

# IN ENGLISH Education

AT POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



## XXII OLYMPIAD OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE FOR STUDENTS OF TECHNICAL UNIVERSITIES

On Saturday, 24th April 2021, the Centre of Languages and Communication hosted the Final of the XXII Olympiad of the English Language for Students of Technical Universities. Every year the Poznan University of Technology acts as the host of this event. There were always hundreds of students from different universities from all over Poland, lots of sponsors and special guests taking part in the Olympiad. Unfortunately, this year due to coronavirus related restrictions each part of the Olympiad was held online, including the second stage and the finals on 23rd April and 24th April respectively. Among technical universities, whose students took part in the Final were Politechnika Poznańska, Politechnika Lubelska, Politechnika Warszawska, Politechnika Częstochowska and Politechnika Wrocławska. In the final stage, students who proved to be the best after the second stage held also online, were asked to prepare a seven-minute presentation for the given topic. It was then presented via the Internet. The presentations were shown in a Zoom meeting to jury members and organizers gathered in a lecture hall at PUT. Among participants, gathered at the lecture hall at the Poznan University of Technology were prof. dr hab. Tomasz Łodygowski, the Director of Centre of Languages and Communication, prof. dr Liliana Szczuka-Dorna, Karol Matysiak, MA, Kinga Komorowska, MA, organizing members and technical support. They all wore face masks and were sat according to the rules of social distancing. But most of the jury members assessed students' speeches online from their homes, because of covid-19 restrictions. The link to the meeting was announced well in advance and hundreds of viewers supported their competitors.

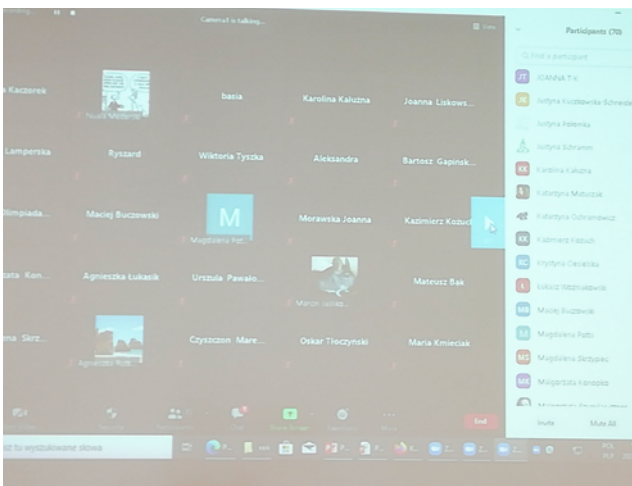
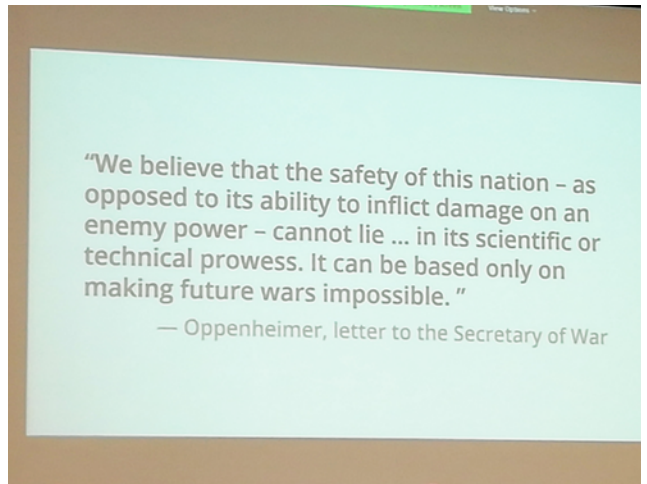
Students were invited to show their presentations on one of the following citations for this year:

**“Technology is a queer thing. It brings you great gifts with one hand and it stabs you in the back with the other”. (Carrie Snow)**

**„When the winds of change blow, some people build walls, others build windmills”. (Chinese proverb)**

Despite some technical problems, they all managed to present successfully. After assessing all presentations, the jury composed of English lecturers from all over Poland made the following verdict:

- 1st place – Habeneheir Tickheir from Politechnika Poznańska
- 2nd place – Agnieszka Ganowicz from Politechnika Wrocławska
- 3rd place – Joanna Działo from Politechnika Poznańska
- 4th place – Paweł Bronkiewicz from Politechnika Częstochowska
- 5th place – Piotr Falkowski from Politechnika Warszawska
- 6th place – Adrian Janulewicz from Politechnika Wrocławska
- 7th place – Adama Handke from Politechnika Poznańska
- 8th place – Jakub Rapsiewicz from Politechnika Poznańska
- 9th place – Marcin Gólski from Politechnika Poznańska
- 10th place – David Jalkh from Politechnika Lubelska



They all got loud cheers from their supporters and the prizes will be sent to them by courier companies. Among sponsors who contributed to the prizes or donated some money on prizes were Rector of Poznan University of Technology prof. dr hab. inż. Teofil Jesionowski, Rector of Lodz University of Technology prof. dr hab. inż. Krzysztof Jóźwik, Deans of Faculties of Poznan University of Technology, two publishing companies, such as National Geographic and Pearson as well as the logistics company from Suchy Las, Raeda Logistics. This year, prizes constituted mainly money prizes, three-day stay at the seaside in Kołobrzeg, vocational apprenticeship at the logistics company, dictionaries, books, bags, mugs or pens. The organizers wish to thank sponsors for all valuable prizes!

The honorary patronage of the Olympiad was taken by Rector of Poznan University of Technology prof. dr hab. inż. Teofil Jesionowski, President of Poznan Jacek Jaśkowiak,

Honorary Consul of Great Britain Włodzimierz Walkowiak  
Honorary Consul of Ireland Artur Sikora.

The whole event was organized and managed by a small team of English lecturers from Poznan University of Technology with Waldemar Korczyk, MA as a coordinator, and Katarzyna Sobańska, MA, Joanna Potrzebska, MA, Hanna Nowak, MA as team members. The Organizing Team of the Olympiad cooperates with coordinators from other technical universities from Poland.

The purpose of the Olympiad is to popularize the English language among students of technical universities and colleges in Poland because English is a big asset for every young engineer.

Mgr Hanna Nowak

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# Summary of the English Medium Instruction 2021 Conference

AT THE POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY – 18<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

The English Medium Instruction at European Universities Conference came to an end successfully. The Conference was organized by the Centre of Languages and Communication at The Poznan University of Technology on 18th and 19th February 2021. The members of the organizing team were prof. Lilianna Szczuka-Dorna, Director of Centre of Languages and Communication, Katarzyna Matuszak, PhD, Małgorzata Bączyńska, MA, Karol Matysiak, MA, Małgorzata Margraf-Adamczyk, MA, and Katarzyna Jesse, MA, who are all employees of Poznan University of Technology. The whole Conference took place on Thursday, 18th February and Friday, 19th February. There had been guest speakers and participants from 12 countries, such as Poland, Spain, France, Germany, and the UK. On-site or online participants could have listened to 16 presentations and take part in 6 workshops. This Conference was organized in a hybrid form, with participants listening on-site and through Zoom platform online.

First, professor Lilianna Szczuka-Dorna, the Director of Centre of Languages and Communication opened the Conference and welcomed the plenary speakers as well as more than one hundred participants from Poland and abroad. The English Medium Instruction at European Universities Conference was the last part of the NAWA grant entitled “Raising

the competences of academic staff and the institution’s potential in accepting people from abroad – Welcome to Poland”. The Director of Centre of Languages and Communication presented a short history of the NAWA project and explained why EMI is so important in making some changes in the methodology of teaching content courses in English at technical universities. Then, professor Tomasz Łodygowski, Former Rector of Poznan University of Technology, provided participants with the history of first lectures in English at PUT and the demand for foreign languages in a multi-lingual world. He also spoke about our







international programmes in English, which are also currently available to international students.

Professor Paweł Śniatała, on behalf of Professor Teofil Jesionowski, Rector of Poznan University of Technology, officially opened the conference. Professor Teofil Jesionowski, Rector of Poznan University of Technology and Professor Tomasz Łodygowski, Rector of Poznan University of Technology in the years 2012-2020 took honorary patronage of the EMI Conference.

Then Karol Matysiak, MA, who was the Conference moderator, briefly introduced the most important information about the organization of the Conference and all additional events.

This Conference was organized in a hybrid form, with participants listening on-site and through Zoom platform online because of covid restrictions. The risk of gathering more than one hundred attendees in one lecture hall was too high. Due to that fact the organizers decided to invite only plenary speakers, who came from Poznań, or who are employed at the Poznan University of Technology. Among plenary speakers and workshop teachers were lecturers and academics from either Poland or abroad: prof. Liliana Szczuka-Dorna, Barbara Sawicka, Divya Madhavan, Stefania Cicillini, Wendy Bell, Thomas Vogel, prof. Krystyna Drozdziak-Szelest, Yuan Bock, Anna Raulinaj-

tys, Anna Górską, David Tual, Katarzyna Lanucha, Izabela Cichońska, Stanislav Rychtarik, Vendula Kokoskova and Brendan Keenan on the first day of the conference. The second day of the Conference matched the presentations or workshops held by prof. Cristina Perez Guillot, Maciej Buczowski, Jeffrey Purchla, Piotr Romanowski, Eliza Ciałkowska-Gunther, Katarzyna Matuszak, Małgorzata Bączyńska, Nuala Mederski, Weronika Krzbiec, Agata Janicka, Ewelina Nowak, and Joanna Szczuka.

The presentations were displayed via Zoom meeting to organizers, who gathered in a lecture hall at the university in Poznań. All participants wore face masks and were sat according to the rules of social distancing. The link to the meeting was announced well in advance and hundreds



of viewers could watch and hear all presentations. During two days of the Conference there were really tiny technical problems and everyone was able to submit the topic of the speech to a great extent. Fortunately, in case of severe technical problems, there was IT specialists' support, including Robert Hamrol and Piotr Halt who did a great job to provide technical support of the Conference. They had also provided live media coverage of the event.

The special wrap-up to each day of the Conference was the Jazz listening session performed by the saxophonist Jan Adamczewski on Thursday 18th February. Whereas the last day of the conference was signified by the closing ceremony concert by Jan Adamczewski Trio. Just before the end of the Conference, there had been the Discussion

Forum, in which Professor Tomasz Łodygowski- Former Rector of Poznan University of Technology, Professor Liliana Szczuka-Dorna- CLC Director at Poznan University of Technology, Paweł Śniatała, Ph.D. Dsc.Eng. - Vice-Rector for International Cooperation, Professor Krystyna Drożdżał-Szelest, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Joanna Kałkowska D.Sc.Eng. and Marlena Kucz D.Sc.Eng. exchanged their views on the outcome of discussions as well as responded to questions of online participants.

During the sessions of the Conference, in lunch breaks "Biesiada" catering served tasty take-away lunches and dinner sets.

But for our great sponsors the Conference organized by the Centre of Languages and Communication could not have been possible. The Centre of Languages and Communication wish to thank our Sponsors, NAWA Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange, The Poznan University of Technology, ABE-IPS books online journals, Pearson, publishing company, for their support of this year's EMI 2021 Conference. Your partnership in this event had enabled us to offer programmes and projects that contributed to raising the competences of academic staff and sharing invaluable teaching experience.

We want to say big "thank you" to the Rector of Poznan University of Technology, prof. Teofil Jesionowski and the former Rector of our University, prof. Tomasz Lodygowski for taking the patronage of the EMI Conference this year. This Conference could not have been organized without an invaluable work of our Administrative Team – Katarzyna Jesse, Małgorzata Margraf-Adamczyk and Aneta Marciniak. Thank you for your devotion and high work involvement.

The organizers would also like to thank "Biesiada" catering for delicious take-away lunch and dinner sets that were



served during lunch breaks and dinner receptions at the Conference.

We would like to thank all lecturers, plenary speakers, workshop teachers and online attendees for your great participation in EMI 2021 Conference at Poznan University of Technology. It was great honor and pleasure to have watched your presentations and be able to exchange your ideas on teaching methods in English.

We are looking forward to meeting you in an 'offline mode' in the near future. Because as it was stated in one of the presentations, the demand for universities offering instructions in English is great: "Internalization of higher education remains a priority for universities worldwide, and movements are inextricably linked with increasing the role of English in the university setting" (Galloway and Rose).

Hanna Nowak, MA



The programme is co-financed from the European Social Fund under the Operational Programme Knowledge, Education, Development, a non-competitive project entitled Increasing competencies of the academic staff and the institutions' potential to receive people from abroad – Welcome to Poland implemented under the Measure defined in application for co-financing of the project No POWR.03.03.00-00-PN14/18.

# Meet the Project Team

The team working on the EntreSTEAM project holds both our international and local meetings on a regular basis, as a course module is being developed and an English course involving transnational teamwork is being piloted.

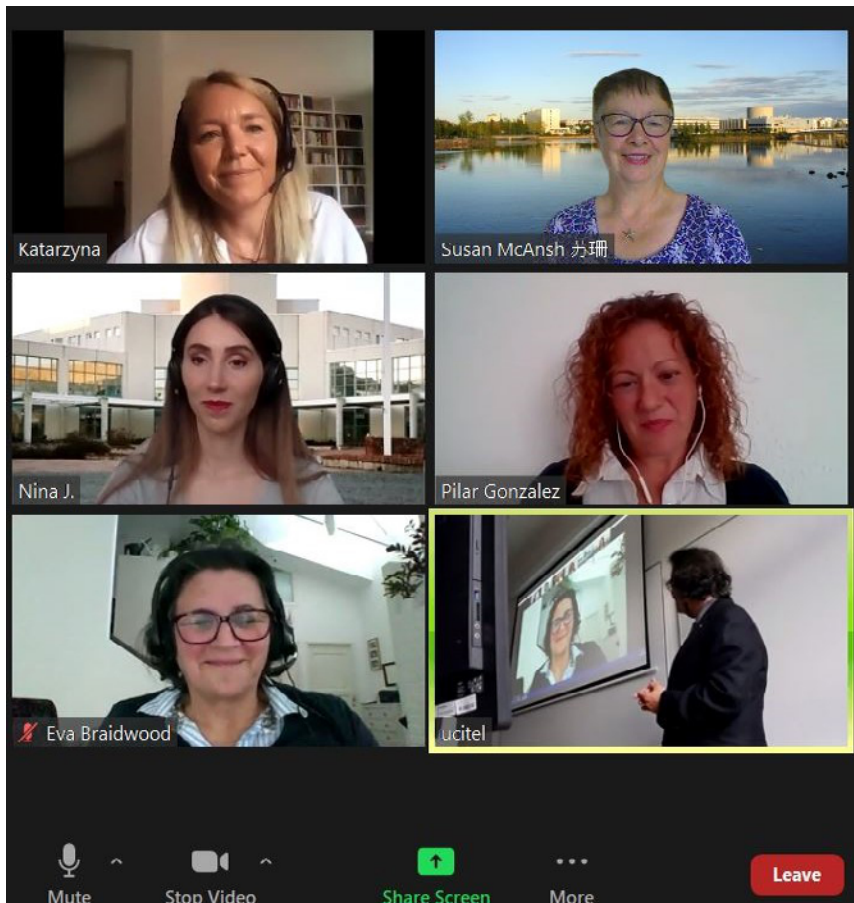
In September 2020, the concept of having students work in international and multidisciplinary teams while gaining entrepreneurial skills was first introduced at the Cercles conference organised in Brno. The idea received a warm welcome and a lot of interest from colleagues from different universities. On the left there is a picture from our online presentation during the Cercles conference.

In the photo below, you can see the course module work in progress during one of our Finnish - Spanish - Polish team meetings.

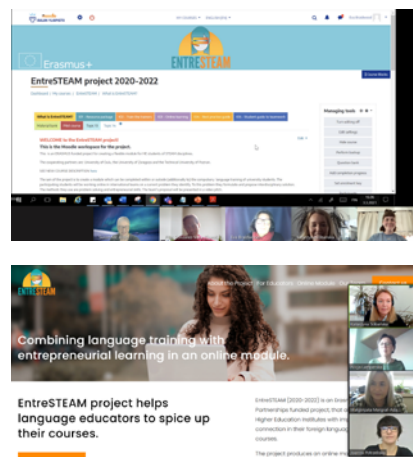
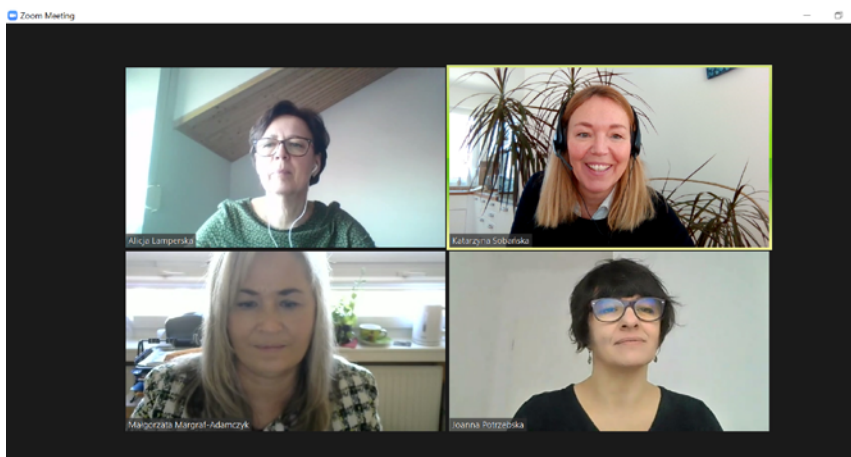
Above, there is a homepage of the course created on the University of Oulu Moodle platform where our students will be invited for the pilot phase.

Below, there is a photo of one of our local Poznan University of Technology team meetings and a shared view of EntreSTEAM website homepage also being developed as a part of EntreSTEAM.

Katarzyna Sobańska, MA







## Zespół Wsparcia Technicznego **Technical Support Team**

**Z**espół Wsparcia Technicznego (Technical Support Team) was established in September 2020 as a response to the situation caused by the pandemic. While we were forced to switch to online classes, it turned out that there might be a need for some technical support in terms of organizing the process of online education, running online classes, using certain tools for communicating with students both synchronously and asynchronously.

As a Team, we offer online trainings, as well as individual meetings with teachers. While the former are organized for a group of teachers and present online tools in a practical way showing how to use them, the latter constitute an opportunity to address a particular issue/problem one may have. A teacher posts their problem/question at our forum at E-kursy or contacts a particular member of ZWT individually.

After one semester of our work, it is clearly visible that especially one issue has emerged as a great concern

among teachers, namely, the problem of evaluating students' progress while teaching online. In the following paragraph, one tool for online testing during foreign language classes will be presented.

Real-time Quiz is a multiple-choice quiz available at Moodle. Each student receives each question at the same time with a time limit to answer it. Between each question the correct answer is displayed, along with the number of students giving each answer (and some statistics about the percentage class or individual correct answers). This allows each question to be discussed before moving on. Teachers can review the answers, once the quiz is finished, to identify any areas that need to be covered again. It is possible to add a picture to create a more attractive layout. One can use the tool for, among others, testing vocabulary (terms and definitions, gaps filling with given options, providing synonyms/antonyms etc.) and grammar (e.g. choosing the appropriate structure to fill in a gap).

Joanna Liskowska-Sikora