



**Istanbul Gelisim
Vocational School**



IGVS

Monthly E-Bulletin

July

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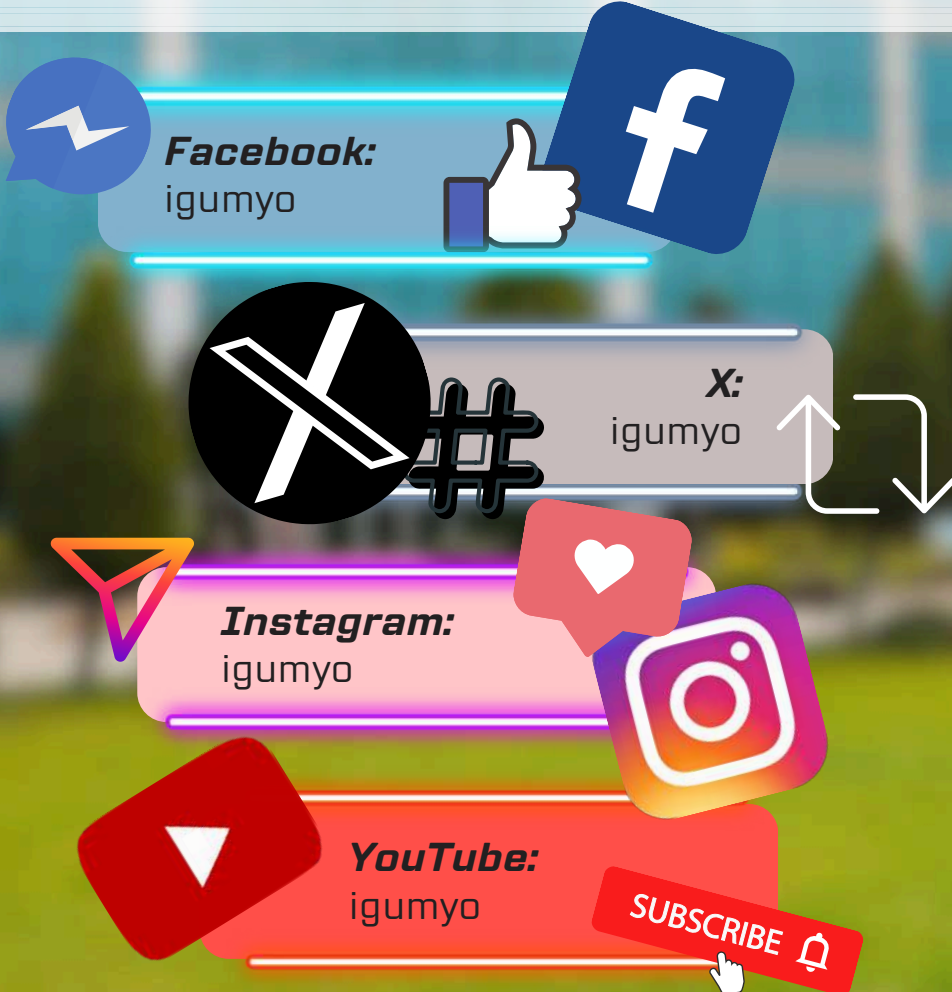
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Dear Young People,

Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, which started its education life in 2008, started to publish a monthly E-Bulletin as of 2021. We are very happy to bring you the July issue of our e-bulletin and to share with you the developments in our Vocational School. I believe you will enjoy reading our bulletin and I present my greetings and respect with the hope of meeting you in a new issue.

You can follow all the developments in our Vocational School on our social media channels.

Director of IGVS
Assoc. Prof. Mehmet SOYAL



* IGVS E-Bulletin has been
prepared according to the Turkish
Higher Education Quality Council
(THEQC) criteria.



LEADERSHIP

ACADEMICIANS FROM IGU ARE ON THE "BEST SCIENTISTS" LIST OF THE WORLD AND COUNTRIES!

Research.com, one of the world's leading research and academia portals, has announced the list of the "Best Scientists" of the world and countries. Istanbul Gelisim University academics were shown among the best scientists in Turkey and the world with their degrees in "Engineering and Technology", "Economy and Finance" and "Neuroscience".

Great success in the fields of "Engineering and Technology",
"Economics and Finance" and "Neuroscience"!

Istanbul Gelisim University, which is modern, developing, producing and advancing with an understanding of quality education, stands out with its science, technology and R&D studies. According to the list created on the basis of the D-index created for the purpose of measuring, evaluating and monitoring the performance of scientists in terms of scientific productivity. 3 academicians from Istanbul Gelisim University were included in the list of "Best Scientists" with their successful work.

Istanbul Gelisim University Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin ranked 17th among 47 scientists from Turkey and 4020th in the world in the field of Engineering and Technology.

Prof. Dr. Kemal Sıtkı Türker from IGU Faculty of Dentistry achieved an important success by being 4th among 6 scientists from Turkey and 5870th in the world.

Asst. Prof. Dr. Festus Victor from the Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences of IGU was the only scientist from Turkey to be ranked in the field of Economics and Finance, and he was ranked 1183 in the world.





SCIMAGO
INSTITUTIONS
RANKINGS

SCImago 2024 results have been announced: IGU is in the top 5 in the field of research!

The results of "SCImago University Rankings 2024", which ranks the scientific research, innovation and social impacts of world universities according to SCOPUS publication and citation data, have been announced. Standing out with its work in research areas, Istanbul Gelisim University ranked 5th among Turkish universities in the field of research and 25th in all fields. It attracted attention with the results it received in the categories of Economy, Environmental Science, Business Administration, Energy, Social Sciences and Engineering.

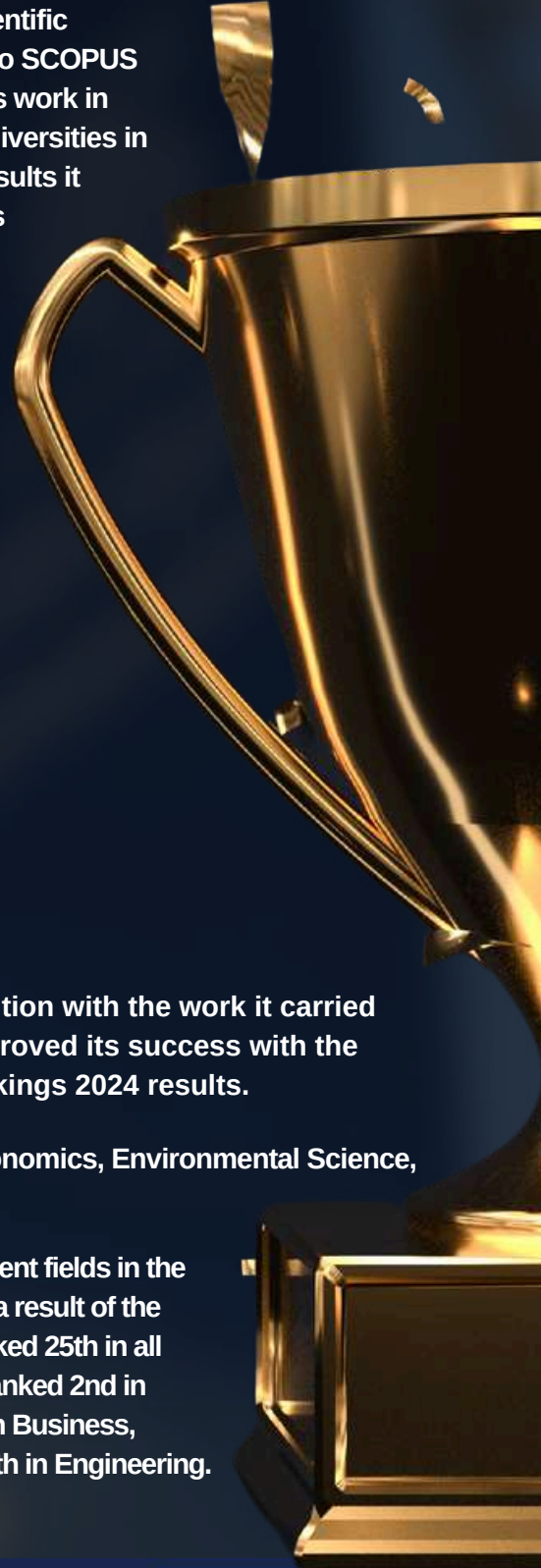
The results of "SCImago University Rankings 2024", which measures the social, scientific impact and innovation of universities around the world, have been announced. Aiming to give a general idea about universities by measuring their performance in terms of research, innovation and social impact, SCImago University Ranking helps students obtain information about a university's education quality, effectiveness and prestige.



Proceeding with the vision of "World University", IGU attracted attention with the work it carried out for its students and the opportunities it provided. It once again proved its success with the degrees it received in different fields in the SCImago University Rankings 2024 results.

Remarkable success among Turkish universities in the categories of Economics, Environmental Science, Business Administration, Energy, Social Sciences and Engineering!

Istanbul Gelisim University draws attention with its research studies in different fields in the 2024 results of SCImago, one of the university evaluation organizations. As a result of the evaluation made on SCOPUS research data, Istanbul Gelisim University ranked 25th in all fields and 5th in the field of research among Turkish universities. IGU also ranked 2nd in Economics, Econometrics and Finance, 4th in Environmental Science, 7th in Business, Management and Accounting, 8th in Energy, 13th in Social Sciences and 14th in Engineering.



IGU achieved great success by being in the 1001-1200 rankings in THE World Universities Ranking 2025



Istanbul Gelisim University has achieved great success by ranking in the top 500 in the field of Research Quality in the list of THE World Universities Ranking 2025, which includes many well-established institutions such as Oxford University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Harvard University.

Times Higher Education (THE), the London-based international higher education rating agency, announced the World University Rankings for 2025. The ranking was evaluated with the criteria of Education, Research Environment, Research Quality, Industry and International Outlook between 2019-2023. In this process, those who met various criteria from approximately 40,000 universities worldwide were included in the ranking. While there are more than 2,000 institutions in this ranking, Türkiye has achieved a historical success by being represented by 91 universities. In addition, 12 Turkish universities were included in the top 1000.

IGU, which achieved a significant success in the World Universities Ranking 2025, was ranked in the 1001-1200 in the world in general rankings, being 13th among Turkish universities and 8th among foundation universities.

IGU, which ranks 473rd in the world with Research Quality field, was listed as the 3rd among Turkish universities and as the 2nd among foundation universities. In the field of International Outlook, it ranked 596th in the world, and 5th in Türkiye. The success of IGU in the rankings shows the university's commitment to high-quality education and research and its compliance with international standards. IGU, which advances to the vision of the world university, takes firm steps towards becoming a globally recognized university by supporting its research activities while providing an innovative and contemporary education to its students.



“This achievement is not only a ranking; it is also a reflection of our understanding of academic excellence and innovative education”

Istanbul Gelisim University Rector Prof. Bahri Şahin: “As Istanbul Gelisim University, we are proud to be among the top 500 universities in the field of Research Quality in the Times Higher Education (THE) World Universities Ranking 2025. The fact that we are ranked 8th among the foundation universities in Turkey by being in the 1001-1200 in the general rankings in the international arena is a result of the intense efforts and dedication we carry out together. This achievement is not only a ranking; it is also a reflection of our understanding of academic excellence and innovative education. Our vision is to provide our students with the highest quality education, making them individuals who can compete on a global level. We aim to be a pioneer in knowledge production with our studies in the field of research and innovation. I would like to thank all our academicians and stakeholders of our university who contributed to achieving this success. We will continue to work to achieve many more achievements that will strengthen the presence of IGU in the international arena by continuing to move forward with determination to achieve larger goals in the future.”

Commenting on Türkiye's success in the Times Higher Education (THE) 2025 World University Rankings, THE Global President Phil Baty stated, “The increase in the number of Turkish universities in the top rankings is an indication that Türkiye has made rapid progress in terms of research and education quality. It is really great to observe this and we think it will go higher in the rankings of universities.”

IGU has risen 23 places in the overall ranking!

According to the results announced by Round University Ranking (RUR), one of the institutions ranking universities in the world, Istanbul Gelisim University rose 23 places in the world with 1099th. IGU, on the other hand, ranked 48th among universities in Türkiye and 18th among foundation universities.



Continuing to progress with the vision of "World University", Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) has achieved a significant success in the international arena and increased its place in the RUR 2024 World Universities Ranking by 23 steps compared to last year. According to the list published by the RUR Rankings Agency for 15 years, IGU ranked 48th in Türkiye and 18th among foundation universities in Türkiye this year.

Round University Ranking (RUR), one of the prestigious organizations ranking world universities, announced the results of 2024. RUR, which evaluates the leading universities around the world according to a total of 20 indicators under the headings of teaching, research, international diversity and financial sustainability, bases its ranking on certain criteria. When determining the scores of universities, teaching and research dimensions are reflected in the total score as 40 percent, and international diversity and financial sustainability indicators are reflected in the total score as 10 percent.

According to the ranking explained in the indicators of Teaching, Research, International Diversity and Financial Sustainability, IGU ranked 1113th in the world in the 'Teaching' indicator and 15th among foundation universities in Türkiye. While maintaining its place in the 'Research' indicator last year, it ranked 1017th in the world ranking and 16th among foundation universities by increasing its score. IGU, which achieved global success with its internationalization strategies, continued its success in the 'International Diversity' indicator and ranked 730th in the world and 16th among the foundation universities in Türkiye, while it ranked 1106th in the world and 16th in the foundation universities in the 'Financial Sustainability' indicator.

YÖK evaluated universities: IGU ranked 1st in 3 categories

The "University Monitoring and Evaluation General Report-2024" prepared by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK) was published. Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), which stood out in 6 fields last year, stood out in 10 fields this year with its studies. While IGU was at the top with its studies in the field of water saving investment and energy efficiency investment per the amount of water consumed in the "Sustainability" category, which is one of the evaluations made by the Council of Higher Education, it maintained its 1st place as the university with the most accredited undergraduate programs.



The "University Monitoring and Evaluation General Report-2024", in which the Council of Higher Education evaluated 201 universities in Turkey according to 64 different indicators, was published. Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) ranked 1st in the university category, where the use of energy efficiency investment and water saving investment per the amount of water consumed was the highest. IGU, which took firm steps towards internationalization, maintained its 1st place as the university with the most accredited undergraduate programs among both state and foundation universities.

IGU entered the rankings in 10 different indicators in 4 different categories

Istanbul Gelisim University, which proceeds with the vision of "Research University ", ranked 6th in the category of "applied patent, useful model or design" in the field of " Research-Development, Project and Publication" according to 2024 data, and 13th in the category of "Field-weighted citation impact". In the "University Monitoring and Evaluation General Report-2024"; IGU, which is the 1st university with the most accredited undergraduate programs in the field of "Education and Training", ranked 3rd in the "Number of E-Resources" category.

Advancing with the vision of the world university, IGU ranked 5th in the category of "Number of international doctoral academicians employed" in the field of "Internationalization", 9th in the category of "Number of international students" and 11th in the category of "Number of students participating in exchange programs".

Success in 3 different indicators in the sustainability field!

Istanbul Gelisim University, which attaches importance to sustainability studies in all areas, especially environmental sustainability by adopting the "Sustainable Development Goals", once again emphasized the importance it attaches to the practices for the effective use of natural resources as the 8th in the category of "Direct carbon footprint per capita" as well as its first place in the categories of "energy efficiency investment use" and "water saving investment per amount of water consumed" in the field of "Sustainability" in the 2024 report.



“We act with a strong spirit of cooperation to shape the future”

Istanbul Gelisim University Rector Prof. Bahri Şahin underlined the success of IGU in 10 fields in the University Monitoring and Evaluation General Report-2024, which maintains its 1st place as the university with the most accredited undergraduate program among both state and foundation universities. Prof. Şahin also added: We are proud of the studies we have carried out on many issues such as rapidly developing technology, climate and environmental problems, global conflicts, changes in social needs, employment and economic crises, which YÖK President Prof. Erol Özvar said these are the issues that higher education will seek solutions in the coming period. As a university, we adopt the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals with the aim of leaving a more livable world for future generations. Sustainability is critical not only for the world, but also for humanity, and achieving this goal is a shared responsibility of all of us. In this regard, we aim to develop innovative solutions and increase social benefit by giving special importance to our education and research activities. We act in a strong spirit of cooperation to shape the future.”

Istanbul Gelisim University received YÖKAK Corporate Accreditation for 5 years!

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) was fully accredited for 5 years as a result of the institutional accreditation evaluation carried out by the Higher Education Quality Board (YÖKAK). After the detailed audit process in December, IGU was entitled to receive accreditation at the highest level with the high standards it has shown in the fields of education, research and development, management system and community service.



**İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi,
YÖKAK tarafından
5 yıl süreyle tam akredite edildi!**

Üniversitemiz, eğitim-öğretim, araştırma, yönetim ve topluma hizmet alanlarındaki kalite standartlarını sağlayarak, Yükseköğretim Kalite Kurulu (YÖKAK) tarafından **5 yıl süreyle "Kurumsal Akreditasyon Belgesi" almaya hak kazandı.**



Institutional accreditation is an important process that evaluates whether universities meet the quality standards set in the fields of education, research, management and community service. This rigorous evaluation process carried out by YÖKAK aims to increase the competitiveness of higher education institutions on a national and international scale and to ensure that they establish a transparent and sustainable quality assurance system. Universities that are entitled to receive institutional accreditation prove that they successfully manage quality processes, adopt sustainable development in education and effectively fulfill their mission of adding value to society. Istanbul Gelisim University successfully completed this important process and made its name among the few universities in Türkiye that received full accreditation.

Click [here](#) to access the source of the news.

Graduation Joy at Istanbul Gelisim University: 2024-2025 Academic Year Graduation Ceremony Held

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) proudly held its 2024-2025 Academic Year Graduation Ceremony on July 22-23-24, 2025, at Yahya Kemal Beyatlı Performance Arts Center with great enthusiasm and pride. The event was spread across three days, grouped by faculties and schools, where thousands of students celebrated their graduation by tossing their caps into the air, sharing the moment with their families and faculty members.

Thousands of Graduates Proudly Completed Their Academic Journey

On the first day of the ceremony, students from the Graduate Education Institute, Faculty of Sports Sciences, Faculty of Dentistry, Faculty of Fine Arts, and the Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences received their diplomas.

The second day celebrated the graduation of students from the Faculty of Architecture and Engineering, Faculty of Applied Sciences, and Faculty of Health Sciences.

The third and final day featured the graduation ceremonies for Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School and the Vocational School of Health Services.

"Your Success Is the Strength of Our University"

Speaking at the ceremony, Istanbul Gelisim University **Rector Prof. Bahri Şahin** congratulated all the graduates with the following words:

"We shared four years of your development journey, but development is a lifelong process. Since our foundation in 2008, our university has reached a significant level of international success. In the 2025 Times Higher Education World University Rankings, we are ranked in the 1001–1200 band globally, 13th among universities in Türkiye, and 8th among foundation universities. In the field of Research Quality, we rank 473rd in the world, 3rd in Türkiye, and 2nd among foundation universities. This success is your success as well."



Prof. Şahin encouraged graduates to apply their knowledge and skills to society, stating: “Be open to innovation, be brave, and follow your dreams. You are part of the Gelisim family—stay connected to your university.”

"You Haven't Just Graduated—You've Become Global Citizens"

Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Istanbul Gelisim University, Abdülkadir Gayretli, emphasized that the aim was not only to graduate students with academic knowledge but also with a global vision:

“Foreign language proficiency is very important to us. That's why we direct students to language courses when needed, and we cover the course fees for those who succeed. We also support essential expenses, including airfare, to help you gain international experience. As Istanbul Gelisim University, we want you to contribute not only to Türkiye but to the entire world.”

Stressing their support for entrepreneurial and productive youth, Gayretli stated that they provide various forms of assistance—including furniture—to graduates who wish to start their own businesses. He also announced that graduates accepted into master's or doctoral programs at universities ranked in the global top 20 will have their tuition fees covered by Istanbul Gelisim University.

Gayretli addressed the graduates with this call:

“Remember, we are not just a university; we are a movement of awareness. Your university will continue to support you after graduation. We also offer special scholarships for our alumni pursuing graduate studies. Ultimately, we hope to see many of you become the academics of the future.”



Pride and Joy Intertwined

The three-day graduation ceremonies of Istanbul Gelisim University took place with great enthusiasm, joined by students, faculty, and families. The emotional highlights of the event included the graduation oath, the presentation of achievement awards, and the collective tossing of graduation caps into the air. Having completed one of the most important milestones of their educational journey, students proudly celebrated their graduation from Istanbul Gelisim University.



The IGU Preference and Promotion Days Begin

With the announcement of the results for the Higher Education Institutions Exam (YKS), the excitement of the preference period has begun. Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) is offering a comprehensive preference and promotion program to help prospective university students manage this process in the most accurate way. The IGU Preference and Promotion Days, which will start on July 21st, will continue to welcome prospective students on campus until August 13th.

Expert Preference Consultants and Academics Will Provide Guidance

Prospective students will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one with preference consultants and academics at the designated promotional area set up on the IGU campus. Each student will receive assistance in creating a personalized roadmap tailored to their score, interests, and career goals. During this process, IGU's "Preference Robot" will also provide digital support to the students.

Campus Tour and Practical Experience Opportunities

The Preference and Promotion Days at Istanbul Gelisim University are not limited to information gathering alone. Prospective students will have the opportunity to explore every corner of the campus, from laboratories and studios to libraries and social areas, guided by mentors, offering them an in-depth insight into university life. Additionally, students will be able to converse with current students at department booths, allowing them to hear firsthand about real student experiences.

A Wide Range of Programs and International Opportunities

IGU offers a wide variety of undergraduate and associate degree programs catering to diverse interests, from engineering and health sciences to communication and fine arts. Detailed information will also be provided about the university's internationally accredited departments, opportunities for double major and minor programs, Erasmus+ exchange programs, and scholarship options of up to 100%.

An Additional 10% Scholarship Opportunity for Prospective Students Making Their Preference on Campus

Istanbul Gelisim University encourages prospective students to visit the campus and experience the university atmosphere firsthand, enabling them to make informed decisions. In this regard, all candidates who visit the IGU campus and make their preferences in person during the preference period will receive an additional 10% "Campus Preference Scholarship," on top of the first five preference scholarships.

The First Step of the Career Journey Will Be Taken During These Promotion Days

IGU officials emphasize that the preference period is not just a matter of ranking, but also a crucial phase of long-term career planning. They invite prospective students to get to know the university up close and find answers to all their questions during this process.

IGU's International Quality Assurance System Works Continue!

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) continues to decisively participate and contribute to international quality assurance systems. At the AQAS (Agency for Quality Assurance) General Assembly held in Bonn, Germany, IGU Quality Coordinator Prof. Hasan Hakan Bozkurt participated on behalf of Istanbul Gelisim University.

Before and after the meeting, informative presentations on the German higher education accreditation system were made by representatives of the German Accreditation Council and the German Conference of Rectors. Within the scope of the event, current developments and practices regarding Germany's higher education quality assurance system were discussed.

A New Development in the World University Vision

At the ceremony held after the General Assembly, renew accreditation documents of Istanbul Gelisim University were presented by the President of AQAS to Prof. Hasan Hakan Bozkurt. This development once again demonstrated the commitment of IGU in the field of quality assurance and internationalization in line with the vision of "World University".

The renewed accreditations increase the recognition of IGU on a global scale and reinforce the goal of providing students with education at international standards.



IGU for Education in International Standards!

Istanbul Gelisim University increases its international career and academic development opportunities after graduation by offering its students the opportunity to study in reliable and qualified programs that are recognized in the European higher education field.



Four New Programs Opened at Istanbul Gelisim University!

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) continues to expand its education range by focusing on the professions of the future. With the General Assembly Decision of the Council of Higher Education dated 03.07.2025, four new associate degree programs approved for student admission as of the 2025-2026 academic year once again reveal the vision of the university in vocational education.

The newly opened programs are as follows:

- Medical Data Processing Technician Program (Vocational School of Health Services)
- Tele-Health Technician Program (Vocational School of Health Services)
- Carbon Management Technician Program (Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School)
- Intelligent Infrastructures Technician Program (Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School)

These programs, which are shaped by digital transformation and sustainability-oriented environmental awareness in the field of health, aim to train qualified technicians who will respond to the needs of the age.

Future Shaping Education Approach

Proper processing and management of medical data is of great importance in increasing the quality of service in the health sector. While the Medical Data Processing Technician Program aims to gain competence for this need, the Tele-Health Technician Program aims to respond to the need for qualified human resources that has emerged with the spread of remote health services.

On the other hand, while the Carbon Management Technician Program, which will raise awareness in the field of environmental sustainability, provides technical information for the calculation, monitoring and reduction of carbon footprint, the Smart Infrastructure Technician Program aims to train experts in the field of infrastructure technologies that come to the fore with the digitalization of cities.

Istanbul Gelisim University continues to prepare its students not only for today's but also for the world of the future with its dynamic and innovative programs.



İSTANBUL
GELİŞİM
ÜNİVERSİTESİ

**2025 - 2026 EĞİTİM ÖĞRETİM YILINDA
YENİ AÇILAN PROGRAMLAR**

- SAĞLIK HİZMETLERİ MESLEK YÜKSEKOKULU
TIBBİ VERİ İŞLEME TEKNİKERLİĞİ PR.
- SAĞLIK HİZMETLERİ MESLEK YÜKSEKOKULU
TELE-SAĞLIK TEKNİKERLİĞİ PR.
- İSTANBUL GELİŞİM MESLEK YÜKSEKOKULU
KARBON YÖNETİMİ TEKNİKERLİĞİ PR.
- İSTANBUL GELİŞİM MESLEK YÜKSEKOKULU
AKILLI ALTYAPILAR TEKNİKERLİĞİ PR.



Istanbul Gelisim University Shows Strong Representation at Global Sustainable Development Congress 2025

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) participated in the Global Sustainable Development Congress 2025 held in Istanbul in cooperation with the Council of Higher Education (YÖK) between 16-19 June 2025, under the leadership of Vice Rector Prof. Arda Öztürkcan with a team of 10 people consisting of academic and administrative staff.

Wide Participation from Academic and Administrative Staff

At the congress, where sustainable development goals were discussed on a global scale, the following names were included in the team of Istanbul Gelisim University:

- Vice Rector Prof. Arda Öztürkcan
- Quality Coordinator Prof. Hasan Hakan BozkurtHead of Nutrition and Dietetics Department of the Faculty of Health Sciences Assoc. Prof. Hatice Merve Bayram
- Dean of Students Asst. Prof. İbrahim Halil Yaşar
- Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences Asst. Prof. Özlem Tuğçe KELEŞ
- Technology Transfer Office Director Yahya Kemal Kıran
- Vice Dean of Students Lecturer Enes Kalyoncu
- Vocational School Mechanical Department Lecturer Bilge Yılmaz
- Faculty of Health Sciences Department of Child Development Res. Asst. Kübra Aldırmaz
- Quality Specialist Şule Ekuklu



IGU Representatives Played an Active Role in Their Fields of Expertise

Each participant in the congress actively participated in the sessions related to his/her field of expertise. IGU representatives, who exchanged information in discussions in critical areas such as education, health, reducing inequalities, digitalization, energy, and food security, also came together with academicians, higher education institutions, international organizations, private sector representatives, and non-governmental organizations from all over the world and had the opportunity to establish international cooperation and networking.

More Than 110 Countries, 400+ Speakers

More than 120 hours of content and more than 400 speakers attended the congress with the participation of more than 110 countries. At the congress, which focuses on transformations towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), many panels and presentations were organized under the themes;

- Cities and Communities
- Digital Innovation
- Education
- Inequalities
- Energy and Industry
- Food, Land, Water and Oceans
- Health and Wellbeing

In addition, special events such as the Global Sustainable Leaders Summit, THE Data Workshops, Higher Education Sessions with Refugees and the Global Sustainability Exhibition attracted great attention.

“I am very happy to represent our university with a team working decisively in the field of sustainability”

Vice Rector Prof. Arda Öztürkcan who attended the congress held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia last year, shared his views on the congress with the following words:

“I am very happy to represent our university with a team working decisively in the field of sustainability at this important congress organized for the first time in Turkey in cooperation with YÖK and Times Higher Education. The public presentation of THE Impact Ranking, which was announced in Malaysia last year, in Istanbul this year is a proud development for our country.”

One-on-One Meeting with THE Global Affairs Director

Within the scope of the congress, Prof. Öztürkcan met with Phil Baty, who is a Director of Global Relations at Times Higher Education. During the meeting, ideas were shared on ways for higher education institutions to contribute to sustainable development goals, data-based measurement systems and ranking methodologies.



IGU's Ranking Success Announced

THE Impact Rankings 2025 results announced within the scope of the congress were welcomed by the university team as a concrete indicator of IGU's achievements in the field of sustainability. The excitement and happiness of witnessing this important achievement together were shared among the participants.





Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School started education in 2008 with 9 programs and became a school that forms the core of Istanbul Gelisim University. It has shown rapid development since its establishment; it has reached 19 departments, 37 programs and 10,630 students. Evening education is provided in 21 of 37 programs.

Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School continues its educational activities with its experienced and strong academic staff. In addition to the permanent instructors, by employing the leading names of the sector part-time, the students are given the opportunity to learn their practical experience in business life.

Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, which has moved to its new campus as of the Fall Term of the 2017-2018 Academic Year, has a total of 22 workshops, including Aircraft Maintenance Workshops, Mock-Up, Kitchen, Electric, Construction, Automotive, Serigraphy, Ceramics and Fashion workshops, in its new campus so that students can apply their theoretical education practically. Besides it offers a field of application with 7 Computer Labs, one of which is MAC.

Our School's Aircraft Technology Program has the Recognized School Approval Certificate from the General Directorate of Civil Aviation (SHGM) as well as the Flight Operations Specialist Training (Dispatcher) Authorization Certificate from the DGCA. Apart from our two programs authorized by DGCA, the licensing processes for the Approved Cabin Crew Basic Training Organization Certificate for Civil Aviation Cabin Services Turkish and English Programs and the Approved Ground Handling Training Organization Certificate for Civil Air Transport Management Turkish and English Programs are continuing at the DGCA.

Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School students can benefit from the educational and social activity opportunities available in all campuses of our university without interruption.

OUR MISSION

To equip our students in all the programs with innovations in their fields, to keep them informed of current developments, to keep this process alive with scientific activities, and to support the scientific studies of lecturers. To be the solution for the need of qualified intermediate staff with the qualifications required by the sector, to have assimilated the latest technological developments, to have developed a practical side.



OUR VISION

Our vision is to be one of the world's leading vocational schools with qualified academic staff and all the programs recognized by international institutions and organizations, and to train students who are demanded by the market and who are all employed after graduation.

** IGVS E-Bulletin has been prepared according to the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC) criteria.*

EDUCATION



NEWS FROM IGVS

IGU's Signature at the IFEFA Fair: Cookie Production for 1,000 People

As the Culinary Program of the Department of Hotel, Restaurant and Catering Services at Istanbul Gelisim University Vocational School, we carried out a corporate production and catering activity within the scope of the "International Fair for Educational and Future Aspirations (IFEFA)" event held on our university campus on June 28, 2025.



As part of this event organized for prospective international students, 1,000 cookies featuring the Istanbul Gelisim University logo were prepared for representative and catering purposes by the Culinary Program instructors and kitchen unit, in collaboration with our external stakeholder, the company i'man Al-A'mal, within the framework of a strategic partnership. The production process was coordinated by Lect. Zeynep Kurhan from the Culinary Program and carried out by Lect. M. Büşra Sağlam and kitchen supervisor Oğuzhan İstanbullu. Students from the Culinary Arts and Gastronomy and Culinary Arts programs actively participated in the implementation phase.

This production activity was planned to enhance the students' practical vocational competencies. At the same time, it provided an opportunity to apply essential professional skills in a real production environment, including institutional representation, organizational production discipline, aesthetic presentation, product standardization, and production in compliance with hygiene standards. Offering these carefully prepared products to international guests and stakeholder representatives attending the event was considered a strong example of institutional representation reflecting the corporate identity of our university.



Such events are part of the Culinary Program's educational approach, which not only focuses on the transfer of academic and technical knowledge but also prioritizes sectoral practical skills. Moreover, this event has been recorded as a significant hands-on training experience that supports our students in gaining a holistic perspective on production processes, developing high-quality products, and contributing to large-scale organizations. Embracing a student-centered educational approach, our university will continue to enrich learning processes and equip students with the professional competencies needed to thrive in the industry through such activities.

Lect. Bilge YILMAZ
Machine Program

Academic Staff of İGMYO Visited Serbia within the Scope of Erasmus+ Staff Mobility




Lect. Bilge Yılmaz, the Quality Coordinator of Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School and a faculty member of the Machinery Program in the Department of Machinery and Metal Technologies, visited Univerzitet Singidunum in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, within the scope of Erasmus+ Staff Mobility between June 30 and July 4, 2025.

During the visit, comprehensive discussions were held with Dr. Aleksa Panic and Vedrana Vodopivec on topics including quality processes in higher education, sustainability, teaching and learning practices, and international project collaborations.



In addition, strategic plans were developed for potential joint activities under the Erasmus program for students of the Machine Program. Lect. Bilge Yılmaz's visit has been an important step toward strengthening both student and academic staff mobility.

As Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, we continue to strengthen our academic collaborations and provide our students with global opportunities in line with our vision of internationalization.

-  **University:** Univerzitet Singidunum – Belgrade, Serbia
-  **Meeting Participants:** Dr. Aleksa Panic, Vedrana Vodopivec
-  **Scope:** Erasmus+ Staff Mobility

Lect. Kübra Erdoğan
Mechatronics Program

Academic Visit in Belgrade

In July 2025, academic staff from Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, including Lect. Kübra Erdoğan from the Mechatronics Program, Lect. Bilge Yılmaz from the Machinery Program, and Lect. Nurullah Z. Akar from the Food Technology Program, conducted an academic visit to Singidunum University in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, within the scope of the Erasmus+ Staff Training Mobility program. During this mobility activity, efforts were made to share academic experiences, evaluate opportunities for inter-institutional collaboration, examine best practice examples on-site, and conduct comparative observations of different higher education systems. Additionally, this process contributed to enhancing intercultural interaction and developing international academic communication networks. It is anticipated that this valuable international experience will make significant contributions to the quality of education and training as well as the institutional vision of both our Vocational School and our university.



Lect. Nurullah Zekeriya Akar
Food Technology Program

Lect. Nurullah Zekeriya Akar from the IGVS Food Technology Program visited the University Business Academy (Univerzitet Privredna Akademija U Novom Sadu) in Novi Sad, Serbia, between July 7 and 11, 2025, as part of the Erasmus+ Study Mobility program. During the visit, detailed examinations were conducted regarding the institution's educational programs and laboratory applications. It is anticipated that this experience will pave the way for new projects and collaborative efforts for both students and academics.



LETTER OF INVITATION

Dear Nurullah Zekeriya AKAR,

I have the pleasure of informing you that your application for **Staff Mobility for Training Activity** within the framework of Erasmus+ International Mobility programme has been examined and accepted by the Faculty of Contemporary Arts, Belgrade, Serbia. You are invited to visit our faculty.

We are happy to welcome you to the Faculty of Contemporary Arts and hope that your activity here will be pleasant and beneficial. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact our International Cooperation Office.

Sincerely yours

June 10, 2025



Prof. Dr Dragan Čalović
Dean

** IGVS E-Bulletin has been prepared according to the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC) criteria.*



R & D

The article titled “Effect of Different Heat Sink Designs on Thermoelectric Generator System Performance in a Turbocharged Tractor,” prepared by IGVS Machine program lecturer Ali Gürcan, was published on June 22, 2025, in the international open access journal Energies, which is categorized as SCI-Expanded. The study investigated the performance effects of different heat sink designs on a thermoelectric generator system integrated into a turbocharged tractor using mathematical methods, revealing their potential to enhance energy efficiency. The study aims to contribute to sustainable power generation in agricultural vehicles.

<https://doi.org/10.3390/en18133267>

Next year will mark the 100th anniversary of Cabotage and Maritime Day. The 4th Turkey Maritime Summit was held on July 2, 2025, under the auspices of the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, organized by the General Directorate of Maritime Affairs and the Chamber of Maritime Trade at the Istanbul Lütfi Kırdar Congress and Exhibition Center. The summit addressed visionary approaches that will shape the future of the maritime sector, including topics such as minimizing carbon emissions from ships and innovative ship technologies for decarbonization, financial models in maritime affairs, the impact of global developments on the sector, new approaches in port state control (PSC), and opportunities in tourist passenger ships and tourism were discussed in depth by expert speakers and panelists.



Organized for the fourth time this year under the leadership of the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, in coordination with DGM and TCS, the summit brought together local and international participants with the aim of strengthening knowledge and experience sharing among all stakeholders in the maritime industry and sector, developing cooperation networks, and enhancing the global competitiveness of the maritime sector. The sessions, enriched with interactive panels, experiential applications, and innovative methodologies, provided a unique platform for all actors in the maritime sector. Other universities with maritime-related programs also participated in the summit, and on behalf of the IGVS Maritime and Port Management Program, participation was provided by Dr. Ramazan AÇIKGÖZ, a Long-Distance Ship Captain and Assistant Professor, at the program head level.

<https://turkiyedenizcilikzirvesi.org/>

Asst.Prof.Dr. Ceyda Cevahir YILDIZ's Book Chapter Published

The chapter in the book titled “Mathematical Structures: From the Perspectives of Analysis and Geometry,” published by BIDGE Publications on June 25, 2025, examines the role of GeoGebra software in mathematics education and its pedagogical effects. The chapter emphasizes that the use of GeoGebra in teaching various mathematical topics, particularly geometry, makes lessons more interactive, helps students understand topics more easily and deeply, and consequently leads to a significant increase in their academic achievement. The study states that the software contributes to students' ability to concretize abstract mathematical concepts, encourages active participation in the learning process, and improves their conceptual understanding.



However, it also notes that teacher-focused application models, institutional support systems, and educational policies need to be developed in order for GeoGebra to be used effectively in education. In this section, GeoGebra is not only considered as a technological tool but also as a holistic pedagogical environment that supports the digital transformation of mathematics education; in this context, the importance of collaboration between teachers, researchers, and education policy developers is emphasized.

<https://doi.org/10.70269/4577374732>

A paper was published from the Information Security Technology Program.

The research paper prepared by a student and advisor from the Information Security Technology program was presented orally at the 11th International Azerbaijan Congress of Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Applied Sciences and published in full in the congress proceedings!

The study conducted jointly by IGVS Information Security Technology Program student Murat Kazma and his advisor, Lecturer Çisem Yaşar, was accepted and deemed worthy of presentation at the 11th International Azerbaijan Congress of Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Applied Sciences. The student, who had the opportunity to present the study, received a participation certificate from the congress and experienced the pride of being featured in an international publication with the full text of the prepared papers published in the congress proceedings.

The full-text paper information is as follows:

Lecturer Çisem Yaşar and Murat Kazma - "Cyber security software: Pywall"

This study presents Pywall, a Python-based desktop software aimed at enhancing digital security. Pywall offers an integrated security solution consisting of three main modules: network traffic analysis, malware scanning, and downloaded applications. The software quickly identifies potential threats through each module and alerts the user. In developing the software, open-source libraries in Python related to network analysis and threat detection were utilized.

To view the full text: <https://www.internationalazerbaijancongress.com/kongre-kitaplar%C4%B1-foto%C4%9Fraflar>

References: Yaşar, Ç. & Kazma, M. (2025). CYBER SECURITY SOFTWARE: PYWALL. 11th International Azerbaijan Congress on Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Applied Sciences (pp.693-701). Baku, Azerbaijan.

We congratulate our student on this significant achievement and wish them success in their future endeavors.

<https://www.internationalazerbaijancongress.com/>

IGVS Software, Application Development and Analysis Department Head, Lect. Çisem YAŞAR's paper titled "Interactive Simulation Supported Web-Based Learning Platform: PHYLAB (EN)" was presented at the 11th International Azerbaijan Congress on Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Applied Sciences and its full text has been published.

<https://www.internationalazerbaijancongress.com/kongre-kitaplar%C4%B1-foto%C4%9Fraflar>

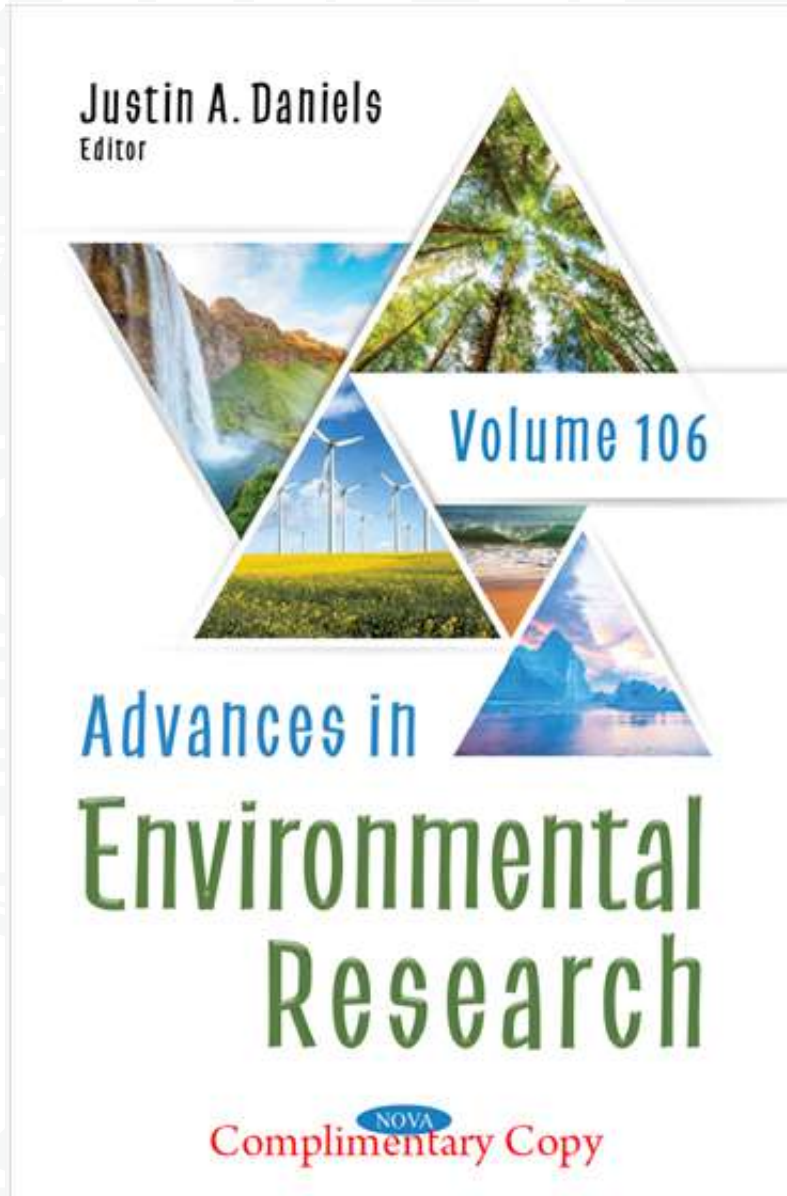


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<https://www.internationalazerbaijancongress.com/kongre-kitaplar%C4%B1-foto%C4%9Fraflar>



The book chapter titled "Internet of Things and Machine Learning in Aerosol Studies - An Overview", authored by Lect. Tuğba Saray Çetinkaya from the Information Security Technologies Program at Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School has been published as Chapter 3 in the book Advances in Environmental Research, published by Nova Science Publishers.



<https://novapublishers.com/shop/advances-in-environmental-research-volume-106/>

Our university's academic staff successfully represented the institution at the International TURAN-Fundamental Sciences Symposium (TURAN25), held from June 23 to 25, 2025 at Yıldız Technical University, not only through their paper presentations but also through their contributions to the organization of the event.

Prof. Salim Yüce played a key role in the academic coordination of the event by serving as the Symposium Chair and a Member of the Scientific Committee.



In addition, two of our esteemed academics successfully presented their papers:

- Lect. İpek Ebru Karaçay successfully presented her paper titled "Investigation of Fractal Dimension Algorithms in Different Geometries", which she co-authored with her advisor Prof. Salim Yüce.
- Lect. Kübra Çetinberk also successfully presented her paper titled "The Moment of Inertia of Generated Curves: A Holditch-Type Theorem", prepared in collaboration with her advisor Prof. Salim Yüce, as part of the symposium.

The symposium aimed to promote scientific collaboration under the principle of "one nation, two states" by bringing together academics from the Turkic world in the fields of fundamental sciences such as biology, physics, chemistry, and mathematics.

We congratulate our academics, Lect. Karaçay and Lect. Çetinberk, as well as Prof. Salim Yüce for his contributions both as an advisor and as an organizational leader, and we wish them continued success in their academic endeavors.

<https://turansymposium.yildiz.edu.tr/>

The research papers prepared by our Web Design and Development Program students were presented orally at the 11th International Azerbaijan Congress on Life, Engineering, Mathematical, and Applied Sciences, and were published in full in the conference proceedings!

The projects completed by students in the Advanced Internet Programming course, taught by Lect. Çisem YAŞAR in the Web Design and Development Program at Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, have achieved great success!

Our students' works were accepted and deemed worthy of presentation at the 11th International Azerbaijan Congress on Life, Engineering, Mathematical, and Applied Sciences. The students who earned the right to present also received participation certificates, and the full texts of their papers were published in the conference proceedings, giving them the pride of being featured in an international publication.

The details of the full-text paper submissions are as follows:

- Lect. Çisem Yaşar, Arda Ballıkaya, Eray Ertan, and Yusuf Türlü - "Web-based learning platform supported by interactive simulations: PhyLab (EN)" and "Etkileşimli simülasyonlarla destekli web tabanlı öğrenme platformu: PhyLab (TR)"

In this study, a web-based learning platform was designed to present physics course content through interactive simulations in a digital environment. The platform was developed to support equal opportunities in education, enhance student motivation, and strengthen experiential learning processes.

To access the full text of the study: <https://www.internationalazerbaijancongress.com/kongre-kitaplar%C4%B1-foto%C4%9Fraflar>

References: Yaşar, Ç., Ballıkaya, A., Ertan, E. & Türlü, Y. (2025). ETKİLEŞİMLİ SİMÜLASYONLARLA DESTEKLİ WEB TABANLI ÖĞRENME PLATFORMU:PHYLAB. 11. Uluslararası Azerbaycan Fen, Mühendislik, Matematik ve Uygulamalı Bilimler Kongresi (pp.677-684). Bakü, Azerbaycan.

- Lect. Çisem Yaşar, İrem Cebeci ve Nisa Karagöz - "Web-based system analysis and design for disaster management and environmental awareness (EN)" and "Afet yönetimi ve çevre bilinci için web tabanlı sistem analizi ve tasarımı (TR)"

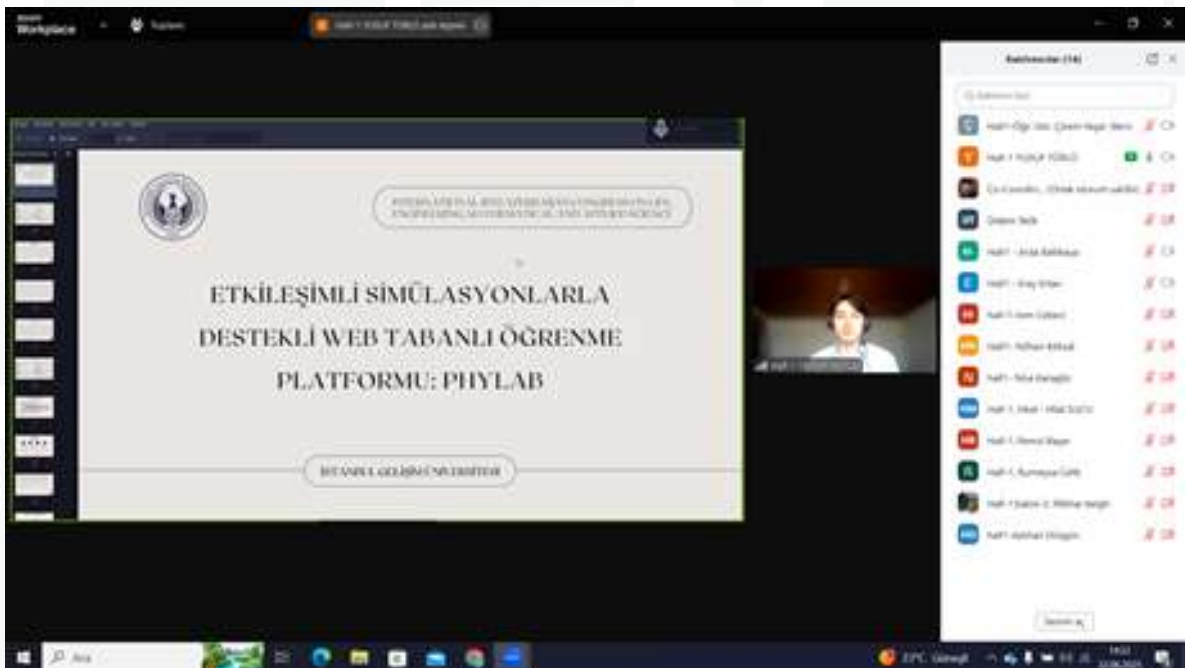
This study presents the system analysis and design process of a web-based platform developed to enhance social awareness and facilitate access to information. The platform provides informative content on natural disasters such as global warming, climate change, and earthquakes. Additionally, it features innovative tools that encourage user participation, such as "leave a letter to the future" and "set an environmental goal."

To access the full text of the study: <https://www.internationalazerbaijancongress.com/kongre-kitaplar%C4%B1-foto%C4%9Fraflar>

References: Yaşar, Ç., Cebeci, İ., & Karagöz, N. (2025). Web-based system analysis and design for disaster management and environmental awareness. Proceedings of the 11th International Azerbaijan Congress on Life, Engineering, Mathematical, and Applied Sciences (pp. 685–692). Baku, Azerbaijan.

We congratulate our students on this significant achievement and wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

<https://www.internationalazerbaijancongress.com/>



The paper titled "Afet Yönetimi ve Çevre Bilinci İçin Web Tabanlı Sistem Analizi ve Tasarımı (TR) - Web-Based System Analysis and Design for Disaster Management and Environmental Awareness (EN)", authored by Lect. Çisem YAŞAR, Head of the Department of Computer Technologies at Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, was presented at the 11th International Azerbaijan Congress on Life, Engineering, Mathematical, and Applied Sciences and was published in full in the conference proceedings.

<https://www.internationalazerbaijancongress.com/kongre-kitaplar%C4%B1-foto%C4%9Fraflar>



IGVS July Appointments



Asst.Prof. Mustafa GÜNAY was appointed as the “Department Head” to Gelisim Vocational School, Design Department.

Lecturer Ahenk Çiçek SÜZEN was appointed as the “Department Head” to Gelisim Vocational School Law Department.

Lect. Kübra ERDOĞAN has been appointed as the “Program Head” to the Mechatronics Program of Gelisim Vocational School.

Lect. Naciye MACİT SEZİKLİ has been appointed as “Program Head” to the Coding Program of Gelisim Vocational School.



SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION



** IGVS E-Bulletin has been prepared according to the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC) criteria.*

TO THE FUTURE WITH OUR HELMETS

Asst. Prof. Dr. Kaan KOÇALI
Occupational Health and Safety Program

2024-2025 Occupational Health and Safety Program Activities

As the Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School's Occupational Health and Safety Program, we are proud to leave behind a fulfilling 2024-2025 academic year. In line with our vision centered on professional development, we have carried out numerous academic and applied projects. We have conducted various activities, seminars, technical trips, and project work to equip our students not only with theoretical knowledge but also with sectoral awareness, social responsibility, and practical experience.

Shaping the Safe Work Environments of the Future, Today

The Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School's Occupational Health and Safety Program aims to train occupational safety specialists who are equipped with the competencies required by the modern era, have a high sense of responsibility, are committed to ethical values, and possess strong practical skills. Our program features a curriculum that supports its theoretical foundation with applied training.

Education Model and Academic Infrastructure

In our program, students receive comprehensive training on many critical topics such as occupational health and safety legislation, risk analysis, occupational hygiene, emergency management, ergonomics, and work accidents. Our expert academic staff, who have extensive sector experience, adopt a teaching approach that integrates theory with practice. Course content is regularly updated in accordance with national and international standards; management systems like ISO 45001 and ISO 9001 are also among the core components of the program.

Applied Education and Technical Equipment

Thanks to our laboratory facilities, technical trip opportunities, and applied courses, our students become well-prepared for real-world scenarios they may encounter in the sector before they graduate. They have the chance to reinforce their professional experience through internship opportunities where they can observe health and safety practices in the field.

Sectoral Collaborations and External Stakeholders

Our program works in close collaboration with the business world. Through agreements with numerous private sector organizations and public institutions, we offer our students a wide range of practical application areas. These collaborations create opportunities for our students in many areas, including seminars, internships, post-graduation employment, and field projects.

Scientific Activities and Project Culture

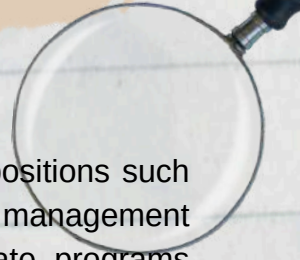
Distinguished by its research-oriented structure, our program has an approach that encourages students to think scientifically. Active participation is ensured each year in student research projects like TÜBİTAK 2209-A, supporting the development of project creation, scientific writing, and presentation skills.

Activities, Fairs, and Social Engagement

To enhance our students' professional development and increase their sectoral awareness, we organize national and international fair visits, technical seminars, disaster awareness training, fire safety drills, and academic talks every year. Special days, such as the April 28th World Day for Safety and Health at Work, are celebrated with various events to reinforce the safety culture.

Academic Achievement and Institutional Recognition

The Academic Performance Award received by our Program Chair, Dr. Kaan Koçali, in 2024 has been an indicator of both academic success and institutional recognition. Our program continues to advance in line with the principles of academic excellence and continuous improvement.



Graduate Profile and Career Opportunities

Our program graduates can be employed in the private and public sectors in positions such as occupational safety specialist, field inspector, and quality and environmental management systems officer. At the same time, graduates can transition to undergraduate programs through the DGS (Vertical Transfer Exam) to continue their academic careers.

Program's Objective

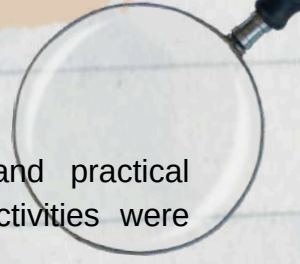
The Occupational Health and Safety Program aims to train 'Occupational Health and Safety Technicians' who possess the knowledge, skills, and competence to provide occupational safety specialist services, which became mandatory in workplaces under the Occupational Health and Safety Law No. 6331, enacted on January 1, 2013. The program aims to train experts with the necessary knowledge, skills, and awareness to protect employee health and prevent work accidents and occupational diseases. Our department seeks to contribute to creating safer working environments by promoting a culture of occupational safety. By providing theoretical and practical training on risk assessment, occupational safety management systems, and ergonomics within the framework of national and international legislation, we ensure our students become competent professionals in the sector.

Let's take a look at what we accomplished together this year...

Student Orientations and Application Period Guidance

As we began the new academic year, we organized student orientation programs for both our daytime and evening education groups to support our students' adjustment to university life. Within this scope, information was provided on topics such as the department's introduction, curriculum details, internship processes, academic advising system, and career planning.

Additionally, as part of our Guidance during the University Application and Promotion Period, we provided guidance and counseling services to prospective students through face-to-face and online information sessions about our university, our department, and the occupational health and safety profession.



Vocational and Technical Training Activities

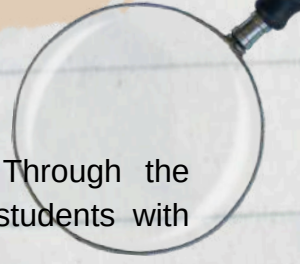
Our program prioritizes equipping students with up-to-date knowledge and practical applications to prepare them for the sector. To this end, the following activities were organized throughout the year:

- **Basic Survival Awareness Training (1 and 2):** With this training, which imparted skills for survival in potential disasters, our students gained practical awareness in addition to theoretical knowledge.
- **Online Disaster Awareness Training:** A well-attended online seminar was held on topics such as disaster awareness, individual preparedness, and social responsibilities.
- **ISO 9001:2005 Quality Management System Information Training:** Our students were provided with fundamental knowledge about the importance of quality standards and management systems in professional life.
- **Fire Extinguisher Refilling and Safe Use Workshop:** This hands-on workshop aimed to teach the correct intervention techniques in the event of a fire.
- **Internship Orientation Programs (Daytime and Evening Education):** Information meetings were held regarding the internship process, responsibilities, and expected outcomes to ensure our students were well-prepared for their mandatory summer internships.

Technical Trips and Sector Meetings

As a program that believes in the importance of field experience, we organized numerous technical trips to connect our students with the sector:

- **ISAF International Fair and International Occupational Health and Safety Fair Visit:** We had the opportunity to get a close look at the leading organizations and innovative technologies of the sector.
- **Process Summit and Fair Technical Trip:** We came together for an event that provided our students with practical information on industrial process safety.
- **47th Building, Construction Materials, and Technologies Fair:** We informed our students about the safety standards and new technologies in the construction sector.



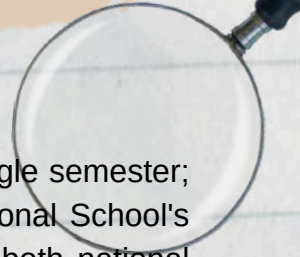
Talks, Experience Sharing, and Awareness Activities

- **Panel on Field Experiences in Occupational Health and Safety:** Through the participation of expert speakers with field experience, we provided our students with insights from real-life cases.
- **Safe Steps: OHS Experience in the Footwear Sector:** With this sector-focused event, we shared how occupational health and safety practices are implemented in a specific industry.
- **World Day for Safety and Health at Work Celebration and Hard Hat Ceremony:** We celebrated the April 28th World Day for Safety and Health at Work with awareness-raising activities. We made the safety culture visible through the symbolic hard hat ceremony.

A Year Strengthened by Academic Achievements and Project Work

The 2024-2025 academic year was a significant period not only for education and activities but also for scientific achievements and external stakeholder collaborations. Our department made a name for itself through projects and partnerships in which both our academics and students actively participated.

- **Strengthened Collaborations with External Stakeholders:** As the Occupational Health and Safety Program, we signed external stakeholder protocol agreements with various firms to further strengthen our ties with the sector. Within the scope of these agreements, new opportunities were created to enhance our students' professional competencies through internship collaborations, applied training support, and consultancy processes.
- **Research Culture with TÜBİTAK 2209-A Student Projects:** In 2024, 2 TÜBİTAK 2209-A University Student Research Projects conducted by our students were successfully completed. These projects were a significant example of both imparting research methodology and enabling students' participation in academic production. Inspired by this success, 6 new TÜBİTAK project applications were also submitted. This demonstrates our students' interest in research and our program's commitment to supporting its R&D culture.
- **Recognition Through Academic Performance:** Program Chair Dr. Kaan Koçali earned the right to be included in the academic performance ranking with his outstanding success at the 2024 Academic Performance Ceremony. He brought pride to our department by achieving a performance award and recognition success through both his individual achievements and his efforts to increase the program's national/international visibility.



A Strong Foundation for the Future...

All the gains we have made in the past year are not just the successes of a single semester; they are strong steps taken towards the future. As the Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School's Occupational Health and Safety Program, we will continue to create value at both national and international levels by sustaining our scientific production, sectoral collaborations, and student-centered approach.

Acknowledgments

As we leave this fulfilling year behind, we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed. First and foremost, we are grateful to our esteemed academic and administrative staff for their dedicated efforts and commitment to always advancing our department. We offer our endless thanks to our dear students, who inspire us with their curiosity and motivation, actively participating in events, projects, and all processes; to our sector representatives and external partner companies, who strengthen our educational activities with their support; for your cooperation, contributions, and sincerity. Together, we will continue to walk towards a safer, more conscious, and well-equipped future.

Rethinking Sweetness: Is Refined Sugar-Free Gastronomy Achievable?

Lect. M. Büşra SAĞLAM
Culinary Program

Gastronomy is gaining significance as a multidisciplinary field that goes beyond mere taste, encompassing the study of cultural identities, the reconfiguration of health consciousness, and the integration of scientific principles. In today's world, as trends toward healthy eating and the demand for natural products rise rapidly, the adverse effects of refined sugar, linked to metabolic and chronic diseases, are being increasingly discussed in the scientific literature. In this context, individuals are developing strategies to meet their sweet cravings in more balanced, functional, and sustainable ways.

At this point, organic and natural sweeteners stand out with their high nutritional value and absence of artificial additives, becoming central to sustainable nutrition approaches. As of 2025, the diversification of natural sweeteners, the growing preference for functional ingredients, and the rise of global flavor fusions are driving the development of creative and innovative solutions within the gastronomy sector. Today's consumers adopt a mindset that prioritizes sustainability, values the strategic importance of local resources, and embraces a holistic approach to health. Accordingly, sweets are transforming from being merely an "innocent pleasure" into representations of a new era of consumption, where nutrient-rich, health-supportive alternatives derived from nature replace refined sugar. A conscious increase in demand for refined sugar-free products is particularly evident among Generation Z and Y. According to 2025 data, products without refined sugar account for 18% of the healthy snack segment in Europe (Euromonitor, 2025).

Sweet Enemy: The Dark Side of White Sugar

Refined sugar, typically derived from sugarcane or sugar beet through chemical processing, belongs to the group of simple carbohydrates that provide no nutritional value and only supply energy. These sucrose-based compounds are recommended by many health authorities to be consumed in limited amounts due to their provision of empty calories, their tendency to cause rapid fluctuations in blood glucose levels, and their association with increased risk of chronic diseases, particularly type 2 diabetes (WHO, 2023; EFSA, 2022).

Refined sugar often becomes part of the daily diet without people even realizing it. However, the long-term damage it causes to the body is quite serious:

1. Blood Sugar Irregularities & Type 2 Diabetes

Refined sugar rapidly raises glucose levels, causing excessive insulin secretion. Over time, cells develop resistance to insulin, increasing the risk of type 2 diabetes. The World Health Organization (2023) recommends that no more than 5% of daily energy intake should come from free sugars.

2. Brain Health and Addiction

Refined sugar overstimulates the brain's reward centers, triggering dopamine release. This results in sugar exhibiting addictive properties similar to those of addictive substances. Studies on rats have observed that refined sugar consumption activates reward mechanisms akin to stimulant and addictive drugs (Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine, 2017).

3. Dental Health

Sugar serves as a nutrient source for harmful bacteria in the oral flora. These bacteria convert sugar into acids that damage tooth enamel and cause cavities. This effect is particularly pronounced in children.

4. Cardiovascular Disease Risk

Refined sugar increases blood triglyceride levels while lowering HDL (good cholesterol) and raising LDL (bad cholesterol) levels. A 2014 Harvard study showed that high consumption of refined sugar could increase the risk of heart attack by 38%.

5. Obesity and Fat Accumulation

Products containing refined sugar, especially in liquid forms such as soft drinks and sweet syrups, do not promote satiety and lead to excessive calorie intake. This triggers abdominal fat accumulation and weight gain.

6. Chronic Inflammation

Excessive refined sugar consumption leads to chronic, low-grade inflammation in the body. This condition is linked to allergies, autoimmune diseases, and certain types of cancer.

Abandoning Sugar: Next-Generation Sweeteners

Today, chefs are moving away from the superficial flavor profile of refined sugar and turning toward exploring the multilayered and complex aromatic structures of natural ingredients. Among the most prominent alternatives in this transformation is the date, regarded as an ancient gift of nature. With its caramelized flavor profile, high fiber content, and texture that offers a natural “hidden depth”, in contrast to the “hidden sugar” effect of refined sugar, dates have become a transformative ingredient both structurally and sensorially in contemporary dessert recipes.

Alternative Sweeteners to Replace Sugar:

- **Allulose:** Leaves a silky sweetness in ice cream and baked goods. It is low-calorie and has a glycemic index close to zero.
- **Monk Fruit (Luo Han Guo):** About 300 times sweeter than sugar but calorie-free. It is thermostable, making it suitable for cooking.
- **Stevia:** A calorie-free plant from the daisy family, extremely sweet. It is tooth-friendly and thermostable.
- **Honey:** Acts as a sweetener due to simple sugars like fructose and glucose, while also offering antibacterial and antioxidant properties. It is rich in minerals.
- **Molasses:** A thick, sweet syrup produced by boiling crushed sweet fruits such as grape, rosehip, fig, carob, or mulberry, or sugar-containing crops like sugar beet and juniper berries.
- **Date Syrup / Date Nectar:** One of the most preferred alternatives in sweet recipes. It is high in fiber, has a caramelized aroma, and is rich in minerals.
- **Maple Syrup:** Mostly preferred in traditional recipes. It is a natural source of antioxidants.
- **Coconut Syrup:** Leaves an exotic taste on the palate and offers a healthy option with its low glycemic index.
- **Blackstrap Molasses:** Has a sweet, caramel-like flavor and is rich in minerals and iron.
- **Purees of Banana, Apple, Grape, Mulberry, Hawthorn, Strawberry, and Blueberry:** Contain only natural sugars from fruits and are rich in fiber.
- **Flavored Coconut Milk, Tahini, Cinnamon, Vanilla Extract:** Their volatile compounds, essential oils, and phenolic substances diversify the aromatic profile of the product and enhance sensory quality.
- **Fermented Fruit Syrups, Bitter Root Sweeteners:** Natural components that enrich the taste profile, offering both prebiotic potential and functional alternatives to reduce refined sugar usage.

To Refined Ideas, Towards a Sugar-Free Future

The shift toward sugar-free gastronomy represents more than a passing health trend; it marks a comprehensive paradigm shift grounded in material science, technical innovation, and the sustainable use of natural resources. In this transformation, the responsibility falls on chefs, educators, and researchers. This emerging culinary mindset, sugar-free yet shaped by refined thinking, offers new opportunities and perspectives for the food industry, public health, and conscious consumer behavior. Rooted in scientific principles and committed to ethical and transparent production practices, this field is set to play a leading role in the future of gastronomy in the years ahead.



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CLUBS

TALK!

IGU R&D CLUB

Our club aims to develop students' knowledge and skills in the fields of technology and innovation, and to gain real-world experiences by producing projects with university-industry cooperation. Our club aims to raise the leaders of the future by revealing the potential of students in the fields of innovation, entrepreneurship and technology.

The fields of activity of our club, which is advised by IGVS Mechatronics Program Lecturer Kübra ERDOĞAN, are as follows:

1. Organizing technical trips
2. Creating project groups
3. Providing trainings
4. Organizing seminars
5. Organizing events



OUR STAKEHOLDERS



**TURKISH
AIRLINES**



EKOLOFOD





SİVİL HAVACILIK
GENEL MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ

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