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contributing to further growth of the WB region



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Abstract	The following document is a report on the current situation of the relationships UNihas with the scientific dispora
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Report on the current situation of the cooperation with scientific diaspora

The Alumni Center of the University of Niš was founded on December 14th 2010 by decision of the Senate of the University of Niš as a separate organizational unit of the University, aimed primarily at establishing and maintaining relationships between the University of Niš and its students after graduation, as well as interconnecting its former students of all levels of education into an integral University Alumni Center. Alumni Center functions are focused on developing cooperation between the University of Niš and enterprises, organizations and institutions where its former students and postgraduates are employed and on encouraging and promoting scientific, technical and practical activities of the Alumni members. They are realized through a collaboration in the implementation of professional, scientific and artistic projects, as well as through the improvement of student and general academic mobility.

The celebration of the 46th anniversary of the University of Niš included the first meeting of the Alumni. This meeting was attended, among others, by Prof. Dr. Bane Vasić from the University of Arizona (Tucson, USA), Prof. Dr. Staša Tadić from the University of Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania, USA), Dr. Danijela Ristic Durrant from the University of Bremen (Germany), while Prof. Dr. Jovan Antović from the Medical Faculty in Stockholm (Sweden) participated in the discussion during a video conference with alumni worldwide. The meeting was also

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attended by the teaching staff of the University of Niš, which are directly involved in the process of international cooperation, as well as by the entire University management. During the meeting, it was concluded that we should work intensively on connecting and networking of the largest possible number of graduate students, along with co-ordinating their activities in promotion of the University of Niš in the communities where they are currently located, but also on linking with the economy and financial institutions.

On that occasion, it was agreed that Alumni meetings should be organized every year before the University Day. On July 1st 2011, the Rector of the University of Niš appointed Prof. Dr. Zorica Pantić, President of the Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston (USA), the first President of the University Alumni. Exposing the development plan of this organizational unit, Prof. Dr. Pantić confirmed that she would first engage in the networking of the University Alumni members to foster strengthening academic and scientific potentials of the parent university, and then in finding ways to link the University more closely with industry and financial institutions that could facilitate and assist scientific research, development of new technologies and their application in practice.