THE ACADEMIC SPIRIT OF CHILEAN UNIVERSITIES FELT IN SANTIAGO AND CONCEPCION

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UNIVERSITY OF SANTIAGO DE CHILE

The University of Santiago de Chile has its founding origins in the creation of the School of Arts and Crafts in 1849. After that the University has functioned as the State Technical University (1952), and later on as the University of Santiago de Chile from 1981. The University offers 66 undergraduate programs in 9 faculties: Faculty of Engineering, Technological Faculty, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Chemistry and Biology, Faculty of Administration and Economics, Faculty of Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Bachelor's Program, and the School of Architecture.

Lecturer PhD, Emilia-Adela Salca from the Faculty of Wood Engineering from Transilvania University of Brasov had the opportunity to visit the University of Santiago de Chile between 10-11 November 2016.

Dr. Carolina Chavez Herrera, Project Management Director at the Office of Vice Dean for Engagement and Continuing Education from the University of Santiago has hosted Dr. Salca at the Faculty of Engineering.

A meeting with Prof. Dr. Juan C. Espinoza Ramirez, the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and other academic members from the Department of Continuing Education was organized in order to discuss opportunities for an academic cooperation between the two universities from Brasov and Santiago de Chile. The Faculty of Engineering from the University of Santiago de Chile is the greatest faculty in the field of engineering from Chile and it has the following departments: Electrical Engineering, Geographical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Informatic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Mine Engineering, Civil Engineering and Chemical Engineering.

Colleagues from the Faculty of Civil Engineering have welcomed Dr. Salca and have guided her in a tour of the faculty laboratories. Discussions about possible future collaboration with members of the faculty have taken place during the presentation that Dr. Salca offered on aspects of higher education at Transilvania University of Brasov and the Faculty of Wood Engineering, especially.

Prof. Dr. Juan C. Espinoza Ramirez, the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Ramon Blasco Sanchez, the Director of the Department of Engagement and Continuing Education and Dr. Carol Johnson, the Director of International Relations and other academic members of the Faculty of Engineering from the University of Santiago de Chile have expressed their proposal to start a collaboration with the technical faculties from Transilvania University of Brasov.

Therefore, an application for an Inter-Institutional Agreement under the Erasmus+Programme will be soon proposed in the fields of: Engineering and Engineering Trades, Information and Communication Technologies and Industrial Design.
UNIVERSITY OF BIO-BIO IN CONCEPCION

The University of Bio-Bio (UBB) is located in Concepcion city in the Bio-Bio region of Chile. The University of Bio-Bio is considered the most ancient tradition of state and public higher education in the Bio-Bio region. It has functioned as the State Technical University (UTE) from 1947, but its official start was in 1952. Nowadays the University of Bio-Bio offers undergraduate and master programs at the following faculties: Architecture, Design and Construction, Sciences, Business Sciences, Health and Food Science, Education and Humanities and Engineering.

The Faculty of Engineering is organized in five departments: Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Timber Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Civil Engineering. The Department of Timber Engineering offers undergraduate programs in Civil Engineering and Wood Engineering, apart of Chemical Civil Engineering. The postgraduate programs are academic programs with scientific character for the training of graduates at a higher level in the field of wood science and engineering.

Lecturer PhD, Emilia-Adela Salca from the Faculty of Wood Engineering from Transilvania University of Brasov was honored to receive from Prof. Dr. Aldo Ballerini Arroyo, the Academic Vice-Rector of the University of Bio-Bio, the invitation to visit the Department of Wood Engineering from the University of Bio-Bio, between 16 and 18 Nov 2016.

Dr. Salca has been welcomed at the Department of Wood Engineering by Dr. Cecilia Bustos Avilla, the Director of the Wood Science Graduate Programs and the Doctoral School in Wood Science and Engineering. During her stay at the University of Bio-Bio, Dr. Salca has visited the facilities and laboratories from the Department of Wood Engineering and has interacted with the teaching staff and students from the faculty.

Discussions for future collaboration under Erasmus+ Programme between the Faculty of Wood Engineering from Brasov and the Department of Wood Engineering in Concepcion took place based on their common field, educational programs, curricula and research area. Thus, a proposal for an Inter-Institutional Agreement will be launched soon as a first step in such cooperation between the two universities and faculties, respectively.

Dr. Salca was pleased to interact with Dr. Francisco Vergara Gonzalez, Dr. Serguei Alejandro Martin, Dr. Rubens Anania Abuter, Dr. Mario Nunez Decap, Dr. Gerson Rojas Espinoza, Dr. Carlos Rozas Mellado, Dr. Jose Navarette Araya and other academic staff and administrative staff from the Department of Wood Engineering at UBB.

An interesting scientific session for postgraduate students was organized at the university level. Presentations and posters from various domains have kept the attention of the audience for two days between 17 and 18 Nov 2016. Dr. Salca was invited to moderate one of the Symposium sessions within the field of Wood Science and Engineering. Also Dr. Salca has offered a presentation regarding the Transilvania University of Brasov, the Faculty of Wood Engineering and her Erasmus activity at Transilvania University. Master and PhD students from UBB have proved at that scientific event their knowledge and the potential they have for the research work.
Meeting with Dr. Francisco Vergara Gonzalez (left), Dr. Cecilia Bustos (middle) and Dr. Serguei Alejandro Martin (right)

Undergraduate students working in the Laboratory of Chemistry

PhD student Caludia Marcela Pacheco during her tests for PhD preparation

Dr. Salca as moderator of a Symposium Session at the University of Bio-Bio

Meeting with Dr. Mario Nunez Decap (right)

Dr. Salca would like to express her thanks for the kindness and support that all colleagues from the University of Santiago de Chile and the University of Bio-Bio in Concepcion have shown during her short visit in their institutions. Acknowledgments are sent to Transilvania University of Brasov for the funding support offered to attend the Biocomp 2016 Symposium in Chile and to visit the two Chilean universities.