

# CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS OF RIGA TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

## IN STUDY YEAR 2020/2021

### 2020

#### September 1

RTU Engineering High School (EHS) hosts a Knowledge Day event with the participation of Minister of Education and Science *Ilga Šuplinska* and one of EHS supporters, a graduate (1986) of the Riga Polytechnic Institute (RPI; now RTU) entrepreneur, Chairman of the Board of JSC «SAF Tehnika» *Normunds Bergs*.

<http://www.izv.lv/2020/08/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolu-1-septembri-apmekles-izglitibas-un-zinatnes-ministre-ilga-suplinska/>

#### September 2

*Ilmārs Bērziņš*, a graduate of the Institute of Design Technologies (IDT) of the RTU Faculty of Materials Science and Applied Chemistry (FMSAC), wins second place in the nomination «The most sustainable student idea 2020» in the 2020 competition «Sustainability in Architecture, Construction, Design» nomination; graduate of IDT *Nadīna Anija Poga* obtained competition jury recognition nomination.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-dizaina-tehnologiju-studentu-darbi-apbalvoti-ilgtspējigu-ideju-konkursa>

#### September 7–13

Pupil of RTU EHS *Daniels Stabulis* wins a silver medal at the International Economic Olympiad.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-skolnieks-izcina-sudraba-medalu-starptautiskaja-ekonomikas-olimpiade>

#### September 11

Meeting of the traditional RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* with the teaching staff and students, starting the new study year is held. For the first time, the event can also be watched online on the internal RTU portal ORTUS.

For the first time, an informative day for freshmen «*Startēšu RTU*» is taking place online.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/isi-pirms-akademiska-studiju-gada-sakuma-jaunos-studentus-tiessaiste-aicina-iepazit-rtu>

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### September 14

Students meet at the traditional RTU Freshmen Meeting Festival.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-iezvanisanas-svetki-2020-1>

### September 18

In honour of the chemical scientist *Emīlija Gudriniece* (1920–2004) and celebrating the academician's 100th birthday, «*Latvijas Pasts*» (Latvia Post) issues a new stamp and envelope.

[https://www.pasts.lv/lv/zinas/filatelijas\\_zinas/5874-rigas-tehniskas-universitates-materialzinatnes-un-lietiskas-kimijas-fakultate-prezentes-kimikei-emilijai-gudriniecei-veltitu-pastmarku](https://www.pasts.lv/lv/zinas/filatelijas_zinas/5874-rigas-tehniskas-universitates-materialzinatnes-un-lietiskas-kimijas-fakultate-prezentes-kimikei-emilijai-gudriniecei-veltitu-pastmarku)

### September 19

Student of the RTU Faculty of Architecture (AF) *Katrīna Sproģe* is elected the President of the Student Union of Latvia.

<https://www.delfi.lv/news/national/politics/latvijas-studentu-apvienibas-prezidenta-amata-ievele-katrinu-sprogi.d?id=52484263>

### September 24

This year's graduate of RTU EHS *Kārlis Šusters* is winning a bronze medal at the International Informatics Olympiad for the second year in a row.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-absolvents-karlis-susters-izcina-bronzas-medalu-startpautiskaja-informatikas-olimpiade>

### September 28

With the decision of the Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 642):

- the title «RTU Honorary Alumnus 2019» has been awarded to the President and Chairman of the Board of Ltd. «*Latvijas mobilais telefons*» *Juris Binde*;
- Professor *Ēriks Geriņš* has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Transport and Aeronautics (FMETA) for another term.

### September 29

The Topping-out Celebration of the new building of the RTU Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology (FCSIT) and the shared auditorium centre is taking place in *Ķīpsala, 10 Zunda krastmalā*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-datorzinatnes-un-informacijas-tehnologijas-fakultate-svines-sparu-svetkus-1>

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## In September

In the prestigious «The Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2021», RTU has been recognized as the 284th best university in the world, evaluating the cooperation of universities with industry.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-labaka-latvijas-augstskola-finansejuma-piesaiste-no-industrijas?fbclid=IwAR0KI-kT9MMk-i7KnTysUk3T9gCZoHTJA2IrguwUPnqKvmQq26XmsX\\_UjGc](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-labaka-latvijas-augstskola-finansejuma-piesaiste-no-industrijas?fbclid=IwAR0KI-kT9MMk-i7KnTysUk3T9gCZoHTJA2IrguwUPnqKvmQq26XmsX_UjGc)

## October 1-2

RTU celebrates the World Association of Engineers Day – «IEEE Day».

<http://mttw.org/>

## October 5

In connection with the amendments to the Law on Higher Education Institutions submitted to the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia (RL), which envisages changing the higher education governance model by introducing councils, the RTU Constitutional Assembly addresses the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia with a request to postpone RTU rector elections. According to order No. 38 of the Cabinet of Ministers on 27.01.2016. «On approval of the Rector of Riga Technical University» RTU Rector *Leonīds Ribickis* has been confirmed in position on 02.02.2016. Point 2 of the Article 17 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions stipulates that the Constitutional Assembly of a higher education institution elect the Rector for a term not exceeding five years.

## October 8

RTU Honorary Doctor (2007) *Ivars Kalviņš* is elected President of the Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS).

<https://www.delfi.lv/news/national/politics/par-zinatnu-akademijas-prezidentu-ieval-ivaru-kalvinu.d?id=52543663>

Two RTU graduates receive (LAS) awards: *Mg. chem. Mikus Puriņš* received the Award named by *Emīlija Gudriniece* for his master's thesis (supervisor *Māris Turks*); *Dr. sc. ing. Andris Freimanis* received the Award named by *Vitauts Tamužs* for the doctoral thesis (supervisor *Dr. sc. ing. Ainārs Paeglītis*). RTU EHS teacher *Dr. phys. Virgīnija Vītola* receives the LAS Young Scientist Award.

<https://www.lza.lv/aktualitates/jaunumi/208-lza-arkartas-pilnsapulce-tika-pasniegtas-akademijas-vardbalvas-un-balvas-jaunajiem-zinatniekiem>

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### **October 9**

The traditional RTU History Day is taking place.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-158-dzimsanas-dienas-svinibas-aizsaks-vestures-diena>

### **October 12**

In honour of the founders and former rectors of our university, representatives of RTU administration and the Student Parliament (SP), as well as RTU RCEH visit their resting places in Riga cemeteries.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/muzejs/galerija-2/kategorija/godina-musu-augstskolas-dibinatajus-un-bijusos-ректорus-13-10-2020>

### **October 14**

To mark the 158th anniversary of RTU, a solemn sitting of the RTU Senate and a plenary sitting of the 61st International Scientific Conference are taking place.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-158-dzimsanas-diena-sumina-izcilakos-zinatniekus-un-macibspekus>

At the ceremonial sessions, the most outstanding scientists, lecturers are awarded and RTU Honorary Alumnus is honoured – for the support of engineering studies, the title «RTU Honorary Alumnus» has been awarded to the President of LMT and Chairman of the Board *Juris Binde*.

The award «RTU Scientist of the Year 2020» is awarded to the Dean of FMSAC, Academician *Māris Turks*; the award «RTU Young Female Scientist of the Year 2020» is awarded to Researcher at the Institute of General Chemical Engineering of FMSAC *Līga Stīpniece*; the award «RTU Young Scientist of the Year 2020» – is awarded to Leading Researcher of the Institute of Materials and Structures of the Faculty of Civil Engineering (FCE) *Ģirts Būmanis*; *Viktors Haritonovs*, a Leading Researcher at the Institute of Transport Infrastructure Engineering of FCE, receives the Annual Award in Valorisation; *Jānis Braunfelds*, a doctoral student and a Researcher at the Institute of Telecommunications of the Faculty of Electronics and Telecommunications (FET) receives the Annual Student Award in Valorisation.

Professor *Dagnija Blumberga*, Director of the Institute of Energy Systems and Environment of the Faculty of Electrical and Environmental Engineering (FEEE), receives the «RTU Annual Academic Excellence Award 2020»; the title «RTU New Teacher of the Year 2020» has been awarded to Leading Researcher at the Institute of Radioelectronics of FET *Anna Litviņenko*.

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The solemn sitting of the Senate also congratulates more than 30 RTU lecturers on the training of young scientists, honours the teachers of RTU EHS, several RTU employees receive RTU Honorary Diplomas.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-158-dzimsanas-diena-sumina-izcilakos-zinatniekus-un-macibspekus>

*Raimonds Bagdanovičs*, a student of the FCE, and *Raivis Jānis Muceniēks*, a Master's student of the FA, receive the title «Student of the Year 2020» and a cash prize at the traditional «Construction Industry Grand Prix 2020» ceremony. RTU, in turn, receives the special award of the company «Sakret» – «Kadru kalve».

<http://lielabalva.lv/buvindustrijas-izcilniekiem-pasniegti-12-pamatakmeni/>

### **October 16**

To get acquainted with RTU research in energy, FEEE is visited by a delegation of the Ministry of Economics, which also is attended by the Minister of Economics *Jānis Vitenbergs*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/ekonomikas-ministrs-iepazistas-ar-rtu-petijumiem-energetika>

### **October 19–23**

To update the discussion on the observance of ethics in the academic environment, RTU hosts Academic Integrity Week, in which, marking the International Day of Ethics and the Day for Combating Commissioned Works, the RTU Glossary for Academic Integrity Terms is opened.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-izdod-akademiska-godiguma-terminu-vardnicu>

### **October 23–25**

Students of (IDT) of FMSAC win the main prizes in the competition of schools and universities «Design Arena 2020». In the category «Best Design Student of the Year» *Marta Cimdiņa* wins 1st place; 2nd place – *Svens Martulevs*. 1st place in the category «Environmental design» wins *Renāte Santa Gruzniņa*; 3rd place – *Elīna Leiba-Lipsne*. 3rd place in the category of bachelor's theses in the category «Design research» wins *Ilmārs Bērziņš*; *R. S. Gruzniņa* wins the 3rd place in this category in the master's thesis section.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-studentiem-pamatigs-balvu-klasts-konkursa-dizaina-arena-2020>

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### **October 26**

With the decision of the Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 643):

- *Rolf Qvenild*, Associate Professor at the University of South-Eastern Norway, has been awarded the title of RTU Honorary Member;
- Professor *Jānis Mazais* has been awarded the title of RTU Professor Emeritus;
- by merging the Department of Railway Automatics and Telematics of the Transport Institute and the Department of Railway Transport of FMETA, the Department of Railway Engineering has been established.

### **October 30**

FCSIT Professor, politician and former Minister of Education and Science (2002–2004; 2016–2018) *Kārlis Šadurskis* is awarded the Order of the Three Stars for special merits for the benefit of the State Latvia.

<https://www.president.lv/lv/valsts-apbalvojumi/triju-zvaigznu-ordenis/jaunakie-pieskirtie-apbalvojumi#gsc.tab=0>

### **In October**

For the first time the prestigious Web of Science database indexed two RTU scientific monographs – «From Airplanes to Rockets – Friedrich Zander and Early Aviation in Riga and «Ernst Nauck (1819 –1875). The First Director of Riga Polytechnicum». Both monographs have been prepared for publication at RTU RCEH.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/prestizaja-datubaze-web-of-science-indeksetas-divas-rtu-zinatniskas-monografijas>

RTU receives an invitation to join the international association «T.I.M.E.» (Top International Managers for Engineering).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-sanem-uzaicinajumu-pievienoties-prestizajai-starptautiskajai-asociacijai-t-i-m-e?fbclid=IwAR1AyyTw2psROxDth47LEtnldUOnBaCHkIT8TKcV5diRxIwUVByGTZxLjEY>

The Baltic Management Development Association grants an award for innovation to the RTU Faculty of Engineering Economics and Management (FEEM), evaluating the implemented interdisciplinary approach in entrepreneurship education.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierekonomikas-un-vadibas-fakultate-inovativaka-fakultate-baltijas-juras-regiona>

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In the RTU international rating «Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2021 by Subject» in the field of engineering and computer science studies, it receives the highest rating in Latvia.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-times-higher-education-reitinga-inzenierzinatnu-un-datorzinatnes-studiju-joma-sanem-augstako-vertejumu-latvija>

### **November 16**

RTU is the first higher education institution in the Baltic States to sign the Latvian Diversity Charter, thus confirming that it supports diversity and equal opportunities in the study and work environment.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-parakstis-dazadibas-hartu-apnemoties-ieverot-dazadibas-vadibas-principus>

### **November 20**

The Dean of FCSIT, Professor *Agris Nikitenko*, receives the Certificate of Honour of the National Guard of the RL.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-profesoram-agrim-nikitenko-pasniedz-latvijas-republikas-zemessardzes-goda-rakstu>

### **November 26**

At the general meeting of the LAS, FMSAC Professor *Jānis Ločs*, has been elected an executive member (academician) of the LAS.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/profesor-janis-locs-ievelets-par-latvijas-zinatnu-akademijas-isteno-locekli>

### **November 27**

President *Egils Levits* remotely greets RTU EHS pupils and graduates – *Džonatans Miks Melgalvis*, *Daniels Stabulis*, *Edvards Miķelis Mežciems*, *Filips Ēcis*, *Kārlis Šusters* and *Atis Krebss* – and their teachers – *Līga Kamola* (economics), *Agra Lipsberga* (geography), *Laura Fjodorova* (chemistry) and *Andrejs Liepiņš* (programming) – on achievements in international training Olympiads.

[https://www.izv.lv/2020/11/valsts-prezidents-sveic-rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-skolonus-un-skolotajus/?fbclid=IwAR3q4ITcGqNp9YEj89Cs5F\\_0lLEg\\_l4L078faZ44m1RIqokUEv5ykykPh3g](https://www.izv.lv/2020/11/valsts-prezidents-sveic-rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-skolonus-un-skolotajus/?fbclid=IwAR3q4ITcGqNp9YEj89Cs5F_0lLEg_l4L078faZ44m1RIqokUEv5ykykPh3g)

### **November 30**

With the decision of the Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 644):

- Professor *Oskars Krievs* is confirmed as the Dean of FEEE;
- RTU Cooperation Coordination Centre has been established.

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## **In November**

For the fifth year in a row, FEEM and RTU Riga Business School are included in the ranking of the world's best business schools «Eduniversal» in the four-palm league, which means a particularly high academic level, excellent quality and strong international influence in business and management education.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-biznesa-un-vadibas-izglitiba-nemainigi-augsts-starptautisks-novertejums>

FCE Professor *Egils Dzelzītis* is awarded the title of Honorary Citizen of *Ogre* for his contribution to the progress of the new building project of the *Ogre* Central Library, the development of the energy construction industry and its professional education in Latvia, as well as the achievements in increasing energy efficiency in heating systems.

<http://www.ogrenet.lv/ogre/aktualitates/48437/>

RTU is the only Latvian university education institution to enter the section of the international rating «World's Universities with Real Impact» (WURI), which evaluates the university's contribution to the promotion of entrepreneurship.

<https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/322340-rtu-vieniga-no-latvijas-ieklust-reitinga-kura-novertets-universitates-ieguldijums-uznemejspeju-veicinasana-2020>

## **December 6**

FEEM student, Latvian bobsleigh pilot *Dāvis Kaufmanis* wins third place in the second stage of the European Cup in Germany.

[https://www.delfi.lv/sports/news/winter\\_sports/bobsleigh/bobsleja-pilots-kaufmanis-eiropas-kausa-izcina-treso-vietu.d?id=52729959](https://www.delfi.lv/sports/news/winter_sports/bobsleigh/bobsleja-pilots-kaufmanis-eiropas-kausa-izcina-treso-vietu.d?id=52729959)

## **December 15**

The Latvian government decides on the establishment of a laboratory for personal protective equipment for accredited testing. The new laboratory will be established on the basis of RTU, with the involvement of RSU, especially the Institute of Occupational Safety and Environmental Health, the Latvian Biomedical Research and Study Centre, as well as the Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment «Bior».

<https://www.delfi.lv/news/national/politics/latvija-veidos-laboratoriju-individualo-aizsardzibas-lidzeklu-akreditetai-testesana.d?id=52760479&fbclid=IwAR1u1HwZS3bwsLyGqoZiiiRoYYLW2g0W-2iLOFXfPpkEDsj0P3Kxd4uBoY4>



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## December 19–21

RTU team wins second place in Latvian online sports championship in the bridge.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-komandai-otra-vieta-latvijas-tiessaistes-cempionata-sporta-bridza?fbclid=IwAR1foh7am-tGmDfqLMc\\_HfbuNTHDJPpVw6FNHVWgvnRDJfBieq4hHrYP4Zo](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-komandai-otra-vieta-latvijas-tiessaistes-cempionata-sporta-bridza?fbclid=IwAR1foh7am-tGmDfqLMc_HfbuNTHDJPpVw6FNHVWgvnRDJfBieq4hHrYP4Zo)

## December 21

RTU Strategy 2021–2025 was approved by the decision of the RTU Senate (Minutes No. 645).

## December 22

*Marta Cimdiņa*, a 1st year master's degree student of FMSAC IDT, wins 1st place in the competition of young fashion designers «Fashion Manifestation», winning the right to represent Latvia with her collection «Introvert Extraversion» in the competition «International Young Designers Contest 2021» in Kiev, Ukraine next year in July.

<https://www.delfi.lv/kultura/news/cultureenvironment/foto-jauno-dizaineru-konkurss-modes-manifestacija-labaka-kolekcija-martai-cimdinaid?id=52786009>

## December 23

For achievements in international subject Olympiads, the Cabinet of Ministers awards prizes to RTU EHS pupils, graduates and their teachers: to EHS 12th grade pupil *Džonatans Miks Melgalvis*; to EHS graduate, FMSAC 1st year student *Edvards Miķelis Mežciems*; to EHS graduate, FMSAC 1st year student *Filips Ēcis*; to EHS graduate, 1st year student of the University of Cambridge *Kārlis Šusters*, as well as to teachers *Laura Fjodorova* (chemistry) and *Virgīnija Vītola* (physics).

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-skoleni-absolventi-un-pedagogi-sanem-ministru-kabineta-balvas?fbclid=IwAR2t7GdoKWR1AAqreMtU1EYKEe60y1jiUeNj85Ne\\_mHQV4YAIgkgdgQN28A](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskolas-skoleni-absolventi-un-pedagogi-sanem-ministru-kabineta-balvas?fbclid=IwAR2t7GdoKWR1AAqreMtU1EYKEe60y1jiUeNj85Ne_mHQV4YAIgkgdgQN28A)

JSC «Latvenergo» and LAS Annual Awards in Energy receive FEEE young scientists and graduate: Leading Researcher of the Institute of Energy Systems and Environment (IESE) *Dr. sc. ing. Miķelis Dzirkevičs*; Research Assistant of the Institute of Power Engineering (IPE) *Dr. sc. ing. Romāns Oļekšijs*; researchers of IPE *Dr. sc. ing. Zane Broka*, *Dr. sc. ing. Kārlis Baltputnis* and *Dr. sc. ing. Ivars Zālītis*; the promotion awards are given to the Research Assistant of the Institute of Industrial Electronics and Electrical Engineering *Dr. sc. ing. Jānis Mārks* and FEEE graduate *Dr. sc. ing. Dmitrijs Soboļevskis*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-jaunie-zinatnieki-sanem-latvenergo-un-latvijas-zinatnu-akademijas-gada-balvas-energetika>

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## In December

Latvian fashion artist, FMSAC IDT graduate *Anna Elizabete Kasparsonē* is included in the exhibition Global Qipao Invitational Exhibition 2020, which takes place from autumn 2020 to October 2021 in Hangzhou, China.

[https://www.diena.lv/raksts/kd/maksla/latvijas-modes-maksliniece-anna-elizabete-kasparsone-ieklauta-starptautiska-izstade-kina-14252213?fbclid=IwAR2T9Mhxj2-TsjgzAa6aUZ\\_SeWbhmu0RDAYFN8rqwRPfUfHnje8ZxlRKnn0](https://www.diena.lv/raksts/kd/maksla/latvijas-modes-maksliniece-anna-elizabete-kasparsone-ieklauta-starptautiska-izstade-kina-14252213?fbclid=IwAR2T9Mhxj2-TsjgzAa6aUZ_SeWbhmu0RDAYFN8rqwRPfUfHnje8ZxlRKnn0)

RTU students in the study year 2020/2021 receives the largest number of Sports Scholarships of the Latvian Sports Federations Council in the study year in comparison with other Latvian higher education institutions.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-studejosie-sportisti-sanem-stipendijas-akademiskas-un-sportiskas-izaugsmes-sekmesanai>

For the first time in the reputation assessment of the world's best business schools «Eduniversal» FEEM and RTU Riga Business School receive the highest rating in Latvia.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierekonomikas-un-vadibas-fakultate-prestizaka-biznesa-izglitibas-iestade-latvija>

Significantly increasing its position in the green policy and sustainability rating «GreenMetric», RTU is recognized as one of the 60 greenest universities in the world.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-atzita-par-vienu-no-60-zalakajam-universitatem-pasaule>

In the international rating «RUR World University Ranking», RTU, compared to last year, increases its performance in several positions. RTU is still the only Latvian higher education institution included in this rating.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-kapinajusi-savu-sniegumu-starptautiskaja-reitinga-rur-world-university-ranking>

FMSAC Professor *Valdis Kampars* is awarded the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) «Medal for Inventors» for significant contribution and innovative work in creating inventions, especially in the field of biofuels.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/profesoravalda-kampara-ieguldijums-zinatne-novertets-ar-pasaules-intelektuala-ipasuma-organizacijas-medalu>

RTU is highly valued in cooperation with employers in «QS ECCA 2021» ranking.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-reitinga-qs-ecca-2021-visaugstak-noverteta-sadarbiba-ar-darba-devejiem>

In 2020, RTU ranked 56th place in the green policy and sustainability rating «GreenMetric».

<https://labsoflatvia.com/aktuali/rtu-greenmetric-2020?fbclid=IwAR1FMUdIAPiFrkIKOBOq5dO7qncQzyWHQXyYPSPRzdYFlr03TPsauDQMW5E>

## 2021

### January 5

Taking into account the amendments to the Covid-19 Infection Spread Management Law adopted by the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia on 18 December 2020, which give the right to higher education institutions to hold elections of key decision-making bodies by 1 May 2021, RTU Constitutional Assembly makes a decision (Minutes No. 31) to postpone the elections of the RTU Constitutional Assembly, Academic Arbitration Court, Senate and RTU Rector until 31 December 2021. Until the date of entry into force of the powers of the newly elected main decision-making bodies of the University, the powers of the said elected institutions shall be fulfilled, and until the date of entry into force of the powers of the new Rector, the current Rector and existing Vice-Rectors shall continue their work.

### January 15

During the European Cup in bobsleigh on the Igls track in Innsbruck (Austria), the four of the piloted by Latvian bobsleigh player *Dāvis Kaufmanis*, a student of the FEEM, wins the high 3rd place.

[https://bobslejs.lv/raksts/kaufmanis-pirmo-reizi-uz-pjedestala-cetriniekos?fbclid=IwAR2k4Wrd\\_YAie1-HTm89\\_bd5H3vxlLaPjvZ7iNywN2b0oz1\\_xmqr3hW3a-M](https://bobslejs.lv/raksts/kaufmanis-pirmo-reizi-uz-pjedestala-cetriniekos?fbclid=IwAR2k4Wrd_YAie1-HTm89_bd5H3vxlLaPjvZ7iNywN2b0oz1_xmqr3hW3a-M)

### January 19

LAS awards the Award named by *Emīlija Gudriniece* in chemistry to *Jānis Miķelis Zaķis*, the Research Assistant at the FMSAC Institute of Technology of Organic Chemistry.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/emilijas-gudrinieces-vardbalvu-kimija-pieskir-rtu-jaunajam-zinatniekam-janim-mikelim-zakim>

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### January 21

The Saeima of the Republic of Latvia grants Latvian citizenship to the patron of RTU, co-owner and Chairman of the Board of CEO «Mikro Tik» John Martin Tully.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/attistibasfonds/fonds-par-mums/zinas-1/atvert/apuveicam-dzonu-martinu-talliju-ar-ieguto-latvijas-pilsonibu>

### January 27

RTU management, students, lecturers and scientists meet online with the Minister of Education and Science *Ilga Šuplinska* and the Director of the Department of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of the Ministry of Education and Science (MES) *Dmitrijs Stepanovs* to discuss higher (university) education and science issues.

Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Polish-Latvian diplomatic relations, RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* receives a congratulatory letter and a commemorative medal from the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Latvia, *Monika Michaliszyn*.

### In January

For the achievements in science in 2020, the LAS President's Certificates of Recognition are received by three groups of scientists from FMSAC: Associate Professor *Andris Šutka*, Leading Researcher *Kaspars Mālnieks*, Researcher *Linards Lapčinskis* and their partners at the University of Melbourne (Australia); Professor *Valdis Kampars*, Leading Researcher *Zane Ābelniece*, Leading Researcher *Kristīne Lazdoviča*, Researcher *Lauma Laipniece*, Research Assistant *Agija Stanke*, Researcher *Rūta Kampare*, Assistant Professor *Elīna Sīle*, Leading Researcher *Modris Roze*; a joint team of FMSAC, the Institute of Solid State Physics of the University of Latvia (UL) and the Latvian Institute of Organic Synthesis – Leading Researcher *Irina Novosjolova*, Leading Researcher *Kaspars Traskovskis*, Researcher *Armands Sebris*, Research Assistant *Jānis Miķelis Zaķis*, Research Assistant *Andris Jeminejs*, Professor *Ērika Bizdēna*, Professor *Valdis Kokars*, Professor *Māris Turks*, *Mg. chem. Kristers Ozols*, *Mg. chem. Dace Cīrule*, *Mg. phys. Natālija Tetervenoka* and *Dr. phys. Anatolijs Mišņovs*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-kimiki-sanem-lza-prezidenta-atzinibas-rakstus-par-sasniedzumiem-zinatne-2020-gada>

### February 1

Congratulating the most active users of the e-signature of 2020, the Latvian State Radio and Television Center awards the award «eSignature

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Champion 2020» and a diploma for the obtained third place to RTU. In the first place – the portal *Latvija.lv*, in the second place – the State Revenue Service.

[https://www.eparaksts.lv/lv/par\\_mums/Jaunumi/eParaksts\\_tiek\\_lietots\\_vidēji\\_26\\_027\\_reizes\\_diena](https://www.eparaksts.lv/lv/par_mums/Jaunumi/eParaksts_tiek_lietots_vidēji_26_027_reizes_diena)

### **February 5**

Gathering students, lecturers, representatives of RTU management and faculties online, the winners of the RTU Student Parliament Annual Award 2020 are solemnly named and congratulated online.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/rtusp/par-rtusp/sp-zinas/atvert/pgb2020-rezultati>

### **February 6**

RTU wins the Year Award of the Students Union of Latvia in two nominations: FET doctoral student *Jānis Braunfelds* has been recognized as the «Young Scientist of the Year 2020»; in the nomination «Innovation of the Year», the award is received by the impact program «CrisisLab» initiated by RTU, created in cooperation with the UL, the Latvian Maritime Academy, the University of Liepāja and Ventspils University of Applied Science.

<https://www.lsa.lv/notikusi-ikgadeja-lsa-gada-balva-par-studentu-lietu-atzita-akcija-gribustudet/>

### **February 20**

In the European Cup overall, FEEM student, Latvian bobsleigh pilot *Dāvis Kaufmanis* win the 2nd place in doubles.

<https://www.facebook.com/LVbsf/posts/3672047199577021>

### **February 26**

RTU Open Day takes place online.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-toposos-studentus-aicina-uz-atverto-durvu-dienu-tiessaiste>

### **February 26–28**

RTU students win medals in the international swimming competition «Latvian Open 2021», which is also an officially recognized qualification competition of the *Fédération internationale de natation* (FINA) for the XXXII Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo. *Daniils Bobrovs* wins two silver medals (100 m and 200 m breaststroke), while *Artūrs Markovs* – a bronze medal (400 m freestyle).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-peldetajiem-starptautiskajas-sacensibas-sudraba-un-bronzas-medalas-atseviskas-disciplinas>

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### **March 1**

FA graduate *Una Īle* becomes a laureate of the Latvian Regional Architecture Prize of Professor *Ivars Strautmanis*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/profesora-ivara-strautmana-premiju-sanem-arhitekturas-fakultates-absolvente-una-ile>

### **March 4**

RTU Career Day takes place online.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-aicina-jauniesus-piedalities-virtualaja-karjeras-diena>

### **March 5**

RTU receives an award from the Ministry of Defence in the nomination «Educational Institution «Educator for the National Guard»».

### **March 26**

For the first time in the history of RTU, doctoral student *Brigita Daļeckā* is simultaneously defending her doctoral dissertation in Latvia, RTU, and in Sweden, at the HTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/pirmo-reizi-rtu-vesture-doktorante-aizstaves-promocijas-darbu-latvija-un-zviedrija>

His Excellency Ambassador of the Italian Republic *Stefano Maria Taliani de Marchio* held a meeting with the Deputy Rector for International Academic Cooperation and Studies of Riga Technical University, *Igors Tipāns*, and Project Manager of International Cooperation and Foreign Students Department (ICFSD), *Ēriks Badamšins*. During the meeting, among the issues under consideration, significant importance was given to the possible establishment of Italian language courses at RTU (to RTU students and staff), which would take place with the financial support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy.

[https://www.rtu.lv/en/university/for-mass-media/news/open/icfsd-and-the-ambassador-of-italy-to-latvia-discuss-the-establishment-of-italian-language-courses-at-rtu?fbclid=IwAR10h52RyuRHxuoaf0AYV8oG8q-y0X5Lw\\_kePwqg2zYB4t9ZqxSt2UiFHxM](https://www.rtu.lv/en/university/for-mass-media/news/open/icfsd-and-the-ambassador-of-italy-to-latvia-discuss-the-establishment-of-italian-language-courses-at-rtu?fbclid=IwAR10h52RyuRHxuoaf0AYV8oG8q-y0X5Lw_kePwqg2zYB4t9ZqxSt2UiFHxM)

### **In March**

RTU improves its position in the prestigious international rating «QS World University Rankings by Subject 2021», ranking 201–220th place among the best universities in architecture, as well as ranks in engineering and technology, entering 401–450th among the best universities in the world.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-nostabilizejas-reitinga-starp-pasaules-vadosajam-inzenierzinatnu-augstskolam>

RTU students *Daniils Bobrovs* (FEEM) and *Artūrs Markovs* (FMETA), as well as graduate *Ģirts Feldbergs*, win several medals in the swimming championship of the Baltic States.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-peldetaji-vairakkart-kapj-uz-goda-pjedestala-baltijas-valstu-cempionata?fbclid=IwAR0Jg3DH7sJYcKNDC\\_A3jTtuk49sgyef7Bcrmwf8Bekrhq8P8rzlSLhliGwM](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-peldetaji-vairakkart-kapj-uz-goda-pjedestala-baltijas-valstu-cempionata?fbclid=IwAR0Jg3DH7sJYcKNDC_A3jTtuk49sgyef7Bcrmwf8Bekrhq8P8rzlSLhliGwM)

RTU ranks 251–300th place in the ranking of universities in emerging economies «The Emerging Economies University Rankigs 2021» by the world's most prestigious rating agencies «Times Higher Education» (THE).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/starptautiskaja-jaunas-ekonomikas-valstu-reitinga-augstu-noverte-rtu-starptautisko-sadarbibu-un-ienakumus-no-industrijas>

RTU has been awarded the Erasmus University Charter (ECHE – Erasmus Higher Education Charter) for the second time for the «Erasmus+» program period from 2021 to 2027.

<https://www.rtu.lv/en/university/for-mass-media/news/open/riga-technical-university-has-been-awarded-erasmus-charter-for-higher-education>

### **April 13**

The first 3D concrete printing scientific laboratory in the Baltics is opened, created by RTU in cooperation with Ltd. «Sakret».

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-partneriba-ar-sakret-izveido-baltija-pirmo-3d-betona-drukasanas-laboratoriju>

### **April 19**

RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* and Minister of Environmental Protection and Regional Development *Artūrs Toms Plešs* sign a memorandum of cooperation online on the exchange of information, skills and experience.

<https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/327181-varam-sadarbosies-ar-lu-un-rtu-digitalo-prasmju-integracijai-akademiskaja-vide-2021>

### **April 19–30**

An online event «Connect to RTU!» is taking place, which allows secondary school pupils to feel in the skin of RTU students and learn about study opportunities. Each day is dedicated to one of the nine faculties of RTU.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/nac-studet/aktualitates-berniem-un-jauniesiem/piesledzies-rtu>

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### **April 20**

The President of Latvia *Egils Levits* and the Chapter of the Order decide: for special merits for the benefit of the State of Latvia to award the Order of the Three Stars to the Dean of FA, Professor *Uģis Bratuškins*, by appointing the Professor as an Officer of the Order of the Three Stars; to award the Cross of Recognition to Professor *Alīda Zigmunde*, a long-term researcher of RTU history, by appointing the Professor as the Commander of the Cross of Recognition.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-arhitekturas-fakultates-dekans-ugis-bratuskins-un-inzenierzinatnu-vestures-petniece-alida-zigmunde-sanems-augstakos-valsts-apbalvojumus>

### **April 21**

RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* signs the updated «*Magna Charta Universitatum 2020*».

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j923TMRXHhA&t=9s>

### **April 22**

RTU University of Children and Youth organizes the first international lesson for Latvian and Danish pupils, giving a start to the project «*Phereclos*». Its aim is to promote an open school culture in Latvia, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) access to education and the involvement of young people in science.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-sak-starptautisku-projektu-lai-veicinatu-stem-izglitiba-pieejamibu-berniem>

### **April 23**

RTU is visited by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic to Latvia *Stefano Maria Taliani de Marchio*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/italijas-vestnieks-latvija-iepazistas-ar-rtu-studiju-un-zinatnes-aktivitatem>

### **April 29**

The artistic Director and choreographer of RTU Folk Dance Ensemble «*Vektors*» *Dagmāra Bārbale* at the Dance Prize Awards Ceremony in the category «*Dejas notikums*» (Dance Event) receives the *LSM.lv* voters' sympathy award for the video work «*Saules zīmē rotāties*» (Decorate in the Sun Sign).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/kultura/par-mums-kultura/jaunumi-kultura/atvert/sveiciens-visiem-dejojajiem-un-dejas-makslas-turetajiem-rtu-un-latvija-starptautiskaja-dejas-diena>



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## In April

Student of the Faculty of E-Learning Technologies and Humanities (FETH) *Heinrihs Cielavs* wins the annual competition of the language company «*Skrivanek Baltic*» for the students of the universities of Latvia «The best young translator 2021». RTU student *Maija Pokule* wins third place in the competition.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-students-heinrihs-cielavs-atzits-par-2021-gada-labako-jauno-tulkotaju>

RTU in rating «Impact Rankings 2021» it is recognized as the 64th best university in the world that fights against climate change. The ranking includes 1115 universities from 94 countries.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-reitinga-impact-rankings-2021-atzita-par-64-pasaule-labako-univeristati-kas-cinas-pret-klimata-parmainam?fbclid=IwAR1D2vPtweFfdInN4l-SnabecpX9NZZ0i\\_ibZBEg\\_yvET9Qi02BqBzLaE0A](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-reitinga-impact-rankings-2021-atzita-par-64-pasaule-labako-univeristati-kas-cinas-pret-klimata-parmainam?fbclid=IwAR1D2vPtweFfdInN4l-SnabecpX9NZZ0i_ibZBEg_yvET9Qi02BqBzLaE0A)

For the first time, all FEEM master's study programs are included in the prestigious «Eduniversal Best Masters Ranking» of the world's best business schools, confirming the international competitiveness and high employers' assessment of the education offered by RTU.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/visas-rtu-biznesa-un-vadibas-izglitibas-magistra-studiju-programmas-ieklust-pasaules-top>

Four RTU students – three bobsleighters *Lauris Kaufmanis* (FCE), *Dāvis Kaufmanis*, *Ralfs Bērziņš* and skeleton racer *Dārta Estere Zunte* (all FEEM students) – are included in the Latvian Olympic team, which will participate in the Winter Olympic Games in Beijing, China in February 2022.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/cetri-rtu-studenti-ieklauti-latvijas-olimpiskaja-vieniba-kas-startes-ziemas-olimpiskajas-speles-pekina>

## May 2

FEEM student *Aneta Tarasova*, who was previously the Head of the Department of External Relations of RTU SP, is elected the President of the RTU SP.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/rtusp/par-rtusp/sp-zinas/atvert/arkartas-vešanas-ieveleti-atlikusie-valdes-locekli>

## May 3

FCSIT celebrates its 60th anniversary.

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### **May 5**

RTU Business School Director *Jānis Grēviņš* becomes a Member of the Council of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-rigas-biznesa-skolas-direktors-grevins-klust-par-eit-direktoru-padomes-locekli>

### **May 13-14**

RTU students pick the laurels of victory in international swimming competitions «Latvian qualification meet»: *Daniils Bobrovs* (FMETA) wins 200 m swimming in the breaststroke; *Artūrs Markovs* (FEEM) wins a gold medal in the 200 m and a silver medal in the 400 m freestyle; *Atis Āre* (FCE) wins a bronze medal at a distance of 50 m in backstroke; RTU graduate *Ģirts Fedbergs*, on the other hand, wins a gold medal in the 100m backstroke and wins the overall standings.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-peldetaji-izcina-godalgas-starptautiskajas-sacensibas-kipsalas-pelbaseina?fbclid=IwAR0LHZ\\_GZsTH9JeJje1y1Bh6-kZN8ZcY\\_TtjyXulEp9GnKSS5iarnHfTDJ0](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-peldetaji-izcina-godalgas-starptautiskajas-sacensibas-kipsalas-pelbaseina?fbclid=IwAR0LHZ_GZsTH9JeJje1y1Bh6-kZN8ZcY_TtjyXulEp9GnKSS5iarnHfTDJ0)

### **May 15-16**

FEEM 2nd year student *Artūrs Rinkevičs* in a duet with *Ardis Daniels Bedrītis* wins a silver medal in the European U-22 beach volleyball championship.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-pludmales-volejbolistam-sudrabs-eiropas-u-22-cempionata?fbclid=IwAR15-p2Ps9WLI3sW1-MXH5RrVBOTSSeeEfd1owOlySi9OriXTvT7CrJN1lo>

### **May 21**

A digital forum «Does the Latvian education system achieve its goal» is being organized by the Saeima Education, Culture and Science Commission, the Ministry of Education and Science and RTU, where expert discussions on linking higher and vocational education with the labour market are taking place. Each day of the forum is dedicated to a specific topic – primary and secondary education, higher and vocational education, as well as adult education and retraining (the first discussion on 21 May; the second discussion on 28 May; the third discussion on 4 June).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/foruma-izglitibas-sistema-un-darba-tirgus-saturiskie-materiali>

### **May 28**

In gratitude for the successful cooperation, the Commander of the Naval Forces of National Armed Forces, Captain *Kaspars Zelčs*, presents a Letter

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of Recognition to the Director of RTU *Liepāja* Centre for Studies and Research *Mārcis Priedītis*.

<https://www.facebook.com/Latvijasjurasspeki>

### **May 28–29**

For the tenth year in a row, RTU is hosting the «10th International Doctoral School of Energy Conversion and Saving Technologies». This year, school activities take place online.

<https://ieei.rtu.lv/ids-ecst/>

### **May 31**

The Senate of RTU makes a decision (Minutes No. 650):

- to make amendments to the RTU Regulations on Awards and Diplomas approved at the Senate of RTU meeting on 28 October 2019 (Minutes No. 633), supplementing the range of awards to be awarded by the Senate decision with the award «RTU Honorary Professor» awarded to retired professors for outstanding pedagogical, scientific and organizational activities at RTU during at least the previous 10 years, and to approve the regulations «On Awarding the Title of Honorary Professor of RTU»;
- to liquidate the Research and Professional Competence Centre of Road Transport of the FMETA Institute of Transport.

### **In May**

The Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN), Antonio Guterres, has approved a group of 10 outstanding scientists and researchers who will advise on how to use science, technology and innovation to accelerate the achievement of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Among them is also RTU Vice-Rector for Research Academician *Tālis Juhna*.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-prorektors-talis-juhna-konsultes-ano-ka-vairot-tehnologiju-potenciala-izmantosanu%C2%A0>

FMETA receives a valuable gift from the company «*Instro*» – measuring instruments for the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Mechatronics worth almost eight thousand euros.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/uznemums-instro-davina-jaunus-merinstrumentus-rtu-masinbuves-un-mehatronikas-katedrai>

*Nadīna Anija Poga*, a graduate of the IDT of FMSAC, develops new design uniforms for *Liepāja* public transport controllers.

<https://www.rekurzeme.lv/vietejas-zinas/liepaja/liepajas-sabiedriska-transporta-kontrolieriem-bus-jauna-dizaina-formasterpi-153311>

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RTU EHS team wins the Baltic Biomaterials Centre of Excellence (BBCE) erudition competition for pupils «BIO-GO-Higher», winning a trip to Switzerland and the opportunity to participate in biomaterials research at the AO Research Institute Davos.

[https://www.izv.lv/2021/05/  
rtu-izv-komanda-uzvar-erudicijas-konkursa-bio-go-higher/](https://www.izv.lv/2021/05/rtu-izv-komanda-uzvar-erudicijas-konkursa-bio-go-higher/)

### **June 1**

RTU Leading Researcher *Inga Ļašenko* receives the Award of the Latvian Security and Defence Industries Federation 2021 in education and research.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/mtaf/par-mums-mtaf/mtaf-zinas/atvert/  
rtu\\_vadosa\\_petniece\\_sanema\\_balvu](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/mtaf/par-mums-mtaf/mtaf-zinas/atvert/rtu_vadosa_petniece_sanema_balvu)

### **June 10**

The annual fashion show of the students of the FMSAC IDT takes place, in which the students' works are decorated in an innovative format – in a special fashion short film cycle.

<https://www.delfi.lv/kultura/news/cultureenvironment/foto-modes-diplomdarbieneskats-rtu-dizaina-tehnologiju-studentu-kolekcijas.d?id=53262707>

### **June 22**

RTU is visited by the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen and the Prime Minister of the RL *Krišjānis Kariņš*. The officials meet with the RTU management, visit the Student Campus in *Ķīpsala*, get acquainted with the innovations created by scientists and give a press conference.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/  
ek-priekssedetaja-rtu-iepazisies-ar-zinatnieku-raditajam-zalajam-tehnologijam](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/ek-priekssedetaja-rtu-iepazisies-ar-zinatnieku-raditajam-zalajam-tehnologijam)

### **June 26–27**

RTU athletes win the title of Latvian champion in athletics.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-sportisti-izcina-latvijas-cempiona-titulu-vieglatletika?fbclid=IwAR2CMqjbgd6zO69KexYuE118cJEnoGwNIrjX15ylSAHPw2zgU3Xq2A0D8hQ>

### **June 28**

The Senate of RTU makes a decision (Minutes No. 651):

- to unite the Institute of Silicate Materials, Institute of Inorganic Chemistry and Research Laboratory of Functional Materials Technologies of FMSAC and to establish Institute of Materials and Surface Engineering and to approve the regulations of the newly established institute;

- to change the name of the Institute of Construction and Reconstruction of RTU FCE to «Institute of Structural Engineering» and stipulate that the decision enters into force on 1 September 2021.

## In June

RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* receives the Award of the Polish Association of Electrical Engineers – the Medal of Mikhail Dolivo-Dobrovolsky for achievements in electrical engineering.

RTU is included in international rating «QS World University Rankings 2022» taking 751–800th place and this indicator is the highest of the evaluation results of the three Latvian universities included in the rating – RTU, RSU and the UL.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-latvija-saglaba-liderpozicijas-prestizaja-qs-world-university-rankings-1>

For the fourth year, RTU is included in the highest or platinum category of the «Sustainability Index».

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-saglaba-savas-pozicijas-ilgtspejas-indeksa-platina-kategorija>

## July 1

Professor of FA *Dr. arch. Sandra Treija* receives a Letter of Recognition from the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia for outstanding achievements in developing higher education in architecture in Latvia.

<https://lvportals.lv/dienaskartiba/330025-dr-arch-sandrai-treijai-pasniedz-atzinibas-rakstu-par-sasniegumiem-attistot-augstako-izglitiba-arhitektura-2021>

## July 2

RTU Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* signs a cooperation agreement with the European Space Agency on the establishment of *ESA\_lab@RTU*, strengthening the university's competence in the field of space technologies and promoting the growth of space and related industries.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-parakstis-ligumu-ar-eiropas-kosmosa-agenturu?fbclid=IwAR18-M0DM2vAIUakVNIIBPtIFxH42maKvPkvEa-Syd0yPPSS6GRhRN42fgs>

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

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/jau-desmito-gadu-darba-deveji-jauniesiem-iesaka-izveleties-studijas-rtu>

2021/5

The fourth RTU EHS graduation is taking place.

<https://www.izv.lv/2021/07/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskola-nosvinets-ceturtais-izlaidums/>

### July 3 and 4

For the first time in the history of the Baltic States, three «EIT Food» centres in the region – «AgriFood Lithuania DIH», RTU and Tartu Biotechnology Park – are jointly organizing an international online hackathon, «HACK DigitalSea'21», to find solutions for sustainable aquaculture development in the Baltic Sea region.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/notiks-pirmais-digitalas-juras-hakatons-baltijas-valstis>

### July 8

The time capsule is laid in the foundations of the research and training hangar of Institute of Aeronautics of FMETA, at 8 *Kīpsalas* Street, on the side of *Zunda* Canal.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/iemures-pamatakmeni-angaram-kura-rtu-zinatnieki-un-studenti-attistis-aeronautikas-tehnologijas>

*Agrita Krieviņa-Siliņa*, Practical Assistant Professor at the FMSAC IDT, receives the award «*Par ieguldījumu. Sieviete – dizaina veicinātāja 2020*» (For Investment. Woman – Design Promoter 2020) in the competition-forum «*Sieviete arhitektūrā, būvniecībā un dizainā*» (Woman in Architecture, Construction and Design).

<https://www.buvniekupadome.lv/konkurss/konkursa-foruma-sieviete-arhitektura-buvnieciba-dizaina-2020-rezultati/?fbclid=IwAR1Lin2PsmrMbvDKmwhUfAyeOkOIB1ASJKpCxvY7DCRIVMGAX3umCELO-UM>

### July 9

The traveling exhibition «*Jaunie arhitekti – Latvijai*» (Young Architects – for Latvia) created by FA is opened in *Cēsis* Central Library. The exhibition is the final event in the cycle of events celebrating the 150th anniversary of the education of architects.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/af/par-mums/af-zinas/atvert/cesis-skatama-rtu-arhitekturas-fakultates-veidota-izstade-jaunie-arhitekti-latvijai-1>

### July 17

The fifth RTU Grand Graduation takes place at *Spilve* Airport, where approximately 1000 graduates of all faculties and study levels receive diplomas. Considering the situation of epidemiological safety and the

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restrictions on gatherings set in the country, the release takes place in the auto or drive-in format for the second year in a row.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/verienigi-nosvinets-rtu-lielais-auto-izlaidums-2021>

### July 27

Latvian swimmer, FMETA 2nd year master student *Daniils Bobrovs* makes his debut in the Summer Olympic Games (Tokyo), winning the 31st place in the 200 m long breaststroke distance, showing the time 2:14.25.

<https://www.delfi.lv/sports/news/vasaras-olimpiskas-speles/zinas/peldetajs-bobrovs-olimpiskajas-speles-debite-31-pozicija.d?id=53428339>

### In July

The Bachelor's and Master's study program «Administration of Customs and Taxes» of the International Business and Customs Institute of FEEM receives a certificate of recognition from the European Commission.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/eiropas-komisija-atzist-rtu-muitas-izglitiba-novertejot-to-ka-vienu-no-labakajam-eiropas-savieniba>

RTU is the only Baltic higher education institution to be among the 40 best higher education institutions in the section of the international rating «World's Universities with Real Impact» (WURI), which evaluates the capacity of higher education institutions in promoting entrepreneurship and developing the business environment. RTU ranks 31st, showing the best result not only in Latvia, but also in the Baltics.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-vieniga-no-baltijas-ieklust-reitinga-kura-novertets-universitates-ieguldijums-uznemejspeju-veicinasana>

### August 2

Latvia becomes a full associate member of the European Organization for Nuclear Research, (CERN). *Anita Muižniece*, Minister of Education and Science; *Toms Torims*, RTU Professor and Latvian representative in CERN and *Ilze Rūse*, Director of the International Organizations and Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is taking part in the online solemn reception, which is taking place at both CERN's headquarters in Geneva and Riga; in the Ministry of Education and Science of Latvia, CERN Latvia will be represented by the Latvian Ambassador to the ANO in Geneva, *Bakhtijors Hasans*, and the ceremony will be attended by CERN Director General Fabiola Gianotti and other CERN management representatives.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/latvija-klust-par-pilntiesigu-cern-asocieto-dalibvalsti>

### **August 7–8**

The RTU team (FEEM 1st year master student *Viktorija Majorova*, FCSIT 4th year student *Diāna Zeltiņa*, RTU Sports Centre Deputy Director *Sanita Sveile* and future RSU student *Diāna Afanasjeva*) wins a silver medal in the Latvian team championship table tennis in the highest league.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-galda-tenisistem-sudrabs-latvijas-cempionata-augstakaja-liga>

### **August 7–15**

For the tenth time, the largest chess festival «RTU Open 2021» in Northern Europe is taking place at the *Ķīpsala* International Exhibition Center, where German Grandmaster *Aleksandrs Dončenko* had won.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/starptautiskaja-saha-festivala-rtu-open-2021-uzvar-vacijas-lielmeistars-aleksandrs-doncenko>

### **August 10–16**

In the competition of 46 member states and 180 participants, *Džonatans Miks Melgalvis*, a pupil of RTU EHS, wins a gold medal at the 17th International Geography Olympiad, which took place online this year and was organized by Turkey.

[https://www.visc.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/skolnieks-no-latvijas-izcina-saja-starptautisko-olimpiazu-sezona-pirmo-zelta-medalu?fbclid=IwAR1LcAYR\\_ZCeHKUht53Lie00RjRrXWcYTG4QJRHftNjKaw-Mp25kT9L6KxQ](https://www.visc.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/skolnieks-no-latvijas-izcina-saja-starptautisko-olimpiazu-sezona-pirmo-zelta-medalu?fbclid=IwAR1LcAYR_ZCeHKUht53Lie00RjRrXWcYTG4QJRHftNjKaw-Mp25kT9L6KxQ)

### **August 16**

Amendments to the Law on Higher Education Institutions enter into force, which envisages a reform of the management of higher education institutions, changing the management of the higher education system in Latvia and dividing higher education institutions into a new typology.

<https://www.delfi.lv/news/national/politics/stajas-speka-grozijumi-augstskolu-likuma.d?id=53490277>

### **August 25**

For the sixth year in a row, RTU EHS wins the first place in the ranking of small schools of the *Atis Kronvalds* Foundation and the traveling award «*Lielā pūce*» (Big Owl).

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierzinatnu-vidusskola-apliecina-savu-izcilibu-tradicionali-klustot-par-labako-mazo-skolu-latvija>



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The President of Latvia *Egils Levits* presents the *Atis Kronvalds* Award to *Laura Fjodorova*, a chemistry teacher at RTU EHS, for her contribution to the education of talented pupils and the management of pupils' scientific activities.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/valsts-prezidents-sveic-izv-skolotaju-lauru-fjodorovu-novertejot-ieguldijumu-talantigu-skolenu-izglitosana>

### August 28

RTU women's team – *Viktorija Majorova* (FEEM), *Liāna Zeltiņa* (FCSIT), *Kristīne Berežkova* (FCE) – wins the 1st place in the Latvian XXXI Universiade competition in table tennis. *V. Majorova* and *L. Zeltiņa* also win in women's doubles. *Eduards Spāģis* (FCSIT) becomes the champion in the individual evaluation for men.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/sports/sporta-centra-jaunumi/atvert/rtu-sportisti-izcina-uzvaras-latvijas-xxxi-universiades-sacensibas-galda-tenisa?fbclid=IwAR3UGANCKAKZbFKhz2AoUKx9V9PRSEZ2mBbldFej7RiGcGcT6iDjpGN0lpM>

### August 30

With the decision of the Senate of RTU (Minutes No. 652):

- based on the decision of the FCE Council of 29 June 2021 (Minutes No. 011/2021), *Mārtiņš Vilnītis* was approved as the Dean of the FCE;
- a new version of the RTU Senate regulations have been approved, the procedure for its entry into force has been determined and it has been decided to forward it for approval at the RTU Constitutional Assembly.

The opening ceremony of the second «call» of the RTU Talent Program is taking place, in which the patron of the RTU Talent Program, Executive Vice President of the European Commission for An Economy that Works for People *Valdis Dombrovskis*, is also participating.

[https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-talantu-programma-studijas-uzsak-izcilakie-latvijas-jauniesi?fbclid=IwAR2\\_FPI-bPlj9Bn4DCPSEhRz7-cbT2zgHHtl3XNG218UZ-HyE7cNhABBk4Y](https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-talantu-programma-studijas-uzsak-izcilakie-latvijas-jauniesi?fbclid=IwAR2_FPI-bPlj9Bn4DCPSEhRz7-cbT2zgHHtl3XNG218UZ-HyE7cNhABBk4Y)

### August 31

The traditional meeting of the Rector Academician *Leonīds Ribickis* with RTU teaching staff and employees, starting the new study year, is taking place.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/31-augusta-tiessaistes-pasakuma-pirmkursniekus-iepazistinas-ar-rtu>

2021/5

Online event «*Startēšu RTU*» is taking place, where 1st year students are introduced to the RTU study process, scientific, practical and extracurricular activities.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/31-augusta-tiessaistes-pasakuma-pirmkursniekus-iepazistinas-ar-rtu>

A sitting of the RTU Constitutional Assembly is taking place, in which the regulations of the RTU Senate in a new version is approved.

Marking the 55th anniversary of the Faculty of Engineering Economics and Management, Dean Professor *Elīna Gaile-Sarkane* meets with the faculty teaching staff and employees, and the annual student self-government event «*IEVF lepnums*» (Pride of the FEEM) takes place.

<https://www.rtu.lv/lv/universitate/masu-medijiem/zinas/atvert/rtu-inzenierekonomikas-un-vadibas-fakultatei-55>