

# NEWSLETTER

## Message from the Editors



Dear Graduates,

We are happy to present you with the Third Edition of our UMed *Newsletter* and

we would like you to meet our colleagues from the room next door that is the Admission Office – Aleksandra & Adrianna.

Aleksandra has been working at the Administrative Center for Studies in English since 2013 and Adrianna has joined our Team only half a year ago.

Here is what they would like to share with you: „Hello! We are here to answer questions about your application and share stories about what it's like to study at The Medical University of Lodz. We are at the front desk, always happy to meet new students who come to Łódź. It is a great pleasure to be in contact with hundreds of applicants from all around the world and to have a chance to meet them during the Orientation Program in September. Each year we keep our fingers crossed for the newly admitted students, hoping that for them it is the beginning of an interesting journey, that will lead them to the MD/DMD diploma and that the stop called Łódź, will leave only nice memories in their hearts.”

We are waiting for your stories from times when you were students and about your current careers!

Ms. Katarzyna Uden

## Alumni Stories

All of you spent a few years of your life at our University. After graduation some of you came back to your home countries, some chose a new place to live, but all of you began walking a new path. We would love to hear about this new chapter of your lives and professional careers. Please email your story (maximum 10 sentences) and photo to: [mul.alumni@umed.lodz.pl](mailto:mul.alumni@umed.lodz.pl), if you want to catch up and share your journey with others like you.

## UMED News

### **BRAIN OFFICIAL OPENING**

Official opening of Part of BRaIN project, Research Development Innovation, was held on 26th April in Lodz Campus of Biomedicine and Pharmacy.

The project objectives include strengthening the cooperation of research and development units of MUL, the formation of interdisciplinary research teams as well as giving access to our ecosystem to economic partners or other research units in the region.

The available facilities now include specialist laboratories: Laboratory for Analysis of Compounds of Natural Origin, Laboratory of Metabolic Research, Laboratory for Molecular Diagnostics, Cell Culture Laboratory as well as laboratories for temporary use by the research teams which will be established for the project research tasks.

Research and development undertaken as part of BRaIN Project will focus on three major areas: organisation and process management in health care, personalised medicine and the application of bioinformatics and biostatistics in medicine.





Four days after the war broke out - on 28th February, Rector of MUL Prof. Radziśław Kordek established the Team for Aid to Ukraine.

The Team Members are:

Vice-Rector for Military Health Care, Prof. Waldemar Machała

Medical deputy of the Central University Hospital,

Prof. Paweł Ptaszyński

- Commander of the Military Medical Training Centre,

Colonel Zbigniew Aszkielaniec MD

The team's task is to coordinate the aid sent to the victims of the military attack on Ukraine.

With a view to a long-term and multifaceted assistance, our aid will primarily include medical service support provided by the University hospitals to all diseased people, including refugees.

Rector asked all students to show compassion and help at our casualty departments and emergency rooms in Łódź hospitals as their capacity may soon appear to be reduced by an increasing number of patients.

People who speak Ukrainian or Russian are also most needed to help as interpreters.

Currently, there are 37 students of Ukrainian origin studying at our University, there are three PhD students and three employees from Ukraine. E-mails asking them for information on what help are they expecting to receive from MUL were sent almost immediately after the news about the war reached Poland.

The entire academic community of MUL is requested to offer their assistance and support for those who suffered in this war.

Any information on the support initiatives which our University is involved in and which you may join is available on the University website and MUL social media.

## TWO FLAGSHIP HORIZON 2020 PROJECTS

The Medical University of Lodz is implementing two flagship European projects within Horizon 2020 programme funded by the European Commission with a total budget of €30 million. The projects in question, GATEKEEPER and ODIN, set themselves an ambitious aim of combining health care services with modern technologies such as IoT, 5G, AI, deep learning, as well as establishing so called Hospital of the Future. What's more, both projects analyse the processes and legal regulations concerning digitalisation of health care, the response to the process by the health care recipients and the technical, economic and medical effectiveness of the implemented solutions.



GATEKEEPER is a European Multi Centric Large-Scale Pilot on Smart Living Environments.

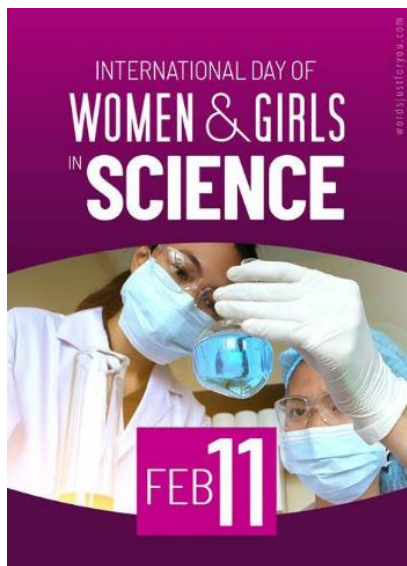
The main objective is enabling the creation of a platform that connects healthcare providers, businesses, entrepreneurs, and elderly citizens and the communities they live in, in order to originate an open, trust-based arena for matching ideas, technologies, user needs and processes, aimed at ensuring healthier independent lives for the ageing populations.

ODIN project, in turn, includes piloting of a hospital robot with AI (artificial intelligence) algorithm to be carried out in the second half of 2022 in a newly constructed Emergency Department of Central University Hospital (CUH) in Lodz, under scientific supervision of Prof. Dariusz Timler MD PhD, Director of ED (CUH).

More info and project websites:

GATEKEEPER – <https://www.gatekeeper-project.eu/>

ODIN – <https://www.odin-h2020.eu/>

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN and GIRLS in SCIENCE.**

On February 11 we celebrated International Day of Women and Girls in Science. According to She Figures 2018 report, published by the European Commission, the number of women engaged in scientific career in Europe is on the increase. Nonetheless, women are still under-represented in the academic ranks and their full potential is yet to be recognised and appreciated.

What does the situation look like in the Medical University of Lodz?

Currently, the University employs more women than men: 65% of MUL employees are female. This refers to all employee groups: academic teachers, research and technical assistants, administration and service officers. Women also slightly outnumber men at the managerial level: 54% of heads and managers of administrative units and heads of research and teaching units are females. Three University faculties are headed by women and they are also in majority as vice-deans of these faculties.

Our female researchers manage scientific projects, publish their papers in recognised scientific journals and receive prestigious scholarships. In the years 2017 – 2020 women supervised 54 national projects funded by the National Science Centre whereas men were the managers of 41 such projects. 68% of the University employees who received their PhD with habilitation degree in the years 2017 – 2020 were females; at the same time the title of a professor was gained by 21 women and 19 men.

*Our University carries out its statutory tasks while implementing the policy of equal opportunities and non-discrimination. In 2019 we attained the status of HR Excellence in Research, which is not only a distinction but, first and foremost, an obligation to make continuous improvement to HR and recruitment policy including gender equality monitoring and activities towards equal opportunities and diversity management in the University, emphasises Prof. Lucyna Woźniak, Vice-Rector for Research Strategy and International Relations.*

The University follows the procedures which comply with broadly-understood equity and gender equality; Anti-mobbing Committee has been appointed and Guidelines for good practices in recruitment and employment have been implemented.

We are also very mindful of the gender perspective whatever actions in any areas are undertaken in the University. We hold workshops on the role of women in research and education, we introduce solutions to facilitate work-life balance and we promote good practices so as to enhance the position of women in science.

*The facts and figures are important as they allow us to verify the effects of our actions. However, what seems to be more significant is daily fostering of our university organisational culture based on mutual respect, understanding and openness to diversity. Being a leader in gender equality is a commitment. We will go on monitoring the situation and promoting positive role models, underlies Prof. Radziszław Kordek, the Rector of Medical University of Lodz.*

Medical University of Lodz is planning further steps in the deployment of the idea of diversity in the academic practice and consistent monitoring of the compliance with the principles of equality and tackling discrimination.

## FULBRIGHT SENIOR AWARD 2022-23 WINNER: PROF. JAKUB FICHNA MD PHD

We are immensely pleased to inform that Prof. Jakub Fichna MD PhD, the head of the Biochemistry Department is the winner of Fulbright Senior Award 2022-23.

The programme enables Polish employees of academic and research institutions to implement their independent research or research and teaching projects in a host institution in the USA. Prof. Jakub Fichna will be implementing his research project in a prestigious Mayo Clinic in Rochester (MN, USA) in January- September 2023.



## CHARITY UMED RUN

The Run took place on  
**14th of May 2022** in Lodz,  
START: 3. Maja/Baden  
Powell Park.

FINISH: by the MOSiR hall,  
5/7 Małachowskiego St.

DISTANCE: 5km 100m.  
Minimal CONTRIBUTION:  
49,90zł

Funds collected: 21,762 zł

MOTTO: *We run to help!*



The funds collected as part of the event will be used to help people after transplants – our patients at the University Hospital no.1 named after N. Barlicki and managed by prof. Ilona Kurnatowska.



It was the first time in two years (after the COVID19 pandemic) that almost 400 runners met and ran together in this good cause.

The categories in which prizes were given to top three runners were:

- 1) MUL student (woman);
- 2) MUL student (man);
- 3) MUL graduate (woman);
- 4) MUL graduate (man);
- 5) MUL employee (woman);
- 6) MUL employee (man);
- 7) Open (AZS - woman);
- 8) Open (AZS - man).



We are proud to announce that one of the Coordinators from the Administrative Center for Studies in English **Ms. Monika Mikołajczyk – Sowa** got the first place in the female employee category. Running is Ms. Monika's greatest passion in life. Those of you who met her at MUL know how active and energetic she is. Always ready for action!