

BULLETIN

Budapest University of Technology and Economics
2006–2007

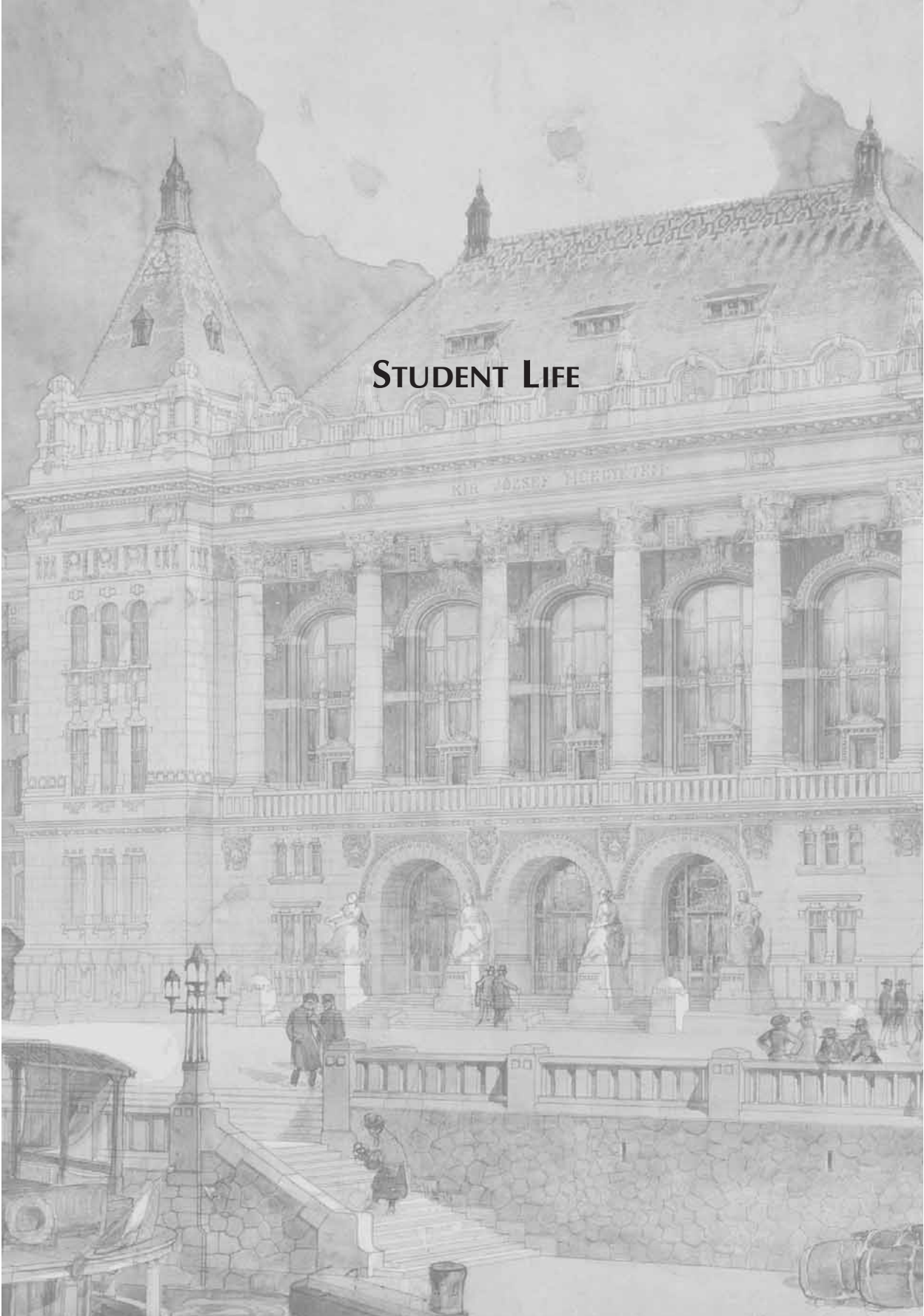
An ECTS Guide



M Ű E G Y E T E M 1 7 8 2

Engineering Programs in English
<http://www.tanok.bme.hu>

STUDENT LIFE



Services

Orientation Program

The orientation program welcomes newly arrived students, who are often from other cultures and introduces them to academic life at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics and to the details of studying in Hungary. The program lasts 4 to 5 days and besides several lectures and informal discussions includes a tour of the university and an introduction to the students' advisers and to university officials. A guided tour in the city is also offered.

IMPORTANT! During the week of ORIENTATION there are preparatory CLASSES for Placement Test (see page 41) in MATHEMATICS and PHYSICS for freshmen.

The rector of the university, the deans of the faculties and representatives of the International Education Center host a special welcoming reception for new students during the orientation week. This gives students and university staff a chance to meet.

Members of the International Students' Union play a particularly valuable role by sharing their experience and offering support to international students. The Committee of International Student Relations (CISR) of BME (Hungarian students) – offers a sportevent on the Margaret Island.

Advisory Program

The support and encouragement of new students has a long tradition at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics.

Pre-engineering and first year students are assigned a personal advisor, who is a faculty member. They assist the new students in adapting both culturally and academically to the university environment. Students are encouraged to turn to them for advice or guidance.

Years of experience have shown that parents (sponsors), who are far away, find it reassuring to hear about their sons and daughters, from a concerned person, who is in regular contact with them as a teacher. Advisors will correspond with the sponsors of the students twice or three times in the first year - in accordance with the Hungarian law - and inform them about the students' academic progress and well-being.

Parents or sponsors of a 2nd or higher year student can turn to the Course Director of the Faculty for academic information about the student and may ask for a direct transcript transmission at the end of the academic year from the Office of Academic Affairs of the International Education Center (IEC).

Health Service

All foreign students must have a sufficient health insurance while studying at BME. New students should purchase insurance when they enroll and renew it at registration for each semester except or EU citizens, who are covered by their EU health insurance program. The insurance fee is approx. EUR 100 (HUF 26,500) for a semester. The service includes medical consultation, emergency care, short hospitalization and certain medicines at a subsidized cost. Some services, however, do involve charges. It is advisable to inquire about the possible cost of a service in advance.

At the beginning of the academic year, new students are obliged to have a medical check-up as a condition of the insurance. The staff of the Students Office provide information on check-up arrangements during the registration period. (See also the Academic Calendar in this Bulletin.)

Student Card

On registration, students receive a student card, which entitles them to use the university library and gives them access to other university facilities. This card entitles students to a 67% discount on the national railways and on public transportation within the city, and also to free entrance to some museums and several libraries.

Student Government

Student representation, considered a basic right at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, has two functions. First, the Hungarian student representatives, who also represent international students, serve the interests of all students on the various official bodies of the university. Second, the University Student Government office (located in building K, 1st floor # 51) offers help to students in finding housing, acquiring lecture notes, and dealing with other needs of their academic and personal life. Foreign students form the International Student Union, which has also elected members for each faculty and an elected representative for the whole foreign students' community.

There is active elected student representation at each of the eight faculties. Each faculty has from two to seven representatives, who serve in the faculty academic councils. Additionally, the students at each faculty send two representatives to the university senate, the most important governing body of the university. About 30% of the university senate's membership are students, and the students' viewpoint is significantly represented in decisions that affect the daily life and future of the university.

Housing and Meals

Student Residences

Each faculty has its own co-educational residence so that students who are in the same class can discuss their work as they study and also forge social relationships, which are of particular importance to students who are studying away from home. The rooms have either 2 or 4 beds.

Private Accommodation

Due to the limited number of places in the student residences, foreign students generally rent rooms or apartments in the city. A one-room furnished apartment with a kitchen and a bathroom generally costs about EUR 200 - 300 a month. The price does not include heating, electricity and telephone costs.

Information on temporary accommodation is available through the Students Office (Building Z). IEC offers organised help with Hungarian students *during the registration period* for students to find accommodation. Later they should find accommodation on their own. Tourist offices have extensive lists of accommodations for rent. For agencies see "Student Information – Survival Manual" heading on the World Wide Web at the following sites: <http://www.tanok.bme.hu> or <http://www.bme.hu>.

Meals

Meals are available on an "a la carte" basis in the two main cafeterias of the university. A well-balanced, nutritious and plentiful meal costs approximately EUR 4. These cafeterias are open for all meals of the day and serve a wide variety of dishes. In addition, most buildings have their own buffets and they serve grilled food, sandwiches, sweets and beverages.

For lists of canteens and cafeterias of the university, restaurants in Budapest and an extensive vocabulary on food and drink see "Student Information – Survival Manual" heading on the World Wide Web at the following sites: <http://www.tanok.bme.hu> or <http://www.bme.hu>.

International Resources

Student Center

The Student Center is a Hungarian organization for Hungarian students in cooperation with the International Students. It was organised in November 1989 and it serves an important function for all students at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics. The center collects and provides up-to-date information on part-time study, semester and language programs in Hungary as well as in other countries. The center also offers information on educational opportunities and exchanges available in different countries and provides assistance in applying for these international programs.

Information reaches the student center through the contacts of the university and through projects with public and private foundations.

The Center is the headquarters for a few international student organisations:

BEST	(Board of European Students of Technology)
EESTEC	(Electrical Engineering Students' European Association)
SMA	(Students' Management Association)
CISR	(Committee of International Student's Relations)

Budapest University of Technology and Economics

Student Center

H-1111 Budapest, Műegyetem rakpart 3.
 Building K, 1st floor, rooms 51 and 52
 Hungary
 Phone: (+36-1) 463-2521, 3838
 Fax: (+36-1) 463-1065



About CISR

The Committee of International Student Relations was formed in October 1999. It is a group of Hungarian students coming from all faculties of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics aiming to help the international exchange students visiting our institution and representing the university on different international summits, international student meetings. CISR is a member organization of ESIB and ESN.

Among the activities in 2005, CISR organized or helped organizing several events during the term mostly for the international students: apartment/flat search (end of August-beginning of September), taking part in the Orientation Week (Football- Saturday on the Margaret Island), organizing weekend trips to famous Hungarian places, wine regions (Pécs, Eger etc.), organizing Ice-Skating (December), a Traditional Hungarian "Gulyás" Evening and regular "Pub Evenings", introducing the Mentor-System to help international students, and administering an e-mail list for the international students.

The easiest way you can reach CISR via e-mail at: hkbinfo@sc.bme.hu

You can also find them in the "Fulcrum" office in Building R, ground floor.

Students International Union (SIU)

The Students International Union was formed in 1990 to create an international family, which takes an active part in the larger community of the university, provides an environment where students are encouraged to pursue their academic work and also participate in social and recreational activities. The Union encourages students to be physically and emotionally healthy by providing information, activities and support for their studies. The union has also sought the right to represent its members and, on request, other students before the university administration in matters that affect them as students of the university. The union also organises recreational activities such as football tournaments, chess, table tennis and national celebrations.

Activities

Cultural Secretariat

The cultural policy of the university, fully supported by the Student Center, holds that future engineers should not be only highly-skilled but acquainted with the humanities as well. The Cultural Secretariat promotes cultural activities for both the students and the staff. The secretariat runs a ticket bureau in building K, 1st floor, room 52, where all music and theatre performances and other cultural activities in Budapest are listed and tickets can be purchased. The Secretariat also gives information about the availability of different competitions for grants for cultural activities and how to apply for them as well as how to manage the funding necessary for such events.

Szkéné Theatre

One of the major projects of the Cultural Secretariat is a small theatre called Szkéné (pronounced: Skay-nay), which is located on the campus. This has grown into a significant venue for alternative performing arts, including contemporary music and performance art. Though the theatre has but a small budget, it presents more than 150 shows a year and represents a live and popular forum for many artists. It invites 3 to 4 international groups a season.

The International Dance and Movement Club (IDMC) grew out of the Szkéné Theatre and now it has an international reputation among professional and amateur movement theatres and companies. Its primary goal is to promote the best Hungarian movement theatres and develop new sponsorship and management of groups which require it. This group has also instituted a biennial festival of international movement groups to which 12 to 14 companies are invited. The festivals up to now have drawn over 60,000 spectators. Prominent members of the international theatre world have helped as advisers for the festivals. The group also offers summer workshops and a forum where national movement groups can meet.



Symphonic Orchestra

Among the universities which do not have a faculty of music, the Budapest University of Technology and Economics was among the first ones in the world to form a symphonic orchestra in 1896. The orchestra has given performances each year except in 1945 (World War II). The members of the orchestra are students of this and other universities as well as graduate engineers and members of the faculties.

The orchestra gives two or three performances a year. The program depends on the current composition of the orchestra. For a few years now the orchestra has been fortunate enough to have all instruments represented, so Beethoven, Mozart, Liszt, Brahms, etc. symphonies and modern music has been on the program. The orchestra has also performed Mozart's Requiem in co-operation with the university choir.

The university orchestra co-operates with the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in their graduation concerts and gives guest concerts at other educational institutions at home and abroad. The orchestra has performed at technical universities in Wroclav, Vienna and Enschede, Holland as well as hosted the Harvard University Orchestra and the Albrecht's University Orchestra (Kiel).

The conductors and soloists are usually young artists who are beginning their careers. In fact, many recently well-known artists have premiered with the university's orchestra.



Athletics and Football Club

The Budapest University of Technology and Economics has an Athletics and Football Club (MAFC), which, during its nearly 100 years of existence, has held that regular physical activity is important to the health of students, staff and members of the faculty alike. The Club provides sports facilities and training and instruction necessary for competitive and recreational sports for which there is demand, along with tours and camps. The club has more than 4000 members and offers 22 sports activities. It has trained competitors, who have taken titles in the Olympics as well as in national, international, European and university competitions and who have set numerous world records.

Competitive sports available to both men and women include athletics, basketball, pentathlon, triathlon, weight lifting, orientation running, tennis, chess, sailing, motorboats and horse riding. Competitive sports available to men include handball, soccer, volleyball and water polo.

A recreational sports section offers instruction and programming in badminton, hiking, skiing, swimming, judo, conditioning, gymnastics, tennis, kayaking, canoeing and rowing.

The men's basketball team has been in existence since 1937 and has been representing the university well in competitions over the decades. There are women's and youths' teams as well.

Information on Internet

Our Bulletin with all the information regarding academic and private aspects of activities of current students and future candidates is available on the Internet at the following sites: <http://www.tanok.bme.hu> or <http://www.bme.hu> (link to Central Division, International Education Center).