

The Bucharest University of Economic Studies Board of Trustees

# Newsletter



January 2019



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### ASE'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES' NEWSLETTER NO. 1/ JANUARY 2019

On January 7, 2019, ASE's academics and students resumed their activity after the winter holiday, and on January 21, the winter exam session began. ASE's Board of Trustees wishes all those involved a successful exam session!

#### Meeting of ASE's management team with the heads of administrative structures

On January 7, 2019, there was a **meeting of ASE's management team with the heads of administrative structures**. The discussions aimed at identifying steps for improving the activities performed by administrative staff so as to enhance the quality of the life of ASE's academic community.

#### Meeting of the Bureau of the National Council of Rectors

On January 8, 2019, PhD Prof. Nicolae Istudor, ASE's Rector and Vice-president of the National Council of Rectors (CNR), participated in the **meeting of the Bureau of the National Council of Rectors**, held in Bucharest. On this occasion, the members of the Bureau of CNR had a first working meeting with Ms. Ecaterina Andronescu, Minister of National Education. Discussions focused on issues regarding the cooperation between the new Minister and the National Council of Rectors, which serves as an advisory body in decisions made by the Minister of National Education. The most important issue under scrutiny was the evaluation of Doctoral Schools, a process which is to be completed by December 31, 2019.

#### Launch of the Bachelor's and Master's Info-Admission 2019 webpages

At the beginning of January 2019, The Bucharest University of Economic Studies launched on its institutional website <u>www.ase.ro</u> the **Info-Admission 2019 webpages**, with details on the whole Bachelor's and Master's Admission process. Future candidates can access useful

information on the 2019 Admission Methodology, approved by the University's Senate on December 19, 2018. The webpages facilitate easy access to and understanding of the steps required to become a student of any of ASE's Faculties. Moreover, during the current academic year, ASE has undertaken a large information campaign by media channels, as well as by on-site presentations at colleges and high schools in Bucharest and throughout the country, to present the educational offer of ASE's Faculties and the admission process.





#### **Opening of an Arts exhibition in ASE**

On January 10, 2019, ASE hosted the **Opening of the Arts exhibition entitled "Significant Visions"**, hosted by the "Cecilia Cutescu Storck" Contemporary Art Gallery in the Ion N. Angelescu Building. The exhibition displays works by artist Vasile Pop Negreșteanu - painter, sculptor, and graphic artist.



## PhD Prof. Nicolae Istudor, ASE's Rector, at the Meeting of the Permanent Bureau of the National Council for Higher Education Financing

On January 14, 2019, ASE's Rector, PhD Prof. Nicolae Istudor, participated in the **meeting of the Permanent Bureau of the National Council for Higher Education Financing (CNFIS)**. Discussions focused on issues related to the improvement of the Methodology for the Financing of Romanian Universities (covering basic and complementary funding, institutional development and contingency funds).

#### PhD Prof. Marius Profiroiu participated in "The Emerging Economics Summit 2019"

On January 14-16, 2019, PhD Prof. Marius Profiroiu, ASE's Vice-rector for International Relations, participated in **"The Emerging Economics Summit 2019"**, organized in partnership with Qatar University. The event was attended by representatives of leading research universities, who discussed about possible means to create a stable and favorable environment for the development of universities and, hence, for maintaining economic growth.



#### The Bucharest University of Economic Studies present in "Times Higher Education Emerging Economies University Rankings 2019"

On January 16, 2019, the **"Times Higher Education Emerging Economies University Rankings 2019"** was made public. According to this prestigious ranking, The Bucharest University of Economic Studies is placed 351+ among universities from 43 countries. The ranking reunites all the Romanian universities members of the Universitaria Consortium.

The ranking analyzes the performance of the best universities in emerging economies on the basis of the same set of indicators as the ones used for the "Times Higher Education World University Rankings": the quality of the teaching and learning environment; research volume, income and reputation; research influence; the degree of internationalization, and industry income.



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#### The "Erasmus+ Caravan" in ASE

On January 14-18, 2019, ASE hosted the "Erasmus+ Caravan". Students interested in the Erasmus+ program had the opportunity to participate in daily information sessions on the way in which they can access a scholarship abroad, at one of ASE's partner universities. This European Union program aims at facilitating the development of professional skills and enhance the labor market insertion of participants by offering opportunities for education, training, youth and sports activities.



#### **Review of ASE's University Charter**

On January 18-20, 2019, ASE's "Ion Gh. Roşca" Training Center Complex in Predeal hosted the working sessions of the Board of Trustees and the Bureau of the University's Senate on the **review of ASE's University Charter**. Discussions focused on issues related to each section of the Charter, such as study programs, the organization of teaching and research processes, academic quality management, the code of professional ethics, academic and management structures, financing and patrimony issues, student activity etc.



#### Visiting professor at ASE's Faculty of Theoretical and Applied Economics

On January 21, 28 and February 1, 2018, ASE's Faculty of Theoretical and Applied Economics organized a series of **seminars for ASE's Doctoral students**, to improve the latter's skills in scientific research and micro- and macro-economic analysis. The classes were delivered by **PhD Prof. Carlos Ramirez Valdebenito**, Visiting professor at the Faculty of Theoretical and Applied Economics. Mr. Valdebenito is ASE's alumnus, professor at University Santiago de Chile and University of Talca (Chile), and advisor for the International Labor Organization.



#### Public debate in ASE

On January 22, 2019, ASE's Faculty of Agrifood and Environment Economics and the Coalition for Circular Economy organized **the public debate on "Reporting and Settlement Mechanisms for Packaging Waste Targets as per Emergency Ordinance 74/2018"**. The event was opened by PhD Prof. Dorel Paraschiv, Vice-rector for Liaison with the social and business environment and cooperation with students, and was attended by members of ASE's academic community, ministerial staff and representatives of professional associations. Discussions covered the following topics: waste stream, the funding of separate collection, producers' costs related to packaging waste management, perspectives regarding waste targets in Romania.



#### Launch of a Project co-funded by means of the European Social Fund

On January 28, 2019, the **SIPOCA 395 Project was launched**, a project financed by means of the European Social Fund, the Operational Program Administrative Capacity 2014-2020; beneficiary – the Ministry of Waters and Forests (MAP), main partner: The Bucharest University of Economic Studies. The main objective of the project is to develop and implement common systems and standards for the optimization of decision-making procedures in the field. The event was attended by PhD Prof. Nicolae Istudor, ASE's Rector, Assistant prof. Cristian Teodor, project coordinator, Simona Olimpia Negru, project manager on behalf of MAP, Mihaela Nicolae, the Managing Authority for OPAC projects, Manuela Miron on behalf of MAP, representatives of the "Marin Dracea" National Institute for Research and Development in Forestry – project partners etc.





#### Round table on Academic and scientific cooperation

On January 27-29, 2019, PhD Prof. Marius Profiroiu, Vice-rector for International relations, together with representatives of the other Romanian universities members of the Universitaria Consortium, participated in the **round table on the academic and scientific cooperation**, organized by the Russell Group Universities.

The Russell Group reunites 24 top British universities, with active involvement in European research and innovation programs. The round table facilitated debates on cooperation opportunities between the Russell Group Universities and the Universitaria Consortium Member Universities, in the Brexit context. The ensuing period is dedicated to the analysis of cooperation proposals with London School of Economics, Oxford University and Queen Mary University of London.



# Conferral Ceremony of the 2018 Awards of the General Association of Economists in Romania (AGER)

On January 28, 2019, The Bucharest University of Economic Studies hosted the **Conferral Ceremony of the 2018 Awards of the General Association of Economists in Romania (AGER)**. The event was attended by members of the management teams of ASE and AGER, academicians, researchers, representatives of the business environment, ASE's partners etc. Among the award winners, we mention: PhD Prof. Nicolae Istudor, ASE's Rector, PhD Prof. Pavel Năstase, President of ASE's University's Senate, PhD Prof. Dorel Paraschiv, Vice-rector for Liaison with the social and business environment and cooperation with students, PhD Prof. Marius Profiroiu, Vice-rector for International Relations.







#### ASE – visited by a group of high school pupils

On January 30, 2019, **a group of 12<sup>th</sup> grade pupils** from the "Mircea Vulcănescu" Technological High school in Bucharest, accompanied by their teachers, **visited ASE** and received information on the educational offer of ASE's Faculties, study programs, student facilities and career opportunities. Pupils and teachers also went on a guided tour of ASE's campus: to the Aula Magna, amphitheaters, reading rooms and sport facilities.



#### ASE's Delegation's visit to the European Parliament

On January 29-31, 2019, **ASE's Delegation** led by PhD Prof. Nicolae Istudor, Rector, **paid a working visit to Brussels**, following the invitation extended by Mr. Siegfried Mureşan, Member of the European Parliament. The program included meetings with European Parliament officials on various issues of interest.

On January 29, ASE's Delegation had a series of meetings with Mr. Siegfried Mureşan, Member of the European Parliament, and with Ms. Vanessa Debiais-Sainton, Head of Unit, the European Commission's Directorate General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC). Discussions focused on the cooperation between higher education institutions at European level and on the future of the Erasmus+ program.

The visit continued with a presentation of the Horizon 2020 program, delivered by Mr. Dan Viorel Peca, Head of Unit, the European Commission's Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT), and with the presentation of funding opportunities made available through the "Marie Skłodowska-Curie" Actions, delivered by Ms. Laura Elena Apostol, Chief of Sector, Research Executive Agency (REA).

On January 30, ASE's Delegation participated in a meeting with Mr. Markus Ferber from the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs of the European Parliament, and with Mr. Christian Ehler from the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, Rapporteur for the Horizon Europe Framework Program (2021-2027). ASE's Delegation also participated in the meeting of the European Parliament on issues related to Brexit. Subsequently, ASE's Delegation had a meeting with Mr. Theodor Stolojan, Member of the European Parliament, who delivered an interactive presentation.

Discussions held in Brussels proved extremely beneficial, as one of our University's major objectives is to engage in permanent dialogue with EU institutions, to understand and implement European programs in the field of education and research.





#### Workshop on "Innovation and academic writing"

On January 31, 2019, ASE organized the **workshop on "Innovation and academic writing** – **Opportunities for funding and promotion"** aimed at scientific researchers. The event comprised presentations of funding opportunities for scientific articles and innovation in general. Moreover, discussions focused on issues such as building scientific work teams, the requirements of journals with high impact factors, the closure of the public consultation on the methodology for the financing of publication expenses. The event was attended by research and innovation specialists, academics, researchers, Doctoral, Master's and Bachelor's students. The event was organized as part of the institutional development project on "Increasing research capacity in the economic field by developing transdisciplinary research infrastructure" – CERTRAN.

#### ASE's Master's students participated in a meeting with the President of Romania

**ASE's Master's students** in "International Management and Marketing", a program organized by the Faculty of Management, Robert Andrei-Costache and Constantin Iulian Tănaşcu **participated in a meeting with the President of Romania**, Mr. Klaus Iohannis, with whom they discussed about the country's domestic and foreign policy and about education.

The two students from ASE were elected for this meeting as they were the first out of the ten participants in the final stage of the "Civic Avengers" contest, the largest civic training platform in Romania. The contest reunited 250 participants with a view to encouraging the civic spirit of Romanians.



#### **Teacher evaluation by students**

On January 7-20, 2019, the **students' evaluation of teacher performance** during the first semester of the 2018-2019 academic year took place. The aim of the procedure was to gain student feedback on the teaching activities performed by academics from all Bachelor's and Master's study groups at Faculty level, both for on campus and for off campus programs.



#### Survey on ASE's employees' satisfaction

In order to ensure optimum conditions for the professional activities carried out in ASE, the University's management team undertakes an **annual survey on employee satisfaction**. All academic and administrative staff members are invited to fill in an online questionnaire by February 11, 2019.

#### Survey on ASE's 2020 – 2030 Strategy

To consolidate and elaborate the **2020-2030 Strategy of The Bucharest University of Economic Studies**, the management team invites the members of the academic community to express their opinions on the present and future of the institution, by responding to an online survey.

PhD Prof. Nicolae ISTUDOR President of ASE's Board of Trustees

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