

MEETING OF ENGINEERING FORUM AND THE YOUNG CREATORS WITHIN THE FRAMES OF PANEL: "OFFER OF YOUNG SCIENTISTS FOR THE ECONOMY"

SPOTKANIE FORUM INŻYNIERSKIEGO Z MŁODYMI TWÓRCAMI W RAMACH PANELU PT. „OFERTA MŁODYCH NAUKOWCÓW DLA GOSPODARKI”

The mentioned meeting was oriented to young creators with the aim to present the good practices, possibilities and models. Another aim was to give the opportunity of listening to the young people opinions by the experienced, "old" creators, scientific and administrative workers and officials. Old – in quotation marks, of course, as it is not possible to specify the limit of the youth univocally.... You may feel young but be not classified into the group of the young generation, i.e. between the period of childhood and the mature life where you find your own way of life, start a family life, undertake the employment or organize a company, on the grounds of own ideas.

The guests of the panel were:

Lukasz Sztern – the Chief of Innovation Hub of Warsaw University of Technology, dealing in his everyday work with support of innovative solutions;

Lukasz Żrodowski – the president of start-up AMAZEMET, experienced innovator and author of many commercial patents;

Michał Cichowicz – activist of scientific circles and leader of innovative projects.

Each of the panellists represented a different range of experiences with which he is encountered every day. Their common feature included everyday youth and creativeness in developing or promoting the solutions.

The guests of the panels considered and discussed some important problems which they meet in quickly varying reality. The mentioned topics were as follows:

- New scientific ideas of the young people – chances and barriers in promoting the new solutions
- Interest and involvement of the institutions and enterprises in development of the young generation
- Creation of start-ups.

It is assumed that creativeness of the young man may be shaped at many moments during his maturation but the period of studies is the best time. The question arises: whether the universities give the appropriate possibilities for it? The panellists stated that after the years of demographic declines and peaks, we have entered the way of quite stable number of 19-years old people (although the present natural birth rate in Poland is one of the lowest in Europe). We have, however, at least stable,

forecasted number of students for the coming years what may be documented by prognoses of GUS (Chief Statistical Bureau in Poland). The mentioned group will undoubtedly include the creators of new, perhaps crucial technological solutions. We should, however, think about the role of teacher in the contemporary world. It should be the person wise and abundant in knowledge but also, using modern tools of science and didactics. The role of the teacher in the era of artificial intelligence (AI) may consist in guiding the possible solutions and, also, asking the appropriate questions.

Being educated and "soaked" with the academic way of life, we do not notice sometimes that the companies and, especially, big enterprises construct their potential on innovativeness which is hermetically protected in their R & D departments. Sometimes the mentioned knowledge does not come to the universities, to the didactic domain, so the academic workers do not transfer this knowledge to their students. How, therefore, a young man is to get familiarised with the newest trends? Should he listen to the celebrities, seek for the proven authorities or perhaps ask GPT chat? How to reconcile these two realities?

We know that such as universities but also many state establishments support the initiatives of the young people. There are many available programmes for the financial support of the ideas for the new and innovative entrepreneurs. We know, however, that more and more foreign capital can be seen at the Polish market; they invest in the development of new ideas, being interesting in respect of business as well as technology.

Start-up – in the common understanding – is meant as a young, innovative company which seeks for its business model and tries to enter the market with a new product. To satisfy the definition of start-up, it must be a product which has not been at the market until now. Last year, the number of the registered start-ups was the highest (21%) in the Low Silesian voivodeship and the Mazovian voivodeship occupied the second place.

The team is the key factor in the development of the start-up. It gives a guarantee of success. A good team is able to verify quickly the idea, is open to the changes and is not afraid of the new ideas.

There is often made the reference to media statistics, stating that only 10% of start-ups makes a success. It means that 9 per 10 start-ups fail. The studies indicate that 21.5% start-ups are terminated with a failure in the first year, 30% – in the second year, 50% – in the fifth year and as much as 70% in the tenth year. What is the reason of such high percentage of unsuccessful projects? The start-ups fail due to financial reasons, most frequently at the

moment when a product occurs to be unfit to the market needs, or requires time-consuming and expensive changes during its development, its technological debt increases, or the problems with the effective monetization appear. Running the company is a hard work. It is worthy to analyze the data e.g. Report Polish Start-up 2021.

Developed by Dawid Myszka

YOUNG INNOVATOR – GALA OF THE TALENTED YOUNG GENERATION

MŁODY INNOWATOR – GALA UTALENTOWANEJ MŁODZIEŻY

The approaching end of the school year was the occasion for summing up the initiatives of association movement, directed to a young generation. In Warsaw House of Engineer of NOT, the Gala summing up the 16th Competition "Young Innovator of 2020/2023 and the XLIXth Olympiad of Technical Science (15.06.2023) had place. The both mentioned initiatives were carried out under the patronage of the Minister of Education and Science.

The main heroes of the mentioned event were the laureates of the both initiatives – the young innovators from primary and secondary schools whose work was top rated by the Jury of the Competition and the pupils of the lyceums and secondary technical schools who coped the best with the requirements of the three-stage competition (the first school competitions were commenced in October 2022).

The Gala was also attended by the guests, including: Piotr Zakrzewski – Vice President of the Patent Office of Poland, Agnieszka Mokrogulska – Head of the Department of General Education and Programme Rudiments at the Ministry

of Education and Science, Dr Remigiusz Kopoczek – Vice-President of the Research Network Łukasiewicz for research affairs, and, also the sponsors and donors: Jan Rosiński – The Chief Technologist in Toruń Plants of Sanitary Materials SA, Jan Koblak – the President of HORUS-ENERGIA company, Dr Maciej Wieloch – the President of the INFINI ASI company. There were also present the members of the Chief Committee of OWT with the chairman Prof. dr Stanisław Wincenciak, Eng., and the members of the Jury of the Young Innovator, presided by Ewa Mańkiewicz-Cudny, the President of FSNT-NOT. Prof. *dr honoris causa* Czesław Waszkiewicz, Eng., the Chairman of the Jury of the competition *Numerus Primus inter Pares* was also the guest of the discussed ceremony. The summing up of this event had also place during the Gala. The Gala was also attended by the teachers, patrons, parents of the laureates and by the representatives of association movements, their agendas (Publishing House SIGMA-NOT) and the Regional Organizational Units, owing to which it was possible to run the competition and the Olympiad.



Fot. 1. Laureates and guests during Gala Young Innovator and Olympiad of Technical Science