





UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA

Universitas Latviensis – University of Latvia – was founded on September 28 1919 as one of the symbols of the Republic of Latvia that itself as an independent state was founded only a few months earlier – at the end of 1918, on November 18. From the very beginning, it is written in the coat of arms of the University – “*Scientiae et patriae*” – to science and to fatherland. The motto emphasizes that the University of Latvia always has been a research university and sees research as an integrated part of the education process at the University. Of course, it does not mean that everybody who graduates from the University of Latvia necessarily becomes a professor at a higher education institution or a scientist at a research institute. We simply think that participation in a real research project – basic or applied – is the most efficient way to train students. Besides, the common wisdom of the Western world proves that university research is the most efficient way to generate new knowledge, which is a driving force behind the knowledge-based economy.



This approach has proved itself as very fruitful, and graduates from the University of Latvia always have played a crucial role in the country. Many intellectuals, scientists, leaders of industry and financial institutions, as well as heads of the parliament, prime ministers and members of the cabinet of ministers are graduates of the University of Latvia.

Presently the University of Latvia is a guarantee for the development of Latvia. University integrates diverse fields of research and studies with creative initiative to provide higher education of a European standard, to cultivate the Latvian language and traditions of cultural cooperation.

With 13 faculties, 20 research institutes and 24 000 students, currently the University of Latvia is the largest university in the Baltic states, and the only classical type university in Latvia. It is lead by a distinguished academic staff. The University provides education in social sciences, humanities, sciences and medicine at all levels – starting from bachelor studies up to the doctoral level, including vocational and professional training in many fields.

Vision has guided the development of the University of Latvia through the past decades. It still makes it a vibrant place to study, to do research and to work. Welcome to the University of Latvia.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mārcis Auziņš'.

Prof. Mārcis Auziņš
Rector

UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA

The University of Latvia, named at that time “The Higher School of Latvia”, was founded on September 28, 1919, on the basis of the former Rīga Polytechnic (founded in 1862). In 1923 the school received its present name – the University of Latvia (*Universitas Latviensis*).

In the period between 1919 and 1940, the University of Latvia was the greatest centre of higher education, science and culture. The former building of the Rīga Polytechnic in 19 Raiņa bulv. serves as the symbol of the University until today.

In the pre-war years, it was possible to obtain academic higher education not only at the University of Latvia but also at the Conservatoire of Latvia and the Academy of Arts.

The University of Latvia is the first of classical universities in the history of Latvia and follows the motto “*Scientiae et Patriae*”.

In the course of time, such higher education establishments as Latvian University of Agriculture, Latvian Academy of Medicine, Rīga Technical University separated from the University of Latvia and became well-known centres of education and research.

When Latvia regained freedom, the Supreme Council of the Republic of Latvia confirmed the Constitution of the University of Latvia on September 18, 1991.

It stated that the University is “a state establishment of academic education, science and culture which serves the needs of Latvia and its people”. Alongside with the constitution, the flag, the anthem, the University’s emblem, the Rector’s chain of office and the official garments of Rector, Vice-Rector and deans were reinstated as attributes of the University of Latvia.



MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Latvia is a guarantee for the development of Latvia. The University integrates diverse fields of research and studies with creative initiative to provide higher education of a European standard, to cultivate the Latvian language and traditions of cultural cooperation.

UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA IN FIGURES (2008)

The year of foundation	1919
Number of faculties	13
Research institutes	17
Independent study centres	10
Number of full-time students	15 429
Number of part-time students	7 849

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The University of Latvia pays great attention to the development of international collaboration in order to promote international identification and to strengthen the reputation of the University.

The University of Latvia always has been active in international collaboration. Nowadays the objective is to focus on the content and quality of international cooperation in order to make internationalization a balanced element of education and research.



The internationalization processes take place in the following areas:

- ♦ **bilateral cooperation agreements** (with 66 universities in 27 countries);
- ♦ membership in international **university organizations** and **networks**;
- ♦ participation in international **educational and research programmes** and **projects**;
- ♦ **exchange** of students and teachers;
- ♦ **international cooperation** at faculty, institute, department and individual level.

By participation in international university organizations and active membership in networks such as EUA (The European University Association), UNICA (Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe), BSRUN (Baltic Sea Region University Network), CAMPUS EUROPAE, and UTRECHT Network, the University of Latvia strives to intensify different types of exchange and to provide the opportunities to internationalize studies and research.

Active participation in bilateral partnership agreements and European programmes has promoted active cooperation in the ERASMUS programme. The number of agreements with European partner universities has grown tremendously within the last 5 years, anticipating an even more intensive exchange of students and teachers. At present the University of Latvia has signed more than 350 agreements with 235 institutions in 30 European countries. In cooperation with partner universities, the University of Latvia has developed and successfully implemented two intensive programmes in History and Education.



The University of Latvia has become an attractive place to study both for full time students and exchange students from abroad. The number of available programmes and courses in English increases every year. We are glad that the faculties are active in involving visiting professors in the study process.

Cooperation in research has also been very active and productive. Participation in the 5th and 6th RTD Framework Programmes, EU, UNESCO, NATO, Nordic, Volkswagen Fund projects has ensured unity of studies and research, and has allowed to develop Centres of Excellence, e.g. UNESCO Biomedical Research and Study Centre, EU Solid State Physics Institute, EU Institute of Physics, and EU Institute of Atomic Physics and Spectroscopy, UNESCO department at the Institute for Environmental Studies and Management, as well as Jean Monnet Chair.

Over recent years, emphasis has been placed on institutional and departmental management. Several projects have provided many ideas for further restructuring of educational administration and a new institutional administrative structure.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

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Home page: <http://www.lu.lv/eng/international/>



FACULTY OF BIOLOGY

Dean: *Dr. biol.* Uldis KONDRATOVIČS

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The University of Latvia has been training biologists since its foundation in 1919.

Study programmes focus on systematics of lower and higher plants, phytosociology, ecology of terrestrial ecosystems, bioindication of environmental quality and biometrics.

Scientific and pedagogical activities take place in cooperation with laboratories and research institutes both in Latvia and abroad.

Graduates of the faculty will be able to apply their expertise in the following fields:

- ♦ educational institutions
- ♦ research institutes
- ♦ environmental control and supervision offices
- ♦ enterprises dealing with manufacturing of food and pharmaceuticals
- ♦ waste water and waste recovery agencies and other state institutions or private companies.

Furthermore, The Botanical Garden of the University of Latvia closely cooperates with the faculty.

The faculty's traditional annual event is called "The Night of Biologists". It takes place in autumn either in Rīga or in the countryside.



FACULTY OF CHEMISTRY

Dean: *Dr. chem.* Jānis ŠVIRKSTS

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Rīga, LV-1013, Latvia

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The Faculty of Chemistry is a centre of academic and professional education in chemistry. Study programmes are based on inorganic, organic, physical and analytical chemistry. Moreover, students have much opportunity to participate in research work and cooperate with foreign universities and institutes.



By the number of students, the Faculty of Chemistry is one of the smallest faculties of the University of Latvia. However, it provides a wide range of entertainment and sports activities and has developed many traditions.

At the end of May, "The Chemists' Days" are organized. They last for 3 days and are based on traditional and untraditional sports activities and outdoor picnics. Basically, it is a celebration of the end of the semester.

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

Dean: *Dr. oec.* Māris PURGAILIS
Dean's office: Aspazijas bulv. 5,
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Home page: <http://www.evf.lu.lv>

The Faculty of Economics and the Faculty of Finance and Trade merged in 1992 to become the Faculty of Economics; but in 1997, the Faculty of Economics and the Faculty of Business Administration and Economic Informatics merged to give rise to the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration.



The Faculty of Economics and Management is the largest faculty of the University of Latvia. The faculty offers studies and scientific research in the field of economics and management which correspond to the contemporary needs of Latvia. Studies focus on field practice.

Each year the Faculty of Economics and Management organizes several international conferences and seminars in cooperation with universities of France, Germany, Canada, the USA, Israel and others.

The faculty offers several options of recreation after the lectures, for instance, making acquaintances with exchange students, participating in the work of student organization AISEC, sports activities.

INSTITUTES OF FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT

INSTITUTE OF NATIONAL ECONOMY

Director: *Dr. econ.* Roberts ŠKAPARS
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The main directions of the research are development problems of the national economy, entrepreneurship, fiscal policy, banking, credit problems, and taxes.

INSTITUTE OF MARKETING AND QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Director: *Dr. h. econ.* Valērijs PRAUDE
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The main directions of research are marketing, quality management, logistics and consumer behaviour.

INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND MANAGEMENT

Director: *Dr. h. paed.* Raimonds ERNŠTEINS
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The aim of the institute is to train qualified environment professionals which could use system analysis in solving the problems of environment quality. The main research fields are environmental management, system analysis, sustainable coastal development, environmental communication, pedagogy, impact assessment and theory of environmental sciences.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY

Dean: *Dr. phys.* Andris KANGRO
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Home page: <http://www.ppf.lu.lv>

The Faculty of Education and Psychology was founded in 1982.

Its most characteristic features are continuous development and improvement in all its aspects: new programmes, flexibility, international cooperation, wide and varied research activities, as well as preservation of the environment around the faculty.

The faculty cooperates with colleagues in Latvia and abroad and takes part in national and international projects.

The faculty offers teacher education programmes in pedagogy and psychology, education sciences, education management, and art.



INSTITUTES OF FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

Director: *Dr. phys.* Andris KANGRO
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The main research fields are management of education, international comparative educational studies, and educational evaluation and measurements.

SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE OF PEDAGOGY

Director: *Dr. h. paed.* Irina MASLO
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Research fields

- ◆ Development of social and professional competences in the context of life-long learning
- ◆ Research methodology for promotion of learning quality in children and youth by life-long learning
- ◆ Preparation of teachers that promote intercultural learning
- ◆ Multilinguistics and the new ICT in professional activities
- ◆ A pedagogical approach to diversity in education

FACULTY OF GEOGRAPHY AND EARTH SCIENCES

Dean: *Dr. geog.* Oļģerts NIKODEMUS
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The Faculty of Geography and Earth Sciences provides studies in 4 fields of science – environmental sciences, geography, geology and spatial planning.

The faculty also is a centre for research in these fields.

The faculty boasts an active student council, which organizes social life and parties and develops new traditions. Students of the faculty are known for their close ties and camaraderie, therefore they are called “The Mafia of Geography”.



FACULTY OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

Dean: *Dr. hist.* Gvido STRAUBE
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The Faculty of History and Philosophy was founded in 1970.

The faculty offers academic **Bachelor's** and **Master's** study programmes in philosophy and history.

In 2001, the faculty established an original web site <http://www.historia.lv/>. Its basic idea is to provide wide and well-structured information about the history of Latvia.



FACULTY OF LAW

Dean: *Dr. iur.* Kristīne STRADA-ROZENBERGA
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Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia
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The Faculty of Law was founded in 1970. At present the faculty offers academic study programmes in law, which provide basic and extended theoretical knowledge of law.

The faculty has its own student council. All students from the Faculty of Law are kindly welcomed to share their opinions and organize common activities.



INSTITUTES OF FACULTY OF LAW

INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Acting Director: *Dr. iur.* Artūrs KUČS
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The Institute of Human Rights of the Faculty of Law was established in 1995.

The three main **policy goals** of the institute are:

- ♦ to prepare a new generation of scholars and experts in matters of human rights;
- ♦ to support the research carried out by national-level experts on issues of human rights by involving them into the institute's activities;
- ♦ to offer the possibility for the relevant state authorities to consult local experts.

The research fields of the Institute of Human Rights are:

- ♦ conformity of national legislation to the international human rights standards;
- ♦ implementation of European Human Rights Convention in Latvia;
- ♦ integration of minorities into the society of Latvia.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Dean: *Dr. habil. med.* Ingrīda RUMBA
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The Faculty of Medicine was founded in 1919 and existed up to 1950, when following the government's orders, the faculty was separated from the University.

After 47 years, the Faculty of Medicine was reinstated at the University of Latvia in 1998.

Study programmes in the Faculty of Medicine include pharmacology, surgery, microbiology, venereology, histology, oncology, paediatrics, pathology, genetics, biochemistry and history of medicine.

Lectures and clinical practice classes take place in several hospitals, maternity homes and health centres.



FACULTY OF MODERN LANGUAGES

Dean: *Dr. philol.* Edgars OŠIŅŠ
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This faculty offers to study French, English and German philology, and Asian and Oriental studies.

Students of the Faculty of Modern Languages participate in exchange programmes with the universities in Europe, Asia and North America, as well as in international conferences.

In cooperation with the student council, students organize several competitions and events. The Faculty of Modern Languages also offers to attend international film evenings.



INSTITUTE OF FACULTY OF MODERN LANGUAGES

ASIAN STUDIES INSTITUTE

Acting Director: *Dr. h. philol.* Viktors IVBULIS

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Research fields

- ♦ Modern Chinese and teaching methods, classical Chinese literature and art
- ♦ Modern Japanese and teaching methods
- ♦ The religions of the Middle East and Southeast Asia.

FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY AND ARTS

Dean: *Dr. philol.* Ausma CIMDIŅA

Dean's office: Visvalža iela 4a,

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Home page: <http://www.lu.lv/filol>

The faculty offers study programmes of Baltic, Classical and Russian Philology.

Every year, the Student Council of the faculty organizes a photo competition "Photo Phoscar". A novelty is the acoustic music and poetry evenings, where new groups perform and young poets read their rhymes.

Graduates of the faculty will be able to work in the following fields or professions:

- ♦ literature and folklore institutes;
- ♦ schools and institutions of higher education;
- ♦ translators/language professionals in Latvian, Lithuanian, Greek and Russian;
- ♦ translation agencies, terminology centres;
- ♦ the mass media, publishing houses and advertising companies.



FACULTY OF PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS

Dean: *Dr. phys.* Leonīds BULĪGINS

Dean's office: Raiņa bulv. 19, Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia

Phone: +371 67033706

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Home page: <http://www.fizmati.lv>



The Faculty of Physics and Mathematics offers studies of physics, mathematics, optometry and computer science. The research focuses on the development of nuclear and molecular physics, spectroscopy, laser physics and biomedical optics.

The faculty cooperates with other universities and science centres. It also participates in international projects to share and achieve new knowledge.

The student council of the faculty organizes sports events, intellectual activities and parties, as well as the well-known *Fizmatu dienas* (The days of the students of physics and mathematics).

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dean: *Dr. paed.* Inta BRIKŠE
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The Faculty of Social Sciences was established in 2000 and is the newest faculty of the University of Latvia. The faculty offers studies in information and library sciences, communication, politics and sociology.

The tutors are renown Latvia's experts in the fields of communication studies, politics and sociology.

Students of the Faculty of Social Sciences are always active and adventurous. The Student Council organizes international conferences and meetings and helps students to deal with various academic issues.

Traditions which are already in place include the "Faculty Days", the Christmas party, a series of charity events, and a sports festival which invites to participate each and every "resident" of the faculty.

INSTITUTE OF FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

ADVANCED SOCIAL AND POLITICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Director: *Dr. sc. pol.* Nils MUIŽNIEKS
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At the institute, research is conducted in communication sciences, information and library sciences, politics, sociology, regional development in Latvia, Latvia and international affairs, particularly the Baltic Sea region, democracy, minorities and culture.



FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

Dean: *Dr. theol.* Ralfs KOKINS
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The Faculty of Theology was founded in 1920. Nowadays it is the only academic institution in Latvia which offers study programmes in theology with a teacher's qualification.

As a student of the faculty, you will have at your disposal the most extensive library of theological literature in the Baltic states.

Although the faculty cooperates with many denominations, it is an independent institution.

The Faculty of Theology cooperates with other universities, which permits student exchange and participation in research projects.



RIGA GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LAW

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Approaching its 10th anniversary, the Rīga Graduate School of Law (RGSL) has established itself firmly in academic and professional circles both in Latvia and abroad. The growth is evident through the changing profile of the school, which is becoming more dynamic with the introduction of new programmes and taking part in different European study projects.

The programmes are geared towards market demand, offering students relevant knowledge required in the public and private sectors as well as international organizations. Master's study programmes focus on international and European law, finance and legal linguistics.

The aim is to provide students with the necessary skills to benefit effectively from the experience gained at the RGSL within any domain they choose.

Getting to know people from different societies and cultures opens the door to new perspectives and develops enduring networks of alumni who practice throughout the world.

Senior staff at RGSL consists of experienced law professors, with academic and teaching experience from various countries.



DOCTORAL DEGREE

The University of Latvia offers two post-graduate courses: full-time doctoral studies (3 years) and part-time doctoral studies (4 years). The objective is to promote scientific research of the students who have Master's degree or a corresponding academic degree. Doctoral studies are offered in 24 study programmes.

Post-graduate students from both Latvia and abroad attend the doctoral studies.

Home page: <http://www.lu.lv/eng/studies/doctoral.html>

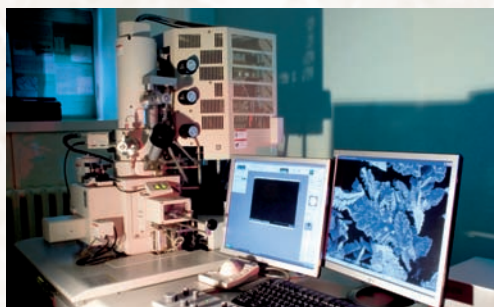
RESEARCH INSTITUTES-AGENCIES

INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGY

Director: *Dr. biol.* Viesturs MELĒCIS
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Home page: www.lubi.edu.lv

The institute cooperates with the Faculty of Biology and the Faculty of Geography and Earth Sciences.

The main research areas are Latvia's natural resources, their rational use, environmental and ecological problems, nature protection, and studies of the life processes and biological productivity of plants and animals.



INSTITUTE OF HISTORY OF LATVIA

Director: *Dr. hist.* Guntis ZEMĪTIS
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The research activities of the Institute of History of Latvia focus on history, archaeology, ethnology, anthropology and dendrochronology.

Major research fields include the prehistory of Latvia and the ethnic and cultural history of the inhabitants of Latvia in prehistory and medieval times, as well as the ethnic history of the Baltic states, the 20th century history of Latvia, traditional way of living and customs of the Latvian people, and cultural-historical studies on Rīga.



INSTITUTE OF LITERATURE, FOLKLORE AND ART

Director: *Dr. phil.* Benedikts KALNAČS
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Major research fields include the history of Latvian literature, theory of Latvian literature, Latvian folklore, Latvian theatre and musicology.

Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art fosters academic culture development in Latvia. It also popularizes Latvian culture at home as well as abroad.



INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Director: *Dr. h. sc. comp.*
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The institute was established in 1959 as a computing centre.

The main directions of research are: theoretical computer science, system modelling and design, computer networks, differential equations – ordinary and partial, theory of optimal control of partial differential equations, and mathematical modelling of physical processes.

Apart from research, the institute has always been involved in commercial software development.

The institute is one of the largest internet service providers in Latvia (LATNET).



INSTITUTE OF PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIOLOGY

Director: *Dr. h. phil.* Maija KŪLE
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Research fields

- ♦ The history of philosophical, cultural and religious ideas in Latvia and studies of the Latvian national and cultural identity and their processes
- ♦ The history of Western philosophy and studies of contemporary European philosophical trends (phenomenology, hermeneutics, pragmatism, philosophical anthropology, analytical philosophy, psychoanalysis, axiology, feminism); Latvian translations of Old Greek philosophical texts and contemporary Western European philosophical texts
- ♦ Analysis of the social structure of society: changes of the social structure in Latvia, regional development, labour market, the sociological characteristics of families and women, oral history, political sociology

INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS

Director: *Dr. phys.* Jānis FREIBERGS
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The Institute of Physics of University of Latvia is recognized as one of the oldest and largest worldwide centres in the field of fundamental and applied magneto-hydrodynamics research.

The main research areas are hydromechanics and magneto-hydrodynamics (MHD), physics of magnetic phenomena, engineering physics, heat and mass transfer and hydromechanics.

The extensive experience of the Institute of Physics in the field of liquid metal media, the appropriate experimental equipment and developed specific methods and procedures of measurements in molten metals and alloys allow to perform physical and numerical simulations of different technological processes in order to work out new original MHD methods for controlling the hydrodynamic and heat/mass transfer characteristics of melts in metallurgy and single crystal growth from the melt.

The Institute of Physics carries out complex investigations. Numerous versions of electromagnetic pumps and other specific devices for alloy transport, stirring, pouring, and conditioning have been developed for ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, for the technologies of composite material production and growth of semiconductor single crystals and so on.

The Institute of Physics also publishes its own journal – the “Magneto-hydrodynamics” is a quarterly journal published since 1965. The journal deals with problems of fundamental and applied magneto-hydrodynamics of incompressible media, including magnetic fluids. The journal is renowned worldwide. Since 2001, it is published only in English.

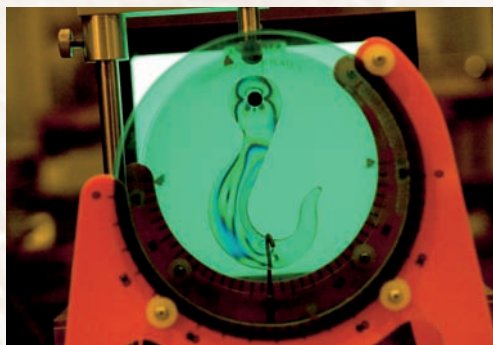


INSTITUTE OF POLYMER MECHANICS

Director: *Dr. h. sc. ing.* Juris JANSONS
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Research fields

- ◆ Theoretical and experimental studies of deformation and fracture of materials
- ◆ Mechanics of composite structure, numerical estimation methods and optimization
- ◆ Prediction of long-term deformation and strength of materials, effect of environmental factors on their exploitation properties
- ◆ Non-destructive methods for testing the physical and mechanical properties of materials
- ◆ Rheology of filled and reinforced polymer composite materials; study of physical and mechanical properties



INSTITUTE OF SOLID STATE PHYSICS

Director: *Dr. h. phys.* Andris ŠTERNBERGS
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Home page: <http://www.cfi.lu.lv>

The Institute of Solid State Physics is presently Latvia's largest research centre in the field of material physics and in the related cross-disciplinary fields.

The institute can provide students with hands-on experience in modern research methods and gives them the opportunity to obtain PhD degrees. The numerous international contracts of the institute's research groups widen the spectrum of opportunities available to students.



ISSP is the co-ordinator of the national research programme of Latvia for materials science and participates in the national research programme for energy; it also receives a number of national grants and participates in research co-operation projects.

The institute is involved in ERANET Materials (MATERA), a member of the MIND Network of Excellence (Piezo Institute), participant of STREP project 'X-TIP' and the 'Green Rose' project, as well as of a number of other collaborative projects.

Research fields

- ◆ Studies of electronic and ionic processes in wide-gap materials with different degree of structural ordering
- ◆ Processing of surfaces of inorganic materials – single crystals, ceramic glasses and thin films thereof, and nano-structured surfaces for optics, electronics, and energy
- ◆ Structural studies of functional organic molecules and polymers for photonics and organic electronics
- ◆ Design and construction of instruments and sensors for environmental monitoring
- ◆ Sight science, development of technologies for psycho-physical studies and sight-care

LATVIAN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

Director: *Dr. h. philol.* Ilga JANSONE
Akadēmijas laukums 1,
Rīga, LV-1050, Latvia
Phone: +371 67227696
Fax: +371 67227696
E-mail: latv@lza.lv

Research fields

- ◆ Lexicography and dictionary compilation
- ◆ The grammar system of the Latvian literary language
- ◆ Sociolinguistics and language policy
- ◆ Dialectology and areal linguistics
- ◆ Terminology of the Latvian language
- ◆ The scientific activities of the Latvian language archives

The results of the research are disclosed in more than 150 publications in Latvian and foreign scientific papers.



INSTITUTE OF EXPERIMENTAL AND CLINICAL MEDICINE

Director: *Dr. biol.* Pēteris TRETJAKOVŠ
Ojāra Vācieša iela 4, Rīga LV-1004, Latvia
Phone: +371 67613027
Fax: +371 67612038
E-mail: sipols@latnet.lv

Research fields

- ◆ Bone physiology
- ◆ Muscle physiology, blood circulation and working capacity
- ◆ Human physiological adaptation, prophylaxis of human physiological disadaptation, diagnostics, treatment
- ◆ Carbohydrate metabolism, obesity, health and food
- ◆ Tumor cell biology – stem cell renewal problem, tumour resistance and regeneration
- ◆ Computer analysis of tumor cells in diagnostics and prognostics, and prognosis
- ◆ Optimization of cancer immunotherapy



INSTITUTE OF MICROBIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

Director: *Dr. biol.* Uldis KALNENIEKS
Kronvalda bulv. 4, Rīga LV-1586, Latvia
Phone: +371 67034884
Fax: +371 67034885
E-mail: lumbi@lu.lv
Home page: <http://www.lu.lv/instituti/mbi>

Besides research projects, the institute's aim is to organize training programmes in microbiology and biotechnology at the Faculty of Biology and Faculty of Chemistry of the University of Latvia, and the Faculty of Food Technology at Latvian Agricultural University.

Research fields

- ◆ Genetics, physiology, cytology, biochemistry, bioenergetics of microorganisms
- ◆ Biotechnology of microbial biosynthesis and conversion of renewables, bioengineering
- ◆ Microbiological processes and products in agro-food sector, composting, protection of the environment



INSTITUTE OF ATOMIC PHYSICS AND SPECTROSCOPY

Director: *Prof. Jānis SPĪGULIS*
Phone: +371 67225493
Fax: +371 67034513
E-mail: asi@lu.lv

The Institute of Atomic Physics and Spectroscopy was founded in 1994. It is a multi-disciplinary research division at the Faculty of Physics and Mathematics.

The institute is supported by European Commission as an Excellence Centre for basic research in nanoscale physics and applications. Active links with the international scientific community are promoted by Latvian National Contact Point of the 6th Framework Programme and Baltic Chapter of SPIE – the International Society for Optical Engineering, both hosted by the institute.

The main research areas are interaction of atoms with strong laser fields (theory), high-resolution spectroscopy of plasma and light sources, bio-optics and fibre optics and physics and photochemistry of the polluted atmosphere.



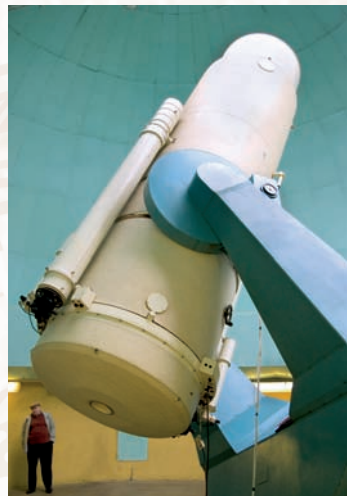
INSTITUTE OF ASTRONOMY

Director: *Dr. phys. Māris ĀBELE*
Raina bulv. 19, Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia
Phone: +371 67034580
Fax: +371 67034582
E-mail: astra@latnet.lv
Home page: www.astr.lu.lv

The Institute of Astronomy of the University of Latvia was founded in 1997 on the basis of the Astronomy Observatory of the University of Latvia and the Radio-astronomy Observatory of Latvian Academy of Sciences.

Research fields

- ◆ Carbon stars in the solar neighbourhood: bibliographical catalogue of kinematics, photometric, spectrophotometric a.o. characteristics. Updating of the electronic version of the general CGCS
- ◆ Investigations of the physical processes in the non-stationary objects in space (interstellar environment, solar corona, supernovas)



- ◆ Global coordinated high precision satellite laser measurements ranging for use at different international centres of earth sciences
- ◆ Spectral observations of stars and determination of coordinates of minor planets using CCD cameras
- ◆ Application of radio-astronomical methods in the investigation of objects in space
- ◆ Investigation of reflecting surfaces and pointing accuracy of radio telescopes RT-32 and RT-16 under variable conditions

The scientists participate in international research programmes which offer extensive opportunities for studies in foreign institutes and observatories.

An observatory is installed on the roof of the main building of the University of Latvia. Its telescope and equipment are used every day by the scientists at the Institute of Astronomy. Moreover, when a comet or planet becomes particularly visible, plenty of observers come to the observatory to marvel at the starry sky.

INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS

Director: *Dr. chem.* Donāts ERTS
 Kronvalda bulv. 4, Rīga, LV-1010, Latvia
 Phone: +371 67033875
 Fax: +371 67225039
 E-mail: erts@kfi.lu.lv
 Home page: <http://www.kfi.lu.lv>

The Institute of Chemical Physics has expanded from a group of theoreticians to an institute sustaining several laboratories active in both theory and experiments.



Research fields

- ◆ Chemical physics of condensed matter
- ◆ Microscopy of scanned interaction
- ◆ Quantum chemistry of molecules, small clusters and solids
- ◆ Computer simulation of defects and processes in the volume and on the surface of solids
- ◆ Theoretical studies of surface absorption, dissolution and heterogeneous catalysis
- ◆ Experimental and theoretical studies in atomic force microscopy
- ◆ Nanophysics

The Institute of Chemical Physics conducts joint scientific research with numerous experiment groups and theoreticians in Latvia and abroad.

The scientific achievements of the staff of the institute have won international academic recognition.

INSTITUTE OF GEODESY AND GEOINFORMATICS

Director: *Dr. phys.* Jānis BALODIS
Raina bulv. 19, Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia
Phone: +371 67034436
Fax: +371 67034436
E-mail: slr_jb@latnet.lv

Research fields

- ◆ Development of geoinformation systems
- ◆ Construction of satellite laser ranging systems, SLR observations for satellite geodesy



INSTITUTE OF CARDIOLOGY

Director: *Dr. med.* Vilnis DZĒRVE
Raina bulv. 19, Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia
Phone: +371 67069575
Fax: +371 67614641
E-mail: dzerve@lki.eunet.lv

Research fields

- ◆ Epidemiology and prevention of CVD
- ◆ Invasive cardiology
- ◆ Atherosclerosis of coronary and peripheral vessels
- ◆ Evaluation of gene polymorphisms in the development of coronary heart disease
- ◆ Secondary CVD risk factors

BOTANICAL GARDEN

Kandavas iela 2, Rīga, LV-1083, Latvia
Phone: +371 67450852
E-mail: botdarzs@lanet.lv
Home page: <http://www.lu.lv/botaniskais>

The Botanical Garden was founded in 1922 as a research base for students and schoolchildren.

Main areas of research:

- ◆ plant introduction, collection, selection and investigation;
- ◆ public education and teaching work.

The BG exchanges seeds and literature with many botanical gardens and scientific research institutions. The BG occupies 16 ha, collections comprising 8300 plant species; new varieties and cultivars have been created.



The BG introduces the visitors to the diversity of the kingdom plantae from different aspects through a variety of expositions. *The greenhouses* offer to view 2 000 species of tropical and subtropical plants.

The Botanical Garden is more than just a pretty park. It is the only place in Latvia where bananas are grown and harvested. The *systematic biological* and *medicinal* plant groups give an insight into the systematisation of 2 600 plants as well as their biological and curative properties. *The decoratively-ecological expositions (DEE)* reveal the multiplicity of ornamental plants and their applicability in parks and gardens. The DEE also offers to view 3 100 varieties of woody and herbaceous plants, which have been grouped according to their ecological requirements. *The rhododendron garden* represents one of the largest rhododendron collections in Northern Europe. In *the rhododendron hybrid and trial grounds* one can see the new sorts developed in the BG. *The lily garden* and *the dahlia garden* display the latest lily and dahlia sorts developed by the BG selectionists. *The rock garden* and *phlox garden* strike with the diversity of the perennials. An assortment of roses is represented in *the rose garden*, but *the heath garden* familiarises you with different conifers and heathers. In total in the above-mentioned DEE and in *the arboretum*, there are 760 species and varieties of ligneous plants.

The well-preserved 18th century building of the former manor now accommodates the lecture-room, the *BG laboratories* and *the UL Tissue Culture Lab*. In the territory of the garden, there is also a satellite observation station and the geodetic initial point of the trigonometrical network of Latvia.

The BG's experts provide consultations on horticulture and ornamental gardening. Plants of peaches, apricots, rhododendrons, perennials, dahlia tubers, lily bulbs, as well as houseplants are available.



NURSERY OF RHODODENDRONS "BABĪTE"

Director: Prof. Rihards KONDRATOVIČS
Babīte PSF 30, Rīga district,
LV-2101, Latvia
Phone: +371 67913107
Fax +371 67913127
E-mail: rodod@lanet.lv
Home page: <http://rododendri.lu.lv>



Nursery of rhododendrons "Babīte" was founded in 1980.

Rhododendrons are exceptionally ornamental plants, which are widely used in parks and gardens. They were known in Europe and America long ago, but in Latvia they became popular only thirty years ago. It was possible because of the research work on introduction of rhododendrons begun in 1957 in the Botanical Garden of the University of Latvia.

As a result, the selection of several thousands of hybrids gave hundreds of the most valuable and perspective hybrids. For further work, new facilities were needed, and in 1980, the nursery of rhododendrons "Babīte" was founded.

Professor R. Kondratovičs has worked out the theoretical basis and practical methods of large-scale cultivation of rhododendrons in Latvian agro-climatic conditions and introduced several agrotechnical methods of rhododendron propagation. He has also created over twenty cultivars of Simsa rhododendrons (greenhouse azaleas) and received sixteen authorship certificates. He has developed several hundreds of species of open air rhododendrons.



STUDY AND RESEARCH CENTRES

INNOVATION CENTRE

Raiņa bulv. 19, Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia

E-mail: maris.elerts@lu.lv

Phone: +371 67034413, +371 67034414

Fax: +371 67034420

The aim of the UL Innovation Centre, which was established in 2006, is to promote the commercialization of the research results of the UL scientists and their application in the national economy.

The Innovation Centre's aim is to inform the society about the UL innovations and scientific solutions, to coordinate the cooperation between scientists and industry, and to promote the development of high-tech enterprises, as well as to gather the information about the demand of the research services and inform the scientists about the potential cooperation possibilities.

The tasks of the centre are

- ♦ transfer of technology and knowledge, commercialization of the intellectual property of the UL
- ♦ databases of scientific competency and services of research
- ♦ cooperation arrangements between entrepreneurs and scientists
- ♦ innovation development projects



ACADEMIC CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Brīvības bulv. 32-59, Rīga, LV-1050, Latvia

Phone: +371 67217338

Fax: +371 67217338

E-mail: muravska@lu.lv

Home page: <http://www.lu.lv/cets>

Latvia is in the process of deeper integration in the European Union, a task which embraces virtually all aspects of daily life, a task which is long term and the results should be analysed. It is evident that higher education and research must also respond to the challenges and effects of the European Union enlargement – as well as to the challenges, rather unique to Latvia, of being a neighbour to countries which cannot in the foreseeable future be expected to join the EU. To meet these



challenges and to establish a forum for dealing with them, the Centre for European and Transition Studies started its activities at the beginning of the year 2000 at the University of Latvia.

Apart from the organised discussions and participation in scientific projects, the centre offers an opportunity to acquire a Master's degree in European Studies.

CENTRE FOR JUDAIC STUDIES

Raiņa bulv. 19-210, Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia

Fax: +371 67225039 (with a message – Centre for Judaic Studies)

Phone: +371 67034421

E-mail: jsc@latnet.lv

The Centre for Judaic Studies at the University of Latvia was established in July 1998. The main activities of the centre are aimed at promoting and maintaining the positive development of Latvian-Jewish relations by means of an accurate research work and different educational projects.

NORTH AMERICAN STUDIES CENTRE

Mārstaļu iela 28/30, Rīga, LV-1050, Latvia

Phone: +371 67503297

E-mail: sumilo@lu.lv

North American Studies Centre at the University of Latvia was established in 1995. The goal of the centre is to build up cultural, academic and research collaboration and communication network, as well as information exchange between the Republic of Latvia and North American countries.



GENDER STUDIES CENTRE

Raiņa bulv. 19, Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia

Phone: +371 67281484

E-mail: dzsc@lu.lv

Visiting address: Brīvības iela 32, Rīga, Room 37.

Gender Studies Centre at the University of Latvia offers the opportunity to obtain information about gender studies and feminism, various conferences and workshops about gender studies in Latvia and abroad. The library of the centre offers books and other materials about the gender situation in Latvia and in the whole world. Gender Studies Centre cooperates with other university centres for gender studies and takes part in different projects.

CENTRE OF BALTIC STUDIES

Kr. Valdemāra iela 48,
Rīga, LV-1013, Latvia
Phone: +371 67372597
E-mail: kdc@latnet.lv

The centre focuses on environment, nations, sustainable development and balanced water management in the Baltic Sea region.



LANGUAGE CENTRE

Phone: +371 67034630
E-mail: valoducentrs@lu.lv

The professors of the Language Centre teach Latvian, Russian, English, German, French, Estonian and other languages. The centre also offers regular and intensive language courses for different levels. The Language Centre offers to take the international TOEIC test and receive a certificate. You can also take TOEIC preparatory course (48 hours).

PRE-STUDIES TRAINING CENTRE OF UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA

Baznīcas iela 5-154, Rīga, LV-1010,
Latvia
Phone: +371 67034451
Fax: +371 67034453
E-mail: sagkursi@lu.lv

The purpose of the study centre is to prepare the future students for the school-finishing exams and entrance examinations and studies at the University of Latvia.



LITHUANIAN STUDIES CENTRE

Visvalža iela 4a-301,
Rīga, LV-1050, Latvia
Phone: +371 67033847
E-mail: laimute.balode@lu.lv

The purpose of this centre is to promote studies and research of the Baltic languages, as well as to foster cooperation between Latvian and Lithuanian researchers.



CENTRE OF FAMILY HEALTH EDUCATION

Šarlotes iela 1a, Rīga, LV-1001, Latvia
Phone: +371 67370678
E-mail: gvc@lanet.lv

The objective of the centre is to promote further education of doctors of medicine and other professionals of health protection.

CAREER CENTRE

Phone: +371 67034412
E-mail: karjera@lu.lv

The centre seeks to maintain links between the University and employers. The Career Centre publishes job ads on the University portal and organizes *Career Opportunity Days*, which help students to find necessary information about the news on the job market and the qualities required to carry out specific jobs.



Students have opportunities to take part in career planning seminars, to submit CVs in a database to facilitate job searches in the senior year and after graduation, and to attend events held with the participation of employers.

OTHER UNITS

UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA FOUNDATION

Phone: +371 67227175

Fax: +371 67228661

E-mail: fonds@lu.lv

Home page: <http://www.fonds.lv>

University of Latvia Foundation was established in 2005 with an aim to establish relationships with sponsors and patrons of the UL to provide scholarships and other kinds of support to students, lecturers and researchers.

Currently the investment portfolio is approximately LVL 4 million, and the foundation is able to provide more than 80 student scholarships annually.



UL MUSEUM OF HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia

Phone: +371 67034568

Fax: +371 67225039

The establishment of the University of Latvia gave rise to the thought of collection and preservation of precious museum pieces. The Museum includes several branches of science:

Museum of History at Raiņa bulv. 19

Phone: +371 67034566

Museum of Botany at Kronvalda bulv. 4

Phone: +371 67325645, e-mail: berga@lu.lv

Memorial Museum of F. Zander at Raiņa bulv. 19

Phone: +371 67614113, e-mail: vilks@latnet.lv

Museum of Geology at Alberta iela 10

Phone: +371 67331766, e-mail: vhodirev@lu.lv

Museum of Pedagogy at Raiņa bulv. 19

Phone: +371 67322918, e-mail: kruze@lu.lv

Museum of Computing and Informatics at Raiņa bulv. 29

Phone: +371 67211023, e-mail: stmuzejs@latnet.lv

Museum of Zoology at Kronvalda bulv. 4

Phone: +371 67325669, e-mail: buteo@lu.lv

Repository of History of Physics at Ķengaraga iela 8

Phone: +371 67187511, e-mail: jansonsj@cfi.lu.lv

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Kalpaka bulv. 4, Rīga, LV-1820, Latvia

Phone: +371 67220087

Fax: +371 67223984

E-mail: info-bibl@lu.lv

Home page: <http://www.lu.lv/biblioteka>

The Library of the University of Latvia was founded in 1862 and is one of the oldest scientific libraries in Latvia.

The library structures its collection according to the guidelines and requirements of the study programmes and the research work carried out at the University of Latvia.

Today the holdings of the library exceed 2.1 million volumes of scientific publications, textbooks and fiction in 50 languages of the world. All the documents of the collection of the library can be found in catalogues.

In the library holdings, readers can find materials printed both in Latvia and abroad. Printed materials are supplemented with electronic information resources.

Rare editions, manuscripts and other documents that have heritage or scientific value are gathered in the Department of Rare Editions and Manuscripts and in the branch libraries. Materials that cannot be found in the collection of the Library of the University of Latvia can be ordered from other libraries using the services of the International Interlibrary Loan.

24 981 borrowers also visit the library at its branch libraries.

UL Library of Biology at Kronvalda bulv. 4

Phone: +371 67034893, e-mail: biologijas.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Chemistry at Kr. Valdemāra iela 48

Phone: +371 67371505, e-mail: kimijas.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Economics at Aspazijas bulv. 5

Phone: +371 67034642, e-mail: ekonomikas.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Geography at Alberta iela 10

Phone: +371 67336372, e-mail: geografijas.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Humanities at Kr. Valdemāra iela 69

Phone: +371 67273803, e-mail: humanitara.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Education and Psychology at Jūrmalas gatve 74/76

Phone: +371 67034047, e-mail: pedagogijas.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Physics and Mathematics at Zelļu iela 8

Phone: +371 67033812, e-mail: fiz-mat.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Social Sciences/Law at Raiņa bulv. 19

Phone: +371 67034431, e-mail: sz-tiesibu.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Theology at Raiņa bulv. 19

Phone: +371 67034432, e-mail: teo.bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Social Sciences at Lomonosova iela 1

Phone: +371 67089855, e-mail: szf-bibl@lu.lv

UL Library of Latvian Institute of International Affairs at Brīvības bulv. 32

Phone: +371 67282297



UNIVERSITY SPORTS

Aspazijas bulv. 5, Room 109, Rīga, LV-1050, Latvia

Phone: +371 67034643

E-mail: inta.liepina@lu.lv

At the university, students can train in practically any of the most popular sports. They may train both professionally or just for general fitness. You will find students of the UL participating in sports competitions of every level – from the inter-faculty competitions to the Olympic Games.



The traditional “Kings’ Match” in basketball between the University of Latvia and the Rīga Technical University is one of the sports events that makes the UL and its sports achievements more popular.

FOUNDATION “JUVENTUS”

Raiņa bulv. 19, Rīga LV-1586, Latvia

Phone: +371 67034397

The major culture and arts organization at the UL is the Juventus Foundation, which was set up in 1993. More than 11 different amateur groups actively participate in the work of “Juventus”, among them the choirs “Juventus”, “Minjona”, “Latve”, the dance groups “Dancis” and “Dancītis”, the folk dance group “Dandari”, the early music ensemble “Canto”, the Chamber Orchestra, the Student’s Theatre Group, the Pantomime Theatre of A. Rūtentāls, the applied folk art workshop “Vāpe”, a.o. The foundation produces different concerts and festivals.



Social life at the University of Latvia is in full swing. You can obtain both knowledge and education and also grow as a personality.

The university offers various opportunities.

You can:

- ♦ engage in the pursuit of improving student life by joining the Student Council;
- ♦ organize anything from international conferences to garden barbeques, from meetings with the leading personnel of the university to chess tournaments – the life students organize for themselves;

- ♦ participate in the development of the student radio “NABA” (international artists are invited to their interviews, for example, Andy Fletcher from Depeche Mode);
- ♦ prove your talent at the Student Theatre Group, dance groups or choirs;
- ♦ participate in the preparation of the university magazine “Alma Mater”.

Students of many nations study at the University of Latvia; hence, celebrations are held not only on Latvian national holidays but also, for instance, on the Sri Lankan New Year and the Independence Day of Lebanon.

The most important tradition to remember while studying at the University of Latvia: do not cross the front staircase of the main building. If you do that, you will fail your exams and be expelled from the university.

Each faculty has its own original traditions.

A recent event organized by students is the poll called “My Professor”; its aim is to recognize the effort the professors put into their work with their students.

However, there are basic traditions of the University of Latvia, in which all students are involved:

- ♦ Everyone who is newly arrived at the University of Latvia considers it a matter of honour to take part in the Aristotle Festival at the beginning of each academic year.
- ♦ The university’s annual Winter Ball brings together the cream of the crop of Latvia’s academic world. Where else could you see 100 professors dancing at the same time?
- ♦ The magnificent Valentine’s Day Ball brings together beautiful people and beautiful music.
- ♦ Freshmen Ball – the first test for freshmen to become proper students of the university.
- ♦ The carnival takes place in February, when all exams are passed and everyone wants to have a party.
- ♦ The aim of the “Science Café” event is to popularise recent achievements in science and future research perspectives, to clarify complicated scientific problems and their role in our everyday life. Free discussions in informal atmosphere offer an opportunity to meet experts of the particular area.



USEFUL INFORMATION

For Latvia please dial: +371

University of Latvia

<http://www.university.lv>

Welcome to Latvia

<http://www.inyourpocket.com>, <http://www.latviatravel.info>

Recognition of foreign degrees and diplomas in Latvia

<http://www.aic.lv>

The Latvian Institute

<http://www.latvia.lv>

Rīga Tourism

<http://www.rigatourism.lv>

History of Rīga

http://www.rigalatvia.net/en_history.html

History of Latvia

<http://www.latvia-usa.org/hisoflatbrie.html>, <http://www.eunet.lv/VT/history.html>

Detailed information about Latvia

<http://countrystudies.us/latvia>

Culture of Latvia

<http://www.everyculture.com/Ja-Ma/Latvia.html>





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