

INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC VISITS TUL AND CXI

President Petr Pavel and First Lady Eva Pavlová visited TUL and the CXI Research Institute, welcomed by Rector Miroslav Brzezina, CXI Director Miroslav Černík, future Rector Aleš Kocourek, and Liberec Region Governor Martin Půta.

They toured laboratories focused on nanotechnologies, water treatment, electron microscopy, and 3D printing, learning about TUL's world-class research and its practical applications. The presidential couple received unique gifts from TUL students and staff, including jewellery, glass foam products, and a micro-scale lithography portrait.

The visit concluded at TUL's kindergarten, ŠkaTULka, with a performance and a drawing of Ještěd. President Pavel also symbolically signed a nanofibre layer, which will be permanently displayed at CXI.



ALEŠ KOCOUREK ELECTED AS TUL RECTOR

Assoc. Prof. Aleš Kocourek, alumnus and former Dean of the Faculty of Economics and current Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Health Studies, was elected as the new rector of the Technical University of Liberec. Priorities of the new rector are to strengthen the university's reputation, resources, and prospects. He highlighted finances and the optimization of internal potential as key priorities for his first term. Aleš Kocourek will overtake the position after assoc. prof. Miroslav Brzezina on 1 February 2026 as TUL's 12th rector.





WE JOIN THE PRESTIGIOUS EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE RUN-EU

Our university officially became a member of the Regional University Network (RUN-EU) on 17 November 2025, with effect from 1 June 2025. Joining this prestigious alliance significantly strengthens TUL's international position and opens new opportunities for students and researchers.

Membership in RUN-EU enables wider international mobility, joint courses, micro-credentials, and collaborative research and teaching projects across ten European universities. Students gain easier access to international experience, while academic staff benefit from expanded professional networks and shared expertise.

RUN-EU places strong emphasis on cooperation between universities and their regions, supporting collaboration with cities, regional authorities, companies, and institutions, as well as volunteering and social engagement. TUL's membership will therefore benefit not only the university community, but the entire region.

This important milestone was marked by TUL hosting its first EPA Mission in early December 2025, confirming the start of long-term and meaningful cooperation within the RUN-EU alliance.

NANOFLEXION: A BREAKTHROUGH IN POSTOPERATIVE CARE



Nanoflexion, the TUL spin-off founded by Dr. Markéta Hujerová (Klíčová) at the Faculty of Textile Engineering, is revolutionizing gastrointestinal surgery with its innovative nanofiber patches. These bioresorbable patches prevent intestinal leakage and reduce adhesions, offering a safer, simpler, and potentially life-saving solution for patients - an answer to a medical challenge that has persisted for over two centuries.

The project is rapidly advancing toward clinical use through collaboration with TUL, the i&i Prague biotechnology incubator, and the Medical Faculty of Charles University in Plzeň, combining cutting-edge research with expert mentorship and multi-million funding support. Nanoflexion has already gained international recognition, winning third place at Prague.bio 2025 and being showcased at EXPO 2025 in Osaka. With over 170 TUL patents in nanofiber technology over the past two decades, this spin-off represents a landmark achievement in translating nanomaterials research into real-world medicine. Dr. Hujerová's recent GA ČR Junior Star grant further secures the future of her pioneering work, promising to transform surgical care and improve countless lives.



GLASSITECA: TURNING GLASS WASTE INTO INNOVATIVE MATERIALS

Glassiteca transforms glass waste into Glassticine, a lightweight, porous, and chemically resistant glass-ceramic material with endless potential. Unlike traditional downcycling, Glassticine adds value by creating a reusable, high-performance product suitable for hydroponics, green façades, acoustic panels, and design objects. The material is currently being tested in the PilotInnCities project in Liberec, where it demonstrates water retention and cooling properties for urban greenery.

Glassiteca also collaborates with artists, producing unique objects such as aromadiffusers and lamps that highlight the material's texture, porosity, and aesthetic potential. With plans to scale production to hundreds of tons annually and a prototype line investment of 25–30 million CZK, the spin-off aims to offer modular, high-value products from recycled glass. By combining cutting-edge research, circular economy principles, and design innovation, Glassiteca is giving glass a sustainable and creative future.



SHARING SCIENCE: MAKING RESEARCH ACCESSIBLE AND ENGAGING

How can science be communicated so that people understand it, follow it, and support it? This question was explored at the “Share Science!” event hosted by the CXI Institute for Nanomaterials, Advanced Technologies and Innovation at TUL. Eight presentations and lively discussions showed that science communication is an essential part of research.

Speakers shared practical tips on creating engaging social media channels, using storytelling and video, and approaching communication as a professional skill. Personal stories highlighted courage, collaboration across disciplines, and investing in one's skills. The event drew over forty researchers, marketers, educators, and practitioners, opening discussions on the importance of effective scientific communication in academia.



TAIWANESE UNIVERSITY DELEGATION – SUCCESSFUL UAAT STUDY FAIR

On 10 December 2025, we had the pleasure to host an official visit by a delegation of Taiwanese universities. The guests toured the TUL campus, engaged in mutual introductions, and explored opportunities for collaboration between TUL and Taiwan’s leading institutions.

As part of the visit, the UAAT Study Fair was held in front of the TUL cafeteria, featuring representatives from twelve top Taiwanese universities, including Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Prague. The fair was a great success, with students actively asking questions and learning about study programmes and international opportunities in a friendly and open atmosphere.

The event highlighted TUL’s commitment to building global connections and fostering international academic exchange, creating valuable opportunities for both students and staff.



TUL AT CAIE 2025 IN COSTA RICA

From October 15 - 17, 2025, the Conference of the Americas on International Education (CAIE) took place in San José, Costa Rica. This prestigious event brought together higher education leaders and experts from around the world to share ideas and best practices in internationalization.

The Technical University of Liberec was proudly represented by Michaela Andělová, Head of the International Office. She returned with valuable insights and experiences to support TUL’s international initiatives.

LINGUISTICS IN THE CLASSROOM: LPPL CONFERENCE

The 2nd International LPPL Conference on Linguistic Pragmatics and Teaching Methodology took place on 13-14 November 2025. Scholars from Germany, the Czech Republic, and Israel discussed the social, intercultural, and pragmatic aspects of language, including politeness, political discourse, and teaching materials. The event emphasized the importance of combining linguistic knowledge with pragmatic awareness for effective communication. Presented papers will be published in the Studien zur Pragmatik series. The next LPPL conference will be held at the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen on 12-13 November 2026.



CXI RECOGNIZED FOR CORPORATE GIVING ON GIVING TUESDAY



The CXI Research Institute at TUL was named a finalist in the Corporate Giving category at the first Czech Giving Tuesday Awards, highlighting its commitment to charity and social responsibility. Director Miroslav Černík accepted the award in Prague, emphasizing the dedication of CXI employees to both professional excellence and helping those in need. In recent years, staff contributions have supported local charities such as the Liberec Furniture Bank and the Lira Center for children with disabilities, as well as providing critical assistance to a hospitalized TUL student from Nigeria. The recognition places CXI alongside major Czech companies and institutions, underscoring its role as a socially responsible leader in the community.

OUR RESEARCHER COMPLETES FULBRIGHT-MASARYK FELLOWSHIP AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Assoc. Prof. Věra Jenčová from the Department of Chemistry (Bioengineering Group), Faculty of Science, Humanities and Education at TUL, completed a Fulbright-Masaryk Research Fellowship at Auburn University from 15 September to 31 December 2025. She collaborated with Dr. Bryan Beckingham's group, studying how biodegradable nanofibrous



STRENGTHENING TIES WITH INDIAN PARTNER UNIVERSITY



On 20 October 2025, the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering hosted distinguished professors from Dr. M. G. R. Educational & Research Institute University in Tamil Nadu, India: Prof. Dr. Velanganny Cyril Raj and Prof. Dr. Venkatachalam Natarajan. The visit aimed to strengthen education and research collaboration between the two universities.

During their stay, partners discussed organizing events at their university to encourage undergraduate and postgraduate students to study at TUL's Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. Plans were also made to establish an international research group focusing on coconut and banana fibre spinning, supporting joint research initiatives. The visit laid the groundwork for future collaborations, including an upcoming Indo-Czech conference and other activities, further enhancing academic and research ties.

materials (PCL, PLCL) change during enzymatic degradation using DSC, XRD, and mechanical testing. During her stay, Dr. Kateřina Strnadová and Prof. David Lukáš also visited Auburn University through Erasmus+ KA171, delivering lectures on medical applications of nanofibers. Their presentations strengthened mutual understanding and created opportunities for future joint projects and regular academic exchanges.

Věra Jenčová describes the fellowship as highly enriching both professionally and personally. She plans to apply the experience and insights gained at Auburn to her teaching and research at TUL.



FS TUL RACING ACHIEVES HISTORIC SUCCESS WITH MONOPOST MAGDALÉNA

The FS TUL Racing team celebrated a historic achievement at the Formula Student competitions in Poland with their latest car, Magdaléna, securing second place overall. The seventh-generation monopost excelled in both dynamic and static events, including Skidpad, Autocross, Endurance, and the Engineering Design Event (EDE). Magdaléna features numerous technical upgrades, such as improved aerodynamics, enhanced brakes, a refined gearbox, and a hybrid support system alongside its Suzuki GSX-R 600 engine.

Team leader Václav Kočí highlighted that reliability, careful preparation, and strong teamwork were key to their success.

The project, costing around 100,000 euros, was supported by TUL faculties and external sponsors. The team is now analyzing the season, recruiting new members, and preparing for the next generation monopost, aiming to build on this year's success.



COIL PROJECT 2025: PRACTICAL USE OF THE 5S METHOD

In October and November 2025, students from the Faculty of Economics at TUL and Reutlingen University in Germany participated in a joint COIL project within the RUN-EU alliance. COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) allows international students to work online in mixed teams on shared academic tasks in English. After an introductory meeting, the teams began working on the practical application of the 5S method-Sort, Set in order, Shine, Standardise and Sustain.

Over two weeks, each team selected a real-life problem and proposed a solution to improve organisation and efficiency. An important part of the project was Map Processing, where students analysed and improved individual process steps. The final presentations showed a wide range of topics and creative approaches. After completing the project, students received certificates of participation, and the successful cooperation marked the beginning of future collaboration between the two universities.

Reutlingen
University

COIL project WS25/26

(collaborative online international learning)

Welcome!!!

Reutlingen University
Technical university of Liberec



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THE SEVENTH ENGLISH CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On the first Wednesday evening in December 2025, in the beautiful but chilly St. Antonín Church, the seventh English Christmas concert was held. The Bohemian and Aurea Rosa choirs sang under the baton of the celebrated conductor Dr. Jana Konvalinková (Department of Primary and Preprimary Education, Faculty of Science, Humanities and Education).

The concert faithfully followed the English festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. Both choirs had been rehearsing diligently since September. All performers were delighted to sing for a packed church, attended by people of all ages, including many family members of the singers.

The choirs are already looking forward to the eighth performance in 2026.

BUILDING BRIDGES WITH THE GLOBAL ALUMNI COMMUNITY

At the beginning of December we participated in the International Student and Alumni Meetup Olomouc 2025, represented by colleagues from the International Relations Office. The event featured a morning of professional training, followed by networking and a mini student fair in the afternoon.

The meetup provided valuable insights, ideas, and contacts to strengthen engagement with international students and alumni. The university thanks the Czech Centre for International Cooperation (DZS) for organizing the event so efficiently. The visit also highlighted the strength and enthusiasm of both Czech and international alumni, whose ongoing support and connection to their alma mater continue to inspire and motivate the TUL community.



JOB TUL DAYS 2025: CONNECTING STUDENTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES

The third edition of JobTUL Days brought together over seventy exhibitors, workshops, lectures, CV consultations, and professional headshots, attracting hundreds of students to the Technical University of Liberec. Companies from technical, IT, finance, and public sectors offered insights into career paths, internships, and job opportunities, while students could explore personalized guidance for their professional growth. The fair also featured discussions on workplace equality and pay gaps, emphasizing soft skills and personal development. For the first time, an interactive Eventee app enhanced the experience with real-time schedules and competitions. JobTUL Days continue to inspire students, providing a unique platform to discover opportunities, develop skills, and connect with potential employers.





CELEBRATING DIWALI

We celebrated the Festival of Lights: Diwali with our university community. Participants learned about the traditions of Diwali, enjoyed tasting a variety of Indian dishes, and shared stories about cultural customs. Although it was only the second university Diwali, the event brought people together for conversation, laughter, and a festive atmosphere. Organizers and attendees contributed to making the celebration a memorable experience. The university looks forward to continuing this tradition and celebrating Diwali again in 2026.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

INAUGURATION OF THE RECTOR OF TUL

Friday, 6 March 2026 | 10:00 AM

The official inauguration of the new Rector of the Technical University of Liberec, doc. Aleš Kocourek, Ph.D., will take place in the university auditorium. Docent Kocourek assumed office on 1 February 2026.

TUL BALL 2026

Friday, 6 March 2026 | from 7:00 PM

Enjoy an evening full of dance, music, and entertainment at the Technical University of Liberec Ball. The programme includes the Vladimír Janský Orchestra, TULBand, a special guest of the evening, a dance performance, and a photo booth.

📍 Liberec Cultural House (Dům kultury Liberec)

🎫 Tickets available online via [GoOut.net](https://www.goout.net) or at the venue box office.



OPEN DAY – FACULTY OF HEALTH STUDIES

Friday, 13 March 2026

Prospective students are invited to the Open Day of the Faculty of Health Studies at TUL. Visitors will have the opportunity to explore teaching facilities, equipment, and study programmes offered by the faculty.

