



# INTERNATIONAL OFFICE (IO)

Newsletter  
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Three laureates of the UG Visiting Professors Programme visited our university recently for the implementation of the program.

Read the interviews with Professors.

When was the golden age of Mexican Cinema?  
We asked Jesse Lerner, visiting professor from  
the USA.



Dates of the Laureate's visit: 07.05 - 27.05.2023



From the left: dr Grzegorz Welizarowicz and prof. Jesse Lerner



## **Why is women's soccer more popular in the USA than in Poland?**

### **An interview with prof. Rachel Allison**

Why in the USA, soccer is one of the most popular sports among girls, but not among boys? Is this due to different perceptions among Europeans and Americans, and, is Quidditch really a coeducational sport? We discuss gender issues in competition with Professor Rachel Allison, a sociologist from Mississippi State University, who visited the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Gdańsk as part of the "Visiting Professors" program.

# Prof. Mark Mifsud once again visited the University of Gdańsk

Dates of the Laureate's visit: 29.05 - 09.06.2023



From the left: dr Barbara Kijewska, prof. Mark Mifsud and dr Krzysztof Szczepaniak

This is not the first visit by a researcher from Malta in recent times. Prof. Mark Mifsud already visited the University of Gdańsk last November during the international conference 'Science and Education for Sustainable Development'. This time, the Director of the Centre for Environmental Education and Research at the University of Malta was invited from 29 May to 9 June by UG Faculty of Social Sciences (WNS). The visit was supervised by Barbara Kijewska, PhD, Vice Dean for Student Affairs at the WNS.



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Two main objectives were achieved during the visit. One was the teaching activities that the professor carried out with students of diplomacy. As part of a problem-based workshop, the students attended a lecture entitled. "Humans, Society and the Environment".

"The unit I delivered was structured around the major local, regional and global land, water and air sustainability issues and the links with societal and economical health. The systemic approach adopted related socio-economic and political considerations to the biophysical processes so that students appreciate the intricate nature of sustainable development issues. Specific case studies were used to illustrate the principles and processes investigated. The students applied the skills and knowledge learnt by collaborating and going through a sustainability audit of the University of Gdansk within an SDG framework," says Professor Mark Mifsud.

The second purpose of the professor's visit was related to scientific research. The researcher was hosted by, among others, the UG Centre for Sustainable Development. During the visit, which lasted several days, a timetable and an overarching research framework were formulated, and the team to identify research priorities for the next three years is currently being formed.

"This collaboration will work reproduce high level research that can be applied in local contexts," stresses Professor Mark Mifsud.

The result of another visit by Professor Mark Mifsud is greater collaboration with the Malta Centre for Environmental Education and Research (CEER), which has a rich programme of studies and courses dedicated to students, but also to policy makers and citizens.

# Erasmus+ KA107/KA171

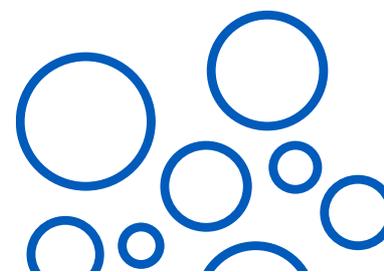
## *Visiting guests and Staff Weeks*

In June and July, as part of the rapidly growing Erasmus+ KA107/KA171 project, we hosted 36 guests from the following countries at UG:

- Bosnia and Herzegovina (5 persons) - Faculty of Law and Administration,
- Uzbekistan (2 persons) - Faculty of Law and Administration,
- Armenia (3 persons) - 1 person Faculty of Law and Administration, 2 persons - Faculty of Economics,
- Ukraine (3 persons) - Faculty of History,
- China (2 persons) - Faculty of Law and administration,
- South Africa (3 persons),
- Thailand (1 person) - Faculty of Law and Administration,
- Georgia (2 persons) - Faculty of Law and Administration,
- Jordan (11 persons) - Faculty of Economics,
- Australia (2 persons) - Faculty of Economics

In June, two international training events (International Staff Week) took place at UG, within the framework of the Erasmus+ program: at the Faculty of Law and Administration and the Faculty of Economics.

In addition, in July, the Faculty of Law and Administration hosted 15 guests from Uzbekistan's Tashkent State University of Law as part of a framework agreement on cooperation between our universities. The dynamically developing long-term collaboration with Tashkent University is part of our strategy to intensify joint academic activities with Central Asian countries as a strategic direction.





Our guests, who came to UG as part of their teaching or training mobility, had the opportunity to participate in numerous meetings and workshops that enabled the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and good practices.

Representatives of the partner universities also held meetings with the Vice-Rector for International Cooperation, Prof. Anna Maria Jurkowska-Zeidler, the Deans and Coordinators, Director of the UG International Cooperation Office Magdalena Sawicz, and Erasmus+ KA107 / KA171 Project Coordinators Ewa Chmurzyńska and Katarzyna Flis.

These meetings aimed to summarize the cooperation so far and discuss further objectives for the near future.

Planned activities that will continue and expand cooperation, also outside the framework of the Erasmus+ program, include:

- joint scientific publications by UG and partner universities,
- lectures by foreign academics for UG students,
- enriching the exchange offer for UG students,
- the next cycle of teaching and training placements in the academic year 2023 / 2024,
- establishment of 2 dual degree programmes (Master's degree) at the JLS in cooperation with Tashkent State University of Law, Uzbekistan.

The activities described prove that the Erasmus+ program is an effective platform for building effective, long-term, academically multidimensional international cooperation.







# 1st Erasmus+ International Staff Week Faculty of Economics

## SOPOT 12-16 June 2023

On 12-16 June 2023, the Faculty of Economics at the University of Gdańsk organized, on the initiative of Dr. Renata Orłowska, Faculty Coordinator of Erasmus +, Katarzyna Flis and Magdalena Bednarek from the International Cooperation Office, an Erasmus + International Staff Week for the first time.

Participants included research and teaching staff from Yarmouk University from Jordan and Western Sydney University from Australia. The 1st Erasmus + International Staff Week was full of events that enabled participants to develop their skills and make international contacts.



## Day 1

- Registration of participants - Faculty of Economics - Sopot Campus,
- Welcome meeting and discussion on further cooperation with Vice-Dean for Development and Cooperation with Social and Economic Environment, Dr. Magdalena Markiewicz, Vice-Dean for Science, Prof. Przemysław Borkowski, Erasmus Coordinator Dr. Renata Orłowska, and International Cooperation Office Representatives: Katarzyna Flis, Magdalena Bednarek.

## Day 2

- Lectures for students of the Faculty of Economics
- It was possible to work out joint projects for the following years. WSU representatives from Australia offered to mentor the Faculty of Economics activities in the field of sustainability and social responsibility of the university. Western Sydney University is the best university in the world in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in its activities, according to The Times Higher Education Impact Ranking 2023.

## Day 3

- UG Campus presentation - the International Cooperation Office presented the Oliwa Campus and the internationalization process of the University of Gdańsk to the partners. ISW participants had the opportunity to visit the Amber Museum, the Museum of Criminology, as well as the buildings of UG faculties.
- The guests were then invited to lunch at the Olivia Star on the 33rd floor, where they could admire the panorama of the Tricity. As part of a presentation on the history of Gdańsk, we visited the European Solidarity Centre in Gdańsk.

## Day 4

- The Cross-Cultural Communication workshop included an educational excursion to Toruń, where participants could explore the city and discuss the use of cultural differences to create joint study programs, joint projects, and research.

## Day 5

- We concluded the Staff Week with a summary of the stay and joint proposals for further cooperation. Dr Renata Orłowska presented all participants with certificates of active participation in the workshop.



# Visit of Ukrainian students

Students from Odessa's Ilya Mechnikov National University came to the University of Gdańsk to take part in the 3rd Congress of Young Science. As part of the Congress, they delivered 6 papers on a wide variety of topics, ranging from economic issues, political science and international relations to science and experimental science. Visitors from Odessa also took part in panels of their choice and a poster session.



The visit to the Congress was also an opportunity to visit Gdańsk: thanks to the kindness of Prof. Mariusz Czepczyński and Dr. Grażyna Chaberek from the Department of Spatial Planning, the guests from Odessa took part in the Gdańsk Cultural Landscape Transformation Tour, during which they visited, among other things, downtown Gdańsk and the vicinity of the Second World War Museum.

The visit to the Congress was also an opportunity to explore Gdańsk: thanks to the kindness of Prof. Mariusz Czepczyński and dr. Grażyna Chaberek from the Department of Spatial Management, the guests from Odessa took part in the Gdańsk Cultural Landscape Transformation Tour, during which they visited, a. o., the centre of Gdańsk and the vicinity of the Second World War Museum.

They also visited the European Solidarity Centre, where they broadened their knowledge of the democratic changes in Poland and the role that Tricity played in them. During their tour of the Oliwa campus, the Odessa students learned about the impact of some of our university's graduates and staff on Polish history.

They were shown around the Faculty of Biology by Bartosz Chojnacki, President of the UG Students' Parliament, and other buildings by staff and students of the University of Gdańsk.

The students also met with the Vice-Rector for Students and Quality of Education, Prof. Arnold Kłonczyński, who was among the initiators of cooperation with Odessa and thanks to whom the visit took place. Prof. Arnold Kłonczyński talked about the UG's activities to date in relation to cooperation within the SEA EU and with the University of Odessa and, importantly, about further plans.



The Centre for Student and Doctoral Activities at the UG is preparing a project called the Forum for Cooperation between the University of Gdańsk and the Ilya Mechnikov National University of Odessa. Within the framework of the project, employees, students and doctoral students from our and Odessa universities will be able to find partners for joint scientific research, as well as for cultural and organisational cooperation. The first meeting of the forum is planned for September.

Some of the Congress participants will also take part in two summer schools implemented during the summer holidays by the Centre for Student and Doctoral Activities at the University of Gdańsk.





# STUDENT SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Studying is not only a time for acquiring knowledge under the guidance of experienced academic and teaching staff but also for taking the first steps into the labour market, building professional networks and gaining practical skills. These objectives are served by student internships, a large proportion of which take place during the summer inter-semester break.

More and more people are recognising the enormous potential of doing an internship in a company engaged in the kind of activity an academic degree is supposed to prepare for. Internships and apprenticeships not only allow individuals to confront the knowledge they have acquired with the realities of everyday work - they are also an excellent opportunity for professional networking, which can prove extremely useful when later seeking employment. For this reason, in addition to the obligatory internships in the study programme, students increasingly opt for voluntary internships and placements. Support in organising these can be obtained from the Career Office UG.

'Voluntary internships are prevalent among UG students. Students are aware that internships help them gain experience in the labour market, allow them to verify their perceptions of a given workplace, and may also provide an opportunity for further employment,' says Aleksandra Stenke, Head of the UG Career Office. 'We cooperate with many well-known employers; it all depends on the sector: e.g. law students undergo internships in courts, prosecutor's offices, chemists in laboratories, etc. We also help students to choose internships individually, especially those who are in the counselling process (they use the support of CO career counsellors).

More information on voluntary internships can be found on the Career Office website.

A list of current offers (including job offers) aimed at UG students and graduates is available [here](#).



## Women in Tech Summit: education, support, inspiration for women in technology!



On June 14 and 15, Expo XXI Warsaw was transformed into the venue for Europe's largest gathering of technology-related women - the Perspektywy Women in Tech Summit. Visitors to the event were able to listen to nearly 200 inspiring speeches and discussions delivered on four stages by more than 500 female and male speakers, take part in more than 50 tech, career and soft skills workshops, benefit from 400 individual mentoring sessions, and even meet their future employer or employers in the CareerExpo zone. The event was visited by 11,200 participants from nearly 90 countries.

The University of Gdańsk, as an academic partner of the event, had its exhibition stand in the main Expo zone. It was visited mainly by young people interested in studying at the Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science and those interested in the English-language offer. In the Tech zone, on the other hand, our students from the DeepDive scientific associations (supervisor dr Marta Frankowska, MFI) and the Scientific Association of Physicists (supervisor mgr Dorota Wejer, MFI) encouraged visitors to find out more about the projects they were conducting presented at the stand.

The Summit was opened by dr Bianka Siwińska, president of the Perspektywy Educational Foundation, initiator and creator of the Perspektywy Women in Tech Summit event: - The Summit is about technology, of course. Still, it is also about the power and future of women. What is the strongest social trend in 2023? In the last 10 years? What is the only successful revolution in the last 100 years? Of course, it is the women's revolution! Women are changing their social roles and positions, which we call a revolution, and we here are a part of it.

Later in her opening speech, dr Bianka Siwińska explained what is behind the motto of this year's Women in Tech Summit: Let's make BOLDER CHOICES together.



dr Bianka Siwińska

*Read the full article*

The Women in Tech Summit was attended by a strong representation from the University of Gdańsk: Vice-Rector for International Cooperation dr hab. Anna Maria Jurkowska-Zeidler, prof. UG, Vice-Rector for Cooperation and Development dr hab. Sylwia Mrozowska, prof. UG, Vice-Chancellor for Informatisation, Communication and Promotion dr hab. inż. Aneta Oniszczyk-Jastrząbek, prof. UG, event speaker dr hab. Marcin Pawłowski, prof. UG, and Administrative Affairs Director of the International Centre for Cancer Vaccine Research mgr Izabela Raszczyk and mgr Marta Dziedzic from the Dean's Office of the Inter-University Faculty of Biotechnology UG and MUG.



# Second edition of a scholarship program for girls in STEM

Intel Corporation together with the Perspektywy Women in Tech Educational Foundation want to support your development by offering you an annual scholarship and a series of workshops with leading Intel specialists.



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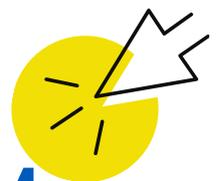
Perspektywy

Apply to the "New Technologies for Women – Ukraine" program if you need financial and expert support and you are:

- Ukrainian STEM student at one of the Polish technical universities
- Ph.D. student from Ukraine at one of the Polish technical universities or universities in STEM faculties
- high school graduate from Ukraine who will start STEM studies in the academic year 2023/2024



## RULES OF THE PROGRAM

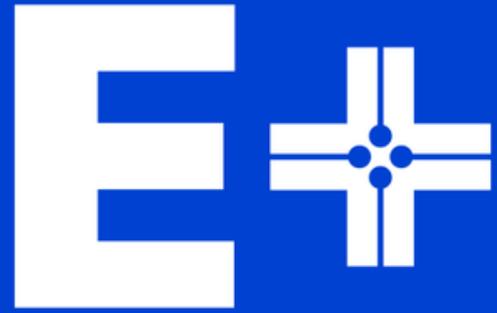


IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,  
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FEEL THE  
**POWER**  
OF WOMEN AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES  
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# BEAUCOUP.

## Digital transformation of universities

'Boosting Digital Excellence and Governance Autonomy of Universities in the Countries of East Partnership – BEAUCOUP' aims to support education in the Eastern Partnership countries by stimulating the digital transformation of universities, schools and kindergartens. Within the project, partners from the European Union countries will share their experiences that have improved e-government in their countries, as well as the competencies in learning through technology and teacher training strategies for a future technology-based world.

'This is an excellent way to share experiences and good practices in the digital transformation of higher education. The ability of universities to meet the challenges of digital transformation depends on the extent to which we integrate modern information and communication technologies into our relations with various stakeholders but also on improving the internal functioning of universities. We are committed to enhancing digital competencies and implementing digital transformation policies both in internal management processes and in study programmes, teaching, supporting scientific activities and creating new research areas,' says Project Manager dr hab. Anna Jurkowska-Zeidler, prof. UG, Vice-Chancellor for International Cooperation.

[Read more](#)

