

Presidential Agenda

ELTE PPK Student Union

2016



The team

Melinda Baranyai	Student Union President candidate
Fruzsina Elődi	Perspektíva Chief editor candidate
Heléna Krén	Academic Committee president candidate
Máté Lanku	Organising Committee president candidate
Regina Madari	Economic Committee president candidate
Márton Palkó	Communication Committee president candidate
J. Robin Puju	Student Welfare Committee president candidate
Alexandra Soós	Vice president candidate
Zsuzsanna Üllei Kovács	Committee of Foreign Affairs president candidate

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Introduction

My name is Melinda Baranyai, I am a psychology student in the BA program. I have started my studies at PPK in 2011, at the education department, where I graduated last year. The community at our faculty had a great impact on me, and I am living by the values I learnt and experienced here ever since. Our faculty's profile is very diverse and it brings many different people with different mindsets under one ethos. *All that is essential*. In my opinion, this motto of ours truly reflects the values that the faculty, our teachers and our students stand for.

Ever since I started studying at ELTE, I have been actively contributing to the community, as an animator and as a delegate. In November 2013, I joined the Student Union where I was a committee member responsible for scholarships and dormitory issues, and in March 2014 I became head of the Student Welfare Committee. In the past two years I have familiarized the structure and the functioning of the organization. While being the head of the Student Welfare Committee, I was occupied with granting benefits to students, financing and managing the scholarship-system. Throughout my mandate, we changed the faculty application schemes: lately, we have been working to overhaul the evaluation process and to create a new clearer scoring system, and to unify it throughout the faculties. Also, the scholarship application is now available through the student administration system, Neptun.

Last year a new committee was established that's main responsibility is the distribution of the Student Union's financial grants. The new formation, called Kari Ösztöndíjbizottság (Faculty Scholarship Committee) – includes two students and two employees of the faculty. From September 2015 I was head of this committee.

The Student Welfare Committee also organized an event named 'Everybody helps' where faculty students could take part in various volunteer activities in one day. The experience I gained while being part of the committee keep me motivated to take on new challenges and to represent my fellow students.

Motivation and comprehensive goals

During the past few years I learned how the Student Union works and I participated in accomplishing short- and long-term projects. Through these projects I received an insight into faculty and university level processes as well, and I learnt a lot about the organization and the role of the Student Union at our university. Based on these experiences I think that our Student Union is a dynamic organization, which is open to student's feedbacks and ideas. We are thankful for this for the present head of the Student Union, Zorka Sztilkovics, who provided an increase in assessing students' opinion and taking them into account in the decision-making processes.

I believe that the main task of the Student Union is to represent rights, so continuing on solid basis, our future aim will be to keep a direct contact with fellow students. In this perspective, we find it important that we are available to them at all times, that is why we would like to introduce a field-specific representative system, which would allow students to seek the actual field representative with any kind of question or problem. We plan regular trainings to provide the field representatives with up-to-date information so they will be prepared regarding the student-related parts of university regulations and changes in the last periods of time.

We find student-satisfaction important, which contains satisfaction towards the teachers and quality of the education as well. To improve the inner quality assurance, in cooperation with the faculty we would like to introduce a survey for presenting opinions about education, whose results would be public. Feedbacks from different courses could make it easier to choose from them.

We find facilitating voluntary work important among our student-peers, because all fields of the Faculty belong to the helping profession. To this effect, our aim is to promote the 'Everybody helps day' and to incorporate it as a tradition to the Faculty's everyday life. Furthermore, our plans include collecting different voluntary organizations and locations on the website, where students and teachers of the Faculty are welcome.

Cooperation, as well as flexibility and effective communication are essential for our candidates to be able to perform on a high level in their positions. In order to strengthen these abilities, we are planning several organizational development project days and weekends for the members of the Student Union. These occasions will be focused around team building and developing professional skills in each candidate's own field, for which we would like to ask for the alumni Animators' help who have previous experience in these fields.

There are likely to be significant changes in the scholarship system and study issues throughout the whole country. Our candidates are open to these changes and reforms, so they take part in field-specific workshops and leadership trainings organized by the Hungarian Conference of Student Unions to strengthen their competences in these matters.

It is necessary for the effectiveness of our faculty's Student Union that we establish and nurture a good relationship with other faculties' student unions and the ELTE Student Union as well. There are more and more student issues we have to discuss on the whole university's level and represent our fellow students' interests, which requires a strong cooperation.

Maintaining the friendly relationship with the faculty's directorate and other faculty-related organizations is our distinguished goal. We would like to continue taking part in projects organized by the faculty or the university, thus helping to establish an intensive connection between teachers and students.

Vice President

One of the most important jobs of the Vice President includes helping the day-to-day work of the President. The duties of the President of the Student Union are many and diverse – in order to make the job go smoothly it is essential that he or she has help in the everyday tasks.

Furthermore, another emphasized vice-presidential duty is the organizational development of the Student Union which is achieved in cooperation with the President. If you take a closer look you will notice that the Student Union is made up of several smaller units. Let's see the Chair first! It consists of the President and the Vice President of the Student Union, the Commissioners and the editor in chief of Perspektíva. The Chair not only discusses the activities of the committees but often faces questions that demand it to act as a united front. Now let's take a look at the Committees of the Student Union! Each Committee is responsible for its own designated field of expertise which, of course, also requires teamwork. Organizational development is of high importance so the smaller units of the Chair and the Committees do not work separately but as a whole, as a team.

In pursuance of organizational development, we emphasize team-building. We consider it important that, through teamwork, the Chair, the Committees as well as all Student Union officers do a better a job both individually and collectively. In order to achieve this, we would like to hold team-building trainings regularly. The first few months should be about getting to know each other so that the newly elected Student Union officers are integrated and accepted into the community. We believe that doing a decent job and keeping up the motivation is only possible through a properly cooperating team.

Besides team-building, we would like to put emphasis on further training in specialization. Although every Student Union officer knows the work and the associating duties of other committees and other officers, we feel it is important to widen our respective knowledge. Today, a lot of changes are happening – competition rules are differentiating and the range of duties is broadening. We would like each and every Student Union officer to be up-to-date as to the duties and responsibilities of every other Committee and officer. On the one hand, this is an integral part of working as a team but it also helps students by making Student Union officers able to give information on important news and changes to anyone interested. We

would like to create further training workshops where any given Committee could report changes in their field and also present us with a deeper knowledge of their area of expertise.

Knowing and imparting the duties of different fields are crucial parts of the vice presidency as well as keeping up on changes and shifts. The responsibility of proper integration of representatives and officers into the Student Union falls onto the Vice President who, apart from integrating them into the team work, also imparts the duties and responsibilities of a given office as well as the functioning of the Student Union. New officers in the Commission become acquainted with the duties of their field which are then enhanced by the Vice President as to their relation to the functioning of the Student Union.

The Vice President must have a good understanding of the functioning of the Student Union as it is his/her job to inform those interested. Above all of the activities previously mentioned, working as a team is the key component of developing a positive attitude towards the functioning of the Student Union as it represents unity and reliability. Our long-term goals include making project management available online. The offline form of project management has previously been established by former representatives of the Student Union. This method has proved to be successful, therefore we would like to take it to the next level. By taking them online, Student Union projects would be more easily accessible and refreshable. During project management, the Chair and the Committees determine forthcoming projects – such as Freshman Camp and Faculty Days – and keep a detailed log of the processes involved in any given program or activity. As part of project management, project descriptions are regularly revised by registering the completed and the remaining processes. An online platform would make refreshing projects faster as it is constantly available to register progress. Through an online interface, measuring projects would be more precise. In addition to measuring projects more precisely, an online interface could be beneficial in another way, given its accessibility to every officer, members would have greater knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of other fields. This could give us means to increase transparency within the Student Union and could also make projects more open to constructive suggestions.

Concerning the above mentioned activities, in order for our program to work smoothly, we consider being open to feedback important. When carrying out organizational development and team-building trainings or even during the integration of project management to an online platform, we are open to any suggestions that contribute to our work because this is how we can improve and this is how we can do decent work together, in a big team with trust and joy.

Academic Committee

Interest representation

The Academic Committee finds it essential to keep students informed with up-to-date and relevant information. Considering the current changes and modifications in the study system,

we find it important to inform the students about any change in their academic obligations as soon as possible. Following the past years' tradition we would like to work in tight cooperation with the other committees of the Student Union.

To be able to reach these goals we count on the members of the Delegate Committee, who not only assist the Academic Committee's work, but also participate in solving the potential problems and the helping the students with their study administration issues. We would like to ensure the subsistence of the Delegate Committee, so we would hold delegate trainings both in autumn and in spring, during which the applicants who want to join the Committee could gain deeper knowledge about educational issues. The Delegate Weekend, which would be organised both in the autumn and the spring semester, is dominant in the life of the Committee. Bigger tasks would be talked over at this weekend and projects would be planned, that would be executed for the sake of improvement and interest representation. Beside this we believe that further trainings for the members of the Committee is of great importance so that they could always assist fellow students regarding current information.

We would like to facilitate the flow of information on the different years of BA and MA, so we would like to choose representatives from each year, who would help the communication between the students and the Academic Committee. We believe that it is important to keep correspondence students informed about university news and in order to do so we would make connections with correspondence students who are members of the Delegate Committee that would serve this purpose. Regarding the advertisement of deadlines and events we do count on the cooperation of the Communication Committee.

To be able to exploit the potentials of the Delegate Committee properly, we would revive the old tradition of High School Road Show. During this the members of the Delegate Committee could visit their old high schools to promote the faculty by talking about their experience and knowledge they gained here. As a second stage of this series of events a few high school students who are interested in this programme would be given the chance to have a look at the everyday life of the university spending a day there. Of course beside this we would also provide proper information on the Open Day for those who seek it.

As usual, we will hold the lectures and conferences this year as well as part of the From Students To Students program. This series would last all year and would involve the freshmen's conferences from BA and MA. Moreover, we would like to hold a survey about the students' needs which would help us make a list of their learning difficulties and find ways to help them. To achieve this, we would like to rely on the help of students with outstanding results (for example from Illyés Sándor College for Advanced Students) who could tutor students with study issues. This would strengthen the relationship between the College and the Faculty.

In the beginning of each study year, our committee focuses mainly on first year students who need guidance in the Freshmen Camp and during the course registration. To be able to keep them informed and deal with the difficulties during the course registration and starting of the

school year, we would give them the biggest support possible with the members of the Committee and the Delegate Committee. For the sake of providing extensive information we would have our annual publications (Kazinfo, Pályaképünk, Tudományperspektíva) handed out to the students.

We would like to spread all important information to the freshmen with the help of the Animators. Thanks to their large number, Animators can help not only on their own year, but also help younger ones with their educational questions. We would like to train them to know the most important pieces of information about study issues and we would also introduce them to the current study representatives on the different years, so that they could send anyone with a special request or question to them.

Our Faculty has a significant role in the reform the OMHV (Student Evaluation of the Teachers' Work). We would like it to gain official publicity and we have taken serious steps to achieve that. Besides this, the Committee would like to represent our Faculty's interest as efficiently as possible in questions that concern the whole university (e.g. the standardization of regular social scholarships). To be able to achieve the above mentioned goal we intend to cooperate with the Academic Committee of the Student Union of ELTE and the Academic Committee of the Faculty.

Talent fostering

This year, our main goal is to spread information of the Faculty's academic opportunities to the wider public. This would continue to support foreign and underprivileged students in taking bigger roles in the academic field.

We find it very important to provide information about our talent fostering programmes and opportunities (TDK- OTDK/Scientific Student Association, Tudományperspektíva/Scientific Journal, Outstanding Academic Status, Illyés Sándor College for Advanced Students), via as many channels as possible (in person, online, information events).

We still cooperate with the Student Union of ELTE, so we take part in the work of the Academic Committee of the ELTE Student Union and we assist to advertise their planned talent fostering programs (e.g. university academic competition or online university) organised by them into our Faculty.

The Student Union of PPK has always included informing students about the opportunities in College for Advanced Students in their tasks, in which it is important to cooperate with Illyés Sándor College for Advanced Students. Besides informing students and organising the Faculty Days together, we would like to have an even stronger relationship with Illyés Sándor College for Advanced Students and organise more academic and social events for the students of PPK.

Teacher training

Our Faculty plays a highly complex role in our university's teacher training, that's why we would like to have as much information passed on to these students as possible. To be able to do so, cooperation with the Teacher Training Centre is essential.

Those students' studies who participate in the teacher training are organised and supervised by the Teacher Training Centre, together with the other faculties affected. The teacher training referent of the Student Union of PPK participates in the meetings of the Teacher Training Centre and of the Teacher Training Council. At these occasions they can directly learn about the cases and changes that concern the training and can represent the interest of the students during the working process.

Since the law of National Higher Education declared that the teacher training would be undivided again, the students who began their studies after 2012 are no longer based in our faculty. However, our faculty is still responsible for a significant part of their training and for their practice. Due to this our Student Union finds it important to keep in touch with those students who participate in this training and to keep them up-to-date about their studies at our Faculty.

We would like to invite children to PPK so that the prospective teachers and pedagogy major students could meet them before their practice. They could play and participate in projects together. We would like to accomplish this on the Faculty Days after agreeing on it with the teachers.

Student Welfare Committee

Social Support

One of the main tasks of a student union is providing social support for those students who came to a higher education institution from a disadvantaged background. For many, these scholarships ensure that they can cover the expenses that arise during their studies, thus we pay special attention to this subject. Starting from the Autumn semester, the scoring system of the application for regular social support has been standardized across the whole university. Thanks to this change, the often inconvenient differences between the faculties have ended. In connection with this, our further goal is to cooperate with the Egyetemi Hallgatói Szociális és Ösztöndíj Bizottság (University Students Social and Grant Committee) and together try to systematically regulate the scoring system in light of legislations and student requirements.

The integration of the extraordinary social support and the single public activity grant into the academic system is currently under way; this further simplifies the application process for students.

Cooperating with the Communication Committee is important for us. That is how we can keep informing students about upcoming opportunities. Telling students early about the upcoming application stages and changes regarding them remains one of our main objectives for the future. For this reason, starting from next semester we will have informative flyers spread out in the faculty buildings. These will cover social applications and other opportunities alike, listing the most important information and deadlines. With these, we are attempting to make the application platform even easier for students. Moreover, we plan to indicate all recent and up-to-date information related to our Committee on our website.

The Kari Ösztöndíj Bizottság (Faculty Scholarship Committee) was formed in the autumn semester and is mainly in charge of decisions over grant applications sent to the Student Union. We would like to keep up the constructive cooperation with the Committee, as well as help their work by evaluating incoming applications and finding solutions to arising challenges. We aim to maintain the cooperation and good relationship with the Egyetemi Hallgatói Szociális és Ösztöndíj Bizottság (University Students' Social and Grant Committee). In addition, we strive to actively participate in events and projects involving our faculty and Committee.

Dormitory Accommodation

We will continue to maintain our direct connection with the Kollégiumi Hallgatói Önkormányzat (Dormitory Student Union) and we plan to support their constructive and progressive initiatives. In addition, we would like to cherish our good relationship with the student committees of the member dormitories. On our website you will be able to find an annually updated archive of reviews about life and opportunities in the dormitories written by the PPK students living there.

Faculty Applications

Certain changes are under way regarding our Faculty applications. Hopefully by the start of the next semester students will be able to send in scientific, cultural and sport applications through Neptun. On the one hand, this is a much more convenient and easy way of applying for students, which allows them to see the whole process clearly, on the other hand this will also simplify the evaluation and decision process.

Moreover, we plan to revise the scoring system of the academic applications in order to give students optimal conditions for applying.

Our long term plans include the integration of the teaching assistance grant applications into Neptun, and thus all application procedures would happen through the academic system. This step would make the faculty applications even more transparent and simple since every different kind of application could be submitted electronically.

Equal opportunities

The new website of our Student Union is ready. One of our main priorities in the making of this was abolishing obstacles. We try to make it so that the online contents are accessible for every student. This is currently under development along with the translation of the website into English - a choice we made in consideration for our international students.

We continue to regard the accessibility of the interface for students with disabilities an important priority. That is why our goal is to have a smooth system where we pair them with temporary helpers until we can find them permanent ones. We hope to come up with a defined method for this purpose.

Last year we held the first 'Everybody helps Day' and the Charity Ball. Both events turned out successful so we would be happy if they became traditions. We will hold another 'Everybody helps' Day during the Faculty Days where we plan to provide the students with even more volunteer spots and opportunities. Besides this, one of our goals is to bring this event to a nation-wide level by having more and more universities participating in different cities. We have started a discussion about this with other institutions. Also, in early October we will have our second Charity Ball where we will again support a charity organization.

Besides our charity events we would also like to organize collection events twice per semester. We would collect different kinds of supplies and tools that are most important in the season for children and adults in need (for example school supplies in September). Again, we will take part in the Christmas present charity event of the ELTE Student Union as well, the collected presents will be donated to orphanages.

On our new website we have a new option called 'Job offers and volunteer opportunities' where we plan to list the contact information of several organizations that welcome students wishing to do volunteer work. We will keep the page regularly updated and try to cover as many fields as possible so that all students may find opportunities matching their interests. Moreover we would like to show job offers and traineeship opportunities that are interesting and relevant for students in all of our departments, thus helping them find work.

In the future we would like to put more emphasis on environment protection than before. Last semester we put up stickers in the faculty buildings that stressed the importance of energy saving. We got positive feedback on this project and so we plan to release more kinds of stickers calling for environmental consciousness and energy saving.

We would like our relationship with the Disabilities Coordinator of the Faculty to remain positive as we think it is of utmost importance for us to help each other with our jobs. We would also like to keep in continuous contact with the ELTE HÖK Esélyegyenlőségi Bizottság (ELTE Student Union Equal Opportunities Committee) and the equal opportunities

administrator of the ELTE Student Union besides assisting their organized projects and participating in their events.

Communication Committee

The main job of the Communication Committee is to provide immediate and accurate information on all events concerning students. This includes news and events regarding the department, the faculty, the university and even the country. Departmental facebook groups represent the bottom level of information flow where the most frequently asked questions are about social support and academics since those concerned are not always aware of who they can turn to with their problems. As a preventive measure, we would like to create a graphic that explains in the simplest way possible, just with the usual questions and figures, who the competent persons are in different fields. Moreover, we would like to select one student from each academic major of every class – a class representative – who would keep tabs on their group's activity and notify us when unanswered questions arise. Important dates shown in the facebook cover photos have helped students a lot thus they will remain.

Online faculty information should definitely be concentrated on the PPK Student Union's Facebook page and new web page. Since the Facebook page has more views, the web page's links should be shared there and attention should be drawn to the renewal of the Student Union's web page. Along with the new design, refreshing the web page's contents is essential therefore events concerning the faculty should be highlighted including advertising volunteer positions and work, keeping officer contacts up-to-date and highlighting programs of different areas (e.g. the Budapest Psychology Days, Everybody Helps Day, Faculty Days, Fit Night, Sport Night etc.). In the spirit of transparency, it is of high importance that the reports of the Chair, the records of the delegate assemblies and the mementos of the committee sittings are made available and be updated on the web page.

Furthermore, the Communication Committee feels it its duty to continuously monitor the opinions of the faculty's students which can nicely be achieved through the 'suggestion boxes' available both in off- and online forms. Surveys are also great means of collecting feedback and we would like to issue one monthly or in every other month so as to examine the expectations towards us. Our functioning can be best geared towards student needs by these results.

For quite some time, it has been on the agenda to start a newsletter highlighting cardinal information. Subscribers would receive the newest entries on the website in every two weeks or monthly. The most popular online contents are those Facebook and Instagram posts that boost PPK identity: the Ψ sign, the Little Prince, the PPK Around the World and the newly started #psziasztok which follows the life of a former or a present PPK student. These symbols and slogans are inspired to deepen the sense of belonging as students of different majors rarely have close interactions because of the distance between faculty buildings.

Decorating the basement hallway in KAZY would serve as an offline community building project, for which we could use the photos we have received so far and also, as a novelty, postcards from students currently studying abroad. We received numerous pieces for last year's photo contest so we would absolutely like to repeat it to boost faculty activity. „Green Calendars” that can already be found in the buildings of Kazinczy and Izabella street, are among the most important platforms of informing students making it imperative to put one up on BEAC as well so that those who have studies there can hear from the latest news and programs as soon as possible. It is also necessary to popularize the monthly issued faculty newspaper and to make students aware that the *Perspektíva* is open to publishing reports and articles written by any PPK student.

In the spirit of inter-faculty communication, we would like to continue cultivating a close cooperative relationship with the ELTE Student Union Communication Committee as well as maximally harnessing the opportunities provided by ELTE Online and ELTEvízió. In the light of what has been discussed, the Communication Committee has clearly made flow of information its top priority – it should be as fast as possible using as many channels as possible and doing so to fit the PPK attitude that has been established throughout the years.

Perspektíva

Besides the Student Council's posters and online platforms, our faculty paper, *PersPeKtíva* plays an important role in informing students. Since students get the most important new information mainly through our Facebook page, the new website and the planned newsletter, the paper's role has been shifting recently. We know that as far as sharing information goes, online platforms are faster and more efficient than a monthly published journal that is why *PersPerKtíva* has become more about entertainment and covering interesting topics than keeping people up-to-date with the most recent information.

We would like our columns to suit all of our readers' different tastes, so we always take into account the results of student surveys before each issue. The column called 'Érintő' includes reports about the events that happened the month before at the faculty and also news from the Student Council so it's important that the editor-in-chief and the committees work closely together. In our 'Szak-Mai' column we publish articles and interviews of a more professional standard, these cover topics that are relevant to the departments of our Faculty. In the future we would like to focus more on interviews, introducing professional specialists to the students and also co-operating with the Illyés Sándor Szakkollégium (Illyés Sándor College of Advanced Studies) and the Kortárs Segítők (Peer Support). Last year we managed to revive our 'Rise up' column which covers articles written in English by our ELUP and Erasmus students, or in case of unavailability, information about the different international opportunities. We would like to keep the good relationship with our international students and have even more of them regularly publish in the paper. From the 'Sport' column, students can learn about interesting

sports and read reports about sporting events. For this reason we would like to maintain our co-operation with BEAC, the university's sport institute.

Over the past months, the newspaper has been renewed in both its content and form. The new cover design better matches the overall PPK HÖK brand, and thanks to the article and picture arrangement, the newspaper is easier to read than ever before. We would like to meet the student's expectations not only in its content, but form as well. We aim at achieving this with the help of the above mentioned student survey, and by cooperating with editors in chief of other faculties at ELTE.

ELTE Press is the organization that unites chief editors of our faculties, ensures their professional growth, and creates opportunities for them to exchange knowledge, thus facilitating development of faculty newspapers. Therefore, it is vital for the editor in chief to participate on ELTE Press talks, project days and organized events.

Our plans involve a training to our journalists, with a main focus on team building, combined with some technical training. Since several people work on writing the articles, editing them, pagination, and cover design, the most convenient form of communication is by e-mail. However, this training would strengthen our personal ties, we would get to know each other. From a professional point of view, it would be beneficiary to assess the preliminary knowledge and interests of the staff. We also plan on transferring some essential knowledge about the editing process and time management.

PersPeKtíva would retain its dual online presence, so every issue would be available on the webpage, along with the paper's Facebook page. We would like the Facebook page to be more up-to-date, so we will be sharing various content more regularly to ensure that students get all the important information.

Organizing Committee

Events

Building an ideal environment for the student community life is considered the primary objective of the Organizing Committee. We plan on contributing to that goal by organizing and accomplishing a variety of events, so all students could find cultural, professional or sport-related events that they participate in with pleasure, therefore our goal is also to offer as many programs as possible. In order to ensure the proper spread of information we cooperate with the Communication Committee. Building an atmosphere that makes the students of PPK proud of being a part of it is considered an important task.

In the future a wider partnership will be developed that is much needed, which is creating a closer cooperation with other faculties of ELTE.

Culture

Besides scientific events there's a demand for faculty cultural programs. The most popular program in the series of cultural events is the PPQuiz. With regard to the success, organizing this event stays in our future plans. We hope to make our Slam poetry, Board-game night and Gastro events traditional in the future. These programs provide enjoyable pastime for the lovers of contemporary literature as well as for those in need of organized community events and for gastro maniacs. We are motivated by our past experiences to go on with our current programs, and plan new ones based on student's needs. To advance cultural life, calling for tenders is among our plans, this could be for example a photo tender or any other art competition linked to our faculty's history, present and future.

Traditional events

One of our most important task is to involve freshmen in the community and to create a common identity for students at PPK. The first and maybe the most important step towards this aim is the freshman camp. We have successfully overcome the obstacles that occurred in the past few years. Thanks to this the Freshman Week is a subject to increasing inquiry. During the Freshman Week we provide an interactive tour to introduce our faculty, furthermore accomplishing for the first time in the last year, an organised registration in groups which is a big ease for the freshmen.

Our faculty and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME VIK) have been cultivating a great relationship for years. The Freshman Ball is a result of this relationship, and has been a very popular event for the past few years. Furthermore, we propose to redesign the Midterm Ball held in honor of students who are halfway through their studies, to be a formal event anew, and we hope that this initiative will be supported.

The Faculty Days play a major role in the community life of students. Continuing this tradition we already started the preparations for this years'. Several Committees work together for the stake of success. The prime goal is to attract a great number of participants and to provide them great memories.

Certainly, our fundamental motivation is the constant advancement, for which our main source is the more and more efficient feedback-system. Through this practice participants' recommendations regarding our programs are gathered to utilize the acquired experiences in the shaping of future events.

Animators

In organizing and accomplishing the programs described above, we especially count on the help of the Animators, both in providing human resources and ideas. We are delighted by the fact that this semester nearly 80 new animators will be inaugurated. Adequate education is essential for the animators to take part in the events and programs. Ensuring this our animator training's main framework is constantly enriched with those elements that can be practical in everyday life simultaneously. The positive feedback concerning the changes effected last semester encourage us in the direction of renewal. The Animators organize and support the different community-building and self-developmental initiatives in the group like the dines, themed team-buildings and collaborations with the veteran animators. Regarding the future of the Animators important changes are outlined, which is hoped to exhilarate the foregoing exemplary activity of the association.

The members created project groups on their own initiative to find the most adequate solutions to occurring topics. For example the structure of the group is a concern now owing to the ever growing number of members or to find the most efficient cooperation between members of different years. The delineated changes are principally mid- and long-term concepts, but conjointly serves interest of the animator group.

Sports

In improving sports life, we would like to continue our cooperation with the ELTE Student Union, and besides providing the workforce, we would also like to increase the number of PPK students participating in sport activities. As part of the programs promoting PPK, we would like to include Quidditch, a unique sport of our faculty, which will be redesigned this year. We would also like to widen the repertoire of not active sport events. This year we already organized a series of event named Sporty Events [Sportos (t)estek] where professionals in sport and sportsmen give lectures for those who are interested. This semester we are also planning to continue the „Aiming 101” championship, where teams would compete every month in different sports (table football, darts, and pool).

With these events we provide mental and physical recreation for our students so that everyone can find the area most suitable for their personality. To promote this, it is our goal to provide extensive information for students regarding the recreational activities available in the university and at the faculty.

Committee of Foreign Affairs

The Committee on Foreign Affairs puts increasing emphasis on the mobility of PPK students and the internationalisation of the faculty. In order to realize these goals, we need to organise events and activities which foster the relations between foreign and Hungarian students, facilitate the engagement of foreign students in the professional and social life of the university, as well as increase Hungarian students' interest in mobility.

Internationalisation

In the spirit of transparency and accessibility, the university website for international students will soon be ready, with the help of which both incoming and outgoing students can access a more structured amount of information. Thereafter, there will be an even bigger demand for the content available in Hungarian to be translated to English. This includes expanding the repertoire of various scientific events, such as courses taught in English. We would like to achieve this in cooperation with the Academic Committee. It is important to mention the opportunity of foreign students to participate in TDK (Academic Conference of Students), which now accepts entry works in English as well.

Various public functions at our faculty (e.g. representative, delegate) are open to international students as well, but for this, it would be essential to translate documents about public activities on our website. By achieving this, the role of international students would be bigger, thus hopefully improving the quality of education and cooperation between HÖK and foreign students. The committee considers it its responsibility to translate content relevant to international students in the spirit of transparency and accessibility.

Moreover, restarting the international column in *PersPeKtíva* (the faculty newspaper) is in progress. To help this initiative, every issue features an article in English written by international students about actualities. An important goal in the coming period is the retention and expansion of this column by involving other topics and new authors.

International students

Incoming international students spend three-five years here in Hungary, yet based on our experience, they often do not get to know their surroundings at the university and they rarely form professional cooperation with either foreign or Hungarian students.

The representative system, founded in October 2015, makes a significant contribution to making our relationship with international students more dynamic, and helping them communicate with the Faculty and the Student Union. In the representative system there are two chosen students from each year who meet the colleagues of the Student Union and of the Faculty regularly to discuss the most important changes in the educational system, social and other issues that can effect the everyday lives of international students. The subjects that usually come up among others are the matter of internship during Master's Degree, the steps

that were taken in order to try and reduce the amount of cheating during exams, but also ideas that can help the orientation of international students such as the creation of a Frequently Asked Questions section on the website. The highlighted goal of the forthcoming period is to make the involvement of the representatives better and more efficient in social life and to encourage the communication with them on behalf of both the Faculty and the Student Union.

Having taken all these factors into consideration, involvement in the community is essential for international students. That is why it is important to provide them opportunities to show up and take part not just in the events organised for Hungarian students (e.g. here in Faculty Days), but also organise programs for first year students in cooperation with the representatives that establish a good relationship and encourage them to be part of the social life at the university. The Welcome Event, taking place in September can be a good start for this. We would like to organise it in cooperation with the representatives and it would facilitate the integration of arriving ELUP students. Besides that, the basis of a good relationship would be the international mentor system, in which international students from higher years would mentor fellow first year students. In the mentor system the mentors would help them take care of their educational issues, find an accommodation and fit into the community. In order to reach the latter goal, priority would be given to the organisation of events on which both international mentors and mentees would be able to participate, maybe get to know the special venues and the culture of Budapest better or meet fellow Erasmus students or ESN mentors as well.

We think professional activity should also play an important role besides social involvement. Presentations and work-shops organized by ESN mentors mostly for our international students could give great opportunities for the furthering of professional cooperation. These professionally inspiring events would usually take place once a month. Holding conferences in English that are open to everybody is another one of our ideas on how to stimulate professional activity. We planned one of our main goals for the next stage in this vein, and it is a conference co-organized with the University of Utrecht. In a sense this would be a continuation of the 2015 Utrecht-Budapest exchange program and it would provide Hungarian and international students with a platform for professional activity.

Motivating for mobility

In terms of increasing student mobility, it is essential that we at the university cherish our existing exchange connections while trying to establish new ones. In this light, the exchange relations built last year with Groningen and Utrecht and in 2015-2016 with Nijmegen should be kept strong since these are opportunities for PPK students to experience life on a campus abroad - even if only for a week. In our experience, this inspires many of them to prolong their time spent abroad and perhaps apply for an Erasmus+ grant or join the mentor group.

It might be worthwhile to start from our already established Erasmus partnerships and aim to build new ones. This could grant our students the opportunity to travel to Germany, France, Spain or even Italy.

To facilitate mobility, we will hold the Külügyi Börze (International Fair) again in the autumn semester and Erasmus7 just before the Erasmus application period in the Spring semester. It seems like there is a demand for a pre-exchange training which would mainly deal with the most important obligations after arriving abroad while on Erasmus. We would like to have the assistance of former Erasmus students in this, who could provide useful insight and tips for the students who just got the scholarship.

In general there is a need for spreading more information about the Erasmus programme and other opportunities; this could be satisfied by a new Erasmus+ webpage, prize competitions, information days and other platforms where the Committee of Foreign Affairs could appear.

Cooperation

ESN ELTE is responsible for mentoring foreign students at our university so a close cooperation between them and the Committee is unquestionably important, but after ESN ELTE became an official association, its relationship with the Student Union (HÖK) has changed. Regarding this, an Agreement of Cooperation was created between the Student Union and ESN ELTE. The principle of this agreement is the mutual collaboration.

In conjunction with the faculty's chief mentor, the Committee thinks that keeping a close and positive relationship between the two organizations is important. The guideline for this upcoming period would be nurturing and improving this cooperation.

The Committee of Foreign Affairs would like to contribute to keeping up the positive and cooperative atmosphere within ELTE's Student Union, especially in topics concerning other committees such as the Communication Committee or the Academic Committee.

And last but not least, our future goal is to strengthen the cooperation with the Department of International Education and Mobility and the Committee of Foreign Affairs of Students of ELTE to ensure the seamless flow of information about international matters and making the Committee of Foreign Affairs work better by adopting each others' best practices.

Economic Committee

The fund management of the ELTE Student Council has been allocated from a centralized budget in 2014, which provided the Economic Committee with a kind of security and accountability. This was advantageous to the faculty in multiple ways, however, at the university level, centralized management, and contact with numerous departments brought lots of bureaucratic processes with it, which slowed administration down significantly.

Last year, both the faculty and university life has seen multiple changes. One of the most important events was the introduction of a chancellery system, the role of which is to control the financial management of the institution, thus closely affecting Student Unions. This system requires both parties to cooperate more efficiently and to be more transparent in their administration.

Another significant change concerning the management of our Union is the introduction of a sub-council level management, which is based on resource-allocation. The core element of this system are accurate and authentic data indicators (number of regular/evening/correspondence students, post gradual students, freshmen), which provide the base for resource-distribution. The source-allocation model has been developed by the members of the Economic Committee of ELTE Student Union, over the course of several months. According to our calculations, this will allow us to function on a lower budget, but we hope that because of the sub-council level management, conducting public procurements will be more streamlined, efficient and transparent.

Since September 2015, there is a new post to be filled in the Economic Committee. This post is occupied by the Economic Board member. Tasks of the Board member include cooperation with the president of the Economic Committee, job sharing, assisting each other's work, managing custom tenders, requesting bids for expenditures, and last but not least, preparing certificates of completion.

It remains an important goal of ours to improve transparency. Our new webpage will be completed shortly, which will create an easily accessible, user-friendly and understandable interface. According to the results of the student survey from last year, a majority of students would like to have more insight to the inner workings of the Student Council and its management. Therefore, we would like to make the Council's annual, last year's, and next year's planned budgets, year-end financial statements and the method of distribution of the available resources available to the public. The new webpage will feature the roles of the members of the Economic Committee, and an info graphic about the resource-allocation model, so that those interested can further immerse themselves in economic matters concerning our faculty. These measures would further increase our transparency, through which we would like to achieve our goal of strengthening the trust amongst the students towards the Student Union.

We put great emphasis on the freshman activities which the Economic Committee helps organize every year. Our objective is to keep their high quality and good tone, therefore we started organizing as early as January this year. We rely on the experience we gained in previous years, so we can improve our events based on the feedbacks we received. Every August, freshmen and 70 organizers make the 5-day Freshman Camp a reality. On Freshman Week, which takes place in September and is our second most important activity, we show the University, the faculty and its community to our new students in a playful and cost-effective way.

Our publications remain an important part of our budget, so we would like to put the same emphasis on them as in previous years. We publish our Faculty newspaper, *PersPeKtíva* three times in a semester, in co-operation with the editor in chief. Like last year, we plan on releasing *Kazyinfo*, our publication aimed at freshmen to provide them with essential information concerning their first academic year. Another one of our publications is *Tudományperspektíva* (scientific journal), which is edited from the scientific research papers of students of our Faculty and gives publication opportunity for Hungarian and international students as well. In cooperation with the Academic Committee, we will publish *Pályaképünk* ('Our Career Perspectives'), which is a source of reliable information for high school students about our faculty.

We would like to participate in the *Educatio* exhibition, where visitors (prospective students) can get extensive information about ELTE PPK. In order to popularize our faculty, this year we handed out green apples, stickers and pens to visitors. Next year, fridge magnets, card holders and other creative products are planned. Last year we had the opportunity to order various PR products, and we would like to keep this trend in the future.

Due to popular demand in previous years, we introduced our very own PPK brand with the help of *Eötvös Pont*. Students now have the possibility to purchase PPK products; since last year, PPK t-shirts and hoodies are on sale in the shop at Kazinczy Street. We plan on adding more gift items to our supply, to help strengthen the faculty identity.

Furthermore, we are preparing for our Open Day in January. As in previous years, this year's event was incredibly successful and up to par, with over 800 visitors. Each year lots of prospective students come to look around, and we consider it our responsibility to give them detailed insight and professional information about our faculty, in the form of sample lessons.

Information about our University is also available at *ELTE Feszt*, which has been organized for the third time this year. *ELTE Feszt* is basically a university-wide open day, where applicants can gain insight into the lives of different faculties through interesting lectures. At the daylong event, the college for advanced studies, the Student Union, and civil groups from our university present all the research, innovation, culture, sport and lively social life that our institution offers. For each of the aforementioned events, we prepare informative materials, publications and PR products.

We are planning important updates concerning our office machinery. A renewal or replacement of our devices is long overdue, to ensure the best possible work environment for our representatives for maximum efficiency. The public procurement process has already started, however it takes a very long time, and several bureaucratic procedures make it challenging for us to be up-to-date in procurement issues. We hope this issue will be resolved shortly, and with the help of modern equipment, we can serve the interest of our students more efficiently.

Last, but not least, we are confident that we will be able to work in close cooperation with the Economic Committee of the University Student Union, as it happened in the previous year. The PPK Student Union actively participates in the year-round work of the University Student Union, and the meetings at the National Conference of Student Unions. Our Union is represented with an ever-growing number of representatives at the conference, from which they always bring back useful experiences and innovative ideas.

Summary

The previously described field-specific programs all aim at helping the students' lives at our faculty, easing their study administration procedures and regularly informing them about the different available support systems. We find it important to offer them leisure activities –such as cultural, academic and entertaining programs- beside their studies and classes. Our team of candidates is devoted to achieving the above mentioned goals, and they are motivated and prepared to face the challenges they may face in the coming year.

We would like to ask our fellow students to support us with their votes, so that we can make our ideas and program a reality.

Thank you for your trust!

Budapest, 30.03.2016.

Melinda Baranyai

Student Union President Candidate

ELTE PPK