

International Bulletin

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NEWS & FEATURES

Start of the new academic year 2020/20

Erasmus AD HOC project study: Accessibility of Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Sites

2nd event of the Joint Review Week - 2020 Open Access Journals in humanities, social sciences and bio-medicine

International Student Conference "MEET"

Faculty of Philosophy partner in the project "Healthier Youth creating a preventive network"

Study visit at the University of Tirana

On the 28 of October 2020, a delegation from the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje, together with the Faculties of Pedagogy in North Macedonia realised a study visit at the University of Tirana, Albania. The study visit was part of the project cooperation with the "Center for Balkan cooperation - Loja" together with the German partner Kurve Wustrow. As part of the study exchange, an official meeting was held with the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Tirana in order to achieve joint cooperation in several areas.









The beginning of the new academic year 2020/21 at the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje has been marked with a ceremonial academic session held on 1st of October 2020. The Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy - prof. dr. sc. Ratko Duev opened the event by welcoming the new - 100th generation of students. Greeting speeches were also delivered by the Minister of Education and Science - Ms. Mila Carovska, as well as by the Rector of the "Ss. Cyril and Methodius University" in Skopje - prof. dr. sc. Nikola Jankulovski. The Director of the University Library "St. Kliment Ohridski" in Skopje - Mr. Frimzym Dauti greeted the students and distributed the university library cards. The vice-deans of the Faculty of Philosophy - prof. dr. sc. Oliver Bakreski and prof. dr. sc. Maja Gerovska Mitev informed the students about the format and specifics of the teaching, research and international mobility during the academic 2020/21.



The Faculty of Philosophy has initiated the winter semester 2020 with a hybrid method of in-person teaching for smaller student groups and online teaching. The Faculty has provided a training for its academic community for MS Teams, which in combination with other teaching and research resources, is the main platform used within the "Ss. Cyril and Methodius University" in Skopje for conducting the online teaching and distance learning in 2020/21.





Erasmus AD HOC project study: Accessibility of Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Sites in North Macedonia, Italy, Slovenia and Greece



The Erasmus project AD HOC, coordinated by the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje and partnered with the Tor Vergata University from Rome, Italy, University of Primoroska from Slovenia and the NGO Artifactory from Athens in Greece, has published its first intellectual output. The research study: "Accessibility of Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Sites" explores the least accessible archaeological heritage sites in North Macedonia, Italy, Slovenia and Greece, both in terms of accessibility to the general population, but also accessibility for persons with disability.

The archeological site "Pavla Čuka" Staro Bonče was identified as one of the least accessible archeological sites in North Macedonia. The excavation site Pavla Čuka is a necropolis from the Hellenistic and Roman period. The most significant discovery is the monumental tomb built in the fourth century B.C. The site is located at a distance of 3 kilometers from the urban area (the village of Bonče in the East and the village of Podmol in the West). The easiest way to get to the site is by an SUV or by a tractor. It is simply impossible for people with disabilities to visit this wonderful archeological site unless they are accompanied.



"Pavla Čuka" Staro Bonče, North Macedonia



The chamber of the tomb in Staro Bonče

The list of less accessible archeological sites in the project partner countries include: Seaward Castle of Chios (Greece), Anavatos (Greece), Avgonyma (Greece), Appia Antica (Italy), Villa Mondragone (Italy), National Archaeological Museum of Palestrina (Italy), Zavrč Cemetery (Slovenia), Socerb (Slovenia), Servite Monastery in Koper (Slovenia). Within the project, the parameters for digitalization of the cultural archaeological heritage were set. A special platform is planned to be created and filled with archaeological cultural content from all the project partner countries.



Anavatos, Greece



Socerb castle, Slovenia



Palestrina, Italy



JOINT REVIEW WEEK - 2020 Debate: "Open access scientific journals from humanities, social sciences and bio-medicine: experiences, dilemmas challenges" Skopje, 20 October 2020



The second event in the 2020 Joint Review Week was organised by the Faculty of Philosophy on the 20th of October, as an online debate on the topic of "Open access scientific journals from humanities, social sciences and bio-medicine: experiences, dilemmas challenges".

The introductory presentation was provided by prof. dr. Mirko Spiroski from the SPIROSKI Scientific Foundation on the topic of "Open access journals in North Macedonia". He discussed the experiences of national open-access journals, and indicated that despite lack of national database and register of all open-access journals, there are approximately 73 national open-access scientific journals. Prof. dr Donco Donev presented and discussed the principles of scientific communication, publishing ethics, prevention of plagiarism and the structure of the scientific work. The experiences of the scientific journal "Archives of public health" published by the Institute of Public Health of North Macedonia was presented by prof. dr. Gordana Ristovska. The last presenter Prof. dr. Vladimir Trajkovski from the Faculty of Philosophy presented his survey results on the topic of "Use of social media among open-access scientific journals", which was distributed among journal editors, members of editorial board and adminsitrative personal of the scientific journals. According to his survey results, 41% of the respondents indicated that "their" journal has an integrated plugin for social media promotion, while 86% of the respondents belived that the social media can benfit greater journal promotion. The presentations were followed by a lively debate with panel attendees.







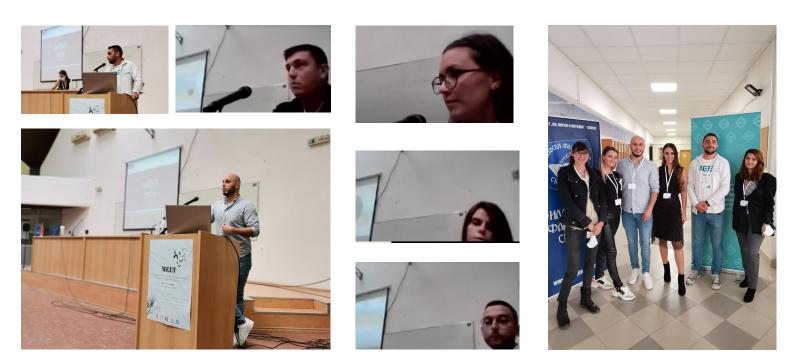
Student conference

"Natural disasters and epidemics from the perspective of humanities and social sciences"

On the 14th of October 2020, a student conference entitled "Natural disasters and epidemics from the perspective of humanities and social sciences" was organised by the students from the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje, in cooperation with the students from the Faculty of Pedagogy in Skopje. According to the student organisation committee "the purpose of such scientific gathering is to support the student observations, as well as to highlight the thinking world of the younger scientists". They believe that student scientific conferences are the right approach to achieve that goal. Students' papers, observations and presentations were inspired by the conference topic, and involved scientific research on the challenges facing society and the impact of natural phenomena on science. Student organising committee believed that this topic, inspired by the current events that have affected the entire world population, is the real motive for greater academic involvement of student community.

Topics of the presented papers included: Covid-19 economic crisis and the experiences of public employment agencies in the past crises; Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on families with disabled children; Lakagigar - eruption that changed the history; Covid-19 and the impact on female labour; Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on the education; Covid-19 pandemic and the impact on gender, etc.

The student organising committee expects that the conference will contribute to greater student involvement in conducting researches, as well as to more student initiatives related to organizing scientific events.



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"Healthier Youth: creating a preventive network"

During 24 and 25 September 2020, partners of the international project "Healthier Youth - creating a preventive network" held a working meeting in Trnava, Slovakia. Host of the meeting was the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Trnava, Slovak Republic. This project was established by the EU partners: University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava from Slovakia; Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski University in Warsaw from Poland and University of Ostrava from the Czech Republic, and is supported by the International Visegrad Fund. The Faculty of Philosophy at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje is a partner in the project, through its Department of Psychology.

The project is focused on youth risk behavior and its prevention, which is essential for mental, social and physical health. The aim of the project is to make prevention and intervention strategies more effective by creating a functional communication and contact network between adolescents, experts, and parents and general public. The risk behavior is the greatest threat to youth health and is a leading cause of death (accidents, suicides, alcohol, drugs, etc.). Attention is also put on risky experimentation which endanger the health of the individual either directly (drugs, risky sexual behavior), or by increasing the risk of injury (risky sports) or through emotional traumas (bullying). Digital technology and online communication brought other forms of risky behavior such as cyberbullying or risky internet behavior.

This project strives to improve the modes of communication and networking between professionals, teachers, students and parents, and to create universal and functioning network for delivering information from professionals (psychologists) to teachers and from teachers to students/parents/public (top-to-bottom) and also for delivering information from students/parents/public to teachers and further to professionals (bottom-to-top). During the meeting in Trnava, discussed were several topics important for the project implementation: how to improve gaining know-how for preventive activities, the ways how to develop effective networking between the universities and relevant stakeholders. Finally, participants discussed the ways stakeholders can answer the relevant challenging questions in the times of pandemic crisis, which put a serious challenge to the humanity.