



NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

Thursday, July 21

THE 23rd CENTRAL EUROPEAN OLIMPIAD IN INFORMATICS PIATRA NEAMȚ, ROMÂNIA, JULY 18 – 23, 2016

The first day of the competition in the Central European Olympiad in Informatics from Piatra Neamt began with a tough test consisting of three problems conceived by the National Scientific Commission and discussed with the team-leaders of the participating teams. The time for solving was 5 hours, throughout the testing the competitors being allowed to submit questions to the commission.

The online competition, held simultaneously and having the same tasks, was attended by students from around the world, the students from the National College of Informatics, Piatra Neamt, being among the participants. In the multimedia lab the team-leaders could watch, in real time, the competitors' partial results projected on a screen.

In the afternoon, the guests were offered the opportunity to relax, the organizers having planned a trip to the Red Lake area – The Bicaz Gorges. All the participants in the competition, both teachers and students, accompanied by volunteers from Piatra Neamt, enjoyed a special afternoon in one of the most beautiful mountain areas of the region, visiting not only the surroundings of the Red Lake but also the Spring Mountain artificial Lake. They were impressed by the grandeur of nature in Bicaz Gorges, and by man's complex design from Bicaz Hydroelectric Dam.

The evening ended in a festive atmosphere, with a Romanian dinner held at a prestigious local restaurant. The foreign guests were impressed, not only with the Romanian traditional food, but also with the music and dance specific to the Romanian people. A group of dancers belonging to the Children's Palace presented an exciting programme, inviting all the guests to join them.



Interview

Clara Ionescu – President of Honour CEOI

Q: Please tell us some thoughts about the first edition of the CEOI in Romania.



A: First of all, the first CEOI – in 1994 – was a real challenge. Everybody: participants and organisers faced unknown events. The best thing I remember, was the trust of our guests, they were sure that we would be able to make everything which was needed. I remember a part of team leaders who – in turn – just smiled: “ok, go on, everything is fine.” Ivo Separovici from Croatia, Stanislaw Waligorski from Poland, Vaclav Sedlacek from the Czech Republic, Iurii Mocanu from Moldavia and other teachers became friends of ours. In 1994 I was full of enthusiasm and courage, but it was not enough. The experience obtained during the first BOI was important, but without the help and skills of prof. Horia Georgescu and many other people, including my colleagues and my family it could not have been realised. The tasks were nice and difficult, and, even if it is quite hard to understand, we didn't have automatic evaluation. But such missing things were unnoticed, because we were very good hosts. The major result was the proposal of Hungary to continue, and they organised the second edition of CEOI in Szeged in 1995.

Q: Do you remember any funny incident during one of the contest's edition?

A: It happened in Croatia in 2006. A curious young reporter asked me: “Mrs Clara, let me ask you, how can you explain that all of the contestants are boys? What can you tell about the girls?” I presume, that you imagine it was an embarrassing situation... It was impossible to say: the girls are not interested, or they are not able... Anyway, still now this is a valid question: where are the girls?

Q: What is your message for the contestants who participated in this edition?

A: I don't think that this is the case to give you advice concerning the studies. You are all on the top. So, I prefer to ask you to leave the computer as often as possible, to search for people who are worth knowing and befriend them, to analyse the world which besets us, to visit beautiful places which are worth seeing, to read books which are worth reading. I end my message by wishing you good luck not only in the competitions, but in whole your life!

Florentina Ungureanu – chairperson CEOI

I would like to emphasize the fact that you, the young generations, represent the future of our humanity, the ones who will nurture the well-being of world science and technology.

The primary goal of the CEOI is to stimulate interest in informatics and information technology. Another important goal is to bring together exceptionally talented pupils from various countries and to have them share scientific and cultural experiences.

In the end, may you have inspiration and great achievements during this Olympiad!



Előd György – member of technical committee

Q: How many years of experience do you have in this field?

A: Concerning the technical side, I have been working since the '95, so, this is about 20 years.

Q: Did you also take part in the Technical Committee of the previous edition organized in Romania, in 2009?

A: Yes, it was in Targu Mures, and to be honest, it was a little bit more difficult than this one because it was the first edition I had taken part to.

Q: Is this the first time you have participated in an International Committee?

A: No, I also participated in the Balkan Olympiad in Informatics in 2011, and CEOI 2009.

Q: Is there any difference between the International Technical Committee and the National one? If yes, what is it?

A: Technically speaking, there isn't any difference. And if you speak English pretty good, communicating with the others is an easy thing.

Q: If you hadn't worked in informatics, what would you have done?

A: If I hadn't worked in informatics, I think I would have reconverted to the architecture's field because I was passionate of this, but I changed my mind.



Gheorghe Manolache - member of technical committee

Q: How many years of experience do you have in this field?

A: I don't know exactly, but I am sure it's over 30 years. That's because I haven't worked in others fields but informatics.

Q: Did you also take part in the Technical Committee of the previous edition organized in Romania, in 2009?

A: No, I didn't.

Q: Is this the first time you have participated in the International Committee?

A: Yes. But I also participated in the National ones.

Q: Is there any difference between the International Technical Committee and the National one? If yes, what is?

A: Yes. It's about a different approach, a wider range of exercises, and a higher workload.

Q: If you hadn't worked in informatics, what would you have done?

A: Tough question. However, I think I would have chosen mathematics or any other science.



Gregor Matl – the team leader of the German team

Q: How was your journey to Romania? Did you face any difficulties?

A: It was difficult but we're here now, we didn't face any other difficulties beside the fact that the journey was very long: we stopped first in Bucharest, then Iasi, and we eventually arrived at Piatra-Neamt.

Q: I see. I'd like to ask you some questions about your team. How was it selected?

A: They all got here by winning a National Contest.

Q: So they're the best in informatics from Germany. Do you have a role model in informatics?

A: That's a tough question. Well, there is a professor, well known in Germany but not internationally, I appreciate him very much.

Q: I saw the plush beaver you're keeping with you. Did he play any role in this journey? Why did you take it?

A: It's our "amulet". This plush beaver brings us luck.

Q: Very interesting, thank you for your time, I wish you good luck tomorrow at the contest.



Mário Lipovský – the deputy leader of the Slovakian team

Q: Can you describe your country in three words?

A: Mountains, castles and caves, but Slovakia isn't the only one with all of these.

Q: How was your journey to Romania?

A: Well, we slept more than the other days because we were on the airplane, so it was good I think.

Q: Did you face any difficulties?

A: Even if it wasn't the first time I had travelled by plane, it was a little bit weird because we were going up and down too fast.

Q: Is this your first time in Romania?

A: Yes, I came in this country just because I haven't been here before.

Q: What did you know about Romania before coming here?

A: I heard about Dracula and some horrible stories from my friends who came to Romania and they had some problems at the airport.

Q: What are your first impressions about Piatra Neamt?

A: I think I like it because you have trees everywhere, it's a green place. But I didn't like the poles with cables which are everywhere, like the trees.

Q: Did you also participate last year or the previous years in the CEOI?

A: Before this, I participated in the CEOI in Croatia.

Q: How was your team selected?

A: There were a few rounds of the National Olympiad. We had to do some tasks at home and we programmed for 7 hours each day to get the experience we needed, and from all, the best ones were selected.



Vlad-Mihai Rochian – contestant from the 1st Romanian team

Q: What do you think about the subjects?

A: From my point of view, the subjects were really difficult, but suitable for a good tiebreaker. Also, I can affirm that a right tiebreaker was made because partial scores were given to us.

Q: Did you have any difficulty in solving them?

A: Yes, and I think that was the idea.

Q: Do you think that the contest was well organized?

A: Until now, I can say that it has been a good one. The conditions are all right, the food is really good and food is a very important thing. So, it's really good.

Q: Did you have enough time to finish the tasks?

A: Yes, I had sufficient time to do what I knew.



Ștefan Constantin-Buliga – contestant from the 2nd Romanian team

Q: How did you find the subjects?

A: Very difficult, as I didn't know how to solve all of them.

Q: Do you think this session was well organized?

A: It was very well organized: the site worked well, the teachers knew what they were doing. I liked it.

Q: Did you have enough time to finish the subjects?

A: As I didn't know how to solve two of them, I don't know how much time I should have needed to finish them all. But if I had one more half an hour maybe I would have got more points.
Thank you for the interview.



The Palace of Culture in Iași

The Palace of Culture (Romanian: Palatul Culturii) is an edifice located in Iași, Romania. The building served for administrative and justice purposes until 1955, when its destination was changed, being assigned to the four museums nowadays united under the name of the Moldova National Museum Complex. Also, the building houses the Cultural Heritage Conservation-Restoration Centre, and hosts various exhibitions and other events.

The Palace of Culture is listed in the National Register of Historic Monuments.

The construction, started in 1906-1907, was partly built on the old ruins of the medieval Princely Court of Moldavia (1434), and partly on top of the foundations and first levels of the former neoclassic palace. It was dated to the time of Prince Alexandru Moruzi (1804-1806, architect Johan Freywald), rebuilt by Prince Mihail Sturdza (1841-1843, architect Nicolae Singurov), and dismantled in 1904-1906. It was from this latter building that the Palace inherited the legend of the 365 rooms, as many as the days within one year.



The Metropolitan Cathedral in Iași

The Metropolitan Cathedral in Iași (Romanian: Catedrala Mitropolitană din Iași), located at 16 Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt Boulevard, Iași, Romania, is the headquarters of the Romanian Orthodox Archbishop of Iași and Metropolitan of Moldavia and Bukovina, and the largest Orthodox church in Romania. It is dedicated to Saint Paraschiva, to the Presentation of Jesus and to Saint George. Its form was inspired by the late Italian Renaissance style (Trinità dei Monti in particular), with Baroque elements dominating the interior and exterior decorative features. The Metropolitan Cathedral is listed in the National Register of Historic Monuments.

The Botanical Garden in Iași

The Botanical Garden, now named after its founder, Anastasie Fătu (Romanian: Grădina Botanică "Anastasie Fătu"), is a botanical garden located in the Copou neighbourhood of Iași, Romania. Established in the year 1856 and maintained next to Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, it is the oldest and largest botanical garden in Romania.

In 1856, in the immediate vicinity of Râpa Galbenă, Anastasie Fătu founded the Botanical Garden in Iași with land bought using his own funds. In 1873, stimulated by interest expressed in Anastasie Fătu's garden, the Physicians and Naturalists Society founded a second botanical garden near the society; the second garden is now the natural history museum.



Coordinators of publications: Florentina Ungureanu - County School Inspectorate Neamț, Gabriela Blaga - National College of Informatics Piatra-Neamț, Claudia Jinaru - National College of Informatics Piatra-Neamț, Silvia Morțe - National College of Informatics Piatra-Neamț, Brândușa Stan - National College of Informatics Piatra-Neamț, Claudia Jora - "Petru Rareș" National College Piatra-Neamț, Liliana Chira - County School Inspectorate Botoșani, Georgeta Balacea - "Vasile Alecsandri" National College Galați, Marilena Oprea - County School Inspectorate Vrancea, Codruța Negruțiu - "Iulian Pop" Economic College Cluj-Napoca

Reporters from the National College of Informatics, Piatra-Neamț: Adrian Gliga, Mădălina Curcan, Ionuț Arghir, Alina Dorneanu, Matei Melinte, Florin Ungurianu, Ana-Maria Nistor, Livia Murariu, Tudor Tomescu, Vlad Marcoci, Bogdan Covrig

PARTNERS

PRIMĂRIA MUNICIPIULUI



PIATRA-NEAMȚ



CONSILIUL JUDEȚEAN



NEAMȚ



COLEGIUL NAȚIONAL DE INFORMATICĂ

Piatra-Neamț, Neamț, România, Str. Mihai Viteazu, Nr. 12, 610226
Tel/Fax: 00 40 233 227 510; 227 529; 223 252
<http://cni.nt.edu.ro> e-mail: cni_pn@yahoo.com



COLABORATORS



INSPECTORATUL
ȘCOLAR
JUDEȚEAN
BOTOȘANI



INSPECTORATUL
ȘCOLAR AL
JUDEȚULUI
MARAMUREȘ



LICEUL TEHNOLOGIC NR. 2 SIGHIȘOARA
COLEGIUL NAȚIONAL DE INFORMATICĂ „MATEI BASARAB” RÂMNICU VÂLCEA
LICEUL CU PROGRAM SPORTIV, MUNICIPIUL ROMAN
ȘCOALA GIMNAZIALĂ NR. 8, MUNICIPIUL PIATRA-NEAMȚ
ȘCOALA GIMNAZIALĂ “ALEXANDRU IOAN CUZA”, MUNICIPIUL ROMAN
LICEUL TEHNOLOGIC “ION CREANGĂ”, COMUNA PIPIRIG
LICEUL TEHNOLOGIC ADJUDENI, COMUNA TĂMĂȘENI
LICEUL TEHNOLOGIC, COMUNA NISIPOREȘTI
ȘCOALA GIMNAZIALĂ “PROF. GHEORGHE DUMITREASA”, COMUNA GIROV
SINDICATUL ÎNVĂȚĂMÂNTULUI PREUNIVERSITAR BOTOȘANI
PALATUL COPIILOR, MUNICIPIUL PIATRA-NEAMȚ
LICEUL DE ARTE „VICTOR BRAUNER”, MUNICIPIUL PIATRA-NEAMȚ
ȘCOALA GIMNAZIALĂ “NICOLAE IORGA”, COMUNA PÂNGĂRAȚI

SPONSORS

