

Colorful Arcades - Architectural Workshops for Children

Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

Colorful Arcades is a family workshop dedicated to the regional architecture of the Vistula Fens near the city of Gdańsk. The project continues efforts to present the history, tradition, and culture of the Vistula Fens in an accessible and interactive way to children and their parents. During the workshop, participants can learn about elements of the Vistula Fens landscape and create a wooden model of a traditional arcaded house.

Panel Lectures as part of European Heritage Days

Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

During the 2016 **European Heritage Days**, a temporary exhibition titled "Forgotten Sacred? – The Vistula Fens" was organized, focusing on the role of the sacred in the Vistula Delta. The main theme of the exhibition was the Mennonite temples and cemeteries, which are elements of the Vistula Delta landscape and the multicultural mosaic that once characterized the Vistula Delta region.

Colorful Windmills - Regional Architecture Workshops

Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

Colourful Windmills is a family workshop dedicated to the regional architecture of the Vistula Fens near the city of Gdańsk. During the workshop, children have the opportunity to learn why the region is called "Little Holland", what types of windmills there are and what they were used for in the past. Together with the instructor, the children build movable, wooden models of the most popular baby goats in the Vistula Fens. The content of the classes is based on the information from a children's book created by the author of the project.

The Vistula Fens Historical Cafe

Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

Is an arcaded house a Mennonite house? What do Olender farms look like? These are just two questions that were asked during **the Vistula Fens Historical Cafe** meeting with Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD. In addition to historical topics, there were also those related to the protection of the cultural heritage of the Vistula Delta and advice on how to do it well.

Landscape Audit of the Pomeranian Voivodeship

Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

A landscape audit is a special landscape management tool. Its aim is to identify landscapes present throughout the voivodeship, along with defining the characteristic features and assessing the value of each of them. In 2018 a landscape audit project for the Pomeranian Voivodeship commenced. One of the experts asked to participate in the work on determining the cultural heritage of the Vistula Fens is Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD.

Architectural Design of Local Government Centre in Szemud

Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

The Local Government Centre in Szemud is a modern complex designed to meet the needs of the local community and to improve the quality, speed and convenience of services offered. The complex was created with the comfort of residents in mind, consolidating municipal entities in one place. The author of the architectural concept of the Local Government Centre is Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD.

Promoting Scientific Life in the City of Grudziądz

Professor Wiesław Sieradzan, Faculty of History

For over 25 years Professor Wiesław Sieradzan has been working to strengthen the scientific potential in three disciplines (history, archaeology and art science) in Grudziądz. The result of cooperation between prof. Sieradzan with the Grudziądz Museum and the Polish Historical Society, Branch in Grudziądz, is the scientific journal *Rocznik Grudziądzki*. In addition, as part of the cooperation, numerous collective works on the history of the city and the region have been published and international conferences from the Military in the City series are being organized.

Architectural Design of the Municipal Sports Centre in Kielno

Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

The Municipal Sports Centre in Kielno is the biggest sports and recreation complex in the local area. In addition to the swimming pool, the facility also consists of a jacuzzi, steam room, climbing wall, squash court, gym, sports hall, fitness rooms and playing fields. The author of the architectural design is Marta Koperska-Kośmicka, PhD.

Veterinary Bicycle Ride

Michał Kaczmarowski, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

The veterinary bicycle ride is an annual integration and recreational event organized by Michał Kaczmarowski, PhD, from the Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences. As part of the initiative, participants travel local bicycle routes, discovering attractive tourist spots in the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship. In addition to sports purposes, the activity serves to promote veterinary medicine as a field of study at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń.

My Region – My Language – My History

Michał Głuszkowski, PhD, Faculty of Humanities

My Region - My Language - My History is a series of popular science lectures and workshops engaging secondary and primary school students in dialectological and oral history research. Cooperation with schools involves a presentation on the local dialect and the value of oral history for small communities, the organization of dialectological workshops related to work on vernacular texts from the region, training in conducting field interviews and the involvement of interested students in the preparation of a joint publication - a selection of vernacular texts from the region.

Genetics Laboratory in our Kitchen (Genetic Workshop)

Anna Junkiert-Czarnecka, PhD, Faculty of Medicine

Organized as part of the Bydgoszcz Science Festival, the **Genetic Workshop** was aimed at showing that genetics is not a difficult and complicated science, but an extremely interesting and accessible one. During the workshop, students learned the principles of working in a genetics laboratory, discovered how the human genome "works," and learned the principles of genetic diagnostics. They also had the opportunity to extract DNA from biological material (soft fruits) using "chemical reagents" (dishwashing liquid, salt, alcohol) and "basic laboratory equipment" (a cup, a spoon, a coffee filter) which are available in every kitchen.

Toruń Regional Book Fair

Wojciech Szramowski, PhD, University Library

Commenced in 2011, the **Toruń Regional Book Fair** is a cyclical event featuring presentations, meetings, workshops and other initiatives dedicated to books and publications with a Pomeranian theme. The Fair's guests include both commercial and non-

commercial publishers from almost all of Northern Poland. Since 2022, the event has been co-organized by the Toruń Branch of the Kashubian-Pomeranian Association, the University Library in Toruń, and the Copernican Library in Toruń.

Chemistry Demonstrations

University Professor Marzanna Kurzawa, PhD, Faculty of Chemistry

Part of the Toruń Art and Science Festival, **Chemistry Demonstrations** are a series of interactive science-themed events aimed at children and youth in Toruń. The initiative aims to promote chemistry as a people-friendly science that can aid in everyday life.

Application for Access to Public Information as Means of Civic Control of the Government

Paweł Gruszecki, student, Faculty of Medicine

As part of a social engagement practice, **training on how to apply for public information** was conducted. The initiative was carried out by Paweł Gruszecki, a student and expert in obtaining public information. The beneficiary of the training was the Polish Women in Medicine Foundation. The training resulted in a report prepared by the Foundation on the status of women at medical universities.

My-Our-Hobby

University Professor Damian Czarnecki, PhD, Faculty of Health Sciences

As part of the **My-Our-Hobby** events, students from the Faculty of Health Sciences share their interests with patients in the addiction treatment ward of the psychiatry clinic. The meetings aim to engage students in the therapeutic process and motivate patients to change their lifestyles and develop new interests that serve as alternatives to addiction.

The initiative is supported by a therapeutic team (nursing, medical, and psychotherapeutic). The patient community also gets involved in the project by expressing the need for such initiatives and actively participating in them.

Wampiriada

Joanna Matuszak, CM Department of Admissions and Student Affairs

Wampiriada is a cyclic event organized in collaboration with the Regional Centre for Blood Donation and Hemotherapy. The main goal of the initiative is to raise awareness of how much individuals can do for others by donating blood or bone marrow. The event aims not only to collect as much blood as possible but also to promote the broader concept of charity and a healthy lifestyle.

Job Fair Offerty

Ilona Patuszyńska, CM Department of Career Services for Students and Graduates

The Offerty is one of the most important business events in the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship. Since 2007, the meetings have been organized by the Bydgoszcz Career Offices Consortium, which brings together representatives from six higher education institutions: Collegium Medicum of Nicolaus Copernicus University, Kuyavian-Pomeranian University, Bydgoszcz University of Science and Technology, Kazimierz Wielki University, WSB University, and the University of Economy. The project is the only event of its kind organized by the largest public and private universities in Bydgoszcz, making it unique in the region.

Atmosphere Day

Aleksandra Pospieszńska, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

Atmosphere Day is an initiative that takes place in March, around the time of World Water Day and World Meteorological Day (March 23). During the event, popular science lectures are given for high school students, weather forecasting workshops are conducted, and the Nicolaus Copernicus University Meteorological Observatory is presented. The aim of Atmosphere Day is to popularize knowledge about weather and climate.

Together We Change the World

University Professor Dorota Olszewska-Słonina, PhD, Faculty of Pharmacy

Together We Change the World is an initiative for family caregivers whose loved ones are chronically ill, disabled, and dependent. As part of the project, free training is organized for both home caregivers and nursing and caregiving staff in the areas of nutrition and care for dependent individuals.

Popular Science Lecture

University Professor Anna Gęsicka, PhD, Faculty of Humanities

The mission of the Collegium Civitas University of the Third Age is “to provide knowledge and skills that meet the needs of senior citizens.” One of the university's lecturers is University Professor Anna Gęsicka who teaches courses in her specialty—French medieval literature and culture. The aim of the **lectures** is to expand knowledge as part of lifelong learning.

Preventing Domestic Violence

University Professor Stanisław Burdziej, PhD, Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences

Stanisław Burdziej is a professor at the Institute of Sociology at Nicolaus Copernicus University and a co-founder and board member of the Court Watch Polska Foundation - a Toruń-based non-governmental organization working to increase citizens' trust in the judiciary. In 2021-2022, Professor Burdziej coordinated a research study titled "**The Justice System and Domestic Violence**". A survey of public opinion, case file analysis, monitoring of court hearings and in-depth interviews with 11 professionals involved in dealing with domestic violence in Poland were used to develop a report with recommendations on necessary changes in the Polish system for combating domestic violence.

NCU for Youth

Julia Kapelańska-Pręgowska, PhD, Faculty of Law and Administration

Over the course of several years, the Faculty of Law and Administration and the Faculty of Fine Arts of Nicolaus Copernicus University organized **meetings for preschool children and young people** from primary and secondary schools. The aim of the meetings was to popularize science and art and to encourage children to continue their education.

Toruń JUG

Marek Nowicki, PhD, Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science

Toruń JUG (Java User Group) brings together enthusiasts of technologies based on the Java Virtual Machine, for whom programming is not only a job but above all a hobby and fun. The members of the group strive to constantly develop their knowledge and programming skills, as well as strengthen the bonds of the local community. For this purpose, regular meetings are organized.

Project for the Participatory Budget of the City of Toruń: "STOP SMOG - Air Pollution Sensor Network"

Iwona Olińska, Main Library

The project **"STOP SMOG – urban air quality monitoring system for the City of Toruń"** was implemented as part of financing from the participatory budget for the City of Toruń.

Thanks to the initiative, Toruń residents gained the opportunity to obtain daily information on the state of air pollution in their district, motivate the City Guard to intervene and councilors to take further actions to improve air quality in Toruń.

Digital Nanoscience

University Professor Michał Zieliński, PhD, Faculty of Physics, Astronomy and Informatics

Digital Nanoscience is a series of scientific and programming workshops conducted by scientists from the Department of Quantum Physics of Nicolaus Copernicus University. The event introduces participants to the intricacies of nanoscience, an interdisciplinary study that, among others, includes topics from the fields of physics and chemistry. The initiative is addressed to local secondary school students.

We Influence Toruń

Anna Zaręba, PhD, Faculty of Fine Arts

We Influence Toruń is a coalition of organizations working together for and to protect Toruń. The group brings together residents of Toruń and the surrounding area, non-governmental organizations and experts interested in sustainable development, protection of monuments and green areas in the region's cities. The initiatives include intervention and advocacy activities regarding the City's spatial planning policy, as well as research walks, training, and legal and expert support for groups of residents who want to actively influence the shape of the city.

"Grawitacja" Board Games Day at NCU

Kinga Nemere-Czachowska, Department of Promotion and Communication - "NCU Alumni Programme"

"Grawitacja" is the biggest board game event in Toruń. It is organized once a year for the academic community - students, graduates and employees of the university, as well as NCU

sympathizers. The event also hosts shows of new releases and tournaments in popular titles. For families with small children, there is a separate family games room with animators, shows and tournaments for the youngest.

Biologists' Night

Anna Hetmann, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

Biologists' Night is a nationwide project promoting biological sciences among children and teenagers. On the second Friday of January, the Faculties of Biological Sciences of most Polish universities host workshops, shows and lectures in which anyone interested in biological sciences can participate. It is a great form of education through play and the promotion of learning among the local community.

Biology for Seniors

Anna Wojciechowska, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

Biology for Seniors is a series of educational classes addressed to people over 60 years of age (including those with disabilities) from Toruń and the surrounding area. The main goal of the initiative is to improve or acquire universal competencies and skills for the participant, allowing for social and professional activation, expanding general and specialist knowledge, developing interests, stimulating educational and cultural activation and preventing social exclusion. The classes are held in four thematic cycles: "Biology with potential", "Garden, my passion", "What strengthens us, what kills us" and "Molecular news".

ASK!

Hubert Długołęcki, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

ASK! is a series of year-round meetings addressed to children aged 4-8, during which they have the opportunity to learn about the work of representatives of interesting professions. The 2024 edition hosts scientists working at the Nicolaus Copernicus University, including an entomologist, meteorologist, veterinarian, astronomer, beekeeper, conservator, biologist and hydrogeologist.

Toruń- Göttingen Seminars

Aleksandra Burdziej, PhD, Faculty of Humanities

Initiated in 2019, **Toruń-Göttingen Seminars** are a series of Polish-German meetings that take place annually, alternately in Toruń and Göttingen. This is a unique Polish-German format that the Polish-German Society in Toruń has developed together with its German partner, the German-Polish Society in Göttingen. The seminar activates and integrates Nicolaus Copernicus University employees and students, allows them to have direct contact with the German community.

Take Care!

Hubert Długołęcki, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

The "**Take Care**" project was a series of three meetings devoted to physical and mental health, which took place in May 2023 in Toruń. During the event participants had the opportunity to learn effective methods of dealing with stress, acquire first aid skills and take part in relaxation yoga classes.

Occasional Family Art Workshops

Hubert Długołęcki, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

One of the civic engagement initiatives undertaken by the Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation are **occasional family art workshops**. These include, among others, the following workshops: Father's, Mother's, Grandmother's Day and Grandfather's Day Artistically, as well as art workshops on Children's Day. The events are aimed at families with children aged 4-12. They take place in university spaces and are conducted mainly by the NCU researchers.

Literary Competition "Przecinek" (Eng. "Comma")

Hubert Długołęcki, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

"Przecinek" (Eng. "Comma") is an annual literary competition of the Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation addressed to the academic community – students, graduates and employees of Nicolaus Copernicus University. Participants can try their storytelling skills by creating original narratives. The submitted texts are assessed by a jury, which then selects the winners.

Russian Language Course for Seniors from House of Initiatives

Kamila Sadowska-Krahl, Faculty of Humanities

The purpose of the initiative is not only **language learning**, which has a positive impact on the development of mental abilities, but also intergenerational integration. Students, under the supervision of a teacher, work together with seniors, helping them perform language tasks.

The Open Day at the Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

Justyna Maliszewska, PhD, Dariusz Kamiński, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

The Open Day is a promotional event hosted by the Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences. Scientists, alongside students, prepare demonstration classes that provide participants with the opportunity to familiarize themselves with modern equipment, analytical techniques, methods of working with animals and plants, and much more.

"Create Project!" - Competition for Student Science Clubs

Hubert Długołęcki, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

"Create Project!" is an initiative aimed at Student Science Clubs from various faculties at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń. The competition aims to inspire young science students to be creative and propose projects that combine scientific merit, civic usefulness, and the promotion of the university.

Fascination of Plants Day

Justyna Wiśniewska, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

Fascination of Plants Day is an international popular science event organized every two years under the auspices of the European Plant Science Organization (EPSO) in many countries around the world, including Poland. Lectures, workshops, demonstrations, laboratory activities, quizzes, art, and photography contests take place during the event at the Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences of Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń. The aim of the event is to promote science and popularize knowledge about plants—their structure, importance in human life and the natural environment, as well as to convey the message that plant knowledge is essential for the development of agriculture, sustainable food production, horticulture, and forestry.

“Biology without Barriers”, “Biology within Reach”

Justyna Wiśniewska, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

From 2019 to 2022, the Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, in formal partnership with Salesian Society School Complex "Kolegium Kujawskie" in Aleksandrów Kujawski, implemented two projects: **“Biology without Barriers”** and **“Biology within Reach”**. These initiatives aimed to enhance pupils' biological knowledge, practical skills, as well as communication and interpersonal competencies. The educational activities were designed to spark participants' curiosity, stimulate their intellectual and social development, inspire creative thinking, and foster their personal interests.

The Biology Olympiad - Toruń District

Justyna Wiśniewska, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

The Biology Olympiad aims to support exceptionally talented school pupils with an interest in natural sciences, as well as their mentors - outstanding biology teachers working in high schools. The event seeks to ignite and develop the participants' passion for nature and has enjoyed high interest among pupils for years.

Christmas Decorations Workshops

Hubert Długolecki, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

Each year, the Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation organizes **workshops on traditional paper Christmas decorations**. These workshops are aimed at families with children aged 4 to 12. They provide an excellent opportunity for participants to socialize and express their creativity and inventiveness. During the workshops children, guided by volunteers, create decorations from various materials.

Popularization of Foreign Languages Combined with NCU Promotion

Julita Markowska, University Centre for Foreign Languages

As part of the initiative, teachers visit schools in small towns to share their knowledge and inspire students to **learn foreign languages**. Return visits are also organized, allowing school students to tour our university and explore various study options. Additionally, temporary information points are set up for residents near the University Centre for Foreign Languages

and in the University Library. Lectures combined with photo exhibitions are also hosted, such as those highlighting travel experiences in Georgia.

Collections for Charitable Purposes

Julita Markowska, University Centre for Foreign Languages

As part of a civic engagement initiative, the University Centre for Foreign Languages organizes a series of **charity drives**. These include among others:

- “Noble Box” (“Szlachetna Paczka”) – collections for Toruń residents with various needs,
- Fundraising for the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity (WOŚP) in Lubicz Dolny,
- A drive for the Toruń Animal Shelter,
- Collecting candles and tins to make trench candles for the Ukrainian Army.

Student Volunteering

Katarzyna Wójcik, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

The volunteering programme is designed for students of NCU. Participants have the opportunity to engage actively in various projects at different stages of development, allowing them to acquire valuable work experience. Volunteers primarily focus on organizing free events that promote science and showcase our university.

Christmas Carol Concert with NCU Academic Choir

Hubert Długolecki, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

The Christmas Carol Concert was organized by the Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation for the first time in 2022. The event gathered the Children’s University students, their families, as well as employees of NCU.

Gingerbread Santa Claus Day

Hubert Długolecki, Amicus Universitatis Nicolai Copernici Foundation

Gingerbread Santa Claus Day was a festive event held on December 11, 2022, at The Museum of Toruń Gingerbread. Participants had the opportunity to bake their own gingerbread cookies and explore an exhibition by Stanisław Kościński, PhD, from the

Faculty of Fine Arts at NCU. The exhibition featured a diverse array of his original sculptural molds for gingerbread.

Language Support for Participants at the 9th World Masters Athletics Indoor Championships in Toruń

Irena Matczyńska, Faculty of Humanities

The initiative sought to provide **language support for participants at the 9th World Masters Athletics Indoor Championships held in Toruń**. Students from the Faculty of Humanities participated as translators and language assistants, gaining invaluable work experience in the process.

The University of Equality

Michał Bomastyk, PhD, Office for Excellence Initiative – Research University

This initiative is centered on forming a partnership between NCU and the Foundation for Counteracting Exclusion to launch and manage the **University of Equality**. Funded by the European Union through the Erasmus+ program, the University of Equality project aims to promote education related to non-heteronormative individuals and refugees. Additionally, it seeks to establish a strategic partnership among non-governmental organizations in Bulgaria, Germany, and Poland.

Securing Artifacts Discovered in the Monastery Vaults to Preserve Local Heritage

Alicja Drozd-Lipińska, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

In June 2021, **interdisciplinary rescue work** was conducted in one of the crypts of the historic Church of the Finding of the Holy Cross in Radziejów, Kuyavia. The goal of the project was to clean and secure some of the extracted elements to prevent their deterioration, to conduct anthropological analysis, and to create comprehensive documentation of the discovered skeletal remains. Additionally, the project aimed to develop the findings of the research and disseminate knowledge about them among the local community and tourists visiting the Archaeology Museum in Biskupin.

"Talent is Very Much Needed but Supported by Strong Work" – Sports Competition and Its Impact on the Psychomotor Fitness and Health of Children and Youth

Alicja Drozd-Lipińska, PhD, Faculty of Biological and Veterinary Sciences

The project aims to **support the Sports Club** in fulfilling its core mission: to train school-aged children and youth and to facilitate their participation in sports competitions. As part of the project accessible classes that promote sports and physical activity, particularly for individuals at risk of social exclusion, will be organized. Additionally, the positive benefits of participating in sports will be highlighted in an engaging and informative manner.

Medical Wednesday

Justyna Gapska, CM Department of Promotion and Communication

Medical Wednesday is an ongoing lecture series that has been promoting medical sciences since 2007. It addresses the growing interest among residents in the region regarding medicine and responds to numerous inquiries about health sciences. The lectures are designed for a diverse audience of all ages, offering opportunities to deepen the understanding of various medical topics.

Medicalia

Justyna Gapska, CM Department of Promotion and Communication

Organized by the Collegium Medicum of NCU since 2003, **Medicalia** Science Day is an annual event that aims to promote medical sciences. Over the years, Medicalia has transformed into a multifaceted event designed for the local community. Throughout the festival day, attendees can participate in demonstrations, workshops, and lectures, as well as gain access to operating rooms, laboratories, and other typically restricted areas.

Toruń Art and Science Festival

Anna Wielbińska, NCU Department of Promotion and Communication

The primary goal of the **Festival** is to broadly promote science through various forms of outreach tailored to the diverse ages and interests of participants. Key objectives of the Festival include: presenting and interpreting current discoveries and issues significant to both Polish and global science; promoting knowledge in academic disciplines practiced at NCU and in local cultural institutions; enhancing school education by organizing festival

activities that expand students' knowledge - such as experiments, outdoor games, performances, demonstrations, and workshops; raising awareness about the results of research and experiments conducted at NCU, thereby increasing public understanding of the current state of research in the region and nationally; and providing Festival participants with opportunities to engage with the culture and art developed at the Faculty of Fine Arts at NCU.

YUFE Help Desks

Katarzyna Pawlonka, Department of International Partnerships and Educational Mobility

The **student help desk network** at NCU was created to strengthen the connection between the University and the broader community. Under the guidance of researchers and educators, students share their knowledge and experiences acquired at the university. This collaboration enables them to address inquiries and provide valuable advice and support. The goal is to foster closer ties with local residents and engage with their concerns while promoting specialized and up-to-date knowledge of the world. Additionally, some of the help desks reach out to the community during promotional events and organize their own initiatives.

YUFE Community Volunteering

Magdalena Stremplewska, Department of International Partnerships and Educational Mobility

The **YUFE Community Volunteering** is an initiative designed for NCU students eager to contribute to the local community while enhancing their knowledge and developing their transversal skills. Participants in the initiative receive the YUFE Civic Star certificate, which formally recognizes their acquisition and development of social competencies.

Edible Garden at Copernican Integration Centre

Małgorzata Błaszczak, Copernican Integration Centre

Opened in March 2023, the **Edible Garden** is nurtured by both the university community and local residents. Together, they cultivate a variety of vegetables, fruits, and herbs. By providing access to this shared space, NCU not only fosters the growth of plants but also influences dietary habits and promotes awareness of the interconnectedness within our ecosystem. The garden serves as a platform for discussing vital issues related to sustainability and climate change adaptation. Students and Toruń residents alike gain

valuable insights into food sovereignty, urban agriculture, permaculture, organic gardening, agroecology, and the sustainable management of natural resources.

The Bydgoszcz Science Festival

Justyna Gapska, CM Department of Promotion and Communication

The Bydgoszcz Science Festival is the city's largest event of its kind, uniting five local universities: Kazimierz Wielki University, Bydgoszcz University of Science and Technology, the WSG University, University of Bydgoszcz, and the Collegium Medicum of Nicolaus Copernicus University. The institutions collaborate to create a comprehensive workshop program that constitutes the festival's schedule. The event aims to engage the local community in the inspiring world of science. Through a variety of workshops, popular science lectures, panel discussions, exhibitions, and concerts, the universities showcase the subjects they explore in their daily work.

Student Help Desk for Information Verification and Cyberpatology Prevention "Cyber PoWer"

Magdalena Cyrklaff-Gorczyca, PhD, Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences

The **help desk** offers:

1. Educational programs focused on information verification, addressing issues such as disinformation, fake news, artificial intelligence, and deepfakes.
2. Programs aimed at developing information, media, and digital competencies, including conscious internet use, information accessibility, and digital accessibility.
3. Prevention programs to counteract cyberpathologies, such as hatred, cyberbullying, troll parenting, cybersecurity threats, and addiction to new technologies, games, and the internet.

All Beings Together

Agnieszka Laddach, PhD, Doctoral School of Humanities, Theology and Arts

The **"All Beings Together"** project's goal is to promote diversity and social inclusion, and to expand the concept of community creation to include the integration of people with non-anthropomorphic beings. As part of this initiative, 40 linden trees were planted in Toruń, and 30 additional saplings were distributed for planting. Linden trees were chosen for their positive attributes, including medicinal, honey-producing, and ornamental qualities. The event also featured an open debate titled 'We Are Life,' in collaboration with faculty

members from Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, students, and members of the Free Vistula Community Garden group in Toruń.

World Soil Day

University Professor Marcin Świtoniak, PhD, Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management

World Soil Day is celebrated on December 5th to honor the role of soil as a crucial component of the natural environment. To mark the occasion, the Faculty of Earth Sciences and Spatial Management at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń organized a series of events and activities, including laboratory sessions, fieldwork, and lectures. The celebrations kicked off on Saturday with workshops for teachers, focusing on soil science education in high schools and sharing soil information online through the 'Share the Soils' initiative.