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## MU-PLEVEN HOSTED THE FIFTH EDITION OF 'DAY OF BIOETHICS'

For the fifth consecutive time Medical University - Pleven hosted the unique for our country scientific event "Day of Bioethics". It was first launched in 2014 at the initiative of Prof. Dr. Silvia Yankulovska, PhD, Dean of the Faculty of Public Health.

This year's Day of Bioethics was under the motto "Ethics and Medical Technologies" and was held on 19 April in Ambrose Pare Hall of the University's Telecommunications Center. Prof. Kenneth Goodman, founder and Director of the Institute of Bioethics at the Miller Medical School, part of the University of Miami, who is also among the founders of the North American Center for Ethics and Health Information Technologies as well as the Bioethics Network Manager in Florida, was the esteemed guest-lecturer at the Science Forum. Among the previous important guest-lecturers at the event are: Professor Hancock T. Chave (Doctor Honoris Causa of MU-Pleven,

University of Pittsburgh, USA), Prof. Luciana Cainaco (Padua University, Italy), Prof. Renzo Pethoraro (Papal Academy of Life and Donation) Lane for Bioethical Counseling, Padova) and Dr. Els Makelberg (University of Groningen, The Netherlands).

The well-paced organization of the scientific forum allowed the intensive program to be implemented within one day. All who professionally deal with bioethics, students, PhD students and specialists from various medical specialties, academics and the general public had the opportunity to listen to Professor Goodman's lectures as well as the reports of the other presenters - Assoc. Prof. Diana Pendicheva, 3<sup>rd</sup>-year Specialty of Medicine student, Ashraf Darvis and Chief Assistant Professor, Atanas Anov. The audience was challenged by the topics of the impact of cultural values on informed consent, the ethics of using placebo in experiments and health practice, and the ethical dimensions of bioprinting.



## MU-PLEVEN CELEBRATESD MAY 24<sup>TH</sup> WITH A SERIES OF EVENTS

For yet another year, Medical University - Pleven organized a celebration for students, teachers and employees on May 24<sup>th</sup> - the Day of Bulgarian Education and Culture and Slavonic Scripture. The celebration took place on May 22 in the Magnum Hall on the Second Clinical Base.

This year's celebration included a series of events - the "I Speak Bulgarian" competition award as well as the award ceremony for the "Most Distinguished Student 2018", while in the lobby the guests looked at one of the traveling exhibitions of BAS: 'Mila Rodino' ('My Dear Country'), arranged with the assistance of the Regional Academic Center - Pleven.

A number of artistic and musical performances were included in the celebration of



spirituality, presented by both the Bulgarian and International students of the Medical University - Pleven: Gena Stoykova, 5<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine"; Milen Kolev, 3<sup>rd</sup> year, "Assistant Pharmacist";



Svetlozar Hristov, "Assistant-Pharmacist"; Isabella Yaneva, 2<sup>nd</sup> year "Social Activities"; Sarah Wilson - 4<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine"; Vishnu Joshi -6<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine"; Ryan Sheaban - 4<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine"; Vassil Chapanov, graduate of "Medical rehabilitation and ergotherapy" specialty.

Among the organizers of the event were: Prof. Margarita Alexandrova, Deputy Rector of Academic Work; Nina Emilova - 6<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine"; Ivana Dimitrova -5<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine"; Theodor Ralev - 3<sup>th</sup> year,

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"Medicine"; Gabriela Gotseva – 2<sup>nd</sup> year, "Nursing".

The Rector of MU-Pleven, Prof. Slavcho Tomov presented the award "Most Distinguished Student 2018" for high achievements in the academic and scientific work of students to: Simoneta Krasimirova Ivanova – 2<sup>nd</sup> year, "Medicine"; Ayesha Nina Arora – 6<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine"; Alexandra Alexandrova Georgieva – 2<sup>nd</sup> year, "Pharmacy"; Slavene Valerieva Kabakchieva – 4<sup>th</sup> year, "Medical Rehabilitation and Ergotherapy"; Anna Hristova Yancheva – 3<sup>rd</sup> year, "Nursing"; Valya Yordanova Borisova – 2<sup>nd</sup> year, "Social Activities".

Ibrahim Mumun, an International student of "Medicine" – 4<sup>th</sup> year, received the grand prize in the "I Speak Bulgarian" competition.

The Special Award of the Rector for Long-lasting Achievement in Academia and Research was awarded to Sylvia Darinova Dimitrova – 5<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine" and Azhar Khan – 6<sup>th</sup> year, "Medicine".



## MU-PLEVEN PARTICIPATED IN A PROCESSION, CELEBRATING THE DAY OF BULGARIAN CULTURE AND EDUCATION

The students of MU-Pleven participated in a festive procession, organized by the Pleven Municipality, on the occasion of May 24<sup>th</sup> - the Day of Bulgarian Education and Culture and the Slavonic Literature. The event, which included teachers, students, representatives of cultural institutes and citizens, took place on May 24<sup>th</sup> on the main street and reached the bas-relief of the Holy Brothers Cyril and Methodius. Students and lecturers from the four faculties and the Medical College of the University joined the procession there. They formed the second ray of the procession, which started at 10.00 am from the Rectorate building of MU-Pleven. After the solemn ritual at 11.00 am and the delivery of flowers and wreaths to the bas-relief, the attendants headed for the stairs of the District Administration Building against the Big Fountain. The celebrations continued with choral performance of "Varvi Narode Vazrodeni", which included 11 choral formations.



## THE 'I SPEAK BULGARIAN' COMPETITION TOOK PLACE AT MU-PLEVEN

On May 11, 2018 in Pleven, a contest took place, titled "I Speak Bulgarian", dedicated to May 24 - the Day of Bulgarian Education and Culture and the Slavonic scrip. The competition was organized by the Lecturers in the Bulgarian Language section at DLSE in a four-round format: Round 1: Presentation "Me and Bulgaria"; Round 2: Doctors-Patient conversation; Round 3: "Bulgaria and Bulgarian Language" and Round 4: "Medicine".

The participants showed excellent knowledge of the language, Bulgarian culture as well as various medical issues. After the three elimination rounds, the two students to reach the final were Ibrahim Mamun and Ryan Sheaban, 4<sup>th</sup> year Medicine students. The final winner of the competition and award of the "I Speak Bulgarian" competition was Ibrahim Mumun.



## UNIQUE EXHIBITION AT MU-PLEVEN



The 'Mila Rodino' (*My Dear Country*) Art & Documentary Exhibition, dedicated to the 155th anniversary of the birth of the creator of the Bulgarian national anthem, Tsvetan Radoslavov, was opened in Plevna on 22 May as an additional event in the program of the Medical University - Plevna on the occasion of the solemn celebration of May 24<sup>th</sup>.

The organizers of the exhibition are: The Scientific Archive of BAS, The Historical Museum, The Art Gallery "N.

Pavlovich" and "Tsvetan Radoslavov" High School from the city of Svishtov, supported by the National Museum of Fine Arts, the Golden Fund of the Bulgarian National Radio and the Central State Archives of the Archives State Agency. The exhibition is presented with the assistance of the Regional Academic Center of BAS - Plevna with coordinator Prof. Teodora Valova.



## TWO MAJOR DONATIONS FOR THE CHILDREN'S CLINIC AT UMCHAT "DR. GEORGI STRANSKI", PLEVEN

Children from the Children's Clinic at the University Hospital "Dr. Georgi Stranski", Plevna can now enjoy the new hospital acquisition - children's musical playground for outdoor play, donation of a social project "Margaritka" (Daisy) and the national initiative "Tales without End".

The official opening of the children's musical playground at "Dr. Georgi Stranski" University Hospital - Plevna was on 16 May at 1 pm. Together with the Executive Director of the



hospital, Assoc. Prof. Tsvetan Lukanov, the band was cut by the representatives of the social project "Margaritka" and the national initiative "Tales without End".

The musical steps and the luminous, rocking bench are innovative facilities specially developed for the common cause of the two charities and are the first of their kind in Bulgaria. They will bring joy and smiles to the children, treated at the University Hospital "Dr. Georgi Stranski" - Plevna.

Besides the charitable project of "Margaritka" and "Tales without End" initiatives, another donation was received by the Children's Clinic at June 1, 2018. The donation was courtesy of the ladies at Lions Club, who provided funds for the interior refurbishing of the clinic. Two families - Anita Hinkova and Genadi Todorov as well as Ilyian Yonchev and his wife - Dr. Yoana Ivanova also participated by donating various medical equipment for the neonatology and intensive care sectors of the Clinic.



## MU-PLEVEN HAS STARTED TO ACCEPT THE APPLICATION DOCUMENTS OF STUDENT CANDIDATES AIMING FOR A SPOT IN 'MEDICINE' AND 'PHARMACY' DEGREES

From June 14, 2018, the admission of applications of students for the regular examinations for the Master's and Bachelor's degrees at MU-Plevna has officially begun. Candidate students have three options for submission of papers for examination and for participation in the ranking - electronically, through the University's website; locally, by visiting room 106 at the Rectorate building or in one of the specially designated locations all over the country.

The Medical University of Plevna offers training for a total of 513 students in 14 specialties, 4 Master's and 10

Bachelor's programs in 5 professional fields - medicine, pharmacy, health care, public health and social activities.

For the first time in its history, Medical University - Plevna (MU-Plevna) has held 'on-location' examinations for its Bachelor degrees. The candidate students had the opportunity to take a biology test for the Bachelor's degrees and Professional Bachelor's degrees in the towns of Montana and Vidin, allowing for unparalleled ease of access to the examination process.



# MU-PLEVEN HOSTED THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL HIFU CONFERENCE

The Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Krassimir Valchev was an official guest at the opening of the Second International HIFU Conference on June 8, 2018 in Pleven. The aim of the forum was to make a final report on the results of the bilateral research project, "Exploring the Possibilities of HIFU Technology for Treatment of Minor Diseases in Bulgarian and Chinese Patients as a Non-Invasive Alternative to the Surgical Method." The project is funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China and the Science Fund at the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria. Project partners are Medical University - Pleven, the HIFU Center at the University Hospital "Sveta Marina", Pleven and Second Associated Hospital at the Medical University, Chongqing, China.

During the conference, the team of the HIFU Center at the University Hospital "Sveta Marina" - Pleven, with Prof. Dr. Dobromir Dimitrov, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, presented the 5 years of experience in the application of the non-invasive medical therapy which leads to ablation (melting) of a neoplasm through a directed ultrasound wave with unique precision. Assoc. Prof. Dimitrov shared with the attendees of the HIFU conference the results of treating over 500 cases of benign and malignant solid tumors. The therapy is organ-preserving without conventional surgical intervention - without incisions, without blood loss, with minimal risk of infection and lack of operational stress. In HIFU centers with extensive experience around the world, the risk of complications for the patient is reduced to less than 0.5%.



## 500 PATIENTS HAVE BEEN TREATED WITH FOCUSED ULTRASOUND SURGERY AT THE HIFU CENTER, PLEVEN

A total of 500 patients have been treated with focused ultrasound surgery (a non-invasive technology) at HIFU Center "Sveta Marina", Pleven for a 5-year period - from the end of 2012. This is the official data, summarized by the team of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dobromir Dimitrov, Medical Manager of the HIFU Center and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at MU-Pleven. Of all patients with benign growths, 394 were diagnosed with uterine fibroids, 26 with breast fibroids

and female genital diseases. 50 patients with pancreatic cancer were treated (in combination with chemotherapy), 7 with liver malignancies, 5 with kidney cancer, 5 with breast cancer, and 5 with soft-tissue sarcomas. During these years, at the HIFU center, Pleven, patients from over 14 countries such as Germany, Greece, Poland, Canada, USA, Italy, Romania, Spain and others were treated.

invasive medical therapy in which ablation (melting) of the neoplasm is achieved by a directed ultrasonic wave with unique precision. Therapy is fundamentally health-conserving, without the need of a conventional surgical intervention - without incisions, without blood loss, with minimal risk of infection and lack of operational stress.

The HIFU center at UMHAT "Sveta Marina" - Pleven was opened in December 2012 and today it has a team of five highly qualified physicians, specializing in the work with the two HIFU machines, the JC model for ablation of solid lesions in various areas of the human body and the CZF apparatus for non-invasive treatment of surface lesions of external female genitalia. Members of the HIFU Center team have produced and published 7 scientific articles in reputable international magazines. They are also partners in three international projects, with reports made at more than 10 international scientific forums, some of which in Germany, Hungary, China, Spain, Italy, Taiwan and others. In addition, HIFU members have participated in more than 20 national congresses and conferences on surgery, oncology, imaging as well as various student forums. Three dissertation theses in the field of HIFU treatment are currently being developed.



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Focused ultrasound surgery is a revolutionary, radically new approach to the treatment of neoplasms in the human body (tumors) - both benign and malignant. The acronym HIFU is most commonly used, deriving its meaning from "High Intensity Focused Ultrasound" in English. This is a completely non-



## THE CITY OF PLEVEN TOOK PART IN THE NATIONAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN, FOCUSED AROUND THE WORLD HYPERTENSION DAY

The World Hypertension Day - May 17, was celebrated for the 12th time in 11 cities in the country with a national health campaign. The initiative was initiated by the Bulgarian League of Hypertension in partnership with the Bulgarian Red Cross, the National Heart for Heart Network, the Association of Medical Students in Bulgaria, Microlife Bulgaria and others.

Three gathering points were organized in Pleven - at the entrance of Kailuka Park, Skobelev Park and in the city center. At those points, students from the Medical University - Pleven measured the blood pressure of patients with Microlife

medical equipment, which has Afib technology, which takes into account the presence of atrial fibrillation (the most common type of arrhythmia which increases the risk of strokes and heart attacks).

Within the framework of the campaign, consultations and free examinations of patients by highly-qualified cardiologists were organized in the reception room of the Clinic of Cardiology on 17 and 18 May.



## PLEVEN'S MULTIPROFILE HOSPITAL FOR SPECIALIZED TREATMENT, DR. GEORGI STRAKSI, CELEBRATED THE INTERNATIONAL NURSING DAY

With a practical forum for health care professionals, UMHAT 'Dr. Georgi Stranski' - Pleven celebrated May 12 - the International Day of Nursing. The day was defined as such in 1935 by the International Nursing Committee, but began to be celebrated in 1965 in all countries. May 12 marks the birthday of Florence Nightingale, considered the founder of modern nursing and one of the 100 most influential women of all time.

The forum in UMHAT-Pleven was under the motto "International Day of Nursing - Caring for You".



## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH DAY AT MU - PLEVEN



"Zachatie" (Conception) Association organized its traditional Day of Reproductive Health. This year the event was held in Pleven on 9 June 2018 at 11:00 am in the building of the Regional Administration. 2018 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> year since the birth of the first in vitro baby in Bulgaria, therefore the motto of the forum was "30 years in vitro in Bulgaria". The main topic of the information session was "Assisted Reproduction in Bulgaria - Past, Present and Future". The program included presentations reflecting the important events in the history of Bulgarian reproductive medicine as well as the latest trends in its development, the advanced methods and achievements in the diagnostics and treatment of infertility.



## A PREVENTIVE CARDIOLOGY AND REHABILITATION SCIENTIFIC FORUM WAS HELD IN PLEVEN



The National Conference on Preventive Cardiology and Rehabilitation took place in Pleven from May 11<sup>th</sup> to May 13<sup>th</sup>. Organizer of the event was Prof. Dr. Snezhana Tisheva, PhD, Head of the Clinic of Cardiology at "Dr. Georgi Stranski" University Hospital. The initial idea of the event came from the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria.

During the forum, topics related to the early detection of high blood pressure, the influence of diabetes on the heart, early control and management of patients with cardiovascular diseases and their rehabilitation were discussed.

The forum in Pleven gathered leading experts from the country to discuss early diagnosis of risk factors. "Our goal is to focus people's attention on a particular condition that has long been neglected - 'familial hypercholesterolemia'", said Prof. Tishiva.



## A SCREENING PROGRAM FOR EARLY DIAGNOSTICS OF RHEUMATOLOGICAL DISEASES HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED IN PLEVEN

Between 18 May and 18 June, a Screening Program for Rheumatologic Diseases designed for people of working age, where early diagnosis is essential, took place in Pleven. Pleven is the second of seven cities in the country where the

program is being implemented. Within a time-frame of one month, all willing citizens Pleven, aged 18 to 50, could register for a free examination.



## FREE NEUROLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS WERE AVAILABLE AT THE CLINIC OF NEUROLOGY AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL DR. GEORGI STRANSKI, PLEVEN

Until June 25, 2018, the Clinic of Neurology at the University Hospital "Dr. Georgi Stranski" organized free examinations for people of active age. Patients over 50 years of age with an increased risk of cerebrovascular accident had the opportunity to undergo a comprehensive study

including a targeted neurological history of current complaints (headache, dizziness, decreased ability to concentrate, memory impairment, family history), blood pressure measurement and neurological examination detection of discrete neurological symptoms.



## PROF. SILVIA YANKULOVSKA SHARED HER EXPERIENCE OF THE ERASMUS+ PROGRAM

Prof. Yankulovska: "From 22nd to 28th April 2018, I had the chance to visit Bratislava not only as a tourist but also a lecturer, welcomed with enthusiasm and incredible respect by the staff of the Institute of Social Medicine and Medical Ethics of the largest university in Slovakia, Comenius University.

The preparation for this teaching exchange within the framework of the Erasmus + program started more than a year earlier, when I applied for participation and I chose the desired institution. Contact was established with the host country and the contact person provided me with a summary of the training courses and curriculum content, respectively, to identify my own fields of expertise and to offer relevant topics for lectures and seminars.

I was later delighted to see my lectures and seminars included in the official curriculum of the students' courses, which was announced on the Institute's information board.

My work program started with a meeting with the staff of the Institute of Social Medicine and Medical Ethics. During the entirety of my stay, I exchanged information about my work commitments, my qualification, the contingent of students from foreign countries, the practices of admission in Medicine, the requirements for completing the courses in Social Medicine and Medical Ethics.

I was also personally accepted by EIM Vice-Rector, Professor Ostarnikova, with whom we discussed difficulties in accrediting university degrees, adapting student

schedules to Erasmus+ mobility and differences in the legal framework for the development of academic staff in Slovakia and in Bulgaria. Ideas surfaced for the development of scientific and educational projects within the framework of the Erasmus + program, in which MU-Pleven still has no experience, but Komenius University has already successfully completed a similar project.

This was my first Erasmus+ teaching opportunity, but my positive experiences make me more optimistic that I will be able to do this in other academic institutions and thus enrich my life and professional experience."



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## AWARDS FOR MU-PLEVEN REPRESENTATIVES AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY SPORTS TOURNAMENT 2018

In the period 27.04 - 02.05 in the village of Ravda the Universiade (National University Sports Tournament) 2018 took place. A total of 70 contestants participated, 23 of them were representatives of the Medical University - Pleven. Varied sports events were held: basketball 3x3, beach volleyball, beach soccer, chess, table tennis, tennis.

The Medical University of Pleven was ranked second (Silver Champion) in the overall lists - after the hosts of the Medical University - Sofia.

Faced with difficult competition, the athletes from the Medical University - Pleven did not disappoint their fans. In individual chess, table tennis and tennis, our competitors showed high class and convincingly won gold and silver medals.

In the 3x3 basketball tournament, for men and women, our athletes excelled in shooting precision and team co-ordination. This gave them convincing victories with a big difference in points as well as the overall cup and the championship titles.

The women's volleyball team of MU-Pleven was awarded silver medals, while the beach volleyball team grabbed the bronze.





## THE ALUMNUS OF MU-PLEVEN, DR. YORDAN HRISTOV WON THE FIRST PLACE IN THE CATEGORY "SUCCESS IN THE SPHERE OF MEDICINE" AT THE "YOUNG LEADERS OF PLEVEN" COMPETITION



The "Young Leaders of Pleven" project, initiated by Jordan Gryzov and the local municipality, aims to nominate those young people between the ages of 16 and 33 who have achieved tremendous success and contributed to the development of the city by changing its future.

For a month, on a specially created site, nominations for young

people from the Pleven region were collected, which could be considered an inspiration for all young people in Pleven.

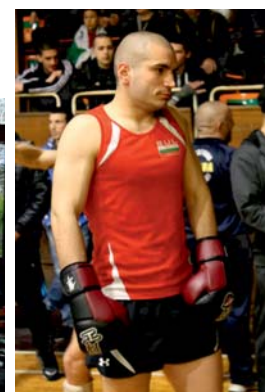
The alumnus of MU-Pleven, Dr. Yordan Hristov, who graduated as a valedictorian in 2016 and was awarded the Golden Hippocrates Prize, won first place in the category "Medical successes".



## ADDITIONAL AWARDS FOR MU-PLEVEN REPRESENTATIVES AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY SPORTS TOURNAMENT 2018

Emil Stanchev, student at Medical University - Pleven, won both silver and bronze medals in the prestigious edition of the National University Sports Tournament 2018 in Sofia in the category below 89 kg, kickboxing.

Table tennis contestants Venice Valcheva and Simona Avramova defeated the teams of the Technical University - Sofia and Shumen University and ranked seventh.



## THE FIRST OF ITS KIND PRACTICAL TRAINING COURSE IN FETAL MEDICINE WAS HELD AT UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL 'ST. MARINA', PLEVEN

For the first time in Bulgaria, the Fetal Medicine Foundation, through the employ and help of three certified specialists from the Association of Maternal and Fetal Medicine, held a training and practical course on fetal morphology for obstetricians and gynecologists in the high-tech facilities of the University Hospital "St. Marina" - Pleven. The lecturers are specialists in fetal medicine in Bulgaria, trained at the Royal College of London, students and followers of Prof. Nicolaidis, the pioneer of fetal medicine and Doctor Honoris Causa at Medical University - Pleven. The audience of the seminar included 27 specialists in obstetrics and gynecology, working at University Hospital "St. Marina" - Pleven and "Dr. Georgi Stranski" University Hospital - Pleven. One of them will have the opportunity to be sent to a specialization in fetal morphology under the leadership of Prof. Kipros Nikolaidis at the Royal College in London.

The participants in the seminar are the first Bulgarian obstetrician-gynecologists who have obtained a certificate of completion of a training course in fetal morphology at the Royal College in London, signed by the father of fetal medicine Prof. Kipros Nikolaidis.



## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP OF MU-PLEVEN WAS HELD ON 26 APRIL 2018

At the General Assembly of the Medical University - Pleven, on 26 April 2018 in the Magnum Hall of the Second Clinical Base, The Rector of MU-Pleven, Prof. Dr. Slavcho Tomov presented a report on the Academic Management of the Higher School for the first year of the second 4-year term of the current general



management. The General Assembly of the academic community is held once every year and is lead by its Chairman, Assoc. Prof. Ivan Lalev, Head of the Postgraduate Training Center at MU-Pleven. The Assembly includes a total of 188 delegates, of whom the largest quota is dedicated for tenured members - 132 Professors and Associate Professors, as well as 23 Assistant Professors, 28 PhD and Master's students and 5 representatives of the administration. Prof. Slavcho Tomov highlighted the impressive results achieved in all major fields of activity of the University - education, research, European integration and international cooperation, as well as economic and financial activities.

The Rector did not fail to mention the fact that by decision of the Government of October 4, 2017, "St. Marina" - Pleven acquired a University Hospital status, expanding the clinical base for research and training of students and postgraduates while providing them access to state-of-the-art equipment. For the purpose of training, the Virtual Room of the Telecommunications Endoscopic Center is now equipped with the new generation virtual training machines to help specialists and students master practical skills in minimally invasive surgery.

As for the students themselves, it was further noted that of the international students admitted in February 2018, for



the first time the largest number come from Italy - 123, followed by Great Britain - 75, India - 51, Germany - 17, Japan - 9, Greece - 9, forming a colorful, multi-national community.

In the field of scientific research and cooperation, the Gallery of Contracts for European and International Cooperation of the university was enriched with a Memorandum of Partnership between MU-Pleven and one of the largest medical universities in China - Chongqing Medical University, focusing specifically on research and education.

Additionally, in 2017 there was a high level of activity in the organization of international and national scientific forums at MU-Pleven. One of the brilliant examples is the organization of the emblematic for the 15th International University Scientific Conference for Students and Young Physicians, 09-14 October 2017 in the Telecommunications Endoscopic Center.



## 'EXACTA MEDICA' MEDICAL CENTER OPENED A NEW BRANCH IN PLEVEN

On 11 May, the day of the holy brothers Cyril and Methodius, a new branch of Exacta Medica Medical Center opened its doors. It is situated in the completely renovated and modernized building of the former Banya 2, on "Hristo Yassenov" Street. The health investment was carried out by the Medical Center "Exacta Medicka" in cooperation with "TASSI" Ltd.

The official opening of the new healthcare branch was attended by the National Representative Vladislav Nikolov, the District Governor Miroslav Petrov and his deputy, Dr Krasimir Trifonov; the Chairman of the Municipal Council of Pleven, Martin Mitev and the municipal Councilors as well as the Deputy Mayor of Pleven, Arch. Neviana Ivancheva, the Rector of MU-Pleven, Prof. Slavcho Tomov; the Director of RZI-Pleven, Dr. Atanas Garev; representatives of health institutions, doctors, friends, partner companies, etc.



## PROF. DR. SLAVCHO TOMOV, MD, RECTOR OF MU-PLEVEN WAS AWARDED THE 'HONORABLE CITIZEN OF PLEVEN' TITLE

On May 15, Pleven celebrates its holiday. The city welcomed official delegations from six twin cities - Rostov on Don - Russia, Bitola and Kavadarci - Macedonia, Plock - Poland, Braila - Romania and Bursa - Turkey.

On the festive day in the Hall of Acts and Arts at the Municipality of Pleven, the first of its kind solemn session of the Municipal Council took place, during which the titles "Honorable Citizen of the Municipality of Pleven" were awarded. Among the invited guests were: the Archbishop Ignatius of Pleven, all MPs from the constituency and representatives of the state authorities as well as other



Honorable citizens of Pleven. The former mayors of Pleven Andrei Romanov, Petko Tsolov and Ivan Ninov, as well as the deputies Stefan Burdjev, Chavdar Velinov, Vladislav Nikolov and Ralitsa Dobrova were among the guests to honor the ceremony. By decisions of the Municipal Council of Pleven on April 27, Ivan Mindilikov - Mayor of Pleven from 1924 to 1931, and Prof. Dr. Slavcho Tomov - Rector of the

Medical University, were awarded with the title "Honorable Citizen of Pleven Municipality".

After the award ceremony, Prof. Tomov addressed the attendees at the municipality Hall: "I am definitely excited and feel honored because of how unexpected and surprising the award was for me." He pointed out that Plev en h a d m a n y outstanding Bulgarians, and each of them could be titled an Honorable citizen.



## THE SECOND, TWO-DAY INTERACTIVE SEMINAR FROM 'CYCLE 2' OF THE PROJECT FOR PROMOTING THE GROWTH OF DOCTORS, DOCTORAL STUDENTS AND YOUNG RESEARCHERS WAS HELD IN RIBARITSA

On June 2 and 3, 2018 in the village of Ribaritsa, Lovech region, the second two-day interactive seminar of Cycle 2 of project № BG05M2OP001-2.009-0031-C01 "Establishment of a training center for PhD students, post-graduates, and young scientists at the Faculty of Medicine at MU-Pleven" under the Operational Program "Science and Education for Smart Growth 2014-2020" was held. The project is under the Operational Program "Science and Education for Smart Growth" 2014-2020, co-funded by the European Union through the European Structural and Investment Funds.

The training was focused on "Preparation of research

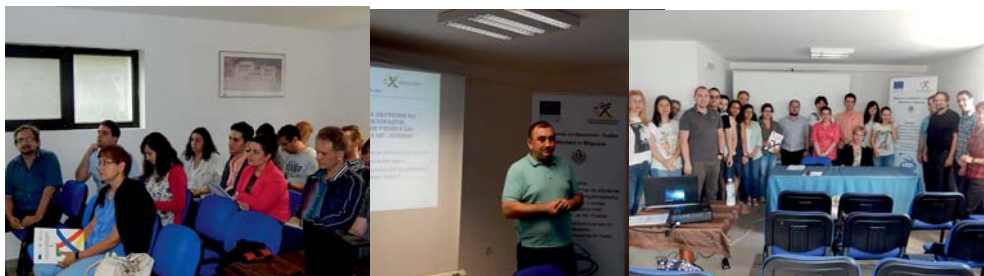
projects, technology transfer and intellectual property management" under Action 3 "Conducting training for participation and preparation of research projects, current proposals, technology transfer and intellectual property management".

It included the new target group of the Project, consisting of 25 young scientists.

The audience of young doctors was provided with useful information from leading lecturers on the Project, which will be vital for their scientific and academic development and growth. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dobromir Dimitrov, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, explained to both doctoral students and young scientists the concepts of transfer of knowledge and technology transfer, giving them interesting examples from the European and world practice.

During the practical workshop,

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titled "Workshop for Projects" the participants were divided into four working groups, which were under the guidance of their respective mentors - Prof. Maria Sredkova, Assoc. Prof. Dobromir Dimitrov, Assoc. Prof. Pencho Tonchev and Assoc. Prof. Tsvetelina Valentinova and were required to

prepare project proposals. The young scientists presented and later defended their proposals, and the moderators rated some of them as having great potential for success when participating in a competitive procedure.

## THE 'ST. ELISAVETA' IN VITRO CENTER ORGANIZED A CELEBRATION TO MARK JUNE 1ST

On the World Children's Day, nearly 200 children conceived in vitro or using other reproductive therapies gathered at the square in front of the Center. The whole neighborhood was filled with happy children's laughter and the joyful children's voices. Families from Sofia, Varna, Ruse, Razgrad, Montana, Silistra, Stara Zagora, Plovdiv, Nessebar, Bourgas, Vratsa, Gabrovo, Pernik, Troyan, Veliko Tarnovo and Pleven brought their offspring to the event. Two children from Strumica, Macedonia together with their parents traveled the long way from Macedonia to Pleven to meet and thank their doctors, midwives and embryologists.

The Mayor of the city, Mr. Georg Spartanski, attended the celebration for a third consecutive year. He greeted the children and their parents and wished them all to be healthy, smiling and happy, and to grow up with fun games and interesting activities. The mayor thanked the team of the KMC - Pleven and Dr. Emilia Konova personally for the Center's wonderful initiative because the children need constant care, love and attention.



## THE 'ST. ELISAVETA' IN VITRO CENTER ORGANIZED: 'METABOLIC SYNDROME WEEK'

From 18 to 22 June 2018, 'ST. ELISAVETA' reproductive center - Pleven held free consultations with a specialist-endocrinologist for patients with reproductive problems (e.g. polycystic ovary syndrome and sperm parameters in men). The campaign is organized in conjunction with the increased incidence of Metabolic Syndrome (MS) in these patients. It is a combination of risk factors - high blood pressure, increased blood sugar, elevated cholesterol levels, and obesity, mainly in the trunk area (the abdomen).

Within the campaign, all eligible patients received preferential prices for investigations and procedures, such as: waist circumference, triglyceride levels, total cholesterol, blood pressure, fasting blood sugar, fasting immune-reactive insulin, HOMA assessment of insulin resistance, etc.



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