The Committee on Foreign Affairs

ABOUT US

The Committee on Foreign Affairs is an integral part of the Students’ Union of the University of Szeged.

Our goals are to organize cultural or professional trips, exchange programmes, conferences, student camps, and other activities for the students of University of Szeged.

We maintain numerous services connecting to three fields:

- helping foreign students’ life
- building up reputation and visibility across the borders
- providing possibilities for our students to engage in international academic life

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Student Exchange Programmes

We have an ongoing project which involves exchange programmes with partner universities, focusing on presenting the local education and culture. In this programme we can host a group up to 15 students in change for a trip based on similar conditions. The programme duration ranges from one to three weeks, once in each semester.

WHAT WE OFFER

- hostel
- one meal a day
- temporary student identity card for student discounts
- lectures in English, connecting to many fields of interest
- freetime programmes (museum, programmes of the university, sightseeing, zoo, aquapark, theatre, thermal bath, botanical garden, university library, galleries, cultural organizations, exhibitions, parties, and many more)
- optional trips to the capital, Budapest, or to other points of interest
- interpreter or translator
- mentors

PARTNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

reciprocity – our funds cover the listed items for the foreigner students during their Hungarian stay, but not for our students abroad. Note that the travelling cost is excluded on both sides and according to our practice the form of transportation is the student’s own choice and responsibility.

"I enjoyed myself very much, and I gained great, and useful experiences, though the weeks spent there seemed like a blink of an eye. I hope this wasn’t the last time visiting this great country, and that the bonds that we made will remain." **NOÉMI**

"It was a flawless two weeks! I recommend everyone to visit Odessa!" **DITTA**

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The University of Szeged

The University of Szeged is renowned for its rich traditions and high prestige among the Hungarian institutions of higher education. The university’s mission is to offer high quality education at the levels of Bachelor’s, Master’s, doctoral (Ph.D), higher-level vocational and postgraduate specialist training programs.

The university’s internationally acknowledged, competitive research activities are essential parts of its educational mission, and it is particularly important to ensure the institution’s position as a research university. Its research and creative activities include basic and applied research, creative arts, product and service development. As one of the largest organizations in the South Great Plain region, the University of Szeged considers the active role it plays in the area’s social, economic and cultural development to be part of its social responsibility; and through its charitable activities the institution demonstrates solidarity with the people of the region. Through these activities, the University of Szeged seeks to achieve the recognition and support of the local community and the general public at the same time.

The University of Szeged traces its origins back to 1581 with the foundation of the Academia in Cluj (Kolozsvár). István Báthory, Prince of Transylvania, King of Poland (1571-1586), Grand Duke of Lithuania took measures to establish a Catholic university (academia – universitas) consisting of two faculties, Arts and Theology. In 1872 the Hungarian royal university was established and the university operated in Cluj until 1921 when it was moved to Szeged.

The year 2000 was a milestone in the history of the university: the higher education institutions of Szeged were integrated under the name University of Szeged. At present the University has 12 faculties covering the fields of arts, sciences, law, economics and business administration, engineering, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, health sciences, education, agriculture and music. It also provides quality education at the levels of Bachelor, Master, scientific (PhD), higher-level vocational and postgraduate specialist training programmes. The University’s educational mission also embraces medical assistance, conducting internationally competitive research activities and fulfilling its role as a research university. The wide scope of its research and creative activities include basic and applied research, creative arts, product- and service development.
Concerning the size of the University of Szeged, it is one of the biggest university in Hungary, with nearly 30,000 students and more than 7,000 employees altogether, including about 2,200 academic staff.

Partnership in research, quality education and innovation are integral parts of the University of Szeged which in recent years has produced tangible results both in terms of joint efforts with businesses and cooperation with other actors of higher education. Thanks to partnership in research and innovation with various companies and organizations, the successes of scientific activity at the University of Szeged promote the attainment of practical, significant and remarkable results that will positively affect education as well. The University also works in close cooperation with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in three key research areas, namely in natural sciences, humanities as well as in medicine and pharmacy.

A number of outstanding professors work and have worked at the University of Szeged, including Nobel Laureate Albert Szent-Györgyi, who was the first to isolate Vitamin C, extracting it from Szeged paprika. His outstanding skills and activities contributed to Szeged becoming one of Europe’s most significant centres for life-sciences and uniting the laboratories of the University of Szeged and the Biological Research Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Thanks to the internationally acknowledged research in laser physics at the University of Szeged, our town will be the home of the biggest centre of laser physics in Europe, the Extreme Light Infrastructure (ELI) in the near future. This will increase the need for more employees at the University and at the connected companies.
Szeged – The City of Sunshine

SZEGED IN WORDS

Szeged and its area have been inhabited since ancient times. Ptolemy mentions the oldest known name of the city: Partiscum. The name Szeged was first mentioned in 1183, in a document of King Béla III.

Szeged is known as the home of paprika, a spice made from dried, powdered capsicum fruits. Szeged is also famous for their székelygulyás, a goulash made with pork, sauerkraut and sour cream, and also famous for their halászlé, fish soup made of carp and catfish.

Today the inner city of Szeged has beautiful buildings and wide avenues. This is mainly due to the great flood of 1879, which literally wiped away the whole town. Emperor Franz Joseph visited the town and promised that “Szeged will be more beautiful than it used to be”. He kept his promise. During the next years a new, modern city emerged from the ruins, with palaces and wide streets.

SZEGED IN NUMBERS

Szeged’s population is around 170,000 in total, which makes it the third largest city of Hungary, and the largest in the region.

Its total area is more than 280 m².

July is the hottest month with it’s 27.4 °C daily average high temperature. The yearly mean average is 10 °C.

Szeged has 62 kindergartens, 32 elementary schools, 18 high schools and a university, which was established by unification of the past institutes.

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**Dome of Szeged**
It is the fourth largest church in Hungary. The "Heroes' bell" in the tower on the Tisza side weighs 8600kg. It is the second in line on the list of Seven Wonders of Hungary. The chiming clock of the square can be heard twice a day. Do not miss the experience if you ever visit Szeged.

**Botanical Garden**
In 1922 the city of Szeged donated a land of 20 km² area to the University to create the garden. Greenhouses, tropical plants, and many more are on display!

**National Theatre of Szeged**
The theatre mainly stages dramatic works, but also includes a renowned opera department, not to mention the Szeged Contemporary Ballet.

**Karász Street**
The main pedestrian street of Szeged. Walking among the classical houses, feels like going back in time.

**Széchenyi Square**
Central park of Szeged that gives home for a lot of outdoor events in every season. The main plants: yew, gingko, emperor tree, and magnolia.

**Szeged in pictures**

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