



Warsaw, 29 April 2022

The Faculty of Physics of the University of Warsaw will educate staff for the Polish nuclear sector.

Leading Polish universities – University of Warsaw and the Warsaw University of Technology in the presence of H.E. Frédéric Billet, Ambassador of France to Poland, have signed an agreement with France's International Institute for Nuclear Energy (I2EN).

The agreements were signed by Karen Daifuku, director of I2EN, prof. dr. hab. Mariusz Malinowski, vice-rector for science at the Warsaw University of Technology and prof. dr. hab. Sambora Grucza, – vice-rector for cooperation and human resources at the University of Warsaw. An agreement with the AGH – University of Science and Technology in Kraków will also be signed in the next few days.

These agreements are a framework for joint activities related to the attractiveness of the nuclear sector with the aim to draw more students to enrol in nuclear related academic programmes to ultimately work in either research, or for the regulator, or the industry. Although the relationships between the I2EN and Polish universities date back as early as 2011, 2022 is a turning point because of the timing in Poland's nuclear programme.

Activities to be envisaged include support in the creation of specialized nuclear courses, setting up dual degrees and exchange programmes with French universities and engineering schools, and organizing seminars for students showcasing the numerous career opportunities.

The French ambassador in Warsaw, His Excellency Frédéric Billet, stated "I hope that these agreements will further deepen Franco-Polish academic relations. I would also like to say that Polish students interested in the nuclear industry are welcome in France, whether to study, do internships and work placements in companies in the nuclear sector or take part in training courses in nuclear facilities."

Karen Daifuku, director of the I2EN added: "To achieve a successful nuclear programme, the different nuclear stakeholders each have responsibilities and need to work with a common goal. These universities are training not only the nuclear experts of tomorrow but also bringing many other skills that will be necessary to carry out Poland's ambition for having nuclear energy. As a French partner, we hope to contribute to that success."

"This agreement will help us to establish cooperation with French universities, which have been educating specialists in the field of nuclear energy for years," said dr. Agnieszka Korgul prof. UW. The researcher, working at the Department of Nuclear Physics at the Faculty of

Physics of the University of Warsaw emphasized that the University already has experience in this matter. "For over ten years, together with the Faculty of Chemistry of the University of Warsaw, we have been running the field of power engineering and nuclear chemistry. As a result of the program changes, these studies have been further specialized - the Faculty of Physics will launch - from October 2022 - a specialization in the field of nuclear reactor physics. The Faculty of Chemistry, which focused on educating students, incl. in the field of radiopharmaceuticals, radiogenomics and nuclear chemistry, will support the Faculty of Physics in conducting the newly opened specialization" - added Agnieszka Korgul. Students of this specialization will be able to participate in student exchanges, internships or summer schools - in France.

The next step will be to launch a double degree program in nuclear energy, conducted jointly with selected French universities. Those choosing these studies will pursue the education program both in Poland - at the Faculty of Physics of the University of Warsaw, and in France. "International Institute for Nuclear Energy, which supports us in this matter, has already prepared a list of universities willing to create such a field of study," said Agnieszka Korgul.

Specialists educated at the Faculty of Physics of the University of Warsaw will find a job not only in the energy sector, including in the nuclear power plant, planned to be built in Poland, but also in areas such as dosimetry and nuclear safety.

The event was attended by representatives of the Faculty of Physics: dr hab. Krzysztof Turzyński, prof. UW, the deputy dean for student affairs, dr hab. Agnieszka Korgul, prof. UW, and prof. dr hab. Andrzej Wysmołek, on behalf of the Faculty of Chemistry of the University of Warsaw, present were: prof. dr hab. Beata Krasnodębska-Ostręga, the deputy dean for student affairs and dr hab. Maciej Chotkowski.

For more information, please contact dr hab. Agnieszka Korgul, prof. UW from the Faculty of Physics of the University of Warsaw.

University of Warsaw

The University of Warsaw, established in 1816, is the largest Polish university and a leading research and education hub of the country. The Faculty of Physics of the University of Warsaw in the Shanghai's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects is among the 100 best units in the world educating in the field of physics. The research carried out therein encompasses all branches of contemporary physics, including nuclear physics. Based on those resources, over a decade ago, the Faculty of Physics, jointly with the Faculty of Chemistry, initiated the formation of cadres for the Polish nuclear energy sector. Striving for excellence in education and research, the University of Warsaw is eager to join forces with partners of complementary competences to ensure the best quality of teaching and scientific studies.

Study programs in Polish and English managed by the Faculty of Physics include:

- physics (with a dedicated program Reactor Physics),
- physics (studies in English),
- astronomy,
- applications of physics in biology and medicine,
- European studies of eyeglass optics and optometry,
- teaching physics,

- nanoengineering.

Study programs in Polish managed by the Faculty of Chemistry include

- nuclear chemistry and radiopharmaceuticals,
- radiogenomics.

The International Institute of Nuclear Energy (I2EN): Created over 10 years ago by the French Government, the I2EN is an umbrella organization that represents and coordinates France's nuclear sector in France and abroad for all matters related to nuclear human capacity building. By bringing together all these stakeholders (R&D, industry, regulator, and academia), the I2EN serves as a single point of contact for countries wishing to develop nuclear education & training programmes and to benefit from the French expertise in nuclear human capacity building.

Activities include:

- proposing the best education & training solutions tailored to the needs of partner countries through partnerships and services;
- sharing best practices in Human Capacity Building so as to contribute to the implementation of safe and sustainable nuclear power programmes;
- ensuring France's capacity to host international students and professionals in the French nuclear industry and research organizations;
- accrediting French nuclear diplomas and issuing the I2EN

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RELATED WEBSITES WWW:

<https://www.fuw.edu.pl/faculty-of-physics-home.html>

Website of the Faculty of Physics University of Warsaw

<https://www.fuw.edu.pl/press-releases.html>

Press service of the Faculty of Physics at the University of Warsaw

<https://pl.ambafrance.org>

Website of the Embassy of France in Warsaw

<https://www.i2en.fr/en/>

Website of the International Institute for Nuclear Energy (I2EN)

GRAPHIC MATERIALS:

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https://www.fuw.edu.pl/tl_files/press/images/2022/FUW220429b_fot01

Ceremonial signing of the cooperation agreement. From the left: prof. dr hab. Mariusz Malinowski, vice-rector for science at the Warsaw University of Technology, Frédéric Billet, French ambassador in Warsaw, Karen Daifuku, director of I2EN, prof. dr. hab. Sambor Grucza, vice-rector for cooperation and human resources at the University of Warsaw (source: Embassy of France in Warsaw)

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Representatives of the Faculty of Physics and the faculty of Chemistry of the University of Warsaw: from the left: dr hab. Maciej Chotkowski, dr hab. Agnieszka Korgul, prof. UW, dr hab. Krzysztof Turzyński, prof. UW, prof. dr hab. Andrzej Wyszkołek (source: B. Krasnodębska-Ostręga, Faculty of Chemistry UW)