



GOLDEN SCHOLARSHIPS IN RIGA

There is a good tradition in Riga to honour the best students and their teachers with the awards. This year, it was the fourth time when at the end of school year 12 most outstanding graduates were awarded the Golden Scholarships of the Riga City Council and the School Board of Riga City, while their pedagogues were awarded the Golden Pens.

The Golden Scholarship of 400 Lats is both recognition of the person's distinguished studies at school and material support to start studies at a higher educational establishment. The number of applicants for this Scholarship is big, and the competition becomes sharper, as the achievements of the young persons who win the Scholarship get higher. The Golden Scholarship is very popular among the students, and, since the demands are very high, they start to prepare for it in due time.

The applicants are chosen basically at schools where the young persons, as well as their achievements are known best of all. Besides, the young person has to be

the winner of an olympiad of some subject. Also various awards, appreciation certificates, scientific publications are taken into account. A recommendation issued by the tutor or other teacher who has participated in the training of the student is necessary, where the creative or scientific work of the applicant, as well as the applicant would be characterised as completely as possible.

In autumn the students characterise their pedagogues. Each Scholarship holder chooses the teacher who has contributed to the creation of his and other students' personalities most of all. In the first week of October, the Mayor of Riga presents these 12 teachers with precious pens. Three teachers received also money award, as they had taught already three Golden Scholarship holders.

Riga is proud of its students, their successful studies and high achievements in the international olympiads. The Riga City Council has set the education as one of the priorities and tries to invest more and



*Andris Berzins Mayor of Riga
awarding the Golden Scholarship*

more for the renewal of the material and technical property of the schools, at the same time thinking also of a material and moral stimulus for the pedagogues.

Further information:

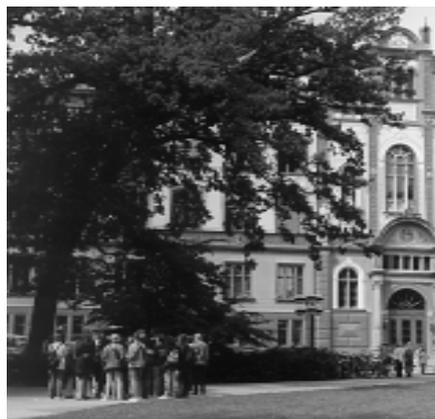
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HANSEATIC STUDENTS' DAYS OF SCIENCE

The Hanseatic Students' Days of Science are an initiative to bring together students from East and West European countries of the Baltic region, home of the medieval Hansa Union.

The University of Rostock organised the meeting on 1-7 June 1998 under the



University of Rostock

title Modern Methods in Experimental Medicine - Focus on Cell-Biology and Molecular Biology. The program was focused on modern methods in the fields of molecular and cellular biology. Students of medicine, pharmacology, biology and chemistry had the opportunity to participate in program of laboratory work, scientific education and cultural exchange. The participants concentrated on methods of cell culture, RNA- and DNA isolation, cloning, polymerase chain reaction and sequencing. This included practical work in small groups supervised by the academic staff in the University's laboratories. The laboratory work was supplemented by lectures on basic methods, their application and perspectives.

A trip to historical places of the Hansa union emphasised the liberal and cosmopolitan spirit of this ancient economical and cultural union. Rostock University, as

the oldest institution of this kind in Northern Europe, is obliged to the tradition of hospitality and wanted to acquaint the participants with the town, its beautiful surroundings and the profound changes that have shaped the region since the coming down of the Wall.

The program integrated currently existing efforts of clinicians and scientists of Rostock University to foster the young scientific generation. The program was offered to 33 participants from all Baltic Sea countries.

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