

# TeSaU International Success

The International Relations office at Telavi State University has been actively cooperating with European and American universities for many years. The goal stays the same – to raise students' knowledge and to give professors an opportunity to get the European experience through participating in international exchange programs.

Currently, four international projects funded by the European Commission are running at Telavi State University. One of them is DOIT (Development of an International Model for Curricular Reform in Multicultural and Cultural Diversity Training), aiming to develop an international model for multicultural education. The project has a duration of two years. It will come to an end in October of 2014.

A number of activities have already been held within the framework of the DOIT project including local and international workshops. TESAU volunteer

students also examined the involvement of ethnic minorities in university life. As a result, future activities have been planned.

The second international project being held at TESAU is SUTOMA (Development of New Modules for International Bachelor and Master Programs in sustainable Tourism Management). The project aims to develop new models for international BA and MA programs in the field of sustainable tourism. The project duration is three years. It will come to an end in 2015.

The project sets out to develop a new course on the basis of already existing programs for the partner universities. Twelve working groups have been formed. Various workshops have been held within the project. A month ago, the IR Office organized a workshop for the representatives of the tourist sector. The meeting was productive not only for TESAU, but also for the



employers and employees.

The European Commission is also funding a project called CASEDE (Developing Student Career Center Services in Georgia), which aims to establish a career center in Georgia. It is noteworthy that the implementation of a career center at Telavi State University is a part of the university's strategic plan.

Finally, the fourth international project is the CIBELES - Forestry BA program. The project began in 2010 and will be completed on October 15 of this year.

Michael Zasada, a Professor at Warsaw University in Poland, recently visited TeSaU in the framework of the CIBELES project. He conducted a week-long training course on the GIZ program utilizing both theoretical and practical field work.

The workshops are held twice a month. The project members discuss the current situation, solve problems and plan the future activities.

The BOM UP project is another successful project at TeSaU. The project aims to establish the BA level course Project Management (Construction). It

is a joint project of Telavi State University and the Biberach University of Applied Sciences. It is enabled by the Volkswagen Foundation. Within the framework of the project two minor programs have been successfully implemented since 2009: Construction Management and Project Management.

Various Free Credit subjects are also offered to students. The following activities have already been carried out: presentations of program and free elective subjects, as well as banner printing activities. BOM UP was presented at the International Education Exhibition 2013. The information has been regularly spreading about the DAAD exchange program, which provides students the opportunity to expand their knowledge at higher education institutions located in Germany. Within the project, research has been carried out on the following issues: students/professors participation in university life and teaching quality at TeSaU.

The following exchange programs are running currently at Telavi State University: ERASMUS MUNDUS, a one semester exchange program at

IBSU, and the Turkish summer school exchange program.

Our university has been involved in the ERASMUS MUNDUS project since 2007.

TeSaU actively cooperates with the International Black Sea University. Among these institutions the internal exchange program has been carried out. It allows students to spend one semester at IBSU. The main requirement is knowledge of the Turkish and English languages.

Successful students are given opportunities to take part in a summer school organized by IBSU organized in Turkey, and TeSaU students are offered a chance to visit the neighboring country, as well as familiarize themselves with Turkish traditions, cuisine, and others. IRO additionally conducts internal university research on regular bases. The research covers different active topics and reveals students opinions in any regard.

The service is quite productive and successful, as above mentioned exchange programs enabled many students to study free of charge in prestigious universities abroad.



## BIAFF announces festival program and jury members

The Batumi International Art-House Film Festival (BIAFF) has selected the films for all three category genres for the international film competition – fiction, documentary and short film. The program also features several Georgian films. Among them is Zaza Rusadze's *A Fold in my Blanket*, which premiered at the Berlinale Film Festival and now will be screened at BIAFF. In the documentary film genre, Nino Orjonikidze and Vano Arsenashvili's film *The English Teacher* will also be screened during the festival.

The competition's films will be judged by an international jury comprised of the following members:

**Fiction jury:** Marlen Khutsiev (Russia), Yepim Ustaodlu (Turkey), Jim Stark (USA), Wieslaw Saniewski (Poland), Lela Ochauri (Georgia).

**Documentary jury:** Andrzej Fidyk (Poland), Anton Mazurov (Russia), Emel Celebi (Turkey), Ruben Gevorgiants (Armenia), Tinatin Gurchiani (Georgia)

**Short-film jury:** Aleksandra Rekhviashvili (Georgia), Mehmet Ali Arslan (Turkey), Raffi Movsisyan (Armenia), Margarita Kasimova (Belarus), Baadur Tsuladze (Georgia).

Georgia Today presents the festivals full list films being screened at BIAFF:

**BIAFF 2013 – Fiction film list:** *A Field in England*, Ben Wheatly (UK), *A Fold in my Blanket*, Zaza Rusadze (Georgia), *Before Snowfall*, Hisham Zaman (Norway, Germany, Iraq), *Fatshaker*, Mohammad Shirvani (Iran), *Fifth Season*, Peter Brosens and Jessica Woodworth (Belgium, France, Netherlands), *Fill the Void*, Rama Brustein (Israel), *Geographer Drank His Globe Away*, Alexander Veleinsky (Russia),

*Lifelong*, Asli Ozge (Turkey, Germany, Netherlands), *Parajanov*, Serge Avedikian and Olena Fesisova (Ukraine, France, Georgia, Armenia), *The Fourth Child*, Vahid Mousaian (Iran).

**BIAFF 2013 – Documentary film list:** *Act of Killing*, Joshua Oppenheimer (Denmark, Norway, UK), *Bad Boy – High Security Cell*, Janusz Mrozowski (France, Poland), *Balkan Spirit*, Hermann Vaske (Germany), *Blood Brother*, Steve Hoover (USA), *English Teacher*, Nino Orjonikidze and Vano Arsenishvili (Georgia), *Five Broken Cameras*, Emad Burnat and Guy Davidi (Palestine, Israel, France, Netherlands), *Man who made angels fly*, Victoria Szymanska (Poland, France, UK), *Pipeline*, Vitaly Manski (Russia, Germany, Czech Republic), *Pussy Riot: A Punk Prayer* (Russia, UK).

**BIAFF 2013 – Short film list:** *Doctor*, Giorgi Todria (Georgia), *Outsider*, Giorgi Kavtaradze (Georgia), *Parcel from Athens*, Ketigigalashvili (Georgia), *Happy Meal*, Kote Takaishvili (Georgia), *Koan*, Omar Rabuilla (Spain), *Melting island*, Fariz Akhmedov (Azerbaijan), *Solitude*, Dimitry Dedok (Belarus), *Once Upon a Time in Kälviä*, Eero Lehtinen (Finland), *Hollywood movie*, Volker Schreiner (Germany), *Farther*, Ainur Ismailova (Kazakhstan), *Studio Beirut*, Mokhtar Beyrouth (Lebanon), *More than Two hours*, Ali Asgari (Iran), *Now And Forever*, Tal Haring (Israel), *Mother*, Eukasz Ostalski (Poland), *Miruna*, Piotr Su³kowski (Poland), *No Hair, No Paranoia*, Curro Rodriguez Villalilla (Spain, USA), *Antoin Firkliko*, Mathias Staub (Switzerland), *Dream Girl*, Oliver Sawrz (Switzerland), *F5*, Timofei Shalnin

(Russia), *Take a deep breath* (Turkey), *Salvation*, Nikon Romanchenko (Ukraine), *No less than 50 kg.*, Maryna Artemenko (Ukraine), *The search for inspiration gone*, Ashley Michael Brigs (UK), *Good Night*, Muriel D'Ansembourg (UK), *Tumult*, Johnny Barrington (UK).

**Non-Competition list of films:**  
**Georgian Panorama:** *Ara Megobaro* and *Imago Mundi*, Gio Mgeladze; *Laguna Vere*, Dato Ujmajuridze, *Wine Cradle*, Merab Kokochvili.

**Masters Collection:** *Best offer*, Gueseppe Tornatore (Italy), *Eternal Homecoming*, Kira Muatova (Ukraine), *Girl and the Death*, Jos Stelling (Germany, Netherlands, Russia), *Grandmaster*, Wong Kar-wai (China, Hong Kong), *Great Beauty*, Paolo Sorrentino (Italy), *Pieta*, Kim Ki Duk (Korea), *Walesa*, Andrzej Wajda (Poland), *Young & Beautiful*, Fransua Ozon (France),

**Focus on the UK:** *British Guide of Showing off*, Jes Benstock; *Borrowed Time*, Jules Bishop; *Look of Love*, Michael Winterbottom.

**Music World:** *Jimi Hendrix*, Joe Boyd (USA), *Tonight Let's make Love in London*, Peter Whitehead (UK), *Dreams of Music Teacher*, Evgeny Gorin (Russia).

**Attendance of the Festival:** the screenings will take place at three venues: Apolo Cinema, Conference Hall at Radisson Blu Batumi (Short films) and the open-air screening on Batumi Boulevard (after 8:30 pm).

Attendance is free-of-charge, however prior reservation is advised in order to insure a seat during the screenings.

For more information and reservation, please visit: <http://biaff.org/>

## American Literature Week



The IB Mthiebi boarding school, in partnership with the American Friendship Youth Club, organized the project American Literature Week, where for one week, secondary and high-school students from IB Mthiebi translated modern American literary masterpieces from English into Georgian. These pieces included Mary Flannery O'Connor's *A Good Man Is Hard to Find*, Isaac Asimov's *Robot Dreams* and James Thurber's *The Tigris and Her Mate*.

Within the framework of the project, representatives of the American Friendship Youth Club held a presentation at the school where the students had an opportunity to attend the lecture "American Literature" and get involved in discussions with one another and the guests. During the first term, the high school students also had a meeting with American lecturer Brian Smith, who introduced them to American Literature of the 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century.

American Literature Week was led

by Mthiebi's Head of the Department of English, Salome Chkheidze; secondary English language teacher, Natalia Mirgatia, and the American Friendship Youth Club.

The IB Mthiebi Boarding School expresses its gratitude to the following students who were involved in American Literature Week: Ana Zhamutashvili, Mariam Surguladze, Salome Jinjaradze, Lizi Makharadze, Archil Khvedelidze, Nikoloz Gamkrelidze, Guga Jamburia, Iliia Mazmiashvili, Alexandre Beria, Nikoloz Khachiashvili, Giorgi Devdariani, Luka Gochitashvili, Vaktang Sulaberidze, Ana Totoghashvili, Salome Jinjaradze, Lizi Makharadze, Nutsa Sabashvili, Mariam Saichenko, Nano Ablotia, Giorgi Andzavelidze, Giorgi Badriashvili, Nana Avtunashvili, Ana Chanishvili, and Natalia Dziziguri.

The boarding school and its department of English will continue its close partnership with the American Friendship Youth Club.