

# **BALTECH Annual report 2017/2018**

# **BALTECH Scholarships**

In the time period from September 2017 to September 2018, there have been five calls for BALTECH Scholarship mobility. In total, 114 have applied and their application have been evaluated by BALTECH board. A total of 63 applications have been approved for short-term international mobilities, thus making the approval rate of scholarship 55%. The most applications were submitted by students and staff members of Kaunas University of Technology (51 applications) and Riga Technical University (38 applications). Average amount of BALTECH scholarship approved is 383.54 EUR per person. Mobility lasts from 1 to 14 days.

# NORDTEK conference 2018 at Riga Technical University





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In June 2018, NORDTEK Conference took place in Riga Technical University, Latvia. The topic of the conference was «Changes in globalisation- challenges and opportunities for Nordic-Baltic higher education and research policy». Various excellent speakers shared their knowledge and expertise in fields such as life-long learning, digitalization, sustainable use and development of research infrastructure and globalization. More than 100 people from higher education, research and industry sectors were able to participate, creating a great platform for networking and knowledge transfer. Discussed topics were relevant to all the involved stakeholders, thus meeting the expectations of conference participants.

This NORDTEK Conference has also been special due to a decision of integration of BALTECH member universities- Riga Technical University, Tallinn University of Technology, Kaunas University of Technology and Vilnius Gediminas Technical University- into NORDTEK Network. NORDTEK President and BALTECH member university rectors acknowledged the importance and benefits of closer collaboration between Baltic and Nordic technical universities by signing a memorandum of understanding. As foreseen by the involved parties, this will encourage a closer cooperation in education, research and innovation fields promote joint European projects and contribute to a sustainable long-term collaboration for increasing competitiveness of Nordic-Baltic region in global higher education and research arena.

Next NORDTEK Conference will be held in KTH Royal Institute of Technology in 2019 and the topic of it will be «Innovation meets research – how universities can increase impact through innovation».

# BALTECH BALTECH Annual Report 2017/2018 Four leading technology universities in Baltic States join NORDTEK



Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 TalTech, Riga Technical University, Kaunas University of Technology and Vilnius Gedeminas Technical University have officially joined NORDTEK network.

Statues stated, that Baltic universities as members of NORDTEK have to select one board member. As board member in NORDTEK board from Baltic States was selected RTU Rector Prof. Leonīds Ribickis. Universities feel that this new platform will be more beneficial to member universities to carry out collaboration activities. From each Baltic country one steering committee member was appointed and each university select contact person for mobility program.

### **BALTECH** representatives meet in Kaunas

On 12th October 2018 BALTECH representatives from Riga Technical University, TalTech University, Kaunas University of Technology and Vilnius Gediminas Technical University met together with Secretary General of network of the Rectors and Deans of the Technical Universities NORDTEK Mr. Peter Göranson to discuss future collaboration of the networks and process of BALTECH member universities joining NORDTEK.



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Furthermore, BALTECH members discussed future development of BALTECH network and expected changes due to joining NORDTEK network. There were many discussions about engineering education in Baltic States, as well about enhanced collaboration between universities. As concluded, BALTECH activities in the past, such as administrative staff, student meetings, as well as student and staff international mobilities to other member universities were highly beneficial and worthy to all of the involved parties.

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# KTH and Linköping University leaves BALTECH network



Due to the reason, that all BALTECH universities are officially members of NORDTEK newtork KTH and Linköping University have decided to leave BALTECH network as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. Both universities want to focus network collaboration efforts with Baltic universities under NORDTEK framework. Therefore, from year 2019 four members remain in BALTECH network.