2022 report on the work done by the Center for Inclusive Education

Exhibition and sale "Our art is for you" was held at UNEC

UNEC Inclusive Education Center and Skilled Hands World Public Union jointly organized an exhibition and sale dedicated to December 31, World Azerbaijanis' Solidarity Day and New Year's holiday, entitled "Our art is for you".

Coordinator of UNEC Inclusive Education Center Sevinj Mahsimova, director of Russian School of Economics Mansur Barkhudarov, head of "World of Skilled Hands" PU Azade Mammadova, director of Vocational Rehabilitation Center for Persons with Disabilities No. 1 Rahila Hasratova, representatives of the university and other public and private institutions also participated in the event.

At the event, UNEC Inclusive Education Center coordinator Sevinj Mahsimova informed the guests about the exhibition.

Then the visitors of the sale-exhibition got acquainted with the interesting handicrafts of children and adolescents with disabilities, children of veterans and martyrs.

UNEC-də "Sənətimiz sizin üçün" adlı sərgi-satışı keçirilib

A series of meetings with a psychologist on the topics of "Self-development" and "Stress management" are held at the faculties

A series of meetings with a psychologist on the topics of "Self-development" and "Stress management" are held under the joint organization of the UNEC Inclusive Education Center and the "Psychosen" psychological support platform.

The next meeting held within the framework of cooperation between the Center for Inclusive Education and the psychological support platform "Psychosen" took place at the Faculty of Business and Management.

The purpose of the meeting was to eliminate the general psychological tension and preexam stress that arose after the pandemic. At the meeting, experienced psychologist Aynur Shikhaliyeva held discussions with students about pre-exam stress management. He also conducted dozens of psychological tests and muscle tests.

Sevinj Mahsimova, coordinator of the UNEC Inclusive Education Center, informed the students about the Psychological Service Center established at the university.

<u>Fakültələrdə "Özünü inkişaf" və "Stresin idarə edilməsi" mövzularında psixoloqla silsilə görüşlər keçirilir</u> (unec.edu.az)

A meeting was held with students about stress management and self-development

A meeting was held with students on the topics of "Self-development" and "Stress management" under the joint organization of UNEC Inclusive Education Center and "Psychosen" psychological support platform.

Psychologist Aynur Shikhaliyeva informed the students about ways to manage stress before the exam during the 2-day meetings. Then various psychological written and muscle tests were conducted with the students.

In the end, Sevinj Mahsimova, coordinator of the UNEC Inclusive Education Center, drew attention to the fact that the Psychological service center operates in UNEC and emphasized that students can use the services of that center if necessary.

Stresin idarəedilməsi və özünüinkişafla bağlı tələbələrlə görüş keçirilib (unec.edu.az)

Training at UNEC: Organization of modern inclusive training-educational process

Within the framework of cooperation with the Dost Inclusive Development and Creativity Center of the UNEC Inclusive Education Center, trainings called "Organization of the modern inclusive teaching-learning process" were organized.

The training organized for teachers and employees of the Dost Inclusive and Creative Center was conducted by Sevinj Mahsimova, coordinator of the UNEC Inclusive Education Center. The four-day trainings covered the psychological environment, the organization of the educational process with children deprived of parental care, as well as with difficult upbringing, methods of identifying talented young people, principles of socio-pedagogical support-approach and other topics.

At the end of the training, participants were presented with a UNEC certificate.

UNEC-də təlim: Müasir inklüziv təlim-tədris prosesinin təşkili

INTERVIEW | "Our inclusive higher education experience is already accepted as a model in the republic"

October marks the 7th anniversary of the establishment of the Inclusive Education Center of UNEC. The coordinator of the center, Sevinj Mahsimova, gave an interview to UNEC News about the inclusive educational environment created at UNEC, the 7-year activity of the center, the implemented innovations and future plans.

- Ms. Sevinc, how did the initiative to create the center come about and what was the necessity?
- We started the initiative to create the center in 2013 with the coordination of Khazar University and 5 partner universities with the ERASMUS project "Creation of higher education environment for people with physical disabilities". In those years, there were few young people with disabilities who received higher education in the country. In general, the integration of young people with disabilities and limited health into society was poor, and in this direction, there was a need to educate society, parents and young people with disabilities themselves on many topics.

At that time, 26 young people with disabilities were studying at UNEC. The largest number of students was in this university. All of them were studying part-time and believe me, some of them came very reluctantly and usually sat in the back rows. Shame, shyness, self-doubt, insecurity, lack of confidence... these were the main feelings of young people with disabilities at that time.

We decided to change this situation and create an inclusive educational environment. I can say that we have made great achievements in this direction.

- How many students with disabilities are currently studying at UNEC?
- In 2020, this number was 115 people, in 2021, 85 people. This year there are more than 70 people. Exact statistics have not yet been determined, as the number of young people with disabilities studying in the first year is being clarified.
- As an inclusive center, how do you support students with disabilities, and in what direction do you build your activities?
- -Actually, many people think that lessons for students with disabilities are conducted by the Inclusive Education Center. This is not so. The center coordinates services for those students. Students with limited health and disabilities study together with other students in the faculties of their specialty.

Students with limited health and disabilities often feel uncomfortable in a stressful environment, which prevents them from achieving high grades in the learning process, especially in exams. In such cases, they apply to the center, and we give them the opportunity to listen to some classes and take exams at the center. As a center, we support the full integration of students with limited health and disabilities into university life, as well as encourage them to be active in social life, participate in projects implemented by student organizations, as well as ensure their participation in conferences, seminars and other events organized by the university.

I want to mention an important point, the Inclusive education center also conducts social work. The necessary psychological support is also provided to students with limited health and disabilities. Recently, a Psychological service center was established at UNEC. I am sure that the opening of the center will make our work in this direction easier and more useful.

As a center, we also do social work with parents. You know that parents of students with limited health and disabilities can be considered a more sensitive group and it is more difficult to work with them. Because the society's stigmas such as "condemnation", "criticism", "shame", "rejection" have wounded them more deeply.

There are many innovations in teaching. For example, an audio-textbook project is ongoing at UNEC within the framework of individual education trajectory. Teachers convert their lectures into audio format. Additional classes are also held at the center for students with limited health and disabilities. In special cases, lessons are organized in a hybrid form. If a student with a disability cannot come to the university for an excused reason, he can join an online class from home.

- Was UNEC able to create an inclusive educational environment?

- Yes, UNEC continues this work successfully. I am proud to say that our experience of inclusive higher education is already accepted as a model in the republic. Of course, there are some shortcomings, but work is being done to eliminate them. In particular, I would like to note that the development of inclusive education at UNEC was considered one of the priority goals. We achieve the set goals with the joint support of all structural managers and employees of the university.
- What difficulties do students with disabilities face more often?
- Mainly, as an infrastructure, there is a problem in the use of sanitary facilities. The sanitary junction of educational building No. 3 was installed taking into account students with disabilities, and works are being carried out in this direction in others.
- -Are there participants in dual diploma and exchange programs among students with disabilities?
- -Yes I have. It is very gratifying that, like all students, students with limited health and disabilities participate in both exchange and dual degree programs. They also properly represent our country abroad. We are happy that this year, among the 12 young people

who graduated from the dual diploma program of UNEC University of Montpellier, there was a student with disabilities. Also, several of our students with limited physical abilities and disabilities studied at European universities within the framework of the Erasmus+ international exchange program.

- How is the social activity of students with disabilities ensured?
- At UNEC, students with limited health and disabilities are fully integrated into the life of the university. Of course, some, if not all, participate in all events, projects, seminars. UNEC Student Trade Union Committee is always with us in this work. Excursions to various historical and touristic places are regularly organized for them, as well as we go to watch movies, opera, performances and exhibitions with these students.

At the beginning of the academic year, meetings are held with the heads of student organizations and assignments are given. We have more than 11 student organizations in various directions. Members of the organization get to know young people with disabilities studying in all faculties. Those students participate in projects as members of the organizations they want.

- Among those students, are there young people who are distinguished by their special skills?
- In fact, each of the young people with disabilities has a wide range of interests and most of them are distinguished by their special skills. Among our students with limited health and disabilities are poets, writers, artists, mathematicians, professional IT specialists. I can say that our graduate Zahid Aliyev is one of the country's well-known experts in the field of IT.

We have students who are engaged in creativity, especially those who write poems and novels. With the support of the university administration, Mahsim Badirkhanli's book of poems was published and widely presented. This was a great motivation for him. I would

like to emphasize the writing talent of our other graduating student, Seyfullah Aliyev. His detective novel was published in UNEC publishing house. People's writer Chingiz Abdullayev, well-known writers of the country and public representatives also participated in the presentation. Another student of ours received a patent for intellectual games and competitions. We are proud of them!

- Does the university provide any support for the employment of students with disabilities?
- -Employment is one of the most important issues. UNEC has taken very serious steps in this direction. Memorandums have been signed with many state institutions and organizations, including the State Employment Agency, and joint projects are being prepared. As a center, we are also negotiating with many organizations, companies and institutions to further expand these collaborations.

In particular, in 2018, for the first time in the republic, we held a job fair for young people with disabilities, organized by UNEC, with the support of the Ministries of Youth and Sports, Science and Education, Labor and Social Protection of the Population. That fair was a great boost in ensuring the employment of disabled people. More than 1200 young people with disabilities participated in the fair. 108 people were hired on the very first day of the fair.

To date, 36 of our graduates with disabilities have been provided with permanent employment. Many of them also participated in self-employment programs sponsored by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population. Our work in this direction continues.

In conclusion, I would like to say that an inclusive educational environment based on international standards has been created at UNEC and is being systematically updated in accordance with global challenges. I am sure that together with local and foreign higher education institutions and organizations, we will achieve great success in the future.

MÜSAHİBƏ | "İnklüziv ali təhsil təcrübəmiz artıq respublikada model kimi qəbul olunur" (unec.edu.az)

DOST Inclusive Development and Creativity Center and UNEC start cooperation in social

field

A memorandum of understanding on cooperation was signed between DOST Inclusive Development and Creativity Center and Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC) Inclusive Education Center.

The purpose of the memorandum is to provide access to vocational training for children in need of special care, children deprived of parental care, children of veterans and martyrs' families, persons with disabilities and people with limited health, expand their work opportunities, and create equal opportunities in this field.

According to the document, the professors and teachers of the higher education institution will be involved in the training process for people belonging to the vulnerable population group receiving training at the center.

Within the framework of cooperation, it is planned to organize trainings on business organization, management, accounting, banking, finance, foreign languages and other areas with the participation of the pedagogical and teaching staff of the university.

The document of agreement covers issues of mutual experience exchange and corporate cooperation, joint activities related to the organization of joint projects and innovative initiatives in this regard.

DOST İnklüziv İnkişaf və Yaradıcılıq Mərkəzi ilə UNEC sosial sahədə əməkdaşlığa başlayır

Szeged University of Hungary through the eyes of an Azerbaijani student

Javidan Ayyubzadeh, a third-year student of UNEC Finance and Accounting Faculty, studied at the University of Szeged in Hungary for one semester within the framework of the ERASMUS+ program.

Javidan shared his thoughts with UNEC News:

"I am Ayyubzade Javidan Muhammad oglu. I am currently studying Finance at the Azerbaijan State University of Economics. In the spring semester of the 2021-2022 academic year, I studied at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at the University of Szeged, Hungary, within the framework of the Erasmus+ program. Now, with your permission, I want to share my thoughts with you.

First, let's talk briefly about the program. The Erasmus + program is a student exchange program that is popular all over the world. The program covers 1 or 2 semesters. Candidates selected for the program receive a certain monthly stipend and additional funds for round-trip tickets. The size of the grant varies from year to year and from country to country. You can get detailed information about the conditions of the program from the International Relations department of the university where you studied.

Now I want to tell you about the city of Szeged. Szeged is generally a small and quiet city, but it is quite popular as a student town. Since the city is quite small, there is almost no need for public transport. It is possible to find students from all over the world in this city. Although the city is small, many carnivals and celebrations are held. The city is located on the banks of the Tizsa River and is the sunniest city in Hungary.

Now I want to give information about the University of Szeged. This university is sometimes called "Green University". The university is considered one of the best universities in Hungary for its level of education. The lessons are very interesting and interactive. In addition, the university is famous for its library not only in Hungary but also in the whole east.

Finally, I want to share my impressions. I knew about the program from my school years. One of my main goals during my university years was to be selected for the program. Because the opportunities provided by the program to the participants are really great. Thanks to the program, I got to know many people from different countries and made friends. I traveled to 12 countries and developed myself both academically and socially.

First of all, I would like to thank UNEC rector Professor Adalat Muradov and everyone in his leadership for giving me this chance.

I express my special gratitude to the head of the Inclusive Education Center, Sevinj Mahsimova, who always supports us in everything we do.

Best regards, Javidan Ayyubzadeh

Macarıstanın Szeged Universiteti azərbaycanlı tələbənin gözü ilə (unec.edu.az)

UNEC Inclusive Education Model is presented as a successful model in Azerbaijan

A seminar on "Learning for equality: today and the future of inclusive citizenship education" was held at the Guba branch of ADPU.

The seminar was organized in a hybrid form with the aim of strengthening intersectoral dialogue and partnership in the field of inclusive citizenship education "Civic Education".

Assistant professor Yusif Aliyev, director of ADPU Guba branch, head of the German Federal Agency for Citizenship Education and representatives of the East European Citizenship Education Network spoke.

In the seminar, interesting speeches and discussions were held about identifying successes and problems in the context of post-pandemic inclusive education and ways to solve these problems, exchange of experience between different stakeholders from formal and informal education fields, discussing the importance of young people in the development of civil society and intersectoral cooperation for inclusive education, the concept of equality in citizenship education and the future of inclusive education.

Sevinj Mahsimova, coordinator of UNEC Inclusive Education Center, spoke about the results achieved by the Center in 7 years. UNEC practice was highly appreciated by all specialists.

UNEC İnklüziv Təhsil Modeli Azərbaycanda uğurlu model kimi təqdim olunur

The UNEC graduate's first book in the detective genre was presented

The book "The Road to Murder" written by Seyfullah Aliyev, a graduate of the correspondence and additional education center of UNEC, was presented in the detective genre.

People's writer Chingiz Abdullayev, member of the Union of Writers Suleyman Abdulla, poet-writer professor Zahid Khalil, president of the Union of Disabled Organizations of the Azerbaijan Republic Davud Rahimli, paralympian Zinyat Valiyeva, well-known writer Samir Imanov and the university's teaching staff participated in the book presentation organized by UNEC Inclusive Education Center.

Sevinj Mahsimova, moderator of the event, coordinator of the Inclusive Education Center, informed about the publication of the first work of the young writer. He pointed out that the reviewers of the book are the country's well-known writers Chingiz Abdullayev, Suleyman Abdulla, and Zahid Khalil.

Congratulating the young author, reviewers talked about the features of the detective genre. The speakers highly appreciated the relevance of the plot of the novel to the detective genre, said that it was written professionally, and wished the author new creative successes.

The author of the book, young writer Seyfullah Aliyev expressed his gratitude to the university administration and the participants of the presentation for the conditions created for the presentation of the book. Giving information about the creation of the

novel "The Road to Murder", the author pointed out that the novel is about the murder of a mathematics teacher and the investigation of the incident by a detective.

The event organized in library No. 3 of UNEC continued with the book signing ceremony.

UNEC məzununun detektiv janrında yazdığı ilk kitabının təqdimatı oldu

A meeting of TUDIFAK students with psychologists has been organized

Meetings with psychologists were organized at the Faculty of Economics of the Turkish World under the organization of UNEC Inclusive Education Center.

The guests who participated in the meetings spoke on the topics of "Non-violent communication", "Causes of stress and their impact on students' lives", "Methods of organizing and planning future career goals of young people".

The purpose of the event is a method of combating negative psychological situations, such as psychological worries, exam stress, depression, distraction, which students often encounter.

The guests of the event were the founder and director of "Inci psychological and rehabilitation center", doctor of philosophy in psychology Ramida Ogtaygizi, psychologist, hypnotherapist Sevinj Alizade, founder and director of "PsixoSen" online psychologist and self-development company Intigam Mammadov, "PsixoSen" online psychologist and founder of self-development company Kanan Zarbiyev, "PsixoSen" online psychologist and manager of educational projects of the self-development company Lala Bilalova.

The guests of the event talked about the ways to build a successful future by making the right career planning in the direction of education and career, and emphasized the importance of receiving psychological support and support in the direction of education and career.

TUDİFAK tələbələrinin psixoloqlarla görüşü təşkil olunub (unec.edu.az)

UNEC's Inclusive education model was presented at an international event in Turkey

Sevinj Mahsimova, coordinator of the Inclusive Education Center of UNEC, participated in the congress of the International Global Disability Foundation held in Istanbul, Turkey.

The congress organized by the Global Disability Foundation (GEF) was on the topics of "Accessible tourism", "Accessible educational institutions and Inclusive education".

At the event attended by representatives of 11 countries of the world, Sevinj Mahsimova spoke about the experience of the UNEC Inclusive Education Center on the application of universal standards.

The event plan for 2022 was discussed at the congress. In the discussions, it was decided to prepare the inclusive education experience of UNEC along with the leading universities of Turkey in accordance with the international universal higher education standards and present it to Turkey's YOK institution.

UNEC-in İnklüziv təhsil modeli Türkiyədə keçirilən beynəlxalq tədbirdə təqdim olunub