

Epoka University
Dean of Students
Student Clubs

January/ 20/2023

Subject: Academic year Annual Activity Report 2022-2023

Dean of Students

EPOKA University develops all the skills you need for the future. Student's clubs are established on academic bases and make possible and develop interpersonal relationships between students and build leadership skills. The social and cultural activities give students a better understanding of life and bring about cultural exchange between students from different parts of Albania, the Balkans and the beyond. For this reason, a variety of social and cultural activities are available to the students of EPOKA University. The students are organized by Students Clubs & Activities Office, part of the Dean of Students Office.

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ABOUT DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

The Dean of Students office is responsible for the planning, support, advocacy and coordination of various educational programs and resources for students. The office aims at ensuring that the welfare of the students is catered for physically, academically, emotionally, intellectually, socially, and spiritually. All the activities and programs of the office of the Dean of Students are aimed at this wholesome development.

Goals and Objectives:

- To provide a confidential, safe, respectful, and welcoming space where our students can openly and honestly voice their concerns
- To act as a supportive liaison between our students, faculty, and staff
- To advocate on behalf of fairness, justice, open communication, and expeditious resolution.
- To empower our students so that they can be successful in meeting their intellectual, interpersonal, and developmental goals.
- Organizes, coordinates, expands, and manages relationships between student of EPOKA University within and outside the EPOKA University to third or similar counterparts, for connecting and strengthening bilateral and multilateral
- Guarantees students life in EPOKA University, the implementation of agreements with third parties focused on students
- Promote a healthy, safe campus community

1.1 Welcome Ceremony



Figure 1.1

On 17th of October, 2022 EPOKA University organized an official Welcome Ceremony for all freshman students at the beginning of 2022-2023 Academic Year. During the Welcoming Ceremony all students are welcomed by distinguished speakers from the university, Alumni and companies with which the university has collaborations too. Students were part of this ceremony today to celebrate the start of their studies at EPOKA University with traditional music performed by EPOKA students and Albanian singers like Aroilda Ibrahim.

We thank them for the positive energy that gave today's ceremony and the beautiful atmosphere.

The Welcome Ceremony is the perfect opportunity to meet other students and staff of the university and its faculties!

1.2 Club Fest 9



Figure 1.2

On November 24, 2022, the Dean of Students Office in collaboration with the Students Clubs of EPOKA University organized the Club Fest 9. In this event also called "One Day Fest" participated 27 clubs. All the clubs had their stands where they introduced their clubs and admitted new members. In the event some of EPOKA University talented students performed with songs and other artistic performances.

At the same time, part of the event where the speeches held by our Academic staff and students' representatives.

We want to thank all the students for their great interest and all the representatives of the clubs.

1.3 Meet Austrian Companies”



Figure 1.3

EPOKA University successfully organized “**Meet Austrian Companies**” Joint Job Fair in collaboration with Austrian Business Agency (ABA). All participants had the opportunity to meet Austrian companies’ representatives and have an interview with them. The Joint Job Fair included 8 Austrian companies and 2 Universities was the first Joint Job Fair of its kind. The Joint Job Fair is an excellent opportunity for our students to start their professional career.

1.4 Spring Fest



Figure 1.4

As every year, EPOKA University continued its tradition by organizing the 10th Spring Fest on May 24, 2023. Spring Fest is an organization that takes place in the framework of the closing of the academic year, its purpose is to include the highest activation of students who want to perform with their talents. The activities that complete the spring festival are the performance of students in singing, acting, and dancing. Of course, a special guest, who this year we welcomed the well-known singer, Ermal Fejzullahu. Spring Fest It was an atmosphere that the students had missed, but also an environment where they got to know each other better.

1.1 Sensitive Society Club

1.1.1 Accessibility Award



Figure 1.5

On December 7, 2022, an Open Forum was held with a special guest Suela Lala, the executive director of the foundation "Together", for the accessibility of people with limited abilities, in the city's premises, but not only! The students get different knowledge on this topic and show a high interest in being further involved in projects that contain topics related to the accessibility of people with limited abilities! We thank Mrs. Lala for the knowledge she shared with our students!

1.1.2 Po t'vjen një kartolinë



Figure 1.6

On December 22, 2022, the office of Clubs and Activities at EPOKA University as part of the initiative “Po t’vjen një kartolinë”, this initiative taken by the journalist Osman Stafa, traveled to the village of Topojan in the municipality of Kukës to distribute 55 gifts collected for the children of that area! EPOKA University students joined this initiative, giving their contribution, both with the preparation of the gifts and with their distribution! We thank all those who became part of this initiative and made a child happy!

1.1.3 Donation for earthquake in Turkey



Figure 1.7

As we are aware, on February 06, 2023, two powerful earthquakes with devastating consequences struck south-eastern Türkiye and northern Syria. The earthquakes have destroyed people's homes and local infrastructure, and many families are in urgent need of relief items and shelter. In this context, the Sensitive Society Student Club in collaboration with other Clubs, started a campaign to collect contributions with the aim of helping people and families in need. Three boxes will be placed in the three buildings of the University Campus, Buildings A, E, D, for all those who contribute.

1.1.4 Sharing is Caring, Campaign



Figure 1.8

From March 7, 2023, to the end of April, Sensitive Society Club developed an awareness campaign which coincides with the collection of donations, food, clothes, and monetary values. This campaign was made more to help families who have low income and who live in difficult economic and hygienic conditions. The contributions will also be taken to a hospital in Koplik which needs basic things: (blankets, sheets, pillows, equipment, etc.). Each one contributed a little to something better. 🧑- What did they contribute with?

📌 Clothes - "not very used" 📌 Blankets 📌 Foods 📌 Monetary value 📌 Sheet 📌 Pillow

1.1.5 Women's Day



Figure 1.9

On 8th March, International women's day, Sensitive Society Club organized a special heart-warming event, aiming the happiness of the hardworking staff. In this important day, we wanted the women staff to feel just the way they really are: SPECIAL, BRAVE AND STRONG. We are thankful to all who made this event come to life.

1.1.6 Visits to the home for the elderly



Figure 1.10

On April 14, 2023, the sensitive club held an activity near the home for the elderly. The reason for the visit was to spend time with the elderly, but also to keep them company by having pleasant

conversations about their lives. The students also distributed sweets and drinks and then played various games such as dominoes and chess.

1.1.7 Colti al Volo Project



Figure 1.11

Colti Al Volo Project! For the elderly, for a better social life!

Last week, the Dean of Students Office welcomed in the premises of the EPOKA university Sebastiano Gadaleta the Executive Director and the project coordinator Senada Demaj, members of the AUSER center based in Italy. As part of the Colti al Volo project, the Sensitive Society Club had a collaboration with the AUSER center to collect aid for the Malësia e Madhe hospital in Koplik. In the framework of the project funded by Erasmus + in collaboration with the AUSER center, the INCO (Interculturality and Communication) association was also present, as well as the participating partners from SPAIN (M&M Profuture Training S.L.) and GREECE (E-School educational). AUSER is a non-profit voluntary center that has been operating for 20 years and as of today has 300,000 members in Italy and 40 members in Albania, specifically in Koplik, where most of the time they do volunteer work to help the elderly. The purpose of this activity was within the COLTI AL VOLO project, for the opening of a center which helps the third age for their specific needs such as economic and social ones.

1.1.8 Cleaning Campaign “Divjake Karavasta”



Figure 1.12

On Monday, June 5, 2023, the students of Sensitive Society Club in collaboration with Municipality of Divjaka organized a cleaning campaign at the Divjaka National Park. This initiative of cleaning the environment around us, it was the second one for this year which hopefully will push further to organize other cleaning campaigns in key areas. The cleaning of the environment around us is considered as the most important and sensitive issue for community life. For this reason, cleaning is put as a priority on the club agenda of our planned activities. At yesterday's activity, some staff, and students of EPOKA University took part in contributing and enjoying the day too. Hopefully, the same will be true for future events.

1.1.9 Children Fest



Figure 1.13

Sensitive Society Club organized a special activity for the orphan children. The children spent a great day. They firstly they played different games, such as football, dancing, and painting and further on they had lunch at EPOKA University. At the end, all the prepared food packages were given to them. Sensitive Society Club received an Appreciation Certificate from the National Orphan Association of Albania.

1.2. Innovators Club

1.2.2 "Kei's Journey to Stanford"



Figure 1.14

Innovators Club on Monday 28.2023 held an activity with the former student of the university, Kei Hysi. She spoke to the students about her experiences after her studies and how they can move forward in their professional careers after finishing their studies, facing new innovations, and applying their skills to these innovations.

1.3 Outdoors Club

1.3.1 Trip to Korçë -Dardhë



Figure 1.15

On January 28, 2023, the office of student clubs organized an activity with the students of the Outdoors Club and Art and Culture. the students visited the city of **Korçë** where they stopped for a coffee at the old bazaar, after another stop, we also made the first medieval Albania, where they got to know the history of its construction and other artifacts. The next stop was for a

lunch break in the picturesque village of Boboshtice and at the end the activity continued at the ski track where the students had fun with snow and each other.

1.4 Academic Club

1.4.1 How to write a Graduation Project



Figure 1.17

On January 27, 2023, Academic Club organized its first activity. It was an open lecture where the focus was: ‘How to write a good Graduation Project?’. The guest speaker, MSc. Egis Zaimaj, a professor at Epoka University, gave valuable insight on this topic.

Issues that were discussed: - How to choose the topic.

- A good literature review

- Empirical Analysis

- How to gather data, etc.

1.5 Young Economists Network Club

1.5.1 International Business Operation with Bujar Bakiu



Figure 1.8

On January 23rd, our Economics student **Stelina Hametaj** under the guidance of **Prof. Asc. Dr Eglantina Hysa** and the **Dean of Students** organized an open lecture under the title "International Business Operations." This open lecture was held by a special guest, **Mr. Bujar Bakiu**, Co-founder and Managing Director of Data Max and one of the leading professionals in cultivating the field of Data Science and Machine Learning in Albania. Assuring to serve as a quick training, the guest shared valuable insight from the company's extensive experience. The main points of this event's focus were the following: • Benefits and Challenges of going international as a Start-Up; • Insight on the current market and applicable solutions; • Advice for future entrepreneurs; • The Importance of a Think-Global Mentality. • Q & A

1.6 Electronics Club

1.6.1 Integrity KEY Short Pitch

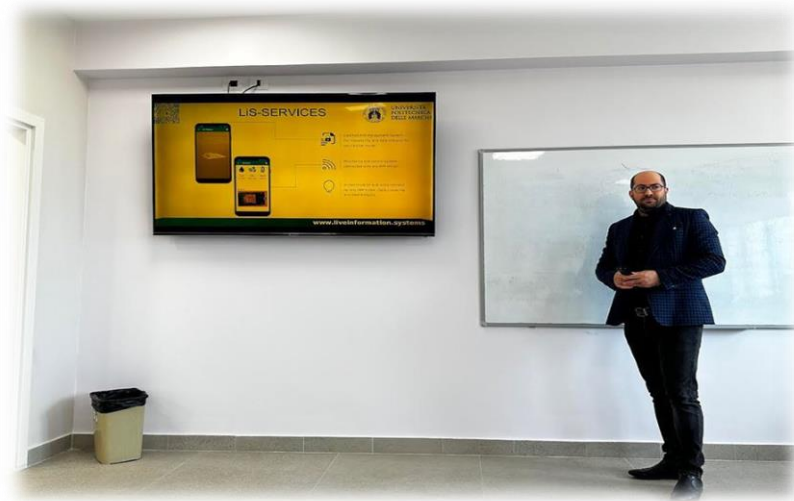


Figure 1.19

On December 22, 2022 Electronics Club organized an Open Lecture with Mr. Rifat Seferi, Chief Information Officer at Audit Albania at the premises of EPOKA University. Topics that were discussed: •Tech Startup •Academic Spin-Off •C-Labs• Integrity KEY Short Pitch

1.7 Iustitia Club

1.7.1 Participation on Law Procedure of KLGJ



Figure 1.20

Law Students' Club from 5 May 2022 have been engaged by participating in the online meetings

of the High Judicial Council, as one of the first institutions of the justice system that was created through the framework of justice reform. Through proactive engagement in HJC meetings,

students understand the leading role of this institution towards the policy making process, development of plans, decision making process and allocating of the necessary resources to the judiciary system. Students engaged in participating in online meetings have kept minutes regarding the topics of discussion and the scope of forwarding information to the third parties.

1.7.2 Tell me a Story, Open Forum



Figure 1.21

On March 23, 2022, the Faculty of Law, and Social Sciences, in collaboration with the Dean of Students, held an activity with the theme, "Youth, Gender Equality and Discrimination", where the special guest was Mr. Robert Gajda Commissioner for the Protection from Discrimination. During the activity, many topics were touched upon that are directly related to the individual, but also to the discriminated communities. Mr. Gajda spoke about the importance of the institution, what individuals or even the institution itself should do differently to regulate relations and reduce discrimination. The activity was held in the form of a discussion where the students also asked a variety of questions to get as much information as possible.

1.7.3 Right of Information in Albania



Figure 1.22

On May 02, 2023, the Department of Law, in collaboration with the Dean of Students Office, held an Open Forum on the topic of the Right to Information in Albania. As special guests, we had the General Director of the Commissioner for the Right to Information, Elona Hoxha and Ilda Hoxha, journalist of the Faktoje center. The guests provided a general overview of the right that Albanian citizens must request information from public institutions and how the legislation in force regulates this right. The forum proceeded with questions from students who wanted to know more about this topic, and then continued with discussions about disinformation and fake news and how citizens can distinguish these types of news.

1.8 Finance Club

1.8.1 Open forum Kreston Albania



Figure 1.23

On April 13, the finance club held an activity with the auditing company Kreston Albania Academy. Invited was Mrs. Mirsada Zeneli, who spoke about the steps that students should follow to become an audit specialist. The students asked questions about the topics related to their program and how they can apply this knowledge further.

1.9 Art and Culture Club

1.9.1 Performing at Spring Fest 2023, Painting. Acrylic canvas



Figure 1.24

As every year, EPOKA University continued its tradition by organizing the 10th Spring Fest on May 24, 2023. Spring Fest is an organization that takes place in the framework of the closing of the academic year, its purpose is to include the highest activation of students who want to

perform with their talents. The activities that complete the spring festival are the performance of students in singing, acting, and dancing and painting by students of Art and Culture Club.

1.10 Speak X Club

1.10.1 Open Forum Grida Duma



Figure 1.25

We would also like to extend a special thank you to Grida Duma for gracing us with her expertise and delivering an impactful talk. Grida's insights and wisdom resonated deeply with all of us, inspiring and motivating us to embrace the power of determination and perseverance in our lives. Her ability to articulate complex concepts with clarity and passion was truly remarkable, and we are grateful for the profound impact she made on our SpeakX club members and attendees.

It is important to acknowledge that the impact of Grida's talk extends far beyond the event itself. Her words have ignited a sense of purpose and determination within our club, and we are witnessing the positive effects of her guidance in our members' personal and professional lives. Grida's influence has become a guiding light for our club as we navigate challenges and strive for continuous growth. Let us continue to reflect on Grida's teachings, apply them to our ongoing journeys, and support one another as we embrace THE WILL OF “IT WILL” in our pursuit of personal and professional excellence. Thank you for being an essential part of this remarkable gathering.

1.11 Cinema Club

1.11.1 Movie Screening Kur po “Xhirohej një Film”



Figure 1.26

On January 12, the Cinema Club in collaboration with Miss Enxhi Begvarfaj, had the pleasure of organizing a film screening on the topic of the effect that the films of the communist regime have on those born after 1990. We would like to express our gratitude and thanks to all the participants and to Miss Anxhi who gave us this opportunity. We take the opportunity to inform all interested students that this activity will be extended in the form of follow-up initiatives from the Iustitia Club and is the first step towards a long-term project.

1.11.2 Movie Screening “The Truman Show”



Figure 1.27

On January 19, 2023, the Cinema Club organized an activity showing the Truman Show for EPOKA University students, where the activity was organized based on the decision taken by the members of the film club! The purpose of the film screening was to spend time with each other and to have fun during its screening.

1.11.3 Movie screening "JoJo Rabbit"



Figure 1.28

On January 25, 2023, the Cinema club organized the Second activity showing the "JoJo Rabbit" film for EPOKA University students, where the activity was organized based on the decision

taken by the members of the film club! The purpose of the film screening was to spend time with each other and to have fun during its screening.

1.11.4 Movie screening " The Grand Budapest Hotel "



Figure 1.28

On today's activity, EPOKA Cinema Club held an interesting session with focus on Wes Anderson's "The Grand Budapest Hotel". Prior to the screening of the film, an informative presentation about the key elements of the cinematography techniques used in this film was presented to the audience by the president of the Film Club, Marin Hoxha. The analyzing session was insightful and brought to light certain things in cinema that the audience eye doesn't catch. Keeping in mind the techniques used in the film, we moved on to the screening of "The Grand Budapest Hotel". The students were now able to observe the main aspects of the cinematography in the film and had a clear perception of the work behind this aesthetically pleasing picture.

1.12 "Sports Club

1.12.1 EPOKA Volleyball League



Figure 1.29

EPOKA Sports Club is an active club whose aim is to integrate the students' high quality of learning with the development of the whole person. Our mission as a club is based upon the fact that physical activity is an integral part of the total educational experience and contributes to as well as enhances the quality of university life in many ways. In an environment where academic excellence is the highest priority, an active physical life, which emphasizes participation, competition, confidence, and leadership, is very important. The main goal of the ESC is to organize sports activities, events, and meetings where the members can share their ideas and experiences.

1.12.2 EPOKA Football League First Match



Figure 1.30

On March 29,2023 at 12:00 PM the Semi-Final of the EPOKA Football League was held between, the groups that have reached the Semi-Final are: BINF 2B - SWE 1A SWE 3 - SWE 2A.

1.12.3 Final EPOKA Football



Figure 1.31

On April 05,2023 at 12:00 PM the Final of the EPOKA Football League was held, the groups that have reached the Final are: BINF 2B-SWE 3.

1.13 Google Developer Club

1.13.1 Workshop/ INFO SESSION



Figure 1.32

GDSC EPKA's purpose is to help other students solve problems by providing a way to create an intensive educational experience during the workshops. New concepts will be introduced, this way spurring participants to investigate them further on their own and even demonstrate the practice of the actual methods. The team's main goal is to present the most prevalent technologies enabling the members keep their eyes on the future by staying current with the latest emerging technologies. One of the Google values is: "Focus on the user and all else will follow". Our team strongly believes this, and it will focus on providing the best experience for the participants.

1.13.2 Workshop introduction to Python



Figure 1.33

It is an introduction to Python and to one of the most used python libraries, Pandas. This is a highly recommended event to participate in, as no prior programming knowledge is required. It is a great help for the upcoming GDSC Explore ML event series. At the end of this event, you will be familiar with python basics and the Pandas library.

1.13.3 DataMaxWorkshop



Figure 1.34

Google Developer Club hosted a workshop covering the basics of Machine Learning, and you will get to train your own model. Mr. Bujar Bakiu, Managing Director & Machine Learning

Engineer at Data Max will be invited. He will make a presentation about machine learning and some hands-on exercises.

1.13.4 Workshop



Figure 1.35

Google Developer Club hosted a workshop Opening (Intro to Solution Challenge) Rockstar Speaker Forming teams & Brainstorming PM Speaker Closure & Quiz Prize. Big thank you for working on this event with us! Cynthia T. Sanaz Rahbari Ali Faruk Yücel Christina Souaiby Shuyi Lee Shivangi Shah Ehab Yousif Ahmed Ezzo Kumar Acharjee Michele Bonini Mathieu D. WEILL Clemen Kok Vairo Di Pasquale Nyamkhuu Magnaituvshin Maciej Kisielewicz Hardeep Singh Fatemeh Abbasi Razgaleh This event would not have been possible without Laura Cincera Angelika Zaucha Florence Poirel Alessandro Palmieri Vidhi Desai Irene R. Aleksa Komosar Miroslav Homola Kateryna Hrytsaienko Liangda Wang Ainna Zafar Moustafa Khairi Ivelina Doynova Jack Lee Haris Nazir Sulieman Al Rustom Stephanie Zubicueta Portales Evgeniya Efimenko Mattia Piccirillo Jasna Marin Hugo Martínez Omar Younis Mihai Mesteru/

1.14 Marketing Zone Club

1.14.1 Visiting the Neptune Premises



Figure 1.36

Marketing Zone Club organized a visit to Neptune. The main aim of the tour was to see firsthand different manufacturing processes and the management of a big organization. Neptune experienced staff shared their knowledge with the students and created a wonderful, pleasant, and interesting tour. Various questions were asked by students making an interesting conversation as well.

1.15 Future Engineers Club

1.15.1. Excel Workshop



Figure 1.37

Lecture 1 of Microsoft Excel Workshop On 11 January 2023 the Future Engineers Club organized the first course lecture of the Microsoft Excel Workshop. Students were introduced

with the basic concepts and functions of Excel and were given exercises to practice. The day was finalized with success, and we are thankful for everyone who decided to join our activity.

1.15.2 Excel Workshop Second week



Figure 1.38

The Future Engineers Club concluded the Microsoft Excel Workshop on April 7th. After several weeks of learning about Excel's various features, including formulas, functions, and data analysis tools, the students were ready to put their skills to the test. Students who passed the Microsoft Excel exam were awarded with a certificate, recognizing their achievement and proficiency in using Microsoft Excel. The workshop was a great success, and the students left with not only new skills but also a sense of accomplishment!

1.15.3 AutoCAD Workshop last week



Figure 1.39

On a full-day AutoCAD 3D workshop on May 6th was an incredible experience! The workshop was designed to provide the participants with an in-depth understanding of AutoCAD's 3D modeling techniques. Throughout the day, students learned how to create and manipulate 3D objects, and stunning visualizations. At the end of the workshop, students who successfully completed their 3D modeling projects were awarded certificates of completion.

1.16 Young Talent Music Club



Figure 1.40

1.16.1 Performing on Spring Fest 2023

As every year, EPOKA University continued its tradition by organizing the 10th Spring Fest on May 24, 2023. Spring Fest is an organization that takes place in the framework of the closing of the academic year, its purpose is to include the highest activation of students who want to perform with their talents. The activities that complete the spring festival are the performance of students in singing.

1.17 Motivators Club

1.17.1 A letter to you!

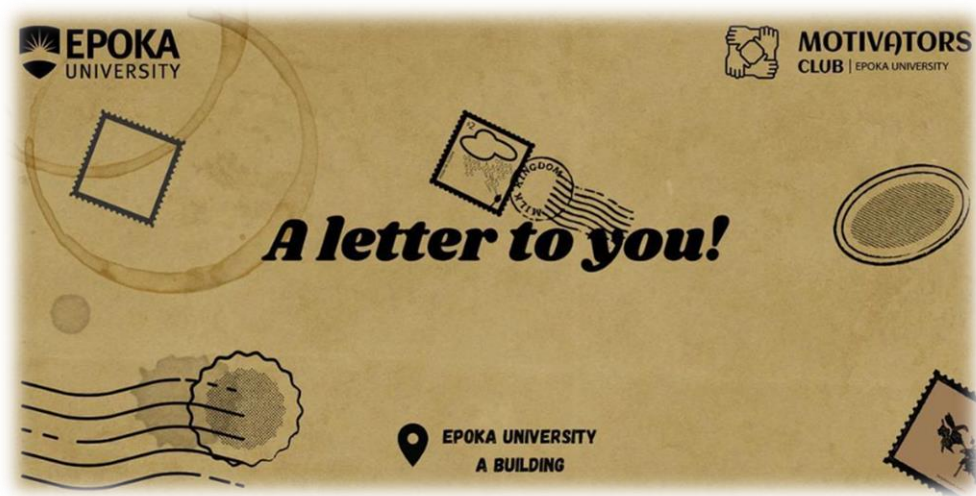


Figure 1.41

The EPOKA University Student Council and the Motivators Club are jointly organizing a motivating activity, under the name "A letter to you" As the exam season rolls up and so does the stress related to it, the need for motivation is felt more acutely. For this reason, the EUSC and the Motivators Club have come together under this initiative of letter exchanges between students.

A box, serving as a mailbox, will be situated at building A (clearly made visible by the presence of the poster below), in which participating students will "post" their anonymous motivating letters, expressing what they appreciate most in their friends and motivating them to do their best in the exam season. The mailbox will be present until February 3. During February 6 and 7, the class representatives of each class will distribute the letters to receiving students.

1.17.2 Blood Donation



Figure 1.42

The Motivators Club, in cooperation with the Sensitive Society Club again this year developed the activity of donating blood. This has caused an emergency and a dire need for blood, for sick children, people with Thalassemia and other diseases. Health facilities have opened their premises for this emergency and have also made their vehicles available near you, near your homes to help blood donors give their blood.

1.17.3 Soft Skills



Figure 1.43

The soft skills training program consisted of four sessions, each lasting around two hours. Its main objective was to help students identify their strengths and weaknesses through a variety

of activities. These activities included group discussions, case studies, and game challenges, allowing the trainer to assess and enhance the students' communication skills, problem-solving abilities, and creativity. During the program, students received feedback from the trainer after each activity, with a focus on areas that needed improvement. For instance, one activity involved pairs of students working together. One student used Legos to build something while the other student, who couldn't see the structure, had to listen carefully, and follow instructions to recreate it. This activity aimed to assess the students' communication skills as both speakers and listeners. Apart from that specific activity, the students engaged in several other group exercises to improve teamwork and collaboration. These activities aimed to develop their abilities as effective team members. In the end of training, each student got feedback from the trainer which was adapted to their field of study so that they can excel.

1.17.4 Open Forum Blendi Fevziu



Figure 1.44

On May 15th, the well-known journalist Blendi Fevziu, invited as the guest speaker by Ardena Huqi and Enisa Kolagji, held an Open [Lecture](#) under the topic of "THE FUTURE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALBANIA". This activity took place within the International Economics course. With his vast knowledge and [experience](#), Mr. Fevziu brought valuable insights and [perspectives](#) to all the students' questions, captivating the [audience](#) and enriching their understanding of the subjectmatter.

1.18 Conflict Resolution Club

1.19 Human Rights Defender

1.20 Multimedia Club

1.21 Back to the Future Club

1.22 Women's Leadership Club

1.23 N" CEP