INTERNATIONAL WEEK
12-16 May 2014, Sibiu
11- 15 May 2015, Sibiu

Overview
Being found in 1969, “Lucian Blaga” University faced an upward path in the international education system, today having hundreds of partnerships with universities from all over Europe and Asia. Every year, hundreds of Romanian students chose to study abroad for one semester or one year through the Erasmus+ Program and almost 200 students come to study in Sibiu from all over the world each year. With 9 faculties and a long list of specializations, “Lucian Blaga” University has a lot of opportunities when it comes to collaborate with foreign universities.

Because every year we hear great things about the Erasmus experience from our students and because every time the foreign teachers have a great contribution to their personal and professional experience, we decided to broaden up the classic framework of international education and to invite the professors who worked with our students during their Erasmus mobility to visit Sibiu. From this core idea, we got in touch with professors from different universities who were interested in getting to know more about Sibiu, about LBUS and to share their knowledge with local, Romanian students through lectures.
Day 1

Every year, the International Week starts with the opening speeches of “Lucian Blaga” board members. Prof. Eng. Ioan Bondrea, Ph.D., the Rector of LBUS welcomes the guests and encourages them to share their international knowledge and experience within the upcoming lectures. The rector considers this initiative as being an opportunity, for both students and teachers, for developing their multicultural spectrum while engaging in formal and informal discussions.
The same enthusiasm and interest in expanding the international endeavor is shared every year by the deans and members of all the partner faculties that take part in the International Week project.

The opening ceremony is followed by a visit of the LBUS facilities, including a guided tour of the University’s library.

After having the first traditional lunch in the University’s cafeteria, the guests start their first lectures on subjects which are of great interest for each faculty’s academic field (e.g. Three Reasons to Forbid the Internet, Addressing the Tourism Industry Specific Issues, Principles and Practices Relating to Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Context of European Capital of Culture Year Held in Riga, Product Development Tools, English Literature)
Within the International Week, the day is dedicated for academic activities while the afternoons are organized in a more relaxed way, being a nice occasion for the guests to socialize and have a great time together.
Day 2

The second day of the International Week is dedicated, besides the usual lectures schedule, to meeting LBUS Board Members. Subjects like research and international collaboration are highly debated and new ideas for strengthening the partnerships between the guests' home universities and LBUS are discussed. European mobility for both teachers and students are encouraged by Daniela Preda, Head of International Relations Department who underlines the importance of the Erasmus+ Program and Erasmus Mundus for personal development and European/international integration.
Because Sibiu is a wonderful city, a former European Capital of Culture (2007), we consider it very important to get some time for sightseeing. That is why, usually in the second day, a city tour is organized for our guests. Every time the guests are impressed by the multicultural heritage offered by Sibiu and how the different ethnic groups and confessions marked the city’s architecture over time.
After a nice walk in Sibiu city center and historical places and after a delicious lunch in LBUS cafeteria, in the afternoon, more lectures are scheduled. Each room is full of students who are eager to meet new international teachers and discuss both academic and cultural aspects.

In the evening the LBUS Gaudeamus Parade marks the ending of the university year. This event brings together students from all 9 LBUS faculties and from the Military Academy. A display of people dressed up in the faculty's colors, emotions and music make the city center look like a living hill. If it happens for the International Week to be sooner or later that the Gaudeamus parade, other extracurricular activities are organized.

The day ends with dinner and drinks in a restaurant/pub from Sibiu, with good time and clever jokes.
The third day, lectures begin early morning due to the afternoon’s out-of-town trip. After some good – morning full of energy lectures on different subjects that wake the interest of the participants, the guests are invited to take part to a road-trip. Depending on the year, trips are scheduled to either the world-wide known Bran castle (or as Bran Stoker considered Dracula’s castle), to Turda Salt Mine or other well-known, wonderful places around Sibiu. Lunch gets a new face and this time will be served in traditional villages.
Day 4

The last day of the International Week is also the first day of the International Economic Conference Sibiu (IECS). In the morning, the guests are invited to take part in the opening ceremony of the yearly Students’ Conference organized by LBUS. Afterwards, the guests assist the economic and business related paper presentations held by both Romanian and foreign students.

The afternoon is reserved for another session of lectures.

To achieve the day’s balance, all persons who took part in the International Week project (participants, organizers and sponsors) visit the Astra Museum of Traditional Folk Civilization and enjoyed an open-air traditional Romanian dinner. Romanian musicians (with traditional instruments like: pan pipe and violin) together with Romanian and international amateur dancers (some of the organizers and participants) create every year a fairy-tale atmosphere which, for sure, will be not soon forgotten.
Instead of conclusion...

In the end, the enemy and ally of all human beings – time passes by for International Week and every year we are left with a feeling of emptiness, but, armed with hope, we are looking to the future...

At a short glance, after each edition of the International Week, we realized that after several month of preparation we managed to get this project to the finish line in a successful manner. We, the organizing committee, are glad that for one week per year we manage to put Sibiu in an international framework and to bring a multicultural touch to the academic environment of “Lucian Blaga” University. Every year, through this project, we have the chance to discover and rediscover countries through the wonderful people who share their knowledge and their experience with us and with our students.

We drew a line and we wanted to know their opinion about their experience in Sibiu as well. The feedback we received gave us the energy to start again… from A and get to Z in the following years, with better, more interesting and more international editions of the International Week:

… perfect organization of IWeek which reflected many aspects of Sibiu’s and Romania’s culture
very well balanced academic, social and cultural activities

an awesome week, with great friends

a unique blend of setting, program, management and participants

...I am teaching events and I am definitely going to cite InternationalWeek Sibiu to my future students as a success

See you next year in Sibiu!