

SCIENTIFIC EVENT: STUDENT SCIENTIFIC SESSION AT FACULTY OF FOOD ENGINEERING, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, 2020

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Abstract: Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection from “Aurel Vlaicu” University of Arad organized on November 26rd -27th 2020 The 18th Edition of the Student Scientific Session. Within the general program, 10 parallel sessions were carried out. In the present article, we have been focused on the first on-line edition, due to SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, with 2 sessions that were organized by the Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection: (1) Engineering and Environmental Science, Environmental Protection, Biodiversity, Health, Applied Biology, and (2) Food Technology, Food Engineering, Nutrition, Food Quality and Food Security, Agrotourism Management, Sustainability. In those three sessions were held 15 oral scientific presentations and 13 posters by students from diverse Romanian universities. This event attracted more than 70 attendees from academia.

Keywords: scientific students’ symposium, scientific presentations, posters, interdisciplinary, science and engineering, ethics.

Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection from “Aurel Vlaicu” University of Arad, Romania, organized on November 26rd -27th 2020 The 18th Edition of the Student Scientific Session at Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection. Since 2016, this event was organized each year, in Arad, Romania and due to its heterogeneity in scientific topics many students presented their scientific results (>200 presentations) and attendees from academia were present.

The program contains 2 sessions:

- Session I: Environmental Science and Engineering, Environmental Protection, Biodiversity, Health, Applied Biology;
- Session II: Food Technology, Food Engineering, Nutrition, Food Quality and Food Security, Agrotourism Management, Sustainability.

Due to SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the event held in 2020 was on-line, via ZOOM, and the diverse results obtained in University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca; Banat University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine „King Michael 1st of Romania” from Timisoara; ”Dunărea de Jos” University from Galati; Politehnica University from Bucharest; University of Agronomic Sciences

and Veterinary Medicine from Bucharest; “Alexandru Ioan Cuza” University from Iasi; University of Oradea; „Babeş-Bolyai” University from Cluj-Napoca, and „Aurel Vlaicu” of Arad were presented.

The virtual scientific meetings, including symposiums, conferences were held and continue to be held in hybrid or on-line in 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic (Hoogendoorn and Aye, 2020, Kindstedt, 2019, Olena, 2020, Woolston, 2020).

The main objectives of this free of charge symposium are:

- To connect students and research groups, share knowledge, establish research partnerships;
- To present and promote the scientific, engineering, and technological development research results obtained by students from bachelor, master, and doctoral (Ph.D.) studies and their research groups from national research institutes and universities;
- To stimulate invention, innovation and raising awareness of the importance of networking, socializing, brain-storming, debate;
- To enhance the importance and role in life and society of scientific research, hear talks and posters’ presentations, raise

questions, open new research perspectives, to participate to the award ceremony.

The first day of the symposium begun with a Welcome Speech in which the Rector of “Aurel Vlaicu” University, Prof. Dr. Ramona Lile; Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Codruta Stoica, Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Alexandru Popa, Dean of Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Virgiliu Ciutina; Director of Department of Technical and Natural Sciences: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Monica Lungu, and Research responsible of Department of Technical and Natural Sciences: Prof. Dr. Habil. Dana Copolovici had presented the event, and welcomed all the participants (Fig. 1).

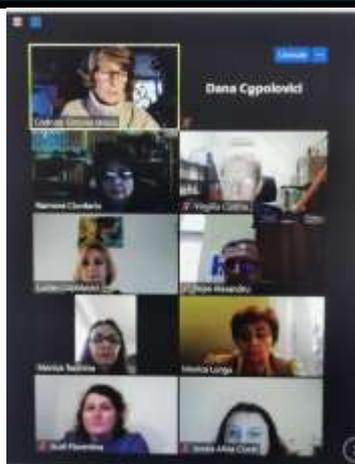
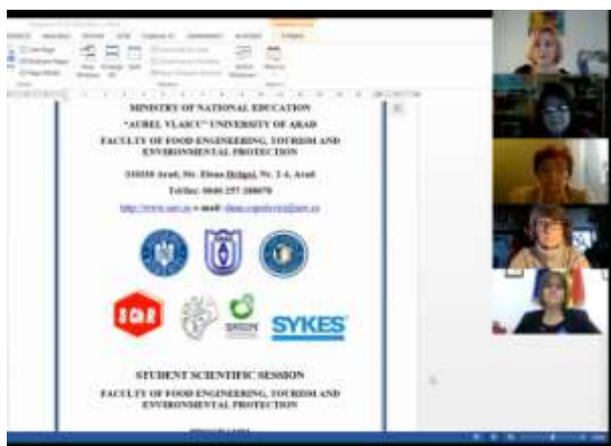


Fig. 1. Welcome speech from the Rector of “Aurel Vlaicu” University, Prof. Dr. Ramona Lile; Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Codruta Stoica, Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Alexandru Popa, Dean of Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Virgiliu Ciutina; Director of Department of Technical and Natural Sciences: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eng. Monica Lungu, and Research responsible of Department of Technical and Natural Sciences: Prof. Dr. Habil. Dana Copolovici.

In the first session were presented nine oral presentations and six posters with wide exciting themes: anthropogenic and biogenic pollutants’ evaluation and monitoring in soil, water, wastewater, and air; applications of essential oils, agricultural waste management, health related topics: influence of food additives and COVID-19 on human immune system, relationship between Alzheimer's disease and diabetes, etc.

- Oral presentations:

1st Prize: Gherghe Radu-Ștefan
Politehnica University from Bucharest, Romania

2nd Prize: Flavia Borteș
“Aurel Vlaicu” University, Romania

3rd Prize: Chereji Bianca Denisa
“Aurel Vlaicu” University, Romania

Honorary Mention:

Ionela Șuibea
“Aurel Vlaicu” University of Arad, Romania

Mirabela-Elena Raț
“Aurel Vlaicu” University of Arad, Romania

-Poster presentations:

1st Prize: Angela Corina Popițanu
University of Oradea, Romania

2nd Prize: Monica Tășchină
“Aurel Vlaicu” University, Romania

3rd Prize: Adrian Bodescu
“Babes-Bolyai” University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

The judges of this session which evaluated all the presentations were: Prof. dr. habil. Florentina Munteanu, Prof. dr. habil. Lucian Copolovici, Assoc Prof. dr. habil. Dorina Chambre, and Assoc Prof. dr. Virgiliu Ciutina from “Aurel Vlaicu” University.

In the second session, held on the second day of the event, were presented six oral presentations and nine posters with interesting themes: obtaining and evaluation of innovative and sustainable food products, ethical and security aspects of food products, evaluation of potential uses of plants extracts.

- Oral presentations:

1st Prize: Anamaria Mihaly
University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca; Romania.
2nd Prize: Maria Florina Roșca

University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca; Romania.

3rd Prize: Ioana Isabela Dumitraşcu

University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Cluj-Napoca; Romania.

Honorary Mentions:

Simona Chişmore

Universitatea "Aurel Vlaicu", din Arad

Ionela Marinela Rotar

Universitatea "Aurel Vlaicu", din Arad

Maria Chifor

Universitatea "Aurel Vlaicu", din Arad

-Poster presentation

1st Prize: Ştefania-Adelina Milea

"Dunărea de Jos" University of Galati, Romania

2nd Prize: Nina-Nicoleta Condurache

"Dunărea de Jos" University of Galati, Romania

3rd Prize: Mioara Gabriela Slavu (Ursu)

"Dunărea de Jos" University of Galati, Romania.

Mentiune: Purda Denisa-Emilia, Şerpescu

Patricia Florentina, Daniela Diaconescu

"Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad, Romania.

The judges of the second session, which evaluated the presentations, were: Prof. Dr. Habil. Dana Copolovici, Assoc. Prof. dr. Dana Radu, Assoc. Prof. dr. Daniela Diaconescu, and Lecturer dr. Claudiu Ursachi from "Aurel Vlaicu" University.

The award ceremony was the best way to close the event, and the judges gave to each session: 1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes and Honorable Mentions, to recognize the work/results and to motivate further the participants to become good professionals in their domain.

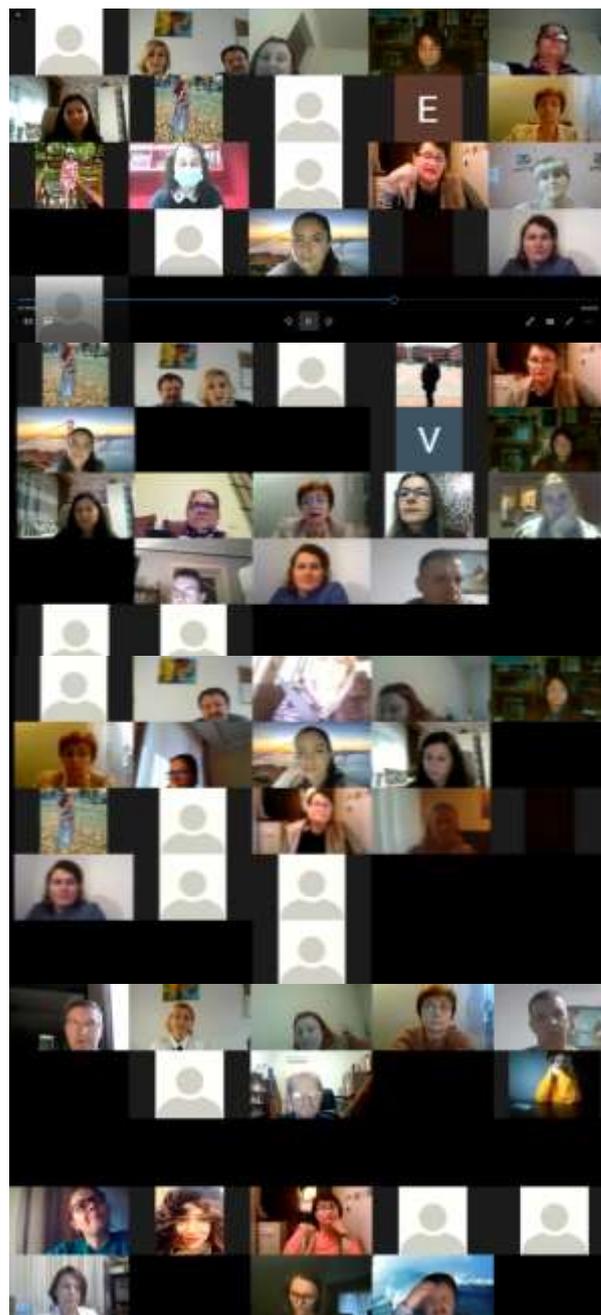




Fig. 2. Presentations held at The 18th Edition of the Student Scientific Session at Faculty of Food Engineering, Tourism and Environmental Protection, November 26th -27th 2020, on-line.

Due to current social problems, such as COVID-19 pandemic, climate changes, we believe that the future scientific events will continue to be held in virtual and/or hybrid formats. We agree that there are differences between in-person interaction and digitally-based interaction, and for students' events (symposiums, conferences, workshops, etc.) is very important that the hybrid/on-line formats will be emphasized in the future. In this way the scientific events will have more participants and the international participation will begin/increase in the near future, which is the main goal of our Students Scientific Session from "Aurel Vlaicu" University of Arad, Romania.

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