

Rector's speech to the opening of the academic year 2009-2010

As always at the beginning of October we are together, because "together" represents our faith in God and because this university being built together over the years, is a prestigious institution of higher education, a strong institution, based on the fundamental aspiration of our entire academic community to build in Arad an institution of higher education quality in spite of overt obstructions, even ostentatious, sometimes. We are convinced that God is above us all and only God has made the "miracle" called the University "Aurel Vlaicu". Why "miracle"? Because the University "Aurel Vlaicu" currently has an impressive material basis: 42,221 m², a professional staff of high professionalism, the Council ARACIS has granted our university "high confidence", on no conditions, without monitoring for 5 years. After almost two years of evaluation, involving 28 experts ARACIS, obtaining this, is one of the most important success of our institution and confirms its international recognition. An audit conducted by NAFA and a control ARACIS put beyond doubt the correctness of UAV's activity in educational, administrative, managerial level, provided that UAV was recently the target of unprecedented attacks, with complaints from all authorized institutions.

The University "Aurel Vlaicu" has developed, year after year, new specializations, with new faculties, which meet the terms of quality standards. The academic year 2009/2010 marks the establishment of the Faculty of Design and the specializations: psychology, computer science, economics, marketing, and fashion and fashion design. Thus the beginning of academic year UAV has: 9 departments, 38 specialties license, 19 Master programs, field IOSUD (Institution organizing PhD studies) in Philology, 12 departments.

A fundamental dimension of higher education is the scientific research. In the 2008-2009 academic year scientific research has accelerated in comparison with previous years. It can be underlined that in 2008 UAV submitted in 9 international research projects and 7 national research projects. Of these, 8 international projects and 5 national projects have won. The value of research contracts funded by the national competition was 2,027,202 RON and of the international projects was 52,350 USD.

During 2008, 30 articles were published in internationally recognized journals, ISI Web of Science, 13 articles in journals indexed in international databases, 84 papers published in international conferences ISI indexed volumes, 45 articles published in journals recognized by NURC - Class B +, 52 articles published in journals recognized by the NURC - Class B 104 books, representing a total of 26,135 pages, published in the national publishing house, recognized NURC, 5 books (558 pages) published in the international publishing prestige, and 1 patent / products with intellectual property right. Most of the papers, 16 studies were published by professors from the Faculty of Food Engineering and Environment Protection with a relative factor of 13.248, followed by the Faculty of Engineering with a number of 13 works and a relative factor of 8.052 and 6 studies in BDI, the Faculty of Engineering has 13 articles and a relative factor of 8.052 and 7 works in BDI, the Faculty of Exact Sciences has 1 work in BDI article published and a relative factor of 1.000 adjusted.

Regarding the situation of books published in prestigious international publishing lies in first place throughout the Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection of 278 numbers of pages published, followed by the Faculty of Engineering with 264 pages and the Faculty of Humanities 16 pages.

Concerning the financial resources gained, the Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection is in the first place with an amount of 819,537RON, followed by the Faculty of Engineering with 721,885 RON, Faculty of Education and Social Assistance 259,600 RON, the

Faculty of Economics with 224,180 RON and the Faculty of Economics in 2000 RON.

International visibility is reflected not only by the number of publications in journals published in international databases and books published in prestigious international publishing projects but also in international competitions and the amounts drawn from international funds. Thus, the Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection drew 26,400 RON, and the Faculty of Engineering has attracted an amount of 25,950 RON for the academic year 2008/2009.

Of particular importance is the gaining of a research project funded by the European Union Framework Program 7. The project is won by Prof..Dr. Florentina-Daniela Munteanu, with an international consortium. The project "Folate-based nanobiodevices for integrated diagnosis / therapy targeting chronic inflammatory diseases - NANOFOL will receive funding of around 7 million euros in the 7th Framework Program for Research and Development of the European Union, of which the University " Aurel Vlaicu "of Arad will return nearly half a million euros. The consortium has 13 partners based on 8 European countries and the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad was chosen as a partner both on the expertise of researchers involved and because of special laboratory facilities for research in the UAV. Currently, some carrying the necessary equipment for the project is found only in the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad, which proves that this university has equipped laboratory facilities more developed than in other European universities. Aforementioned project is based on an innovative strategy in nanotechnologies to diagnose and treat rheumatoid arthritis, a chronic inflammatory disease affecting only in Europe more than 2 million people. This disease is characterized by a continuous process inflammatory of synovial joints (eg knees), is likely auto-immune and can lead to joint destruction and even the bone.

Currently available treatments are associated with serious side effects including serious infections and the possibility of developing cancerous tumors. Therefore, in this project one of the main objectives is to achieve more effective treatments based on nanodispozitive with local action and also the most powerful anti-inflammatory effects and controlled. Thus, it reduces unwanted effects of treatment and improves the cost-benefit of treatments.

Another international project that is run in the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad is with the European Commission by DG SANCO (Director General for Health and Consumer Protection) and supports and implements in the 27 EU Member States the project DOLCETA - Developing of On Line Consumer Education Tools for Adults (Developing Online Tools for Consumer Education Adult) transformed in time "Online Consumer Education". The University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad, more exactly, Prof. Dorin Herlo is the national coordinator of the project. This project is developing an e-learning system for training and educating consumers primarily through existing site on public www.dolceta.eu, which facilitates for learners the training skills necessary to compare products and services in the market to decide what to buy and to defend their legitimate rights as consumers. Public site now includes four modules. The first two modules of consumer rights and financial services are structured on three levels - for those ignorant of the field, for those less knowledgeable and connoisseurs - and each level of the section, subsection and articles content information, followed by examples and tests (quiz s).

Module 3- the consumer safety- offers the user the opportunity to inform and teach the legal aspects of safety and security products, categories of products, dangerous imitations, the safety of products used in home, garden, at work, in leisure and public roads and also some advice and support: eg, see the case of poisoning.

Module 4, teacher's area, offers students in the primary and the secondary and high schools, and adults especially teachers, educators, teachers, schoolmasters, teachers, trainers, etc.. to be educated on-line or using tools designed in this way in the area of financial management, safety and consumer health,

consumer responsibility and the services consumers.

Of particular importance is the project financed by the Sectoral Operational Programme - Human Resources Development. Thus, a project of almost 14 billion old lei, aimed at combating discrimination runs in this institution. The project is part of a more comprehensive project, with a total funding of almost 140 billion lei, of which 10% lies in Arad. Assoc. Dr. Ramona Lile is the director of the project "Entrepreneurship for Equal Opportunities - an inter-school entrepreneurial model for women", implemented in collaboration with Lecturer. Dr. Sanda Gregory, Director of Business Incubator of the University "Aurel Vlaicu". Duration of the project is two years, and activities take place in the following counties: Maramures, Satu Mare, Bihor, Arad, Timis, Caras-Severin. The objective of the project is to promote equal opportunities in entrepreneurship, by fostering the involvement of women in general and rural women in particular in the initiation and development of their business in the context of sustainable development of communities located along the county border of West of Romania. Final results of the project will develop into a training of trainers certified nationally, that 72 students formed the trainers being an entrepreneurial school with two distinct models: starting business and business development; 1800 women trained in the six counties participating in the project, studies and articles published on female entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial development on the western border of Romania.

As a proof of international visibility is the fact that the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad hosted in November 2008 the second edition of the International Symposium "Research and Education in Innovation was" held every two years. Official opening of the International symposium held in Aula "Dimitrie Camenita" of complex Micalaca University. This edition includes 5 sections of the symposium included the presentation of works from several specialties: Social Sciences, Language and Literature, Economics, Engineering and Chemistry, Mathematics - Informatics and enjoyed the participation of teachers, lecturers and researchers from many countries from across Europe: Italy, Portugal, Serbia, Hungary, Germany, Moldova. The symposium took place entirely in English. In the opening session of the symposium, Rector of the University "Aurel Vlaicu", Prof.Univ.Dr. Lizica Mihut handed foreign personalities invited to the Second Edition of the Symposium diplomas, and the University Medal "Aurel Vlaicu", which symbolizes the aspiration to the heights of science and culture. It means good cooperation between Arad and university teachers, staff and researchers from abroad. The vice-rector of the University "Aurel Vlaicu", Prof. Dr. Phys. Alina Zamfir, received the prize of the Academy of Medical Sciences for the year 2008 for the discovery of biomolecules structural analyzed only by mass Spectrometry. However, the exceptional results achieved by teachers in the Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection and funds raised by these research projects have led to the purchase of a capillary electrophoresis device, which was put into operation in the mass spectrometry laboratory of our University. Electrophoresis will work under the supervision of a team of top specialists in the field. Laboratory equipment is worth 400 thousand euros (a quarter is the contribution of the university, three quarters of European funding).

It should be noted that mass Spectrometry is a research topic to be taken into account in Romania, in 2002 was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for mass Spectrometry and in Arad activates a researcher from UAV who collaborates with the two winners who they shared Nobel. Operation of capillary electrophoresis apparatus was made by a Dutch company. It is about a very new technique in Romania which, in association with medical field, may lead to discovery of different diseases' biomarkers. The laboratory serves all medical and pharmacy universities in the country. The University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad is part of the Romanian Society of Mass Spectrometry, already realizing projects of over one million euros, dew to the specialized laboratory from complex M. prof. Dr. Alina Zamfir was elected the President of the Society, of the University "Aurel Vlaicu" Vice President is Prof. Dr. Ion Oprean from the University "Babes-Bolyai University from Cluj and the

Scientific Director is Prof. Dr. Nicolae Dinca, University "Aurel Vlaicu". The company headquarter will be in Arad, because in the UAV functions a center of mass spectrometry with an exceptional international visibility. For the first time in Romania the University "Aurel Vlaicu" (with the contribution of the University President, Nicolae Dinca, and vice-rector Alina Zamfir) published a paper with impact 6 in terms of international visibility. Quality work and articles resulting from research is measured by this figure, which refers to the number of citations of that work within the two years. Romanian literature is generally impact less than 0.5.

The center in Arad, led by Alina Zamfir, brings together ten scholars. It won four national and two international projects. In only two years, it have been published 15 papers in journals with impact factor between 2 and 6, was published a volume of mass spectrometry to the Publisher Springer Verlag (Germany), were presented about 50 works-invited sessions, oral and poster contributions to the specialty conference held in Germany, Austria, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, France, Croatia and USA, and received four international awards.

In recognition of research undertaken in the UAV and special achievements of Business Incubator of the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad, UAV-IT incubator is member of the Romanian Association for Technology Transfer - AroTT, professional organization of units profile of technology transfer and innovation, nongovernmental and nonprofit. Thus, in the Bucharest International Fair, director of UAV - IT Incubator, the assistant professor Dr. Gregory Sanda was appointed one of three regional vice-presidents of AroTT.

Regarding the material basis, UAV property boasts European standards, with facilities that few universities can flourish at this time - was made the third level of the building Complex M (about 2.5 Euro), 12 laboratories were completed : car maintenance, educational learning ID, languages, media, analysis water, air, soil, mechatronics, optical microbiology, gastronomy. There have also been renovated the building on Aurel Vlaicu Avenue, the hostel and canteen (investment of approximately 1.5 million Euros) and there have been made important endowments laboratory equipment, computers, furniture, etc..

For the academic year 2009/2010 we propose the following investments: Laboratory of Mechatronics and road cars (620 m² investment amount: 600,000 euros), Dormitory (P 4, 4500 m² area and 1.8 million euros), renovation at the building complex M (appropriate court, facade, pool PSI, ~ 400.000 Euro), Akademos Hotel modernization that will preserve its destination.

UAV has strengthened international relations and intensified cooperation in external partnership both in teaching and research. In 2008 the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad has strengthened international relations and intensified cooperation in external partnership in both teaching and research plan. Through these activities was obtained increasing international visibility of the university, academic mobility, dynamic process, fundraising projects in partnership with prestigious universities from Europe, USA and Asia, increased the number of articles and books published by prestigious foreign, multiplied the number of international patents and organized an increasing number of scientific events with significant international impact.

The teaching level: there were introduced with objects taught in widely spoken languages particularly at masters level and undergraduate level, were initiated international masters collaborating with Germany (Konstanz Muenster, Aachen), Sweden (Lund) , Belgium (Ghent), Austria (Vienna), Netherlands (Wageningen), Slovenia (Maribor, Ljubljana), Italy (Rome, Milan, Udine, Trieste), Croatia (Zagreb), Canada (Toronto), Egypt (Cairo), it have been laid the foundations for agreements on co-ordination PhD studies at UAV-IOSUD and it has been intensified the process of academic mobility through programs such as ERASMUS - SOCRATES, bilateral scientific cooperation and COST, ECTS, Socrates-Grundtvig training grants and TEMPUS and Marie Curie mobility (individual fellowships, and

grants Intra-European International Scholarships Incoming, Outgoing International Scholarships, or Promotion and Recognition of Excellence - Excellence funding for teams, Departments Marie Curie Excellence Awards). By these actions were obtained: (1) facilitating the movement of teachers abroad for scientific or educational mission or conducting an exchange of experience (2) bringing the University "Aurel Vlaicu", through academic exchange, some international scientific personalities in order to transfer know-how, (3) facilitating the movement of students abroad for training, conducting practical internships, graduate development projects and exchanges of experience in order to transfer know-how to our university and promote the image of large open international university (4) Providing necessary academic framework for students receiving the course foreign partner universities in Erasmus program.

Last year UAV launched the conclusion of protocols with foreign universities for mutual recognition of diplomas and double license diploma for those students who have minimum period of study, according to the laws of the countries concerned, in each of those universities. In the same context of prior steps there have been introduced positions of "Visiting Professor" in consultation of faculties/ departments / departments to cover jobs that include teaching the languages of international circulation. This action seeks increased involvement in temporary teaching and research activities of professors and / or leaders of research groups of excellence abroad.

In order to improve the educational activity and research, diversification and increase the visibility of the base material, the University "Aurel Vlaicu" leads an active policy for the involvement of teachers and students (MA and Ph.D. candidates) in international scientific competitions. Ph.D. and master candidates are strongly supported to participate in competitions for obtaining international scholarships in order to write their Masters dissertations and doctoral theses. They are also encouraged to start an independent research through grants for youth. Outstanding teachers of the University are urged to participate in prize competitions of research results. In the past two years the teachers obtained 4 national awards that the University has publicized both within the academic community and beyond.

In scientific research field, UAV stimulates the teachers, lecturers and Ph.D. lecturers to participate in international competitions for grants and scientific projects. In international competitions are those launched by the European Union, particularly through the Framework Program 7 where in 2008 the University has submitted and gained 3 EU FP7 proposals.

The University "Aurel Vlaicu" is working with 38 universities / research institutions EU (from 6 EU countries and 5 countries outside the EU) and 6 of the United States and Canada. To maintain these partnerships and to broaden the areas of international cooperation, the university maintains a permanent connection of the priorities of all laboratories and research groups to specific objectives and activities of the ERA (European Research Area. Now the university has demonstrated excellence in international research projects won (including FP7), publications with high impact factor in journals, books published by prestigious publishing houses, invited conferences, citations, awards. The University "Aurel Vlaicu" supported and support the development of international collaborative research projects with practical application through actual and potential economic recovery and prestigious companies abroad and helped create the conditions making partnerships between academia and prestigious companies abroad by joining the European research networks (in 2007 FAO-UAV ESCORENA was appointed to the position of vice- coordinator of this network).

An important point was the development of international relations and we invited important figures from abroad for teaching courses and seminars in the agreements signed. The number of foreign personalities invited to present conferences or seminars increased in the last years. Thus, there were 24 present in 2007 and 23 presented until November 2008. UAV has encouraged and supported the work of our staff as "visiting professor" abroad. Thus, in 2007-2008 UAV was represented

abroad by the "visiting professor" Prof.Dr.Fiz. Alina Zamfir who, since 2006 has taught in the second semester the courses Proteomics for doctoral studies in analytical chemistry and analysis of biopolymers that, Biological Mass Spectrometry for the Analysis of biopolymers master at the University of Konstanz - Germany, and Associate Eng. Cecilia Sîrghi who taught the course Liberian Biotechnologies plant at the University of Ghent Belgium between June-July 2008, under the Agreement of cooperation and academic exchanges with the University and on ARTES Italy and, during May-June 2008 she taught the Seminar on Biotechnologies applied to lignocelluloses fibers In order to increase the spin-ability on cotton spinning system.

Connecting the top international research programs, integrating the structures and organizations that promote and concrete measures for stimulating the development and submission of proposals for complex international projects have resulted in 2008 by:

- A project (the coordinator is Minho Portugal) is at the stage of signing contracts. FP7 project proposed for funding: FP7-NMP-2008-4.0-1, folate-based nanobiodevices for integrated diagnosis / therapy, targeting chronic inflammatory diseases. The project is coordinated by Florentina Daniela Munteanu and Alina D. Zamfir from UAV and involves the most advanced UAV systems employing mass spectrometry in the world in UAV's laboratories and developing new mass spectrometric methods based on micro - and nanochipuri for early diagnosis and effective therapy of chronic inflammatory diseases.

- Eurostar project evaluation stage. FP7 project-EUREKA - Eurostar, the assessment phase: Nr. 4597 - Acronym "Nettles" - Enzymatic process of nettle fibers in order to increase their reliability". Cecilia Sîrghi and Radu Dana.

-a running project, named EUREKA, E! 3503 - MADETEXTIL-171E/12.09.2008, Textile Waste Management, Ministry of Education and Research, INNOVATION PROGRAM, PROJECT EUREKA, Alexander Popa.

Incentives, guidance, assistance and advice in order to conclude partnerships between the University "Aurel Vlaicu" and other universities / research institutions, especially European countries, eligible for NATO type projects have resulted in the 2007-2009 period by 3 projects NATO. Advanced Research Project Workshop on Applications of Mass Spectrometry in Life Safety, in which the university played a role as co-director with Prof. Dr. Alina D. Zamfir and Prof. Dr. Nicolae Dinca, in partnership with DWI at RWTH, Aachen, Germany, brought together 32 researchers and academics. 16 were from Romania, 9 from European countries like Germany, Austria, Croatia, Belgium and 6 from U.S. . Following this project, the 12 foreign participants have become permanent employees in research projects of the University "Aurel Vlaicu". Two other NATO reintegration projects undertaken in UAV in 2008-2009 were directly targeted scientific research with the main objective - development of research groups to perform the transfer of know-how accumulated by the person integrated in a NATO country during the post-doctoral stage to the research staff from the country of his/her origin. In these projects two multidisciplinary research teams have rapidly developed in related areas and has improved the material with better research equipment ensuring greater openness and eligibility for European projects as:

(1) NATO's International Project Grant 981,505 RIG: "Biotechnological Processing of the European strategic raw material. Period: 2005-2008. Worth 25,000 euros;

(2) NATO's International Project Grant 982,234 RIG "Biosensors monitoring for environmental pollutants. Period: 2006-2009. Worth 25,000 euros.

The objectives of the two projects are the development of research teams in the host institution and transfer the knowledge gained by the project director (in post-doctoral study programs conducted in a NATO country) to team members engaged in other complex multidisciplinary projects with practical

applications of strategic interest to NATO.

In order to guide interdisciplinary research into the training / participation in international consortia and networks representing technology S / T integrated into the European Technology Platforms, the University "Aurel Vlaicu" is integrated in the following European networks: (1) Center for Euroregional Democracy (CED) and non-profit NGO that promotes democracy and stability in Central and South East (2) EUCEN - European University Continuing Education Network - is the European Association of Universities multidisciplinary training throughout their lives including 212 members from 42 countries, (3) Academic - Knowledge Networks, a network resource and database for the knowledge society working with both governmental and nongovernmental organizations, with universities but also with independent researchers, (4) Development of On Line Consumer Education Tools for Adults (DOLCETA) network comprising all the 27 EU countries in a project funded by the European Commission DGSANCO (5) Network Intercultural Learning in Europe (NILE) network consists of 31 partners from 23 European countries, project financed by the Socrates-Grundtvig (6) Intercultural Competencies for the European network project managers and team / project supported by the European Commission under Socrates Program.

At the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad a center of biological and biomedical mass spectrometry had been working for 2 years with an exceptional international visibility. Center headed by Prof. Dr. Alina D. Zamfir won 4 national and 2 international projects and has established a laboratory equipped with latest generation equipment worth over 500,000 euros. In just two years she has published 17 papers in ISI journals with impact factor of between 2 and 6, 5 chapters in books at foreign prestigious publishers, she has organized a conference on mass spectrometry under NATO aegis, which brought together the foremost expert in the world and has edited a mass spectrometry at a German publishing house, named Springer Verlag, presented no less than 67 work-invited sessions, oral and poster contributions to the specialty conference held in Germany, Austria, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, France, Croatia and USA and received 4 awards. Currently, the center of mass spectrometry in Arad has signed collaborations with 8 European laboratories and 2 U.S. and 2 European firms profile (Advion BioSciences and Genzyme). From 2007 until now 2 PhD students from Germany, one from Estonia and 2 from Croatia have made the research stages in this laboratory in order to complete their doctoral thesis.

Between 5th and 7th of March 2009, the University of Konstanz, Germany, which was declared a research and educational center of excellence in 2008, was celebrated 20 years of prodigious activity in analytical chemistry and especially in mass spectrometry. The event was marked by a conference which brought together the world's most valuable professionals in the field of mass spectrometry and was attended by 500 specialists in the field. Since the University of Konstanz has the largest number of Romanian students from Europe and the largest number of master's and Ph.D. research in the area mentioned, European Society for Mass Spectrometry chose this event organized by the University of Konstanz for the establishment of a Romanian company of mass spectrometry (SRSM). Establishment of the SRSM took place on March 6 2009. The chairman of the company was chosen Prof. Dr. Alina D. Zamfir of the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad, and Vice-President, Prof. Dr. Ion Oprean from Babes-Bolyai University from Cluj-Napoca. The company headquarter is the at the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad. The Romanian Society for Mass Spectrometry aims to promote methods of mass spectrometric analytical method for the high performance, initiating in this area many young researchers, trying to support their careers through doctoral and post-doctoral studies to reduce the phenomenon of "brain – drain. Another objective of SRSM is the increasing national and international collaboration in this area of research and organizing the annual conference of the Society in September of each year. By now the company counts 80 members and has real prospects of enlargement and development.

“ La storia e l'economia dell'Alta Valle dell'Aniene, i castelli, le rocche, la natura degli antichi borghi Publisher Esedra was awarded the Rome Prize in 2009 Note. Rome September 4, 2008

A presentation of the project in detail "Oroblu 2. In memory del territorio "which ended with the publishing of a book entitled" *La storia el'economia dell'Alta Valle dell'Aniene and Castelli, rocche* them, the nature degli Antiche Borghi, Publisher Esedra, Padova, was made by president of the Cultural Association "Progetto Arkes" , Mrs. Rita Padovano, who is responsible and coordinator of this unique research project. At the opening presentation, Ms Rita Padovano thanked the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad, Romania for availability proved to be part of this multidisciplinary project but also for the contribution made in this research by Senior Lecturer, Ph.D.Eugenia Tigan. Then was invited to speak, Mrs. Rector of the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad Prof. Univ. Dr. Lizica Mihut, which in her intervention thanked Mrs. Rita Padovano, president of the Cultural Association Progetto Arkes, for this unprecedented initiative to help to promote Romania's image by inviting the University "Aurel Vlaicu" taking part in such multidisciplinary research and stressed the importance of the value of local cultural identities through such research on a particular area, highlighting the need and importance of local identity and traditions. At the launch of this book were present personalities of political and social life from Italy, in Rome and Lazio Region and representatives of the Romanian Academy in Rome, Ms. Gabriella Molcsan reviewer. Among those who have spoken were Prof. Donato Tambor, Director of State Archives Lazio, Senator Aniello Formisano part of the Constitutional Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, prof. Giovanni Gallone, who was for several times Minister of Education and Deputy Chairman of Supreme Council of Magistrates, Mr. Fabio Marketti of the Department of Small and Media Industry, Crafts and Trade of the Region of Lazio Region Lazio held greeting President Giovanni Hermanin, President the AMA Spa, a large company in the energy and waste recovery, Mr. Alesio D'Amato President of the Constitutional Affairs Committee and statutory Lazio Region and the Regional Adviser, Mr. Paolo Maturilli Advisor Community Tourism Mountain Aniene.

A book was launched in 2009 "Sorgenti e le terme della Valle del Sacco" Publisher Esedra, The launch took place in the area Fiuggi (IT) on July 18, 2009 in the presence of numerous personalities of the local political and cultural life, and the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad were present: Mrs. Rector Prof. Univ. Dr. Lizica Mihut, Assoc. Dr. Ramona Lila and Assoc. Dr. Eugenia Tigan. On this occasion took place a ceremony , where Mrs. Rector Prof. Univ. Dr. Lizica Mihut, was awarded by the of Mr. President of Cultural Association "Rocca D'Oro" Serrone (It), Giancarlo Flavia with the International Prize of professionalism "Rocca D'ORO" LEADER EUROPE. This important moment was followed by Diploma Awarding Honorary Member of Cultural Association "Progetto ARKES" for Mrs. Rector Prof. Univ. Dr. Lizica Mihut, from Mrs. President of this association, Rita Padovano.

International Conference and Exhibition in the aegis of FAO-SCORENA

WEEK of Natural fibers in the year 2009, a year which was declared by ONU "International Year of Natural fibers"; the conference has the title "Fibers AS A NATURAL SOLUTION TO THE ECONOMIC CRISIS AND CLIMATIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES"

21-24 June - 2009, the University "Aurel Vlaicu" - Rose M, ARAD - ROMANIA

21-24 June 2009, the University "Aurel Vlaicu" - Institute of Research, Development and Innovation in Technical and Natural Sciences – was, for the second time, the host of an important international scientific event under the aegis of FAO-SCORENA (UN bodies - Food and Agriculture Organization - European Cooperative Research Network on Flax and Other Bast Fibers).

FAO-SCORENA - the European Network for Research on flax and bast plants, the FAO established a network that included the creation time (in 1989) researchers from institutes and universities in several European countries with significant research activity in flax and other bast plants. The Secretary of the

research network was established by FAO at the INF (Institute of Natural Fibers) - Poznan-Poland, which has been developed over time in many research approach (national and international projects) and demonstrating expertise and experience required Director of the Institute, Prof. Dr. Ryszard Kozlowski, was appointed to the position of the Network's coordinator. In the ensuing period, ESCORENA network quickly expanded beyond Europe's borders (as originally intended) to an impressive number of leading researchers and teachers in America, Canada, Australia, etc. The importance of technical plant crops - flax, hemp, jute and other bast plants, which, through extensive research, have shown extraordinary potential for developing economic and removal effects of economic crisis, climate change and the environment, were factors that led to the expansion of the network. Researchers active in the field, determined to provide immediate viable economic solutions through the use of strategic resources (for many countries - Europe or other continents) in advanced materials, considered necessary heady exchange of ideas and research results by adhering to the scientific network.

On all these issues, we welcome the initiative of FAO - ESCORENA to engage in a period of more than 20 years, research and resolve all issues linked with the bast plants and in plants. Throughout its activities, it was involved in developing research methods on different topics, in exchanging of information between North and South, East and West, by finding forms of cooperation in research and development, establishing that this problem of global concern has to be solved by competition but by cooperation. It is estimated that bast plants, especially plants, must be viewed in the light of their importance in solving problems of the world economy and therefore, cooperation and scientific collaboration in the field plays a decisive role. At present, FAO-ESCORENA network numbers over 200 experts from 64 countries and is organized in working groups on several areas led by renowned international experts. Coordination network was managed entirely by Mr. Professor Dr. Ryszard Kozlowski until 2007. On the occasion of the 4th World Congress FAO-ESCORENA, held at the "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad in the period 7-10 October 2007 with the participation of 88 international experts in the field of: Romania, Poland, Czech Republic, Russia, USA, Belarus, Canada, Italy, France, Brazil, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Egypt, United Kingdom, Hungary, etc., the network coordinator designated Ms. Dr. Cecilia Sîrghi (researcher and teacher at the UAV-Romania) by an open vote in the position of vice-coordinator as a consequence of special scientific research in flax, the innovations introduced in the research the field (use of ultrasound in various combinations of biotechnology for the pretreatment of flax fiber) and for the coordination of many national and international research projects in flax. With the investiture of the University "Aurel Vlaicu", by joining Mrs. Dr. Cecilia Sîrghi, it is the default task to engage ourselves more actively in the management of international networks with the prospect of taking the FAO Secretary -ESCORENA when the current vice-coordinator will become the coordinator.

UAV's first step in creating an appropriate administrative framework of the Secretariat was to concentrate the fundamental and applied research in the areas of Technical and Natural Sciences from university in a Research & Development and Innovation Institute, by merging all Centers and Departments Research in this area and create a strong and competent research team to support this network. In 2008, Mrs. Dr. Cecilia Sîrghi becomes the Director of the Institute and establishes that bast plant research is one of the medium-term issues that need to be pursued by the experts of the Institute in running research projects proposed as a consequence of the importance given the world the subject.

The actions of UAV's in the near future include involvement in the conduct of national and international research projects, coordination of national research networks in biotechnology applied to textiles (especially flax and hemp) - PARTEXNET and seminars or courses in flax and hemp at universities abroad. In a relatively short time the vice-coordinator Dr. Cecilia Sîrghi manages an international network development and expansion in Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, etc. and the Rector - Prof. Dr. Lizica Mihaș was involved in a working visit in Australia for attracting specialists for

collaboration and promotion of new projects in the field.

Exceptional results in flax and hemp of the research team from the UAV, with results like proposals of patents and innovative products, culminating in the period 2007-2009 with the involving UAV in numerous international proposals (FP7, NATO, EUREKA, etc.) and, therefore an active presence in the European research area together with the international recognition of the value of its experts.

Research supported by the Research Institute together with managerial support from the Council Board of the University "Aurel Vlaicu" for international cooperation in this strategic area culminated in the 2009, the "International Year of Natural fibers" with the organization of the FAO-second event ESCORENA Arad. International Conference under the aegis of FAO-ESCORENA - WEEK Natural fibers in 2009, year declared by ONU "International Year of Natural fibers and entitled" Fibers AS A NATURAL SOLUTION TO THE ECONOMIC CRISIS AND CLIMATIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES "held at the University" Aurel Vlaicu "of Arad in June 21-24 and there were over 60 participants from 11 countries (Romania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania, Hungary, Egypt, United Kingdom, Vietnam, Germany, Banja Luka-Sprska Republic). Among the participants was the coordinator's network, Prof.Dr. Ryszard Kozlowski, the Secretary's Network, Maria Mackiewicz-Talarczyk, Nguyen Viet Nga – the Director of the Institute Center for Southeast Asian Prehistory, Hanoi, Vietnam, etc..

For UAV, hosting and organizing an event of this importance (with the participation of leading researchers around the world, company profile, research institutes and other organizations - members of FAO) is a chance to continue mission started a few years ago, namely to revive a strategic sector for Romania - bast fibers. At the same time, is a confirmation of the strategic management of university leadership, focused on increasing the international visibility of the institution and develop a real and lasting partnership between academia and economic environment.

Organizing this event was provided by FAO-UAV ESCORENA following the cancellation of events scheduled which had to take place in Moscow in February 2009. After long negotiations with the responsibility of FAO factors, which have shown some skepticism regarding the possibility that a Romanian university to organize in a short time (3 months) an event of this importance, when "important actors" in the area have not found sufficient resources, ESCORENA gave this opportunity and this chance to the University "Aurel Vlaicu" as a challenge and a proof of its determination to take on future coordination and secretariat of the international body.

To meet this challenge in achieving the strategic goal of bringing the Secretary in Romania, in the very near future, UAV enjoyed this time of active and sustained involvement from Arad County Council which has expressed solidarity and financial support - in achieving this goal with future economic and social impact for the entire community of Arad. Not far from the support and involvement was more "actors" local and regional active in research, development and promotion of flax and hemp grown in Romania such as: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, Lovrin Research Station, Agricultural Directorate Arad , County Cultural Center, the National Authority Scientific Research, Arad County Museum, Textile School "Francis Newman" Arad, economic agents with activity in the area such as: - SC FI-RI SA Vigonia Timisoara, S.C ENA-design. Ltd., House of Fashion "ELLIS" Arad, SC Native design. S.R.L, etc. Arad and many sponsors as follows: - Representative FORD Arad - Arad Free Zone Administration Curtici - Sanitary Veterinary Directorate Arad - ADRIANA TOUR - Arad, etc. UAV and its local partners were involved in this year 2009 in organizing such events in order to convince ONU- FORUM ward that the country with a rich research in the processing plants and other bast fiber is able to take over in 2011 the General Secretariat of the FAO-ESCORENA especially since, the Director of Research and Development Institute-Innovation in Technical and Natural Sciences of the

University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad in the person of Mrs. Eng . Cecilia Sîrghi is and vice-coordinator of international research networks. The current FAO-SCORENA Coordinator, Prof. Dr. Ryszard Kozłowski is to retire in the near future and requires SCORENA FAO members to decide where to move the general secretary. It was a great challenge for UAV but also for other co-organizers (Arad County Council, NASR, etc..) to be involved in organizing such an event, to convince policy makers of FAO - Focal Point - Budapest, that in Romania, the network of active partners in research in this area is a real force to guarantee the future support of the FAO International Network-SCORENA and is able to meet your annual network in a short time even in crisis.

The long-term and medium-term strategy (2007-2013) for development of the textile industry in Romania is among the priority objectives of recovery of bast fiber industry. Its efforts in the bast fibers haven't left indifferent prestigious International Organization FAO, and through the designation of Romania as organizer of the World Congress of 2007 and this year's event have showed appreciation and trust in the host institution, the University "Aurel Vlaicu" of Arad and also want to contribute to the strategic objectives set for the bast fibers. A significant number of participants in this conference are members of FAO Scorena with a rich activity in that organization (winners and prizes FAO). In this context, this event is not only a challenge for the scientific community in Romania active in bast fibers (which has proved highly expertise promoting genuine solutions - patents) but also an opportunity for maintaining, establishing new contacts and integration of new Romanian experts the international scientific community and the organization Scorena FAO.

Organizing the conference aimed the attraction of collaborations with many foreign partners in research and production of hemp sector in this geographical area ARAD West (Orchard, Nadlac, Business Interiors, Ineu etc). It has a long tradition of cultivation and processing and continues to represent Romania at European level in this sector. The active participation of the specialized companies, the Agricultural Directorate Arad, the Ministry of Agriculture, Cultural Center, the University "A. Vlaicu, companies with specific design Ena, promoting popular tradition (traditional costume), the format of songs and folk dances, to town halls of Ghioroc and Siria. Presentation of the results obtained by researchers in Romania on the topics of the conference drawn the attention of the participants and their interest in the economic sector for the application of advanced technologies and topical have increased. Meanwhile, the conference succeeded in raising the profile of international institutions in Arad and developing real and sustainable partnerships between academia and national and international economic environment. During the conference were established collaboration between firms from Romania (Arad) and business-institutes in Europe (INFMP, the University of Budapest, Kiev KNUTD etc.) and have started procedures to transfer the coordination of FAO-SCORENA to Mrs. Dr. Ing Cecilia Sîrghi researcher and teacher at UAV.

The general objective pursued by organizing international conference with international participation on the topics focused on Central and Eastern European countries helped to disseminate a broad framework of the most notable achievements in Romanian and increased attractiveness to potential research Romanian and production from this area leading to the formation of partnerships, consortia, cells, networks, project proposals that will clearly lead to more effective participation of Romania in European research programs and regional development and raising the visibility of research and industry in Romania.

The specific objective pursued by organizing the international conference in Romania was not an accident, interweaving the FAO strategy for sector development, hemp and other Bast fibers in the world with our country government policy on reviving the traditional sector in Romania, which is the last European country producing fibers, yarns, hemp fabrics. Romania annually allocates considerable funds in this sector to subsidize cultural and technical processing plants from European funds. Applying

as many competitive and innovative processing technologies by accessing structural funds are meant to contribute to economic development in the region.

Specific actions organized the International Conference FAO-SCORENA

Natural fibers Week

A scientific seminar on various topics of relevance in the industrial crops, hemp, etc..

Cultivation of industrial crops, hemp, rape, etc..

- Biotechnology, biology, biochemistry;
- The collection of technical plants;
- Processing of bast fibers, obtaining fabrics, knits, etc..
- Collection of non-textile products from technical plants (paper, composites, etc..)
- Extraction and use of micro-technical elements of seed plants.
- Bio-fuel, etc..

B. exhibitions of textile and non-textile flax, hemp, ramie, rape, etc..

C. Presentation of clothing made of natural fiber fabrics;

D. Presentation of clothing made of mixed and cotton materials made in the research projects undertaken by the UAV, advanced materials and performance that made the world premiere performance of finesse, physical, mechanical, comfort and composition.

E. Presentation of Romanian traditional costumes;

F. Romanian folklore presentation by listening to songs, watch traditional dances presented by bands from the region of Arad, that product cooking and wine tasting in a Romanian traditional evening.

G. visiting Ion Slavici Museum from Siria and the Museum of first electric train in Europe in Ghioroc.

H fashion show with the presentation of foreign collections alongside those devoted Arad (Ena Design and ELISA).

I. Roundtable Romanian and Polish designers active in the promotion of contemporary fashion and hemp alongside such traditional fashion. The talks have reached also about the commercial aspects and prospects of the sector concerned.

L. Study visit to Lovrin Research Station, visit the Institute, make hemp varieties Romanian World Premiere (patent applications) and visiting experimental crop fields.

International Conference contributed to the achievement of such indicators:

- Establishment of new interdisciplinary collaborations (textile, chemistry, medicine, computing, etc.)

Future;

- Increase international visibility;

- Revitalization and development of the hemp and other bast fibers in Arad county, which currently holds the majority share in this strategic sector for the Romanian economy (in particular) and Romania (in general);

- Developing new technologies and competitive at the same time representing the interests of the economic environment in the sector at European level;

- Development of a real and lasting partnership between national and international academic and economic environment of Arad.

- Promoting the image and potential of the Romanian research internationally;

- Presenting the latest achievements in the field that has an impressive number of Romanian and foreign researchers to find topics of common interest to them and promote joint research projects;

- Increasing direct contacts between Romanian and foreign partners in research and economic Arad;

- Create new contacts and collaborations between scientists representatives of various research centers / Universities / operators in Romania and abroad, etc..

Exceptional results of the Conference:

1. Broadening the partnership and membership FAO-SCORENA further 2 countries;
2. Romania received the award for "the best paper presented by a young researcher "
3. Romania was designated to take over coordination of the FAO / Scorena on Europe in the person of Mrs. Dr. Eng Cecilia Sirghi of the University "Aurel Vlaicu" Arad, Romania
4. she launched the first issue of a scientific journal this famous international body under the patronage of the ONU - FAO-SCORENA Scientific Bulletin "which will be printed in the publishing UAV and will be distributed internationally in SCORENA network. In the pages of this volume 20% of them are devoted for companies advertising in the Arad and for promoting the economic potential of this sector in the region, members of the International Network.
5. Every 3 months will be organized in Arad (UAV) a clothing fiber and hemp that will precede the launch of each issue of the scientific volume.

We remind you the festivities of High academic award of Doctor Honoris Causa, Beatitudo Daniel, the Patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church, ceremony performed in the presence of select assistance, celebrating our theological school. The Senate of UAV also decided to grant title of Doctor Honoris Causa, Mr prof. Dr. Andreas Rizzi, University of Vienna, one of the great chemists of the world.

In the previous year the Students' League held a prestigious activity. Projects: "Students often ignore free analysis," "students and drink-driving "UAV Students donate blood," U.S. Travel for students "had a great impact among students and the entire academic community.

As for sports activity in the previous academic year was held the second edition of the national university basketball championship and the University Sports Club activity "Aurel Vlaicu" continued the good tradition already established by rugby, chess, judo, aerobics. Special mention to our colleague Ovidiu Serban, rugby coach, who through a special endeavor, he has managed to promote a coordinated team in the National Division and furthermore, to join our team rugby in Central Europe Championship. We wish to rugby team success in the upcoming championship. We should praise judo from Arad. We are represented in the "Junior Nationals finals. We send our appreciation to our fellow Marconi Gabriel.

Higher education is as well known, focused on student and therefore it must be in our attention regarding the courses and seminars but also in leisure activities. UAV strategy is a strategy par excellence, paying attention to students. The fact that our students are involved in scientific research is demonstrated not only through student participation in scientific sessions but also in bilateral research projects representing a as remarkable and we congratulate Mrs. Vice Rector Alina Zamfir.

And now a word of welcome to students from the first year. Greetings for them.

We also mention the presence of foreign students, involved in Erasmus Program, who will spend in our town and will study at this university for the next six months. They come from prestigious universities, such as: Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, France. Because we are at the beginning of a new academic year, let me extend, on behalf of the UAV Senate, to both students and teachers of our university, success, both professionally and personally level.

The academic year 2009/2010 will be like the previous one, a year of consolidation of our strategic management. It will be an academic year in which you have to honor the scientific activity and judicious teaching certificate awarded by the National Agency for quality evaluation in Romanian higher education (ARACIS) that is highly reliable, definitively, without monitoring 5 years. The University "Aurel Vlaicu" is already a brand, despite of the efforts of outsiders and some, it is true, very, very few (2-3?) from inside, who want to discredit it. You will need to be further united and to add "extra" quality.

We are in economic crisis but we must remember that quality was never in crisis but can be

neglect due to lack of involvement of each of us. We have to argue scientific research, to access national and international project proposals and scientific European universities and beyond, where innovative ideas of all materialized. We must engage carefully and responsibility with all the scientific work. An emphasis that is made at the opening of the previous academic year, the results of scientific research are far from satisfied us, and when wages will be not equivalent with the number of students, but according to the involvement in the research plan science. Then, we will understand, I hope, very soon that we need to organize and enable the research center (the fields), as well as interdisciplinary research at the Institute for Research of our institution of higher education. Competition in the Romanian universities, private or state is fierce. It is well known that the number of students will fall naturally starting with this academic year. We will have to think about attractive Master programs and, PhD Studies, in all specializations, knowing the fact that currently, UAV is organizing doctoral studies on a single field, with 7 seat without fees.

UAV is presented at the beginning of the academic year with 9 faculties (college new Faculty of Design), 38 specialties, 30 Master programs, 12 departments, 10 IOSUD (area: philology), with an impressive material basis 42,221 m², educational facilities which is a pride for all of us. The academic year 2009/2010 will be a difficult year and for that we are in an economic crisis that will probably continue, according to sociologists and experts until 2015. Therefore, we will have to limit investment and expenditure in general, but will not limit our creativity. We should be "positive thinkers, we need dedication from all of you, without reservation, for a superb case: building a quality higher education. It is a debt to our predecessors, who, in the middle of the nineteenth century, dreamed of a university like this. It is difficult. Strokes are often strong, some sites, most of them, competitive but nobody and nothing can prevent us to demonstrate that we are together today but for tomorrow, in Arad and Romania. You should remember that only the values will endure, despite the possible and temporary hindrance. You should remember that quality standards are not only an advertising but also a factor crucial goal, a modus vivendi.

I wish you all health, strength and satisfaction as they work each of us.

I declare open the academic year 2009-2010, together with the emphasis that continues to be our profession of faith.

Good luck to all! So help us God!