25-th ANNIVERSARY

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at South-West University „Neofit Rilski“ – Blagoevgrad


During this period of time, the Faculty has been administered by:

- Prof. Kiril Chimev, DSc – Dean, 1990 – 1991
- Prof. Ivan Mirchev, DSc – Dean, 2003 – 2004
- Assoc. Prof. Borislav Yurukov, PhD – Dean, 2004 – 2011
Faculty Administration:
• Assoc. Prof. Stefan Stefanov, PhD – Dean (2011 – )
• Assoc. Prof. Elena Karashtranova, PhD – Vice-dean for Education, ECTS and System for educational quality
• Assoc. Prof. Dimitrina Kerina, PhD – Vice-dean for scientific research, international cooperation and academic promotion

Faculty secretaries:
• Evgenia Ilieva – 1990 – 1997
• Hristina Kovacheva – 1997 –

Student’s Office:
• Iskra Vagalinska
• Mila Petrova

During different periods of time, Student’s officers have also been:
• Daniela Maleshevska
• Veselin Sidzhimkov
Six departments:

- Mathematics
- Informatics
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Computer systems and technologies
- Geography, ecology and environmental protection

Programs, accredited by the Bulgarian National Agency for Evaluation and Accreditation:

- 13 Bachelor (BSc) programs
- 17 Master (MSc) programs
- 12 PhD programs
- 8 programs for continuing (lifelong) education

The information is current as of the date of 25th anniversary
Research laboratories and centers at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences:

- Research Laboratory on the Chemistry of Natural Substances
  Head: Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Stankova, PhD;

- Solar Energy Center for renewable energy resources
  Head: Assoc. Prof. Mitko Stoev, PhD;
- **Research laboratories and centers at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences:**

  - Laboratory on Didactics, Psychology and Management of Higher Education
    
    *Head: Prof. Ilia Giudjenov, PhD*

  - Research Laboratory on E-learning
    
    *Head: Assoc. Prof. Daniela Dureva, PhD*

  *Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences is an organizer and host of the International Conference of FMNS ([www.fmns.swu.bg](http://www.fmns.swu.bg)), organized once every two years, starting in 2005.*
**ERASMUS+ program contracts:**

- Universite de Rennes 1, France
- Universität Siegen, Germany
- Potsdam University, Germany
- Universita Karlova v Praze (Charles University in Prague), Czech Republic
- West Pomeranian University of Technology, Szczecin, Poland
- Univerzita v Ljubljani (University of Ljubljana), Slovenia
- Afyon Kocatepe University, Turkey,

as well as Contract with:

- Karaganda State University Acad. E. A. Buketov, Kazakhstan
- Bulgarian Commercial and Industrial Chamber – Branch Blagoevgrad,
- etc.
Established by Decree No. 2446 of October 12, 1976 of the Bulgarian Committee of Science, Technical Progress and Higher Education.

It is one of the first established departments in the structure of Sofia University „St. Kliment Ohridski“–Branch Blagoevgrad, which is predecessor of South-West University „Neofit Rilski“-Blagoevgrad.

**Department heads:**

- Prof. Kiril Chimev, DSc – 1976 – 1999
- Prof. Iliya Gyudzhenov, PhD – 1999 – 2002
- Prof. Mihail Kaschiev, DSc – 2002 – 2004
- Prof. Adrian Borisov, PhD – 2004 – 2008
- Prof. Iliya Gyudzhenov, PhD – 2008 –
Appointed lecturers the department have been:

- Acad. Prof. Peter Popivanov, DSc
- Prof. Stoyan Nedev, DSc
- Prof. Ivan Ganchev, DSc
- Prof. Sava Grozdev, DSc
- Prof. Dimiter Pushkarov, DSc
- Prof. Drumi Bainov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Konstantin Petrov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Kalcho Todorov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Ivan Kirkorov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Mihail Gavrilov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Anani Langov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Marin Marinov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Daniela Nikolova, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Julia Ninova, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Vassil Gotchev, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Petko Kitanov, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Boyko Gyurov, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Anelia Lalova
- Assist. Prof. Violeta Nikova, etc.
Academic staff of the department includes:

2 full professors:
- Prof. Iliya Gyudzhenov, PhD – Department Head
- Prof. Oleg Mushkarov, DSc, Corresponding member of BAS

5 associate professors:
- Assoc. Prof. Marek Tasev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Kostadin Samardzhiev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Vassil Grozdanov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Mihail Kolev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Ilinka Dimitrova, PhD

1 assistant professor:
- Assist. Prof. Mariana Katsarska
- **Educational programs:**
  - **BSc programs:**
    - Mathematics
    - Mathematics and Informatics
  - **MSc programs:**
    - Economic Mathematics
    - Technology of Teaching Mathematics and Informatics
  - **PhD programs:**
    - Mathematical Analysis
    - Mathematical Modeling and Applications of Mathematics
  - **Continuing (lifelong) education:**
    - Teacher of Mathematics

- **Main research areas:**
  - Mathematical Analysis
  - Mathematical Modeling and Applications of Mathematics
  - Discrete Mathematics and Applications
  - Algebra
  - Numerical Methods Monte Carlo
  - Methodology of Teaching Mathematics, etc.
Established in 1990
by lecturers of the Department of Mathematics with research interests in
the area of informatics and applied mathematics.

● **Department heads:**
  • Assoc. Prof. Slavcho Shtrakov, DSc – 1990 – 1999
  • Prof. Ivan Mirchev, DSc – 1999 – 2007
  • Assoc. Prof. Stefan Stefanov, PhD – 2007 –
Appointed lecturers at the department have been:

- Acad. Prof. Stefan Dodunekov, DSc
- Prof. Boyan Dimitrov, DSc
- Prof. Radostin Ivanov, DSc
- Prof. Radoslav Pavlov, PhD
- Prof. Maria Nisheva, PhD
- Prof. Daniela Langova-Orozova, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Jordan Denev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Pavel Azalov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Vladimir Zanev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Natasha Georgieva, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Liliana Boneva, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Spas Tashev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Georgi Iliev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Vladimir Hristov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Juliana Peneva, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Nikolay Kirov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Rumen Radev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Danail Dochev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Zdravko Markov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Dimiter Birov, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Anna Popova, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Vanyo Peychev, PhD
- Assist Prof. Anton Penzov, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Stefka Jordanova, etc.
Academic staff of the department includes

3 full professors:
• Prof. Ivan Mirchev, DSc – Rector of SWU „Neofit Rilski“
• Prof. Peter Boyvalenkov, DSc
• Prof. Peter Milanov, PhD

9 associate professors:
• Assoc. Prof. Borislav Yurukov, PhD – Vice-rector of SWU „Neofit Rilski“
• Assoc. Prof. Stefan Stefanov, PhD – Department Dean
• Assoc. Prof. Elena Karashtranova, PhD – Vice-dean of FMNS
• Assoc. Prof. Slavcho Shtrakov, DSc
• Assoc. Prof. Krasimir Yordzhev, DSc
• Assoc. Prof. Dimiter Kovachev, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Georgi Tuparov, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Daniela Dureva, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Ivan Trenchev, PhD

The information is current as of the date of 25th anniversary
Academic staff of the department includes

10 assistant professors:
- Assist. Prof. Margarita Todorova, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Ivo Damianov, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Velin Kralev, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Irena Atanasova, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Radoslava Kraleva, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Grigir Iliev
- Assist. Prof. Maria Palahanova
- Assist. Prof. Nadezhda Borisova
- Assist. Prof. Ivan Todorin
- Assist. Prof. Radoslav Mavrevski

Part-time academic staff:
- Prof. Nina Siniagina, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Nikolay Kitanov, PhD

The information is current as of the date of 25th anniversary
Educational programs:

BSc programs:
- Informatics
- Information Systems and Technologies

MSc programs:
- Informatics
- Bioinformatics
- Business Informatics and Econometrics
- Information Technologies in Ecology

PhD programs:
- Informatics
- Operations Research
- Methodology of Teaching: Mathematics and Informatics
- Informatics and Information Technologies.

Continuing (lifelong) education:
- Teacher of Informatics
- Teacher of Information Technologies 5-8 classes
Main research areas:

- Databases
- Mathematical Logic and Foundations of Informatics
- Discrete Mathematics and Applications
- Bioinformatics and Mathematical Modeling in Biology
- Operations Research, Mathematical Optimization
- Stochastic Models
- Computational Mathematics
- Web Design
- Information Technologies
- Methodology of Teaching Informatics and Information Technologies, E-learning, etc.


Lecturers, PhD students and MSc/BSc students of Department of Mathematics and Department of Informatics take part in the DAAD Project „Center of Excellence for Applications of Mathematics“ (2001 – 2015).
Predecessors of the department are:
- Department of General Physics and Biophysics
- Department of Engineering Physics
- Department of Methodology of Teaching and History of Natural Sciences

Department heads:
- Department of Methodology of Teaching and History of Natural Sciences:
  ✓ Prof. Vassil Metev
- Department of Physics:
  ✓ Prof. Anton Antonov, DSc – 1987 – 1996
  ✓ Assoc. Prof. Ivan Amov, PhD – 1997 – 2004
  ✓ Assoc. Prof. Luben Mihov, PhD – 2004 –
Appointed lecturers at the department have been:

- Prof. Yordan Stamenov DSc, corresponding member of BAS
- Prof. Dimiter Pushkarov, DSc
- Prof. Marin Gospodinov, DSc
- Prof. Blagoy Amov, DSc
- Prof. Todor Todorov, DSc
- Prof. Mario Stoitsov, DSc
- Prof. Georgi Georgiev, DSc
- Prof. Vassil Metev
- Assoc. Prof. Ivan Amov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Dimiter Trifonov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Raina Pirinchieva, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Maria Dimitrova, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Yordanka Georgieva, PhD
Academic staff of the department includes

4 associate professors:
• Assoc. Prof. Luben Mihov, PhD – Department Head
• Assoc. Prof. Dimitrina Kerina, PhD – Vice-dean of FMNS
• Assoc. Prof. Plamen Gramatikov, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Radost Vassileva, PhD

3 assistant professors PhD:
• Assist. Prof. Ivo Angelov, PhD
• Assist. Prof. Anton Stoilov, PhD
• Assist. Prof. Ralitsa Stanoeva, PhD

7 assistant professors:
• Assist. Prof. Rumiana Popova
• Assist. Prof. Darina Kaisheva
• Assist. Prof. Violeta Vakova
• Assist. Prof. Krasimir Damov
• Assist. Prof. Vasil Kovachev
• Assist. Prof. Vladimir Gaberov
• Assist. Prof. Kamen Dimitrov

1 Teaching Assitant:
• Lubomir Direkov

Part-time academic staff:
• Prof. Anton Antonov, DSc
• Prof. Lyubomir Pavlov, DSc
• Assoc. Prof. Penka Bozarova, PhD
Educational programs:

BSc programs:
- Metrology
- Applied Optics Technology
- Physics and Mathematics

MSc programs:
- Contemporary Energy Sources and Environmental Preservation
- Energy Management and Sustainable Energy Development
- Nuclear and Particle Physics

PhD programs:
- Methodology of Teaching Physics

Continuing (lifelong) education:
- Teacher of Physics

Main research areas:
- Astrophysics
- Optics
- Solid State Physics
- Physics of Aerosols
- Quantum Electronics, etc.
Established in 1987 within the structure of Engineering-Pedagogical Faculty and in 1990 became part of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

- **Department heads:**
  - Assoc. Prof. Mitko Stoev, PhD – 2000 – 2004
  - Assoc. Prof. Stefan Manev, PhD – 2004 – 2012
  - Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Stankova, PhD – 2012 –
Appointed lecturers at the department have been:

- Acad. Prof. Evgeni Golovinski, DSc
- Acad. Prof. Panayot Bonchev, DSc
- Acad. Prof. Alexander Popov, DSc
- Prof. Dobri Lazarov, DSc
- Prof. Nikolay Tyutyulkov, DSc
- Prof. Todor Nikolov, DSc
- Prof. Stoyan Budurov, DSc
- Prof. Galin Petrov, DSc
- Prof. Borislav Toshev, DSc
- Prof. Mihail Nedyalkov, DSc
- Prof. Mihail Arnaudov, DSc
- Prof. Ivelin Kulev, DSc
- Prof. Liuben Terziiski, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Vladimir Diakovich, PhD etc.
Department of Chemistry

- **Academic staff of the department includes:**

1 full professor
- Prof. Mario Mitov, PhD

7 associate professors
- Assoc. Prof. Ivanka Stankova, PhD – Department Head
- Assoc. Prof. Velichka Dimitrova, PhD – Chair of FMNS General Assembly
- Assoc. Prof. Zhivko Velkov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Atanas Tchapkanov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Mitko Stoev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Petko Mandjukov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Milena Koleva, PhD

4 assistant professors
- Assist. Prof. Maya Chochkova, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Petranka Petrova, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Elitsa Chorbadzhiiska
- Assist. Prof. Vasilka Markova

Part-time academic staff:
- Prof. Borislav Toshev, DSc
- Prof. Borjan Radoev, DSc
- Prof. Dragomir Yankov, DSc
- Assoc. Prof. Stefan Manev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Katja Lekova, PhD
Educational programs:

**BSc programs:**
- Chemistry
- Medicinal Chemistry
- Chemistry and Physics

**MSc programs:**
- Biologically Active Substances and Drugs
- Metrology in Chemistry
- Chemistry and Ecology

**PhD programs:**
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Methodology of Teaching Chemistry

**Continuing (lifelong) education:**
- Teacher of Chemistry
- Teacher of „The Man and Nature“
- Modern Education of Science
Main research areas:

- Inorganic Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Analytical Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- New Energy Resources
- Methodology of Chemistry Education

The department has conference halls and laboratories equipped for scientific research, preparation of theses and seminars, computer room and center for new technologies in education and teaching chemistry.
Established in 1993 as Department of Engineering Ecology and Geography, with department head Prof. Hristo Hristov, DSc; By 2001 - is within the structure of Engineering-Pedagogical Faculty; In 2001 - renamed as the Department of Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection and became part of the Faculty of Mathematics and natural Sciences.

Department heads:
• Prof. Hristo Hristov, DSc – 1993 – 1999
• Assoc. Prof. Mihail Mihailov, PhD – 1999 – 2012
• Assoc. Prof. Konstantin Tyufekchiev, PhD – 2012 –
Complex Ecological Station for practical training and monitoring of the basic environmental components is under construction at the University Center „Bachinovo“.

The department works together with the administrations of the National parks „Rila“ and „Pirin“ (park section „Sinanitsa“) as well as with the administration of the National park „Rila Monastery“.
Academic staff of the department includes:

1 full professor
• Prof. Maria Shishmanova, PhD

7 associate professors
• Assoc. Prof. Konstantin Tufekchiev, PhD – Department Head
• Assoc. Prof. Krasimir Stoyanov, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Ivan Drenovski, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Penka Kastreva, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Boyko Kolev, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Lidia Sakelarieva, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Emilia Patarchanova, PhD

2 assistant professors PhD
• Assist. Prof. Nadezhda Nikolova, PhD
• Assist. Prof. Emil Gachev, PhD

4 assistant professors:
• Assist. Prof. Veselina Dalgacheva
• Assist. Prof. Galina Bezinska
• Assist. Prof. Vladimir Karadzhov
• Assist. Prof. Alexander Pulev

Part-time academic staff:
• Prof. Tzanko Tzankov, DSc
• Assoc. Prof. Mihail Mihailov, PhD
• Assoc. Prof. Stefka Tsevkova, PhD
Department of Geography, Ecology and Environmental Protection

- **Educational programs:**
  
  **BSc programs:**
  - Geography
  - Ecology and Environmental Protection
  - Geography and History
  
  **MSc programs:**
  - Regional Development
  - Ecology and Environmental Protection
  - Information Technologies in Ecology
  - Natural and Historical Heritage
  
  **PhD programs:**
  - Ecology and Environmental Protection
  - Physical Geography
  - Economic and Social Geography
  - Cartography and Thematic Mapping
Main research areas:

- Physical Geography
- Economic and Social Geography
- Geography of Population and settlement
- Biodiversity
- Protection of Ecosystems (Air, Water, Soil)
- Monitoring
- Waste Management

The department also maintains contacts with different international and national non-governmental organizations.
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Department of Computer Systems and Technologies

Established in 2003 and included in the structure of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

- **Predecessors of the department are:**
  - Department of Electronics, established in 1988 within the Labor-Polytechnic Faculty (since 1990 – Engineering-Pedagogical Faculty)
  - Department of Techniques and Technology (Faculty of Economics), with which the Department of Computer Systems and Technologies was merged in 2001

- **Department heads (including predecessor department heads):**
  - Assoc. Prof. Yana Voynova, PhD – 2001
  - Assoc. Prof. Luben Mihov, PhD – 2002 – 2003
  - Assoc. Prof. Geno Dimitrov, PhD – 2003 – 2004
  - Assoc. Prof. Valentin Hristov, PhD – 2004 – 2015

The information is current as of the date of 25th anniversary
Appointed lecturers have been:

- Prof. Plamenka Borovska, PhD
- Prof. Dimiter Dimitrov, PhD
- Prof. Ivan Kalchev, DSc
- Prof. Zhivko Georgiev, PhD
- Prof. Georgi Nenov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Geno Dimitrov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Oleg Panagiev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Anton Donchev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Dimiter Aleksiev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Aleksander Atanasov, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Dimiter Orakaliev, PhD
- Assoc. Prof. Vanjo Gurgulicov, PhD
- Assist. Prof. Zora Milusheva

The information is current as of the date of 25th anniversary.
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Department of Computer Systems and Technologies

- **Educational programs:**
  - **BSc programs:**
    Computer Systems and Technologies
  - **MSc programs:**
    Computer Systems and Technologies
  - **PhD programs:**
    Computer Systems, Complexes and Networks

- **Continuing (lifelong) education:**
  - Local Cisco Academy

- **Main research areas:**
  - Computer Systems, Complexes and Networks
  - Material Science
  - Electrical Engineering and Electronics

*The information is current as of the date of 25th anniversary*
By Decision of March 18, 2015 (Protocol No. 38)

of the Academic Council of South-West University „Neofit Rilski“,

members of the Department of Computer Systems and Technologies and corresponding degree programs are part of the new Faculty of Engineering,

established by Decision of The Council of Ministers of February 27, 2015 and Decree of the Council of Ministers No. 39 of March 4, 2015.
Successful future development of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences!