

Dear Partners,

It is with great pleasure that Business and Technology University (BTU) invites you to participate in the 5th International Staff Week: Empowerment through Collaboration, taking place from **October 28 to November 1, 2024**, in the vibrant city of Tbilisi, Georgia.

The International Staff Week has evolved into a prestigious annual gathering, attracting higher education professionals from diverse academic backgrounds, all driven by a common vision to foster collaboration, share expertise, and explore innovative approaches in higher education. We firmly believe that by empowering collaboration, we can collectively enhance the educational experience, shape the leaders of tomorrow, and forge lasting partnerships.

Our theme for this year's event, "Empowerment through Collaboration," resonates deeply with our belief in the transformative power of joint efforts. It reflects our unwavering commitment to empowering academic professionals and institutions to realize their full potential through meaningful connections, exchange of knowledge, and shared experiences. By coming together, we can overcome challenges, spark innovation, and nurture a collaborative spirit that transcends boundaries.

During the International Staff Week, participants will have the unique opportunity to engage in a wide range of intellectually stimulating activities, including thought-provoking keynote speeches, interactive workshops, and engaging networking sessions. These activities will enable you to delve into the latest trends and best practices in various fields, exchange ideas, and explore potential areas of cooperation.

As an attendee, you will have the chance to delve into subjects such as:

- **Internationalization and Collaboration Activities at BTU:** Explore BTU's initiatives in fostering global engagement and institutional cooperation.
- **Accessible Education and Women Empowerment:** Discuss principles and partnerships in promoting equal educational opportunities and breaking down barriers.
- **Collaborative Research and Technology Transfer:** Expand knowledge through interdisciplinary cooperation and technology-driven innovation.
- **Innovation and AI in Teaching and Learning:** Harness technology for educational empowerment and discover new methodologies in education.
- **Green Technologies and Sustainability:** Learn about pioneering efforts in green technologies and sustainability initiatives at BTU.
- **Entrepreneurship and Innovation:** Encourage an entrepreneurial mindset and foster innovation within academia to drive economic growth and solve real-world problems.
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Examine strategies for developing entrepreneurial ecosystems and driving innovation through strategic partnerships.

Furthermore, our staff week is meticulously designed to showcase the beauty, culture, and heritage of Tbilisi, Georgia. From exploring the historic streets of the old town to

savoring the renowned Georgian cuisine, you will have the chance to immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of this captivating city. We believe that experiencing the local culture adds an extra dimension to the event and creates lifelong memories.

We encourage all higher education professionals passionate about collaboration and eager to contribute to the advancement of the academic landscape to submit their applications for this exceptional opportunity. We welcome staff members from universities, research institutions, and other related organizations, bringing their unique perspectives and expertise to contribute to the collective growth and development of the international academic community.

To apply, kindly complete our dedicated Application [Form](#).

The application deadline is **September 8, 2024**. As spaces are limited, we encourage early submissions to secure your participation.

For more information please contact the Development and International Relations Office of the university: international@btu.edu.ge. Please see the official call available on [IMotion](#).

*We kindly encourage you to use available **Erasmus+ KA171 outgoing mobility funds** for this event.*

Kind regards,

Development and International Relations Office

Development and International Relations Office
Business and Technology University



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5TH INTERNATIONAL STAFF WEEK AT BTU

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH COLLABORATION

AGENDA

OCT. 28 – NOV. 1

Venue: Business and Technology University #82, I. Chavchavadze Ave. Tbilisi

DAY 1 OCTOBER 28 | EMPOWERMENT THROUGH COLLABORATION

10:30-10:45 | Registration – Participants Check-in
Welcome with Coffee

10:45-10:55 | Opening Remarks
Prof. Dr. Nino Enukidze, Rector

10:55-11:30 | Internationalization and Collaboration Activities at BTU
Ms. Ani Chelishvili, Head of Development & International Office

11:30-12:10 | Accessible Education:
Women Empowerment Principles and Partnerships in Georgia
UN Women

12:10 -12:45 | Lunch

12:45 – 13:15 | How the Erasmus Student Network Work in Georgia – Local Perspective
Ms. Salome Keshelashvili, Liaison Officer for Eastern Neighbourhood

13:15 – 14:15 | Ice-breaking Activities & Networking

FREE TIME

19:30-21:30 | Welcome dinner at “Restaurant Ethnographer”
105 Akaki Beliashvili Street, Tbilisi

Venue: Business and Technology University #82, I. Chavchavadze Ave. Tbilisi

10:00-10:15 | Welcome with Coffee

10:15-11:00 | Collaborative Research & Technology Transfer Action Plan
Dr. Mariam Kiburia, Development & International Office

11:00-11:30 | Innovation in Teaching and Learning: Harnessing Technology for Educational Empowerment
Ms. Ani Chelishvili, Head of Development & International Office

11:30- 12:30 | Green Technologies – Georgia & BTU Pioneering the Way
Prof. Dr. Maia Melikidze, ERRA Chairperson

12:30-13:15 | Lunch

13:15-13:45 | Cultivating Sustainability through the BTU Sustainability Lab Initiative
Mr. Otar Antia

13:45-14:15 | Navigating Research Priorities at BTU
Ms. Nino Gachechiladze, Head of the Research Center

FREE TIME

17:00-20:00 | Tbilisi City Tour & Interactive Khinkali and Khachapuri Making

DAY 3 OCTOBER 30 | PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Venue: Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency Innovation Street #7, Tbilisi

10:00-10:20 | Welcome with Coffee

10:20-10:50 | Georgia's Entrepreneurial Ecosystem & BTU's Entrepreneurship Drive
Ms. Mariam Kobiashvili, Head of the Entrepreneurship Center

10:50-11:30 | Presenting Initiatives and Programs Driving Georgia's Startup and Innovation Ecosystem
Prof. Annie Vashakmadze, Head of Donor Relations and International Relations Department, Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency

11:30-12:20 | Tour at Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency

12:20-13:00 | Strategic Development of Georgian Entrepreneurial Ecosystem
Ms. Salome Napetvaridze, Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency

FREE TIME

DAY 4 OCTOBER 31 | INTERNATIONALIZATION AT HOME

10:00-10:20 | Welcome with Coffee

10:20-12:30 | Session Internationalization at Home - experiences and best practices shared by the European Colleagues
Presentations and Discussion

12:30-13:00 | Future Collaboration Opportunities
Moderated by BTU

13:00-13:45 | Lunch Break

13:45-14:45 | Pitching and Networking Session

BTU Affiliated Professors

14:45 – 15:45 | Joint Initiatives and Projects

Individual & Group Networking sessions with BTU Professors and Administrative Staff

15:45 – 16:45 | Parallel Sessions for Teaching Staff: Public Lectures
for BTU students (upon request)

FREE EVENING

DAY 5 NOVEMBER 1 | CULTURAL TRIP TO KAKHETI AND FAREWELL DINNER ORGANIZED BY BTU

10:00-15:30 | Trip to Kakheti

15:30-19:00 | Farewell Dinner



CONTACT INFORMATION

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