

# CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS OF RIGA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

## IN STUDY YEAR 2019/2020

### 2019

#### September 2

The RTU Administration meets first year students at the Colonnade on Ķīpsala Island.

*Anita Straujuma* becomes the Executive Director of the RTU Development Fund (DF).

#### September 3

Professor *Jānis Krastiņš*, Head of the Chair of History and Theory of Architecture at the Faculty of Architecture (FA) of RTU and Professor *Andris Krēslis*, Senior Researcher of the Chair of Heat Engineering and Technology of the Faculty of Civil Engineering (FCE) receive the major award of the Construction Industry for a lifetime contribution «*Pamatakmens*» (Foundation Stone).

<https://www.vefkp.lv/lv/pasakumi/aktuali/apbalvojuma-buvindustrijas-liela-balva-ceremonija/655/>

#### September 10

Researchers of the Institute for Industrial Electronics and Electrical Engineering of the Faculty of Power and Electrical Engineering (FPPE) present a robust-range robot simulator at the RTU Laboratory building, 1 *Paula Valdena iela*, Ķīpsala.

[https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/dzive--stils/tehnologijas-un-zinatne/rtu-petijumos-piedalises-ziemeleiropa-vienigais-ipasais-robots-simulators.a331581/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_campaign=rss&utm\\_medium=links](https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/dzive--stils/tehnologijas-un-zinatne/rtu-petijumos-piedalises-ziemeleiropa-vienigais-ipasais-robots-simulators.a331581/?utm_source=rss&utm_campaign=rss&utm_medium=links)

#### September 11

Italian Ambassador to Latvia *Sebastiano Fulci* and a delegation from the University of Bergamo (*Università degli Studi di Bergamo*; Italy) visit RTU led by Rector Professor *Remo Morzenti Pellegrini*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-plano-attistit-sadarbibu-ar-bergamo-universitati>

#### September 19

In the 11th Paul Walden Symposium Paul Walden Commemorative Medal is presented to RTU Professor, Academician, Deputy Director in

scientific work of the Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis (LIOS) *Aigars Jirgensons*. Commemorative Medal is also awarded to Research Associate of Chair of Organic Chemistry of University of Rostock (*Universitaet Rostock*; Germany) and internationally renowned researcher in the history of chemistry Gisel Boeck, who receives it on 24 October at the RTU 60th International Scientific Conference in the Section «Materials Science and Applied Chemistry».

<https://www.delfi.lv/campus/raksti/pasniegs-izcila-zinatnieka-paula-valdena-pieminas-medalu?id=51468461>

### September 19–22

The international leading trade fair «Kind + Jugend» for premium baby and toddler products is held in Cologne, Germany, where *Anastasija Ribaka*, a student of the Institute of Design Technologies (IDT) of the Faculty of Materials Science and Applied Chemistry (FMSAC), holds a diploma work on multifunctional children's furniture set «Luni» – nominated for «Kids Design Award 2019».

<https://www.kindundjugend.com/events-13/kids-design-award/kids-design-award.php>

<https://www.kindundjugend.com/events-13/kids-design-award/participants/participants.php>

### September 23

With the decision of Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 632), the title of RTU Honorary Alumnus is granted to Chairman of the Management Board, Chief Executive Officer of «Latvenergo» AS *Āris Žīgurs*.

### September 24

Agreement on the establishment of the Baltic Biomaterials Centre of Excellence (BBCE) in Latvia is signed in Brussels. It is formed by RTU, LIOS, Riga Stradiņš University (RSU), RSU Institute of Stomatology, AO Research Institute Davos (ARI) in Switzerland and Biomaterials Centre of Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuernberg (*Friedrich-Alexander-Universitaet Erlangen-Nuernberg*) in Germany. The contract is signed by BBCE coordinator, RTU Professor *Jānis Ločs*.

<https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/308605-latvija-veidos-baltijas-biomaterialu-ekselences-centru-2019>

### September 26

RTU, Kaunas University of Technology (*Kauno technologijos universitetas*; Lithuania) and Tallinn University of Technology (*Tallinna Tehnikaülikool*; Estonia) agree on the establishment of a Knowledge and Innovation Contact Point «EIT RawMaterials Baltic Hub» that will help Baltic

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scientists and companies create competitive innovations in raw materials.

<https://eit.europa.eu/news-events/news/eit-rawmaterials-opens-new-innovation-hub-baltic-region>

### **In September**

RTU climbs 100 places at «QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2020» created by prestigious «QS World University Rankings», occupying 201st–250th place.

<https://www.tvnet.lv/6782385/lu-un-rtu-pakapjas-augstskolu-absolventu-nodarbinatibas-reitinga>

FCE study program «Transport Building» student team, *Romāns Kornišovs, Miks Mežvēvers and Kārlis Dedumietis*, wins 1st place in 4th International Transport Building Student Olympiad in Minsk, Belarus.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/buvniecibas-inzenierzinatnu-fakultates-transportbuvju-studenti-uzvar-starptautiska-olimpiade?fbclid=IwAR1x3e7R-Nd\\_ZX8fzLGNzkPACrOPeI5qVlyaKtUqXGT4IE-oMYbUm827p18](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/buvniecibas-inzenierzinatnu-fakultates-transportbuvju-studenti-uzvar-starptautiska-olimpiade?fbclid=IwAR1x3e7R-Nd_ZX8fzLGNzkPACrOPeI5qVlyaKtUqXGT4IE-oMYbUm827p18)

*Solveiga Medne*, Principal of RTU Engineering High School (EHS), receives the Award «*Balva Cilvēka izaugsmei*» (Award for Human Development) for her outstanding contribution to education.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zn7HUG3H5UI&>

The work of several students and graduates of RTU is highly appreciated in the competition «Sustainability in Architecture, Construction, Design 2019» in the nomination «Most Sustainable Student Idea 2019». First prize winners are graduates of FA *Rūdis Rubenis* and *Ritvars Krastiņš*, as well as *Andrejs Domkins* and «MeKA» for the exposition «*Viedais koks*» (Smart Tree). Recognition is also given to the students works of study program «Materials Technologies and Design» of FMSAC IDT: the use of recycled denim composite material for panel production by *Madara Ārente* and clothes collection «COLLISION» made from recycled materials by *Nadīna Anija Poga* and *Marta Cimdiņa*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/af/par-mums/af-zinas/atvert/rtu-studentu-darbi-augstu-noverteti-ilgtspejigu-ideju-konkursa-1>

### **October 1-2**

RTU hosts a day of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), where readings and masterclasses is held by guest lecturers from Luebeck University of Applied Sciences (*Technische Hochschule Luebeck*; Germany), Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (*Vilniaus Gedimino*

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*Technikos Universitetas*; Lithuania), Lund University (*Lunds universitet*; Sweden) and University of Gävle (*Högskolan i Gävle*; Sweden).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-notiks-elektronikas-un-elektrotehnikas-inzenieru-instituta-diena>

#### **October 4**

President of Latvia *Egils Levits* congratulates RTU EHS pupils who participated in the International Training Olympiads and their teachers: for the Bronze Medal at the Genius International Olympiad – 12th grade pupil *Kārlis Rimaševskis* (chemistry teacher *Laura Fjodorova*); for the Certificate of Recognition – 12th grade pupil *Uģis Vēvers* (biology teacher *Dace Bērtule*); for the Bronze Medal at the International Informatics Olympiad – 12th grade pupil *Kārlis Šusters* (computer science teacher *Andrejs Liepiņš*); for the Bronze Medal at the International Economic Olympiad – graduate *Elīza Elizabete Bicāne* (Economics teacher *Līga Kamola*); for the Certificate of Recognition at the International Mathematics Olympiad – graduates *Agnis Salmiņš* and Artem Ubaidullaev (Mathematics teacher *Inguna Granta*).

<http://www.izv.lv/2019/10/valsts-prezidents-sveic-rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-skolenus/>

Six universities from Latvian – RTU, LU, RSU, Ventpils University College, Liepaja University and Latvian Maritime Academy – are launching a new project «Innovation Grants for Students».

<https://skaties.lv/zinas/latvija/sabiedriba/sesas-augstskolas-sak-kopigu-programmu-studentu-uznemejdarbibas-prasmju-pilnveidei/>

#### **October 5–6**

Expanding into South Asia, RTU is opening two information and study centres in Colombo (Sri Lanka) and Chennai (India) in early October.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/srilanka-un-indija-atklati-rtu-informacijas-un-studiju-centri>

#### **October 8**

RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* and Professor *Didier Mineur*, Head of International Relations at the Paris Institute of Political Studies (Science Po; *Institut d'études politiques de Paris*; France) sign an agreement on cooperation and student exchange in the Erasmus+ project.

Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of university education of architecture in Latvia, works exhibition by students and FA faculty members of the Gold Foundation of the Chair of Fine Arts «*Līnija. Forma. Krāsa*» (Line. Shape. Colour) and the retrospective exhibition of

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architectural diploma projects «*No zīmuļa līdz datoram*» (From pencil-to-computer) as well as a discussion on the future of architectural education are held.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/acinam-svinet-latvijas-arhitekturas-izglitiba-150-jubileju>

### October 9

RTU visit Russian delegation from Pskov State University (PSU; *Псковский государственный университет*; Russia) under the guidance of Rector's Acting Duty Officer Professor Natalia Ilyin (*Наталья Анатольевна Ильина*). RTU and PSU agree to promote cooperation in studies and science.

<https://pskgu.ru/page/ad4c15ca-147c-480f-934e-cc43844a726c>

### October 10

The third RTU History Day is taking place. Section of the RTU 60th International Scientific Conference «History of Engineering Sciences and Institutions of Higher Education» unveils the third RTU RCEH Scientific Journal dedicated to the 150th Anniversary of the acquisition of university education in architecture in Latvia. In the afternoon, scientific monograph «Ernst Nauck (1819–1875). First Director of Riga Polytechnicum» in three languages (German, English and Latvian) by Professor *Alīda Zigmunde* is opened. The event is attended by Eddie Wolfgang Nauck, the great-great-great-grandson of E. Nauck, from Germany.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/kalendars/atvert/rtu-vestures-diena-atvers-gramatu-par-rigas-politehnikuma-pirmo-rektoru-e-nauku-copy>

### October 11

In commemoration of the 157th Anniversary of Riga Technical University and commemoration of founders and former rectors of the university, traditionally flowers are laid in the Great Cemetery, *Meža* Cemetery and *Matīsa* Cemetery in Riga at the former rectors resting places. The event was attended by: E. Nauk's great-great-great-grandson E. W. Nauck, Vice-Rector for Research *T. Juhna*, Administrative Director *J. Šlihte*, Student Parliament President *K. Rudoviča*, Professor *M. Šenfelde* of the Faculty of Engineering Economics and Management (FEEM) and team of RCEH: *I. Gudro*, *A. Zigmunde*, *R. Lapsa*, *E. Lapsa*.

RTU Scientific Library receives endowment – research from Latvian born American physicist *Juris Upatnieks*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/holografijas-pioniera-jura-upatnieka-zinatniskais-mantojums-nodots-rtu>

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## October 14

RTU 157th Anniversary events are taking place.

At the plenary session of the 60th International Scientific Conference different awards are presented to scientists: head of the Chair of Building Materials and Products of FCE Professor *Aleksandrs Korjakins* receives the title «RTU Scientist of the Year 2019»; Senior Researcher of the Institute of Radioelectronics of the Faculty of Electronics and Telecommunications (FET) *Anna Litviņenko* receives the award «RTU Young Female Scientist of the Year 2019»; Researcher of Institute of Materials and Structures of FCE *Māris Šinka* receives the award «RTU Young Scientist of the Year 2019»; Senior Researcher of the Institute of Polymer Materials of FMSAC *Jānis Zicāns* receives RTU Annual Award for Valorisation 2019; PhD student and researcher of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Transport and Aeronautics (FMETA) *Jānis Lungevičs* received «RTU Annual Student Award for Valorisation 2019».

Professor of the University of Houston (USA) *Olafs Daugulis* and Director of the Electronics Research Institute of the University of Shizuoka (Japan) Professor Hidenori Mimura receive RTU Honorary Doctorates Diplomas at the Senate solemn meeting.

For the second time RTU honour the best lecturers: FEEM Professor *Inga Lapiņa* receives «RTU Annual Academic Excellence Award 2019»; FCE lecturer *Raivo Kalderauskis* receives the award «RTU New Lecturer of the Year 2019»; FEEM lecturer *Aleksandra Mihņenoka* and FCE Professor *Modris Dobelis* receive development grants.

RTU lecturers who have supported students of RTU EHS are commended: RTU Rector gratefully acknowledges Associate Professor of FCE *Linda Mežule*, Senior Researcher of FMSAC *Dagnija Loča* and Senior Researcher of FMSAC *Inese Mieriņa*; Senior Researcher of the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology (FCSIT) *Inta Volodko* receives gratitude for the organization and conducting of higher mathematics classes; Professor of FMSAC *Svetlana Čornaja* receives gratitude for organizing a series of classes in physical chemistry to prepare pupils for the Olympiads.

## October 17

RTU signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the Finnish building materials company «Peikko Group Corporation». Its goal is to build a business partnership with FCE in studies, science and innovation. The Memorandum is also supported and signed by the Investment and Development Agency of Latvia (LIAA).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-sadarbosies-ar-somijas-uznemumu-peikko-group-corporation>

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Assistant Professor of FA *Dr. arch. Agrita Tipāne* receives the Award of Ltd. «*ITERA Latvija*» for her significant contribution developing the professional qualifications and skills of young architects, for the study of church architecture and for the creation of the Riga Art Nouveau Museum.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/arhitekturas-fakultates-docente-agrita-tipane-sanem-itera-latvija-balvu>

### **October 18**

Celebrating the 150th anniversary of university education in architecture in Latvia, there is a commemoration day for remembrance colleagues at the Cemeteries of *Pleskodāle, Raiņa, Meža* and *Baltezers*, the FA Solemn Council, the opening of the book «*Arhitektūras izglītībai Latvijā 150*» (Architectural Education in Latvia 150) and the meeting of architect graduates «*Zīmuļa termiņš*» (Pencil Term) takes place.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/kalendars/atvert/lielais-arhitektu-salidojums-zimula-termins>

Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* with 86 leading scientists and heads of technology universities from 33 countries participate in the meeting, discussing the challenges of science and technology in the 21st century.

Annual CESAER (*Conference of European Schools for Advanced Engineering Education and Research*) and T. I. M. E. (*Top Industrial Managers for Europe*) is held at *Université Paris-Saclay and CentraleSupélec*.

<https://www.cesaer.org/news/university-leaders-discuss-the-challenges-of-the-21st-century-354/>

### **October 18-20**

*Ķīpsala* International Exhibition Centre hosts the exhibition «*Design Isle 2019*», which is attended by FMSAC IDT, winning three award-winning places at the competition for universities «*Dizaina arēna 2019*» (Design arena 2019) in the category «*Produktu dizains*» (Product design).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-jaunie-dizaineri-triumfe-konkursa-dizaina-arena-2019>

### **October 22**

Celebrating the 155th Anniversary of the FMETA, a solemn meeting of the Faculty Council takes place.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-masinzinibu-transporta-un-aeronautikas-fakultate-svin-155-jubileju>

### **October 25**

*Ieva Ķuze*, formerly Project Manager at RTU Alumni Association (AA), was appointed the new Executive Director of RTU AA.

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## October 26

Celebrating the 155th Anniversary of the FMETA, there is a solemn ceremony at the Small Guild and the opening of a book «*Mašīnzinību, transporta un aeronautikas fakultātei 155*» (Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Transport and Aeronautics155).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-masinzinibu-transporta-un-aeronautikas-fakultate-svin-155-jubileju>

## October 28

RTU Senate (Minutes No. 633):

- on the basis of a decision of the Council of the Faculty of E-Learning Technologies and Humanities (FETH), Professor *Marina Platonova* is approved for a second term as the Faculty Dean;
- approve regulations of RTU Awards and Diplomas;
- approves the donation – construction of the summer house (UB-03), materials and installation of the summer house in the real estate owned by RTU – «*Roniši*» – acceptance from Ltd. «*Akords U*».

## In October

RTU ranks 54th in the «QS Emerging Europe and Central Asia (ECCA) 2020» ranking, ascending three places in a year. The ECCA is a ranking of regional universities in Europe and Central Asia and includes a total of 350 leading universities in the region.

<https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/eeca-rankings/2020>

October is announced as Science Month with six different science-related events.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/oktobri-rtu-norisinaties-zinatnes-menesis>

*Nikita Kuzmins* student of FMETA receives the Scholarship of American Latvians *Valija* and *Modris Galenieki*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-students-iegust-amerikas-latviesu-galenieku-stipendiju>

FEEM and RTU Riga Business School (RBS) retain their place in the Four Palms League for the fourth consecutive year in the «Eduniversal» International University and Business School Ranking, which includes 200 business schools of outstanding and significant international influence. The FEEM Masters Program «*Inovācijas un uzņēmējdarbība*» (Innovation and Business) has been rated the best in Eastern Europe.

[www.eduniversal-ranking.com](http://www.eduniversal-ranking.com)

<https://www.delfi.lv/campus/raksti/rtu-inovaciju-un-uznemejdarbibas-magistra-programma-atzita-par-labako-austrumeiropa?id=51600239&fbclid=IwAR0u1TPZXs0r7vkUes6NlsVbQxoiDz11yRmFOJvokAbjk21wRjdSrQcHPUC>



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### **November 4–9**

RTU Electronics Week is taking place.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-notiks-elektronikai-veltiti-pasakumi>

### **November 7**

Celebrating the Centenary of Latvia's Customs and the 25th Anniversary of Customs Education, the SRS Customs Board and Institute of International Economic Relations and Customs (SESMI) of FEEM are organizing a conference «*Vai muita ir gatava rītdienai*» (Shaping a Smarter Future of Customs).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/ar-starptautisku-konferenci-svin-latvijas-muitas-simto-un-muitas-izglitibas-divdesmit-piekto-jubileju>

### **November 8**

By RTU Rector's order no. 01000-1.1-e/187 RTU Council of Academics was established.

The opening ceremony of the Confucius Class of RTU takes place in the Small Hall of RTU at 1 *Kaļķu* Street. The Confucius Class of RTU is a branch of the Confucius Institute and is located at FETH at 1 *Kronvalda* Boulevard. The event is attended by Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Latvia Liang Jianquan, Director (in Latvia) of the Confucius Institute of the University of Latvia *Pēteris Pildegovičs* and Director (in China) of the same Shang Quanyu.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-atklas-konfucija-klasi>

### **November 9**

At the contest «BAUA Awards 19'», PhD student of FA *Matijs Babris* receives a recognition on his Master's thesis «*Būves kokos dabas tūrisma veicināšanai. Strenču ūdens tūrisma centrs*» (Buildings in trees to promote nature tourism. *Strenči* Water Tourism Centre) from the Baltic Architects Unions Association (BAUA).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-doktorants-matijs-babris-iegavis-baltijas-arhitektu-savienibu-asociacijas-veicinasanas-balv>

### **November 11**

Celebrating the Centenary of Latvian War of Independence and honouring the fighters, the concert «For Latvia and Courage» of men's choir «*Gaudeamus*» take place in the Great Hall of the Riga Technical University at 1 *Kaļķu* Street.

<https://www.delfi.lv/kultura/news/music/viru-koris-gaudeamus-lacplesa-dienas-koncerta-godinas-brivibas-cinitajus.d?id=51598373>

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RTU Student Theatre «*Kamertonis*» (directed by *Ludmila Stančika*) wins the «Grand Prix» at the international student theatre festival «Debiut», which takes place from 11th to 15th November in Batumi, Georgia.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/kamertonis-iegust-grand-prize-starptautiskaja-studentu-teatru-festivala-debiut>

### **November 11-23**

RTU delegation visits eight universities in three Latin American countries, while visiting, Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* signs a global cooperation agreement with Albert Einstein University in Mexico.

### **November 14**

In the paper bridge design competition organized by the FCE Student Council, the team «*Šneks*» (*Mārtiņš Arājs, Linards Hremenkins, Valts Segliņš*) takes the first place in the category of student bridges. The built-in bridge can withstand a load of 139.9 kilograms.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/stiprako-papira-tiltu-uzbuve-komanda-sneks>

### **November 15**

In the Exhibition Hall of the RCEH History Museum, the Institute of Humanities (IH) of FETH celebrates its 25th Anniversary and unveils the scientific monograph «*Skolotāju profesionālā identitāte*» (Teacher Professional Identity) whose scientific editor is IH Director Associate Professor *Airisa Šteinberga*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/notiks-zinatniskas-monografijas-skolotaju-profesionala-identitate-atversanas-svetki>

### **November 18**

Professor of FMSAC and Academician *Valdis Kampars* receives the highest state award – the Order of Three Stars.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-profesoram-valdim-kamparam-pieskirts-triju-zvaigznu-ordenis>

### **November 21**

FCSIT Associate Professor *Ērika Nazaruka*, FMSAC Associate Professor *Andris Šutka* and Senior Researcher *Dagnija Loča* and FCE Senior Researcher *Sandris Ručevskis* are elected as Corresponding Members of the Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/cetri-rtu-zinatnieki-ieveleti-par-latvijas-zinatnu-akademijas-korespondetajlocekliem>

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### **November 22**

Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Latvia's Customs, Director of SESMI *Aivars Vilnis Krastiņš* and Assistant Professor *Normunds Rudzītis* receive an award for a significant contribution to the development of the customs service – anniversary sign – «*Latvijas muitai 100*» (the Latvia's Customs 100).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-parstavji-sanem-apbalvojumus-par-nozimigu-ieguldijumu-muitas-dienesta-attistiba>

### **November 22-23**

In the 30th Latvian Universidad swimming competition, RTU swimmers win the first place among the men.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-peldetajiem-uzvaras-lauri-universiade>

### **November 25**

RTU EHS is recognized as the Best School in the Friendly Call Fund's Best School Ranking by the City Secondary School Group and receives awards in a number of further nominations – for student achievement in mathematics, Latvian and nature science.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskola-labaka-pilsetas-vidusskola-draudziga-aicinajuma-fonda-reitinga>

The Senate (Minutes No. 634) approves Professor *Juris Smirnovs* as the Dean of BIF for a second term.

In the Fashion Designers Competition «*Meringue*» master student of FMSAC IDT *Kristīne Zariņa* wins the award from magazine «*Pastaiga*».

<https://jauns.lv/raksts/pastaiga/360158-apbalvoti-jauno-modes-dizaineru-konkursa-meringue-uzvaretaji>

### **November 27**

RTU is visited by a delegation of Parliament of Indonesian North Sulawesi Province led by its Speaker *Andrei Angouw* and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Latvia in Indonesia *Ayub Junus*. During the meeting, Deputy Rector for International Academic Cooperation and Studies *I. Tipāns* and *A. Junus* sign an agreement in which RTU expresses its commitment to provide Indonesian university education institutions with information on study opportunities at RTU.

<https://fsd.rtu.lv/2019/12/02/indonesian-delegation-visits-rtu/>

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## November 30

RTU chess players win convincingly in the Latvian Club Cup 2019, taking first place and outscoring their followers by four points; this is the record for nine years in the history of the Latvian Club Cup.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-pec-sesu-gadu-partraukuma-izcina-latvijas-klubu-kausu-saha>

## In November

An interdisciplinary national working group of the European Centre for Nuclear Research (CERN) is being set up to promote cooperation between Latvian research institutions and business and CERN by engaging in scientific research, experiments and projects. Latvia plans to become an Associate Member of CERN in 2021.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/zinatnieki-uznemumi-un-valsts-iestades-vienojas-par-ciesu-sadarbibu-tuvinot-latviju-cern>

## December 5

In the «GreenMetric» ranking of green politics and sustainability, RTU ranks among the 100 greenest universities in the world, ranking 93rd–95th. place. The overall score is the same for two Spanish universities. This is a significant increase compared to 2018, when RTU ranked 128th place. RTU is the only university education institution in Latvia that is rated so highly.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-viena-nopasaules-100-zalakajam-universitatem?fbclid=IwAR2IJh6l4H6gaRHKClwecDZ8XE\\_V9\\_ePkFWmM8aQkp2ivRF\\_Kv\\_h34EgM-M 5. decembrī](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-viena-nopasaules-100-zalakajam-universitatem?fbclid=IwAR2IJh6l4H6gaRHKClwecDZ8XE_V9_ePkFWmM8aQkp2ivRF_Kv_h34EgM-M 5. decembrī)

4th-year clothing design specialization students of FMSAC IDT study program «*Materiālu tehnoloģija un dizains*» (Material Technology and Design) *Marta Cimdiņa* and *Nadīna Anija Poga* with their clothes' collection «Collision» are awarded 2nd place in the fashion show «*Dizaino Dienas*» organized by Kaunas University of Technology students' council.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-dizaina-tehnologiju-instituta-studentes-iegust-otro-vietu-modes-skate-lietuva>

## December 8

RTU Frisbee team won the 1st place in the Latvian Student Championship.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-komanda-izcina-1-vietu-latvijas-studentu-cempionata-frisbija?fbclid=IwAR2x4-siUM8Pglvh63SkVNtmNdNOSFC1yK\\_zEAZphCFQ5gSHckLc9STqUcY](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-komanda-izcina-1-vietu-latvijas-studentu-cempionata-frisbija?fbclid=IwAR2x4-siUM8Pglvh63SkVNtmNdNOSFC1yK_zEAZphCFQ5gSHckLc9STqUcY)

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### December 11-13

Representatives of the Faculty of Engineering - University of Strathclyde in UK – Reader in Electronic and Electrical Engineering, Dr James Irvine and International Development Manager, Jennifer Gazzard – visited RTU to sign cooperation agreement that provides implementation of joint master study program in the field of electronics and telecommunications. During the visit, they held meetings with the Rector of RTU, Professor *Leonids Ribickis*, management, academic staff and students of the Faculty of Electronics and Telecommunications and management of the International Cooperation and Foreign Students Department.

<https://www.facebook.com/internationalrelationsrtu/photos/pcb.2810019309057004/2810015445724057/?type=3&theater>

### December 12

Professor *Dagnija Blumberga*, Director of Institute of Energy Systems and Environment (IESE) of FPEE receives an Award named by Professor *Alfrēds Vītols* for outstanding contribution and lifelong contribution to the Latvian energy industry. Professor *Ivars Veidenbergs* of IESE receives the «Annual Award» for significant contribution in energetics. RTU new scientists also receive awards for success in energetics: researcher *Kaspars Kroičs* of Institute of Industrial Electronics and Electrical Engineering, researcher *Vladmirs Kirsanovs* of IESE and new Phd students – *Aivis Ašmanis*, *Viesturs Zimackis*, *Deniss Bezrukovs*, *Artis Riepnieks*. All awards are granted by the LAS and «Latvenergo» AS. The award ceremony takes place at RTU EHS hall at 1 *Kronvalda* Boulevard.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-zinatnieki-un-studenti-sanems-latvenergo-un-latvijas-zinatnu-akademijas-balvas-1>

### December 14

*Lauris Kaufmanis*, a third-year student of FCE at startup with *Oskars Ķibermanis* piloted crew, along with *Arvis Vilkastis* and *Matīse Mikne*, takes 2nd place in the World Cup first stage in bobsleigh which takes place in Lake Placid (USA).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-students-startejot-kibermana-bobsleja-ekipaza-izcina-sudrabu-pasaules-kausa-pirmaja-posma>

### December 19

The award of Latvian-born Civil Engineer *Guntis Bole* is given to FA graduate *Raivis Jānis Mucenieks* and the student of FCE *Marta Amoliņa*; the premium of Professor *Ivars Strautmanis* receives FA graduate *Elza Taube*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/noskaidroti-g-boles-balvas-un-i-strautmana-premijas-laureatu>

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## December 22

RTU volleyball team «RTU / Border-guard» becomes Latvian Cup winners.

<http://www.reitingi.lv/lv/news/sports/133537-trijos-setos-par-latvijas-kausai-ieguvejiem-klust-rtu-robezardze-volejbolisti.html>

## In December

Among the ten most significant achievements of Latvian science in 2019, LAS also names RTU scientists who worked out the new DC power supply system for producing industry (authors: LAS Academician *Dr. habil. sc. ing. Leonīds Ribickis*, *Dr. sc. ing. Oskars Krievs*, *Dr. sc. ing. Pēteris Apse-Apsītis*, *Dr. sc. ing. Dāvis Meike*, *Dr. sc. ing. Andrejs Stepanovs*, *Mg. sc. ing. Ansis Avotiņš*, *Mg. sc. ing. Armands Šenfēlds*, *Mg. sc. ing. Kristaps Vītols*, *Mg. sc. ing. Maksims Vorobjovs*, *Mg. sc. ing. Mārcis Priedītis*, *Mg. sc. ing. Artūrs Paugurs*, *Mg. sc. ing. Oskars Bormanis*).

<https://www.apollo.lv/6856411/nosaukti-desmit-2019-gada-nozimigakie-sasniegumi-latvijas-zinatne>

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### January 14

Master students of FMSAC are awarded LAS prizes: *Mikus Puriņš* – received Award named by *Emīlija Gudriniece*; *Renāte Melngaile* – received Awards named by *Mārtiņš Straumanis* and *Alfrēds Ieviņš*; *Lūkass Tomass Lukaševičs* – Young Scientists Award. The LAS Young Scientists Award was also awarded to RTU EHS physics teacher *Virģinija Vītola*.

[http://www.lza.lv/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=5434&Itemid=585](http://www.lza.lv/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5434&Itemid=585)

### January 17

The first discussion on «Individual Professional Development Choices and Influencing Aspects» at the educational forum «Education System Goal: Future Perspective» at the Saeima Baltic Hall take place organized by Saeima Education, Culture and Science Commission, Ministry of Education and Science and RTU.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/notiks-izglitibas-foruma-pirma-diskusija>

<https://izm.gov.lv/lv/aktualitates/3850-notiks-forums-par-izglitibas-nakotnes-perspektivu>

### January 25

Brothers *Andris Šics* and *Juris Šics* triumph at the important stage of the World Cup in luge competition between two teams. *Elīza Cauce* wins the

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bronze in the ladies' race. Both sleighs are embellished by the RTU coat of arms, as they have been improved by RTU scientists, who have been cooperating with athletes since 2017.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-zinatnieki-palidz-uzlabot-latvijas-kamaninu-sportistu-inventaru>

[https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/sports/kamanas/kamaninu-zinatne-siguldas-trase-un-laboratorijas-kaldina-latvijas-panakumus.a346025/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_campaign=rss&utm\\_medium=links](https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/sports/kamanas/kamaninu-zinatne-siguldas-trase-un-laboratorijas-kaldina-latvijas-panakumus.a346025/?utm_source=rss&utm_campaign=rss&utm_medium=links)

### January 27

With the decision of Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 636) the names of RTU *Daugavpils* Affiliate, *Cēsis* Affiliate, *Liepāja* Affiliate and *Ventspils* Affiliate were changed and Regulations of RTU *Daugavpils* (including – *Cēsis*, *Liepāja* and *Ventspils*) Study and Science Centres have been approved.

### January 28

Graduates and teachers of RTU EHS receive the awards of the Friendly Calling Fund: in the nomination «Graduate» the certificate of recognition is given to *Agnis Salmiņš* and *Artem Ubaidullaev*, *Elīza Elizabete Bicāne* receives the Bronze Medal; mathematics teacher *Inguna Granta* and economics teacher *Līga Kamola* are awarded the title «Teacher».

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-absolventi-un-pedagogi-sanem-draudziga-aicinajuma-fonda-apbalvojumus-1>

### January 29

The President of Latvia *Egils Levits*, representative of the European Commission Directorate General for Research and Innovation, Widening Stefan Weiers and RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* open the project of the Baltic Biomaterials Centre of Excellence (BBCE) at the premises of FMSAC.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/baltijas-biomaterialu-ekselences-centra-projektu-atklasi-valsts-prezidents>

### In January

The International Water Association's (IWA) magazine recognizes RTU scientists *Sanda Dejus*, *Alīna Neščerecka*, *Ģirts Kurcalts* and *Tālis Juhna* as the best water supply research publication «Detection of drinking water contamination event with Mahalanobis distance method, using on-line monitoring sensors and manual measurement data».

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-zinatnieku-publikaciju-atzist-par-labako-udensapgades-petijumu?fbclid=IwAR2tBqY08\\_SbjRwLho15b1gUUGKnmy4DSH0BEZWRdN3QOLq\\_A0jbnDVqefc](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-zinatnieku-publikaciju-atzist-par-labako-udensapgades-petijumu?fbclid=IwAR2tBqY08_SbjRwLho15b1gUUGKnmy4DSH0BEZWRdN3QOLq_A0jbnDVqefc)

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Associate Professor at the IDT of FMSAC, Coach of RTU Sports Centre *Uģis Briedis* (in nomination «Senior 2019») and fourth-year student of FCE *Reinis Krauklis* (in nomination «Player of the Year 2019») receive the Latvian Badminton Federation's Annual Awards. RTU is also commended as the leader of the Latvian Badminton in Ranking of 2019.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-badmintonisti-sanem-gada-balvas>

## February 2

RTU badmintonists win awards at Latvian Championship: FET third-year student *Teodors Kerimovs* in pair with *Jekaterina Romanova* become Latvian Champion in mixed doubles; paired with *Ardis Daniels Bedrītis*, *T. Kerimovs* win 3rd in men's doubles; FCE fourth-year student *Reinis Krauklis* becomes vice champion, winning 2nd place in singles, 2nd place in doubles with FEEM graduate *Toms Preinbergs* and 2nd place in mixed doubles with *Diāna Stognija*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-badmintonistiem-godalgas-latvijas-cempionata>

## February 5

RTU is visited by delegation of Kumamoto University (Japan) led by Vice-Rector for Studies, Professor Dr. Mikio Furushima.

<https://www.facebook.com/internationalrelationsrtu/photos/pcb.2930141280378139/2930138500378417/?type=3&theater>

## February 13

RTU is visited by Ambassador of Mexico *Francisco Eduardo del Río López* and Honorary Consul of Mexico *Carlos Arredondo Martinez*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-vizite-viesojas-meksikas-vestnieks>

## February 18

Six Latvian secondary school pupils go to the world's largest scientific laboratory, the European Nuclear Research Centre (CERN) in Switzerland, to shade (follow) five RTU scientists.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/sesi-vidusskoleni-enos-rtu-zinatniekus-eiropas-kodolpetniecibas-centra-sveice>

## February 24

With the decision of Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 637): FCSIT Institute of Computer Control, Automation and Computer Engineering changed its name to Institute of Intelligent Computer Technology.



## February 27

The Italian Ambassador to Latvia, *Stefano Taliani de Marchio*, has introductory visit in RTU.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-rektors-un-italijas-vestnieks-parruna-turpmakas-sadarbibas-attistibas-virzienus>

## February 29

At the 30th Latvian Universiade, RTU badmintonists win gold medals both in the men's and women's overall and individual performances.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-badmintonistiem-zelta-birums?fbclid=IwAR0Neo8KKG9NxER\\_zehsBOKi\\_EQPUGvNAiOFHGMaVMDniUQ3g3NjWRcugxFM](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-badmintonistiem-zelta-birums?fbclid=IwAR0Neo8KKG9NxER_zehsBOKi_EQPUGvNAiOFHGMaVMDniUQ3g3NjWRcugxFM)

## February 29–March 1

In the Latvian Table Tennis Championships FCE fourth-year student *Viktorija Majorova* wins 2nd place *Diāna Afanasjeva*, 3rd in mixed doubles with *Andrejs Čemirtāns*, 4th in singles. FCSIT second-year student *Liāna Zeltiņa* wins 3rd place in mixed doubles with FCSIT first-year student *Eduards Spāģis*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-galda-tenisisti-uzvar-latvijas-xxx-universiade>

In Latvian Winter Championships in Athletics FET student *Valērijs Valinščikovs* holds the title of Vice-Champion in the distance of 60 m (6.98 s) and 200 m (22.04 s); FCSIT student *Marks Aleksandrs Harčenko* wins the title of Vice-Champion in pole vaulting (4.40 m); FPÉE student *Kārlis Sondors* wins the 3rd place 60 m hurdling (8.45 s); FMETA student *Sandis Rošāns* wins 3rd place in high jump (1,93 m).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-vieglatletiem-vicecempionu-gods-latvijas-ziemas-cempionata>

## In February

«LIGHT Pedal», the newest product developed by the new Latvian gaming company «Gamechanger Audio», wins the prestigious «Music Radar» award at the «Winter NAMM» Music Industry Show in the US. The chief developer of «LIGHT Pedal» is the company's youngest engineer, *Teodors Kerimovs*, the third-year student of FET.

[https://www.delfi.lv/bizness/biznesa\\_vidē/foto-gamechanger-audio-izstade-asv-iegust-balvu-par-inovativako-produktu.d?id=51845201&fbclid=IwAR30rvji5ocWgCnSipnkhMJGcfwmzCNwLQT7RyNOF5BbNqUa-c-ym7rjSP0](https://www.delfi.lv/bizness/biznesa_vidē/foto-gamechanger-audio-izstade-asv-iegust-balvu-par-inovativako-produktu.d?id=51845201&fbclid=IwAR30rvji5ocWgCnSipnkhMJGcfwmzCNwLQT7RyNOF5BbNqUa-c-ym7rjSP0)

RTU is recognized as the 24th best university in the new «European Ranking of Engineering Programs 2019» – «EngiRank» which evaluates 100 university education institutions from the 13 countries that have

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joined the European Union since 2004. The most highly rated criterion at RTU is research effectiveness, where RTU is ranked 7th best.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-atzita-par-24-labako-tehnisko-augstskolu-eiropas-inzenierzinatnu-programmu-reitinga?fbclid=IwAR1TdtFYZjjZ9jUm6L1FyBq\\_0UUUVCCbjwgRcm6TOAR6fgMFHbFzKCgy3UI](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-atzita-par-24-labako-tehnisko-augstskolu-eiropas-inzenierzinatnu-programmu-reitinga?fbclid=IwAR1TdtFYZjjZ9jUm6L1FyBq_0UUUVCCbjwgRcm6TOAR6fgMFHbFzKCgy3UI)

### **March 2**

At the 96th Latvian Open Swimming Championships, FMETA student *Daniils Bobrovs* wins medals in two swims: 200 m silver and 100 m bronze in breaststroke.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-peldejaiem-personigie-rekordi-latvijas-atklataja-cempionata-peldesana>

### **March 10**

RTU is visited by representatives of the Finnish textile, recycling and biotechnology companies and the VTT Technical Research Center of Finland.

<https://inovacijas.rtu.lv/?p=11494>

Research Assistant and Lecturer of the Department of Roads and Bridges of FCE *Dr. sc. ing. Andris Freimanis* is awarded the LAS Award named by *Vitauts Tamužs*.

<http://www.lza.lv/images/stories/zv/zv591.pdf>

### **March 13**

In response to the state of emergency announced by the Latvian government to limit the spread of the «Covid-19» virus, all full-time student lectures, as well as all extra-curricular activities and preparatory courses have been cancelled from March 13 to April 14 by RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis*. The Rector's decree stipulates that employees shall, as far as possible, also ensure remote work, in writing confirming compliance with occupational safety and data protection measures.

<https://www.rtu.lv/en/university/for-mass-media/news/open/rtu-cancels-all-the-classes-and-extra-curriculum-events-from-the-13th-of-march>

### **March 16**

By RTU Rector's order No. 01000-1.2-e/29 «On amendments to Order No. 01000-1.2-e/29 of 18 February 2019 01000-1.2-e/14 «For 2019/2020 academic year study work schedule»» RTU has cancelled spring break, determining the spring semester from 27.01. until 21.06.2020. Such a decision was made in order to be able to continue the distance learning process and compensate for the time required to start and implement distance learning.

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### **March 30**

Considering the announcement of the World Health Organization on 11 March 2020 that «Covid-19» has reached pandemic proportions, and based on Article 4, first paragraph, point 1 (e) subparagraph of the Civil Protection and Disaster Management Law; Article 4, Article 5 Paragraph 1 and Article 6 Paragraph 1 and 2, Article 7 point 1 and Article 8 of Law «On Emergency and Exceptional Situations»; Article 3 Paragraph 2 of the Epidemiological Safety Law – RTU Senate decides (Minutes No. 638) from 30 March 2020 until the moment when the state of emergency declared in the country will be lifted, no later than 1 July 2020, to organize work remotely using MS Teams, in the presence of one senator and vice-rectors of each structural unit represented in the RTU Senate, who have issues included in the agenda of the Senate Minutes; remote voting takes place using MS Forms or MS Polly tools; in decision-making, on-site and off-site voting are summed.

For the first time in the history of RTU, the sitting of the Senate takes place in remote mode.

### **In March**

RTU is recognized as one of the top 500 universities in the world in engineering and technology by tehnoloģijās «QS World University Rankings by Subject 2020», becoming the only university in Latvia ranked among the top five industries.

*<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-ieklauda-qs-reitinga-top-500-inzenierzinatnes-un-tehnologijas>*

### **April 3**

RTU awards special prizes to the 17 best authors of scientific research papers in the field of STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) of the 44th Latvian Students' Scientific Research Paper Conference.

*[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-apbalvoskolenus-labako-zinatnisko-darbu-autorus-stem-jomas?fbclid=IwAR3hq7byx7GXSnzkdKhW1DhN9X8HeNXmVDCOK5k8Chlqkj2B\\_jq0zc7nEw](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-apbalvoskolenus-labako-zinatnisko-darbu-autorus-stem-jomas?fbclid=IwAR3hq7byx7GXSnzkdKhW1DhN9X8HeNXmVDCOK5k8Chlqkj2B_jq0zc7nEw)*

### **April 7**

In order with the emergency situation in the country due to «Covid-19», with the order of RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* No. 01000-1.2-e/30 changes have been made in the study schedule: 2019/2020 spring semester – 27.01.2020–14.08.2020; beginning of the study year 2020/2021 – 14.09.2020.

*<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-parcel-studiju-semestru-terminus>*

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*Toms Torims*, RTU Professor and Research Fellow at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), has been elected Chairman of the CERN Baltic Group for another term of two years.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-profesoru-tomu-torimu-atkartoti-ievel-par-cern-baltijas-grupas-vaditaju?fbclid=IwAR1p\\_ipsxSy5-VX0JAvzUKh\\_MoSvZDuzAsN0HUuL6xD21QOr8sExb5WFPg4](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-profesoru-tomu-torimu-atkartoti-ievel-par-cern-baltijas-grupas-vaditaju?fbclid=IwAR1p_ipsxSy5-VX0JAvzUKh_MoSvZDuzAsN0HUuL6xD21QOr8sExb5WFPg4)

### **April 14**

By the order of RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* No. 01000-1.1-e/59 operating time is extended until 12 May 2020 on 13.03.2020. Rector's order no. 01000-1.1-e/44 «On epidemiological precautionary measures in relation to the spread of «Covid-19»».

### **April 20–30**

Taking into account the state of emergency announced in the country, due to which it is not possible to visit faculties in person, instead of the traditional RTU Open Doors, there is an event «Connect to RTU!». Where it is possible to watch online interviews and ask questions to the members of the faculty and students. Each day is dedicated to one of the nine faculties of RTU.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/no-20-lidz-30-aprilim-toposie-studenti-tiessaiste-vares-iepazit-rtu>

### **April 21**

In the foundations of the future building of the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology (FCSI) at the RTU Student Campus in *Ķīpsala*, a time capsule is laid with a message for future generations from RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* and four faculty's deans – current Dean of FCSI Professor *Agris Ņikitenko* and former Dean – Professor *Jānis Osis* (as Dean 1962–1965), Professor, *Jānis Grundspenķis* (as Dean 1994–2005; 2007–2018) and *Uldis Sukovskis* (as Dean 2005–2007).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-iemure-laika-kapsulu-datorzinatnes-un-informacijas-tehnologijas-fakultates-jaunas-ekas-pamatos>

### **April 23**

2nd year master student of FA *Madara Glinka* receives the annual scholarship of the architect *Jānis Alksnis* (1869–1939).

For special merits for the benefit of the Latvian state to the LAS academician, FCSIT Professor *Dr. habil. sc. ing. Jānis Grundspenķis* has been awarded the Cross of Recognition and has been appointed Commander of the Cross of Recognition.

<https://www.president.lv/lv/valsts-apbalvojumi/atzinibas-krusts/jaunakie-pieskirtie-apbalvojumi#gsc.tab=0>

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## April 27

With the decision of Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 639):

- From 1 May 2020 the name of the Faculty of Power and Electrical Engineering (FPPE) was changed to the Faculty of Electrical and Environmental Engineering (FEEE);
- a new position has been created – the Vice-rector for Digitalisation, subordinating the Information Technology Department, the information systems security manager and a personal data protection specialist;
- RTU Digital Innovation Centre and RTU Digitalisation Council have been established;
- The name of the IT Strategic Development Division of the Information Technology Department has been changed to the Digitalization Development Division;
- RTU Scientific Library is transferred under the supervision of the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs;
- the name of the Seminar, Sports and Recreation Base «*Roniši*» was changed to the Conference, Sports and Recreation Centre «*Roniši*»;
- Professor *Jurijs Merkurjevs* has been awarded the title of RTU Emeritus Professor.

## In April

RTU EHS achieves recognizable results in subject Olympiads, winning 12 prizes in the 3rd stage of the 61st State Olympiad in Chemistry, six in the 3rd stage of the 70th State Olympiad in Physics.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-skoleni-ar-spoziem-panakumiem-piedalas-valsts-kimijas-un-fizikas-olimpiades>

Evaluating performance of RTU by and implementing the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 cooperation program, RTU is ranked 101st–200th in the group of the highest rated university education institutions, becoming the highest rated of the four Latvian higher education institutions included in the rating «The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2020».

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-labaka-latvija-un-viena-no-200-labakajam-augstskolam-pasaule-the-times-higher-education-impact-rankings-2020>

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## May 8

RTU lecturers and the Ambassador of Latvia to the Republic of Azerbaijan participate in a video conference of the Academy of State Customs Committee of Republic of Azerbaijan.

<https://www.mfa.gov.lv/azerbaidzanas-aktualitates/65974-vestnieks-dainis-garancs-uzstajas-azerbaidzanas-muitas-akademijas-videokonference>

## May 12

Entering the Big Clean-up of 2020, one of the 140 poles provided by the society «1836» is dug at FA in *Ķīpsala*, symbolically marking the road around Latvia.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-studentu-pilsetina-kipsala-par-godu-lielajai-talkai-atklaj-simbolisku-stabu>

## May 23

The general meeting of RTU Student Parliament (SP) is taking place, where a new SP Board and SP President *Lāsma Līga Reisa* (FCSIT) are elected.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/rtusp/par-rtusp/sp-zinas/atvert/ieveleta-jauna-rtusp-valde?fbclid=IwAR1VbOFLVQgDvnEjUuerjYwSE9iMU7DU1LUh1GookMPIWKZil7en9oSQKLc>

## May 25

With the decision of Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 640):

- the name of the Seminar, Sports and Recreation Base «*Ronīši*» was changed to the Conference and Sports Centre «*Ronīši*»;
- The Administrative Service Office of the Director of Administration has been renamed the Office of the Director of Administration;
- The Personnel and Working Environment Department was renamed the Department of Human Resource Management and Document Processing;
- based on the decision of the FET Council of 29 April 2020, Professor *Jurģis Porņiņš* has been approved as the Dean of the FET for the second year in a row;
- by reorganizing the FCE Construction Science Centre, the Institute of Water Systems and Biotechnology was established; The Scientific Laboratory of Spatial and Regional Development Planning of the Construction Science Centre has been transformed into the Research Centre of Spatial and Regional Development, and it is included in the structure of the Institute of Water Systems and Biotechnology;

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- reorganizing the Vice-Rector for Development service: the name of the Department of Quality Management and Document Processing was changed to the Department of Quality and Risk Management; The Document Processing Unit has been transferred to the Office of the Director of Administration; A Knowledge Management centre has been established in the Department of Quality and Risk Management;
- RTU Digitization Council is established;
- Based on the decision of the FETH Council of 12 May 2020, the RTU International Education Research Centre has been established within the faculty.

### **May 28**

FET receives a valuable gift – case internet network base station – from «OG Baltics», an exclusive partner of «Sigfox» in Latvia.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-kipsala-veidos-lietu-interneta-tiklu-petniecibas-un-studiju-vajadzibam>

### **June 18**

*Aiga Ivdre*, a doctoral student at FMSAC, receives the «L'Oréal Baltic» Prize for Women in Science.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-doktorante-aiga-ivdre-sanem-l-oreal-baltic-balvu-sievietem-zinatne>

Professor *Sandra Treija*, FA Vice-Dean for Science, is awarded a Letter of Recognition of the Cabinet of Ministers for her contribution to the training of specialists in the field of architecture and urban planning and the development of university education and science.

[https://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=315582&version\\_date=19.06.2020](https://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=315582&version_date=19.06.2020)

### **In June**

In the international university ranking «U-Multirank», RTU is recognized as one of the 25 leading universities in the world in terms of the proportion of Open Access Publications.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-liderpozicijas-u-multirank-reitinga-latvija?fbclid=IwAR32KBnCdSrOhemTHkLE-Hp7JjNHgrzYcMHDmLODPGW-ja1DWpzQHuzLQSI>

RTU enters 701–750th place in the international rating «QS World University Rankings 2021» and this is the highest indicator from the evaluation results of the three Latvian universities included in the rating.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-latvija-saglaba-liderpozicijas-prestizaja-qs-world-university-rankings>

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For the third year in a row, RTU is included in the highest or platinum category of the «*Ilgtspējas indeksa*» (Sustainability Index).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-jau-treso-gadu-ieklauda-ilgtspejas-indeksa-novertejuma-platina-kategorija>

RTU students win a double victory in the 30th Latvian Universiade, gaining a first place in both women's and men's competition.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-studenti-izcina-uzvaru-latvijas-30-universiade?fbclid=IwAR1jOQhDjm3YJUCWKWsonbBURJL0Fz2PVWLF8PjMQDjt2eZPAv5lxAvnBe0>

For a significant contribution to the development and implementation of Latvian science policy, RTU Vice-Rector for Research and Deputy Chairman of the Latvian Council of Science Academician *Tālis Juhna* is awarded a Certificate of Gratitude from Ministry of Education and Science.

### **July 8**

*Ilze Gudro*, Head of RTU RCEH and Assistant Professor at the Institute of Design Technologies of FMSAC, receives the award «For Investment. Woman – Design Promoter 2019» in the competition-forum «Woman in Architecture, Construction, Design».

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/ilze-gudro-sanem-apbalvojumu-par-dizaina-veicinasanu>

### **July 10**

For the ninth year in a row, RTU is recognized as the most recommended university education institution in Latvia by employers.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-jau-devito-gadu-darba-deveju-pati-ieteiktaka-augstskola-latvija>

### **July 13**

Admission of new students to RTU for bachelor's and college level studies begins at RTU. This year it will take place until August 11.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/uznemsana-rtu-saksies-13-julija>

### **July 22**

RTU Vice-Rector for Research Academician *Tālis Juhna* signs a memorandum of understanding on behalf of RTU on the establishment of the European Digital Innovation Hub (EDIH) association.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-paraksta-memorandu-par-eiropas-digitalas-inovacijas-centra-apvienibas-izveidi?fbclid=IwAR1aNOHWxrCjeNujFV93bCt\\_oKKscEsFnoZGs56lw\\_Bm7iSXMLmqASFa0lw8](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-paraksta-memorandu-par-eiropas-digitalas-inovacijas-centra-apvienibas-izveidi?fbclid=IwAR1aNOHWxrCjeNujFV93bCt_oKKscEsFnoZGs56lw_Bm7iSXMLmqASFa0lw8)



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### **July 23–30**

Three pupils of EHS – *Džonatans Miks Melgalvis* (11th grade pupil), *Edvards Miķelis Mežciems* and *Filips Ēcis* (both 12th grade pupils) win bronze medals at the International Chemistry Olympiad, which is taking place remotely this year.

<https://www.e-klase.lv/aktualitates/zinas/skoleniem-no-latvijas-starptautiskaja-kimijas-olimpiade-cetras-bronzas-medalas?id=20308>

### **July 24**

The fourth RTU Grand Graduation takes place at *Spilve* Airport, where more than 1000 graduates of all RTU faculties receive diplomas at the same time. Following the rules of distance associated with the epidemiological situation, the graduation takes place in an unprecedented – drive-in – format.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-lielaja-izlaiduma-diplomus-sanems-vairak-neka-1000-absolventu>

### **July 25**

The third graduation of RTU EHS takes place.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-izenierzinatnu-vidusskolu-absolve-24-talantigi-jauniesi>

### **July 28**

Institute of Design Technologies of FMSAC organizes the first digital fashion show «*Mijiedarbība 2020*» (Interaction 2020), which continues the tradition of the fashion show «*Kīpsalas pavasaris*» (Spring of *Kīpsala*).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/modes-skate-bus-skatamas-rtu-studensu-raditas-terpu-kolekcijas>

### **In July**

RTU athletes win the third place in the final stage of the Latvian Teams Table Tennis Championship.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-galda-tenisisti-tresie-latvijas-komandu-cempionata-finalposma?fbclid=IwAR20d5kapT7DmYtGUT\\_Dcj5qlrnxyWNuxmRxbXNBUBv\\_H-mHTlo7lImmyVoc](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-galda-tenisisti-tresie-latvijas-komandu-cempionata-finalposma?fbclid=IwAR20d5kapT7DmYtGUT_Dcj5qlrnxyWNuxmRxbXNBUBv_H-mHTlo7lImmyVoc)

### **August 1**

The new director of EHS, *Aleksandrs Vorobjovs*, starts work.

<http://www.izv.lv/aktualitates/>

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### August 13

RTU EHS ranks 2nd place in the Star Rating created by the *Atis Kronvalds* Foundation.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolai-2-vieta-ata-kronvalda-fonda-zvaigznu-reitinga>

### August 21

A delegation from *Mykolo Romerio universitetas* (Lithuania) is visiting RTU to get acquainted with RTU and find out the potential and directions of cooperation.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-viesojas-mikola-romera-universitates-delegacija?fbclid=IwAR21qMJC0Tov1LzAwUY9KQwe0ccmbUVZRslBQ82Nl\\_7yDhGyqrhECgXNbes](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-viesojas-mikola-romera-universitates-delegacija?fbclid=IwAR21qMJC0Tov1LzAwUY9KQwe0ccmbUVZRslBQ82Nl_7yDhGyqrhECgXNbes)

### August 24

In a solemn ceremony at Riga Castle, the President of the Republic of Latvia *Egils Levits* presents the award of the *Atis Kronvalds* Foundation «*Lielā Pūce*» (Big Owl) in the small school category to RTU EHS.

<https://www.delfi.lv/news/national/politics/foto-apbalvo-izcilakos-pedagogus.d?id=52404971>

### August 27

A solemn opening of the RTU Talent Program is taking place, in which an RTU graduate (1995), Deputy Chairman of the European Commission for Economic and Financial Affairs *Valdis Dombrovskis* is also participating.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-jaunaja-studiju-gada-ipasi-talantigi-jauniesi-studes-pec-individuala-plana-talantu-programma>

### August 29–30

RTU EHS pupil *Atis Krebs* receives a bronze medal at the European Geography Olympiad.

<http://www.izv.lv/2020/09/bronzas-medala-eiropas-geografijas-olimpiade/>

### In August

Taking into account the epidemiological situation in the country and the restrictions on gatherings related to «Covid 19», the traditional address of RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* to RTU lecturers and employees, starting the new study year, which traditionally took place at the end of August, takes place on 11 September.

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The chronology of the current study year is traditionally dated from 1 September to 31 August, but in connection with the spread of «Covid-19» virus and epidemiological safety measures in the country the study year of 2020/2021 begins on 14 September. The most important events that took place from 1 to 13 September 2020 will be published in the next issue of the journal.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/muzejs/rtu-vesture/rtu-svarigako-notikumu-hronologija>

**Clarification.** In the 47th page of the 3rd issue (2019/3) of the scientific journal «History of Engineering Sciences and Institutions of Higher Education» must be correct: **Figure 9.** Memorial plaque to *K. Reisonas* in *Šiauliai* (architect *K. Bimba*) [42].

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