



*International Student Week in Timișoara*

**ISWINT 2016**  
**PRESENTATION BOOKLET**



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# RECTOR'S WORDS

Perhaps no other student organisation from Politehnica University of Timișoara has ever accomplished such an ascending course over the years as Liga AC. Founded in 1990 with the purpose of representing the students in the Faculty of Automation and Computers of Politehnica University of Timișoara, Liga AC has proven itself through sustained activity, supporting students' development, professionally as well as culturally and socially.

It's worth mentioning that just during the school year of 2013-2014, Liga AC has had a portfolio of no less than 8 projects, some with over two decades of continuity. Most have enjoyed a real interest from the students, with highlights such as International Student Week in Timișoara, ISWinT (international festival dedicated to students from all corners of the world), Liga AC LABS (IT&C project dedicated to developing practical skills along with theoretical knowledge), iTEC (IT Engineering Contest for high school and university students from all around the country) or Chess Contest (chess contest for students of all ages).

Our university requires permanent dynamism, change, adaptation, according to the evolution of society. In fulfilling its mission, Politehnica University of Timișoara rests on the cohesion of all its members, of which the students and their organisations play a major role.

Politehnica University of Timișoara, through its management structures, will keep on supporting all activities organised by teachers and students, meant to support students in their personal development to become, as graduates of UPT, people of the city with an exemplary professional and intellectual conduct.

**Prof. Dr. Eng. Viorel Aurel ȘERBAN,**  
Rector of Politehnica University of Timișoara

# ABOUT LIGA AC

**Liga AC** (The Students' League of the Faculty of Automation and Computers) is the student organisation that represents the students from the Faculty of Automation and Computers, supporting them in their social and cultural life. Founded in 1990, Liga AC has developed more and more over the years, this year becoming the organiser of 8 major projects.

**Liga AC LABS** (Applied Laboratories in the Benefit of the Students) is a project that comes to students' aid, providing them with the opportunity to interact with IT&C companies from Timișoara. The companies hold specialized laboratories through which they improve the practical knowledge of participating students. **ITEC** (IT Engineering Contest) is a contest with the main purpose of improving students' IT knowledge gained during university. They have the possibility to compete in software and hardware design competitions. Since 2014, Liga AC brought the EMECS-thon international contest to Romania, which also takes place in five other countries.

Liga AC also organises **Chess Contest**, supporting students involved in extracurricular activities and contests. Students that are passionate about the well-known sport can take part in the competition. Likewise, on Christmas Eve we bring joy to children from orphanages and disfavoured families through the humanitarian project of **Prichindel**.

The involvement in promoting the university hub of Timișoara also led to the development of two other projects. **Comoara Ligii AC** is a project aimed towards student organisations affiliated to **ANOSR** (National Alliance of Student Organisations in Romania). The project's purpose is making the city of Timișoara known to participants by organising an impressive treasure hunt. Spanning 22 years, the longest lasting project of Liga AC, **ISWinT** (International Student Week in Timișoara) marks the end of every school year by involving students from all over world in numerous multicultural activities.

Liga AC is also involved in the local social and cultural life, being a founding member of **Timișoara - European Cultural Capital 2021** and member of **FiTT** (Timis County Youth Foundation). Also it is a founding member of **ANOSR** (National Alliance of Student Organisations in Romania) and of **COSPol** (Convention of Student Organisations in Politehnica) in order to represent the interests of the students, both locally, and nationally.

With a total number of over 2200 members and over 105000 direct beneficiaries over the course of its 25 years of activity, Liga AC is one of the most well developed student organisations in Romania.



# ISWINT CONCEPT



**ISWinT** (International Student Week in Timișoara) is an international festival dedicated to students from all corners of the world. The concept was created in 1994 starting from the daring ideas of enthusiastic students who believed in unity, multiculturalism and friendship. It grew bigger and bigger, this year reaching its 23rd edition, always animated by a new team, new ideas and an ever increasing number of participants. What ISWinT keeps and passes on from a generation to another is the spirit, enthusiasm and motivation to make an unforgettable edition each year. Overall, during ISWinT, international cultural diversity takes over the city of Timișoara.

Students from all around the world can register to the festival and, after a short selection process, they are accepted in the ISWinT community and invited to Timișoara to take part in the activities specifically organised for them. The main activities are the workshops and also the public events in Timișoara. The festival focuses on multiculturalism and exchanging traditions and ideas, its participants interacting with students from all around the world.

The organising team consists entirely of volunteering students, who turn every ISWinT edition into a once in a lifetime experience that holds a special place in the minds and souls of the participants, organisers and everyone who directly or indirectly interacts with the ISWinT phenomenon.

## We are not alone!

ISWinT is the student festival with the most editions in Europe and the longest running in the south east of the continent. On an international level, ISWinT is a founding member of **SORCE** (Students Organizing Conventions Everywhere). This international network for communication and interaction is made up of non-governmental and non-profit youth organizations, that organise festivals with the help of young people. Other festivals that are members are **ISFIT** - International Student Festival in Trondheim (Norway), **ISWiB** - International Student Week in Belgrade (Serbia), **ISWI** - International Student Week in Ilmenau (Germany), **ICWiP** - International Culture Week in Pécs (Hungary) and many others.

The purpose of these events is to create a platform for cultural exchange, to encourage multiculturalism and to provide international students with the opportunity to interact with each other.



# ISWINT HISTORY

ISWinT festival was born in 1994, enhancing the world with daring ideas of enthusiastic students looking to obtain unity, multiculturalism and friendship between countries. Over the course of time the festival has created an environment for students all over the world to interact, giving them the opportunity to discover new things, to exchange opinions, to have fun and, obviously, to amass multicultural experience.

Every year the theme of ISWinT defines the general drive of all the activities and workshops. Also, the results of the festival closely reflect the theme of the respective year. Ever since the first edition the themes were chosen by the organisers from educational and cultural fields and with the purpose of bringing innovation to the future.



- 1994: Our Generation, Our Future
- 1995: Communication for a New Europe I
- 1996: Communication for a New Europe II
- 1997: Let's Build Together the Common European House
- 1998: A new Millennium, A new Europe I
- 1999: A new Millennium, A new Europe II
- 2000: Borders vs. Globalisation
- 2001: The 3rd Millennium - Intention Innovation Identity
- 2002: Future Education!
- 2003: Attitude! Altitude!
- 2004: Human Rights: Is or Should?

- 2005: Beyond Boundaries >> Fast Forward
- 2006: Future foundations for young minds
- 2007: Influences
- 2008: Revolution: real vocation meets virtual education
- 2009: It's a new trend: Equilibrium
- 2010: Closed eyes, Open Mind
- 2011: Celebrate Innovation. Keep Tradition
- 2012: Our World Through a New Perspective
- 2013: Exchanging ideas: Culture snapshot
- 2014: New way of learning: Applied Imagination
- 2015: Develop yourself: Design the future

Over time, ISWinT evolved from a student conference in neighbouring countries to a genuine international festival. During the 22 editions, a total number of over 1800 students from over 60 nations have participated in ISWinT. Also the countries that have shown up on the ISWinT map are from the furthest corners of the world, with different cultures and with a rich cultural history.

Thus, ISWinT has become relevant due to its innovation in expression, communication and interaction, but also a well defined tradition by its longevity. The words that would best describe ISWinT would be multiculturalism, dream, innovation, creativity, interaction, development, spirit, friendship and memories.

# ISWINT 2015



In 2015, the festival's 22nd edition, between July 22nd - August 3rd, managed to gather over 100 foreign students in Timisoara. Every ISWinT edition is built around a specific theme that attempts to encompass issues and needs of young people from all around the world.

The theme of the 2015 edition was **Develop Yourself: Design the Future** and its main purpose was the personal development of young people, considering that they are the ones to shape the future. In order for it to have as big an impact as possible over the development of the students, we designed 14 workshops from various fields for the participants. Either passionate by culinary arts, photography, world politics, public speaking, art or technology, participants took part in workshops held by some of the best trainers. Besides the workshops, the participants took part in different activities organised for them, some of them open to the public. The most important of these were: the International Night, where the participants had the opportunity to present food from their home country as well as different customs and traditional drinks; the International Day, which took place on Mărășești Street, where they danced and interacted with the people of Timișoara; the ISWinT Parade, where the students, equipped with national flags and vuvuzelas, marched on the city streets, celebrating multiculturalism and launching lanterns in the centre of Timișoara.

Sometimes bearing through heat, other times through rain, both the organisers and the participants had the opportunity to exchange intercultural ideas, traditions and information. All of them found their place in the great family of ISWinT and left for home with a baggage full of knowledge, precious memories and close friendships.





## *International Student Week in Timișoara*

After 23 years of ISWinT, in a world dominated by technology, where globalisation plays a major role, creative solutions and the ability to overcome cultural differences in international collaboration become essential to a balanced future of the world we live in.

This year's theme, **Create. Improve. Apply.** focuses, through the proposed workshops, on developing the creative and innovative capacity of participating students. The approach is a practical one, challenging them to overcome personal limits in fields such as management, art and technology. Besides established workshops, such as photography, gastronomy or public speaking, the ISWinT 2016 proposes a new series of themes, including film production, home automation or financial education.

Besides the workshops, ISWinT comes with a series of activities meant to encourage interaction between participants, creating a favourable environment for exchanging ideas and intercultural experiences.

Moreover, through the open events, such as the Official Opening, the ISWinT Parade or International Day, we intend to expose students to the beauty and magic of Timișoara and its inhabitants.

At the end of the ten days spent in ISWinT, participants will return home with a new perspective over things, with unforgettable experiences and many close friends from all corners of the world.

# COORDINATOR'S WORDS

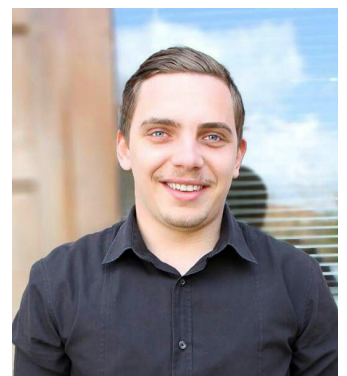
I remember the autumn of 2013, my first days as a volunteer in Liga AC, when people were still frequently discussing the ISWinT edition that just took place earlier that year. I was surprised that, although a long time has passed since, organisers and participants of the festival were still keeping in touch and reminiscing. From that moment on, I wanted to know everything. Some time had passed until I understood why no one could give me a straight answer to the question "What is this ISWinT and what is happening there?".

Once I became an organiser I realised, in a short period of time, that ISWinT is much more complex than I ever would have thought. I started off as a simple member of a department, becoming more aware of the festival's impact and the importance of its proper organisation only during the festival. New people, different cultures, days full of activities, sleepless nights, enthusiasm, work and dedication - all these left me astounded at how much we could achieve as a team.

Noticing at the end of the festival the bonds that were created between people from different parts of the world, people that not long ago didn't know each other and had no idea about each other's cultures, left me determined to get involved more and more, until I became the coordinator of the 2016 edition of ISWinT.

I cannot describe in such few words what ISWinT means to me, but I can tell you that the experience of participating, as well as organising it, is priceless and especially unforgettable. Together we form a family that I can proudly say I belong to - the ISWinT family.

**Flavius FUDULU**  
ISWinT 2016 Coordinator



# EVENTS

## Opening

ISWinT's official opening takes place in a festive setting, reuniting both participants and organisers, institutions from Timișoara and partners of the project, local and national media, as well as anyone interested, as it is an event open to the public. This event marks the beginning of the ten days of activities that will enrich the city, transforming it into a genuinely international multicultural centre.



## ISWinT Parade

The diversity and multiculturalism of the countries our participants come from is emphasised most during the ISWinT Parade. Over a well determined route, foreign students, together with organisers and various informal groups, make their presence noticed in Timișoara. The event never lacks flags and emblems specific to every participating nation. Thus, the people of Timișoara have the opportunity to interact with various cultures.





# EVENTS



## Romanian Night

An international event means multiculturalism and diversity, but considering that the festival is hosted by us, Romanian traditions and customs cannot miss. Therefore, for a night, all students are invited to celebrate in Romanian style. Traditional costumes, cuisine and obviously, music fill the night when we make our culture and customs known abroad.

## International Night

ISWinT promotes multiculturalism in Timișoara. The peak moment of the week is, without doubt, the International Night. During this night we “travel” around the world and discover customs and traditions from every participating country. Unique costumes, specific to certain regions, songs and dances, food prepared by the participants themselves and last, but not least, a part of their own culture are presented in this wonderful night.



## International Day

For one week, Timișoara becomes home to a wonderful cultural mix. Indirect interaction between students and people of Timișoara exists during the entire festival. However, to the inhabitants of the city, the most important event where they can directly come into contact with the participants is the International Day. During this day, anyone who is curious about the traditions of the various cultures participating in the festival or wants to make friends from all around the world can join the event.





# EVENTS

## Sightseeing

The idea behind ISWinT is an innovative one, so the location where it takes place cannot go unnoticed. Being a multicultural centre, Timișoara is presented to the participants through a journey which reveals the history of the city, its landmarks and architecture.



## ISWinT Olympics

Olympic contests, where many nations take part are the among the most popular events in the world. ISWinT noticed this and, since 2012, the ISWinT Olympics challenges students from all across the world. This year, the fourth edition encourages participants to break previous records and enter ISWinT history. The trials that students are subjected to are, mostly, hilarious and require them to use their ingenuity and work as teams.



## Workshop

The last one in a long series of events organised during International Student Week in Timișoara is the Workshop. It is the moment when the participants present the products of the workshops to the attending public. It is the moment when the fruits of their labour are best seen. It also marks the end of yet another successful edition of the festival.



# WORKSHOPS



## ANALYSE. PLAN. TRACK.

Project management consists of applying specific knowledge, capabilities, instruments and techniques for projects' activities, which have objectives, goals and requirements defined, related to time, cost, quality and performance parameters, activities considered as important and adequate for financing. Time, cost, quality and performance are constraints to a project. This workshop will come to the aid of the participants willing to start a career in project management, by helping them complete both their personal and professional projects.



## BUILD. LEAD. INSPIRE.

Leadership is the main component of change, ensuring vision, as well as dedication required to achieve these. Although impressive results of some leaders leave the impression that they cannot be reached other than through innate ability, leadership is in fact an ability formed through education, novel experiences, interaction with people and, of course, practice. All these components will be approached over the course of the workshop, giving the participants a valuable baggage of knowledge that will successfully assist them in all their future ventures as leaders.



## DESIGN. PROMOTE. SELL.

Marketing plays an important part in the economic, social, political and cultural system of a country. Many economists consider that its importance is proportional to the degree of development of that country. In the elaboration of a publicity program, marketing managers must always begin with identifying the target audience and the purchase reasons of consumers. In this context, the workshop's purpose is to give participants knowledge about techniques that form the basis of product promotion and selling.



## SAVE. INVEST. GAIN.

We live in a world where financial education plays a major role in everyone's life. A good understanding of the way money can be earned, but especially saved, is essential to any young person interested in increasing his earnings. There are numerous up to date financial instruments that, when used properly, can successfully contribute to the execution of any project. This workshop aims to introduce participants in the financial management area, approaching issues such as earnings management, expenses reduction, profitable investments and savings in order to accomplish personal objectives.



## DARE. SPEAK. CONQUER.

It is well known that any young person's greatest fear. Manipulating the emotions that overrun you during a speech is an art that can be mastered through stoicism and rest, awarding personal growth. Talking in front of many people without getting nervous and losing yourself is important, but can be very tough in the beginning. Presenting personal ideas and trying to make other people believe in them, supporting you in the meantime, can be a hard thing to achieve without proper training. Fear is to blame, fear that participants of this workshop will learn to control and even eliminate.



## STORM. THINK. SOLVE.

Creativity is characterised by the ability to perceive the world in new ways, to find hidden patterns, to make connections between apparently unrelated phenomena and concepts, and to generate practical solutions. Daily routine however, together with social conditioning, often produce mental shortcuts that could prevent the ability to think creatively. During this workshop, participants will learn to apply techniques that will allow them to approach complex problems in a structured manner and generate creative solutions.



# WORKSHOPS

## CAMERA. LIGHTS. ACTION.

Film production is characterised by a special complexity, reuniting mechanics, optics, chemistry, electronics and many other activities in a specific shape. Making a movie requires three main steps: script writing, preparation period and production period.

Throughout this workshop the participants will have the opportunity to learn how to produce their own film, in a step by step manner, and also what to do and not to do for guaranteed success.

## CONTROL. ENHANCE. ENJOY.

Nowadays, more and more devices can be connected to the Internet. From computers to home appliances, they can take users' commands, rapidly completing them, making what is known as "Internet of Things", which over the past few years has become a key element in home automation.

During this workshop participants will learn the basics of designing, programming and assembling their own home automation system, with all the necessary materials and support at their disposal.

## AIM. ZOOM. SNAP.

One of the most wide-spread hobbies is photography. It is a bridge between the photographer and the moments he experiences, moments ranging from seeing a breathtaking landscape during a trip, to witnessing unique life events. Through this workshop the participants also have the opportunity to capture such special moments and places. They will live an adventure between the past and the future, passing through immortalized moments, either outside or in a studio.

## IMAGINE. SKETCH. ADJUST.

Art is, essentially, the most profound expression of human creativity. Every object around us has, or could have, a designer behind it. This workshop will give participants an insight into the methods and thinking of a modern graphic designer and how each idea is transformed into art.

They will learn the basics of graphic editing using software like Photoshop and Illustrator, applying design principles together with imagination to create unique visual work.

## LISTEN. SAMPLE. COMPOSE.

There are people that, regardless of the sounds around them, either leaves rustling, a car's engine or a clock's ticking, perceive them in a special way, in a harmony that, for them, is not just noise, but music.

This alternative music workshop will teach participants to break the barriers which say that music means just violin, trumpet or piano. They will make music out of anything, the only limiting factor being their own imagination.

## SEARCH. COOK. TASTE.

People often, mistakenly, think that the term gastronomy refers exclusively to the art of cooking, but this is just a small part of this science. It cannot always be said that a chef is also a gourmet. In this workshop we attempt to make a connection between the different cultures present at the festival with the assistance of food. Starting off from basics in the kitchen, towards the fusion of different food types specific to participating countries, this workshop is an adventure that will thrill your every taste bud.

<https://ligaac.ro>



PROJECT DEVELOPED BY  
THE STUDENTS LEAGUE OF THE FACULTY OF AUTOMATION AND COMPUTERS

**FLAVIUS FUDULU**

ISWinT Coordinator  
+40 746 909 326  
flavius.fudulu@iswint.ro

**MIHAI BOIAN**

ISWinT Vicecoordinator  
+40 756 090 118  
mihai.boian@iswint.ro

**ANDREI LAȚCU**

Fundraising Coordinator  
+40 747 770 536  
andrei.latcu@iswint.ro

**ANCA ILIENESCU**

Public Relations Coordinator  
+40 732 796 646  
anca.ilienescu@iswint.ro

<https://iswint.ro>