

Parallel Universities

28 May 1945

By Royal Decree No. 407, "on 1st June 1945, a state university was established in Cluj, having Hungarian as the language of instruction, comprising the following faculties: Letters and Philosophy, Law and Political Economics, Sciences, Human Medicine." The new institution was named "Bolyai" University.

1945 - 1959

The Romanian University of Cluj underwent a profound process of institutional and human resource transformation, as a consequence of the policies adopted by the communists. Many professors were purged and new faculties and departments were set up by reorganising the old ones.

January 1948

"King Ferdinand I" University changed its name to "Victor Babeş" University.



Valeriu Anania (1921-2011),
leader of the student movements
in Cluj, 1946



Senat House, University of Cluj
(Sibiu, 1943)



The UBB Centennial Anniversary March – 30 September 2019



UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI
BABEŞ-BOLYAI TUDOMÁNYEGYETEM
BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITÄT
BABEŞ-BOLYAI UNIVERSITY
TRADITIO ET EXCELLENTIA

Historical Timeline BBU WORLD-CLASS

March-July 1959

The unification of the Romanian University of Cluj and the Hungarian University took place. The new institution was called "Babeş-Bolyai" University and it comprised, and at the time of its creation, six faculties: Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Faculty of Chemistry, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Geography, Faculty of Philology, Faculty of Law, Faculty of History and Philosophy. The first rector of Babeş-Bolyai University was professor Constantin Daicoviciu (archaeologist).

1970 - 1971

During the communist regime, Babeş-Bolyai University had the largest number of students (14,438) and teaching staff (841) in Romania.

May 1992

The first Charter of Babeş-Bolyai University was adopted, a first in the Romanian academic community.

1995

Babeş-Bolyai University reconfigured its structure by introducing an educational system based on multiculturalism. The three major lines of study, based on linguistic criteria, were created: the Romanian line of study, the Hungarian line of study, the German line of study.

since 2006

Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca operates with a structure of 21 faculties, besides numerous research centres and institutes.

since 2016

The STAR-UBB Institute is established with the aim to ensure international academic excellence and competitiveness of Babeş-Bolyai University.

2016 - 2017

Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca ranked first among the universities in Romania, in international university meta-rankings.

2018

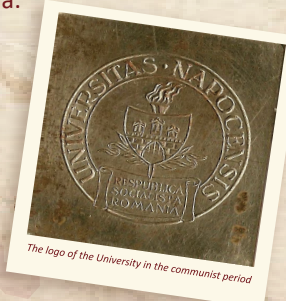
Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca was officially awarded a rating of four stars (university of international excellence) following the QS Star assessment.

2019 - 2020

Babeş-Bolyai University celebrated 100 years since its establishment as a university within the Kingdom of Romania, after the Great Union.

2011 - 2012

Babeş-Bolyai University is considered to be an "advanced research and education university" by the Ministry of Education in Romania.



The logo of the University in the communist period



Vasile Pârvan, archaeologist and historian
(1882-1927)



UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI
TRADITIE ŞI EXCELENŢĂ

Like Diogenes of Sinope, the contemporary professor has to find people, in school as well as in the wide world, by day and night: complete, open-minded people wherein the idea flame flickers. We have nowadays art appraisers, wine and horse experts, but we do not have valuers of new souls. We don't see anyone rejoicing, being happy that they have found, within the multitude of school bag bearers, an anarchist of the current laws of the thought, a restless, an anguished finder of new laws. On the contrary, the most beloved among the offspring that rise toward self-conscience, is the most docile among the memorizers of consecrated wisdom.

The novelty of the spirit needs freedom, open air. And freedom cannot flourish with the herd. And it is not even supposed to flourish there: what would happen if all unreasoning creatures in need of guidance and social discipline could frolic at their animal disposal? But freedom of thought for the ones tortured by their inner demons can be created even in the great school conglomerations. This freedom grows from the state of mind of love for an idea. The professor should become himself a common pupil, chasing after the wonderful firefly of thought that illuminates the darkness of the daily utilitarian banality. The more this spirit of peer enthusiasm for all types of ideal is to be found in a school, the better the freedom of thought and soul capacity to flourish will be found in that comradeship of future humans.

Fragment of inaugural lecture "Datoria vieţii noastre"
("The Duty of Our Lives"), first speech in Romanian
spoken by Vasile Pârvan at the new University

This material was created by the UBB Department of Communication and Public Relations with the support of the UBB Museum, the "Lucian Blaga" Central University Library and the National History Museum of Transylvania in Cluj-Napoca.



1581-1872

Cluj Academic Structures

Preliminaries

20 December, 1579

The inauguration of the first Jesuit (Catholic) school in Cluj-Mănăştur.

18 May, 1580

Stephen Báthory, king of Poland and prince of Transylvania, issued the first document for the establishment of the Major Jesuit College in the city of Cluj, on Lupilor Street (today Kogălniceanu Street), in the building of the Franciscan monastery.

12 May, 1581

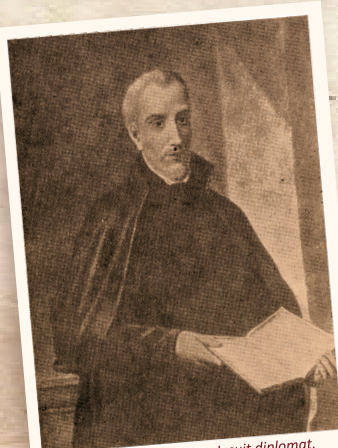
Stephen Báthory issued at Vilna (Vilnius, in present-day Lithuania), the diploma founding the Major Jesuit College in Cluj the established European universities of the time. The College would award the university titles of *baccalaureus*, *magister* and *doctor*. To provide the College with the required facilities, Stephen Báthory donated a significant amount of land to the institution. The first rector of the College was the Polish Jesuit Jacobus Wujek (Vangrovitius). The teaching language was Latin.

1583

The Catholic Seminary (*Seminarium Pontificium ac Regium*) begins its activity next to the Major Jesuit College. The Jesuit diplomat Antonio Possevino, who organized the Seminary both pedagogically and administratively, is considered to be the spiritual forefather of Babeş-Bolyai University.

October 1606

The Jesuit Order was banished from Transylvania.



Antonio Possevino, a Jesuit diplomat, is considered the spiritual forefather of Babeş-Bolyai University

1618

The Jesuits returned to Cluj-Mănăştur where, in the following decades, they organized secondary-level education. The Jesuit Gymnasium represented the continuity between the Major Jesuit College abolished in 1605, and the Jesuit Academy, established in 1698.

November 1698

The Jesuit education continued in the Jesuit Academic College (*Collegium Claudiopolitanum* or *Academia Claudiopolitana*). The Academy of Cluj was regarded as the rightful heir of the Major Jesuit College. The Jesuit seminary is brought back, in affiliation with the university, under the name of "Saint Joseph's Seminary". Since 1742, Academia is known under the name Universitas Claudiopolitana

1753

Academia / Universitas Claudiopolitana acquired the status of imperial university as the University Academic College, following the model of the University of Vienna. All teaching was done in Latin and German.

1774 - 1776

The Faculty of Law (1774) and the Faculty of Medicine (1775/1776) were added to the existing university.

1776

The University Academic College (*Universitas Claudiopolitana*) of Cluj entered under the authority of another Catholic order, the Piarist order, after the abolition of the Jesuit order in 1773.

1776 - 1786

With four higher education institutions (Philosophy, Theology, Law, and Medicine) *Universitas Claudiopolitana* achieved a high level of academic development similar to that of other European universities of the time.

1786

Universitas Claudiopolitana was transformed into a Royal Piarist High School. It retained three distinct specializations (i.e., departments/faculties/institutes) - philosophy, law, and medicine -, while theology (the theological seminary) was moved to Alba-Iulia (where it evolved during the years in an institution with university statute, which was integrated in 2007 in UBB).

1800 - 1872

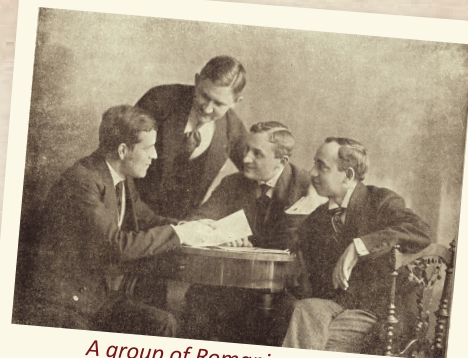
Several secondary and higher-level (semi-university level) educational institutions were operating in Cluj: the Royal Academic High School (Piarist High School), the Reformed College, the Unitarian Gymnasium. Many of the teachers of the future University of Cluj initially taught at these educational institutions.

1850

The department of Medicine within the Royal Academic High School was transformed into a Medical-Surgical Institute, with semi-university status with teaching in German and subsequently in Hungarian.

1863

The Royal Academy of Law is reestablished in Cluj teaching in Hungarian. It retains the local tradition of legal education that had been disrupted by the abolishment of the Royal Academic High School in 1850.



A group of Romanian students at "Franz Joseph" University

1872-1919

The Hungarian University of Cluj ("Franz Joseph" University)

September – October 1872

According to law no. XIX, passed by the Hungarian Parliament on 17 September and ratified by emperor Franz Joseph on 12 October, the University of Cluj was founded (with teaching Hungarian). Four distinct faculties were created: the Faculty of Law and State Science, the Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Philosophy, Letters and History, the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. The faculties enjoyed equal status and internal autonomy. The first rector was professor Áron Berde of the Faculty of Law, specialist in economics and finance. Besides the four faculties, a Pedagogical Institute for training secondary school teachers was founded. The university included the two already existing semi-university institutions: the Medical-Surgical Institute and the Royal Academy of Law in Cluj.

10-11 November 1872

The university management is formally sworn in and the courses begin. There were 258 students enrolled at the University of Cluj in the first semester.

4 January 1881

Emperor Franz Joseph issued the official document establishing the University of Cluj and allowed the institution to bear his name.

1893-1902

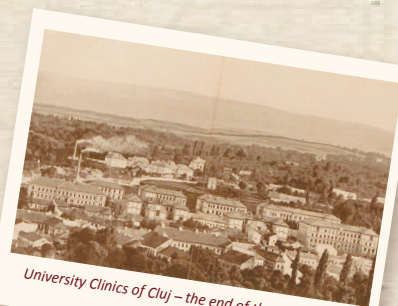
Covering an area of 4,226 square metres, the central building of the University of Cluj was built by Károly Reményik according to the plans designed by architect Károly Meixner.

1906-1909

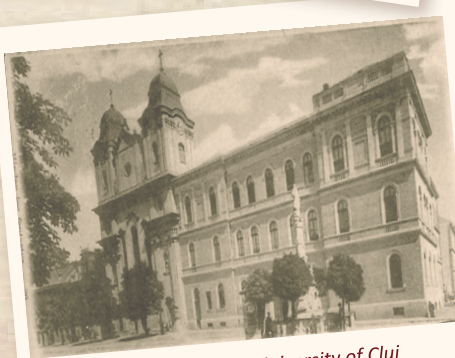
The Central University Library of Cluj was built. (The library had been operating since 1872, being established with the University).

1872-1919

Over 40,000 students attended the courses of the University of Cluj, out of which 2635 were Romanian. Among the Romanian personalities who attended the "Franz Joseph" University of Cluj we mention: Iuliu Maniu (Law), Iuliu Hațieganu (Medicine), George Coşbuc (Philosophy), Vasile Meruțiu (Natural Sciences).



University Clinics of Cluj – the end of the 19th century



Main building - University of Cluj (1898)

1919-1945

Romanian University of Cluj ("King Ferdinand I" University)

12 September 1919

By Royal Decree no. 4090, signed by King Ferdinand I of Romania, "On 1 October 1919, the Hungarian University of Cluj would become a Romanian University." The new institution was made up of four faculties: Law, Medicine, Sciences, Letters and Philosophy. Sextil Pușcariu, professor of linguistics at the Faculty of Letters, was elected the first Romanian rector. The university had 1871 students enrolled in the first semester and 2182 students in the second semester. One of the most important studies on the possibility of reorganizing the University of Cluj was developed by Vasile Pârvan (archaeologist and historian) and was called "The National University of Dacia Superior – Opinions forwarded to the Great National Assembly of Romanians in Ardeal, Banat and Țara Ungurească".

3 November 1919

Vasile Pârvan held the inaugural lecture "The duty of our lives", the first lecture in Romanian given at the new University.

1919-1940

Among the top professors of the University of Cluj we should name the scientists Emil Racoviță (director of the Institute of Speleology), Alexandru Borza (director of the Botanical Garden), Petre Sergescu (mathematician and science historian), Ioan Lupaș and Silviu Dragomir (historians), Florian Ștefănescu Goangă (psychologist), George Spacu (chemist), Lucian Blaga (philosopher and writer), Victor Papilian (doctor of medicine).

1927

The University of Cluj officially adopted the name of King Ferdinand I. Between 1927 and 1948, the University of Cluj was called "King Ferdinand I" University.

June 1937

The building of the Academic College in Cluj was inaugurated in the presence of King Carol II of Romania.

August-September 1940

Following the Vienna Arbitration, the Romanian University of Cluj took refuge in Timișoara (Faculty of Sciences) and Sibiu (Faculties of Letters, Law, and Medicine).

1940-1945

During the Second World War, "King Ferdinand I" University operated without interruption in Sibiu and Timișoara. In Cluj, the Hungarian authorities reopened the "Franz Joseph" University, with teaching in Hungarian.

May-June 1945

"King Ferdinand I" University returned to Cluj, reinstated in the full exercise of its privileges.



Students reading in a reading room at the University Library (interwar period)



The delivery of books for the University Library, initially set up in the main building of the University of Cluj