISAB to create the associate member status: these are research groups that would like to be in connection with the Research Centre, to participate on our events, to get information but they do not have laboratory space, they do not work in the Research Centre. There were three research groups that we need to ask to become associate members. Among these there was one where the decision was based on their performance or their future working. They had also received prior feedback regarding that



but they could not meet the requirements. There were also research groups that moved in at the beginning with huge enthusiasm but later it turned out that they could not run two laboratories parallel in the Research Centre and in the Faculty. You said that you have discussed the critics of the ISAB altogether with the researchers. It sound really tough.

I think in Hungary we do not have the habits for that. The thing that we could made it like this is because many of the research group leaders came back to Hungary from abroad where it is not unusual to discuss someone's performance in front of their colleagues.

The Advisory Board is absolutely professional in many point of view as they pointed out everything although they did not write anything in the final report that is more than giving advice. This belongs to our managerial tasks. They held a mirror in front of us but they let us do the exact steps.

What were the recommendations for the future?

To define the main research topics of the Research Centre the ISAB reviewed all the research group and they stated that the

research topics of SzRC are mainly connected to medicine, health and human organism. The recommended us to try to manage our grants to help the research groups that are not connected directly to these topics to be able to connect by researching more medicine-related topics in the future. For example the High-field terahertz research group, that seems to be far from medicine, can have the medical laser research as new aim - for example the role of laser in the therapy of tumorous diseases. The aim is to define the mission statement of the Szentágotthai Research Centre in a simple sentence that everybody can understand.

However, the aim of the University of Pécs (UP) is to have the Szentágotthai Research Centre become the flagship of the University the ISAB suggested us to clarify our activities for other people. Though there are about 200 people who work in the Research Centre but among them there are lot whose primary workplace is at the faculty so they are less committed for the Research Centre.

We can stay on an international level if we cooperate with the faculties but in the same time we need to prove that the Research Centre is a separate research and innovation unit. Most research centres in the world are tightly connected to, but not necessarily the part of the universities. In this point of view, we are in a special situation. We are an integral part of the university, but separate from any faculties of it.

The ISAB warned us not to dissolve into the faculties because in this case the Research Centre would become another workplace that just enlarges the research surface of the faculties. According to this they suggested to cooperate with the faculties but try to create an own crew of the young scientists. That's why we have created a scholarship programme that helps - for the moment - three young scientists. Last year the two of the three new colleagues came back to Hungary and the third one got the opportunity to continue his outstanding research work in the Research Centre by the help of the programme. This three young scientists can continue their works if they can prove that they have strong collaboration with the other research groups in the SzRC.

The ISAB also missed a social place where the research groups can stay together talking, exchanging ideas, we are still searching for the solution. They also suggested us to have someone who can help to represent the Research Centre internationally in grants, mainly in Brussels. They think that it is hard to win any big international grant without having someone who has personal contact. In this topic we need to make steps together with the Rector and the leadership as this is not only the problem of the Research Centre.

You have mentioned the suggestion to become more independent. How can we imagine that?

We do not want to compete the faculties we are not even the part of the graduate education. I think this centre can exist until we can keep a win-win situation with the faculties. In this point of view we have a definitely different situation than other research centre in Europe as there the centres mostly have

research staff. I can imagine that in cooperation with the faculties but making it clear that the Research Centre has separate, internal decisions.

How much were you surprised by the result?

I was not so much surprised and I am very glad that two-third of the 24 research groups was said to be good in international scene. We do not need to feel ashamed as it is a really good result.

Who are our competitors in the region?

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) has its own research centre that is definitely a competitor decades ahead of us. Our advantage can be that our researchers are mainly focused on medical field so we can manage clinical programmes better. The Biological Research Centre of HAS in Szeged is a very professional, established centre as well. The third big competitor is the Institute of Experimental Medicine of HAS. All the three institutes were established decades ago, they are specialized and internationally renowned centres.

The research centres of the Universities are just about to be established in Hungary. In Western Europe this has begun 15-20 years ago in a better economic environment.

The ISAB said that we are still at the beginning but in Hungary we are pioneers.

What successes and failures do you see in the last three years?

The UP previously could not be presented in the European research infrastructure because the departments and institutes individually are too small to be research infrastructures as for that 150-200 researchers are needed. By establishing the Szentágothai Research Centre the UP was able to appear in the Hungarian research and innovation scene, we got on the European and Hungarian roadmap of research and innovation. Modestly, but I can say it is one of our successes. If we see our grant-creating activity: 70-75% of the Economic Development and Innovation Operational Programme applications of our university are connected to the Research Centre.

Now we are in a middle of a reorganisation within the Research Centre, practically we do not have any free space there are research group in every little corner. We have finished the construction of the third floor of the A building where the new research groups and the secretary of the ISAB got offices and we moved there our videoconference room.

The interest has been increased from the faculties, this is another success. Originally three faculties, the Medical School, the Faculty of Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering and IT were represented, nowadays the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Health Sciences would like to join us, we have several cooperation with the Clinical Centre and the incubation processes of Faculty of Business and Economic are also in connection with the Research Centre.

I can also say some failures: we were not really successful to cooperate with the business partners, enterprises of the region. We also have an Industrial Advisory Board but they have a more

formal and less important role than ISAB has. But we can say that is not a coincidence. If we check the national grants for cooperation between education and industry, Pécs could not win any of these, because we do not have an economic partner as Győr has Audi, Kecskemét the Mercedes or Debrecen the pharmaceutical industry, all of them are tightly connected to the universities. This field has always been incomplete, and honestly it is still even with SzRC.

Until now the UP has only one spin-off company which's main profile is the 3D lung tissue printing. The opinion of ISAB is really important for us also because more of them have established research centres like ours 15 years ago and they have more than 40 spin-off companies so they really know what they are talking about.

As you said the aim to explain the aim of the Research Centre in one sentence. Can you imagine now how you can manage this?

There are some rather important topics in our research works, I would like to present some. The most powerful one is the field of neural and brain research and it is internationally competitive. The reason for that the brain research has a great tradition in Pécs, even János Szentágothai was a brain researcher, and this absolutely fits into the National Brain Programme. The clinical part of the research is tightly connected to the Clinical Centre, but the theoretical (research) part is going on here in the Research Centre. For example the last months we have acquired an instrument of 200 million HUF (~640.000 EUR) value. Still we need to be careful as one of the HAS institutes has brain research as main profile so it would be a mistake to focus only on brain research.

Our molecular researches has nearly the same power, we have really good molecular laboratories where colleagues of both the Medical School and the Faculty of Sciences work including our research group dealing with in vitro fertilization.

The microbiological researches are also strong, maybe that field is the easiest to interpret for lay population. On one hand because the researcher working in their spacesuits-like clothes is really spectacular, on the other hand, no one needs to be convinced how important the virus research is. Although we do not mention so much but we have a special field also the laser physics, our researchers cooperate with the laser centre, ELI-ALPS Szeged. All of these are really important.

Did you get any deadline in the final report of ISAB?

They will come back next year and if nothing will be fulfilled of their suggestions - which I think is unbelievable - they will leave us as their time is worth more than that. I need to notice that they do this in their free time, absolutely free of charge. They will do that until they can see that we accept their recommendations and try to fulfil what we can. I think most of their notice is acceptable for me and for the management also. All of their suggestions are for a successful future of the research centre.



A PTE | 367 hooded sweatshirt?

A must-have
piece!

In - well, let's say: the most impossible - case that you still haven't got one, please see our website for partner stores and the English pricelist of the Alumni Office.

<http://alumni.pte.hu/en/university-gifts-959>

The partner stores' stocks and the prices may be subject to change.



ECL language exam

ECL Examinations is one of Hungary's leading language examination systems. Operated by the European Consortium for the Certificate of Attainment in Modern Languages this a standardised testing system provides proficiency language tests on four different levels (CEFR A2, B1, B2 C1) in 15 European languages (Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, English, French, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Rumanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak and Spanish). Prestigious universities and language schools in the home country of each language construct the tests and evaluate the papers.

Exams in December in the following languages:

English, German, French, Hungarian, Italian, Spanish, Romanian, Polish, Slovakian, Serbian, Russian, Bulgarian, Czech, Croatian and Hebrew.

2 December 2016 - levels A2, B1 and C1

3 December 2016 - level B2 only

Deadline for registration is: 3 November 2016.

e-mail: ecl@inyt.ptt.hu

Further information: www.eclexam.eu

Goethe language exam

Goethe provides language exam in German language. It is recognized primarily in Germany, Austria and in Switzerland thus it is chosen by those heading to these countries for studying, working and/or researching purposes. You can take Goethe language exam at the Foreign Language Center at University of Pécs on two occasions in a year.

The next exam date is: 2 December, 2016. Deadline for registration is: 14 November 2016.

Further information: <https://www.goethe.de/de/spr/kup/prf/prf.html>;

<http://inyt.ptt.hu/goethe.html>

e-mail: hrisztova@inyt.ptt.hu

The TOEFL® Test

The TOEFL test is the most widely respected English-language test in the world, recognized by more than 9,000 colleges, universities and agencies in more than 130 countries, including Australia, Canada, the U.K. and the United States. Wherever you want to study, the TOEFL test can help you get there. The TOEFL iBT test measures your ability to use and understand English at the university level. And it evaluates how well you combine your listening, reading, speaking and writing skills to perform academic tasks.

The next exam date is: 14 October, 2016. Deadline for registration is: 29 September 2016

Further information: <http://www.ets.org/toefl/>

e-mail: toth.emese@inyt.ptt.hu

Botanical Garden of the UP



The park used to be the garden of the Jesuit Pius Grammar School. Following the foundation of the Biology Department at the former Teachers' Training College, its development into a botanical garden was launched in 1952. The garden is under the professional supervision of the Department of Plant Systematics and Geobotany at the Faculty of Sciences, while its financial management belongs to the central financial body of the university. The garden was declared a county nature conservation area in 1989. More than 1200 trees and shrubs, as well as at least 2000 perennials are on display on the 5,2 ha area.

Opening hours:

The park can be visited from Monday to Saturday, until dusk.
Conservatories can be visited from October to April on weekdays: 8.00-12.00 a.m.,
from May to September on weekdays: 7.00-10.00 a.m.
The collections can be visited at other times, too, by making an appointment.

Info: <http://botanikuskert.pte.hu/>

4 How to get inspired? tips

1. Give yourself space and go for a walk.
2. Take a moment to breathe and look around you. Spend some time contemplating the astonishing orchid garden.
3. Disconnect for a while and relax at the pool of the palm house of the UP.
4. Daydream.



MUSIC HARVEST FESTIVAL

BTK-TTK BOTANICAL GARDEN
27 SEPTEMBER, 20.00

UNIVERSITY SEASON TICKET OPENING CONCERT

Budapest String Orchestra
Concertmaster: János Piltz
Contributing Dr. János Ruff Senior Lecturer

PÉCS,
27 SEPTEMBER –
2 OCTOBER

*focusing
on dance*

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WWW.ZENESZURET.HU

bringing music close
WWW.FILHARMONIA.HU





How do people from overseas see us?

University is about new experiences and creating ourselves. The main purpose is naturally studying, but in addition to it you have the chance to travel and discover another world. The only thing you have to do is find an international exchange programme which has a connection with your current place of studies. Good news for the students of the University of Pécs: you have several scholarships to choose from. Your only task is to make a decision about which is the one that fits you the most.

There are several programmes during your Bachelor studies, and even more to pick from when you are doing your Master's. Are you doing your postgraduate education, speaking English well enough? Do you like American culture and would you like to see the country with your own eyes? Well, Fulbright is absolutely for you!

Take a school from thousands of institutes. This scholarship offers an opportunity for students, lecturers and professors who are not Americans to study or continue their academic work in the USA. Of course, it also works two ways, so let's see this latter form a bit closer: we approached American lecturers who have spent a year at the University of Pécs.



Why did you apply for the Fulbright Scholarship?

Gabriel Loiacono: I had wanted to take part in the Fulbright Program for a long time. I think it is a really good programme, and a nice way for Americans to get to know other peoples around the world. The idea behind it was good at the beginning and it remains good even today, decades later.

Carol Ann MacCurdy: I taught contemporary American literature at Cal Poly and wanted the experience of teaching American literature overseas. I didn't just want to be a tourist; I wanted to live and work as part of another community.

Why Hungary? Have you been to this country before this scholarship?

Carol Ann MacCurdy: I had never been to Hungary, but was interested in teaching in a European country that had been occupied by the communists to see how students would respond to contemporary American fiction. I was not interested in Western

Europe. I also knew that Hungary had a strong literary and intellectual tradition.

William Henry Issel: Hearing stories about the many places, where my friends and neighbours came from, made me want to see the world and turned me into a "history buff." I knew a little about Hungary from my grade school friends and their families who, coming from Budapest resettled in San Francisco right after World War II. After taking a class at Berkeley by the Hungarian physicist Dr Edward Teller, I became fascinated with Hungary and hoped that one day I would have an opportunity to visit and learn more about the country.

Gabriel Loiacono: I have a family connection to Hungary. So did many of my fellow Fulbrighters, I noticed. My connection is that my wife is a Hungarian born in Serbia. We met in the USA where she had lived for many years and we frequently visit her family. Prior to my Fulbright, I had been only to Budapest and Szeged, but almost nowhere else in Hungary.

What were your first impressions about our little country? What do you think now?

Carol Ann MacCurdy: Initially I was struck by all of the graffiti on public buildings and the state of the classrooms was not great. I was also impressed by the number of Hungarians who spoke English and by their friendliness. I came to understand how heavily history has impacted Hungary, something I had never fully appreciated. Hungarians take much pride in having once been part of a great empire and are eager to share this. They have a sense of themselves as coming from a great people, a great past and their pride is wounded because the contemporary world does not view them this way. However, in many ways they maintain their intellectual and artistic traditions. I was struck by how many Hungarian students walk down the streets carrying a musical instrument. Knowledge of music and learning to play music is valued and encouraged in Hungarian culture.

Gabriel Loiacono: I had visited Hungary several times in the past, but my impressions were mostly about Budapest, and especially its city centre, where my wife's family live. Pécs was a quite different experience: it is just as beautiful as Budapest, but smaller, more liveable, easier with children. And I like the cafes much more than in the capital (*winks- the ed.*). I also learned a lot about college students, politics and everyday life in Hungary.

What were the main reasons when you chose a Hungarian university to visit?

Carol Ann MacCurdy: I chose Pécs because the New York Times wrote about it when it was to become the Cultural Capital of Europe in 2010. To be chosen, the city had to have a strong interest in arts and this appealed to me. Also I did not want an urban experience and this is what living in Budapest would offer. I wanted to live in a smaller city with a good university. It did not have to be the best university in the entire country; these institutions are often too competitive. I wanted to be in a friendly environment.

What is your opinion about our education compared to the way it works in America?

Carol Ann MacCurdy: The two seminars were very similar to the upper level seminars for English majors in the States. However, the large lecture class on the second half of American literature was very different. Attendance was optional and the grade was determined by the final exam. Therefore students could show up only for the final exam. No English classes are taught this way at Cal Poly or most other universities in the States. Passing a class without attendance would not be possible.

Gabriel Loiacono: There are several important differences. I think students in Hungary come out of high school knowing more than American students in general, but having less confidence in their ability to question or interpret history. Of course, my students in Pécs were not history, but English majors. Also, Hungarian students know a great deal about history in general, but less about American history in particular, I think. The university experience is different, too. American students have more chances to choose a major during college, and have more general education requirements than Hungarian students. On average American students also come to class more than Hungarian students. Of course, university in the USA costs more, sometimes a great deal more.

Was it easy to make friends here or just to fit into the community?

Gabriel Loiacono: My colleagues in Pécs were very nice. I do think, though, as a stereotype, that Americans make friends faster. My children also made nice friends here. The Hungarian students were more polite to me and interested in me than my American students.

Carol Ann MacCurdy: We found it easy to make friends and still keep in touch with them and see them when we return to Pécs. **William Henry Issel:** My colleagues in Hungary were very welcoming and many have become friends as well as fellow-workers. I was fortunate to have a number of enthusiastic

The advertisement features a dark red background with white and gold logos. On the left, logos for Swarovski, Porsche Design, and Gucci are displayed. In the center, the Sigmond Optika logo is prominent, featuring a stylized 'S' and the brand name. On the right, logos for Ray-Ban, Tag Heuer, and Silhouette are shown. Below the logos, a yellow banner contains the text 'glasses | contact lens | eye test | sunglasses' and the address 'Pécs, Irgalmasok street 18. | phone: 72/216-104 | www.sigmondoptika.hu'. A Facebook icon is also present in the bottom right corner.

and energetic students, and I enjoy keeping in touch with them as they move on from university to starting their career. I also enjoy my continuing relationship with my colleagues at the University of Pécs and with the Hungarian Fulbright Commission.

Can you compare Hungarian and American students?

Gabriel Loiacono: I think Hungarian students take too many classes at once and do not attend all of them, although they should. There were some students at the final exam I had never seen before.

Carol Ann MacCurdy: There is a difference. In 2009 the Hungarian students in my classes were very shy and reticent to talk. They were not used to expressing their opinion in class. This may have changed, but in my seminars it took some time for the students to feel comfortable with talking in classes. Once they realized that I really wanted to hear their opinions about what they were reading, they became more comfortable and talked more freely. They began to enjoy the discussions and loosened up. Class discussions seemed more of a novelty to them. A student once told me that they hadn't talked in other classes because they felt the professors didn't really want to know what they thought. American students are used to class discussions and share their opinion more easily. In my opinion, Hungarian students take too many classes and are therefore not always able to keep up with their reading assignment. English majors at Cal Poly know that they are expected to have read the assignment and that part of their grade is based on their participation; this isn't to say that they are always prepared, but they know they can be called on.

Can you give some advice to those who are doing their studies at the University of Pécs and want to be the part of the Fulbright experience?

William Henry Issel: The Fulbright program offers exciting possibilities for Hungarian students and teachers to visit the

United States. For students the place to check out the options is the American Corner, where the staff is knowledgeable and very committed to the kind of "public diplomacy" which is central to the Fulbright experience. For teachers, I recommend that they contact directly to the Hungarian Fulbright Commission in Budapest. Both Teachers and students will find many opportunities for meeting new colleagues, making new friends, and generally learning new ways to appreciate how

Fulbright helps you a lot with your costs because the programme offers some extra allocations:

- monthly fellowship prize (for accommodation and living)
- starter subsidy
- subsidy to buy the books you need or to assist your research
- subsidy if a relative goes to see you
- subsidy to make it easier to pay the school fee
- subsidy to cover half of your flight tickets
- health and accident insurance

Hungarians and Americans have a common interest in building a future committed to values of political and religious liberty, democracy and global justice.

Carol Ann MacCurdy: I think a Hungarian student would gain much from coming to an American university. Students here are expected to take initiative and not be passive; they are also for the most part friendly. I would encourage every Hungarian to accept any invitation they receive to learn more about the American culture. Time passes very quickly when one is studying abroad. Firstly, do your work: study. Then take the initiative in making friends and be open to new experiences.

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University Library of Pécs and Centre for Learning

The history of the library reaches back to 1774 when Bishop György Klimó established the first public library of Hungary. His rich and unique legacy is still part of the library of the University of Pécs, the Klimó Collection is available in Szepes utca.

17 libraries constitute the network of the library network of the University of Pécs: each of them provides several kinds of services for UP students on nearly all campuses of the university.

Pécs was awarded the title of European Capital of Culture in 2010. One of the main flagship projects of Pécs 2010 was the construction of Centre for Learning. This modern building is located at Universitas street, providing a centre for the network of libraries of the UP. It seems to be one huge integrated library, but in fact it is a collection of libraries: Ferenc Benedek Library of the Faculty of Law and Faculty of Business and Economics and Győző Csorba Library also works here, beside the Centre of Library of the UP.

University Library of Pécs and Centre for Learning has an area of 13,000 m² with 7 floors. Its reading room can seat more than 100 readers. Free parking is provided behind the building. There are a popular restaurant and a bookshop within the building.

University Library of Pécs and Centre for Learning provides more than 1.600.000 documents, 1340 periodicals, more than 20 databases.

Identity card or passport and student card of the UP are required for the registration for a reader pass. This special card is free of charge for students and teachers of the UP, it is valid for one year.

Library members can have an access to every institution of the network of the libraries of the University of Pécs.

Is it worth being an active foreign student?

Ameni Mehrez, the ambitious 23-year-old International Relations MA student from Tunisia spends two years in our city. She told us, why you should join ESN and why was learning some Hungarian words worth it when arriving here as a foreign student. We could also come to know, how she organized a Flash mob for peace together with several representatives of other nations in Pécs.



Why did you choose Pécs to study?

I decided to study abroad 1 or 2 years ago. I could have done something else in my home country, but I did want to study international relations. I refused to do it in Tunisia because this field of study is still quite new there, the lecturers are not specialized in it.

To be honest, Hungary was not my first choice: I applied for scholarship to other countries, too, but I haven't passed the selection. Before applying to Pécs, I checked the top universities of Hungary and their International Relations education programmes on the internet. The University of Pécs seemed to be the best choice for me. I have a Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship and my parents support me financially, too.

I think it was a good decision to come here: I really like my teachers they help me a lot and are well-educated.

What are your future plans with this profession?

Later on, I am planning to do a second master's: I would like to specialize in diplomacy or in international government. I think my diploma will be valuable in other countries and since the content of the courses and the whole programme is really rich, I will hopefully be able to get a job in Tunisia or abroad easily. It is even possible that I will work in Hungary representing Tunisia.

How much is studying in Eastern Europe recognised in your country?

It is really rare that someone from Tunisia goes to study in an Eastern European country. On the one hand Western Europe part is closer to us, and on the other hand, we speak French in our country so it is easier to make friendships in the Western part of Europe where people might speak French, as well. When I told my plans to my family and my friends, they were surprised and some of them didn't even know where Hungary was. However, they supported and encouraged me to come here.

I've heard that you represented Hungary in an international event. Can you tell me about it?

It was held in Croatia and I represented Pécs in a section and Hungary as a country. I got there through the ESN (Erasmus Student Network - the ed.), where I already have another task: I have to write articles and share them on the blog of ESN (www.esn.org/blog/blog - the ed.). I've always liked being active, I take part in as many organisations as possible, because I really like being involved and doing something useful. I also take part in cultural events such as the Flag's Party in Trafik, which is the opening party of ESN.

My best experience in Pécs was when I organized a Flash mob for peace. I worked together with people from Hungary, Germany, Poland, France, Turkey, the Czech Republic, Azerbaijan and China etc. It was amazing to see how my three-month-long work made sense. (*You can find the video about this Flash mob among the YouTube videos of PÉCS ESN - the ed.*)

What do you think about the other foreign students in the city?

I think they are great. The thing I like the most about Pécs is that it is full of foreigners so it's a very international place. I've never thought that I would meet so many different people. In the previous year I learned a lot, I did not only meet people from different countries - even from places I'd never heard about - but also from different ethnic groups. You can learn a lot when you are open towards students from other cultures. There are many stereotypes I had encountered through TV or social media earlier and I had to realize that all of them are the misconceptions of media.

How do you see the Hungarian people?

To be honest, initially I had the impression that Hungarian people didn't like foreigners. Before arriving here, I thought that my English was quite good so everything would be fine, but the problem was that nobody wanted to speak with me, even though they could speak English. I was really disappointed and felt that I was not welcome here. I am not talking about the faculty or the university where everyone speaks in English and everyone is helpful. I'm talking about the world outside the walls of the university. When I asked for someone in the shop or in the supermarket, it was really difficult to get information in English. So I decided that Hungarians didn't like anyone but their fellow countrymen. Then, in the second semester when I started my Hungarian language course, I was pleasantly surprised. Whenever I tried to speak some words in



Hungarian, even though I was not correct, they were extremely nice to me. I realized that a bit of local language can help you get closer to local people. Studying Hungarian might be difficult at the beginning, but trust me: it is worth it!

I've learned the language from Zsuzsa Szabadkai. She is one of my favourite teachers in Hungary, even though I had only one course per week with her. I was willing to get up at 6 am just to go to her class! Moreover, with her I never felt that learning the local language would be difficult at all.

How easy was the adaptation for you?

It took me a few months, but starting from the second semester, everything was easier: I got used to the place, to the people... At first I was surprised how few people live in Pécs, since I come from a big town, but at least it is quieter here. Living here is like having a second home and I have already adapted to it. If in the future I have the chance to return to Hungary, I will definitely use it.

What was the most surprising difference between Pécs and your home country?

People are very different: in Tunisia we always approach foreign people and start a conversation with them. If we like them, they can come to our house from the first day we meet, they can eat and even sleep at us: we are totally open-minded in this regard. In Hungary, if people don't know the person directly, they don't invite him or her to their home.

Where and with whom do you live in Pécs?

I live in Youth Hostel Szántó with other foreign students. I have a roommate from Azerbaijan and two flatmates from China. When I came to Pécs, in the International Office it was offered to me to live by myself in a room, but I chose to live with others and I haven't regretted it. There were no conflicts among us at all, though with my flatmates we are not that close, as they have their own habits.

Most of the time I went to parties with my roommates and other international students: we went to Trafik or to Pécsi Est Café. Parties there are similar to the ones in Tunisia, only the music is different.

We also went to restaurants: I like the Hungarian cuisine, especially goulash and the delicious Hungarian pasta.

What would you recommend to those who are planning to study here?

First of all, learn some basic Hungarian. I have many Hungarian friends and we help each other. I think I will try to keep in touch with them after returning home and even invite them to Tunisia. I can also suggest going to the courses of the Dancing University. I took part in them during both semesters I spent in Pécs and I really enjoyed them. In the first semester I took part in a Latin Dance course, and later in a Belly Dance course. There are plenty of international students taking part in this programme, but there are lots of local participants, as well.

And finally: discover Pécs as much as possible! It is a beautiful city: the view from the Mecsek Mountains, the churches, the ruins at Tettye, the TV Tower, the Széchenyi Square... I think everyone should make the most of each day spent here.





The University of Pécs is 650 years old

The University of Pécs (UP) will celebrate the 650th anniversary of its foundation on 1st September 2017, in the framework of which a series of events have already been launched. Following the events of the spring semester (more information: www.jubileum.pte.hu) several new events will wait for the students in the fall of 2016.

– Main events of the Jubilee's fall programme

The Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation Congress of Pécs will be held in Kodály Centre on 22-24th September. The main theme of the event is the prevention of heart- and circulation system diseases and the possibilities of their rehabilitation. The participants can get acquainted with the recent trends in sports cardiology, such as the possibilities of E-health in cardiovascular prevention and rehabilitation.

Info: www.convention.hu

The II. International Interdisciplinary 3D Conference will be held in the Szentágotthai János Research Centre on 6-8th October. After last year's loud success this year more lecturers and more companies will wait for those interested, who can follow the process of the making a 3D printed object from the blueprints till the end product - even textile printing will be introduced. The purpose of the conference is to involve a greater number of university students into the research topics of the UP 3D Project, therefore the organizers will also announce a competition.

Info: konferencia.pte3d.hu

The Faculty of Business and Economics would like to draw attention to the development of entrepreneurial attitudes with a series of program called "**The Development of Multiculturalism and Entrepreneurial Capacity in the Spirit of Multiculturalism**". In the spirit of developing multiculturalism a professional conference will be held in the building of the Faculty of Business and Economics on 2-3rd November. The purpose of the event is to create a situation where Hungarian and international students do not only live alongside each other but also with each other.

Info: www.ktk.pte.hu

In December, organized by the University Archives, a poster exhibition will be launched in the faculties of the University of Pécs with the title "**The chambers of Science**". The posters introducing the history of the buildings of the university's will reveal the story and original function of the various buildings.

Info: <http://leveltar.pte.hu>



UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS JUBILEE 650



Main events of the Jubilee's fall programme

Innovation Day of UP Szentágotthai János Research Centre

14-15th September | Szentágotthai János Research Centre

Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation Congress of Pécs

2-24th September | Kodály Centre

2nd International Interdisciplinary 3D Conference

6-8th October | Szentágotthai János Research Centre

Design Week

1-15th October | Budapest, Pécs

In memoriam Jacques Derrida

10-11th October | PTE Faculty of Humanities

Legacy and Presence of Teacher Training in the 650-year-old University

15th October - 31st December | Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Education and Regional Development, Szekszárd

The Development of Multiculturalism and Entrepreneurial Capacity in the Spirit of Multiculturalism

2-3rd November | Faculty of Business and Economics

10th International University's Theatre Festival

3-6th November | Janus University Theatre, Zsolnay Cultural Quarter, Bóbita Puppet Theatre

National Conference

9-10th November | Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Education and Regional Development, Szekszárd

The UP in the Past and Today

12-15th November | UP University Archives, PTE Knowledge Centre, Rector's Office, Faculties of UP

1st International Consumerism Conference

17-18th November | Faculty of Business and Economics

Gala Concert, Budapest

17-18th November | Budapest

The Stranger - 6th Hungarian Psychoanalytical Film Conference

18-19th November | Apolló Movie Theatre, Faculty of Humanities

The Chambers of Science

1-31st December | Faculties of UP

Unveiling the Renovated Fresco of the Halasy - Nagy József Aula

1-31st December | Faculty of Business and Economics

Beyond Panel Pictures

COLOUR POWER

Ilona Keserü, professor emerita of the University of Pécs, started short painting courses and organised exhibitions called Colour Power (or Színerő in Hungarian) for doctorate students in 2007. It was a platform for creating and presenting works of large scale in the huge unused halls of the Zsolnay Factory in Pécs. In 2016 the Colour Power exhibition can be seen in the "m21 Gallery" of the Zsolnay Cultural Quarter.



During the interviews made with her Ilona Keserü has mentioned several times that the aim of Colour Power is to display the monumental power of painting. It cannot be manifested easily today, because studios are usually small and paints and canvases are expensive for young artists. The Colour Power project offers a way to change the scales for the artists and students. The Kossuth Prize-winning Hungarian painter talks about the power of colours and their manifestation at the same time, experimenting on big canvases with the results of different research and colour theory schools.

Colour Power usually represents several creative minds and includes many different types of style, so it's quite difficult to describe it in a uniform way. Exhibition Colour Power stands out from all the rest: this is where the recipients get the strongest impulses. Painters and curators Zoltán Ádám and István Losonczy did an excellent job: this year's exhibition is well structured and fascinating.

Greco and me by Éva Katalin Könyv was one of my favourites: it is a portrait, in which the face (from the nose to the neck) is mostly hidden by El Greco's *Mary Magdalene in Penitence* (the original painting can be seen at the Museum of



Fine Arts, Budapest). The woman with her eyes cast down symbolizes shame which gets more depth as a result of summoning a classical painting. I was amused by another painting of her titled *Picture of the fate*: it's ironic how the piggy made of eosin (eosin is a special, iridescence glaze invented by Vilmos Zsolnay in 1983 - the ed.) in the hand reflects its spectators.

He has gone to try his fortune by Zsuzsa Nemes stirs memories of a naive child's drawing with its surrealism. *Hundred years* - another painting by her - recalls a terrible, sullen vision. József Bullás's paintings, a kind of op art, are

just beside István Losonczy's *Coatings I-II.*, Bullás's maximalism and Losonczy's minimalism side by side produce a sense of amusement. There are no words for *Motive 2.* by Nóra Baráth: it is an inner picture which dominates with its moderate style among the high influenced paintings. Anna Horváth's *Dream I-II.* paintings are ironic flicks about idealized wedding ceremonies.

Colour Power VI. is an remarkable exhibition, full of energy, playfulness and ideas. You can visit it until the end of September.

Confucius Institute

is a non-profit public educational organization affiliated with the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. Its aim is to promote Chinese language and culture, support local Chinese teaching and facilitate cultural exchanges. The first Confucius Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine in Central and Eastern Europe was launched in the spring of 2015 at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Pécs.



The first programme of the Confucius Institute during this semester will be a lecture held by Liu Zhang and Li Ji-an Dean about traditional Chinese medicine. There will be an exhibition by the students of the North China University of Science and Technology too.

Venue: Pécs, Vörösmarty Street 4.

Date: 12. September, 15:00

Registration: konfuciusz@etk.pte.hu

More info: <https://www.facebook.com/pteetk>



QIGONG

THE 40-YEAR-OLD QUI CHANG LONG CAME TO PÉCS FROM SAN-CHI PROVINCE IN CHINA. HE RESEARCHES, AND TEACHES TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE (TCM), AND TRAINS QIGONG HERE. QUI CHANG LONG VISITED PÉCS IN 2012 FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND HE LIKED THIS CITY. AS HE BELIEVES, IT MUST HAVE BEEN FATE THAT HE WAS ABLE TO JOIN THE CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE OF PÉCS. HE ENJOYS BREATHING THE CLEAN AIR OF THE TOWN, AND ALTHOUGH THE SLOWER HUNGARIAN PACE SEEMS STRANGE FOR HIM, HE HAS GROWN USED TO IT.



In American films we can see old Chinese people doing odd exercises in parks in the morning. Is that qigong?

It might be tai chi, or qigong, or even kung fu. The morning routine of exercises is different in every region of China. Tai chi and qigong are the most universal types.

As far as I know, qigong seems to be the origin of all Chinese martial arts. I found the so-called qi (chi) interesting. Could you define it?

Qi (chi) is a concept which derives from China. According to the Chinese way of thinking every object is divided into two categories: there are things, which can be touched and there are impalpable things, that cannot be seen. Qi (chi) is linked to the latter category: it represents power, energy. It cannot be measured, but you can feel this energy when practicing qigong.

This concept reveals the difference between the Western and Eastern way of thinking. How can Hungarians accept this knowledge?


It is quite easy to communicate with the students. When I teach about qi, I always ask them, whether they think all things have a common origin. It can have many names, according to Chinese philosophy this name is happen to be qi.

What is the difference between teaching in China and in Pécs?

In China I use my mother tongue to teach about Traditional Chinese Medicine, while here I have to use the English language, which is not so simple. Chinese terms are not the same in English, thus students can misunderstand the definitions they see in an English textbook. The cultural background is also quite different. An average Chinese student lives by TCM, they even know how to eat properly in case they are sick.

I have heard that China has been developing fast. By the time my friends returned to a Chinese city, it had changed quite a lot. Can TCM be preserved in this fast-changing country?

In case of TCM, kung fu or tai chi, the master-disciple relationship has always been very important. We keep this to this day. Even the state of the People's Republic of China supports the traditional ways of healing: every province has its own TCM university, but you can get traditional Chinese medical qualifications/ skills even in hospitals. The traditional Chinese philosophies - Confucianism and Taoism - are taught in kindergartens, both of them are integral parts of the curriculums.



TANGIBLE HELP

The objective of the Support Service of the University of Pécs is to help the life and the studies of those students, who live with disabilities. They transport the students requiring this service by a special minibus, organize trainings and borrow special tools. They have plenty of tools, with the help of which they can make the life of students living with disabilities easier. However, they don't have a printer applicable for Braille-writing...yet!

These tools are extremely expensive - informs us Csaba Magdali, institutional coordinator for disabilities at the UP Support Service and adds: Even the cheapest Braille-printer costs a half million HUF. The printer, which the Support Service needs to buy for students, is more expensive though it provides more opportunities: double-sided Braille-writing and graphics can be printed and normal characters can also be added, if needed. This means that even a person who does not understand Braille-writing can help the visually impaired students in learning and interpretation. The price of such a printer is around 1,5 Million HUF. The maintenance of the machine is not expensive, even though it requires using a special paper, which is much thicker than the usual one. Ink is not needed, since the characters appear in the paper with embossing - says Csaba Magdali. The reason why the graphics are extremely important is that they are difficult to describe orally. These visually impaired students belong to generation Y, which means that thanks to the various speech software of today's IT-tools, using Braille is not absolutely necessary. However, tables, graphs, drawings, an anatomical atlas or a map can't be explained orally: to illustrate the figures, we need this printer. Of course, books and notes could be reproduced with the machine, as well. Similarly to other elements in the current support system, using the printer would not be extra money for the needy students. Charged to our budget, we have been able to guarantee our services to the students with disabilities free so far, but our we don't have enough money for the printer - admits the coordinator.

Have fun and help!

We provide a great opportunity for all the citizens of the University of Pécs: they can view the dance show of the UP Dance Team free of charge in Kodály Centre on 20th September. However, at the same time it is a charity evening for the Support Service of the University of Pécs, who are planning to buy a Braille-printer to help the blind and visually impaired students of UP. It will be possible to contribute to the purchase of this special printer when buying your tickets or on the spot. During the break of the performance, in the framework of the sensitization program you will have a chance to get a closer look at the everyday life of our university students living with disabilities.

Pre-registration: www.tancolo.pte.hu/en
More info: tancprojekt@pte.hu



CULTURAL

SHOCK

– chill out, it
doesn't cause
permanent
damage

When moving to another country, either temporarily or permanently, you have to face the several unexpected: new people, new situations, new habits and eventually, you have to meet the new you - at least a yet undiscovered side of yours. How can you handle it? How can you prepare for it? How can you get the most out of your studies abroad and acquire skills that can help you throughout your life both professionally and personally? We asked Dr. Sára Bigazzi, lecturer of the Psychology Department at the University of Pécs (Faculty of Humanities).

Which nation do you think is mostly affected by cultural shock?

I wouldn't connect the measure of cultural shock to nations: in my opinion it depends rather on one's former experiences with diversity, on being open-minded and flexible. Besides, your ability to operate in new situations, with new people is also influenced by your past experiences. If someone lived in a little village in Italy, coming to Pécs, he or she might feel extremely big differences between his former and current lifestyle, and might not be aware of how to overcome this gap. At the same time, there can be someone else from India - which has a completely far different culture than Hungary - who can adapt to the changes easily since she already spent some time in a foreign country and, on top of it, has an easy-going personality.

I think open mindedness is closely linked to experiences: after a while it has to evolve otherwise you can't cope with your novel lifestyle successfully. Of course, you shouldn't deny your values and attitudes. The challenge is to cope with the differences when you meet people who don't share your norms. When you get into a new situation, your only choice is to experience new things. The more new situations you experience, the easier you can handle them.

How long does it take to get acclimatized to the new environment?

I don't think we can talk about a general length of time, since everyone arrives with different purposes: some will live here for a short time, some for years, and some move here permanently. Moreover, it depends on how much you are willing to discover your limits and also on how frequently you interact with local people. Acclimatization can be much faster if you go to the grocery alone, or go to pubs where you can meet local people, and try to talk to them. If you take part in courses which though held in English, there are also Hungarian students and visit little pubs in "Úránváros"! This way you will understand how things take place in Pécs more easily.

This is the reason why I don't agree with placing all the Erasmus students near to each other: this way there is almost nothing they can experience regarding the reality in Pécs or in Hungary. You might be surrounded by local people, but if you close the door of your room and do nothing else but studying... don't expect too much good: this protected situation makes your adaptation more difficult.

As far as I see, those who spend years in Pécs, are more motivated to get acquainted with Hungarian culture, than those students who spend only a few months here.

When do you think adaptation is easier? Spending a short or a long time in a foreign country?

Of course, when you don't move to a place permanently, you don't necessarily have to experience cultural shock: you can stay with a closed circle of people. Immigrants for example frequently create their own neighbourhoods like in the case of Chinatowns, where people belonging together can preserve their own traditions. Cultural shock is more common in those cases, when you feel alone with your values and you experience that everyone else behaves differently. We all try to categorize

people, especially when we don't know them yet. However, certain categories might have a completely different meaning as compared to those in your home country. If you can't position their behaviour along your category system, you should deactivate your frame of references as much as possible and accept the stimuli coming towards you.

Does keeping in touch with our fellow countrymen help or hinder our integration?

It can naturally give you an internal protection and safety: if you know that there are people around you who understand what you are saying and think similarly. However, it is important to leave the protection of this net, even together with them. You can experience things together, too and in this case you have the possibility to discuss your experiences later.

Technology makes it very easy to keep contact nowadays. How much can it shorten the integration time?

As well as your fellow countrymen, it can give you an internal protection. You can contact people from home who are behind you and if you are in trouble, they can support you, but I don't think that it would restrain your adaptation. However, you should focus on finding your place in the new system. It doesn't mean that you should accept everything unconditionally, but you have to get known your limits: how much you can give up from yourself and how much you want to keep. Of course, you



will lose a little bit from yourself, but with the help of this attitude, you can change your own behaviour much easier later if necessary.

Is it possible to prepare for the changes?

Absolutely. There are some trainings where the rules you should behaviour abroad can be acquired. You can learn how you can have a talk with someone who speaks a different language and think in a different way. I'm not thinking about speaking in English, but about showing the world around us from different perspectives, and about the ways we can accept, discuss and share that with others.

What can we win with a study abroad?

It also depends on our purpose. I think the main task of an Erasmus student is having fun in another world, they shouldn't focus only on the university. As human beings they can develop a lot by this experience. The challenge is leaving our protected environment.

Those who spend more years in our town, experience the Hungarian reality much deeper, they live through a different process. They have to understand how the public transport system works in Hungary, they could be part of a community which will be theirs for years. I think that this kind of experience and flexibility can help in almost each profession.

I would also advise Hungarian students to go abroad: learning from books or listening to our teachers are not the

most important sources of our knowledge. With foreign experience we can use our knowledge in a different way. We will be able to question it, and this way we can develop ourselves.

When does the degree of homesickness appear when consultation should be obtained?

Obviously if you have so much homesickness that you can't deal with it, you can always go home. A psychologist can help you adapt to a certain point, but sooner or later you need to be able to survive alone.

What would you recommend for the foreign students arriving in Hungary?

Guidebooks can't prepare you when arriving in another country. At first you are still only a tourist. The local people make you feel this: they can appreciate if you speak even two words in their language. Later, however, this won't be enough: you should learn the basic words and phrases to communicate what you want. Increase your awareness about finding yourself, your own schemes, categories and value system. You can't and don't have to get rid of them, but you can think about them in a reflective way. That's the reason why spending some time in a foreign country can help us recognise question our perspectives. At the same time, though doing it, we may even reinforce ourselves.





International Studies Center University of Pécs

3 decades of experience with international programs and students, a strive for continuity and renewal, for diversity and integration, as well as constant innovation are the qualities that characterize the work of the International Studies Center University of Pécs (ISC), Medical School and its English and Hungarian Programmes.

ENGLISH PROGRAMME

ACADEMIC SUCCESS THROUGH APPRECIATING DIVERSITY

The ISC is one of the facilities at our campuses where students can really feel the vibe of diversity. Our students have the opportunity to become a formative part of the international community of the University.

INTEGRATED PREPARATORY PROGRAMMES

The English Programme at ISC offers preparatory programmes that cover the ever widening international course portfolio of the 11 Faculties of the University. The integrated preparatory programmes have a uniform structure with contents differing according to the chosen study field. Thus our students leaving for undergraduate studies have comparable yet specialized skills and knowledge that enhance their success at university.

INCLUSIVE AND OPEN-ENDED STUDY PROGRAMMES

The open-ended study programmes are available both for students whose fluency in English needs considerable improvement and for those who have already reached or even passed the upper-intermediate level in English minimally required by Hungarian universities.

ENGLISH AS A LINGUA FRANCA

One of the assets of ISC's preparatory programmes is that the language classes are designed with a focus on English as a Lingua Franca since both the host society/academic community and the students are non-native speakers of the language. In most cases English is a 'contact language' between speakers who share neither a common native tongue nor a common culture. The programme effectively assists non-native students in becoming competent language users, who can creatively bridge the differences of cultural origin between themselves and others.

PROVIDING SOFT-LANDING AT THE UNIVERSITY AND IN HUNGARY

The integrated preparatory programmes give students the opportunity to feel at home in the social and cultural contexts of Hungary and at the University well before their undergraduate studies start. A wide range of compulsory and elective courses ensure the enhancement of language skills, subject-related and cultural literacy, as well as intercultural awareness.

SUBJECT-FIELD SPECIFIC STUDIES

The last stage of the preparatory programmes is complete with courses held by the professors of the future faculty of the students. These courses are introductory

courses to undergraduate studies all modelling university lectures and seminars. These courses also effectively assist our students in integrating into the academic culture and processes at the University of Pécs or any other university.

QUALITY GUARANTEE WITH INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE EXAM

ISC's preparatory programmes are always designed and developed following a thorough needs analysis. Uniquely in Hungary and the region, the programmes systematically conform not only to the European Framework of Reference for the Attainment of Languages but to the European and the Hungarian Frameworks of Qualification as well. This provides exceptional transparency of the programs and comparability of the training on a European level. Students complete any of ISC's preparatory programmes with a minimally B2 level ECL Language Exam. The language exam is accredited and recognized in the EU.

HUNGARIAN PROGRAM

Your everyday life speaks Hungarian - semester courses for enhancing your Hungarian skills

You can learn Hungarian as a foreign language at the International Studies Center UP MS during the fall and spring semesters. The Hungarian language course, during the twelve-week long semester contains 48 contact hours (2x90 minutes / week). ECTS or university credits may be earned after a successful written and oral exam. Hungarian lessons are held in 5 language levels. Students have the opportunity to plan the timetable for Hungarian lessons adjusted to their own University schedule.

Lots of learning lots of fun - Hungarian Language and Culture Summer University
The Hungarian Language and Culture Summer University celebrated the 17th anniversary this year. The intensive course provides efficient language knowledge through both the language lessons made complete with projects and outdoor programmes. The language lessons of the Summer University are accompanied by cultural seminars.

MAGYAROK® LEARNING MATERIAL

We have designed a cutting-edge learning package for your efficient and pleasurable learning experience. Our course book, MagyarOK, was awarded the European Language Label, a prize for innovative projects in language teaching and learning. The study materials used in class and the experience-based, outdoor lessons lay a solid foundation of language knowledge, and place meaningful communication and natural use of language in the foreground.

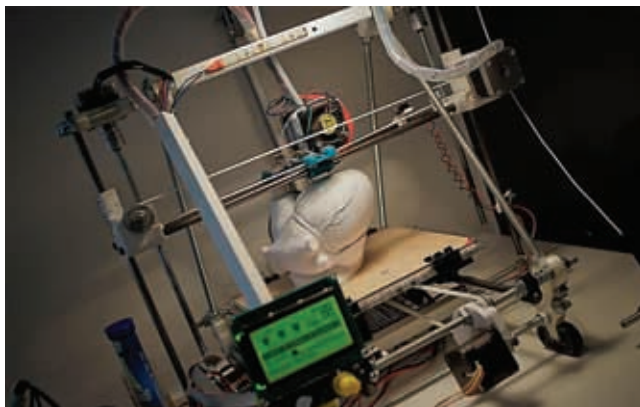
<http://www.isc.pte.hu/>

UoP 3D Project - 3D Innovation Challenge

As a sequel to the highly successful 1st International Interdisciplinary Conference organised last year, the unique event of the University of Pécs prepares with even more presenters and exhibiting companies. In addition to engineering, this event concerns the biotechnological, dental care and arts aspects, featuring a number of international and domestic professionals presenting their work through comprehensive presentations, as well as through interactive workshops.

The event aims to offer a common professional space to those phrasing and presenting their experiences, concepts and research results obtained in any branch of 3D printing and visualisation.

3D printing and visualisation materials may enter the Innovation Challenge, including technological processes and ideas for production.



**During the conference,
winning applications will receive valuable awards!**

Your application should comprise:

- Explanation of the idea, 2 pages maximum
- Utilisation
- Planned material requirements

Application deadline: 23th September 12.00pm

Applications should be sent to application@pte3d.hu!

Individual applications only! Only university students, teachers and researchers, and secondary school students may apply.

Applications will be assessed after the submission deadline; applications which cannot be implemented using 3D techniques will be excluded in the first round.

For further information please visit:

<http://konferencia.pte3d.hu/>

Events organized by the UP Centre for International Relations

Fall 2016

Staff Week

26 - 28 October

One of the aims of the event is to strengthen and deepen the long-term relationships established within the Erasmus+ mobility program and to include new strategic partners boosting the international relations of the university this was, too. Staff members dealing with international relations from all of Europe's oldest universities and Erasmus+ program coordinators of the key partners of the UP are invited. Another important aim of the week is to establish an international network of partners, to exchange experiences and to increase the international awareness of UP. In addition, the foundation of the network including the world's first/oldest universities is to be prepared during the Staff Week.

Central European Platform

27 - 30 October

The Erasmus Student Network is divided into five regions. As Hungary belongs to the Central European Region, ESN Pécs is going to host the next Central European Platform. Participants from 8 countries (Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Austria, Slovenia, Croatia and Hungary) will meet between the 27th and 30th October. The event will be held in Pécs. The major topics of the meeting include student mobility, the Erasmus+ programme, and the development of a mentoring system to assist foreign students.

Stipendium Gala

28th October

There are almost than 500 foreign students within the framework of the programme called Stipendium Hungaricum who are going to study at the University of Pécs in the 2016/2017 academic year. The UP Centre for International Relations organizes a special event for them.

UP Centre for International Relations
Rector's Office, 1st floor

<http://international.pte.hu>

<https://www.facebook.com/study.in.pecs.hungary>

Programmes of the UP Sports Office for the Autumn of 2016

SEPTEMBER

20th September "UP Kari-Szpári" University Sport Day

20th September. 5th UP Dragon Boat Regatta

The Dragon Boat Regatta will be organized for the fifth time this autumn. The purpose of the UP Sports Office is to go beyond the record number of applications of the Spring event, when 16 teams and more than 300 students applied.

OCTOBER

1st October: UP "Rókaűzők" (Fox chasers)

Last year the University of Pécs decided to support a sports event that has been organized by the city of Kaposvár and Pécs for 20 years. This is the biggest long distance relay run in the autumn and from last year it is also part of the Hungarian University and College and Hungarian Relay Championship!

2nd October: Misina Peak Attack

The running race of Pécs City Council will be organized the third time this autumn. Here the best runners of UP can win 30 000 HUF in the university category.

Middle of October: Interregional Cup

The Interregional Cup, which was already held with its three events two years ago, is going to be organized again with the participation of three major Hungarian universities: the universities of Pécs, Szeged and Debrecen. The first game will take place in Debrecen in the middle of October, where both the male and female students can compete in futsal, basketball, handball and in one other chosen sport.

12th October: Sports "Tere-Fere" (Chit-chat)

An evening talk moderated by László Szilágyi. Topics: UEFA 2016 and Olympic Games.

20th October: UP Invisible Memorial Tour in Mecsek

This year we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the 1956 Revolution. Mecsek Invisibles was the name of a small group of students, who continued to resist the Soviet forces after the revolution was crushed hiding in the Mecsek Mountains for months. The University of Pécs and the Sports Office pays tribute to their memory with an eight-kilometre tour in the Mecsek Mountains. The tour will consist of several stations where students can compete with each other.

Naturally, the faculty championships organised by the Sports Office during the whole academic year will also be held: outdoor field football (men), handball (men and women), basketball (men) and the mixed-gender volleyball. The Office also plans to organize the Futsal League, highly popular among male students, in both semesters.

NOVEMBER

9th November: 5th UP Floorball Cup

The popular Floorball Cup will be organized for the fifth time this year. The purpose of this event is to guarantee that the mixed teams may take part in a fair contest having a good atmosphere.

23th and 24th November: 4th UP Night of Sports

The Night of Sports is an highlighted event of the UP Sports Office, which was first organized in the year when the Office was established in 2013. Since then it has been held each autumn. This sport event, mobilizing 12 teams in 12 sports during 12 hours, is extremely popular among students. The winners of the Night of Sports will have the chance to visit the Handball Competition SEHA League at the end of November.

UP "KARI-SZPARI"

20th September has been designated as the International Day of University Sports by the UNESCO. The University of Pécs decided to join this programme: the Sports Office of the University is planning sport events on several locations under the fantasy name: "KARI-SZPARI". They expect that each faculty will represent itself with a team of 40-50 people, which means that about 500 university citizens would be mobilized. The students participating in the event will be exempted from going to classes on 20th September.

Opening Ceremony: 9 am in the following places:

Streetball:

Place: sports hall, Medical School

Time: 9:15 am - 2 pm

The teams of the faculties should include 5 people of whom 3-3 will play in the field. At least 1 girl needs to be involved.

Goalball:

Place: sports hall, Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology

Time: 9:15 am - 2 pm

The teams of the faculties should include 5 people of whom 3-3 will play in the field.

Water games, skills competitions:

Place: Swimming pool, Faculty of Sciences

Time: 9:15 am - 1 pm

The teams of the faculties should include 6 people, 3 boys and 3 girls.

Mix volleyball:

Place: sports hall, Faculty of Sciences

Time: 9:15 am - 2 pm

The teams of the faculties should include 8 people, 3 boys and 3 girls have to play in the field at the same time.

Athletics and skills competition:

Place: Athletics field, Faculty of Sciences

Time: 9:15 am - 1 pm

Men and women 100 metres (1-1), men and women 300 metres (1-1), men and women 1500 metres (1-1), 4 x 300 metre mixed gender relay (2 boys, 2 girls), rope pulling (5), men and women "running in sacks" (1-1), men and women throwing a medicine ball backwards (1-1). The faculty teams include 15 people.

Five-a-side football:

Place: Grass field, Faculty of Sciences

Time: 9:15 am - 2 pm

The teams of the faculties should include 8 people, 5+1 play in the field at the same time.

Cooking competition:

Place: Faculty of Sciences

Time: 10 am - 2 pm

- the dish to be prepared: bean goulash
- we provide each team with: cauldron, gas cylinder, gas burner and tripod as well as raw materials (oil, onion, 1 kg of beans, 1 kg of smoked ham, 2 kg of meat)
- the organizers don't provide spices and other ingredients. Each team has to bring them with themselves.
- extra materials are allowed
- 3 people from each team will take part in the cooking
- the result of the cooking competition is also included in the final outcome

Announcement of results:

Place: Faculty of Sciences

Time: 3 pm

The winners of each competition receive special prizes and the overall results will be announced as well.

Application deadline:
16th September (Friday)

Info and applying:
egyetemisport.pt@gmail.com

DANCE AND MOVEMENT COURSES

FROM SEPTEMBER 26th

Where students and employees from different faculties can get together in a bright atmosphere, which is exercise and entertainment at the same time in a beautiful dance studio, and which can be fulfilled even for credits! Apart from the classical and modern dances various other genres of movement courses can also be found in the palette so that everyone may find the best class for themselves.

From the very beginning more than 25,000 candidates have been acquainted with close to 60 different courses. In 2005 the Dancing University set up the Guinness record of the most people belly-dancing simultaneously and in 2010 it reclaimed this title with 826 registered participants. In 2011, the UP Dance Team was formed who perform at university and external events, evening-length dance-theatre shows, with well-known performers or even sports teams regularly.

Application:

From September 19th to 25th at www.tancolo.pte.hu/en
or at NEPTUN from the beginning of the course registration period
COURSES IN THE FALL SEMESTER OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2016/2017
VENUE: PTE DANCE STUDIO (PÉCS, IFJÚSÁG ÚTJA 6. BUILDING B)

Further information: tancprojekt@pte.hu

Body-Shaping Dance Aerobics

The dynamic power
Tuesdays 16:00-17:30

Cuban Salsa

Smile of the sunny Caribbean World
Wednesdays 17:30-19:00

Boogie woogie-Rock and Roll-Swing

American footloose
Mondays 15:30-17:00

Latin Freestyle Aerobics

Flaming Latin Power
Mondays 17:00-18:30

Employees' Ballroom Dancing

Elegance and Latin rhythms
Wednesdays 16:30-17:30

Latin Dances

Vivid rhythms of parties
Tuesdays 20:30-22:00

Employees' Gymnastics

Fun, power, relaxation
Thursdays 16:30-17:30

Hungarian Folk Dance

The real home-made one
Thursdays 19:00-20:30

Belly Dance

Secrets of the 1001 nights
Thursdays 17:30-19:00

Show/Musical Dance

Glittering musicals and revues
Tuesdays 19:00-20:30

Hip-hop

The real cool feeling
Mondays 18:30-20:00

Ballroom Dancing

Balls coming alive
Thursdays 20:30-22:00

Croatian, Serb, Macedonian Dances

Beats of the Balkan temper
Tuesdays 17:30-19:00

Creative dance for Parkinson's disease and Multiplex Sclerosis Patients

Harmony of body, soul and mind
Fridays 14:00-14:45

Yoga

Harmony of the outer and inner worlds
Wednesdays 15:00-16:30

Creative dance for Parkinson's disease and Multiplex Sclerosis Patients

As there is still no other Hungarian higher education institution, which has such a project or dance team as the UP, nor are there courses similar to the Dancing University's newest one. Dance has been scientifically proven to have beneficial effects on people. This

feature is extremely important when some negative effects reach the body. This is the reason of the project's newest course being offered specifically for Parkinson's disease and Multiple Sclerosis patients. This creative dance aims to strengthen the nervous system, mood and muscles with a multitude of dance styles, using a variety of equipments, great music, in great company, in order to contribute to the participants' balanced lives.

Although most Hungarian fans expected the group stage to be the end of our tournament, the Hungarian national football team performed beyond expectations: we ended up as the absolute winner in our group, stealing the thunder of the possible winners, the Portugals, who later ended up winning the European Championship. We scored wonderful goals and displaying great football skills the Hungarian team ingratiated itself even with the so far neutral fans. By the time the eighth-final series began, the team had already become exhausted and the Belgians rushed through our defenders. Nevertheless, the Hungarian fans got a lot of pleasure from their team and the UEFA European Championship in 2016.

Even the foreign students cheered for the Hungarians

Zohreh Moghadam from Iran

Actually I'm not at all interested in football so I wasn't really excited by the European Championship. My first football experience is this picture which has just been taken about me with a ball.

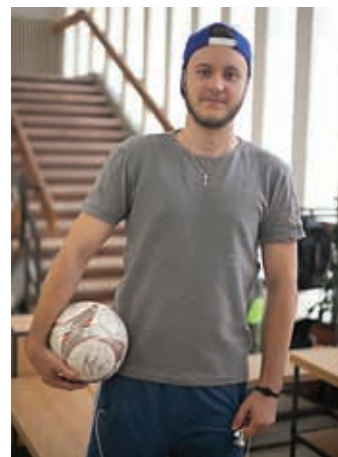


Ragnhild Lunde from Norway

When I was younger, about twelve years old, I was playing a lot of football. However, I only liked playing it, not watching it on television. I watch football matches only if my family is watching it, but I don't do it alone. I didn't really look forward to the European Championship, I haven't followed it on TV.

Alex Schröder from Germany

I really love football, scoring goals is one of the best experiences ... My favourite football player is Luka Modriæ. Of course I had been waiting for the European Football Championship very much, I followed each match. I watched them in pubs, but actually, it depended on the match. I cheered for Germany and for Hungary.



Lukas Gernhold from Germany

I only play football here in Hungary, in the team of the University. I was waiting for the European Championship very much. I followed the matches of the German and also the Spanish teams. I usually cheer with my friends or my family. I was hoping Germany would win, Thomas Müller is my favourite football player.



Arrun Nesarajah from Norway

I watched some of the matches of the European Championship. Cristiano Ronaldo is my favourite football player, but I don't really have a favourite European team. I watched the matches of Portugal, Spain, Belgium, and of course, Hungary. I cheered for the Hungarians, after all, they were the team which beat Norway. I was here, in Pécs until July so I watched some matches in Kossuth Square and in N-Eozin. My favourite memory regarding to football is when I was on holiday in Italy in 2006 and there was a match when they beat France. There was such a big celebration. My next great experience was when I was in Hungary and they beat Norway (he laughed).



Tatiana Navarro from Spain

I watched only the matches of the Spanish team during the European Championship. I cheered in a pub with my friends having a beer. Whenever I watch a match, I always cheer this way. I really hoped Spain would win, Andrés Iniesta is my favourite football player.



Ana Fernandez from Spain

I was waiting for the European Championship, although I watched only the games of the Spanish team and I really hoped that they would win. I prefer cheering at home with my roommates, I think that it has its atmosphere. Cristiano Ronaldo is my favourite football player, because he is so handsome!



ERASMUS, PÉCS, FUN

LEADER OF THE ERASMUS TEAM DURING THE UNIVERSITY DAYS OF PÉCS. MEMBER OF THE ROVERS AT THE PTE ORFŰ REGATTA AND DRIVER OF THE GO KART TEAM. THE 27-YEAR-OLD SPANISH PHILOLOGY STUDENT, SERGIO BARRO RIVERA HAS JUST FINISHED HIS BSC STUDIES AND HAVING SPENT A YEAR IN PÉCS HE IS ALREADY THINKING ABOUT COMING BACK HERE FOR THE MASTER PROGRAMME.





When did you decide that you wanted to study abroad?

I was thinking about it for quite a long time, since I regularly met people from different countries in Spain. Then I made some Hungarian friends and decided to come here. On the other hand, my university had a very good relationship with the University of Pécs: it is a very popular university at us, so it wasn't a question any more.

What was your Erasmus year in Pécs like?

I discovered that the University offered several activities including sports and cultural events. One of my best experiences was being the leader of the Erasmus team during the University Days of Pécs: we tried to revive the Rockabilly period wearing clothes from the 50's, 60's and 70's and of course, playing the inevitable rock & roll. I also took part in the Dragon boat competition several times and went to race Go kart. I am extremely proud of my team as we ended up in a strong midfield position in both contests!

There was only one problem when doing sport here: since the Erasmus students studied at different faculties, meeting them was quite difficult because of we all had completely different schedules. Nonetheless, we played as much as we could and did our best.

All in all, I would say that doing sports is one of the most important things when studying abroad, because you will definitely try all the typical dishes which, in the case of Hungary, are mostly high in calories. If you don't do exercises you can easily put in some weight. What's more, it is a great way to make more friends.

How easy was for you to adapt ?

It was not so difficult for me: in Spain I also lived alone, so it was not that big of a change, and I think it is easy to adapt to Hungary. The difference between the two countries is not as big as I thought: only the way of cooking is not the same. Here I lived in Hunyor student hostel.

How did you like living here? What did you like the most?

I always preferred going to small cities: everything is close, you can make friends easily, you can walk to your university... I liked the people, the life in the city and the university. My favourite place was Király utca.

How do you see Hungarian people?

I came to Pécs, because in my home city I met plenty of Hungarians and we became very good friends.

They were really helpful and nice. When I arrived in Hungary they spent one week with me to visit Budapest, it was really amazing. When I arrived in Pécs, they showed me everything, the whole city including some Hungarian traditions, like goulash and "pálinka"...

Were you satisfied with the teachers?

Absolutely. I had magnificent lecturers. Let me mention Tony Lilon as an example. I've not just learned a great deal of things from him, but he also has offered me an opportunity to take part in an Ibero-American conference. Dr. Ingrid Petkova and Tamás Kiss were also excellent teachers of mine.

If you have the chance to return, would you use it?

Definitely. I can imagine doing my Master's courses in Hungary. This country is also a good place to teach Spanish. Next time we meet at the University of Pécs again I might be one of the lecturers!

What would you recommend for the other students coming to Pécs to study?

I would encourage everyone to take advantage of the organized programmes by the University. I kept in touch with the Sports Office (contact: +36 72 501500 12770 or egyetemisport.pte@gmail.com - the ed.) and, as an Erasmus student, I could also contact the ESN Pécs (www.pecs.esn.hu - the ed.).

Join the Erasmus parties and trips! Visit Poland, Turkey, the Balkan countries... For many of us, who are coming from the West, it's a really good opportunity since these countries are much cheaper than our home country.







The Last Look at Pécs:

a Farewell to Magasház

Renowned as the tallest tower block in Hungary during the seventies and later as the tallest uninhabited building in Central Europe, Magasház (tall building) has been an emblematic building in Pécs. After several problems and changes of ownership, its demolition started during the spring of 2016. At the time of our interview it had only ten stories out of the former twenty-five. József Orbán, professor emeritus of the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology of the UP, who has paid particular attention to the story of Magasház for decades, talked about some of the technological issues regarding the tower.

Why is the high-rise building in Pécs so special?

The economic situation was relatively good at the beginning of the seventies in Hungary, so there was a competition among the cities to build the tallest block of flats in the country. Gyöngyös entered this contest with its 18-20-storey building and Budapest also had a candidate for the title. Because of this competition and rivalry Pécs began to construct a high-rise building in 1974 to create the tallest residential tower block in Hungary. Furthermore, it had to be earthquake-resistant. In 1963 there was a magnitude 6.1 earthquake in Skopje (part of Yugoslavia at that time), so the high-rise building of Pécs had to be a safe place. The reasons, however, were unreal: the first one was about politics, while the second one was based on a remote misfortune. Professor Zvezelj, director of the Institute for Testing Materials of NR Serbia invented a special technology in 1957. This system was based on the prestressed connection of the structural elements, which applied flexible steel cables instead of rigid parts. This is the so-called IMS building technology, which makes it possible to build tall and earthquake-resistant blocks. I must add another human factor: Yugoslavia was a Western country during the seventies. Implementing this new technology required lots of travelling and offered the chance to spending money on rum punches, waterproof raincoats and jeans. During the construction of the high-rise building in Pécs this IMS technology was used to create the 82 meters high tower block on which had 250 flats on 18 000 m². By the way, 130 houses were also built using the IMS Technology in Hungary during that period.

Is Magasház the manifestation of the seventies?

In the seventies there was no reason to put a lot of effort into renovating old buildings. According to the socialist point of view the future meant tower blocks and ready-made reinforced concrete buildings. I myself had studied this in Moscow, we

worked by this, this was our life. This aspect was shared by everyone: people were glad to move into new ready-made flats and leave the narrow, one-storey apartments with no comfort. Of course residents later on faced several problems such as noise, small rooms and small bathrooms. But in the seventies every building had to be built from precast or reinforced concrete. There weren't enough masons to build the walls of the block of flats and the precast concrete plant produces the ready-made elements fast.

What is IMS technology?

The main point of professor Zezelj's patent was the application of steel cables in the post-tensioning process instead of affixing, welding, screwing or supporting with stanchions. Pillars and slabs are linked and work together via frictional forces derived from the bidirectional stretching of the steel cables stitched across the pillars. The gap between the pillars and the slabs has to be filled before stitching and stretching the steel wires. The filling material is a fast setting mortar which was the so-called PU paste in case of the Magasház in Pécs.

How did the problems with Magasház begin?

As far as I know, at first the inhabitants of the upper floors complained about water. The builders of Magasház knew that the wires were the key issue. Therefore they unfolded the nodes of pillars and slabs to check the corrosion of tensioned wires. Marks of corrosion had been found in 1983, but the examiners attached no significance to this neither did they advertise their findings. By the time of the next check in 1989 all the wires had become rusted, and there were even broken ones. The wires, which held the building together, were not solid any longer. All the wires were inside the structure of the slabs, that's why the wires could not be treated against corrosion. The vice-director of engineering of the property management company of Pécs,

after several sleepless nights I bet, realized that he could not hold the responsibility for the condition of this building because of its state really became too dangerous. The building had to be evacuated to protect the inhabitants.

How long have you been paying attention to this story?

There was a course at the Institute of Geodesy and Soil Science about the corrosion of the Magasház of Pécs at Pollack (*the former name of the faculty - the ed.*) in 1989. The colleagues of the institute were great authority of this scientific field at that time. My field is material science, so I decided to attend this course. I have to admit, the topic was so special, that I hardly understood the jargon. I felt ashamed of myself, so I decided to make inquiries to comprehend the problems of Magasház in Pécs. I involved myself in this case for almost 2 years, and I published a study of 17 pages in the journal called Pécsi Műszaki Szemle in 1992. Later on I wrote in several journals specialized on corrosion.

What were the main problems according to you?

I could list several sources of error, each of them contributed to the destiny of the building.

One of the many is that the holes, in which the wires were set, were a little bit bigger than the wires themselves. This means that the holes were not big enough to be injected in but big enough to let air and water inside - and the steel wires could rust. There were installation gaps between the slabs and the pillars, and all these gaps had to be injected, too. The filling material was fast setting PU paste, but setting took 4-8 hours. Construction was going continuously, night and day, winter and summer. Workers wanted to save some time, so they added a binder for mortar called Kalcidur to advance the process. This binder contains calcium chloride and reinforced-concrete has two enemies: sulphates, that pulverize the cement, and chlo-



rides that attack the steel. The question we have to ask: should we put mortar containing chloride into a gap where there are steel wires? According to the constructors the 25 millimetres of concrete should have been able to separate the wires from the chlorides efficiently. There are two problems with this argument: firstly, some of the steel wires contacted the PU-paste from the very first moment, so the concrete couldn't protect them. Secondly, chlorides went inside the concrete with a diffusion speed of 2-3 millimetres, and as soon as they reach the steel wire, poked holes into it. Just imagine the wires, which held the building together, getting rust holes! It's similar to cutting a canvas with a knife. In addition, the slabs got soaked during the construction, so the chlorides had been washed out from the PU paste. I must also add something else: it became clear during the demolition that the injections at some of the wire-gaps weren't perfectly compact.

But there was reinforcement in 2003...

The Magasház in Pécs is not an ordinary building, you can't just reinforce or underpin some of its elements, this building needed to be strengthened as a whole. When reinforcing it, the original structures ensuring its stability were completely ignored. To the pillars temporary structure were pressed, holes were drilled into them, through which new wires were led through. The wires were tensed with special tensioning tools became wedged. The joists were originally made of reinforced concrete ribbed slabs. During the reinforcement these ribs were drilled through, the new wires were coated with graphite grease and polyethylene was set into the holes and tensed in longitudinal and transverse directions. To reinforce the pillar-joist connection, further steel pins were built into the junctions. Since this solution involved a lot of additional steel, which the building wasn't originally designed for, the pillars needed to be reinforced and supporting walls had to be built. This is how the bot-

tom part of the originally specially slender building has become thick but stabile.

Magnificent plans could have been heard at the beginning of the century about how the Magasház should be renovated. Were these plans valid from the point of view technology and statics? Could the tower block have become residential again?

After the reinforcement this building could have been residential: statically it was absolutely stabile. It remained empty for financial reasons: all building service structures and electrical wires needed a change, the original elevators should have been replaced with more modern ones, and the Fire Department had objections, too. The ownership was a chaos: the building wasn't closed properly and nobody guarded it. All the windows and balconies were open, pigeons settled in, bird droppings covered the floors of the empty flats, the building soaked... It failed fast: it had become very shabby in a few years. The demolition was decided two years ago. And then, a 98 meters high tower crane arrived in March 2016, and the demolition began. The level of the demolition process is surrounded by guarding gates, which are lowered floor by floor.

The joint gaps of the front wall panels are explored with the demolition machines, the connecting and fixing steel elements are cut with a flame cutter, which unlocks the panels from the frame structure. A tower crane helps salvage the elements from the wall and bring them down to the ground. When unbuilding the joist elements, first the cable drains are crashed with the demolition machine, then the tension wires and cables are cut with a flame cutter. The next step is salvaging the elements with a tower crane and bringing them down from the building. On the ground the elements are crushed into tiny little pieces by a biter (a kind of crocodile), and the recyclable steel wires are separated. The demolition has been made orderly and in a professional way, at a pace it was planned.



Why isn't there anybody who would take the responsibility? The loss of Magasház costs billions...

It was in the case of the Magasház when this technology was used in Hungary the first time. It was an experimental building. Errors could be expected in such a case therefore the architects could not have been made responsible. As far as I know, the Magasház has no full building permit. I think experimenting with such a high building was unfortunate.

To be honest, I really felt sorry for its demolition half a year ago, I would even voice objections. But today, as I have seen the corrosion damages and the construction problems revealed during the demolition process, I must admit that this building was in a far worse condition than we had thought. I was disappointed that the gaps of wires were not properly injected with concrete, but it's really reassuring that the stretching cables, which were used during the reinforcement, held the building together. If this high-rise building had been renovated after its reinforcement, it would have cost the same amount of money as its demolition, but then we could have a building of 250 flats.



6. Run for the Cancer Treatment in Pécs!



The Run for the Cancer treatment in Pécs! charity run will be held for the sixth time on September 10.

The 3 km long distance run will take place in the beautiful historic centre of Pécs, however it is also possible to walk instead. Participation is subject to registration, which starts at 9 a.m at the Széchenyi square. The program also includes concerts, ending with a lottery draw after the run.

The route: Southern part of the Széchenyi Square - Irgalmasok Street - Citrom Street - Jókai Street - Jókai Square - Ferencesek Street - Szent István Square (Eastern side) - Janus Pannonius Street - Mária Street - Flórián Square - Nagy Flórián Street - Király Street - Széchenyi Square

Entry Fee: 1,000 HUF/person, which includes a T-shirt (while stocks last).

This year, the proceeds from the entry fee and the lottery will be transferred to the Pécs-based Foundation for Gynaecological Cancer Patients.

Pre-registration: www.dpse.hu



UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS
Faculty of Business and Economics

5 LET OUT LET TURNING GREAT IDEAS INTO GREAT BUSINESSES

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Sausage in Finland

If you wonder how to pull through in a foreign country, in a different culture without any kind of background, Feri Vilisics's story, who lives in Finland, is just for you. We valiantly overcame the distance between Helsinki and Pécs so that you can witness how a biology graduate from Pécs became one of the most popular sausage traders in Helsinki, the founder of the brand Feri's Sausages, and president of the Slow Food Helsinki Group. Our conversation reveals that not all is rosy even in Finland, you have to work hard for success. After reading eating sausages is hotly recommended!

Did you really graduate from the University of Pécs?

Yes, in order to be precise, I was accepted to the then Janus Pannonius University in 1997, and I graduated from UP, after the transformation and renaming of the institute, in 2003. I studied biology at the Faculty of Sciences. I had been interested in biology, particularly in taxonomy and ecology in secondary school as well. I got my PhD in environmental sciences in Debrecen, and as a researcher I was especially interested in the population and taxonomy of terrestrial crustaceans (Isopoda, Oniscidea), and the diversity of urban and modern green-roof invertebrate fauna.

Can you remember your first experience at university?

It was the freshman camp in Tata. As far as I remember, it started on the day that Princess Diana died, and the next day the band Kispál és a Borz was playing. They were great times... we used to go out to Rák, Szenes Club in the faculty building, the University Club, Sörház and to parties at the Jakabhegy building... I have no idea where students have fun today.

What else can you be grateful for to the university besides parties?

For my degree and my wife. But joking aside, I regard my university years as a defining period of my life, during which I got my best friends and a lot of experience. Pécs is a fantastic town, it's good to live there and to return there, but I don't really know what I could do there due to lack of jobs... However, there's no doubt in my mind that I could and still can make the most of the knowledge I obtained at UP. I wasn't among the most brilliant students, but I owe my teachers a lot. Although a lot of what I learnt has moved into some well-locked corner of my memory, I will never forget my teachers' examples as human beings, the way they responded to certain situations. I think especially fondly of the anatomy practices with Dr. Edit Pollák (and it's not a joke!), of Dr. Gyula Hoffmann's lectures and of the field practice days with Dr. Tamás Morschhauser. My consultants, Dr. Edit Vadkerti and Dr. Sándor Farkas, who now teaches in Kaposvár and who introduced me to Isopoda, mean a lot to me.

Why Finland? What inspired you to go on with your life there?

I met my wife, the Finnish Niina in Pécs, she was an Erasmus student at the Faculty of Arts. After graduation I immediately got a job in Budapest, at the Biology Institution of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of Szent István University, then, after a lot of loops, we ended up in Finland 8 years later. I got a 10-month scholarship at the world-wide renown Urban Ecology Research Group of the University of Helsinki, which was later extended by a year.

How do you like Finland and Finnish culture?

Finland is a 'dreamland' in many aspects, safe and convenient, humane and open... you see the kickbacks only when you have already stuck there. It's a very expensive country, so you can't



enjoy the Finnish plenty if you don't have a job. Since everything is expensive, you can live on benefits only at a low standard. One of the secrets is that you must learn to speak Finnish. If you don't speak Finnish you close yourself out of Finnish society and you'll have difficulties in finding a job. I speak the language to some degree, and I keep improving it.

I like Finnish culture, but I'm not in awe of it. I treat it as it is, I won't say 'Finnish is better than this or that'. I like their closeness to nature, the simplicity and modesty, but you know what? I like Budapest, Rome, Istanbul and New York all the same. If you know a people's history you'll know why everything is the way it is in any particular country.

Where did you get the idea of making sausages from?

Gastronomy has always been close to me. It was Pécs where I started to polish my cookery with my flatmates, from rice with liver paste, frank stew and rice with sour cream and carrots to much more sophisticated things. In Helsinki we entertained a lot of guests, we even opened a pop-up restaurant (*info: www.restaurantday.org*), and I also held Hungarian courses for Finnish people. I got the idea of making sausages in Helsinki from a Finnish and a Hungarian university colleague; the whole idea is theirs.

How was your business, Feri's Sausages, born?

On a successful Restaurant Day, when we served our own home-made sausages in our pop-up restaurant. That time we hadn't had any success with applications for a long time, so the pocket money came in handy. And then people kept calling us for one or two more kilos, so I was drifting from science to sausages and business slowly but surely.

It's important to see that while we Hungarians insist on our red pepper sausages under any circumstances, sausage is made in every country in the world - mostly without red pepper - and what kind of sausages these are! On average, we make 11 or 12 different sorts a week, from pork, beef, chicken and venison. Customers are willing to pay for good quality. We refuse to add sugar, flour, soy or any other additives if it's not required by the original recipe. Our Philippine sausage is sweet, though, so we add some sugar to it besides salt, black pepper and garlic.

Which sausages sell the best?

The one with red pepper, the mutton-pork-rosemary one, and the Italian 'salsiccia fresca' which is made with red wine and pecorino cheese.

Have you put yourself to the test at sausage-making competitions as well?

I was recommended for the first "Best Sausage in Helsinki" competition in August 2015, so I took part on an invitational basis, next to professional meat producers of the city. Three of my sausages came in the top 10, and my red peppery one came first. And we won an award at the Székesfehérvár sausage-making festival in "special tastes" category in 2016.

Do you have any help?

We have an employee, and Niina helps a lot, too, so I can say three people work in the business on a daily basis. Besides the investor backing up the company does most of the marketing, and Helsinki-based Hungarian graphic Marcell Kismartoni dedicates a lot of his time to our visual design.

Where is your business now?

It's going uphill. We progress slowly, we develop almost invisibly, step by step. A couple of restaurants and shops also buy from us, but mostly we sell to consumers on the Internet (*link: <http://hellomagyarok.hu/gasztro/a-termeloi-piac-uberje-a-finn-reko>*). In the last few weeks we have also opened a little shop where more and more customers come to buy from the freshest sausages in town. One of our patrons is the former owner of Elcoteq, the company which was a large-scale Finnish employer in Pécs, who we can talk a lot to about Hungary.

Would you tell us some more about the Slow Food Helsinki project?

The international organisation Slow Food started in Italy 27 years ago as a response to vanishing gastronomic diversity. Good, fair and pure food from local ingredients, based on local recipes. Thus local plant and animal varieties (not species!) can survive and local producers can get customers.

Anyone meeting the requirements can found a Slow Food group. It's my second year as the head of the Helsinki group; we wish to bring worthwhile local producers and restaurants closer to customers by visits and Facebook communication.

Do you think you have made it?

You mean whether I am doing what I like? Yes, I can say that. Although I had always prepared to become a biologist, as you can see from our success, education and research is not everything. I think I'm blessed with good communication, management and trading skills, and I didn't really use these in my university career. At Feri's Sausages I can make use of them, although it's not enough. We raise our child without any help from the family, which is quite difficult. We rent a flat in a block in the outskirts, my car can break down at any given moment, and money doesn't just come out of a hole in the wall. Enterprising is an expensive adventure in Finland.

How can you see your future?

Lots of work, lots of work, lots of work, then having cocktails in the Bahamas till the end of my life.

"Egészségedre!"

Let's taste wine!

Travelling or going on a trip with our friends can be a great opportunity to leave everything behind and switch off, since students also need some time to get out of their duties'. Let's see, what the neighbourhood of Pécs has in store!

Students in Pécs are really fortunate since there are several opportunities both in the city and in its agglomeration, so they do not have to go far away to have fun.

Hungary has 22 famous and well-known wine regions and one of the most acknowledged one is here, in Baranya county. Its centre is Villány which is only about 30-40 minutes from Pécs. The area offers great opportunities for tourists and locals alike to enjoy a quality vacation and spend some much needed time to relax. Thousands of people visit here during the summer to break out of the treadmill of their busy life and enjoy participating in programmes like the Rosé Festival. Guests can also appreciate the fresh air and take nice walks in the beautiful Hungarian countryside.

Visiting Villány can offer us a diverse set of amazing experiences, especially during the school year, because there are a lot of opportunities to have fun with others.

It is no coincidence that several people from the world of gastronomy visit Villány: the city represents high class gastronomy. This duality makes this settlement so special: you can visit the local wineries and taste their unique products well-known all around the country and the continent. Some bigger wineries present the whole process of winemaking to their guests and in the end visitors may also taste some delicious wine. The juice of the various grapes are of extraordinary quality: every winery processes it in their own ways. Some use their original and his-



torical family recipes so they are absolutely unique. The wineries are recognizable by their logo or hatchment, which comes near to what the guilds had in Medieval times.

There are more than 25 guest houses belonging to the various wineries. And the good news for foreigners is that at every place there is at least one person who speaks English or German. Furthermore, while drinking wine you also have the chance to eat something similarly good as your drink. Just like in the past, when there were some strict rules to pair a wine with a meal. Wine can never be boring, it is not only enjoyable but also healthy.

There are several types of wine and you can buy them in bottles from 1200 HUF up to 9000 HUF depending on their type and vintage.

5 TIPS

1. It's good to get to know Hungarian wines. At least try "Juhfark", Cifrandli, and Kadarka, Portugieser all produced in the region.
2. Don't drink and starve. Drinking with an empty stomach makes you tipsy easily.
3. Try wine jam. It gives your taste buds a truly exciting experience.
4. During the winter mulled wine can be bought at several Christmas festivals. You can develop your very own recipe but use good-quality wines. It is worth it.
5. Not so far away there is another world-famous wine region: Szekszárd. If you liked Villány, don't miss Szekszárd, either.



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[HTTP://INTERNATIONAL.PTE.HU](http://international.pte.hu)

PCG

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Pécs City Guide started as a blog in September 2014 and is available as a monthly print magazine since February 2015. Look for the latest issue every first week of each month at the best restaurants, bars, coffee shops. Check out all the previous issues at pecscityguide.com/magazine.

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