

## INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM "MESKHETIAN TURKS ON THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF DEPORTATION" COMPLETED



The International Symposium on the "Meskhetian Turks on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Deportation" dealing with the Meskhetian Turks who have been condemned to living heimatlos for 75 years was held on 16-17 November under the leadership of Istanbul Medeniyet University as the host of the event.

The international event took place in Âşık Paşa Conference Hall in our South Campus and brought together many specialist scientists from Turkey and abroad. Supported by Sancaktepe Municipality, Üsküdar Municipality, and Turkish Humanitarian Relief Foundation (IHH), the symposium focused on the current problems of the Meskhetian Turks, and also diverse topics on law, literature, education, history, theology, arts, and culture.

The first day of the International Symposium on the "Meskhetian Turks on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Deportation" started with the screening of a documentary film titled "Garibim Gurbetlerde" on Meskhetian Turks, whose director and scriptwriter is Asst. Prof. Rüstem Mürseloğlu of our Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture. Next, the first opening remarks were delivered by İsmayil Rahimov and Ramiz Atahan, presidents of two Meskhetian Turkish Societies. They were followed by Mustafa Demir, Vice President of IHH, who said: "We need such symposia so that what happened in Meskhetia will not be forgotten." Next, Mayor of Üsküdar Hilmi Türkmen spoke and said: "I find this symposium very important in that it seeks to uncover and remind the youth of those tragic pages in our history and congratulate the Rector for organizing it. We cannot forget what



was done to our cognates in Meskhetia even after a millennium." The next opening speech was delivered by Sancaktepe Mayor Şeyma Dövcü, who said: "The way we will treat the subject today and the point where Turkey stands now is a lesson to the world. Today, Turkey teaches humanism to the world. "

Murat Sefa Demiryürek, District Governor of Üsküdar, said in his speech: "We have the mission of being a hope for these people. Recently, Turkey has taken a strong stance toward fulfilling those hopes." He was followed a short greeting speech by Feyzullah Kıyıklık, who is a Meskhetian Turk and served as the MP of Istanbul for Justice and Development Party in three different periods.



In his opening remarks, Rector and Symposium Chair Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik thanked all the participants, NGO's and municipalities for their contributions. Prof. Dr. Çelik underlined that he himself was an immigrant from Bulgaria and shares the feelings of Meskhetian Turks. He emphasized that people from different communities and ethnic backgrounds co-existed in peace for long years in the Ottoman Empire, which is a unique phenomenon. He also said: "Turkey will distinguish itself as the greatest global actor in the 21<sup>st</sup> century thanks to its vast experience and its historical legacy of unity in a single civilization. Under the leadership of Turkey, we will all witness the evidence of the fact that the world is greater than five."



The opening remarks ended with the plaque awarding ceremony for symposium contributors. A total of six different panels were held on the first day and twelve panels on the second day of the symposium. The two-day symposium was completed with the conclusion and assessment session.

## GRADUATION CEREMONY OF OUR INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE STUDIES HELD FOR THE 2018-2019 ACADEMIC YEAR



The Graduation Ceremony of our Institute of Graduate Studies for the 2018-2019 Academic Year was held on 11 November 2019, Monday in Âşık Paşa Conference Hall in our South Campus. The ceremony was attended by Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik, our academic staff, our alumni and their families.

Two separate graduation ceremonies were held for the alumni of the PhD and Thesis Master's Programs at 14.00-16.00 and for the alumni of the Non-Thesis Master's Programs at 17.30-19.00.

The first opening speech was delivered by the Director of the Institute of Graduate Studies Prof. Dr. Hayrunnisa Alan, who made a presentation providing detailed information about the overview of graduate education in general, activities of our Institute of Graduate Studies, our programs, and the number of our alumni.



In his opening remarks, Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik first underlined the distinguishing qualities of our University and said: "İstanbul Medeniyet University has many distinguishing qualities: We are a University where all the doors are open in our relations with with our academic and administrative staff and our students, students are always invited in, we all make an effort to solve students' problems, and we prepare students for life rather than simply contributing scientifically. We are here and ready to support our alumni at every stage as they need it." After these remarks, Rector Prof. Dr. Çelik wished lifelong success for our alumni and congratulated them on their graduation.



Among the guests was our former Rector Prof. Dr. M. İhsan Karaman, who also delivered a short greeting speech and congratulated our alumni, their parents and instructors. Following the opening remarks, the alumni of our non-thesis master's programs received their diplomas from their instructors. The Graduation Ceremony of our Institute of Graduate Studies for the 2018-2019 Academic Year ended with photo shooting and reception.



## ISTANBUL MEDENIYET UNIVERSITY SENDS A BREATH TO THE FUTURE



The planting campaign simultaneously held at 11:11 on 11.11.2019 in all corners of Turkey was supported on behalf of our University by Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik, University management, academic and administrative staff and our students. We planted saplings in our Orhanlı Campus as part of the "Breath to the Future" event for meeting 11 million saplings with soil initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to raise awareness for the environment and leave a greener future to future generations.



## WE FOCUS ON DISRUPTIVE INNOVATION IN THE RECTORATE TALKS

In the first of the series of Rectorate Talks in 2019-2020 Academic Year, we discussed the topic "Disruptive Innovation and Spiritual Leadership in the Era of Disruption" with three distinguished guest speakers from the University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta in Indonesia.

The seminar organized by our Rectorate and supported by our Department of Management was held in North Campus Hekim Berke Hall on 19 November 2019, Tuesday. The event was attended by our Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik, professors, and students.

Following the screening of a short film about the University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Asst. Prof. Dr. Arafat Salih Aydiner, Chair of the Management Information Systems Program at IMU, delivered his opening remarks as the moderator of the event and then invited the speakers one by one on stage to deliver their speeches.

The seminar continued with Punang Amarijuja's speech on "Disruptive Innovation: Current Trends and the Way Forward", Dr. Majang Palupi's presentation on "While Industry 4.0 is Disrupting the Human Resource: Searching Competency Model for Smart HR 4.0", and Prof. Dr. Heru K. Tjahjono's speech titled "Spiritual Leadership in Disruption Era". At the end of the seminar, the speakers were presented certificates by Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik for their valuable contributions.



## OUR RECTOR ATTENDS THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETINGS OF OUR FACULTIES



Our Rector attended the academic council meetings organized to create roadmap for our Faculties for 2019-2020 academic year and to realize our continuous development goals.

During the meetings, current problems, shortcomings and solutions were discussed at large. The faculty meetings were held on 04.10.2019 for the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences; on 14.10.2019 for the Faculties of Political Sciences and Art, Design and Architecture; on 15.10.2019 for the Faculties of Dentistry and Tourism; on 17.10.2019 for the Faculties of Health Sciences and Education Sciences; on 24.10.2019 for Law Faculty; on 01.11.2019 for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities; and on 07.11.2019 for the Faculty of Medicine.

In the meetings, the presentations delivered by faculties were followed by a speech by Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik, who informed our academic members about our current situation and goals and projects for the future. In his speeches, our Rector particularly focused on the current state of our construction projects including those for classroom and academic staff buildings which are crucial for educational activities and the new library and hospital buildings, new academic programs planned, and what we can do to carry our educational quality one step further. Prof. Dr. Çelik made detailed explanations about our updated campus building project with images.

Rector Prof. Dr. Çelik noted that attained a significant achievement by being rated the 29th in the recently announced URAP University Ranking despite the rapid increase in the number of our students and all the shortcomings regarding the number of staff and physical infrastructure and spoke about the expectations from our Faculties for improving our education quality. He said: "Now, we have arrived at a point where we need to focus on quality rather than quantity in the management of universities in Turkey. To ensure our coordinated progress in line with our Strategic Plan for 2020-2024, we ask you to create concrete four-year plans that is ripened with the opinions of all our academic staff and students and integrate the ideas of all departments as the consensus of the entire Faculty."

Prof. Dr. Çelik underlined that our teachers play a significant part in realizing our vision of being a "student-centered" university and said: "The future of Turkey is in our hands" and asked our faculty members to take care of their students with regard to social issues as well.

Academic council meetings ended with question & answer sessions with Faculty members.



## OUR RECTOR MEETS THE PRESIDENTS AND ADVISORS OF STUDENT CLUBS



In order to improve the scientific, social and cultural activities of our student clubs with the support of our University, Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik met the presidents and advisors of our student clubs in two separate meetings.

In the first meeting held on October 24, our Rector hosted the presidents of our student clubs in the Rectorate dining hall and informed them about the latest developments, plans and projects in our University. He noted that our support for our student clubs will be receiving greater support from our University in the coming days and answered the students' questions at the end of the meeting.

Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik later met our faculty members consulting the student clubs in a consultation meeting organized in our Âşık Paşa Conference Hall on 15 November 2019. Our Rector delivered a speech in the meeting in which said: "faculty members are not people who only teach lessons; they are also individuals who have taken on the responsibility for humanity and who convey all the knowledge, skills and experience they have to the new generation." and underlined that guidance from our faculty members plays a significant role in making up for shortcomings of our youth in their knowledge and experience about life. The later part of the meeting was dedicated a Q&A session with the advisors where they also expressed their suggestions.



## MEDENİYET MEDICAL JOURNAL NOW ON PUBMED

Medeniyet Medical Journal, a scientific periodical of our Faculty of Medicine, whose chief editor is Prof. Dr. M. Tayyar Kalcioğlu, has been accepted through academic assessment for indexing in PubMed. From now on, the articles in the journal will be visible in PubMed as well.

As a continuation of Göztepe Medical Journal, which was launched in 1985, the journal has been published by our Faculty of Medicine under the title Medeniyet Medical Journal since 2015. The quarterly, peer-reviewed academic journal published in English with open access has so far been indexed by Scopus, EBSCO Academic Search Complete, DOAJ, i-Journals, and TR Index with the recent addition of PubMed. We wish for continued success in their publishing life for Medeniyet Medical Journal and its editors.



## OUR EVENT ON KAYSERİ KEYKUBADIYE EXCAVATIONS ENDS



In Âşık Paşa Conference Hall on 26 November 2019, our Turkish-Islamic Arts and Archaeology Research Center organized an event titled “Kayseri Keykubadiye Excavations”, which Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik also attended.



The guest speaker of the event was Prof. Dr. Ali Baş of the Department of Art History at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities in Selçuk University. Following the greeting speeches by Prof. Dr. Kadir Pektaş, Director of the Turkish-Islamic Arts and Archaeology Research Center, and Prof. Dr. İhsan Fazlıoğlu, Dean of our Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik highlighted the importance of production, artisanship, and commerce for survival of countries and said: “The Seljuks’ history that started with Manzikert is a historical legacy made possible with new trade routes and

integration of economy with production, artisanship, and commerce in this context. Kayseri is one of the key symbols of this period when Anatolia was established as the land of Turks.”

The event continued with the presentation of Prof. Dr. Ali Baş, who is also serving as the Head of the Excavation Committee for archaeological excavations in Keykubadiye Palace, which was built by Sultan Alaeddin Keykubad I of the Anatolian Seljuks and destroyed by the Mongols. In his presentation, Prof. Dr. Baş shared valuable information about the ongoing excavations.



## GRADUATES OF OUR MEDIATION IN LEGAL DISPUTES PROGRAM RECEIVE THEIR CERTIFICATES IN A CEREMONY

A graduation ceremony was held in our Göztepe South Campus on 24 November, Sunday for the graduates of the “Mediation in Legal Disputes Certificate Training Program” conducted by our Continuing Education, Application and Research Center (IMUSEM) on 8 – 25 November 2019.

The ceremony was attended by our Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin Çelik, Vice-Rectors, Deans, IMUSEM Director, Program Coordinator, members of IMUSEM Board of Directors, and academic staff.

Judges, prosecutors, notaries, and lawyers working in all corners of Turkey from İstanbul to Van and Konya were presented with their certificates during the ceremony.



## DENTISTS OF THE FUTURE PUT THEIR WHITE COATS ON



First year students of our Faculty of Dentistry put their white coats on for the first time at a ceremony held in our Orhanlı Campus Conference Hall on 22 November 2019.

The ceremony was attended by Vice-Rector Prof. Dr. Yaşar Bülbül, Vice-Mayor of Tuzla Dr. Turgut Özcan, Dean Prof. Dr. Hasan Küçükkolbaşı and Chief Physician Prof. Dr. Taşkın Gürbüz of our Faculty of Dentistry, as well as the faculty members, students and parents.

The White Coat Ceremony of our Faculty of Dentistry for 2019-2020 Academic Year started with a pleasant concert performed by our students and continued with the opening remarks by Dean Prof. Dr. Hasan Küçükkolbaşı, who said: "White coat symbolizes honesty, morality, responsibility, humility, and serving all humanity without any linguistic, religious or racial discrimination for doctors and dentists. We promise to protect all of these values throughout our professional careers."



In his brief opening remarks, Vice-Rector Prof. Dr. Yaşar Bülbül underlined the difficulties of being a dentist and wished our students success in their future careers. Then, Prof. Dr. Yaşar Bülbül presented gifts to the students who ranked in the top three in 2019 YKS exam. Next, First year students of our Faculty of Dentistry were invited up on the stage one by one and were presented their white coats by Vice-Mayor of Tuzla Dr. Turgut Özcan, Dean Prof. Dr. Hasan Küçükkolbaşı and Chief Physician Prof. Dr. Taşkın Gürbüz, Director of our School of Languages Prof. Dr. Özlem Fedai, and members of our Faculty of Dentistry, respectively.

## OUR PROJECT ENTITLED FOR GRANT BY EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND TURKISH NATIONAL AGENCY



Developed by Prof. Dr. Salih Kuşluvan of our Faculty of Tourism, the project "Development of the Digital Marketing Competence of Adult Learners for Small and Medium-sized Tourism Enterprises in Europe" has received an Erasmus+ grant from the European Commission and Turkish National Agency.

Project partners also include Belgium, Greece and Spain along with Turkey. The project team consists of Prof. Dr. Salih Kuşluvan of Istanbul Medeniyet University Tourism Faculty as the coordinator and researcher, Assoc. Prof. Özcan Erkan Akgün of our Education Faculty as a researcher, and Asst. Prof. Serkan Polat and Res. Asst. Bahar Türkay of our Tourism Faculty as researchers.

The project aims to identify and improve digital marketing competency and efficiency of entrepreneurs, managers, and employees in small- and medium-sized tourism enterprises with a total budget of 147,853 Euros.



## TRAINING FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TEAMS AND EUROPEAN MEDICAL CORPS (TEAMS) PROJECT



As the second step of the project TEAMS (Training for Emergency Medical Teams and European Medical Corps) funded by the European Union Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) thanks to the collaboration between the Research Center in Emergency and Disaster Medicine (CRIMEDIM) and World Health Organization (WHO), TEAMS 2.0 Training for Trainers field application was held in Turkish Red Crescent Society's Marmara Regional Disaster Operation Center (MAFOM) on 22-25 October 2019.

Our project partners, Università Del Piemonte Orientale, Research Center in Emergency and Disaster Medicine (CRIMEDIM, Italy), University of Manchester (UK), Karolinska Institutet (Switzerland), Tel Aviv University (Israel), Humedica (Germany), and Novareckon (Italy) sent their representatives to observe the field work. Also, other observers joined the event from the Emergency Health Unit of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and Doctors without Borders (MSF) who took an interest in our efforts.

Our project mainly aims to develop and implement a standardized, validated and cost-effective training package for Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) to conduct field work in disasters. For the purposes of the field application, an EMT was specially created with 29 individuals who had not worked together before. The initial field trainings for our project were followed by the three-day desktop and field simulation exercises on various subjects including preparations before disaster response, arrival and setup at the disaster site, identifying priorities, management of operational information network, management of mass events, the ability to adapt to the conditions and culture of the region, planning and preparing for evacuation, and safety.



## WE HOLD THE THIRD STUDENT SYMPOSIUM ON DIABETES



On the occasion of World Diabetes Week on 14-21 November, our Faculties of Medicine and Health Sciences organized the third of the "Student Symposium on Diabetes" for university students studying health sciences on 13 November 2019 Wednesday in Aşık Paşa Conference Hall in our South Campus.

Following the opening remarks by Prof. Dr. Ayşe Okanlı, Dean of our Faculty of Health Sciences, Prof. Dr. Mahmut Gümüş, Dean of our Faculty of Medicine, and Prof. Dr. Aytekin Oğuz, event coordinator and faculty of the Department of Internal Medicine, Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfeğin Çelik delivered a speech, in which he stressed that all successful universities and faculties across the world owe their success to the support they lend to one another and expressed his happiness for the joint organization of such a significant event by two of our faculties.

During the opening panel of the one-day symposium, participating students were involved in the event in an interactive fashion and obtained



valuable information about the epidemiology, classification and diagnosis of the disease from the experts. The symposium was completed with two panels on preventing diabetes and its complications delivered by specialist speakers.

## OUR ERASMUS+ PROJECT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

Supported by the European Union and Turkish National Agency, Erasmus+ project titled "Building an Occupational Competence Profile for Thermal Care Agents (OCP Therm) in European Tourism" has been successfully completed.

In the project where Tuzla Municipality acted as the coordinator and İstanbul Medeniyet University is the local partner, our University was represented by the members of the Department of Tourism Management at the Faculty of Tourism, Prof. Dr. Salih Kuşluvan, Asst. Prof. Serkan Polat and Asst. Prof. Fevzi Esen.

As part of the project, a profile was defined for thermal care agents (thermal spa therapy specialists) as a new profession, the knowledge, skills and competencies required for were identified, and related learning units and assessment questions were developed. 100 individuals from five different countries were trained using these training materials. 15 students from the Department of Tourism Management at the Faculty of Tourism participated in the pilot training sessions for the project and received their certificates.



## SUCCESS AWARDS TO THE ACADEMIC STAFF OF OUR MEDICINE FACULTY

Assoc. Prof. Serap Uslu, of the Department of Histology and Embryology at our Faculty of Medicine, received the 1st Oral Presentation Prize in Sports Traumatology in the 29th National Turkish Orthopedics and Traumatology Congress held in Belek-Antalya on October 22-27, 2019 with her study 'Allogeneic segmental meniscal transplantation: Comparison of histologic treatment results with polyurethane scaffold', jointly conducted with Acıbadem Mehmet Ali Aydınlar University, Istanbul University Çapa Medicine Faculty, and Okan University.



Another achievement came from Assoc. Prof. Berna Demircan Tan, of the Department of Medical Biology at our Faculty of Medicine, who was entitled to participate in the Turkish Genome Project to be jointly conducted by the Directorate of Health Institutes in Turkey (TUSEB) and the Ministry of Health,

with her project 'Defining New Molecular Biomarkers for the Diagnosis and Prognosis of Prostate Cancer By Identifying Epigenetic Profiles in Patients with Prostate Cancer'. The team members for the project also include our faculty; i.e., Prof. Dr. Asif Yıldırım of our Urology Department, Prof. Dr. Gözde Kir of our Medical Pathology Department, and Dr. Burcu Yücel of our Medical Biology Department.

The accepted project by our faculty member has placed Istanbul Medeniyet University among one of the 26 centers authorized nationwide for the Turkish Genome Project. We congratulate the members of our Faculty of Medicine and wish their continued success.

## OUR FACULTY MEMBER ELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL SPINAL CORD SOCIETY

Prof. Dr. Belgin Erhan of the Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in the Internal Medicine Department of our Faculty of Medicine was elected by voting as a member of ISCoS (International Spinal Cord Society) Prevention Committee on the Society's 58th General Board Meeting held on 5-7 November 2019 in Nice, France. Prof. Dr. Erhan, who is the only Turkish member representing our country in an ISCoS committee, was also elected as the coordinator of the World Spinal Cord Injury Day during the first committee meeting. World Spinal Cord Injury Day is an awareness day that is simultaneously celebrated on September 5th all around the globe. We congratulate our faculty member and wish her continued success.



## A MEMBER OF OUR FACULTY OF MEDICINE IS AWARDED A PATENT FOR HIS INVENTION

The "InSafeLock Humerus Locking Nail" invented by Prof. Dr. Fuat Akpınar of the Surgical Sciences Division of our Faculty of Medicine was awarded a patent by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The system was developed for cases requiring the use of internal nails in surgery for humerus fractures for surgeons and patients and offers rapid, easy and safe application both for the surgeon and patient particularly in distal locking.

On 16 November 2019, a detailed training session was held on the application of this invention as part the "2nd Upper Extremity Nailing Course" organized by the Orthopedics and Traumatology Clinic of our Göztepe Training and Research Hospital. During the training, the opening remarks were delivered by Prof. Dr. Fuat Akpınar and the members of our Faculty of Medicine and Hospital's physicians informed the participants about the nailing techniques by using application videos.

## A TRIP TO ISTANBUL'S HISTORICAL PENINSULA BY THE STUDENTS OF IMU TOMER

İMÜ TÖMER students had an enjoyable and also informative trip to Istanbul's historical peninsula. The trip started from Karaköy Port and continued with important and worth-seeing places of Istanbul such as Eminönü Square, The New Mosque, Egyptian Spice Bazaar, Büyük Valide Han (the old and large commercial building), The Grand Bazaar, The Süleymaniye Mosque, Beyazıt Square, Cemberlitas, Blue Mosque, Hagia Sophia, The Topkapı Palace, The Gülhane Park, The Sirkeci Train Station and Surici. The students of TOMER coming from twenty different countries (Madagascar, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Ethiopia, Russia, Peru, Sudan, Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Philippines, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Pakistan, and Afghanistan) had a chance to see and know the historical beauties of Istanbul closely.



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