

Education

IN ENGLISH

AT POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



Dear readers,

The current issue of Education in English focuses mainly on international students. It is well known that international students are important at PUT and every academic year our university is a place of education for young people coming from European, Asian and African countries. They have the opportunity to gain solid, academic education here and enjoy a life changing experience as they are exposed to a completely new and different world, mindsets, values, attitudes and perception.

International students are given the possibility to experience a wide range of cultural issues during their Polish classes and Polish Weeks, which are organised twice a year, plus the Polish Culture Week. The final event was organised for the first time last December and in this issue you will find a detailed description of this extremely interesting event. Moreover,

you can read about the latest Polish week which is traditionally the first encounter with Polish culture for PUT Erasmus students. You can also find out foreign students opinions about studying at PUT as some of them share their experiences of studying here.

Undoubtedly, our foreign students are often in contact with employees of PUT and you can read about the personal experiences of a Dean's Office employee with them. Furthermore, a text is provided about the soft-skills, which is often defined as people skills, we use to interact with others at work and the need to master them in order to be successful in a professional English speaking environment. Finally, as we are now enjoying the beauty of spring all around us, we have a relaxing spring element for you as well in the form of a quiz about spring idioms.

Enjoy!
Dorota Kudła, M.A.
The editor

Polish Culture Week

AT POZNAŃ UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

During the first week of December 2014, a special event, Polish Culture Week, took place at Poznań University of Technology. It was organised by the Centre of Languages and Communication for all the international students studying at our University.

About 80 students participated in the everyday meetings, from Monday to Friday between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. The event included multimedia presentations, lectures, film shows, discussions, various language tasks and tasting traditional Polish dishes.

All the activities referred to Polish culture, history, traditions and customs. The students showed great interest and enthusiasm in learning about our country and people. They

always ask a lot of interesting and intriguing questions.

They were very happy to participate in the event and said it was a great opportunity to gain a lot of knowledge and spend time in a pleasant international atmosphere during the cold winter evenings.

The programme of the whole event is presented below.

Organizers of the Polish Culture Week:

Małgorzata Konopko, M.A.
Justyna Połomka, M.A.
Barbara Tarko, M.A.

When?	What time?	What?	Where?	Who with?
Monday (1 December)	17.00-19.00	POLISH CINEMA - Introduction (short presentation, the most important directors, films, etc.) Film Show: „Listy do M.” („Letters to M.”) film in Polish with English subtitles	123 L	Barbara Tarko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)
Tuesday (2 December)	17.00-19.00	FAMOUS POLES Multimedia presentation + quiz and exercises for students (Mitoraj, Szymborska, Ligocka, Beksiński, Killar, etc.)	123 L	Barbara Tarko, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)
Wednesday (3 December)	17.00-19.00	A SHORT HISTORY OF POLAND Introduction - multimedia presentation Film screening: „Wałęsa, człowiek z nadziei.” ("Walesa, a man of hope.") film in Polish with English subtitles	123 L	Barbara Tarko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)
Thursday (4 December)	17.00-19.00	POLISH HOLIDAYS AND TRADITIONS (Christmas, Easter, Independence Day, etc.) Introduction + puzzles and exercises for students; snack: gingerbread	123 L	Barbara Tarko, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)
Friday (5 December)	17.00-19.00	POLISH CUISINE Tasting of traditional Polish dishes	315 E	Barbara Tarko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)

POLISH WEEK

At the end of February, lecturers from the Centre of Languages and Communication at PUT (Barbara Tarko, MA, Justyna Połomka, MA, and Małgorzata Konopko, MA) organised Polish Week for international students who came to Poznań to study at our university.

The idea of Polish Week was introduced in 2008 and it has been organised twice a year since then (one week before the beginning of summer and winter term). Throughout these years, Polish Week has become so popular among Erasmus students that nearly all of them decide to come to Poland one week earlier to take part in this event.

This year it was held between February 23rd and February

27th and about fifty students participated in it. The students came from Portugal, Spain, Turkey, France, Hungary, Italy, Germany, Luxembourg, Greece, Slovakia and Albania.

As usual, Polish Week was filled with many different activities which helped students to learn something about Poland but also to get to know each other. They had the opportunity to see unique, old Poznań fortifications, visit historical buildings, listen to Poznań legends and watch a short film about the history of Poland. They also visited the Lech Brewery and admired the beer production process. The biggest attraction, however, was the trip to Wolsztyn, where students visited the Engine and Locomotive Museum and the Open Air Ethnographic Museum. Afterwards, they

had a typical Polish meal (chicken soup, pork chops with potatoes and salads) in a restaurant near Wolsztyn.

During the week, students had their first classes at our university and they learnt a few basic phrases in Polish. Polish Week was an unforgettable experience both for the students and the lecturers who organised this event.

The programme of Polish Week is included below.

Organizers of Polish Week
 Barbara Tarko, MA
 Justyna Połomka, MA
 Małgorzata Konopko, MA
 Centre of Languages and Communication

When?	What time?	What?	Where?	Who with?
Monday (23 Feb.)	11.00-13.00	OPENING (Introduction, presentations, administrative matters, important information concerning studies at PUT, etc.)	216E (Building of Faculty of Electrical Engineering)	Director Liliana Szczuka-Dorna, Ph.D. Barbara Tarko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication) Marta Lipińska, MA Anna Wolnowska, MA (Lifelong Learning and International Education Office) Erasmus Student Network Poznan IAESTE
	13.00-13.30	Lunch break		
	13.30-16.30	A guided tour of Poznań University of Technology & Malta Lake	Meeting point - in front of DS1	Erasmus Student Network Poznan
	16.30-20.00	Free time		
	20.00 - ...	ERASMUS WELCOME PARTY	Meeting point - in front of DS1	Erasmus Student Network Poznan
Tuesday (24 Feb.)	9.00-16.00	POZNAN SIGHTSEEING - old Poznan fortifications - Ostrów Tumski and the Cathedral - the Old Town	Meeting point - the main entrance to the Building of Faculty of Electrical Engineering (Budyne Elektryczny)	Barbara Tarko, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)
	16.00	Free time		

Wednesday (25 Feb.)	9.30-11.00	Introduction to Polish culture – class activities	216E (Building of Faculty of Electrical Engineering)	Barbara Tarko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)
	11.00-13.00	Lunch break		
	13.00-16.00	POZNAN CITY GAME	The city of Poznan	Erasmus Student Network Poznan
	16.00-...	Free time		
Thursday (26 Feb.)	9.00-18.00	TRIP TO WOLSZTYN Open-air ethnographic museum in Wolsztyn; Engine and Locomotive Museum and Exhibition; dinner in a restaurant	Meeting point the main entrance to the Building of Faculty of Electrical Engineering (Budynek Elektryczny)	Barbara Tarko, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)
Friday (27 Feb.)	9.00 -13.00	The guided tour of THE LECH BREWERY in Poznan	Meeting point the main entrance to the Building of Faculty of Electrical Engineering (Budynek Elektryczny)	Barbara Tarko, MA Justyna Połomka, MA Małgorzata Konopko, MA (Centre of Languages and Communication)
	13.00-...	Free time		

International students' opinions **about studying at PUT and Polish culture**

/students' original spelling/

I have enjoyed studying at this university. Classes were well organized and professors answered us when we had questions. We learnt a lot about polish culture, and it was a great experience. I would like to thank all persons who take care of us during this semester.

Brice Guibert, France

Poznan has been a great place to study. The University of Technology in particular is an excellent platform for

getting in contact with multidimensional students and expertise to inhance our educational background. Poznan as a place of learning was a tremendous opportunity because of the fascinating culture, friendly people and the Erasmus student network who organized amazing events and trips. And there is so much to be seen and explored in and around Poznan with so little time. Therefore, deciding to study in Poznan and its University of Technology was for me the right decision. So, if you

want to come to this place, I have a tip for you "Don't think twice".

Rajiv Irungbam, India

I really enjoy studies in PUT. It's a perfect combination between serious and funny moments. Also, we discover Polish habits and traditions thanks to the Polish week and the professors, and also our Polish friends who we met here. It's really an incredible experience because at the end we will have learned so much about all the different cultures not just polish. And special thanks to the professors who are really nice to us and are patient and spend their time doing their best to let us feel comfortable in Poznan.

Jihane, Marocco

I arrived here two months ago, and now I feel so happy in Poznan. The University /PUT/ is so different than mine in Spain but it is interesting to know and learn new things. I met a lot of people here, I could meet friends from many countries and I could improve my English and my polish.

This is an amazing experience, now Poznan and Poland are my new home. I will be here until July, so I hope to enjoy and know more about the Polish culture, food... I feel Poland like a special country, people have always helped me.

Ignacio Vidal Barrueco, Spain

Very good experience here in Poznan University of Technology. Polish lessons and events/Polish Week/ are interesting for foreign people. I don't have a lot of classrooms in my faculty, it allows me to have time to discover Poznan, Polish culture and travelling.

Pauline, France

One of the reasons I applied to PUT was to see more about Poland's culture and about Poznan. The first week was very nice because we could participate in organized programs, for example visiting places, trying out traditional food or learning about history. During the semester as I experienced everybody was helpful and friendly with us. During studying the lectures in English we could improve our professional English very well.

Adrienn Szaduari , Hungary

First of all I appreciate Polish language workshops as a discover of a new language. Moreover, it's proved that it's useful for my everyday life in Poznan. It's also interesting from my point of view to learn and follow the "same" or continuing a subject in two different countries. On the other hand, the program isn't the same at all so it's also beneficial to add new courses to make a difference with my originals, I mean in my country. To conclude, it is really a great experience.

Henry Przybilski, France

PUT EMPLOYEE'S OPINION

Erasmus Students

Every year many students come to the Faculty of Machines and Transport at Poznań University of Technology to study on the Erasmus Program. The majority of these students are Portuguese or Hungarian and stay here for one or two semesters.

The person responsible for the academic care of foreign students is the Faculty Coordinator. The Faculty Coordinator is in charge of agreements, plans and other formalities associated with the Erasmus students' residence.

Students may occasionally visit the Dean's Office to obtain their student card or individual e-mail address, but they

may also need assistance in reaching the more well know places in Poznań or to satisfy a curiosity about regional culture and food.

All of these young people are polite, friendly and interested in Poland. They want to try to learn to say the most useful Polish phrases because there is the chance that they will return to Poznań with their friends and family.

Katarzyna Wojciechowska, MSc Eng
Faculty of Machines and Transport

Why Do We Need Soft Skills?

Many people say that hard skills will get you an interview but you need soft skills to get and keep the job. Why?

The answer lies in the meaning of "soft skills". Generally speaking, they are often called:

- interpersonal skills
- people's skills
- core/key skills
- employability skills
- leadership skills
- entrepreneurship skills

So, it's clear that they are considered very important or even indispensable in our professional and personal lives.

When do we use soft skills?

When we develop our motivational skills and interactive skills. In other words, when we try to manage time and stress, take initiative, think strategically, build relationships, work in a team, resolve conflicts, cooperate with others, negotiate, adapt to new situations, speak publicly, work as leaders, be creative and innovative, etc.

How can we acquire or master soft skills?

- by learning how to improve them
- by practicing them

Note: Centre of Languages and Communication at PUT organises soft skills courses.

More information can be found here:
<http://www.clc.put.poznan.pl/pracownie/ksztalcenie-umiejetnosci-miekkich/>



BULATS is a multilingual set of workplace language assessment, training and benchmarking tools. It is used internationally for business and industry recruitment, for admission to study business related courses and for assessing the effectiveness of language courses and training.

The Bulats exams will take place in **May and June 2015**
in the Centre of Languages and Communication of Poznan University of Technology.

For more information visit our funpage on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/bulats.clc>

or our website at:

<http://www.clc.put.poznan.pl/pracownie/certyfikaty-jezykowe/>

Should you have any questions, ask the Bulats test coordinator:

Edyta Olejarczuk, room 304WE or write an email: edyta.olejarczuk@put.poznan.pl

FULBRIGHT PRESENTATION

On Friday, March 27th, Corinne Matthews, a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant and English teacher at PUT, gave a presentation in conjunction with Natalia Kozłowska, the Social Media Coordinator at the Polish Fulbright Commission, about the opportunities available to Polish students if they decide to attend graduate school in the United States. Corinne Matthews talked about the benefits of attending gradu-

ate school in the United States, the application process, and different ways of funding one's education there. Natalia Kozłowska covered how Fulbright, an exchange program between Poland and The United States, can help to cover the cost of earning a graduate degree or conducting research in the United States. A number of current students and teachers at PUT attended this interesting and full of practical advice presentation.



**Centrum Języków
i Komunikacji**

Centre of Languages and Communication

ul. Piotrowo 3A, 60-965 Poznań, tel. 61 665 24 91, fax 61 665 27 93, www.clc.put.poznan.pl, mail: office_clc@put.poznan.pl

INVITATION

We would cordially like to invite all the students and the faculty members of Poznań University of Technology to attend the presentation panel of the finalists of the XVth National Olympiad of the English Language for Students of Technical Universities to be held on May 09, 2015.

The presentations will discuss Mark Kennedy's words:

"All of the biggest technological inventions created by man – the airplane, the automobile, the computer – say little about his intelligence, but speak volumes about his laziness".

All the details will soon be available on the website of the Centre of Languages and Communication.

Spring Idioms QUIZ

Test your knowledge on English idioms which appeared on Radio Afera.

Match the idioms on the left with their explanations on the right.

The answers are given at the bottom of the page.

We strongly encourage you to continue the exploration of English idioms with CLC and Radio Afera.

1. to spring clean 2. as pale as a lily 3. shrinking violet 4. to push up daisies 5. to lay something up in lavender 6. to put somebody out to grass 7. the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence 8. to grass somebody up 9. snake in the grass 10. to come up roses 11. life isn't all roses 12. under the rose	a. to go smoothly; be very successful b. to set something aside for future use c. to clean (a house) thoroughly, traditionally at the end of the winter d. to be very pale e. people always think they would be happier in a different set of circumstances f. in secret; privately g. life is not so easy h. very shy i. to be dead and buried j. to inform on someone, especially to the police k. a deceitful or treacherous person l. to cause to retire
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Joanna Liskowska-Sikora, MA
Teacher of English at CLC

Answers: 1. C 2. D 3. H 4. I 5. B 6. L 7. E 8. J 9. K 10. A 11. G 12. F