

IN ENGLISH Education

AT POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



65TH ANNIVERSARY OF CENTRE OF LANGUAGES AND COMMUNICATION AT POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

This past academic year marked the 65th anniversary of the Centre of Languages and Communication, and we celebrated throughout the year by holding numerous events, lectures and exhibitions.

In October 2017, Elzbieta Vendome, M.A., gave a lecture **USA: Land and People**, in which she talked about the diversity of the states, ethnic and religious groups and the issue of migration to the USA.



In November, there was an open lecture by Justyna Mazurek-Schramm, providing us with an interesting insight into Irish culture. Another lecture was delivered by E. Vendome, M.A., on the **Education System in the USA**.

From 27 November to 1 December, foreign students participated in **Culture Week** which gave them an opportunity to learn about Polish culture and customs.

December passed in a flurry of activity for the Centre of Languages and Communication, bringing with it two major events. The first was the university stage of the National English Language Olympiad for Students of Technical Universities.

Another significant event was Foreign Languages Day. This time the organizers, Kinga Komorowska, M.A., and Malgorzata Baczynska, M.A., changed the traditional format and gave students a true challenge based on an escape room activity.

In December, the PUT community got the chance to attend an exhibition devoted to Irish Nobel Winners and an open lecture by E. Vendome, M.A., **American and British English; US Dialects**.

In January, the PUT faculty and students had the opportunity to listen to two open lectures. The first one, organized



by CLC and the Irish Culture Foundation, was the lecture **Meeting Ireland** by Justyna Mazurek-Schramm, introducing some fascinating aspects of Irish culture. The second was delivered by Olivia Schimmels, B.Sc., a Fulbright scholar currently working at CLC. She discussed the Fulbright grant and the opportunities it offers to Polish scholars.

From 19 to 23 February, there was another edition of Orientation Week for international students, during which they learned about Polish traditions and visited the most prominent places in the Wielkopolska region. In March, there was another open lecture by E. Vendome M.A. on **American Everyday Life**.

The second and final stages of the National English Language Olympiad for Students of Technical Universities were held on 13 and 14 April. The winner was a PUT student, Łukasz Krzyśko. April also saw two lectures and workshops by Alexander Bleistein on the German Higher Education System and learning opportunities in Germany, and the final presentation in the series of lectures by E. Vendome

M.A., this time on **American Arts and Sports**. In addition, the exhibition **MaluBajka** by CLC senior lecturer, Beata Olszewska, was held for the PUT community.

Various events took place in May: art workshops for children on **Irish fairy tales and legends** and **In the realm of elves and giants** were put on in collaboration with the Irish Culture Foundation. The celebration of our anniversary was accompanied by an exhibition presenting the rich history and activity of the Centre of Languages and Communication and the work of CLC staff in the field of language teaching.

The final and most important event was the conference **The role of CLC in the process of educating the students of Poznan University of Technology - experiences and challenges** organised with the support of SERMO on 17 May. Participants had the opportunity to listen to lectures and presentations by guest speakers and CLC staff members. The day ended with a concert by Artu's violin quartet. The following day, 18 May, was devoted to celebrating the





65th anniversary of CLC, at which guests congratulated us on 65 years of successful and fruitful work. Honoured guests included PUT Rector, Professor Tomasz Łodygowski, the Vice-Rectors and Deans of Faculties, the Honorary Consul of Great Britain, Włodzimierz Walkowiak, Andreas Bahr, Ph.D., of European University Viadrina, MEP Krystyna Łybacka, Ph.D. Eng., Professor Krystyna Drożdżał-Szelest of AMU Faculty of English, Kinga Studzińska-Pasieka,

Ph.D., representing SERMO, as well as Andrea Koblickova representing CERCLES. Afterwards, CLC staff and guests enjoyed a gala lunch.

The final event in a year filled with celebrations will be the **15th Cercles International Conference 2018 – Broad Perspectives on Language Education in the Globalized World**, held 5-8 September, 2018.



THE FINAL

OF THE 19TH ENGLISH OLYMPIAD

The English Language Olympiad for Students of Technical Universities is an annual event that gathers students who want to challenge their language skills and are ready to compete against the best in Poland. After the first stage of the Olympiad which took place on 1 December, 2017, 246 contestants from 15 technical universities qualified for the second stage.

The 2nd stage of the 19th National Olympiad of the English Language for Technical Universities was held on 13 and 14 April 2018 at Poznan University of Technology with 146 participants from 15 technical universities. After written and oral tests on 13 April, 12 laureates were selected who delivered multimedia presentations on 14 April on either "All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident" – Arthur Schopenhauer, or "Quality is not an act, it is a habit" – Aristotle.

Finally, the names of the winners were announced:

- 1st place – **Krzyśko Łukasz**, Poznan University of Technology
- 2nd place – **Kifer Zofia**, Lodz University of Technology
- 3rd place – **Narolski Paweł**, Wroclaw University of Technology
- 4th place – **Grabowski Andrzej**, Lodz University of Technology
- 5th place – **Szymański Marcin**, Opole University of Technology
- 6th place – **Kornacka Agata**, Silesian University of Technology
- 7th place – **Kaczmarek Kajetan**, Warsaw University of Technology
- 8th place – **Bożek Michał**, Wroclaw University of Technology
- 9th place – **Polczyk Jakub**, Cracow University of Technology
- 10th place – **Orszulik Mateusz**, Silesian University of Technology.

Consolation prizes went to:

- **Begiętło Filip**, Lublin University of Technology
- **Dulat Łukasz**, Silesian University of Technology.

The best Olympiad enthusiast - **Artur Sierpiński**, Czestochowa University of Technology.

The honorary patronage of the Olympiad included:

- Rector of PUT – prof. Tomasz Łodygowski, Ph.D. Eng.
- Town Hall, the Mayor of Poznan – Jacek Jaškowiak
- Consulate of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – the Honorary Consul – Włodzimierz Walkowiak
- Consulate of Ireland – the Honorary Consul – Artur Sikora
- Commission of Philological Sciences – prof. Piotr Chruszczewski, Ph.D.
- Fulbright Poland.

The media patronage: Radio Afera, TV Spacja.

Guests:

- Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering – Marlena Kucz, Ph.D. Eng.
- Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Computing – Piotr Kardyś, Ph.D. Eng.
- Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Technical Physics – Mirosław Szybowski, Ph.D., Assoc.Prof.
- Dean of the Faculty of Machines and Transportation – Prof. Franciszek Tomaszewski, Ph.D. Eng.

- Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Chemical Technology – Ewa Kaczorek, Ph.D. Eng., Assoc.Prof.

The hosts of the Olympiad were:

- Director of the Center of Languages and Communication – Liliana Szczuka-Dorna, Ph.D.
- Deputy Directors – Iwona Gajewska-Skrzypczak, Ph.D.
- Barbara Sawicka, M.A.
- Head of English and French Section at CLC – Anna Raulinajtys, Ph.D.

The Olympiad would not have been possible if it had not been for the generous sponsors. The laureates received valuable prizes: numerous books, gadgets and gifts from about 30 sponsors. The organizers would like to thank all sponsors for their great contribution which has enabled us to carry out such a prominent event.

The organizers of the Olympiad:

- Justyna Połomka, M.A.
- Karolina Całka, M.A.
- Karol Matysiak, M.A.
- Urszula Pawałowska, M.A.



Meet our **teachers**

This time we would like to introduce a very special teacher. She has travelled far to share with us her interests and love for teaching Russian. We hope that her bio and her attitude will encourage PUT students and employees to learn Russian!

Marianna Plakueva -Olejniczak, M.A.

Lecturer of Russian

I studied Russian philology and Journalism at Northern (Arctic) Federal University named after Mikhail Lomonsov in Arkhangelsk. I was accepted to a new group with Polish language major. This was, to some extent, an elite group, because we had the opportunity to visit Poland for annual language courses. Having received good grades in my studies, I was invited to complete an MA programme at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan. I also completed a PhD programme here.

This is also where my great adventure with University Choir with Jacek Sykulski began. I was able to participate in concerts in Poznan, but also in the US and Canada. Music has always been my great love. I



love singing, playing the piano and the guitar. When the mood strikes, I also write my own songs. Last year I gave a concert in Poznan. I sang Russian romances, as well as songs by Ewa Demarczyk, Anna German, and Anna Jantar. And one song by Hanka Ordonowna. I must say that some of the songs were truly challenging, but I believe I managed quite well. I also performed a song White nights which my Dad wrote and dedicated to my Mum just after their wedding. I was born in a family of doctors, but

we have always valued literature and music – maybe this is why I love the things I do?

I have also had my share of funny situations in life. I will never forget my adventures in a show Europe is likeable (Europa da się lubić), where I told stories of my life in Russia in A European drive episode. I was the only participant without a driving license, and yet I had to face Paolo Cozza and Steffen Müller in a go-kart race. Well, I was the fastest (the only!) woman in the cup. I may have come last, but I came in one piece! ;-) And I did get my driving license – a month before leaving for a trip to Spain with my family. Which is another thing I love – I could probably write a book about going on road trips with my family!

I love being physically active. I enjoy hiking in the Polish mountains and visiting Polish castles. I learned new activities in Poland – windsurfing, sailing, skiing. I also ran my first marathon in Poznan. My friend encouraged me, but she didn't take part in it due to health reasons. I, however, did. I met wonderful people and we still keep in touch.

I have been working as a teacher of Russian for 10 years now. I love my job and I see it as my true passion. Positive results are the most enjoyable part of my work. I would love to share my enthusiasm and see you at a Russian language course at Centre of Languages and Communication.

Soft skills in real life

Often completely ignored, this area of professional life is indispensable. We hope to provide at least some insight into the topic, and look at interesting points that can make our lives easier.

Soft Skills and meetings

Most office workers agree meetings are a waste of time. How to fix the problem? Let's take a look at tech gurus' advice and comments of a Business School professor whether to follow it or not.



1. **Elon Musk:** "It's not rude to leave a meeting when you're not adding value".

The expert's comment: People leave meetings mentally by not paying attention but as businesses grow, the need to organise meetings increases.



2. **Jeff Bezos:** "Never have a meeting in which you wouldn't feed the whole group with two pizzas".

The expert's comment: It's true that small groups are more efficient than large ones.



3. **Mark Zuckerberg:** "A decision or a discussion? – the purpose of a meeting has to be clearly specified".

The expert's comment: Meetings that lack direction from the start are totally unproductive.



4. **Steve Jobs:** "People who know what they are talking about don't need PowerPoint".

The expert's comment: It's true; only data or graphs justify the use of PowerPoint.

The conclusion: **We need well-structured meetings to have communication and cooperation within a company. But we need to organize meetings when we really need them.**

Original article on: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-43821509>
Images: <https://commons.wikimedia.org>



Centrum Języków i Komunikacji

Centre of Languages and Communication

Centre of Languages and Communication has been present in the life of Poznan University of Technology for many years. Want to see how much you know about us?

1. Which anniversary did CLC celebrate this year?

- a) 55th
- b) 65th
- c) 70th
- d) 105th

2. What languages are taught at CLC?

- a) English, German, French, Russian, Spanish, Japanese
- b) English, German, French, Polish, Russian, Spanish
- c) English, German, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Japanese
- d) English, German, French, Polish, Russian, Spanish, Japanese

3. What events did the celebrations include?

- a) Open lectures, exhibitions, workshops, language competitions, a conference
- b) Open lectures, language competitions, a conference

- c) Workshops, language competitions, conferences
- d) Exhibitions, workshops, language competitions

4. What is the name of the certified exam issued by universities that belong to SERMO?

- a) GO-KART
- b) B-EXAM
- c) ACERT
- d) EX-CERT

5. Where can you find the CLC team?

- a) In the building with the clock
- b) In the Faculty of Electrical Engineering building
- c) In DS-4
- d) In the Faculty of Chemical Technology building

6. The logo of CLC has 2 colours. Which ones?

- a) Green + white
- b) Grey + white
- c) Black + white
- d) Blue + white

KEY: 1b, 2d, 3a, 4c, 5b, 6d