Jagiellonian University

- Faculty of Law and Administration
- Faculty of Philosophy
- Faculty of History
- Faculty of Philology
- Faculty of Polish Studies
- Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science
- Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science
- Faculty of Chemistry
- Faculty of Biology
- Faculty of Geography and Geology
- Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology
- Faculty of Management and Social Communication
- Faculty of International and Political Studies
- Faculty of Medicine with the Division of Dentistry
- Faculty of Pharmacy with the Division of Medical Analytics
- Faculty of Health Sciences

Founded in 1364

<table>
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<th>3 campuses</th>
<th>16 faculties</th>
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<td>38,328 students, including 3,479 international, over 90 nationalities</td>
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<td>3,004 PhD students</td>
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<th>87 study programmes</th>
<th>146 specialisations</th>
<th>7,985 employees, including 4,345 academics</th>
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OPENING OF THE 654TH ACADEMIC YEAR

Maria Kantor
International Relations Office

The 654th inauguration followed the time-honoured tradition of the Jagiellonian University and was held on 1 October 2017, which fell on a Sunday. The morning Mass, which gathered the JU community, was celebrated in St Anne’s Collegiate Church. Afterwards a procession of JU professors in university gowns and guests was formed in Collegium Maius. According to the JU tradition, the first to march in the procession were scholars representing the youngest faculty – the Faculty of Geography and Geology, and the last was the JU Rector Prof. Wojciech Nowak. All the professors, international guests and JU authorities marched to the JU Auditorium Maximum where a solemn session of the Senate took place. On its way the procession stopped by the Liberty Oak in front of Collegium Novum to lay a wreath under the plaque commemorating the JU professors who had died in the Nazi German and Soviet concentration camps during World War II.

Gaude Mater Polonia, a medieval Polish anthem, inaugurated the session in the main hall in Auditorium Maximum. It gathered many distinguished guests, including Mr Jarosław Gowin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Higher Education, the Governor of Malopolska, the Mayor of Kraków, MPs, representatives of the diplomatic corps, guests from South Korea, Mexico and the United States, authorities of higher education institutions from Kraków as well as representatives of the world of culture, clergy, Polish Army, academics and students.

In his speech, Prof. Wojciech Nowak first referred to the recent discussions during the National Science Congress, ‘With hope, we will follow the further legislative process of the new act on higher education, counting on the fact that our proposals will be considered.’ Then he spoke about the challenges that JU faced at the beginning of the 2017/2018 academic year: the development of research, quality of teaching process, technology transfer and internationalisation. ‘In this academic year the Jagiellonian University is completing the construction of the Campus of the 600th Anniversary of Revival of the Jagiellonian University. The last completed investments are the building of the Institute of Geological Sciences and the seat of the Faculty of Chemistry and two infrastructure systems: rainwater retention and construction of the Wawel Lane. We will summarise this long-term endeavour on the University Day in May 2018. It will be the completion of a long-term and extremely important stage of the university’s development. […] Infrastructure is very important to the university, but our greatest pride is our students and their achievements both in research and sport, but first of all, in education. Among us today is a young man, this year’s graduate of the Faculty of Medicine, Mr Mateusz Hołda, who since April 2017, as the first and only student in Poland, completed his PhD dissertation in medical sciences. The scientific career of this young holder of doctorate from the student Diamond Grant confirms the principle ‘to want is to succeed.’ We congratulate him on this achievement.’

Then Rector Nowak thanked all members of the academic community for their work dedicated to the common good. ‘It
will not be lost since what is really important will remain in us, even if it happened one hundred years ago, it will be in us as if it happened yesterday. Our mutual effort determines success – development of the Jagiellonian University, and the past 653 years of our activities are our biggest commitment to Poland’s past and future. That is why, with full confidence and joy I declare the new 2017/2018 academic year open: Quod felix, faustum, fortunatunque sit.’

Then the annual state medals, Rector’s Award 'Jagiellonian Laurel' and other JU distinctions were presented, preceded by a speech of Prof. Stanislaw Kistryn, Vice-Rector for Research and Structural Funds. He stressed that 'Science is power. It is our common good and heritage for next generations. Every day we see its rank and significance, observing the world which surrounds us and the changes it undergoes. And the heart of science, the most important centre of creation and fathoming knowledge, is the university.'

The JU Person of Merit award was presented to Prof. Stéphane Pellerin from the University of Orleans, France, while the Jagiellonian Laurels to scholars who greatly contributed to JU: Prof. Andrzej Chwalba (Faculty of History), Prof. Tadeusz Holak (Faculty of Chemistry) and Prof. Maciej Pawłowski (Faculty of Medicine).

The next part of the opening ceremony was the matriculation conducted by the JU Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs Prof. Armen Edigarian. He said that 'an inauguration of a new academic year is undoubtedly the most important event in the life of an academic community. Although the scenario of this day is of a repetitive character, it is a special and unique moment. It is a day full of emotions especially for those who have been enrolled. The moment you take the oath you become students of the oldest and best university in Poland. I would like that the Jagiellonian University – like it was for me years ago – became a second home for you, a place where you will begin your new life's adventure, i.e. studying. […] Studying is not only learning but above all shaping your personality, encouraging the creation of new ideas so that you will be prepared to face challenges posed by the contemporary world.' Vice-Rector Edigarian wished the freshmen success and satisfaction while gaining knowledge. 'Follow the motto It is worth knowing more.'

After his speech, 32 first year students swore an oath on behalf of all their colleagues. Then the University Choir sang the university anthem Gaudeamus Igitur, followed by a speech made by the President of the JU Student Self-Government Jakub Bakonyi.

The last element of the inauguration was a lecture delivered by Asst. Prof. Justyna Drukała from the Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology. The title of this year’s lecture was ‘Tissue engineering – great hope for contemporary medicine.’

To sum up, another academic year means new ideas and initiatives as well as challenges in research, teaching, social and cultural activities.
The JU Faculty of Chemistry moved to its new venue on the third campus in September 2017. Until that the seat of the faculty was the building at 3 Ingardena Street, which had been completed in 1955. After over 60 years of using the building, it did not meet the present standards for research and teaching facilities.

The construction of new buildings for the Faculty of Chemistry began in October 2013 and finished in spring 2017. The new venue consists of seven two-, three- and four storey segments (A – G) with a total area of 28,000 square metres. Every segment has been designed to fulfil a different function. Buildings A and B house five lecture halls, seminar and language rooms, halls to conduct laboratory classes, computer rooms and a library. The biggest lecture hall can hold 400 listeners and can be divided into two parts by a movable wall. The other halls can hold 96 people.

Segments C and D contain rooms for administrative officers and for scientists. Laboratories were placed in segments E and F, while segment G has a transformer station, chemical reagent warehouses and technical spaces.

The complex has a car park and roofed area for bicycles. It is also fully ecological as on its roof there is a green space with several dozen fruit trees, bushes and multiple kinds of flowers. A one metre deep layer of soil acts as a heat buffer, which will allow the university to save energy used to heat and cool the premises. The green roof and grass around the segments will be watered with collected rainwater, also used as a water supply for the toilets on the premises.

Finally, the opening of the new complex of the Faculty of Chemistry finished the construction of the third Jagiellonian University Campus, which began in 1998. At present, this modern campus holds the premises of the Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Applied Computer Science, the Faculty of Management and Social Communication, the Institute of Zoology, the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, the Faculty of Geography and Geology, the Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology, the Faculty of Biology, the Małopolskie Centre of Biotechnology, the National Synchrotron Radiation Centre SOLARIS, the Centre for Nature Education and the Jagiellonian Centre of Innovation.
**The European Politics and Society**

Václav Havel Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Programme launched in Prague

**Natasza Styczynska, Marcin Zubek**  
*Institute of European Studies*

In the 2017/18 academic year, a new programme has been launched at the JU Centre for European Studies. The Václav Havel Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Programme ‘The European Politics and Society’ is co-ordinated by the Charles University and constitutes one of the specialisations in the European Studies Programmes at the JU Centre for European Studies.

The title of the programme reflects the importance and content of the legacy of Václav Havel, a former dissident and the first post-communist president of the Czech Republic. Firstly, Havel’s idea of Europe was broader (in geographical terms) than the EU integration. At the same time, Havel recognised and highlighted the importance of a closer European co-operation that would constitute the core of relationships between the European countries.

The programme also relates to Europe in that sense, stressing the importance of courses on EU-related topics in a broader European context (in geographical, cultural, economic and political terms) in its curriculum.

The inauguration ceremony took place in Karolinum in Prague, the oldest complex of university buildings in this part of Europe, and was attended by representatives of all the consortium partners as well as students.

The JU Centre for European Studies was represented by its programme director and the Dean of the Faculty of International and Political Studies Prof. Zdzislaw Mach as well as the programme coordinators: Dr Karolina Czerksa-Shaw and the undersigned.

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**Strengthening co-operation with Kobe University – a new Lecture Series programme**

**Dorota Maciejowska**  
*International Relations Office*

On 19 October 2017, the Executive Vice-President in charge of international affairs of Kobe University Prof. Noriyuki Inuoe and the JU Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs Prof. Armen Edigarian signed a university-level agreement on joint co-operation within the programme of Lecture Series.

The programme includes lectures dedicated to students of Japanese Law at the JU Faculty of Law and Administration, to Japanese culture students at the Institute of the Middle and Far East and the Centre for Comparative Studies as well as other JU students interested in this particular region of the world.

The signing ceremony took place at the Jagiellonian University during the Visegrad Project Kick-Off Symposium ‘The Place of V4 countries in Europe and Japan.’ The symposium was organised by Kobe University in collaboration with the Jagiellonian University, Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, Charles University in Prague and Comenius University in Bratislava. The participation of many Kobe University representatives anticipated this year’s series of lectures at the Jagiellonian University. During that week the KU professors delivered numerous interesting courses on contemporary Japanese politics, law, culture and other topics, including the production of *sake* (a Japanese rice wine).

The co-operation between Kobe University and JU, which has been intensified recently, creates a wonderful opportunity for students and faculty members to learn and better understand the differences and similarities between our countries. The JU academics are going to deliver lectures at Kobe University in the spring semester of 2018. Their classes will focus on European studies and international law.
On 11-16 September 2017, the Intellectual Property Law Summer School 2017: IPR Infringements was held at the Jagiellonian University. The first IP Law School gathered ca. 120 participants from all over Europe, in particular students representing various academic centres as well as junior lecturers and professionals who took that opportunity to widen their knowledge and skills. The key theme of the one week programme was the problem of infringements in intellectual property law, including the issue of responsibility for acts of unfair competition.

During the 5 day programme, the renowned foreign professors – leading authorities specialising in the intellectual property law, Prof. Lionel Bently from the University of Cambridge, Prof. Susy Frankel from Victoria University of Wellington, Prof. Ansgar Ohly from the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, as well as numerous Polish specialists in IP law, Dr Dariusz Kasprzycki, Dr Ewa Laskowska-Litak, Dr Tomasz Targosz and Asst. Prof. Anna Tischner, representing the Jagiellonian University; Dr Żaneta Pacud from the Polish Academy of Sciences, Asst. Prof. Rafal Sikorski from the Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznań and Dr Łukasz Zelechowski from Warsaw University discussed different aspects of infringements in this branch.

Apart from fathoming issues concerning infringement of the principle of intellectual property in its vertical and horizontal aspect as well as the current problems of indirect violation, emphasizing the possible shifts, changes and concepts in the legislation regulating IP law, such as the popularisation of the concept of ‘traditional knowledge,’ the participants of the IP Law School got to know the techniques of negotiation presented by Dr Michalina Szafranska and Anna Wojcieszak. They also became acquainted with the methodology of argumentation in legal proceedings discussed by Juridical Assessor Przemysław Rogulski. The culmination of the school was in the form of a IP Law Moot Court. Many decided to participate in the additional moot court event, arguing the cases of the heirs of Astrid Lindgren vs. the supermarket chain Penny, as well as the famous lawsuit revolving around the Charging Bull on Wall Street and the Fearless Girl. The participants as speakers representing the parties showed a high level of thematic and language knowledge, great involvement, a fresh perspective on intellectual property law. The whole programme was conducted in English.

The IP Law Summer School 2017 was organised by the JU Faculty of Law and Administration, in particular its Chair of Intellectual Property Law, under the honorary patronage of the President of the Patent Office of the Republic of Poland Dr Alicja Adamczak. The lectures and workshops were held in the new building of the Faculty. The Organising Committee was presided over by Dr Ewa Laskowska-Litak and I, supported by a number of JU students and PhD candidates.

In the participants’ opinions, the purpose of the programme, i.e. establishing a platform of meetings and discussions on current problems of intellectual property law, and the interest of international academic environment of the scientific and didactic activities of the Chair of Intellectual Property Law at the JU Faculty of Law and Administration was achieved more than they initially thought. The programme resulted in a wide promotion of the Jagiellonian University and the city of Kraków in Europe, the city being an important research centre that would organise summer schools dedicated to this field of law. The participants left Kraków with a solid portion of knowledge concerning infringements of intellectual property law, practical skills and new friendships, hoping to participate in the next summer school at JU.
During the annual ceremony, celebrated as Academic Memorial Day on 6 November 2017, commemorating the 78th anniversary of Sonderaktion Krakau – the notorious arrest of 183 Cracovian scholars in 1939 by the Germans and their transport to Nazi German concentration camps, tribute was paid by the academic community of the Jagiellonian University to the victims of that brutal attack on the Polish intelligentsia at the beginning of World War II.

The Academic Memorial Day follows a traditional agenda. On the morning of 6th November, the JU delegations visit the graves of rectors, professors and other university workers in the cemeteries in Kraków. They lay wreaths and light candles on the graves, as well as unveil renovated tombs of the JU outstanding scientists.

On this special day we stop at the graves of our great predecessors, thinking of those who have passed away. Thanks to our memory of them the continuity of generations and traditions of our University are maintained, said the JU Rector Prof. Wojciech Nowak.

This year flowers and candles were laid on the grave of the former JU Rector Prof. Aleksander Koj, who had passed away the previous year, on the renovated tomb of Prof. Edmund Krzymuski (1851-1928), lawyer and rector in 1903-1904, and the tomb of Prof. Władysław Leopold Jaworski (1865-1930), lawyer and politician, author of the 1928 draft constitution bill.

At 11 a.m., in the main hall of Collegium Novum, a solemn meeting was held. It gathered university rectors and professors, representatives of the local authorities and church hierarchy, the Jewish community, ambassadors, the Polish Army, as well as the families of the arrested professors and students.

In his welcoming speech, the JU Rector Prof. Wojciech Nowak emphasized the dramatism of the event of the year 1939, posing the question ‘Why did that happen?’ The answer is simple and horrifying. In order to destroy a nation, it is not enough to conquer and subjugate it. One must eradicate what is best in a nation, disrupt the continuity of its history and destroy all those who preserve the remembrance of the nation. Today we are the depositories of the professors who had been killed while defending these values, said the Rector.

The second part of the Memorial Day began with the talk ‘About the need of studying the lives of learned men’ delivered by Prof. Jan W. Tkaczyński, the Chairman of the Committee for the Care of the Graves of the Jagiellonian University’s Professors.

Then Prof. Dorota Segda, Rector of the Stanisław Wyspiański Academy of Theatre Arts, recited a fragment of Cyprian Kamil Norwid’s poem Niewola [Enslavement] and Zbigniew Herbert’s poem of Przesłanie Pana Cogito [The message of Mr Cogito].

The next element of the ceremony was the calling of the roll of honour. The names of the 183 Cracovian scholars were read by Jakub Bakonyi, President of the JU Student Representative Council.

Finally, the JU authorities laid floral tributes to the victims of Sonderaktion Krakau in front of the commemorative tablets inside Collegium Novum and on the tablets at the foot of the Oak of Freedom, where soil was deposited from Sachsenhausen, Dachau and Katyń.

Tributes to the victims of Sonderaktion Krakau at the foot of the Oak of Freedom and the barracks of the 20th Cavalry Regiment in Kraków.
Students, PhD candidates and employees of the Jagiellonian University participated in the International Partner Days & Mobility Fair, which took place on 28-29 November 2017 in Auditorium Maximum. The event, the first of its kind at JU, was organised by the JU International Relations Office in co-operation with the Teaching and Student Affairs Support Centre, the Student Representative Council and the Department of Communications and Marketing, under the Honorary Patronage of His Magnificence Rector of the Jagiellonian University Prof. Wojciech Nowak. On behalf of the JU Rector, Prof. Adam Jelonek, Rector’s Representative for Internationalisation and Head of the Institute of the Middle and Far East, gave words of welcome, stressing the importance of international mobility.

This enormous undertaking, which required several weeks of hard work, commitment and strong involvement of many people, proved to be very beneficial for all stakeholders. The two-day fair was held within the framework of the Education Quality Week, the annual event supporting quality development at the Jagiellonian University.

The International Partner Days and Mobility Fair aimed at informing the whole academic community of the Jagiellonian University about possibilities of education, research and teaching mobility to foreign institutions within co-operation agreements or programmes offered by the Jagiellonian University as well as national and international institutions. In order to fulfil this objective, the International Relations Office invited the JU partner universities. The following 16 universities and institutions accepted the invitation and sent their representatives to the fair:

- University of Zagreb, Croatia
- Cairo University, Egypt
- University of Poitiers, France
- University of Cologne, Germany
- Ruhr University Bochum, Germany
- Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary
- University of Florence, Italy
- University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Klaipeda State University of Applied Sciences, Lithuania
- European University Foundation, Luxembourg
- National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico
- Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands
- University of Porto, Portugal
- University of Novi Sad, Serbia
- National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine
- Indiana University Bloomington, USA
At the stands, they presented their educational offer, including study abroad programmes, consultation visits, internships and other schemes available in their institutions within the framework of existing co-operation agreements with the Jagiellonian University, as well as answered all kinds of questions related to their offer. Moreover, every institution delivered its multimedia presentation in the lecture hall.

Besides our partners, there were numerous institutions offering scholarships, internships or jobs abroad. These included the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Polish-US Fulbright Foundation, Campus France or the Embassy of Australia in Poland. The Student Representative Council invited several student organisations. In turn, the International Relations Office asked all the Erasmus+ co-ordinators to have consultations for JU staff and students during the educational fair. The JU IRO also published a special brochure presenting all kinds of mobility schemes and programmes for JU academic and administrative staff as well as undergraduate and graduate students.

All those who visited the International Partner Days and Mobility Fair could get to know the educational and scholarship schemes presented by JU partner universities and other institutions at their stands and during multimedia presentations and open lectures. The latter included ‘The importance of students’ international experiences in a global world’ by Prof. Radosław Rybkowski, an expert on higher education, a member of the Polish Accreditation Commission in the social and legal sciences team, author of numerous publications on higher education, a Polish-American Fulbright Scholar, SYLFF fellow, as well as a grant-holder of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada, currently the Director of the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora. He spoke on the importance of international experiences nowadays, trying to answer the questions: Can mobility increase my attractiveness at the labor market? Are openness to other cultures, tolerance and language skills a key to success? How should one foster personal development?

Another open lecture entitled ‘The benefits of building intercultural competences’ was delivered by Scott Simpson, a lecturer at the JU Institute of European Studies, whose scientific interests include research of the rituals, contemporary paganism in Central and Eastern Europe as well as sociology and history of food and drink. In his lecture he discussed the complexity of intercultural competences, the reasons why we should develop them or their helpfulness in foreign travels.

Two JU students shared their experiences from participating in international mobility. Agnieszka Batko, a PhD candidate from the Faculty of International and Political Studies, showed the benefits gained during her stay in the International Summer Schools at the University of Cambridge and her research visit to the Aoyama Gaukin University, Tokyo, within the Saskawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund. Piotr Burger, a graduate student from the
Institute of Geological Sciences, talked about his participation in a study-research visit to Iceland, stressing that it was worth investing in scientific expeditions for one’s career and personal development.

Another presentation on JU mobility programmes and its international exchange destinations was given by Dr Izabela Zawiska, IRO’s co-ordinator of the Erasmus+ agreements, Adriana Holub-Palonka, IRO, and Monika Rząca, International Students Office.

During the fair, three workshops were offered by international partners: Erasmus going digital – a practical overview by Joao Bacelar, European University Foundation. His workshop was directed to the Erasmus+ Programme co-ordinators, academic and administrative staff as well as all those interested in the development of the programme. It was devoted to the current changes in the Erasmus+ Programme, its future, the way it is used and its plan aiming at digitization and virtualization.

The second workshop entitled The Cologne Global Study Programme was conducted by Dr Johannes Mueller from the University of Cologne. The Cologne programme is designed for students of the University of Cologne’s partner universities and combines classes on Contemporary European Studies (taught in English) and German language courses. Its main goal is to provide an excellent academic environment for exchange students who do not speak German, but wish to study at the University of Cologne. Thus the programme strengthens the collaboration between the University of Cologne and its partner universities and fosters an international atmosphere on campus.

The title of the last workshop was The challenges facing wildlife, biodiversity and land resource conservation in Kenya, given by Dr Judith S. Mbaau and Dr Stephen Mureithi from the University of Nairobi. The workshop aimed at all those who were interested in biodiversity and nature conservation, which is an important theme for global environmental changes, i.e. climate change and the increasing impact of economy on the environment. The International Partner Days and Mobility Fair also featured slideshows on international students’ experiences, a quiz organised on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Erasmus Programme as well as cultural events, including a party with a jazz band performance, karaoke and dance music.

Last but not least, the International Relations Office created an exhibition entitled ‘Knowing the world in and out’ presenting various aspects of JU international co-operation activities as well as staff and student experiences concerning their international mobility. The former was presented in diagrams and world maps depicting JU agreements and exchange destinations. The latter were articles of JU staff as well as outgoing and incoming students published in the IRO’s magazine Newsletter throughout the recent years. They featured experiences studying and teaching in such places as Melbourne, Cambridge, Sankt Petersburg, Pisa, Heidelberg, Prague, Cairo, Buffalo, Kobe, Beijing or Singapore, as well as foreign students.
from Australia, Malta, Russia, Canada studying at the Jagiellonian University. All of their sharing proved that going abroad meant a new way of seeing things and that as Saint Augustine wrote, *The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page.*

I would like to express my great thanks to all of you for organising such a colorful international event, and for arranging an individual programme for me as a visiting staff member. I got hold of plenty of useful and practical ideas, exemplary practices. I am very grateful for that as well.

I very much enjoyed my stay in Kraków, especially the stunning buildings, the beautiful view of the snow-capped town, the Christmas market and of course the unbelievably delicious Polish cuisine.

Zsofia,
Corvinus University of Budapest

Thank you for inviting us to the JU partner days! We learned more about our partners and made valuable new contacts. It is always nice meeting partners in person and being able to exchange information about our universities.

Once again, thank you for your kind hospitality, and hope we’ll meet again on other occasions!

Ivana & Maja,
University of Zagreb

Thank you again for the lovely invitation to join the JU international partner days, and congratulations to you and all your colleagues for a wonderful and impeccably organised event! I left Kraków with nothing but good memories and very interesting feedback from several colleagues that kindly joined the workshop on digitising the Erasmus Programme. Hoping our paths may cross again soon and with best regards from Luxembourg,

Joao,
European University Foundation

On behalf of NaUKMA I would like to thank you for the invitation and for the perfect care of us during our visit to Kraków! It was our great pleasure to meet all of you in person, it was also very interesting experience of participation in such a fair – I very much hope that you have found it useful for your students and the Jagiellonian University in general.

Thank you very much again and we hope that cooperation between our universities will be developing!

Larysa Chovnyuk,
National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy
The international relations of the Jagiellonian University in 2016/17 embraced staff, PhD candidates and student exchange, participation in international events, research visits within co-operation agreements, governmental scholarships, joint research and posts of Polish language teachers, visiting professorships, double and joint degree programmes, summer schools as well as various forms of involvement in networks and research or educational projects.

**Staff mobility**

The International Relations Office administered all outgoings of JU staff. In 2016, the number of outgoing visits was 5,347 to 95 countries. In this period, the number of incoming visits was 4,895 from 93 countries (the numbers do not embrace students).

The top 12 countries for outgoings were: Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, France, the USA, Czechia, Spain, Austria, Ukraine, the Netherlands, Hungary and Belgium, while the top 12 countries for incomings were: Germany, the USA, the United Kingdom, France, Ukraine, Italy, Czechia, the Netherlands, Spain, Japan, Belarus and China.

The JU IRO was also responsible for negotiating, in collaboration with particular units, preparation, coordination and administrative-financial realisation of bilateral agreements at university and faculty level. JU bilateral agreements concern: exchange of academics and staff, exchange of students, exchange of scientific information, reports and publications as well as collaborative research, joint meetings, seminars and courses. Some agreements are accompanied by working programmes that are updated, embracing current trends and directions of collaboration and research.

In 2016, JU signed 27 new bilateral agreements with universities in China, Croatia, Czechia, Georgia, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, South Korea, Spain, Peru, Taiwan, the Philippines, Ukraine and the USA. The total number of registered agreements was 1,625, including 230 bilateral agreements with 198 institutions from 53 countries.

**Outgoings and incomings in 2011-2016**

**Staff exchange with JU partner universities**

Mobility to 35 universities in 16 countries

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**Maria Kantor**

*International Relations Office*
(141 agreements with Europe, 41 with Asia, 27 with North America, 12 with South America, 6 with Africa and the Middle East and 3 with Australia) and 1,491 Erasmus+ agreements.

Within various exchange programmes, the staff and student mobility included 588 people: 333 outgoings and 255comings (bilateral exchange embraced 150 staff members and 13 countries).

The JU IRO co-ordinated the participation of university’s representatives in The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities, Research Mobility of the Utrecht Network and the Academic Exchange and Mobility of the Coimbra Group.

**ERASMUS+ staff**

The Jagiellonian University is a leader among Polish institutions of higher education participating in the Erasmus+ Programme as for the number of mobility participants, both outgoing and incoming.

In 2015/16-2018/19, JU is realising exchange projects for which it has received the following EU means: for Educational Mobility with Programme Countries (KA103) – 6,006,475 euros, while for Educational Mobility with Partner Countries (KA107) – 2,084,475 euros.

In 2016, the exchange within KA 103 included 168 people: 129 for Staff Mobility for Teaching Assignments and 39 for **Staff Mobility for Training Assignments**. In the same year, JU signed 136 new agreements with 101 universities, most of them in the field of linguistics and literary studies (31 agreements). In the year 2016, JU sent 168 employees and hosted 161 within the Erasmus+ Programme.

It is worth noting that the JU IRO became a partner in the project **Erasmus+ Realising the potential of the international mobility of staff in higher education (REALISE)**, co-ordinated by the University of Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3. The project aims at promoting best practices concerning academic staff exchange and its influence on their professional careers.

**Visiting Professorship programme**

The Jagiellonian University has a special budget to employ visiting professors at its faculties. In 2016, these means were used by eight JU faculties that hosted 22 visiting professors conducting courses for students. Visiting professors were obliged to conduct 60 teaching hours per semester and examine students at the end of each course.
How can qualifications of international officers at Polish universities be raised efficiently? How might mobility programmes and projects in education be managed impeccably? How can we prevent falling into the traps between legislation and reality? Where can one find examples of good practices in the area of internationalisation of universities?

The right answer is not to act alone or force open doors that were already open. Good solutions can include networking with colleagues striving for the same goals and dealing with the same issues in everyday work.

That was the idea launched ten years ago by Barbara Centkowska, former Head of the International Relations and Projects Office of the University of Economics of Katowice. Her idea resulted in signing of an agreement on networking cooperation between International Relations Offices representatives by rectors of nine Polish leading universities in December 2007. These were the Jagiellonian University, the University of Warsaw, the University of Wrocław, Warsaw School of Economics, the Silesian University of Technology, Gdańsk University of Technology, the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, the University of Bielsko-Biała and the University of Economics in Katowice.

The beginnings of IROs Forum were directly connected with the implementation of the TEMPUS educational programme at Polish universities in the 1990s. This programme became a meeting ground, allowing for discussion and exchange of experience between international relations offices. Back then one of the major organisational challenges for international relations offices was the Socrates/Erasmus Programme, which presented mobility opportunities not only for students, who saw their chance in studying abroad, but also allowed employees to actively participate in worldwide scientific research through EU Framework Programmes, which meant that international relations offices faced new goals and tasks: effective implementation of mobility and research projects. They started to play a key role in assisting universities during the implementation of internationalisation strategies.

Currently, IROs gather 20 universities, and the number of member universities is expected to grow in the next few years taking into consideration the number of inquiries from other institutions. The representative of JU at the IROs Forum is Dorota Maciejowska, Head of the International Relations Office.

Every year the reputation of the IROs Forum as an expert on internationalisation becomes more visible, which this year was confirmed by the Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE) that granted its annual distinction to the Forum on 25 November 2017. The Forum was recognised for its collaboration with FRSE in developing the Erasmus+ Programme. During a solemn gala on the 30th Anniversary of Erasmus+ held in Warsaw on 25 November 2017, Beata Skibińska, Deputy Director of the Erasmus+ Programme Higher Education of FRSE, stressed that this year FRSE was not going to honour particular universities as ‘The Erasmus+ Programme is very complex, and it was difficult to award one university. Therefore, we have decided to grant our distinctions to those organisations and individuals whose activities for the cause of internationalisation have been particularly important to us.’ She added that FRSE was very thankful for IROs Forum’s critical and constructive remarks and all its endeavours for implementing Erasmus+.

The IROs Forum promotes a complex approach towards internationalisation. The network undertakes activities supporting the perception of universities as places where different cultures can meet in the atmosphere of tolerance.
The opinions of IROs representatives have been heard at the most important conferences on the internationalisation of Polish universities. They regularly organise seminars and workshops, not only aiming at raising qualifications of international relations officers but also working out solutions to various problems related to international co-operation. Their proposals concerning legal regulations of higher education in Poland have been received with much attention by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education and the Erasmus National Agency.

It is also worth noting that the IROs Forum established the Barbara Centkowska Award, commemorating the founder of the IROs Forum that had passed away in 2011. The award has been conferred to those who exceptionally contribute to the internationalisation of Polish universities, proving their innovative approaches, visions and sharing good practices or to those who have acted significantly in favour of the development of the IROs Forum.

The Forum decided to celebrate its tenth anniversary at the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń as this university planned to hold a very interesting conference ‘SAFETY – students’ rights versus the university and local communities’ obligations.’ It was a forum for the exchange of knowledge, experience, presentation and discussion of good practices and model solutions implemented in academic centres. At the same time, this annual meeting of the IROs Forum joined the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the ERASMUS Programme.

The conference was addressed to university authorities and employees involved in international student exchange as well as to city authorities, local government organisations and other units and services responsible for students’ security and safety. The honorary patronage over the event included the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, the Ombudsman of the Republic of Poland and Chairman of CRASP.

The annual meeting of the IROs Forum Council resulted in revision of the current formal statute of the network, election of its new president, Liliana Lato, Head of the International Relations Office of the University of Łódź, and discussion on an action plan for the next few months. It was also a nice occasion to thank Ewa Derkowska-Rybicka, Head of IRO of the Nicolaus Copernicus University who was planning to retire.

The next activity of the IROs will be a seminar on visiting professors programme, to be held at the Technological University of Łódź in February 2018.

www.irosforum.pl

DISCUSSING the ROLE of MEDIA in POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Research visits to the Universities of Padua and Lviv

Maciej Miżejewski
Institute of Political Science and International Relations

The role of media as a forum for public debate in a democratic state of law was the subject of my discussions with lecturers during my two recent research visits to the University of Padua (Padova in Italian) and the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv.

Visiting Padua

Towards the end of June 2017, within the framework of bilateral exchange I visited the University of Padua. The aim of my research visit was working out a joint project with the scholars from the University of Padua and the Doctoral School ‘Mediatrends’ of the University of La Sapienza in Rome. The latter was presented in my documentary ‘Destination: Rome’ shot as an episode of ‘We teach to understand the world,’ a series broadcast in the local station TVP Kraków and TVP POLONIA.

The research project concerns the quality of the pluralism of media in Italy before the approaching parliamentary election in spring 2018. In the latest ranking of the ‘Reporters without Borders’ organisation, which monitors the freedom of the media in the world, Poland ranks 52nd.

The contemporary Italian radio-television system is characterised with a relatively low level of pluralism. It results from the political tradition of the lack of public media that would be independent from the government. That state was confirmed by Prof. Maria Romana Allegri from the Institute of Communication and Social Research of the Sapienza University of Rome and Prof. Carla Meneguzzi from the Institute of Political Science of the University of Padua. The former president of the Republic of Italy Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, with whom I had the honour to speak in Kraków during his visit to Poland in 2000, also noted that. President Ciampi, in his message to the Italian MPs in 2002, appealed to them not only to guarantee the principle of pluralism but also to put it into practice, reminding them of the inseparable relation between information and democracy.
The amendment to the media law in Italy introduced in December 2015 by the outgoing government of Matteo Renzi aimed at preparing the way for future parliamentary election. In order to achieve this aim the public broadcasting institution RAI was fully subordinated to the executive and at the same time left with zero parliamentary scrutiny. The opposition, led by the Movement of 5 Stars (Movimento 5 Stelle), criticised this bill and saw it as a serious threat to media pluralism and constitutional guarantees of freedom of expression.

Although the reform of RAI was introduced by the previous government, defining the role of RAI in the process of political communication, especially during the upcoming election campaign, remains in the hands of the current government of Paolo Gentiloni. Mario Orfeo became the new general director of RAI. The Italian opposition is divided on the nomination of the new head of RAI. The 5 Star Movement described this choice as a ‘coup d’état’ whose aim is to militarise the public sector with a fear of electoral defeat.

Meanwhile, the second largest force of the Italian parliamentary opposition, Forza Italia of Silvio Berlusconi, welcomed the nomination of the director of RAI as an impartial professional, former editor-in-chief of the opinion-making daily *Il Messaggero*, and then head of TG 1, the public RAI information programme. In the context of the forthcoming parliamentary campaign in Italy, this is not without significance. Silvio Berlusconi, 81, intends to appear in the political arena once again, which he announced on Facebook, saying that ‘in order to govern Italy, you cannot improvise, you need a rich experience.’ Today, paradoxically, in the camp of the Italian opposition, the most ardent advocates of media freedom are populists headed by Beppe Grillo. The leader of the 5 Stars Movement, contesting RAI, due to which *nomen omen* has gained notoriety as a satirist, is consistently building its political image in social media. The practice of Beppe Grillo’s activities thus testifies to his political hypocrisy. Creating himself as an advocate of Italian democracy, he poses a serious threat to it.

**Visiting Lviv**

I also discussed the role of media with PhD candidates and students during my last visit to the Faculty of Journalism of the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv in September 2018. Within the framework of collaboration and bilateral exchange I have been co-operating with lecturers of the Faculty of Journalism, especially with Dr Taras Lylo (who paid a visit to Kraków in October).

One of the effects of this collaboration, apart from mutual didactic and research activities, was the realisation of three editions of a programme popularising science entitled ‘We teach to understand the world’ at the University of Lviv.

It should be added that the JU International Relations Office contributed to the shooting of some editions. In the episode ‘Destination: Kraków’ the former JU Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs Prof. Andrzej Mania spoke about various possibilities, fields and forms of education offered at the Jagiellonian University for students from Ukraine as well as the present strategy of JU concerning its international dimension. In turn Dorota Maciejowska, Head of the International Relations Office contributed the realisation of three episodes ‘Destination: Kraków’, the former JU Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs Prof. Andrzej Mania spoke about various possibilities, fields and forms of education offered at the Jagiellonian University for students from Ukraine as well as the present strategy of JU concerning its international dimension. In turn Dorota Maciejowska, Head of the International Relations Office mentioned joint Polish-Ukrainian initiatives in the didactic and research sphere. The other participants of the programme were learners of two Polish schools in Lviv as well as Ukrainian students with Polish background from the University of Lviv, who were studying journalism and Polish philology at the Jagiellonian University.

While lecturing to doctoral students at the University of Lviv, I analysed the Polish public media, focusing on their statutory tasks in the mission, namely ‘to foster the free shaping of citizens’ views and form public opinion.’ As a result of the transformation of the Polish political scene in 2015, legislative work on a new shape of media legislation was undertaken. Consequently, the present government increased political control over the sector of public media. This process began with the adoption the Act on amending the Radio and Television on 30 December 2015.

The main assumptions of the amendment to the Act included transferring the right to appoint and remove management boards and supervisory boards of public radio and television units to the exclusive competence of the minister competent for the State Treasury. Public media in Poland are state-owned joint-stock companies. In the current legal status, members of the management boards and supervisory boards of public media were appointed by the National council of Radio Broadcasting and Television. This competence was the result of the political position of the regulatory institution as a constitutional organ, being the guarantor of freedom of speech, right to information and public interest in the radio and television. Introduced by the amended law, the change of the mode of appointing public media authorities in Poland gives an effective instrument of executive power to influence the casting of managerial posts in these media, which in consequence may pose a serious threat to media pluralism and constitutional guarantees of freedom of expression. In the latest ranking of the ‘Reporters without Borders’ organisation, which monitors the freedom of the media in the world, Poland ranks 54th.

All the episodes of the programme: http://krakow.tvp.pl/26955750/uczymy-rozumieć-swiat
Dorota Maciejowska  
International Relations Office

What better way to teach young people to open up to the world than to send them out to go see it? – said Taiye Selasi, the Closing Plenary keynote speaker as well as an author, photographer and ‘multi-local’ as he describes himself.

The fair of the European Association for International Education (EAIE) is the biggest European event dedicated to higher education institutions facilitating development and reinforcement of international co-operation and providing wide knowledge on internationalisation trends and policies of participating countries.

The 29th Annual EAIE Conference and Exhibition took place in Sevilla, Spain, on 12-15 September 2017. The Seville Conference and Exhibition Centre (FIBES) gathered 6,000 participants from over 95 countries. There were more than 200 exhibition stands of higher education institutions promoting their offers and possibilities of education, research and training. The theme of this year’s conference was Removing barriers through mobility. Building bridges with those who have fewer or simply different world experiences than yourself was the suggestion of the Oxford Professor Alexander Betts.

Among stands from all over the world, there was a booth under the auspices of the Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education with the promotional action: Ready, Study, Go! POLAND. More than sixty representatives from Poland took part in this prestigious event. As usual, there were representatives of the JU International Relations Office: Dorota Maciejowska and Izabela Zawiska, as well as representatives of the JU Collegium Medicum: Dorota Kwapisz and Konrad Kuliński. All of us were very active at the conference and Polish stand.

We promoted the Jagiellonian University among its partner universities from all over the world. Moreover, we talked to other colleagues from IROs, and as a result, we managed to initiate new forms of collaboration with European, Chinese, Japanese and African partners, enhance the Erasmus+ co-operation with the EU and non-EU institutions of higher education and strengthen friendly relations with our long-term partners.

Traditionally, the EAIE conference was an opportunity to discuss and propose solutions to current problems referring to academic exchange and co-operation. Numerous meetings were dedicated to discussion with recruiting agencies that commencing with the next academic year will be supporting our university in reaching strategic goals of internationalisation.

Another important thing that should be mentioned is that this year the representative of the Jagiellonian University Katarzyna Jurzak, Rector’s Proxy for Students Safety and Security, presented best practices of procuring safety in mobility during a session held together with two other Coimbra Group member universities: the University of Barcelona and the University of Edinburgh. The session was a great success as it gathered the audience of around 100 people interested in this ‘hot topic.’ As a result of intense discussions related to this subject, Katarzyna Jurzak and I were appointed as leaders of the Emergency Protocols Task Force, being a part of the Coimbra Group Academic Exchange and Mobility Working Group, which aims at preparing a guidebook for European universities focusing on safety in mobility issues. The guidebook should be ready in February 2018 and is going to be a truly international document created by 10 universities from Europe.

Let me stress again that EAIE fairs create unique opportunities for international relations officers to meet their partners from all over the globe at one place and one time. They can participate in various sessions, workshops and seminars. The fair is also the best moment for networking meetings, for example with the Brazilian universities network, Coimbra Group and Utrecht Network.

The next venue of the EAIE Conference and Expo is going to be Geneva, Switzerland.
On 21-23 November 2017, the Ruhr University Bochum organised its traditional educational fair ‘Grenzenlos.’ The Jagiellonian University was represented by Krzysztof Byrski from the International Students Office and the undersigned.

This year the educational fair at RUB focused on the 30th Anniversary of the Erasmus Programme. Therefore, the participants included only the partner universities from Europe. These included the University of Tours, France, the University of Oviedo, Spain, Leeds Trinity University, United Kingdom, as well as two Polish universities: Wroclaw University and the Jagiellonian University. There were also representatives from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Erasmus Student Network, AIESEC, the world’s largest non-profit youth-run organisation, Study in Germany and German Language Teaching.

For two days Krzysztof and I had the opportunity to present the Jagiellonian University and its educational offer at our stand. On the first day of the fair, a RUB student Pamela Jahnke who had participated in the Erasmus mobility, studying for a semester at the JU Faculty of Law and Administration in the previous academic year, helped us communicate with students interested in studying in Kraków. Besides talking about benefits from studying at JU, she was able to give students practical hints and advice. One of those who stopped at our stand was a law student who would be going to study within the Erasmus+ Programme at the JU Faculty of Law and Administration in the 2018 spring semester.

During those two days of the fair we talked to several dozen undergraduate and graduate students who had already considered the possibility of going abroad or who were thinking of such an option in the next academic year. They asked questions about the JU offer of courses conducted in English for exchange students, about studying conditions, student halls of residence and living in Kraków. What was also important for them was the international environment of the university. Therefore, they were pleased to hear that there were 1,595 incoming foreign students at the Jagiellonian University in 2016, and that the group of German students was the fifth among 10 top international groups.

Besides talking to students Krzysztof and I had a chance to meet some academics who had participated in bilateral exchange between our universities. We also visited the stands of the other invited partner universities from France, Spain and England. We shared experiences concerning international relations as well as staff and student mobility.

It is worth noting that currently the Ruhr University Bochum and the Jagiellonian University are involved in various mutual activities, including research projects, faculty and student exchange within the bilateral agreement and eight Erasmus+ agreements in the following fields: law, linguistics, literary studies, history, sociology, philosophy, media studies, chemistry and biochemistry.

Our participation in the Grenzenlos – Erasmus Days at RUB was another chance to strengthen and intensify international collaboration between our universities, which began in 1979.
After months of negotiations between the international relations officers of both universities, followed by consultations with the Polish Embassy to Mexico and the Mexican Embassy to Poland, representatives of the Jagiellonian University and the National Autonomous University of Mexico signed an agreement on academic co-operation on 2 October 2017. The realisation of the agreement, embracing student exchange, begins in the 2018/2019 academic year.

The exchange will embrace four undergraduate and graduate students for one semester visits. Students will be exempted from paying tuition fees at the host institution. In the near future both universities plan to exchange academics and sign an Erasmus+ agreement within mobility with Partner Countries KA 107.

No wonder then that it was at this JU unit that Dr Francisco Trigo Tavera, UNAM Rector’s representative and co-ordinator of international affairs, delivered an inauguration lecture to the freshmen on 2 October 2017. Dr Trigo Tavera presented the Mexican university, its history, faculties, disciplines and campuses spread all over the City of Mexico, as well as political and geographical background of the country. For first-year students the lecture must have been a very interesting beginning of their academic year and promising invitation to benefit from possibilities offered by the JU within its bilateral agreements.

The ceremony of signing of the agreement was graced by the presence of the Ambassador of Mexico to Poland Alejandro Négrin and the Jagiellonian University Rector Prof. Wojciech Nowak. Prof. Armen Edigarian, JU Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs, and Prof. Adam Jelonek, Rector’s Proxy for Internationalisation, took part in the discussion that followed the signing. Representatives of both universities talked about further development of collaboration, expressing their interest in establishing double degree programmes, especially in the area of American and Latin American Studies, as well as faculty exchange and joint research projects.

It is worth noting that on the previous day, 1 October, Dr Trigo Tavera participated in the 654th inauguration at the Jagiellonian University. During the inaugural ceremony he had the chance to meet the JU authorities and representatives of all the faculties, as well as to get acquainted with the JU traditions and plans of development.

Unfortunately, the visit of the UNAM Rector Enrique Graue had to be cancelled due to the enormous earthquake which shook Mexico City a few days before his departure to Poland.
Arriving in Japan

One of the best seasons in Japan is when sakura (cherry blossoms) starts. It was that day when I landed in Japan. Regrettfully, cherry trees were not blooming yet as the weather was unusually cold, but not very cold, nothing to compare with Polish weather. Japan, especially Kobe, was a place I knew – I was there 10 years ago. But things have changed.

Three countries – Poland, Japan and Korea

I'm Korean and within the Erasmus+ Programme I had the chance to study at Kobe University as a doctoral student of the Jagiellonian University. Thus I got to know the country and now I can compare three countries: Korea, Poland and Japan.

The first step to residing in Japan – administrative procedures in Japan

There is no doubt that in Japan there is a high quality of service in such sectors as banks and restaurants. Moreover, you can get good service in public institutions, e.g. municipality offices. I registered in Kobe, experiencing the local officers’ kind assistance. They gave me a guide book and map for new residents written in several foreign languages, including Korean. As usual (this has not changed), in Japan you have to fill out numerous forms and go through administrative procedures. The same is true when you leave Japan – many things to do, but at least you can do that at one place, within one day and with kind assistance and explanations.

Support for foreign students provided by Kobe University

Kobe University organises various events for new students, including cultural programmes. I participated in a bus tour for foreign students. I painted a ceramic cup which was later baked and sent back to me. We also visited ninjutsuyashiki (a ninja residence) where real ninja warriors had lived and trained. Yet,
the most impressive event was a visit to the Ishiyama temple, which is extremely beautiful. What interested me was the fact the temple was a very important place as far as Japanese literature is concerned. It was there where Murasaki Shikibu started writing Genjimonogatari (‘The Tale of Genji,’ the first Japanese novel written in the 11th century).

Kobe University offers the so-called international hour – an event to learn the language and talk about culture with Japanese students. Another thing is a special card for foreign students with which you can visit many museums for free. The university educational offer includes a Japanese language course which you can attend to improve your language skills. There are programmes for beginners and advanced students. I did not attend any course because my level of Japanese was high enough.

Unaware of the passing of time at the faculty

I was stressed when I visited my host faculty, but my professor said, 三か月だけなのでわがままでいいじゃないか (You are staying here for only 3 months, so it is ok to do whatever you want.) After this introduction, I was assigned a place and given access to a computer so that I could do my research. Not just my host professor but also other professors were very kind to me. I had the chance to meet many interesting people and make good friends at the faculty where I was enrolled. Some of my friends were Chinese and some were Japanese. We frequently went to anizakaya (Japanese style pub) and kaitenzushi (merry-go-round sushi bar) together. We also visited many historical places in Akō, where Akōjō (Akō castle famous for the story of 47 rōnin) is located. So I have very good memories from Japan.

Japan has changed

Comparing Japan with the country I visited 10 years ago, it does not seem to have changed much: trains and buses are still always on time, they look the same as I remembered them. However, there were many things that had changed.

The Japanese people are more internationalised. At the airport or train stations signs are written in foreign languages, such as English, Chinese and Korean – you can see the signs even on garbage bags! Not just Kobe University offers studying abroad, but also more Japanese students speak English.

In the past it was difficult for foreign students to obtain Japanese telephone numbers in order to have access to the Internet and to make phone calls (and nowadays it is not an easy procedure), but currently, there are many places with free wi-fi. Kobe university gave me an internet access code at the beginning of my stay so I did not need to obtain a separate number. When asked to leave your personal contact, it is necessary to leave your Japanese phone number, and so if do not have one, you cannot apply for anything. It is also interesting that faxes are still used in Japan. While you need to give your Japanese telephone number in some institutions, the procedure is gradually changing and other forms of contact (e.g. e-mail addresses) are accepted.

Re-feeling Japan

From my point of view as a linguist, the Erasmus+ Programme greatly contributed to my research focused on comparing three languages and cultures. My stay in Japan also gave me a great chance to make many good friends. In my opinion, Japan itself did not change a lot. It still maintains its traditions. For example, one can see people wearing traditional kimonos in the streets. I have the impression that when Japanese try to change, or they have to change, they want to change in their own way. For someone who does not know Japan very well this attitude may seem complicated and strange, but for me it was very easy to understand and accept it. Overall, I felt very comfortable in Japan and enjoyed my stay thoroughly.
A working visit from the University of Groningen

Dorota Maciejowska
International Relations Office

On 9-10 November 2017, the Jagiellonian University hosted a delegation of 13 representatives of the University of Groningen, including Prof. Elmer Sterken, Rector of the University of Groningen, and deans of all the UG faculties: Prof. Gerry Wakker, Faculty of Arts, Prof. Kees Aarts, Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences, Prof. Jouke de Vries, Campus Fryslan, Prof. Jan Berend Wezeman, Faculty of Law, Prof. Herman de Jong, Faculty of Economics and Business, Dr. Martin Smit, Medical Sciences, Prof. Lodi Nauta, Faculty of Philosophy, Prof. Jasper Knoester, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Prof. Oscar Couwenberg, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, Prof. Mladen Popovic, Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, as well as Dr. Stephan van Galen, Secretary-General and Regine van Groningen, International Strategy and Relations, and the Faculty of Philosophy.

The two-day intensive programme of their visit embraced discussions about possibilities of new forms of co-operation within the framework of The Guild of Research-Intensive Universities and the Coimbra Group networks. JU was represented by Prof. Stanisław Kistryn, Vice-Rector for Research and Structural Funds and JU representative in the Guild, Prof. Andrzej Adamski, Rector’s Proxy for Innovation and a member of The Guild, as well as the deans or vice-deans of all JU 16 faculties.

On 9 November, Rector Elmer Sterken and the JU Rector Wojciech Nowak signed a Memorandum of Understanding envisioning co-operation in education and research. Before signing the agreement both rectors expressed their intentions to open a new chapter in the mutual relations between their universities. During subsequent meetings at each of JU’s faculties and institutes, members of the Dutch delegation could discuss details of possible collaboration.

So far JU has cooperated with the University of Groningen within the Erasmus+ Programme in the following areas: law, political science, geography and pharmacy.

Another initiative of collaboration between our universities has been the MA in Euroculture: Society, Politics and Culture in a Global Context. The programme began in 2004 when the Jagiellonian was invited to join the Euroculture consortium, then a network of European universities that offered a one-year Master programme. Since then, it has grown to a two-year joint degree programme (120 ECTS points) and has been awarded thrice the prestigious Erasmus Mundus Masters Courses label from the European Commission.

In 2016, the University of Groningen spearheaded a Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) entitled European Culture and Politics together with the Jagiellonian University, University of Gottingen and Uppsala University. The MOOC was highly successful, with over 10,000 learners in its first cohort.
The year 2017 marks the 30th Anniversary of the Erasmus Programme. The Programme began in 1987 as a European exchange programme for students. Over the past 30 years it grew to something much bigger, currently offering a large variety of opportunities to individuals and institutions. It has extended far beyond Europe and embraced not only education, internships, joint projects but also sport.

On the 30th anniversary, many European universities have been organising various festivities, events, trainings and seminars throughout the year. One of them was a meeting of representatives of the Coimbra Group Academic Exchange and Mobility (AEM) Working Group hosted at Aarhus University. Being a member of this working group I represented the Jagiellonian University during the meeting held on 22-23 November.

On the first day, after a welcome speech delivered by Rikke Nielsen, Director of the Aarhus University International Office, the AEM members had their regular working session during which they discussed all current joint projects run by the member universities. The projects included the Safety Protocols in Mobility and KA107: ICMED Capacity Building project.

Some group members gave feedback from the presentations delivered during the EAIE 2017 Conference in Sevilla as well as from the Skype meetings concerning international recruitment and marketing and Erasmus teacher and staff mobility within KA103. They also listened to the ERASMUS+ Master Student Loan Guarantee Facility presented by M. Chiara Amadori and L. Broegas Amaro, representatives of the European Investment Fund.

In turn, Prof. Luca Verzichelli, representative of the CG Executive Board, Vice-Rector for internationalisation of the University of Siena, gave an update on activities carried out by the AEM WG. Finally, Olivier Vincent, the current leader of the working group, announced that a new leader of the working group would be voted on 15 February 2018 in Brussels, during the next AEM meeting.

On the same day there were workshops for Erasmus+ coordinators from partner universities that joined this special meeting in Aarhus. They presented their universities and activities of their international relations offices, sharing ideas and good practices in this field. They focused on student and staff exchange.

Izabela Zawiska, JU staff exchange coordinator, represented the Jagiellonian University during that discussion.

Those meetings ended with a visit and dinner at the Moesegard Museum, which innovatively shows Scandinavian prehistory in a breath-taking architectural setting.

On 23 November, all the participants celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the Erasmus Programme. The agenda started with the Vice-Rector Berit Erik’s speech, followed by an extremely interesting and inspiring presentation Erasmus+: A look into the future delivered by Dr Jesper Bo Jensen, a futurist and representative of the Centre for Future Studies. Later eight AEM members coordinated the so-called World Café sessions concentrated on reshaping the Erasmus+ Programme and making the programme more efficient for future generations. Izabela Zawiska and I, representing JU, carried out two sessions: The perspective of the Erasmus+ after 2020 and How to benefit more from staff exchange.

In the afternoon, academic staff and students of Aarhus University shared their personal experiences from participating in various exchange programmes.

The final event was an interesting quiz on the Erasmus Programme, followed by festivities with a special anniversary cake and a glass of sparkling wine.

Summing up, the meeting at Aarhus University proved to be very a useful and motivating experience that helps us foster new ideas and engage in our ordinary activities more intensively.
From NAIROBI to Kraków

Stephen Mureithi
The University of Nairobi

On 21-27 November 2017, Dr Judith Mbau and I representing the University of Nairobi’s Department of Land Resource Management and Agricultural Technology (LARMAT) visited the Jagiellonian University in Kraków under the auspices of the ERASMUS+ Mobility for Higher Education Students and Staff KA 107.

The programme aims at initiating North-South co-operation between institutions of higher learning. Within this programme, the University of Nairobi is co-operating with the Jagiellonian University through staff and student mobility starting the 2016/2017 spring term. The University of Nairobi has already sent three students to JU, one administrator – Prof. Kiama Gitahi, Principal of the College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, and two academics: Dr Mureithi and Dr Mbau. Likewise, the Jagiellonian University will send to the University of Nairobi two administrative officers and two professors. It has already nominated Prof. Małgorzata Grodzińska-Jurczak, Dr Dominika Dragosz-Kluska and Izabela Wierzbowska from the Institute of Environmental Sciences for mobility in 2018. Mobility for staff will be five days while students will stay for a duration of five months.

During the visit to the Jagiellonian University, Dr Mbau and I gave lectures titled Enhancing the resilience of drylands through rangelands rehabilitation and Human-wildlife conflicts: Causes and management options in the African Context, respectively, to Master’s students at the Institute of Environmental Sciences. They were also engaged with discussions with the Students Association as well as a visit to various laboratories and research groups within the institute. In addition, they participated at the JU’s International Partnership Days and Mobility Fair at Auditorium Maximum, hosted by the International Relations Office. Here, they had a stand representing the University of Nairobi.

It was spectacular to visit JU and received a warm reception of the staff and students at the Institute of Environmental Studies and the International Relations Office. We were able to make various contacts and look forward to pursuing these for various collaborations in the near future. Kraków is a beautiful historical city, and our days there were remarkable. We look forward to hosting the Jagiellonian University staff in the coming months.

More information about the University of Nairobi: www.uonbi.ac.ke
The year 2017 was marked not only by the 30th anniversary of Erasmus+ Programme but also the 30th Anniversary of the Utrecht Network celebrated in Hull on 27 April 2017, during the Rectors’ Meeting and the Annual General Meeting. The Jagiellonian University was represented by Prof. Piotr Laidler from the JU Team for Internationalisation and Marta Ganobis-Bednarska, International Students Office. It should be added that the Jagiellonian University joined the network in 1997 and is thus celebrating its 20 years of membership that was fruitful and beneficial for our staff and students.

This double anniversary of the Utrecht Network allows me to mention briefly our involvement in various task forces and exchange programmes.

The Utrecht Network (UN) brings universities together from across Europe, with a common mission to share best practice and enhance the internationalisation process for both students and staff. It is committed to initiatives that strengthen the international profile of its member universities and the cohesion of the group. Through active participation, institutions are encouraged to initiate joint activities leading to further internationalisation of member institutions. Extensive experience gained at national and international level is shared in order to attain the highest quality in the management of European and international projects, exchanges, university services and organisation. With 32 members in 27 countries, the Utrecht Network is particularly committed to areas of activity such as student and staff mobility, summer schools, the internationalisation of curriculum, joint curricula and double/joint degrees.

The Utrecht Network also has well-established links with partner networks in the USA under MAUI – Mid-America Universities International Network, in Australia under AEN – Australian-European Network, and a newly established link with the Brazilian REARI-RJ Network (a network of 11 leading universities and institutes formed by the international relations departments from the state of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil), proving that UN is indeed a European network with a global outlook.

Since the beginning of its membership in UN, the Jagiellonian University has participated in various activities of the network, including:

- student mobility within MAUI, AEN and REARI-RJ,
- summer schools,
- UN Young Researcher’s Grant.

Each option gives the possibility to study or conduct research at universities all over the world. Ongoing co-operation between UN members is also augmented through partnerships in programmes funded by the European Commission.

The new JU representative and contact person in the Utrecht Network is Dr Izabela Zawiska, IRO, while I represent JU in the Staff Mobility Task Force.

This year the Staff Mobility Task Force met on 6-7 November 2017 on the premises of the International Relations Office at Coimbra University, Portugal. The Task Force embraces Kirsi Korhonen, University of Helsinki, Olga Canas, University of Coimbra, Laura Roop, University of Tartu, Monika Sprung, Ruhr University Bochum, and the undersigned. As every year we discussed various possibilities of joint activities enhancing quality of academic mobility. We worked out a detailed action plan for 2018/19, envisaging meetings, sessions and workshops focusing on best practices, quality of mobility, creating possibilities of linkages with the business sector, summer school for young researchers and close collaboration with the UN Research Management Task Force.

With these activities in mind, the next academic year seems to be quite busy for all the Task Force members.
STUDYING AT JU
A CANADIAN STUDENT’S PERSPECTIVE

Since the class size is significantly small, compared to medical schools in North America, the ratio between students to professor is low. This ratio is further reduced during labs, where the class is split into 3-4 groups. For example, during anatomy labs with the guidance of professors, we were able to work closely on cadavers, and pepper the professors with questions. JU, like other medical schools, definitely takes a self-directed approach to learning. Everything that is needed to learn is given in the course outlines, which makes it easier to learn about the subject ahead of time and come to class prepared.

Another great thing about going to medical school in Kraków is the food! With milk bars (low priced cafeterias) basically everywhere, it is easy to find cheap and delicious Polish food. Also, around the Rynek (main market square) and Kazimierz holds most of the culturally diverse foods, so if anyone would want a food fix from back home, they can easily find it there.

Something I found really interesting living in Kraków is that different areas hold a different atmosphere especially at night. For example, Kazimierz is more hipster with bars that are uniquely themed and the nightlife at the Rynek tends to be very loud but fun. One of the best tourist attractions within the outskirts of the Rynek is the Wawel castle. When I need a peaceful study break, I tend to hike around this area, which overlooks parts of the city and the Wisła River. So Kraków definitely offers something for everyone!

Lastly, since I haven’t travelled around much before, I was so delighted to learn how Poland is so close to different countries and that the price of travel is a fraction of what I would pay to travel around in Canada alone in one province! Lots of students capitalized on the opportunity presented by some breaks during winter and spring to travel around. As for me, I travelled south to Budapest and then up North to spend some time with my friend in Norway who goes to Dental School at JU. I also made an obligatory trip to Zakopane in the Tatra Mountains with my friends in April, where we dressed for warmer weather, but the mountains were still packed with snow! The memories I made during these trips are everlasting and I cannot wait to explore more of Europe in the years to come.

Here’s to round 2 of JU and Kraków!

Nimesha Wickramasuriya
Faculty of Medicine

In the spring of 2016, I was notified that I was accepted into the Jagiellonian University four year MD programme in English. It was a thrilling experience to be accepted into one of the oldest universities in Central Europe, especially since I haven’t travelled before to see much of the world. I grew up mostly in the quaint little town of Collingwood Ontario in Canada, so to travel halfway across the world to start medical school of all things was very exciting, but intimidating. Fortunately, the JU school office always welcomes questions and provides structure by distributing the curriculum as well as the class schedule well in advance, before the start of the year.

The past year at JU flew by very fast. Looking back, one of my first memories of living in Poland was getting know my class by going out around the city and exploring what Kraków had to offer. We are a small class consisting of 31 students who came from all over the world – USA, Canada, Africa, Middle East, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand. Because of the diverse class as well as living in Kraków, rich in culture and history, it was clear from the beginning that our medical school experience would be quite unique.

Morskie Oko Lake
in Zakopane
frozen over in April

autumn 2017/62
Going to Japan for design workshops? In March 2017, we found this opportunity hilarious and impossible. In May, we landed in Osaka, Japan, ready for new experiences. And when returning to Poland, we expressed a wish to go back to the Land of the Rising Sun again.

From 24 till 27 May, we (four students of cognitive science at the Faculty of Philosophy, Jagiellonian University: Barbara Giżycka, Katarzyna Stefanek, Daria Worytko and Paulina Zguda) participated in the International Design School which took place at the Integrated Research Centre at Kobe University, Japan. Our aim was to design an innovative product and evaluate a future scenario in which it could be exploited.

We had this unbelievable opportunity thanks to Professor Bipin Indurkhya, who presented it to us, motivated us to apply for this workshop and helped us with essential formalities. He also persuaded us to contact the Head of International Relations Office Mrs Dorota Maciejowska, who supported us during the entire process and was always ready to help with any difficulties. Moreover, we received financial support from Kobe University (and a lot of kindness and help from Prof. Toshiharu Taura and Kaori Yamada), which paid the conference fee and provided accommodation. Without the goodwill, patience and time of these people, we could not even have dreamt of going to Japan. We are very grateful to them.

In the International Design School there were 20 participants from the USA (with a few Indian students), Japan and Europe, mostly students with technical background. We were divided into five small groups, four people in each. This mix was an interesting challenge, sometimes even funny. For example, one of the Indian students asked us if we had our own language or whether everybody in Europe used English or German. For us Poles it was just impossible to imagine such a situation – just like the possibility that in one country people can communicate in over 20 languages, which is in India. So changing the perspective of perceiving one’s identity through country, background and other things, may occur as an amazing chance of seeing things in new light.

Meeting new people from other cultures was one of the new elements, the other – creating products of the future. Each of us was working on a different project and had to face the challenge of the lack of a technical background, while all the other participants of the school were engineers. Luckily, our cognitive scientist and psychological experience helped in research. Having used our experiences, we added a more social approach to the entire project.

Barbara designed an interactive trash bin. Katarzyna and her team created Manta REi, a robot for deep sea manganese nodules mining. Paulina contributed to creating a Lotus Lamp, which can produce light and process water. Finally, Daria’s team created KangarooRun, a kangaroo-shaped device which helps the disabled people in moving.
Besides working in the school, we had some time for sightseeing. On our way to Japan, we had a break between our flights and could see Amsterdam. Before the beginning of the workshops we visited the industrial city of Osaka and the historic city of Kyoto, the former capital of Japan.

After our classes we had a few short trips around Kobe. Together with our friends we went out every night to take advantage of every moment of our stay in Kobe, trying the local cuisine, getting to know the customs and everyday life of the Japanese. Thus we found out several interesting facts about Japan. As the Japanese do not speak English well, you must be creative while communicating with them. The food in Japan is amazing, even though it might surprise you sometimes (candies with seafood flavour are still not our first choice). Everyone is very polite and kind. The functionality of every single device in Japan: doors, trains, toilets is impressive and astonishing.

Spending a few days in this country showed us how amazing the world was and how much it could offer, and taught us to take every chance to explore the world.

For us, Europeans, being in a Japanese environment was an unbelievable, life experience. We have learned that creativity can flourish when we are immersed in a new environment, meeting new people and finding new energy, especially in such an amazing place as Kobe.
Experiencing the University of Cambridge

Piotr Burger
Institute of Geological Sciences

As a student of the JU Faculty of Geography and Geology, I was pleased to participate in two one-week courses during the Science Summer Programme at the University of Cambridge 23.07 – 5.08.2017. I was accommodated in Gonville & Cauis College, which is famous for its 14 Noble Prize winners.

During the first week the programme of the course was supervised by Dr James Grime, a renowned mathematician, cryptographer and youtuber. From the very beginning the atmosphere of the course was very solemn. The first lecture was given by the Director of the International Summer School at Cambridge Sarah J Ormrod. Then all procedures, including final essays and anti-plagiarism Turnitin, were presented. On that day I received a card to the Betty and Gordon Moore Library. My main course ‘Spectroscopy: light and matter’ taught by Dr Peter Worthers introduced us to the realm of spectroscopy of nuclear magnetic resonance. Of great interest to me was the lecture on variants of revolution in Russia till 1917 delivered by the British Ambassador to Russia Sir Tony Brenton. After the lecture ‘The Enigma code-breaking machine’ given by Dr James Grime, we had the chance to see one of the replicas of the Enigma machine. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity for me.

Prof. David Coomes’ lecture ‘Reducing human impacts on the neutral environment’ was a perfect occasion for me as a geologist to ask various questions concerning environmental protection and use of the latest techniques of exploring natural resources. I was very glad to visit the Faculty of Chemistry, where we conducted DNA extractions, and a trip to Sedwick Musem of Earth Sciences, where I learnt important information about the Miocene in Great Britain and about Prof. Marian Książkiewicz, who was closely related with the Jagiellonian University. The intensive week of studying together with a lot of new friends from 54 countries ended with a Celtic dance in the University Centre next to the Hilton Hotel.

The second week of the programme was even more intense because of my main course ‘Fossils, evolution and the history of life’ by Dr Peter Sheldon and other very interesting lectures. I decided to submit an essay ‘Discuss the significance of the Cambrian Explosion and the Burgess Shale fauna.’ I also applied for a card to the University Library, where I could find material for my essay. From among the series of lectures ‘Prediction and Progress’ I liked ‘Blowing hot and cold – the climate history of Antarctica’ delivered by Dr Morag Hunter. I should not forget to mention the evening lecture of Dr Sean Lang entitled ‘Town, gown, and the battle for the heart of Cambridge.’ Thanks to this lecture, conducted in an almost cabaret style, I learnt about university traditions and the fierce fight between the local citizens and students of Cambridge. Additionally, I took part in shooting a Cambridge TV documentary ‘International Summer Programmes’ during an excursion to the Institute of Astronomy.

For me it was a real honour to speak in front of a professional film camera.

The whole programme ended with a four course dinner after which each participant received a certificate of attendance.

Summing up, only one thought comes to my mind, ‘Yes, I would definitely come back to Cambridge, and develop my knowledge, command of English and interpersonal skills that are an indispensable element of studying at Cambridge. My stay at such a prestigious university will certainly increase my chances on the labour market, and what is most important it was a fantastic occasion to make new friends from various countries, which will yield fruit in the future. The time spent on discussing various topics talking at dinners (in Gonville & Cauis Collage), lunches (in Selwyn Collage) or pubs (The Eagle, Revolution) let us share our life and academic experiences and establish very close relationships. It was extremely pleasant to belong – even for a while – to the international family of the University of Cambridge. I am very grateful to the Jagiellonian University and Jeremi Króliczewski Educational Trust for participating in the 2017 Summer Science Programme.
This year, thanks to the Jeremi Kroliczewski Education Trust generous scholarship, I attended one of the International Summer Programmes organised by the University of Cambridge. The course I attended was the Interdisciplinary Summer Programme Term II taking place from 23 July 2017 to 5 August 2017. The subjects I chose within this course were all three parts of International politics in a global age II (parts A21, B21, and C21) and to obtain a mark I submitted an essay on one of the topics given by the Course Directors.

The International politics in a global age II course covered multiple topics connected with current international relations, from the concept of democracy, terrorism and nuclear weapons proliferation to detailed analysis of world orders and foreign affairs of China and the Middle East. As my PhD thesis revolves around the topic of media freedom and media systems in the world and their connections with politics, the course gave me the chance to better understand political and international relations forces and to think through the connections between media and political systems in different parts of the world. I particularly liked the class on reinventing the international society – a practical exercise where students, divided into groups, represented various countries in the United Nations and tried to outvote some changes in the UN Security Council.

The course was led by three Course Directors, including Sir Tony Brenton, the former British Ambassador in Moscow, Ian Shields, the a former Senior Officer in the RAF , and Dr Robert Weatherley, a specialist in Chinese history and politics. Thanks to their practical knowledge and discussion encouragement, I was able to get to know diverse views on each of the topics covered, also from other students from all around the world, which certainly broadened my horizons and led to a better understanding of the topic.

The topic I have written my essay on was: Which of Russia, China and the Middle East pose the greatest future challenge to the US world order? I chose it because it combined all the topics covered in the course and gave me a chance to take a broader perspective on international relations. I have already submitted the essay before the set deadline and expect the outcomes at the beginning of October.

Apart from the main course choice, the participants were also able to take part in the morning lectures on the general topic Connections and Conflicts and in the evening talks on various topics. The presence during the main course and the morning lectures was obligatory and I obtained a certificate of attendance in all of them. The evening talks were optional but I also attended them. One of the lectures I particularly liked was about Alan Turing and the Enigma, during which the lecturer showed us a real Enigma device from World War II.

Apart from taking advantage of the courses, I have also conducted a lot of research on my own. The University of Cambridge has a very well-equipped library and I found a lot of interesting books which may be of use in my PhD research and which otherwise would be unavailable for me.

The International Summer Programmes at the University of Cambridge was a great opportunity for me to enrich my understanding of international relations and other countries foreign policies and thus to focus on important political factors in my PhD thesis. It was also a chance to do some library research as well as meet a lot of interesting people from all over the world and naturally, explore the medieval town of Cambridge. I would like to thank the Jeremi Kroliczewski Education Trust for giving me the opportunity to attend the International Summer Programmes which was certainly a very interesting and enriching experience.
Participating in a two-week Cambridge Summer Programme in Medieval Studies was for me a memorable experience and a unique opportunity to develop research skills. The academic content of the course was highly interesting and well-thought-out, and we had the great opportunity to have been taught by professors from Britain’s top universities.

A series of morning plenary lectures collectively entitled Rebellion and Revolt in the Middle Ages covered a wide range of material, from social history to architecture, and was aimed at exploring different aspects of revolution and rebellion as they manifested themselves in medieval history, literature and art. The plenaries were given by a number of prominent speakers, which provided us with the opportunity to compare individual approaches and teaching styles. I was particularly impressed by Dr Richard Rex’s lecture that offered a questioning approach on the widely-discussed phenomenon of Lollardy and Dr Elizabeth Solopova’s talk on the Wycliffite Bible. Henrietta Leyser’s discussion of women rebels and Dr Francis Woodman’s overview of the history of the King’s Chapel were no less engaging.

Apart from the lectures, each of the participants had the choice of two modules per week from a number of courses on medieval history, society, literature and language. As a student of medieval English literature, I especially appreciated Discovering the medieval world through Chaucer and Masterpieces of Old English poetry, both taught by Dr Elizabeth Solopova from the University of Oxford. The classes were really inspiring and the course director offered insightful readings of not only medieval literary classics such as Beowulf or Chaucer’s The Canterbury Tales but also a variety of less canonical texts. In the second week, I attended two courses taught by Dr Philip Morgan, namely Medieval death and dying and Eleanor of Aquitaine. The former proved beneficial to my general understanding of medieval culture while the latter addressed the subject of prominent medieval women, which corresponds to my academic interests.

In addition, we had a wonderful opportunity to attend evening talks on various subjects from Shakespeare to current politics in the United Kingdom.

One of the major advantages of Cambridge Summer Programmes was the unlimited access to university resources. The University Library boasts not only of its status as one of the largest British deposit libraries but also of a large manuscript collection and a manuscript reading room available by appointment. Several faculty and college libraries were available as well, and I found there a number of useful publications.

Needless to say, I enjoyed the Cambridge Summer Programme for yet another reason, which is the town itself. Due to the great weather during the entire two weeks, we had the possibility of visiting the Fitzwilliam Museum and the historical colleges such as King’s, Queens’ or John’s, taking a walk around the Botanic Gardens or punting on the River Cam. Shakespeare’s most famous plays were also staged every evening in college gardens as a part of the annual Shakespeare Festival, and the picturesque Grantchester Village, once a meeting place for writers such as Virginia Woolf or Rupert Brooke, was located just a short walk from the campus.
You are going for Erasmus to a country you really don't know at all. To the place you have never been and where you know no one. You are quite scared. It's normal because you are not going there for two weeks. You are going there for almost one year. You arrived, start meeting new great people from almost all countries in Europe and from few countries from the whole world – from Columbia to Bhutan. Now you are calm, here everybody is open-minded, friendly, and everybody wants to meet new people because all of them are in this same situation. You are beginning to go out to parties together. You are making 'groups of friends.' It's natural. After two months your best friends are Italian. You are Italian now. You are not 'Patryk.' For all of them it's obvious that your name is 'Patrizio Rafael.' You have also great friends from Spain, France, Turkey and from a lot of countries. Now you are real friends. You start spending every minute together. Everyday lunch together, everyday dinner together. You are travelling almost every two weeks. More or less. You have a party whenever you want. 20 people in your room in the party is normal, day by day. There is always someone knocking at your door. You are going together to your favourite pub for a cigarette or a beer. We are calling this place 'Doga.' Whenever you go there, you meet some of your friends. Exactly like in 'Friends' 😊 You are starting to love those people. But wait. Now it's June, 9 months have gone. Now you know that Erasmus is over. It's time to say goodbye to the most important people. You are sad, but the next party is coming, don't worry. Then other people are leaving. You are crying. You are going to Prague for your last trip with your best Erasmus friend, then the next best Erasmus friend is coming here. You have to say goodbye. You are crying a lot. You are coming back to Poland. First destination: Kraków. Here everything is this same. The monument to Adam Mickiewicz is still in the main square, trams are still full, traffic jams, pigeons still want to poop on your head. Now you know that a lot of your close friends will live in the same building with you. Time in Kraków stopped on 11September 2016, when I left this city. When I went for the best adventure in my life, for more than 9 months. I am happy that we are living the time of globalization. An age with Skype, Facebook and Ryanair. We have cheap flights. We can meet each other whenever we want to. I hope with some of my friends I will meet up at the Woodstock Festival. And I am sure that in September I will go to Italy ❤️ It's time to come back to normal life. It's the end of one stage, but the next one is coming.

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Patryk did his Erasmus at Palacký University Olomouc in the Czech Republic.
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1. RESEARCH
Malopolska Centre of Biotechnology (MBC) comprising 7 research centres and 2 laboratories:
- Max Planck Society
- Le Centre national de la recherche scientifique
National Synchrotron Radiation Centre SOLARIS Jagiellonian Centre for Experimental Therapeutics Jagiellonian Centre of Innovation Life Science Park

2. PUBLICATIONS, PROJECTS & PATENTS
9,248 academic and professional publications in 2016
1,027 research projects, including 47 international projects in 2016
85 patent protected inventions (49 international and 36 national) in 2014-2016
230 patent pending (162 international and 68 national)

3. PARTNERSHIPS
280 bilateral agreements with 257 universities in 59 countries (108 university level; 92 faculty level; 48 institute level; 32 Collegium Medicum)
1,453 Erasmus+ KA 103 and 38 KA 107 agreements

4. NETWORKS
COIMBRA Group
UTRECHT Network
The GUILD of European Research-Intensive Universities
European University Association
East-European University Network
EUROPEUM
Atomium Culture
Unitown
SYLFF Institutions’ Network
Erasmus Student Network
European Students Forum (AEGEE)
European Law Students’ Association

5. INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT
JU bilateral agreements

6. EDUCATION
38,328 undergraduate & graduate students
3,004 doctoral students
106 Bachelor’s programmes
133 Master’s programmes
41 PhD programmes
76 post-diploma non-degree courses
32 English-taught programmes
(5 undergraduate, 20 graduate, 6 doctoral, 1 post-diploma)
358 doctorates awarded in 2016
300 student research societies
25 sports sections

7. STAFF & STUDENT MOBILITY
Erasmus+ staff mobility in 2016
- 168 outgoings
- 161 outgoings
Bilateral staff exchange in 2016
- 77 outgoings
- 61 incomings
Student exchange programmes in 2016
- 1,385 outgoings
- 1,596 incomings