

EL@RA CONFERENCE ://Tech²_EDU_Tech_Logical/UNivers_es!

“Technologies and Techniques to Support Sustainable Education in the Academic Sphere”

This research event seeks to encourage a critical dialogue between students, academics and researchers. We aim to promote the student voice within the context of sustainability with a student-centered approach. We also intend to popularise, inspire and share best practices with the purpose of questioning and exploring how to further enhance the learning, teaching and research experience of academics, researchers and students in a digital environment. The event aims to offer a creative space vibrant with participants’ voices debating over innovation and change, thus building a bridge between past achievements, knowledge and expertise, on the one hand, and further investigation, on the other. It is strongly believed that by drawing attention to key educational and pedagogical issues, this academic event will undoubtedly inspire each one of the participants with a clearer vision of the future developments in their respective professional and scientific fields. We are also convinced that the forum will be successful in communicating its message to wider audiences, thus generating stronger public interest by presenting an attractive image of modern science and education, empowered by the innovative technologies as an indispensable part of the teaching, learning and research process in the shared European educational space.

Organizers: Technical University of Sofia, Technological University Dublin & EUT+ Partners

Venue: Technical University of Sofia

Mode: Hybrid

- **On-site (at the National Centre for Mechatronics and Clean Technologies, TU – Sofia; Block 8, Prof. Tsvetan Lazarov Hall**
- **Online (on ZOOM)**

Dates: 14 and 15 December 2022

Application for participation: a title and an abstract of the presentation (to be submitted by 30 November 2022 to one of the following e-mail addresses):

1. i_peekv@tu-sofia.bg
2. todobg@tu-sofia.bg

Participation fee: *None*

Working languages: *English, Bulgarian*

Submission of papers for publication: *by 28 February 2023*

Organizing committee:

Assoc. Prof. Ivaylo Peev, PhD – TU-Sofia
Prof. Velta Lubkina, Dr Habil. – Riga Technical University
Lucia Morales, PhD, TU – Dublin
Patrick Flynn – TU – Dublin
Maria Victoria Soule, PhD – Cyprus University of Technology
Elis Kakoulli Constantinou, PhD – Cyprus University of Technology
Maria Christoforou – Cyprus University of Technology
Lia Pop, PhD – Technical University of Cluj-Napoca
Nadia Barkoczi, PhD – Technical University of Cluj-Napoca
Inna Mikhailova, PhD – Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences
Sen. Lect. Todor Todorov – TU-Sofia
Sen. Lect. Bistra Vassileva – TU-Sofia
Sen. Lect. Vessela Frengova – TU-Sofia
Eng. Marin Marinov – TU-Sofia

Scientific committee:

Prof. Eng. Ivan Kralov, PhD, DSc – TU-Sofia
Prof. Eng. Lyubomir Dimitrov, PhD – TU-Sofia
Assoc. Prof. Lidia Galabova, PhD – TU-Sofia
Assoc. Prof. Galya Mateva, PhD, TU – Sofia
Prof. Nelly Ivanova, Dr Habil. – Sofia University “St Kliment Ohridski”
Assoc. Prof. Vessela Slavova, PhD – NSA “Vassil Levski”

The conference “Technologies and Techniques to Support Sustainable Education in the Academic Sphere” is an annual pedagogical forum dedicated to discussing a wide range of contemporary methods, methodologies and teaching practices in higher education, the related information and communication technologies, as well as the pedagogical techniques employed by academics in higher education. The event is open to all educators from technical and humanities higher education institutions who are willing to share their scholarly work and experience arising out of the applied and theoretical research in the field of higher education pedagogy.

The special focus of this year’s edition will be on encouraging reflection on the teaching experience gained in a digital environment, the implementation of best practices, as well as on proposing solutions to their sustainable integration, leading to the development of pedagogical and methodological models interrelated with technology as an essential part of the pedagogical interaction in the 21-st century.

Suggested topics:

1. Traditional pedagogy versus innovative pedagogy;
2. Education and Technology: positive experience / negative experience;
3. Is the student / PhD student more knowledgeable than the lecturer usually assumes?;
4. Important, interesting, pragmatic versus archaic, boring, theoretical in contemporary teaching;
5. The student – the PhD student – the academic – co-creators of the New pedagogy;
6. Technologies and Techniques to Support Sustainable Education in Technological Universities;
7. The importance of pedagogy for doctoral students – the missing link?

The participation includes making a presentation (up to 10 minutes). Authors are asked to submit a title and an abstract (**150 words**) of their presentations **by 30 November 2022** which will be published in a printed book, as well as in an electronic format on the event website.

The forum will be livestreamed on YouTube. Within two months of the scientific event (**by 28 February 2023**), the participants will be able to submit papers which will be published in a special reviewed edition of the scientific journal “Proceedings of TU-Sofia” in an electronic format. There will also be an option for a monograph published by the EUT+ Academic Press.

The event will be publicised on the TU-Sofia website, in the University newspaper and by the media partners of the TU-Sofia. It will also be accompanied by two exhibitions:

- **A sculpture exhibition “Technological spaces” (The Labour of Sisyphus)**, a kinetic metal sculpture installation.
Author: Georgi Velikov
Venue: Foyer, Block 8, TU-Sofia
Opening: 14.12.2022.
- **A design and painting exhibition “Design Techniques”** – painting, textile, glass, installation. Author: Prof. Maria Evtimova, PhD
Venue: *TEHNE* Art Gallery
Opening: 15.12.2022.

Contact persons:

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