

PROTOCOL VISIT FROM IGU TO BAKIRKÖY MUNICIPALITY

Istanbul Gelişim University carried out a protocol visit to Bakırköy Municipality within the scope of university-municipality collaborations. IGU Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin, Dr. Tayfun Timuray from the Faculty of Applied Sciences Banking and Insurance Department and Lect. Ebru Cengiz from the Vocational School of Health Services Health Institutions Management Department met with Bakırköy Mayor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ayşegül Özdemir Ovalıoğlu and Deputy Mayor Nurcan Alan.

During the visit to Bakırköy Municipality, an agreement was reached on various issues within the scope of university-municipality collaborations. In the protocol, it was discussed that certificate programs will be organized for the employees of Bakırköy Municipality within the IGU Continuing Education Center (SEM). Programs to be held within the scope of "2024- Year of Retirees" in areas such as digital literacy, financial literacy, nutrition, first and emergency aid for pensioners were also discussed within the scope of the protocol.

During the visit to Bakırköy Municipality, an interview was held to employ students who will complete the 'Cyber Academy Project', which will last for 4 months, on topics such as artificial intelligence algorithms, programming languages and cyber security protocols organized in cooperation with the Istanbul Development Agency (ISTKA) within the body of Istanbul Gelisim University, in Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality.

EXPERT INSIGHTS: ANYONE CAN LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE WITH THE RIGHT CONDITIONS!

We've all heard people say, "No matter what I do, I just can't learn English." Addressing the challenges of language learning, Translator and Research Assistant Serhat Kahyaoğlu explains, "With patience, perseverance, determination, and motivation, anyone can learn a foreign language, regardless of age."

While Kahyaoğlu, an academic member of the Department of Translation and Interpreting Studies at IGU, partially agrees with the common belief that "there is no age limit for learning a language," he emphasizes, "Early education is generally more effective and efficient than starting in adulthood. Researchers in foreign language education particularly highlight the pre-adolescent period. Studies have shown that our minds are more receptive to language learning at a younger age. Beyond this natural predisposition, early learning habits can significantly aid in mastering multiple languages later in life. Given the increasing responsibilities and time constraints in adulthood, starting language learning early is undeniably advantageous."

"Theory must be put into practice"

Many people in our country struggle with learning English. Kahyaoğlu notes, “Our English curriculum often faces criticism for its heavy focus on theory. This approach can create a gap between what we learn in the classroom and how we apply it in real-life situations. For example, our struggles with speaking English often stem from a lack of practical speaking opportunities and insufficient exposure to the language outside the classroom. Expecting our educational institutions to resolve these gaps with just a few hours of classes each week is unrealistic. It’s up to students to bridge this gap through extracurricular activities. However, we shouldn’t overlook the positive aspects of our theoretical curriculum. In today’s world, much communication is written, and exams like YDS, TOEFL, and IELTS require a solid understanding of theoretical knowledge. Language learning isn’t a one-sided process; students’ efforts outside the classroom play a crucial role in their success.”

"Universities are emphasizing practical language learning"

Kahyaoğlu highlights the steps universities are taking to address these shortcomings by focusing on the practical side of language learning. “Universities are making great strides by offering activities like English-speaking clubs, debates, and presentations. The fact that some departments offer courses entirely in English is a significant step toward sharpening students’ language skills. Moreover, universities are now incorporating second-language courses into their curricula, providing students with the opportunity to learn languages beyond English. Given that English is the global lingua franca, these initiatives allow students to apply the theoretical knowledge they’ve gained throughout their primary and secondary education. International exchange programs like Erasmus further underscore the importance of applying these skills in real-world contexts. As mentioned before, students’ extracurricular involvement is a key factor in their language learning journey.”

"Learning a foreign language is achievable"

Kahyaoğlu reassures that learning a foreign language is within reach for anyone who meets certain conditions. “With patience, perseverance, determination, and motivation, anyone can learn a foreign language. It’s essential for individuals to take charge of their learning journey. By creating a personalized learning plan and leveraging their strengths—whether through experiential, visual, or auditory methods—learning a foreign language becomes an attainable goal.”

"Lack of motivation is the biggest obstacle"



9TH INTERNATIONAL SOCRATES CONGRESS ON SOCIAL SCIENCES AND 9TH INTERNATIONAL SOCRATES CONGRESS ON HEALTH, ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES FROM IGU!

The 9th International Socrates Congress on Social Sciences and the 9th International Socrates Congress on Health, Engineering and Applied Sciences were held online and face-to-face on August 16-18.

The opening speeches were made by Congress Honorary President and Istanbul Gelisim University Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin and Shahrısabz Davlat Pedagogika Institute Vice Rector Achilov Ilmurad. Academicians and researchers in many fields such as social, health, engineering and applied sciences provided information transfer at the congress.

9th International Socrates Congress of Social Sciences and International Socrates Congress of Health, Engineering and Applied Sciences organized by Istanbul Gelisim University, Uzbekistan Shahrısabz Davlat Pedagogika Instituti, International Scientific Research and Strategy Development Association and Socrates Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Studies.

The face-to-face sessions of the 9th International Socrates Congress on Social Sciences and the 9th International Socrates Congress on Health, Engineering and Applied Sciences took place on August 16 at the Mehmet Akif Ersoy Conference Hall in IGU Block J. It then continued in 5 other halls at the university. 140 academicians participated in the online conferences held on August 17-18, and 178 papers were presented to the congress members and discussed.

MY BUSINESS PARTNER PROJECT, A FIRST IN ITS FIELD, HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED!

Istanbul Gelisim University continues to develop, grow, and break new ground by spreading the wings day by day like its symbol Huma bird. My Business Partner Project, the first project in its field, which is carried out by Istanbul Gelisim University, is being implemented within the ENHANCER Project, funded by the European Union and conducted by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) in coordination with the Directorate General of Development Agencies under the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Türkiye successfully completed the project activities and its reporting processes.

Following a detailed candidate interview process, the project started on 16 May 2023 with 30 Syrian entrepreneur/entrepreneur candidates under temporary protection and

mentor students from different universities in Türkiye who have guided them within the scope of the project, with an orientation on working with vulnerable groups for mentors. After the orientation, a general orientation meeting with ice-breaker activities was held on 29 May 2023, where entrepreneurs/entrepreneur candidates and mentors met.

Within the scope of the implementation activities of the project, in June and July, Business and Brand Management, Stress and Time Management, Effective Communication and Body Language, Pre-Accounting, Commercial Law Summary Information, and KOSGEB Grant Incentives trainings, which are specific to entrepreneurship from professionals in their fields, were given to the participants and the knowledge of the participants about entrepreneurship and their potential future businesses increased.

My Business Partner Career & Employment Fair was held

Following the trainings, workshops on business life were organized in August by Prof Dr. William Mosier, the training coordinator of the project, which strengthened the ties between the mentors and the entrepreneur/entrepreneur candidates and started to build the participants' infrastructure in the field of entrepreneurship. In December, 'My Business Partner Career & Employment Fair', which is the last implementation activity of the project, was held on 5 December 2023 with the contributions of Istanbul Gelisim University International Exchange and Cooperation Office and Career and Development Centre, which is a first in our university and one of the main objectives of the project, in order to increase the employment rate of the project participants and to get to know the business sectors of the participants.

Sector-university meeting from IGU!

The fair, which was held with the participation of approximately 40 companies, was attended by leading names in the field such as Doubletree by Hilton, Madame Coco, Metdijital, Daftercüme, education, private companies, public institutions and non-governmental organizations. In the fair, where students and company officials were interviewed, institution officials provided information to visitors about job opportunities, internships, and career opportunities in the sectors, as well as participating companies were able to access qualified human resources and entrepreneur candidates thanks to this fair.

Following the Career & Employment Fair, certificates signed by our Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin, and Vice-Rector Prof. Dr. Necmettin Maraşlı were presented to the entrepreneur/entrepreneur candidates who are under Temporary Protection status and mentor students.

IGU International Exchange and Cooperation Office has met with the pioneers of the sector

The final report of the project was submitted to ICMPD on 19 July 2024 and My Business Partner Project, which is a first in its field, was successfully completed. After the successful completion of the project, with the contributions of ICMPD to enable grant beneficiaries, which are financially and technically supported within the scope of the "Improving Entrepreneurship Capacities for Sustainable Socio-Economic Integration" (ENHANCER) Project and operate under the roof of chambers and OSB's, to improve their institutional capacities in management model and innovation issues, as the representatives of İstanbul Gelışim University International Exchange and Cooperation Office IECO Coordinator Alisa Usubova and IECO Specialist Ece Nur Yüksel came together to discuss cooperation opportunities with Türkiye's various universities and technoparks at Point Hotel Barbaros İstanbul between 25-27 June 2024. In the workshop, the 'My Business Partner' project, which has been successfully carried out by İstanbul Gelisim University, was introduced to the program participants with the presentation by IECO Coordinator Alisa Usubova. Thanks to this presentation made within the scope of the workshop, our project has gained recognition in various universities and technoparks in Türkiye and strengthened its network for possible collaborations and projects.

Istanbul Gelisim University increases its recognition among its external stakeholders every day with its international projects and strengthens its cooperation with strong partners such as ICMPD in the international arena. İstanbul Gelisim University successfully completed this project, which is a first in its field, and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), funded by the European Union, played an important role in this project and with this project providing qualified manpower to the business world has aimed.