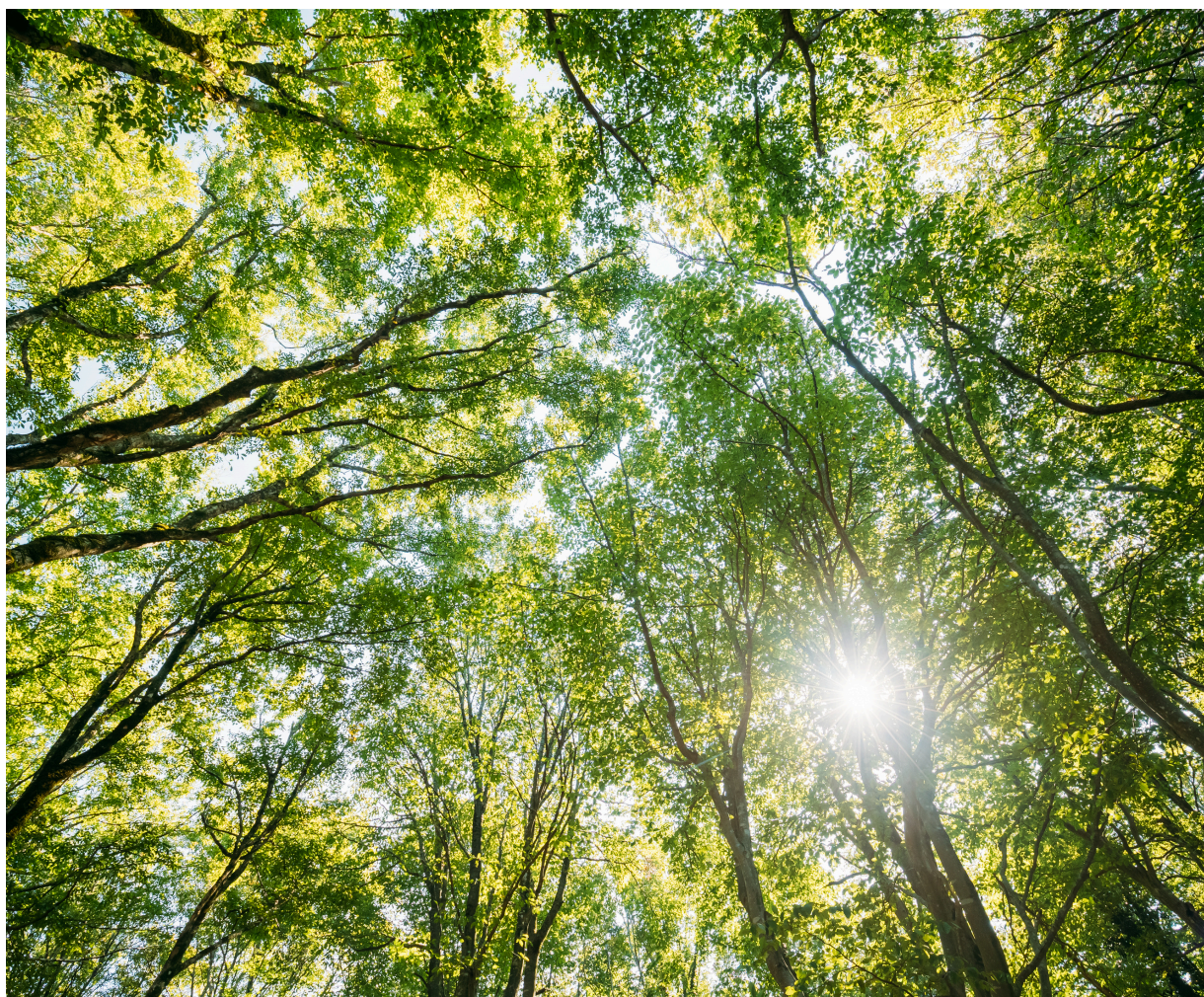


Challenge EU

European University Alliance



MAY 2025

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Excellent ratings for six degree programs



With around 120,000 students surveyed, the university ranking of the Center for Higher Education Development (CHE) has offered the most comprehensive comparison in German-speaking academia for 25 years. For the current ranking, students in Bachelor's degree programs in Biomechanics, Biotechnology, Mechanical Engineering, Environmental Technology, Mechatronics and Autonomous Systems and Medical Technology were surveyed.

Hochschule Offenburg scores above average in the national comparison, with the quality of studies, strong connection to professional practice and equipment of the classrooms and labs being rated particularly positively. The positive outcomes also demonstrate the effective implementation of teaching concepts at HSO.

Click here for more information (in German). [CHE-Ranking2025](#)



SHORTS 2025 winners announced



SHORTS is Hochschule Offenburg's trinational short-film festival. It presents works by students from German, French and Swiss film and media schools. SHORTS celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2024.

This year, young filmmakers submitted 555 works. From these, the preliminary jury selected a total of 73 films, which then from May 13 to 16 competed for prizes totaling 10,000 euros at Offenburg's Forum cinemas.

Click [here](#) for information about the winners in the twelve competition blocks (in German).
[SHORTSWinners2025](#)

Ukrainian engineering students complete practical phase at HSO



Recently, nine young people came to Offenburg as part of the partnership agreement with the National Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic University. The two-week visit was part of the international project "Mechanical Engineering Laboratories for Ukraine", funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

The nine students from the mechanical engineering department at Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic carried out practical laboratory work using the latest technology and visited companies, which is not currently possible in Zaporizhzhia, a city located in the immediate vicinity of the front line. The visit, however, not only offered insights into HSO's range of courses, but also provided space for personal discussions about the students' experiences in the context of the war.

Click here for more information (in German). [UASstudents](#)

ECAM LaSalle Hosts NEPTUNE 2025: A European Challenge to Rethink the Sustainable City of Tomorrow



NEPTUNE 2025 is above all a multicultural and multidisciplinary project. Four teams made up of students in mechanical engineering, architecture, urban planning, and materials engineering spent a week working on a real-world issue proposed by the company SERFIM: designing a plan to optimize waste and resource management for the Lyon metropolitan area, based on existing infrastructure.

Supported by coaches from their home institutions, the students applied a systemic approach, incorporating flow logistics, energy consumption, construction waste, wastewater, and even residual energy.

This year, the NEPTUNE project is led by ECAM LaSalle, in collaboration with three other European higher education institutions:

- NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences (Netherlands)
- Savonia University of Applied Sciences (Finland)
- Univerza v Mariboru – University of Maribor (Slovenia)

NEPTUNE 2025 stood out for the richness of its intercultural and interdisciplinary exchanges. Blending scientific rigor with creativity, the students demonstrated their ability to collaborate on complex environmental challenges while forging lasting ties between European institutions.



When Strategy Meets Engineering: Chess Takes Center Stage at ECAM LaSalle



The Henri RINCK International Chess Championship of Lyon, held from April 19 to 23, 2025, on our Lyon campus, brought together 136 players—including 16 women and 54 youths under 18—representing 11 different nationalities. The competition reached a particularly high level with the participation of one International Master, four FIDE Masters, and 15 players ranked above 2000 Elo. Congratulations to our two engineering students who made it into the top 10: **Baptiste Roux**, who took first place and earned the title of Lyon Champion, and **Emilio Profili**, who finished 7th!

This success follows ECAM LaSalle's **1st place finish in the team ranking at the 2025 French University Chess Championship**, among 129 participants from institutions across France.

Since 2019, ECAM LaSalle Lyon has offered a dedicated Sports-Studies track for high-level chess players. This program allows students to pursue both academic and athletic excellence, highlighting the strategic, analytical, and concentration skills developed through chess—skills that align perfectly with the qualities expected of future engineers.

ECAM LaSalle Unveils Its Strategic Plan “Orientations 2030”



ORIENTATIONS 2030

2030



In response to current ecological, technological, and societal transitions, the world of higher education and research must address the challenges faced by businesses and industries—while also meeting the expectations of younger generations seeking more meaningful careers. In this context, ECAM LaSalle is launching “Orientations 2030,” a strategic plan built through collective effort.

As it approaches its 125th anniversary, ECAM LaSalle is entering a new phase of development, aiming to become a leading engineering school at the regional, national, and European levels. This ambitious program is structured around three key priorities:

- **Enhancing academic excellence:** Fostering a learning environment that supports personal growth, the development of individual potential, and student success.
- **Strengthening its research strategy:** Expanding the school's research agenda while maintaining strong collaboration with industry to develop applied research projects aligned with business and training needs.
- **Accelerating its ecological transition:** Increasing ECAM LaSalle’s ability to contribute meaningfully to the ecological transition in all its dimensions, engaging all stakeholders.

Didier Desplanche, Director General of ECAM LaSalle, stated:

“This strategic plan is set within a constantly evolving landscape, where economic, technological, social, and environmental transformations are accelerating. Guided by these three strategic directions, we are working toward a future where engineers and technicians are prepared to thrive in demanding operational environments and to meet society’s challenges.”

FHNW Robot Day 2025



Around 300 visitors – including families, students, and numerous technology enthusiasts – flocked to the FHNW Brugg-Windisch campus on Saturday, May 10, 2025. This year's **Robot Day** offered spectacular robotics competitions, visionary future scenarios, and numerous hands-on stations – impressively demonstrating how technology, innovation, and targeted promotion of young talent can go hand in hand. Some of the stations were specifically designed for preschool and school-age children.

The highlight of the day was the “**Rover Meeting**”: An event organized by students, that brings like-minded people together across borders and fosters international friendships. It also offers the opportunity to test self-built rovers and their functionalities in a competitive environment ahead of the international competition for space robotics, the **European Rover Challenge (ERC)**. Student teams from universities in Germany, Italy, and Switzerland tested their self-designed Mars rovers in a competition that transported participants to the year 2051: Humanity has left Mars behind and set foot on Ganymede, Jupiter's largest moon, for the first time. The **FHNW Rover Team** an interdisciplinary group of students from the **FHNW School of Engineering and Environment** and the **FHNW School of Computer Science** had spent two semesters developing a Mars rover as part of a student project.

The Brugg-Windisch regional qualifying round of the **World Robot Olympiad (WRO)** took place at the same time – an international robotics competition in which 24 teams of children and young people aged 6 and above competed against each other with LEGO robots.

More information (in german): [FHNW Robot Day 2025](#)

Future Health: The contribution of FHNW School of Applied Psychology



How can resilience, mental health, and performance be promoted in companies in a sustainable manner? Answers to this question were provided by the practice event “Future Health – the contribution of applied psychology” on May 7, 2025, at the FHNW Campus Olten. Around 230 interested parties accepted the invitation from the **FHNW School of Applied Psychology** and the **FHNW Applied Psychology Alumni Association** to gain inspiration and exchange ideas.

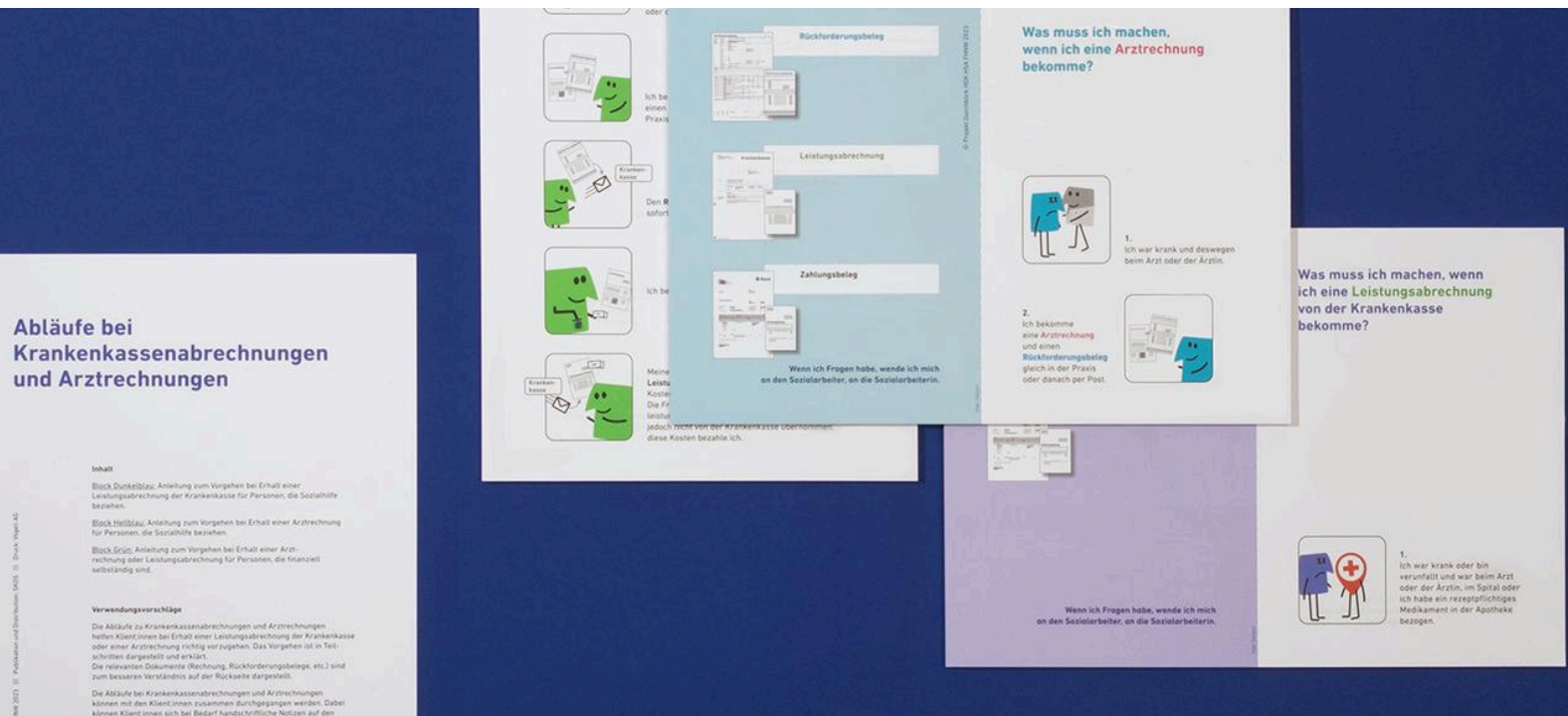
At the event, researchers from the FHNW School of Applied Psychology, together with partners from the field, presented innovative approaches from applied psychology to meet the challenges of an increasingly complex and dynamic world of work.

Prof. Dr. Andreas Krause (FHNW School of Applied Psychology) and Dr. Regina Jensen (Foundation Gesundheitsförderung Schweiz) presented the recently published results of the 2024 Workplace Health Management Monitor. The study offers insights and current findings on the status quo and development of workplace health management in Switzerland.

The impetus for this year's practice event came from the **FHNW Institute for Mental and Organizational Health**. With its founding in January 2025, the FHNW School of Applied Psychology sent a strong signal about the importance of mental and organizational health in a changing world of work. The school supports companies with scientifically sound, practical solutions and contributes psychological expertise to the FHNW strategic action field **“Future Health”**.

More information (in german): Practice Day Future Health

FHNW develops award winning visual communication tools for social welfare



The **FHNW School of Social Work** has teamed up with the **Basel Academy of Art and Design FHNW** to develop visual communication tools for social welfare. The project received an award from the International Institute for Information Design (IIID).

In the “Durchblick” project, Paloma López Grüninger (Basel Academy of Art and Design FHNW), Anne Parpan-Blaser and Christoph Imhof (FHNW School of Social Work), together with the social services of the cities of Basel and Dietikon and students of the Master's program in Digital Communication Environments, developed visual materials for counselling sessions in social welfare. The IIID Award-winning materials offer structuring aids, contain step-by-step instructions, facilitate the handling of administrative documents, and can be used as memory aids or visual aids for explanations. The materials can be ordered by professionals working in the field and can be integrated into their daily work.

More information (in german): [Visual communication tools for social welfare](#)

Latvia Launches the Digitalization of Higher Education



By the end of 2029, a large-scale digitalization of the study process will be implemented across Latvia's higher education institutions. The project, initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science (MoES), aims to create a modern, flexible, and student-centered study environment by introducing shared digital solutions. The initiative will be carried out with financial support from the European Social Fund Plus, according to the Ministry of Education and Science.

The modernization will cover four study support systems: integrated digital resource and library management with extensive artificial intelligence support for search and content processing, modern management of student internships, study process evaluation, and personal data management in student research. These solutions will ensure a more targeted and up-to-date approach to education governance.

A Research-Based University for a Sustainable Tomorrow



The Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies (LBTU) is one of the leading scientific universities in Latvia, advancing research and innovation in the fields of biosciences, engineering, and social sciences. LBTU develops a strong science and innovation ecosystem to foster economic innovation, balanced regional development, and improved quality of life.

The university focuses on strategic specialization areas: agricultural, forest, and veterinary sciences; engineering and technologies; and social sciences. Its priority research fields include bioeconomy and sustainable resource use, food technology and safety, environment and climate change, forestry and natural capital, digital technologies, public development and governance, and the “One Health” concept.

In 2024, LBTU implemented 148 scientific and contract research projects with a total research funding of €8.41 million — 20% from international projects, 25% from national-level initiatives, and 19% from contracts with government institutions and public companies. Interdisciplinary collaboration underpins LBTU’s research, as seen in examples such as the Weedbot weeding robot, developed by agriculture, engineering, and IT experts; smart beehives in cooperation with international IT partners; and the LASAM climate scenario modeling tool used by the Ministry of Agriculture to represent Latvia’s interests at the EU level.

Open Door Day Festival in the Courtyard of Jelgava Palace



Every May, the Latvian University of Life Sciences and Technologies (LBTU) hosts the Open Door Day Festival. This event welcomes individuals of all ages who are planning their professional careers. During the festival, visitors can explore the fields of biosciences, engineering and social sciences, participate in various competitions, meet university students and academic staff, and ask questions directly to experts. Prospective students who wish to meet faculty representatives can do so at the faculty and student organization booths located in the palace courtyard.

Particularly talented students are challenged in mathematics at Mid Sweden University



Teaching at the right level is crucial for students' development and motivation. Two students with a special aptitude for mathematics come to Mid Sweden University and receive university-level teaching. Artur Silva and Edvin Israelsson Narveby have had the chance to deepen their interest in mathematics.

Artur Silva is in year 2 of the natural science program at Skvadern upper secondary school and has already finished the high school's mathematics courses. He is now teaching mathematics at university level at Mid Sweden University.

"I've always been interested in equations and problem solving. It was in grade 8 that my great interest in mathematics really took off," says Artur.

Edvin Israelsson Narveby is in year 9 at Bergsåker's school and has graduated from the upper secondary school science mathematics courses. Like Artur, he is now being taught at the level that corresponds to his ability.

"I've always had an easy time with mathematics and think it's fun. In the second half of year 7, I got more advanced mathematics courses, and now I'm studying mathematics at university level," says Edvin.

Andreas Lind, Deputy Head of Department and Head of Subject in Mathematics at Mid Sweden University, sees the initiative as an important part of the university's work to stimulate young mathematics talents.

"It's an excellent way to market the subject of mathematics and at the same time support these exceptionally talented students. It's inspiring to work with students who are so motivated," says Andreas.

For Mid Sweden University's Vice-Chancellor, Anders Fällström, who is himself a mathematician, the initiative is extra important. As a young student, he had the same opportunity to study mathematics at university level and knows what a difference it can make.

[More information >>](#)

Safer and more affordable vehicle electrification with low-voltage technology



In a new project, Mid Sweden University is exploring how low-voltage batteries can be used to power vehicles and work machines. The aim is to reduce costs, improve safety, and simplify the design of electric drive systems through innovative low-voltage solutions.

The project builds on the research on 48V low-voltage systems that Mid Sweden University has been conducting for several years. Researcher Peng Cheng's work focuses on developing electric motors that can operate efficiently with lower voltage. "There is a large market for electric motors. If you don't need such high voltage, safety increases as well. By using lower voltage, the risks are reduced, while we can achieve the same functionality as with high-voltage designs," says Peng Cheng.

Another advantage is that low-voltage batteries can provide sufficient power to drive work vehicles and other machines, while being cheaper than traditional high-voltage alternatives.

"We want to practically demonstrate how low-voltage batteries can be used in smaller machines that have safer batteries and sufficient capacity," says Kent Bertilsson, project leader and professor of electronics at Mid Sweden University.

The project, carried out in collaboration with Finland's Oulu University of Applied Sciences and Norway's Arctic University in Tromsø, already involves more than 20 companies engaged in the development of the technology. "We work together with the companies to understand their needs and get their feedback. It could involve forestry machines, snow groomers, or excavators. They all have different requirements, and we want to find the best solutions for various industries," says Kent Bertilsson.

A key part of the project is to test the technology in realistic environments. Finland's Oulu University of Applied Sciences has a testing environment where various machines can be tested for different tasks. Norway's Arctic University in Tromsø contributes its expertise in marine vehicles, such as fishing vessels and boats.

The project aims to create a more flexible and cost-effective solution for the electrification of machines and vehicles.

[More information >>](#)

New research examines the role of dogs in health care, social care and school



Can social service dogs improve the health and well-being of young and old? Researchers at Mid Sweden University want to find out in a new research project in collaboration with the municipalities of Örnsköldsvik and Härnösand.

The project, which runs for 2.5 years and is part of the collaboration between Mid Sweden University and Västernorrland, follows three groups of participants where dogs are used as support in various activities. In Härnösand, the focus is on older people in home care, while Örnsköldsvik invests in young people in school and people with various kinds of disabilities. The third group is young adults who are recruited from a private short-term accommodation in Stöde. The aim is to investigate what importance the dog can have for health and well-being in the different groupings.

"We know that animals have been used for a long time internationally in various healthcare activities, such as psychiatry, and research has also been conducted in the area. Today, many municipalities use dogs as a resource in various activities, but dogs as a resource are sparsely researched in municipal activities in Sweden," says Malin Holmström Rising, professor of nursing at Mid Sweden University.

In the project, Malin hopes to be able to see, among other things, how contact with dogs affects activity, sleep and mental well-being. The hope is that the research will contribute to a more structured use of service dogs in health and social care and form the basis for a larger project.

"Dogs don't judge, they don't make any demands. They can provide security and motivation, especially for people who are isolated or have difficulty finding drive and motivation," says Malin Holmström Rising.

The goal is to provide a deeper understanding of the interaction between humans and dogs and generate new knowledge about how dogs can be used as a resource to promote health and well-being in municipal activities.

[More information >>](#)

SEEU Launches “AI@SEEU” Initiative to Enhance Learning and Campus Services



UNIVERSITETI I EVROPËS JUGLINDORE
УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ НА ЈУГОИСТОЧНА ЕВРОПА
SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY



South East European University (SEEU) has officially launched the innovative AI@SEEU project—a major step toward transforming the university experience through artificial intelligence.

Led by Prof. Florije Ismaili, Advisor for Academic Planning and Digitalization, in collaboration with staff from the Faculty of Contemporary Sciences and Technologies (CST), the IT Department, and SEEU students, this initiative aims to bring smart, accessible, and student-centered AI tools to campus life.

Over the next 10 to 14 months, SEEU will introduce three powerful AI-based tools in phases:

- AI for Everyone – A 24/7 chatbot designed to assist with general inquiries, including admissions, program details, and frequently asked questions.
- MyAI for Students – A personalized digital assistant, co-created with student input, to support course selection, track academic progress, and clarify university policies.
- MyAI for Staff – A suite of AI tools to support research, draft content, and automate routine administrative processes.

Through embedding AI into daily workflows and engaging students in its development, SEEU is shaping a smarter, more efficient, and student-friendly academic environment. This initiative underscores the university’s commitment to innovation, digital transformation, and academic excellence.

Shaping Tomorrow's Tetovo: SEEU Hosts “Coffee Talk” with High School Students



UNIVERSITETI I EVROPËS JUGLINDORE
УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ НА ЈУГОИСТОЧНА ЕВРОПА
SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY



The Faculty of Contemporary Social Sciences (FCSS) at South East European University (SEEU) organized a promotional event titled “Coffee Talk”, as part of an essay competition for high school students under the theme: “Tetovo of Tomorrow: Youth Visions for the Future of Our City.”

The event brought together participating students and representatives from the Municipality of Tetovo to discuss the ideas and visions of the younger generation for building a cleaner, more functional, and more developed Tetovo.

Five winning entries were selected from all submitted essays. The winners—Eneida Emini, Erion Bexheti, Besmira Sadiku, Altina Iseni, and Eliza Bilalli—will be awarded a visit to the Municipality of Tetovo, where they will have the opportunity to present their ideas for improving urban life.

The main goal of this activity is to encourage youth participation in community development through creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration with local institutions.

SEEU Students Win First Place at Global Innovation Challenge!



UNIVERSITETI I EVROPËS JUGLINDORE
УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ НА ЈУГОИСТОЧНА ЕВРОПА
SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

WMGIC IX Flagship Competition Winner:



senseMESH: Integrating Machine Learning and Public Engagement for Sustainable Air Quality Monitoring

Samir Shabani, Menan Sali, Hamit Kamberi, Agon Bilalli



UNIVERSITETI I EVROPËS JUGLINDORE
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Max van der Stoel
Institute



WILLIAM & MARY
CHARTERED 1693

A team of South East European University (SEEU) students—Samir Shabani, Menan Sali, Hamit Kamberi, and Agon Bilalli—won first place at the William & Mary Global Innovation Challenge IX with an innovative project developed at the Max van der Stoel Institute.

Their innovation includes a smart, low-cost, solar-powered system for real-time air quality monitoring, designed to help communities track and respond to pollution—starting with Varanasi, India, a city with one of the highest air pollution levels in the world.

The system uses smart sensors, GPS, and a mesh network that lets data travel between devices until it reaches a single internet-connected gateway. This design makes the system energy-efficient, scalable, and ideal for remote areas.

Data is securely transmitted and stored for real-time analysis, helping communities track pollution, raise awareness, and influence policy decisions. The platform can also support future upgrades like machine learning and additional sensors.

This achievement highlights SEEU's commitment to global innovation, sustainability, and student-led impact.

Vaccination and Public Health: Universidad Europea de Valencia Hosts the First Pfizer Chair Conference



The event, held as part of World Immunization Week, brought together health experts to discuss the 50th anniversary of Spain's vaccination schedule and the challenges of immunization in the 21st century.

Spain has gone from having 5 vaccines in its schedule to 18, enabling the prevention of more than 30 diseases.

The Universidad Europea de Valencia successfully hosted the first conference of the Pfizer Chair, coinciding with **World Immunization Week**. The event brought together leading health professionals to discuss advances in vaccinology and public health.

“This conference is yet another example of our commitment to education, science, and the promotion of public health. Immunization is one of the greatest achievements of modern medicine, and our collaboration with Pfizer through this chair aims to foster research projects and knowledge transfer to improve quality of life and build a healthier society, both now and in the future. Preventive policies and vaccination have a significant impact on public budgets, making this a key issue for the welfare economy,” said Rosa Sanchidrián Pardo, Rector of the Universidad Europea de Valencia.

“The Chair was created primarily to raise awareness among professionals and the general public about the benefits of vaccination at all stages of life, as well as to measure its impact on public health,” she added. The forum featured two round tables. The first, led by Dr. Silvia Trujillo, Dean of Health Sciences at the Universidad Europea de Valencia, focused on the 50th anniversary of Spain's first vaccination schedule and the impact of vaccines on the demographic challenges of the 21st century.

Speakers included Dr. Fernando Moraga-Llop, recently appointed Member of the Royal Academy of Medicine of Catalonia, and Dr. Natividad Tolosa Martínez, who has united over 30 medical scientific societies in a common project. Also participating was Dr. Javier Díez Domingo, a leading figure in vaccinology research and leadership in the Valencian Community.

The second-round table, chaired by Patricia Guillén, Professor of Epidemiology, Preventive Medicine, and Public Health at the Universidad Europea de Valencia, addressed the impact of new vaccines against respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), effective communication in vaccination and immunization, and prevention as the first step in the rational use of antibiotics.

Participants included Dr. José Gómez Rial, known for simplifying the complex field of immunology through his extensive knowledge, and Alejandro Cremades, a national leader in nurse-led vaccinology. Dr. Josep de la Flor, a key figure in primary care for his work in vaccines and infectious disease prevention and recently named honorary member of the Spanish Association of Pediatrics, also contributed.

More information about the Pfizer Chair:

<https://universidadeuropea.com/conocenos/catedra-vacunas-sostenibles-pfizer/>

Universidad Europea de Valencia triumphs in the ‘Parlament Universitari’ Competition of Les Corts Valencianes



Law and Criminology students secure the presidency of the Generalitat in a parliamentary simulation

The **Universidad Europea de Valencia** has emerged as the **winner** of the prestigious ‘**Parlament Universitari**’ competition, organized by Les Corts Valencianes, in which seven universities from the Valencian Community participated.

The team, composed of **first-year students from the double degree in Law and Criminology**, succeeded in this parliamentary simulation by securing the presidency of the Generalitat. Guided by Constitutional Law professors **Lupe Bohorques, Fátima Gómez, and Julián Pinazo**, the students developed a government proposal based on four key pillars: housing, health, employment, and transportation.

Their presentation began with a reference to May 9th as “Europe Day,” a symbol of peace and unity, and focused on values such as solidarity, collaboration, and reconstruction following the DANA storm, with the aim of building a better future for the Valencian Community.

The main speech was delivered by Criminology student Jaime Guillot de Mergelina, who was elected President of the Generalitat after receiving majority support from the university chamber. Guillot described the experience as “unforgettable” and expressed his gratitude to the university, faculty, and fellow students: “It was the result of great teamwork that allowed me to apply the knowledge acquired in class and learn Constitutional Law in an extraordinary way.” Student Noa Cardona was randomly selected as President of the Parliamentary Board, while Paula Soria participated in the parliamentary rebuttal. The negotiation team, key to reaching agreements with other universities, included Andrea Yáñez, Laura Sangüesa, Isabela Gómez, Valentina Ruiz, Claudia Hernández, Claudia Pérez, Adrián Ribas, Angelina, and Irene Navarro.

Professor **Lupe Bohorques** highlighted that the team’s success was due to their coordination, enthusiasm, and integrity: “Each student fulfilled their role with commitment. They connected with the proposals of other universities and demonstrated an open and respectful attitude that was decisive in gaining majority support.” This achievement not only showcases the students’ skills in public speaking, debate, and leadership, but also reinforces the **Universidad Europea de Valencia**’s commitment to comprehensive education aimed at preparing students for the challenges of the professional world.

In this edition, the Universidad Europea de Valencia competed alongside six other universities: Universitat de València (UV), Jaume I Universitat (UJI), Universidad CEU Cardenal Herrera, Universidad de Alicante, Universidad Miguel Hernández, and Universidad Católica de Valencia. The competition, organized by Les Corts Valencianes, aimed to simulate a seven-minute debate by each of the seven universities of the Valencian Community to demonstrate the mechanisms for electing the President of the Generalitat Valenciana. Through this, students learn how a parliamentary session of Les Corts functions and participates with speeches and concrete proposals.

Campus Alicante of Universidad Europea de Valencia Hosts MUN Salud



Students from Dentistry and Psychology debate non-communicable chronic diseases in a United Nations simulation.

Universidad Europea de Valencia held a new edition of MUN Salud, this time at the Alicante Provincial Council headquarters, with the participation of **35 students** from the Dentistry, Psychology, and Dentistry (English track) programs at the Campus Alicante.

The event, simulating the workings of the **World Health Organization's General Assembly**, focused on the debate around Non-Communicable Chronic Diseases (NCDs), one of the major challenges in global public health.

Throughout the day, students represented **nine international delegations—Argentina, China, the United States, Spain, France, India, Morocco, Mexico, and Poland**—preparing opening speeches, position papers, and resolutions, which were debated and voted on in both formal and informal sessions.

The simulation was moderated by six International Relations students from the Faculty of Social Sciences at Universidad Europea de Valencia, members of the AEDRI association, who guided the debate following real United Nations protocols.

The event was attended by Juan de Dios Navarro Caballero, Provincial Deputy for Culture, Procurement, and International Residents; **Noelia Rodríguez Blanco**, Director of the Campus Alicante of the Universidad Europea de Valencia; **Frederic Mertens de Wilmars**, Coordinator of International Relations of the Universidad Europea de Valencia; and **Rafael Trenas Luque**, Academic Coordinator of the Universidad Europea de Valencia. Numerous faculty and university staff also accompanied the students throughout the day.

MUN Salud is part of **Universidad Europea's Experiential Learning model**, which promotes the development of practical skills in real or simulated contexts. This initiative allows students to integrate theoretical knowledge with skills such as public speaking, negotiation, teamwork, and ethical reflection, while fostering critical awareness of global health challenges.

ICELAB, a blended intensive program in innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship



From May 5 to 9, IADE- Faculty of Design, Technology and Communication of Universidade Europeia (Lisbon) hosted another edition of ICELAB, a blended intensive program in innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship. This BIP brought together 60 students and 7 professors from 6 universities from Austria, Germany, Poland, Finland, Belgium and Portugal. Coordinated by the Vorarlberg University of Applied Sciences, this edition focused on the question “How might we develop sustainable startup ideas (products, services) in the areas of upcycling, reusing and recycling in Lisbon?”

Using the Design Thinking methodology, student teams dived into empathy maps, user interviews, ideation sessions, and rapid prototyping. Throughout the week, the Brigada do Mar association collaborated on a local clean-up campaign, which allowed students to experience the problem first-hand. They participated in all stages of the process: they collected waste, selected materials and, in creative workshops, began their transformation process. The week culminated with a buzzing final startup fair, where they publicly presented their circular business concepts.

The Copernican Debate in Olsztyn: Copernicus as a Forerunner of Modern Science



The University of Warmia and Mazury (UWM), the International Centre for Copernican Studies, and the Museum of Warmia and Mazury jointly hosted the Copernican Debate in Olsztyn, titled “Is Science a Useful Fiction? On Truth in Science and Beyond.”

Held in the spirit of the 2023 Copernicus Year, marking the 550th anniversary of Nicolaus Copernicus’s birth, the event continued the momentum of the World Copernican Congress, which brought together three major Polish universities—Jagiellonian University, Nicolaus Copernicus University, and UWM—for a series of discussions in Kraków, Toruń, and Olsztyn.

According to Professor Krzysztof Mikulski, a historian from Nicolaus Copernicus University and an expert on Copernicus, the goal of the Copernican Debates is to keep alive a nationwide conversation inspired by the intellectual legacy of the heliocentric theory’s author.

“The idea is to organize three Copernican Debates each year, on topics connected in some way to Copernicus,” explains Prof. Mikulski. “The first two were held in Kraków and Toruń; the third took place here in Olsztyn. In the preface to *De Revolutionibus*, Copernicus wrote in his letter to Pope Paul III that ‘the aim of the scholar is to seek truth in all things.’ That’s why truth became the central theme of the Olsztyn debate.”

The debate, held in the historic Copernican Rooms of the Museum of Warmia and Mazury, brought together scholars from two seemingly distant disciplines. Prof. Robert Frost, a historian from the University of Aberdeen and an expert in Central and Eastern European history, joined Prof. Marek Kuś, a physicist from the Centre for Theoretical Physics of the Polish Academy of Sciences, specializing in mathematical physics, quantum information, and the philosophy of science.



UNIVERSITY
OF WARMIA AND MAZURY
IN OLSZTYN

Kortowiada 2025: Students Take Over the UWM Campus



There comes a time each year when the keys to the city must be handed over—and in Olsztyn, that moment signals the start of Kortowiada. On Thursday, May 29, **Mayor Robert Szewczyk** symbolically gave student power to Iwona Pająk, president of the UWM Student Council. Later that day, when the colorful Parade of Faculties reached Kortowo, **Rector Prof. Jerzy Przyborowski** followed suit, officially placing the campus under student rule for the next three days.

Their first decree? Classes are canceled—let the fun begin!

This year, Kortowiada concerts are happening on two beachside stages:

- The "Cześć! UWM" Stage on Thursday featured Daria ze Śląska, Wiktor Dyduła, Myslovitz, and Szpaku.
- The "Warmia and Mazury" Stage delivered rap and alternative beats with Kawa z Mlekiem, Małpa, Opał, and Bracia Figo Fagot.

Friday's lineup on "Cześć! UWM" included Chivas, Lanberry, Lady Pank, and Enej, likely sparking the loudest crowd singalong of the Kortowiada anthem. Over at "Warmia and Mazury", fans gathered for How We Met, Louis Villain, Kaz Bałagane, and Tribbs. Saturday wrapped up with Wojtek Szumański, T.Love, Mrozu, and OKI on the main stage, while Kayak, Flirtini, Otsochodzi, and TEDE held it down next door.

The Parade of Faculties is a hallmark of Kortowiada—and so, it seems, is the rain. Olsztyn's moody May weather didn't faze students who marched from the Old Town to Kortowo, spreading joy, inviting locals to join, and proudly representing their faculties. Dressed in costumes ranging from Smurfette and cowboys to robots, animals, and even a walking shopping bag, students let their creativity shine.

Kortowiada is about much more than concerts. It's a chance to meet people, try new things, and celebrate student life. Activities like Speed Dating, a Slavic Party, Board Game Festival, and Silent Disco offered opportunities to socialize. Meanwhile, students could test their mettle in challenges like Capture the Flag, KortoStrong, Kortowiada Volleyball Match, and the legendary Run for the Golden Boar. Events like the Academic League and Battle of the Faculties have become annual favorites.

White Coats, New Beginnings: UWM Medical Students Step into Clinical Practice



UNIVERSITY
OF WARMIA AND MAZURY
IN OLSZTYN



"Treat the person, not the disease." This message now echoes in the minds of third-year medical students at the University of Warmia and Mazury (UWM) as they begin face-to-face work with patients. Their transition from theoretical studies to clinical training was marked by the White Coat Ceremony, held on May 17 in the University's Congress Hall. UWM is one of the few universities in Poland that upholds this tradition—a symbolic ritual that marks a pivotal moment in medical education: the shift from classroom learning to hands-on experience in hospital wards.

One by one, students took to the stage. White coats—symbols of professionalism, accountability, and compassion—were presented to each of them by their mentors: practicing physicians and lecturers with whom they already share the classroom. Each student also received a bouquet of lily of the valley, symbolizing hope, care, and sensitivity—core values of the medical profession.

Following the Polish-language program, students from the English-taught medical track also received their white coats. This part of the ceremony was led by Dr. Rakesh Jalali, Vice Dean for International Students and Development. He focused on the gravity of responsibility.

"Whether you're treating children or the elderly, the white coat you wear is a daily reminder that someone's life may depend on your knowledge and empathy. Always remember: your patient is someone's mother, father, or child—and they need help just like you would."