

Members' News. 8-14 December

Belarusian State University

The Second Forum of the Association of Russian and Belarusian Universities took place on 14 December 2020. More than 80 heads of universities of Belarus and Russia took part in the event including BSU, BSPU named after Maxim Tank, Francisk Skorina GSU, Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno, Pskov State University, etc. The issues of cooperation in the field of education and science between Belarusian and Russian universities, social and humanitarian potential of higher education in the framework of the Union State, digitalisation of education and the experience of organising the activities of universities in the era of COVID-19 pandemic were discussed.

<https://bsu.by/news/vtoroy-forum-assotsiatsii-vuzov-rossii-i-belarusi-d/>

LAB University of Applied Sciences

The network of Finnish universities, dubbed the Climate University, offers nine open online courses on sustainability and climate change produced jointly by eleven universities (<https://climateuniversity.fi/>). To credits from the courses, the student must register for the Climate University courses organised by one of the universities in the network or the Open University. Teachers are free to use the Climate University's online teaching material.

<https://lab.fi/fi/uutiset/ilmastoyliopisto-tarjoaa-9-avointa-verkkokurssia-kestavyydesta-ja-ilmastonmuutoksesta>

Riga Technical University

RTU has increased its performance in several positions in the international ranking "RUR World University Ranking" in the field of social sciences. RTU is the only Latvian higher education institution to be included in this rating, with a total of more than 700 higher education institutions. RTU has improved its performance both in the overall rating, rising by 50 places compared to last year and ranking 566th this year, as well as in certain positions. RTU has shown the fastest jump in financial sustainability, rising by almost 500 places and ranking 78th this year. There is also a rise in science, reputation and academia.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-kapinajusi-savu-sniegumu-starptautiskaja-reitinga-rur-world-university-ranking>

University of Lodz

The construction of the seat of the Institute of Psychology of UL is progressing smoothly and on schedule. The baseplate is already in place. The building should be ready by 30 June 2022. This modern and spacious structure is another investment aimed at creating a modern campus of the University of Lodz. Students and staff will benefit from the most modern classrooms and laboratories.

<https://www.uni.lodz.pl/aktualnosc/szczegoly/siedziba-instytutu-psychologii-ul-majuz-fundamenty>

Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University

IKBFU was listed among the best universities in the world in humanities and social sciences according to RUR ranking. KBFU managed to enter the top 600 universities in the world taking 597th place (35th in Russia) in the humanities and 532th place (22th in Russia) in social science.

<https://kantiana.ru/news/rejtingi/bfu-otmetili-v-chisle-luchshih-universitetov-mira-po-gumanitarnym-i-obshchestvennym-naukam-po-versii-rur/>

St. Petersburg State University

SPbSU entered the top 100 universities in the world in the RUR ranking in the humanities and took the 91st place (87 positions higher than in the last year) in the world, moving from the Golden League to the Diamond League. It also improved its position in the field of social sciences moving from the 255th place to the 222nd. One of important components of the final assessment of the university in the ranking is the level of university's internationalisation. Foreign students usually choose educational programmes of SPbSU related specifically to the humanities and social sciences.

<https://spbu.ru/news-events/novosti/spbgu-voshel-v-sotnyu-luchshih-universitetov-mira-reytinga-rur-v-oblasti>

Yaroslav-The-Wise Novgorod State University

Scientists of NovSU shared their experience of “internationalisation at home” during international conference dedicated to the internationalisation of teacher education and teachers’ migration. More than a hundred participants from Germany, Canada, Great Britain, Austria, Ireland, South Africa, Australia, Malta and Russia exchanged views and experience in this area. Vice-Rector for International Affairs of NovSU, Professor **Mikhail Pevzner** and Head of the Department of International Educational Programmes and Academic Mobility **Irina Ushanova** presented a report on the strengths of the so-called “internationalization at home” and its role in teacher training. In particular, they discussed international online-events, internationalisation of the curriculum and internationalisation of pedagogical education in times of crisis.

<https://www.novsu.ru/news/r.121596.0.2.returnUri.L25ld3MvaS4xMjE1OTYv/i.121596/?view=91081>