



Faculty of Health Sciences



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CONTENTS



- 7 YOUTH, ART, AND THE SPIRIT OF THE REPUBLIC UNITED ON THE SAME STAGE
- 9 OUR DEPARTMENT FACULTY MEMBERS WERE ACCEPTED TO INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUPS UNDER COST ACTION CA24166
- 10 THE 19TH SABDEK GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING WAS HELD IN ESKİŞEHİR.
- 11 A ROADMAP DRAWN FOR TOMORROW'S PHYSIOTHERAPISTS
- 13 A GATHERING ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND WELFARE FROM THE LOCAL TO THE GLOBAL
- 14 IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FROM THE SYMPOSIUM ON ECOLOGY, LABOR, AND JUSTICE
- 17 VISIT TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST LEPROSY
- 18 RETHINKING URBAN JUSTICE
- 25 SOCIAL MEDIA ADDICTION: TRIGGERS, BOUNDARIES, AND DIGITAL BALANCE
- 26 NURSING WEEK
- 27 ACADEMIC STUDIES
- 38 STEP BY STEP HAND IN HAND AGAINST ADDICTION MOVEMENT PROGRAM
- 39 A CHILDREN EMPOWERED BY NATURE FOR HEALTHY GENERATIONS
- 40 THE 7TH INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CULTURE DAY CELEBRATED WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM AT IGU!
- 41 ISTANBUL GELİSİM UNIVERSITY PERFUSION DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATED IN THE ISTANBUL REGIONAL PERFUSION MEETING
- 42 MAY 20 CHILD DEVELOPMENT SPECIALISTS DAY
- 44 THE KITCHEN OF THE FUTURE: A WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY SNACKS FOR CHILDREN
- 45 YURTLIG BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
- 47 "WHAT IS CULTURE FOR?" - TO SEE WITH THE EYE OF THE HEART...
- 48 DEVELOPMENTAL READINGS



MAY

*"I long for a world
with no lords or masters, no workers or bosses, no rich or poor...
A world with unfenced gardens and doors without locks."*

Fakir Baykurt

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

May 1: Labour and Solidarity Day

May 4-10: Occupational Health and Safety Week

May 5: International Day of the Midwife

May 10-16: Disability Awareness Week

May 10: Move for Health Day

May 12-18: Nurses Week

May 19: Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day

May 20: Child Development Specialists' Day

May 27-30: Eid al-Adha

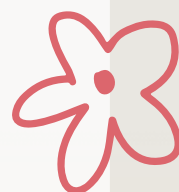
May 31: World No Tobacco Day

**THE HIGHEST VALUE IS LABOR;
THE STRONGEST BOND IS SOLIDARITY.
HAPPY MAY 1ST**



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

MOTHER'S DAY





Happy Eid Al-Adha

We hope you had a blessed and meaningful Eid al-Adha. May your sacrifices be rewarded with love, peace, and happiness, and may these blessings fill your life.

20
26





MAY 29 | 1453

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONQUEST OF ISTANBUL



19



MAY

Enthusiasm at IGU



Youth, Art, and the Spirit of the Republic United on the Same Stage

The May 19 Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day event organized by the Faculty of Health Sciences at İstanbul Gelişim University was held with strong participation and great enthusiasm. Enriched by musical performances and dance shows reflecting different cultures, the program provided participants with memorable moments.

As part of the event held at İstanbul Gelişim University, students and academics came together in a special program that combined the spirit of independence embodied by May 19 with the arts. During the event, the IGU Youth Choir took the stage and presented an impressive musical performance featuring a diverse repertoire. Throughout the program, the IGU Dance Club showcased modern dance, Georgian dance, tango, and zeybek performances, all of which received enthusiastic applause from the audience.





“Strong Societies Are Built by Qualified Youth”

The opening speech of the program was delivered by Prof. Dr. Mustafa NİZAMLIOĞLU, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at İstanbul Gelişim University. In his remarks, he emphasized that May 19 is not only a historical turning point but also one of the strongest symbols of trust in youth and hope for the future.

In his speech, NİZAMLIOĞLU stated:

“As the Faculty of Health Sciences at İstanbul Gelişim University, we regard it as our fundamental responsibility to educate you not only for academic success but also as individuals who possess strong social awareness, critical thinking skills, a solution-oriented mindset, innovation, and universal values.

Because we believe that strong societies are built by qualified youth. Today, we are gathered here not only to commemorate our past but also to build our future in a more conscious, stronger, and more hopeful way. The spirit of May 19 represents courage, independence, faith, and the power to begin anew. I sincerely believe that this spirit will continue to live on in your hearts.”

Bringing together the values of the Republic and the unifying power of art on the same stage, the event concluded with enthusiastic participation from students and the joyful spirit of the national holiday.



Our Department Faculty Members Were Accepted to International Working Groups Under *COST Action CA24166*

Assoc. Prof. Hatice Merve BAYRAM and Asst. Prof. Gizem UZLU, faculty members of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Health Sciences, Istanbul Gelisim University, were accepted to the working groups of COST Action CA24166, titled **“Pan-European Network for Inflammaging: A Multi-omics Integration Approach (INFLAMomx).”**

Assoc. Prof. Hatice Merve BAYRAM and Asst. Prof. Gizem UZLU, faculty members of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Health Sciences, Istanbul Gelisim University, were accepted to the working groups of COST Action CA24166 – “Pan-European Network for Inflammaging: A Multi-omics Integration Approach (INFLAMomx),” an international research network supported by the COST Association. INFLAMomx COST Action is a pan-European research network that aims to integrate multi-omics approaches in the field of inflammaging. Within the scope of the Action, researchers from different countries carry out collaborative studies on data management, implementation and translational potential, capacity building, training, communication, dissemination, outreach, and the strengthening of scientific collaborations.

In this context, Assoc. Prof. Hatice Merve BAYRAM was accepted to WG3 and WG5, while Asst. Prof. Gizem UZLU was accepted to WG3, WG4, and WG5 of the COST Action. These working groups focus on areas such as the exploration of implementation and translational potential, knowledge exchange, capacity building, training, communication, dissemination, and outreach activities.

The acceptance of our faculty members to this international research network is considered an important development in terms of strengthening our department’s scientific collaborations, increasing its international visibility, and contributing to multidisciplinary studies in current research areas.

As the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, we congratulate our faculty members and wish them continued success in their international scientific studies.



INFLAMomx
CA24166

The 19th SABDEK General Assembly Meeting was held in Eskişehir.

19. SAĞLIK BİLİMLERİ DEKANLAR KONSEYİ TOPLANTI PROGRAMI
ESKİŞEHİR OSMANGAZI ÜNİVERSİTESİ
08-09 MAYIS 2026

Yer: Eskişehir Osmangazi Üniversitesi Kongre ve Kültür Merkezi - Salon 2 (Oditoryum) / ESKİŞEHİR

08 Mayıs 2026 CUMA		09 Mayıs 2026 CUMARTESİ	
09:15-09:45	Keyif	Moderatör	Konuşmacılar
09:45-10:15	Milîyet Halkınizi Tanıtım Videoları	09:00-09:30	SABAK Tematik Analiz Raporu Prof. Dr. Bülent ELBASAN Prof. Dr. Arzu YÖKŞİLEN
10:15-10:45	Açılış Konuşmaları Prof. Dr. Fatma Deniz SAYINER Eskişehir Osmangazi Üniversitesi SBF Dekanı Prof. Dr. Bülent ELBASAN SABDEK Yürütme Kurulu Başkanı Prof. Dr. Kamil ÇOLAK Eskişehir Osmangazi Üniversitesi Rektörü	09:30-10:30	Akademiye atılacak program iyileştirme nasıl olmalıdır? Prof. Dr. Adile ÖZGÜÇÜKEN Prof. Dr. Dilek ÖZMEN HEPPOK Prof. Dr. Özkan ULGER - FTR-AD Prof. Dr. Fatma Deniz SAYINER-EPOK
10:45-11:15	OTURUM I Sağlık Bilimleri Fakültesi'nin Geleceğindeki Konular Moderatör Prof. Dr. Bülent ELBASAN Konuşmacılar Prof. Dr. Şahit AKU YILDIRIM	10:30-10:45	Ara
11:15-11:45	Ara	10:45-12:00	Genel Kurul
11:45-12:30	OTURUM II Sağlık Bilimleri Fakültesi'nin Geleceğindeki Konular Moderatör Prof. Dr. Fatma Deniz SAYINER Konuşmacılar Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Şevki BAKIRKAYA	12:00-12:30	Ödül ve Teşekkür Kapımı
12:30-14:00	Öğlen yemeği	12:30	Seyahat programı
14:00-15:00	CEP'e Uygun Sınav Çıkarım Moderatör Prof. Dr. Şahit AKU YILDIRIM Konuşmacılar Prof. Dr. Fatma DENİZ SAYINER Prof. Dr. Şahit AKU YILDIRIM		
15:00-15:30	Ara		
15:30-17:00	Klinik Uygulama Eğitimi Prof. Dr. Mehmet MALIHOĞLU Klinik Uygulama Hemenleştirmesi Nispeti Prof. Dr. Şahit AKU YILDIRIM Bilimlere ve Derneğe Öneriler Doç. Dr. Derya SAĞLAMDOĞU Hemenleştirmesi Prof. Dr. Hasan ARSLAN YÜCEMEZDOĞU Kararlar ve Akademiye Öneriler Prof. Dr. Özkan ULGER Herkese Öneriler Prof. Dr. Fatma Deniz SAYINER		
17:00-18:00	Gözetim izni ve kapanış		

ESKİŞEHİR OSMANGAZI ÜNİVERSİTESİ ESOGÜ SAĞLIK BİLİMLERİ FAKÜLTESİ SABDEK Sağlık Bilimleri Dekanlar Konseyi



The 19th Health Sciences Deans Council (SABDEK) Meeting, hosted by the Faculty of Health Sciences of Eskişehir Osmangazi University (ESOGÜ), was held on May 8-9, 2026. Our Faculty Dean, Prof. Dr. Mustafa NİZAMLIOĞLU, participated in the meeting, which brought together deans of Health Sciences Faculties and field representatives from various universities across Turkey.

The meeting, which began with opening speeches by ESOGÜ Faculty of Health Sciences Acting Dean Prof. Dr. Fatma Deniz SAYINER, SABDEK Executive Board President Prof. Dr. Bülent ELBASAN, and ESOGÜ Rector Prof. Dr. Kamil ÇOLAK, addressed topics such as current problems and priorities of Health Sciences Faculties, artificial intelligence technologies and digital competencies in health sciences, adaptation processes to the Curriculum Development Plan (CEP), Clinical Practice Training, the SABAK Thematic Analysis Report, and program improvement studies in accreditation processes. Significant contributions to the future of health sciences education were made through scientific discussions and the sharing of experiences.

An Event from IGU Illuminating the Future of Physiotherapy

A Roadmap Drawn for Tomorrow's Physiotherapists

The event titled “A Career Journey in Physiotherapy”, organized by the Department of Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation, Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS), brought together expert figures in the field with students. The program, which took place with the participation of Turkish Physiotherapists Association Board of Directors Chair Physiotherapist Zafer AKSUNGUR and Grand National Assembly of Türkiye Member of Parliament for Nevşehir Emre ÇALIŞKAN, offered a multifaceted examination of the current state of the physiotherapy profession, areas of development, and future opportunities.

Fizyoterapi ve Rehabilitasyon Alanının Sağlık Sistemlerindeki Kritik Rolü Vurgulandı

Departmental Chair of Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Prof. Zuhal KUNDURACILAR, who delivered the opening remarks, drew attention to the critical role of physiotherapy and rehabilitation within health systems.

Advising students to enhance their professional competencies, KUNDURACILAR stressed that continuous learning and keeping up with scientific developments are among the defining factors in a professional career.



Expert Figures Share Their Experiences with Students

Guest speaker Turkish Physiotherapists Association Board of Directors Chair Zafer AKSUNGUR addressed key points concerning the protection of physiotherapists' rights and the development of professional standards. Evaluating the development of physiotherapy in Türkiye, Aksungur shared the steps that need to be taken in pursuit of the goal of reaching international standards.

Grand National Assembly of Türkiye Member of Parliament for Nevşehir Emre ÇALIŞKAN, highlighting his own background as a physiotherapist, drew attention to the importance of the physiotherapy profession from a health policy perspective. Noting that the growing need for rehabilitation services further increases the demand for physiotherapists, Çalışkan stressed that young physiotherapy candidates need to develop a visionary outlook in their career planning.

Students had the opportunity to ask direct questions to the experienced guests, gaining detailed insights on career planning, areas of specialization, and current developments in the sector. This interactive process both clarified questions students had about the profession and boosted their motivation. At the close of the talks, certificates of appreciation and flowers were presented to the contributing guests.

A Contribution to Professional Vision from IGU

The “***Career Journey in Physiotherapy***” event held at IGU offered a comprehensive examination of the current standing, importance, and development potential of physiotherapy and rehabilitation in Türkiye. The event went beyond academic knowledge transfer, providing an important platform that broadened students' professional vision and helped shape their career goals.

Istanbul Gelisim University continues to bring students together with leading figures in the sector through events of this kind, and to complement theoretical knowledge with practical experience.



A Gathering on Children's Rights and Welfare From the Local to the Global

Within the scope of Erasmus Staff Mobility, an event titled “**Children's Rights and Welfare from the Local to the Global**” brought together Associate Professor Dr. Gonçalo Mota from Instituto Politécnico de Viseu, Portugal, and Prof. Dr. İsmet Galip YOLCUOĞLU from the Department of Social Work at Istanbul Gelisim University with students and academics. During the event, Associate Professor Dr. Gonçalo MOTA provided a detailed overview of the historical development of the child protection system in Portugal, its legal framework, inter-institutional functioning mechanisms, and intervention processes.

Mota explained the stages through which preventive, supportive, and protective services for children are delivered, while also sharing the challenges encountered in practice and current debates surrounding the system.

Comparative discussions conducted throughout the session, drawing on examples from both Türkiye and Portugal, demonstrated that child welfare should be understood not only through legal regulations but also in relation to social values, family structures, caregiving practices, and gender regimes. Particular attention was given to how the organization of childcare primarily through women influences the visibility of cases of domestic violence, neglect, and abuse. The tensions and ongoing efforts to balance the preservation of family unity with the principle of the best interests of the child were also examined in depth. The speakers emphasized that child protection systems in both Türkiye and Portugal have undergone significant transformations in response to social changes, social policy preferences, and evolving understandings of rights. Among the key topics discussed were the historical strengthening of the principle of the best interests of the child, the recognition of children as rights-bearing subjects, and the ethical questions currently facing child protection systems.

The event was moderated by Assoc. Prof. Anil AL REBHOLZ, who also provided consecutive interpretation throughout the program.

The entire organization of the event was coordinated by Res. Asst. Aslihan Kübra SAKARYA. In addition to the faculty members and students of the Department of Social Work at Istanbul Gelisim University, Asst. Prof. Funda PEHLEVAN KARABIYIK, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, also attended the event.

During the question-and-answer session, which was marked by active student participation, a wide range of topics were discussed, including working with children under protection, foster care practices, the limitations of institutional care, and the future of children's rights. By bringing together experiences from different countries, the event provided an opportunity for comparative reflection on children's rights and welfare while creating an important platform for learning and discussion for social work students enriched by international perspectives.



SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT
April 23 National Sovereignty and Children's Day Event

From Local to Global
Children's Rights and Child Welfare

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Anil AL REBHOLZ

SESSION: Child Protection System in Portugal
II SESSION: Child Protection System in Türkiye

SEMINAR SPEAKER: Prof. İsmet Galip Yolcuoğlu

DATE: 4 APRIL 2026, TUESDAY
TIME: 10:00-13:00

LANGUAGE: TURKISH & ENGLISH

SEMINAR SALOONU
GÜSBF 8 BLOK

MSDB
Daire Başkanı

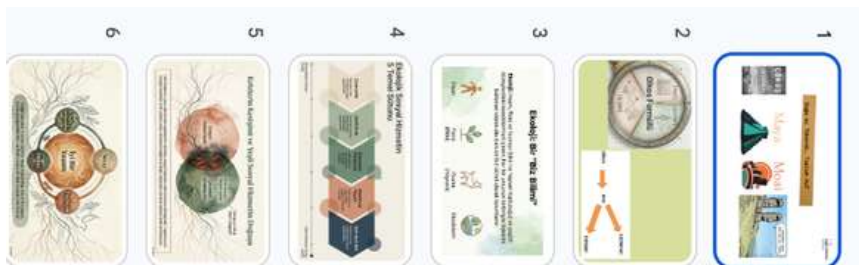
IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FROM THE SYMPOSIUM ON ECOLOGY, LABOR, AND JUSTICE



Organized by the Department of Social Work within the Faculty of Health Sciences in cooperation with the Social Work Practice and Research Center on April 30, 2026, in commemoration of International Workers' Day (May 1), the symposium entitled "Ecology, Labor, and Justice: Social Work Perspectives" addressed and discussed central questions concerning sustainability, the expansion of the concept of social justice, the sociocultural transformation of contemporary societies, and social work theory and professional practice.

Moderated by Dr. Yonca Güneş YÜCEL ATALAY, the symposium featured contributions from Dr. Şeniz ASLAN of the Department of Social Work at Yozgat Bozok University, who presented "Ecological Social Work Between the Two Children of Oikos: Where Does It Begin and Where Does It End?"; Associate Professor Dr. Anıl AL REBHOLZ from the Department of Social Work at Istanbul Gelişim University, who delivered a talk entitled "Justice for the Earth: Multispecies Justice, Critiques of the Anthropocene, and New Politics"; and Dr. Emrah TÜNCER from the same department, who presented "Our Statues Are Bigger: Cultural Blindness and the Traps of Progress from the Moai to Skyscrapers."

Beginning her presentation by noting that both ecology ("the science of the home") and economy ("the management of the home") derive from the Greek word oikos (home), Şeniz Aslan argued that these two concepts have become disconnected in today's Anthropocene era of crisis. She proposed that ecological social work can rebuild the relationship between ecology and economy and assume a mediating role between them. In this context, Aslan presented a typology of social work interventions capable of restoring and transforming the relationship between ecology and economy. According to her, three principal forms of intervention can be developed: 1-The principle of "do no harm" toward ecology; 2- A form of social work that incorporates non-human actors into practice (such as horticultural therapy and veterinary social work); 3- Alternative economic models that generate ecological benefits, such as time banking.



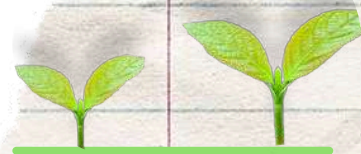
According to Aslan, the first principle underlying the ecological approach—and one that critiques the modern logic of unlimited growth, unlimited consumption, and unlimited resource use—is frugality. Frugality does not mean consuming less than necessary; rather, it means consuming only what is needed, avoiding waste, and valuing all elements involved in the process, including people, nature, living beings, and resources. This principle also advocates more sustainable and balanced ways of living.

Aslan further argued that a second mode of ecological social work intervention is its relationship-centered rather than human-centered orientation. This approach emphasizes the interconnectedness of relationships among human beings, society, nature, and animals. By refusing to separate humans from nature, it also addresses social problems as inherently connected to ecological issues.

A third intervention strategy involves maintaining social work's longstanding commitments to combating poverty, reducing inequalities, empowering and advocating for disadvantaged groups, and promoting social justice, while simultaneously expanding the scope of social justice to include environmental justice. In this sense, Aslan emphasized that social work is undergoing a significant paradigm shift.



After outlining the main principles and intervention strategies of ecological social work, Aslan concluded by stressing that humanity's growing separation from nature constitutes a major problem. She presented animal-assisted interventions, nature-based therapies, and veterinary social work practices as important tools for helping people reconnect with the natural world. According to Aslan, ecology and economy need not be in conflict. Through social policies such as universal basic income, universal healthcare, strong social security systems, and living-wage policies, both ecology and labor can be protected. Ecological social work, therefore, represents an approach that considers humans, nature, animals, and social life as an integrated whole.



Similarly emphasizing the transformation of social work theory and practice since the 1990s, Anıl Al-Rebholz argued that this shift should be understood in relation to capitalism's environmental destruction, the climate crisis, and global warming. He noted that today society's most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups are increasingly defined not only through social injustice and socioeconomic deprivation but also through environmental injustice. Echoing Aslan's perspective, Al-Rebholz argued that social and environmental injustices are intertwined processes that reinforce one another, intensifying inequalities and vulnerabilities.

According to Al-Rebholz, the development of Green Social Work has been shaped by three distinct conceptions of justice: environmental justice, deep ecological justice, and multispecies justice. Focusing particularly on the philosophical and intellectual dimensions of multispecies justice, he situated this development within both contemporary social theory—which questions binaries such as human/nature, living/non-living, and organic/inorganic through the work of thinkers such as Donna Haraway, Rosi Braidotti, and Bruno Latour—and the broader context of global governance initiatives promoting sustainable development and Indigenous ecological resistance movements.



Defining the Anthropocene as “the geological epoch in which the effects of the human species on Earth have become extensive and powerful enough to rival natural forces in shaping ecosystem processes,” AL-REBHOZ highlighted French sociologist and philosopher Bruno Latour’s critique of mainstream political ecology. According to this critique, terms such as “green engineering,” “sustainable energy,” and “environmentally friendly” should be understood as extensions of governance and managerial approaches that lie at the center of our current problems and distract us from genuine political action (Latour, Facing Gaia).

AL-REBHOZ concluded by discussing the intellectual foundations of multispecies justice, an approach that critiques Anthropocene thinking, advocates an expanded conception of justice, emphasizes ontological diversity and interconnectedness among beings, critiques the colonial and capitalist exploitation of both nature and humanity, and seeks new political institutions and imaginaries.

Like Şeniz ASLAN and Anıl AL-REBHOZ, Dr. Emrah TÜNCER began his presentation by drawing attention to the ecological destruction produced by contemporary society’s obsession with progress, limitless growth, and technological development. He argued that this process stems from humanity’s tendency to position itself not as a part of nature but as its master, and suggested understanding this phenomenon through what he called an anthropology of collapse.

Critiquing modern society’s linear conception of time, centered on accumulating wealth, professional status, titles, and achievements, TÜNCER posed a challenging question: despite knowing the ecological costs of conspicuous consumption, prestige economies, “clean living,” and our various forms of vertical and horizontal status accumulation, why do we repeatedly fall into the trap of progress and fail to act? In his presentation, which asked whether “the ecological crisis is only a problem for polar bears,” Tüncer called on the audience to recognize the value of time, assume responsibility, and free themselves from the paradox of endless growth.

The symposium, held in the Taşkent Auditorium and concluded with a lively discussion involving student participation, revealed a common thread among all three speakers: the need to question traditional oppositions such as nature versus culture and nature versus humanity, and to rethink our ways of relating to the natural world as well as established concepts such as society, politics, production, and democracy. Within this framework, one of the central questions explored was what kinds of interventions and approaches ecological social work can develop in response to these challenges.

Visit to the Association for the Fight Against Leprosy

Upon the invitation of the Leprosy Eradication Association (CSD), Lecturer Ayşe Mücella SOYDAN from the Nursing Department gave a presentation entitled "A Model of Teamwork: Leprosy (Hansen's Disease and its Social Aspects from the Perspective of the Rural Development Model" to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pınar AKKUŞ and first-year students from the Social Work Department of Arel University at the CSD - Türkan Saylan Memorial House on April 29, 2026.



Future Cities Envisioned at Istanbul Gelisim University: “Rethinking Urban Justice” Symposium Brought Young Minds and the Scientific Community Together

Istanbul Gelisim University Faculty of Health Sciences brought together academics, students, local government representatives and invited guests on May 15, 2026, for the third edition of the “Rethinking Urban Justice: Hope, Utopia and Common Life Symposium.”

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) Faculty of Health Sciences hosted one of the most remarkable visionary academic events of recent times. The third edition of the “Rethinking Urban Justice: Hope, Utopia and Common Life Symposium” turned into an interdisciplinary platform that approached the city not merely as a space of buildings and streets, but as a shared living environment centered on human dignity, health, justice and accessibility. What began three years ago as a modest idea in a classroom has now become a large-scale organization bringing together broad audiences and experts from various disciplines, strengthening its place as an institutional tradition of the university.

The symposium began with a moment of silence in memory of the founder of the Republic of Türkiye, Gazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, his comrades-in-arms, our cherished martyrs and veterans who have passed away, followed by the Turkish National Anthem. The event attracted great interest from protocol members, local government representatives and the academic community. The symposium was attended by Istanbul Gelisim University Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin, Founding Member of the Science Academy Prof. Dr. Naci Görür, Deputy Mayor of Avcılar Municipality Yüksel Can, Vice Rector Prof. Dr. S. Arda ÖZTÜRKCAN President of Avcılar City Council Turgay Halisçelik, Avcılar Municipality Director of Health Affairs Dr. Ferihan Hafizoğlu, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences Prof. Dr. Mustafa NİZAMLIOĞLU, Head of the Department of Social Work Prof. Dr. İsmet Galip YOLCUOĞLU, academics, students and invited guests.



The first speaker of the program was Prof. Dr. İsmet Galip Yolcuoğlu, Head of the Department of Social Work at Istanbul Gelisim University Faculty of Health Sciences. In his speech, which established a strong connection between the city and social work, Yolcuoğlu emphasized that the problems emerging in modern urban life directly affect disadvantaged groups. He stated that ensuring urban justice is not only a matter of spatial planning, but also a social necessity and a requirement of human dignity. Yolcuoğlu also underlined the critical role of the social work discipline in establishing an equal, accessible and rights-based urban life for all.

Following Yolcuoğlu, Prof. Dr. Mustafa Nizamlioğlu, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, delivered his speech focusing on the institutional structure of the symposium and its educational model. Nizamlioğlu expressed his pride that the initiative had grown beyond a single department and turned into a broad collaboration involving the entire faculty. He emphasized the importance of this transformative practice, in which students are not passive recipients of knowledge but active producers and subjects of learning. He also stated that such organizations, which go beyond the limits of traditional classroom education and encourage students to think, discuss and produce, strengthen the faculty's educational vision.

The final institutional speech of the opening session was delivered by Istanbul Gelisim University Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri ŞAHİN. Prof. Dr. Şahin reaffirmed the university's strong support for interdisciplinary studies and student-centered projects. He emphasized that academia should not remain confined within four walls, and that science, discoveries and academic production should find a response in society, on the streets and in public life. He also stated that the utopian and innovative solutions developed by students for urban problems are among the most concrete examples strengthening the relationship between university and society.



After Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin, Deputy Mayor of Avcılar Municipality Yüksel Can also delivered a speech. Can stated that the urban and social projects carried out in Avcılar are nourished by such qualified scientific processes. He noted that the visionary projects produced under the roof of the university open up new perspectives for local governments. Referring to one of the most vital issues of the region, Can emphasized that they continue their work with determination, guided by science and a sense of responsibility, without ever disregarding the reality of earthquakes.

Vital Warnings from Prof. Dr. Naci Görür: Earthquake-Resilient Cities Are a Necessity

Following the opening speeches, the keynote speaker of the symposium was invited to the stage. Prof. Dr. Naci Görür, Founding Member of the Science Academy and one of Türkiye's leading scientists in the field of earth sciences, addressed one of the most urgent issues concerning Türkiye and the Marmara Region.

Having completed his doctorate at Imperial College, University of London, and having led international projects on the earthquake potential of the Marmara Sea especially after the 1999 earthquakes, Prof. Dr. Görür delivered significant warnings regarding the reality of earthquakes. He emphasized that urbanization policies cannot be carried out independently of scientific reasoning. Görür stated that renewing buildings alone is not sufficient, and that building fully earthquake-resilient cities with their economy, infrastructure, people and governance mechanisms is a vital necessity. His presentation, which highlighted the importance of scientific guidance and social responsibility, attracted great attention from the audience. Following his speech, IGU Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin thanked Prof. Dr. Naci Görür and presented him with a plaque.



After the protocol speeches and the keynote presentation, the academic team involved in the organization and execution of the symposium was invited to the stage. Assist. Prof. Dr. Emrah TÜNCER, Assist. Prof. Dr. Yonca Güneş YÜCEL and Res. Asst. F. Türkan ÖZIRMAK shared with the participants the story of how the idea first emerged and developed over time. They explained that the students' strong interest, the depth of their projects and their enthusiasm for urban justice helped the idea quickly move beyond the boundaries of the classroom. It was emphasized that in its second year, the process expanded to the entire faculty with the participation of other departments, and this year it evolved into a fully developed interdisciplinary symposium with institutional partnerships, a large jury and digital infrastructure. The academics concluded their remarks by explaining how students became active subjects of learning throughout the months-long preparation process, how ideas matured through group work, and how this collective effort contributed to the university's vision.



10 Unique Utopias from 10 Departments Competed

The second major part of the symposium was dedicated entirely to students' creativity and imagination. Following the presentation by Assist. Prof. Dr. Emrah Tüncer, one of the key figures behind the idea and organization of the event, on the story of the symposium and its journey from classrooms to a larger academic platform, the eagerly awaited Student Utopia Presentations began.

Student groups representing 10 different departments within the Faculty of Health Sciences prepared 10 unique utopian city designs as a result of months of work, each approaching the city from the perspective of their own discipline. The projects and presenting departments were as follows:

- Department of Health Management: Kairostopolis
- Department of Nursing: Republic of Care
- Department of Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation: Holoyaşam
- Department of Child Development: Visia
- Department of Speech and Language Therapy: Diltopya
- Department of Perfusion: Kardiyopolis
- Department of Occupational Therapy: Ergosphere
- Department of Nutrition and Dietetics: EutrophiaPoli
- Department of Audiology: Silentium
- Department of Social Work: Tirü-Anda

During the lunch break, participants also visited the "If It Were Me" board set up in the foyer area. On this board, designed like a blank page of a city, guests and students wrote down their dreams, urban demands and hopes for "another world," creating a collective utopia wall.

A Large Multidisciplinary Jury

A diverse jury consisting of experts from different fields such as urban studies, health, media, art, education and local government was formed to evaluate the students' presentations. The jury included the following names:

Ahmet Pekgöz (Teacher), Assist. Prof. Dr. Anıl Çetin (IGU), Assist. Prof. Dr. Ayşe Hilal Tuztaş (Yeditepe University, Anthropologist), Büşra Yılmaz (Urban Policy Specialist - Marmara Municipalities Union), Eda Narin (Journalist), Emek Uçarman (General Art Director), Emir Köseoğlu (Specialist Veterinarian), Hassan Hassanpour (PhD Student - Neuroscience), Kubilay Kınoğlu (Forensic Medicine Specialist), Res. Asst. Merve Karadaban Özen (IGU), Assist. Prof. Dr. Nazar Bal (IGU), Dr. Özgür Kılıçer (Family Physician), Selçuk Duran (Sociologist - Avcılar Municipality), Assist. Prof. Dr. Seyra Kestel (IGU), Sibel Beşik (PhD Student), Assist. Prof. Dr. Sibel Zengin (IGU), Dr. Tarkan Kılıç (PhD in Media and Communication - Chamber of Environmental Engineers), Turgay Halisçelik (President of Avcılar City Council), Ünal Şenyuva (Director - Sözcü TV) and Yasemin Bilsel (Sociologist - İSEV).

Major Awards and Scholarships Presented to the Winners

After all presentations were completed, the scores submitted simultaneously by the jury members through the digital system were calculated. Following an exciting wait, the winning teams were announced based on their originality, coherence, applicability and strong contribution to the vision of urban justice.

Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences Prof. Dr. Mustafa Nizamliođlu, Vice Dean Assist. Prof. Dr. Funda Pehlevan Karabiyik and Vice Dean Assist. Prof. Dr. Sultan akmak Tanriver were invited to the stage to present the awards to the winning teams. This year, the successful students received educational scholarships to support their academic development, as well as special awards that would enrich their social lives. As a result of the jury's careful evaluation, the award-winning departments and their prizes were as follows:



- **First Prize:** The Department of Speech and Language Therapy won first place with its strong urban justice vision and applicable project structure. The winning team received tickets to prestigious cultural and artistic events, as well as the highest level of educational scholarship for specialist programs to be offered by Istanbul Gelisim University Continuing Education Center (IGUSEM).
- **Second Prize:** The Department of Social Work ranked second with its original design addressing urban problems through the lens of social rights. The successful group received cultural and artistic event tickets, as well as a high-level educational scholarship from IGU Continuing Education Center to support their personal development.
- **Third Prize:** The Department of Occupational Therapy was awarded third place with its multidimensional approach to accessibility for all. The students received cultural and artistic event tickets and educational scholarship opportunities at varying rates from IGU Continuing Education Center.

This Tradition Will Continue

The symposium concluded with a strong message of solidarity for the future. In the closing remarks, it was stated that the hope nurtured in the hall would certainly find a place in the real cities of tomorrow. The event ended with the emphasis that urban justice, hope and the culture of living together should continue to be defended collectively. Successfully completed with great interest, the organization came to an end with the hope of meeting again for the fourth edition next year.



A workshop titled "Social Media Addiction: Triggers, Boundaries, and Digital Balance" was held by the IGU Addiction Prevention Coordination Office.

In collaboration with the IGU Addiction Prevention Coordination Office and the Dean's Office of Students, a workshop titled "Social Media Addiction: Triggers, Boundaries, and Digital Balance" was held for students on May 21, 2026, on the 17th floor of Gelişim Tower.

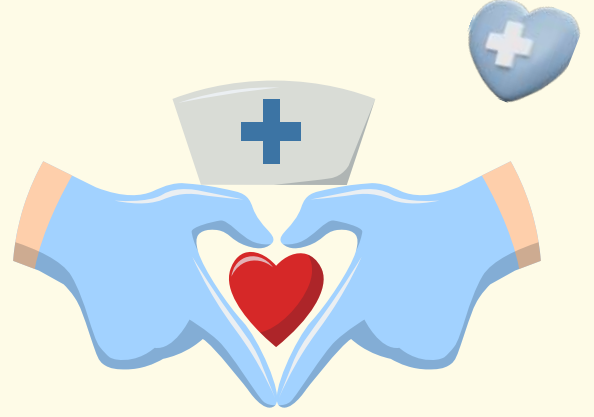
Another workshop, also in collaboration with the IGU Addiction Prevention Coordination Office and the Dean's Office of Students, was held on May 21, 2026, on the 17th floor of Gelişim Tower. The workshops were conducted by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nurten ELKİN, Faculty Member of the Istanbul Gelişim University Faculty of Health Sciences and IGU Addiction Prevention Coordinator, and Research Assistant Rabia Ceren ÇAVGA. The training addressed the causes of social media addiction, its effects on individuals, and healthy digital usage habits.

The presentation focused particularly on the impact of intensive screen use on attention, sleep, social relationships, and academic life in children and adolescents. The role of parental attitudes in shaping children's technology use was also emphasized, and information was provided on digital boundary setting and digital balance development strategies. Case studies, group discussions, and interactive exercises were included to encourage active student participation. Participants evaluated social media use through examples from daily life, and the roles that child development specialists can play in family counseling, raising awareness, and promoting healthy media use were discussed. The program concluded by emphasizing that the digital world is not an area that should be completely banned; what is important is developing conscious, controlled, and balanced usage habits.



NURSING WEEK

As part of Nursing Week, a Nursing Week booth was organized in the entrance area of the Faculty of Health Sciences with the participation of students, faculty members, and academic staff. Within the scope of the events, informative activities, awareness-raising initiatives, and practices supporting social interaction were carried out, enhancing the visibility of the nursing profession and strengthening the sense of professional solidarity.



ACADEMIC STUDIES



Faculty of Health Sciences

Presentation

Scientific studies prepared by the academics of our department were presented at the 1st Graduate Academic Studies Congress, hosted by the Graduate School of Istanbul Gelisim University on May 04-05, 2026.



As part of the congress, the study titled “The Effects of Perinatal HIV Exposure and HIV Infection on Language and Speech Development in Children: A Review of Current Literature”, prepared by Lecturer Seda KETEN and Dr. Çiğdem Eryılmaz Canlı, was shared with the participants.



In addition, the paper titled “The Effects of Congenital Cytomegalovirus Infection on Language and Speech Development: A Review of Current Literature”, presented by Lecturer Sena Gülfem BÜYÜKÇOLAK and authored by Lecturer Seda KETEN and Assist. Prof. Dr. Deniz YILDIZ, was included in the congress program.



Another paper presented at the congress was titled “Early Identification of Language and Speech Disorders in the Preschool Period”, a collaborative study by Lecturer Seda KETEN, Dr. Çiğdem Eryılmaz Canlı, and Research Assistant Ayşe Büşra CİĞER from the Department of Child Development.

Furthermore, the study titled “Pipeline-Based Multi-Axial Taxonomy of Artificial Intelligence Methods in Hearing Aids”, prepared by Research Assistant Büşra KURTCU and Research Assistant Saim HATİPOĞLU from the Department of Software Engineering, addressed current artificial intelligence approaches in hearing technologies.



Research, Development

Presentation

The "1st Graduate Academic Studies Congress" was held by the Graduate Education Institute of Istanbul Gelisim University.



The first congress, organized by the IGU Graduate Education Institute, was held at the Graduate Education Institute Building between May 4-5, 2026, and saw the participation of numerous academics with many scientific presentations. Our congress aimed to bring together advanced academic research conducted in different disciplines, strengthen the interaction between theory and practice, and provide a high-quality platform for academic knowledge production. In this context, the goal was to create an environment where high-level scientific discussions would be held, current research would be shared, and new academic collaborations would be encouraged. Within the scope of the congress, the following faculty members from the Faculty of Health Sciences presented an oral paper titled "The Role of Autonomy in Adolescent Mental Health: A Narrative Compilation":

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nurten ELKİN, Lecturer A. Mucella SOYDAN, and Assist. Prof. KAVGAOĞLU;

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Şenay KILINÇEL and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nurten ELKİN participated with an oral presentation titled "Peer Bullying and Emotion Regulation Difficulties in Adolescents: A Review from a Community Mental Health Perspective".

Presentation

At the 1st Postgraduate Academic Studies Congress, hosted by Istanbul Gelisim University Graduate Education Institute on 04-05 May 2026, the paper titled "The Role of Perceived Benefit in Online Service Purchasing in the Effect of Crisis Management in Businesses on Sustainable Marketing Orientation," prepared by Asst. Prof. Aslı KAYA, faculty member of the Health Management Department, and Omar HAMMAD, a postgraduate Health Management master's student, was presented as an oral presentation.



Prezentation

Spotlight on Hearing Health in Children Living with HIV



Research Assistant Azize KÖSEOĞLU from the Department of Audiology at Istanbul Gelisim University Faculty of Health Sciences presented a paper titled "Hearing Health in Children Living with HIV: An Audiological Evaluation," which she conducted with Research Assistant Çağla TÜRK and Lecturer Seda KETEN, at the first I. Graduate Academic Studies Congress held this year. In the program of the congress, which included many academic studies from different disciplines, this study, which drew attention to the risk factors affecting hearing health in childhood, was met with great interest.

In the study, it was revealed that HIV infection can negatively affect the auditory system during childhood and threaten both central and peripheral auditory pathways. In addition to the direct effects of the disease, it was emphasized that antiretroviral treatments and opportunistic infections also increase the risk of hearing loss. In the research, which emphasized that hearing losses experienced in early childhood can have serious consequences on language development, academic success, and social adaptation, it was stated that early diagnosis and auditory rehabilitation are critically important in minimizing these risks. It was suggested that, beyond newborn screenings, regular and periodic auditory assessment protocols should be developed for children living with HIV.



Presentation

Artificial Intelligence in Audiology Presentation at the 1st Graduate Academic Studies Congress

A presentation titled “Artificial Intelligence in Audiology: Clinical Applications and Current Developments” was delivered at the 1st Graduate Academic Studies Congress by Research Assistant Çağla TÜRK, a faculty member of the Department of Audiology. Conducted together with Research Assistant Azize KÖSEOĞLU and Associate Professor Mustafa ÇELİK, the study evaluated artificial intelligence applications in audiology in light of current literature and revealed their potential for clinical use.

The findings of the study demonstrated that artificial intelligence applications have the potential to enhance clinical effectiveness in audiology processes ranging from diagnosis to rehabilitation. However, it was emphasized that standardization, data security, and ethical considerations need to be clearly established for the integration of these technologies into routine clinical practice. In addition, the need for larger-scale, prospective, and multicenter studies to strengthen the level of evidence in this field was highlighted. The presentation concluded with a question-and-answer session with the participants.



Prezentation



Paper Presentation Held at the I. Graduate Academic Studies Congress

At the congress, organized for the first time by the Graduate School of Istanbul Gelişim University between 04.05.2026 and 05.05.2026, numerous scientific paper presentations were delivered by academics.



A new academic study in the field of child development was also presented during the congress. In the paper titled “A Comparative Analysis of Freud and Ghazali’s Approaches to Child Development,” presented by Research Assistant Aişe Büşra CİGER from the Child Development Department of Istanbul Gelişim University, the perspectives of Imam Al-Ghazali, one of the prominent Islamic scholars of the 11th century, and Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalytic theory in the 19th century, on child development were comparatively analyzed within the framework of moral, social, and psychological dimensions of child development.

The study aimed to diversify reliable reference sources in child development and critically evaluate contemporary references. Within the scope of the presentation, Imam Al-Ghazali’s religious and morality-based understanding of child upbringing and Freud’s approach centered on unconscious processes and psychosexual development were analyzed from social, developmental, and religious perspectives. The study also discussed the effects of theories belonging to two different historical periods and intellectual traditions on child development, while examining how traditional intellectual heritage can be positioned within modern child development studies.



We Attended The Symposium As The Occupational Therapy Department

Assistant Professor Dr. Beyza Aslı Bilsel, Vice Head of the Department of Occupational Therapy at the Faculty of Health Sciences of Istanbul Gelişim University, represented our University upon invitation at the 1st Symposium on Current Approaches in Occupational Therapy, held on April 3-4, 2026, at Fenerbahçe University.

She also delivered a presentation titled “Digital Health and Assistive Technologies in the Management of Chronic Mental Health” during the 5th session themed “Occupational Therapy and Self-Management in Mental Health” of the symposium.



She also served as the session chair for the 7th session of the symposium, themed “Occupational Justice, Social Transformation, and Rights-Based Occupational Therapy.”

Students from the Department of Occupational Therapy at the Faculty of Health Sciences of Istanbul Gelişim University also participated in the symposium.

“Strengthening Nursing in the Future Healthcare System” Symposium

Our faculty members from the Department of Nursing, Res. Asst. Bengisu AKOĞLU and Res. Asst. Yağmur DAĞ, participated in the symposium titled “Strengthening Nursing in the Future Healthcare System,” organized by İstanbul University on May 8 as part of the Nursing Week events.

During the symposium, the future role of the nursing profession, its strengthening within the healthcare system, and current developments in the field were discussed. The event provided our faculty members with valuable opportunities for academic knowledge exchange and professional development.





III. INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF
ECONOMICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES
ULIC

Presentation

The paper entitled “Shaping Organizational Performance and Enhancing Consumer Value Through Digital Transformation Skills,” authored by Asst. Prof. Aslı KAYA, Asst. Prof. Murat BAŞAL, and Asst. Prof. Ömer Faruk ŞARKBAY, department of health management of the Faculty of Health Sciences, was presented as an oral presentation at the III. International Congress of Economics and Administrative Studies (ULIC) held in Prizren, Kosovo, between May 21–23, 2026.



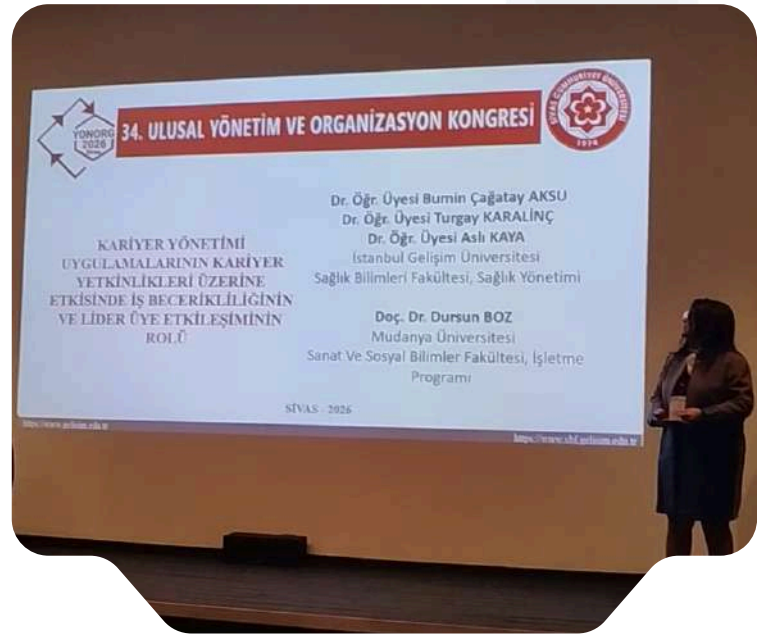
Presentation

34. ULUSAL YÖNETİM VE ORGANİZASYON KONGRESİ
20 - 23 Mayıs 2026
Sivas
Önemli Tarihler

- Bildiri Kabulüne Başlama : 8 Şubat 2026
- Bildiri Gönderimi Son Tarih: 15 Nisan 2026
- Kongre Kayıt İşlemleri : 8 Şubat - 10 Mayıs 2026
- Kabul Edilen Bildirilerin İlanı: 5 Mayıs 2026
- Kongre Programının İlanı: 10 Mayıs 2026
- Çalıştay: 20 Mayıs 2026
- Kongre Tarihi : 21-22 Mayıs 2026
- Kabul Edilen Bildirilerin Güncellenmesi : 1 Temmuz 2026
- Kongre Bildiri Kitabının Yayınlanması : 31 Temmuz 2026

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Bir Yönetim, 24. YONORG için Özgür Digital Etkinliklerden Yararlanıyor



The paper entitled “The Mediating Role of Organizational Exclusion in the Relationship Between Job Stress and Acquiescent and Passive Silence,” authored by Asst. Prof. Aslı KAYA from the Faculty of Health Sciences together with independent researchers Dr. Aslı Ercan ÖNBIÇAK and Dr. Mustafa İsmet BAŞBOĞA, and the paper entitled “The Role of Job Crafting and Leader–Member Exchange in the Effect of Career Management Practices on Career Competencies,” authored by Asst. Prof. Aslı KAYA, Asst. Prof. Bumin Çağatay AKSU, Asst. Prof. Turgay KARALINÇ, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dursun BOZ from Mudanya University, were presented as oral presentations at the 34th National Management and Organization Congress, held in Sivas, Türkiye, between May 20–23, 2026.



Presentation

IGU Perfusion Department Participated in the 4th Üsküdar Perfusion Congress

Istanbul Gelişim University Department of Perfusion participated in the 4th Üsküdar Perfusion Congress held between May 1–3, 2026. During the congress, current developments, clinical experiences, and scientific studies in the field of Perfusion were shared with the participants.

At the congress, Research Assistant Sıdıka ADIYAMAN, a faculty member of the Department of Perfusion at Istanbul Gelişim University, delivered an oral presentation titled “Mechanical Effects of the Roller Pump on Head Lines.” In the presentation, the issue of particle exposure, which has become increasingly important in extracorporeal circulation processes, was discussed; the mechanical effects of the roller pump on head line materials and the relationship of these effects with particle formation were evaluated in light of the current literature. As a result of the scientific evaluation, the study presented during the oral presentation session received the highest score from the jury and congress participant evaluations in terms of its scientific content, original approach, methodological design, and presentation performance.

The congress, which provided an important academic and professional development environment for students, contributed to students closely following current scientific studies and interacting with field professionals.



BOOK CHAPTER



A book chapter co-authored by Research Assistant Esra EROL, in the Department of Speech and Language Therapy at the Faculty of Health Sciences, Istanbul Gelişim University, and Specialist Speech and Language Therapist Ayşegül SARI SÜLÜKER, titled “Language, Cognitive-Communication, and Social-Communication Disorders in Sports-Related Concussion: Assessment and Intervention from the Perspective of Speech and Language Therapy” has been published.

The chapter, featured in the book “Current Approaches and Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Sports Sciences,” addresses the language, cognitive-communication, and social-communication effects of sports-related concussion and examines the role of speech and language therapists in assessment and intervention processes from a scientific perspective.

ARTICLE

Findings on Environmental and Behavioral Factors Affecting Ultra-Processed Food Consumption in Emerging Adults Have Been Published

The study conducted by our department faculty members, Assoc. Prof. Hatice Merve BAYRAM and Prof. Dr. Arda ÖZTÜRKCAN, was published in **Current Psychology**, an SSCI-indexed Q1 journal, presenting important findings on the environmental, psychological, and behavioral factors affecting ultra-processed food consumption among emerging adults.



The study titled “**Drivers of ultra-processed food consumption in emerging adults: the influence of obesogenic environment, hedonic hunger, and food choices**” was conducted with 407 university students aged 18–29 studying in Istanbul. The study comprehensively examined the relationships between perceived obesogenic environment, hedonic hunger, food choice tendencies, and ultra-processed food consumption.

According to the study findings, 65.8% of the students were found to have a high level of ultra-processed food consumption. Overweight participants had higher scores for both perceived obesogenic environment and ultra-processed food consumption.

The study found that perceived obesogenic environment was significantly associated with hedonic hunger and food choice tendencies. Being in environments where access to unhealthy foods is easy and where energy-dense, taste-oriented foods are more visible may trigger eating desire through pleasure and reward mechanisms rather than physiological hunger. The study also revealed that hedonic hunger was associated with ultra-processed food consumption.

One of the notable aspects of the study was that the digital food environment was also evaluated. While all participants reported using social media, Instagram was found to be the most frequently used platform. Among Instagram users, food images were identified as the most frequently encountered content category, with a rate of 62.4%. This finding indicates that emerging adults are intensely exposed to food cues not only in physical environments but also on digital platforms.

The findings show that strategies aimed at reducing ultra-processed food consumption among university students should not be limited to individual nutrition education alone; they should also take environmental conditions, psychological eating impulses, and digital food cues into account.

We would like to thank our department faculty members, Assoc. Prof. Hatice Merve BAYRAM and Prof. Dr. Arda ÖZTÜRKCAN, for their valuable scientific contributions to the literature and to the field of Nutrition and Dietetics.

WORKSHOP



The Student Utopia Workshop titled “Rethinking Urban Justice: Hope, Utopia and Common Living,” organized through the collaboration of Istanbul Gelisim University and the Municipality of Avcılar, was held with broad participation. The event, hosted at the Avcılar Municipality Applied Solutions and Innovation Center, brought together students from various departments of the Faculty of Health Sciences to think, discuss, and create around the themes of the city, justice, hope, and common living. The program opened with a session entitled “At the Edge of All Possibilities: City, Crisis and Utopia,” conducted by Assist. Prof. Dr. Emrah TÜNÇER and Research Assistant Fatma Türkan ÖZIRMAK. The session emphasized that utopia is not merely a dream, but also a powerful intellectual tool for understanding and transforming existing social problems. Students had the opportunity to examine urban inequalities, environmental challenges, and social exclusion from a different perspective. Following this, Dr. Feriha HAFIZOĞLU, Director of Health Affairs at the Municipality of Avcılar, delivered a presentation titled “The Prosperous City: In the Footsteps of Hygieia and Panacea.” The presentation highlighted that healthy cities can only be achieved through social justice, environmental sustainability, and social solidarity. In the session “Hope and Utopia as a Practice of Thinking: How Do We Imagine What Does Not Yet Exist?” Assist. Prof. Dr. Yonca Güneş YÜCEL discussed the role of hope and utopia in social transformation. Through various examples, students explored the idea that imagining the future is the first step toward change. Later in the day, Associate Professor Dr. Başak ÖZARSLAN led the session “Is a Just City Possible? Thinking from Avcılar Onward,” where concepts such as the right to the city, accessibility, and participation were examined through local experiences. Finally, Associate Professor Dr. İlke CİRİTÇİ’s presentation, “Utopia: The Imaginary Architecture of the Eighteenth Century,” shed light on the historical development of utopian thought and its influence on urban design. Throughout the workshop, participating students were not merely listeners but active producers of ideas. Bringing together students from different disciplines contributed to the development of multidimensional perspectives on urban issues. Students stated that the event broadened their horizons and deepened their understanding of cities and social justice.

Against Addiction Movement Program

The "STEP BY STEP HAND IN HAND FIGHT AGAINST ADDICTION MOVEMENT PROGRAM," initiated by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Turkey and held at the Atatürk Cultural Center between 11:00 and 15:00 on May 6, 2026, hosted by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and honored by the presence of the Vice President, Mr. Cevdet YILMAZ, was introduced. Istanbul Gelişim University's Addiction Prevention Coordinator, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nurten ELKIN, participated in the program representing our university.

In his speech, Vice President Mr. Cevdet YILMAZ emphasized the importance of a holistic approach to the issue, highlighting the prevention and protective activities against addictions, and therefore the importance of inter-institutional cooperation.

Within the scope of the program, "As the Ministry of Youth and Sports, our main priority is; The goal is to support the physical, mental, and social development of our youth into healthy and happy individuals, creating a strong and secure environment where they can realize their potential from education to social life. In this context, the fight against addiction is considered a strategic policy area that empowers youth and transforms society."





A seminar titled “Children Empowered by Nature for Healthy Generations” was organized by the IGU Addiction Prevention Coordination Office

A seminar titled “Children Empowered by Nature for Healthy Generations” was organized through the collaboration of the Department of Child Development within the Faculty of Health Sciences at Istanbul Gelişim University and the Addiction Prevention Coordination Office. The seminar was held on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 14:00 at the Esenyurt District Governorate Family Support Center (ADEM) with the participation of 8th-grade middle school students. Within the scope of the program, topics such as the effects of connecting with nature on child and adolescent development, sustainability awareness, respect for nature, the positive contributions of spending time in nature to psychological well-being, the biomimicry approach, and nature-inspired designs were discussed.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nurten ELKIN, Head of the Department of Child Development and Coordinator of the IGU Addiction Prevention Coordination Office, delivered the opening speech by first introducing herself and then providing information about the social contribution projects carried out within the university, educational activities conducted within the scope of addiction prevention, and projects supporting the healthy development of children. ELKIN emphasized that children are increasingly becoming disconnected from nature and spending more time in front of screens, stating that contact with nature is important for children’s physical, social, and emotional development.

Throughout the seminar, an interactive communication environment was established with the students, and discussions were held regarding their experiences with nature, thoughts about the environment, and daily life habits. The program concluded with the answering of students’ questions and the sharing of suggestions to help them establish a stronger connection with nature.



In the continuation of the seminar, Research Assistant Hatice Zehal BİNGÖL stated that the relationship children and adolescents establish with nature is important not only in terms of environmental awareness but also for mental health, emotional regulation, and creativity. BİNGÖL drew attention to brain development during adolescence and explained that the adolescent brain is highly open to intense stimulation, whereas nature offers a natural space of well-being that supports attention regulation, reduces anxiety levels, and strengthens psychological resilience in young people.

In her speech, BİNGÖL also addressed the concept of sustainability and the importance of respect for nature, emphasizing that individuals should view nature not merely as a resource to be consumed but as a system that sustains life itself. She also discussed the biomimicry approach and provided examples of designs inspired by nature. BİNGÖL stated that the millions of years of adaptation processes observed in living organisms have inspired architecture, engineering, technology, and everyday life designs, and noted that students could improve their creative thinking skills by observing nature.



A Breeze of Culture on Campus: The 7th International Student Culture Day Celebrated with Great Enthusiasm at IGU!



In line with its vision of internationalization, Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) continues to bring together cultures from around the world on its campus. Organized by the International Student Office and held as a traditional annual event, the 7th International Student Culture Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on May 21, 2026, in the A Block Garden Area.

The World Came Together on Campus: Nearly 50 Countries Under One Roof

The event, organized to provide more than 12,000 international students studying at the university with an opportunity to introduce and share their cultures, transformed the campus into a vibrant cultural festival. Nearly 50 country stands set up throughout the campus garden offered visitors a unique

opportunity to experience different cultures from around the world. The event attracted strong participation from students, academics, and numerous guests, creating a lively and colorful atmosphere throughout the day.

Colorful Performances and Traditional Flavors

The cultural festival was enriched by traditional dance performances, live music shows, and vibrant national costumes presented by students. Visitors also had the opportunity to experience traditional cuisines and learn about the history, art, and customs of different countries through cultural stands and workshops.

Emphasis on Internationalization and Cultural Diversity

In the closing remarks, Istanbul Gelisim University reaffirmed its commitment to internationalization and cultural diversity, emphasizing its support for international students in sharing their cultures and its dedication to bringing young people from around the world together in a spirit of mutual understanding and a shared future.





Istanbul Gelisim University Perfusion Department Participated in the Istanbul Regional Perfusion Meeting.



Faculty members and students of the Department of Perfusion, Faculty of Health Sciences at Istanbul Gelisim University, participated in the Istanbul Regional Perfusion Meeting organized by the Perfusionists Association on May 09, 2026. During the meeting, where expert perfusionists in the field came together, developments in perfusion practices, clinical experiences, and professional approaches were discussed.

Within the scope of this meeting, which served as an important platform for strengthening professional knowledge sharing and evaluating current practices, participants had the opportunity to gain information about current studies and clinical applications in the field of perfusion.

May 20 Child Development Specialists Day

The Journey of the Child Development Specialist

Organized by the Department of Child Development, Faculty of Health Sciences, Istanbul Gelişim University, the event titled “The Journey of the Child Development Specialist” was held as part of the May 20 Child Development Specialists Day celebrations. During the event, academics shared their professional experiences and perspectives with students, while the past, present, and future of the child development profession were discussed from different viewpoints.

The event began with an opening speech by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nurten ELKIN, Head of the Department of Child Development. Discussions focused on the academic, social, and field experiences of child development specialists, highlighting the profession’s critical role in supporting children's developmental processes. The program, which attracted significant interest from students, served as an important platform for enhancing professional awareness and fostering the exchange of experiences.

In her presentation titled “The Past, Present, and Future of Child Development,” Research Assistant Kevser Tuğba CINAR KARASU discussed the history of the Child Development Department in Türkiye, beginning with its establishment and tracing the changes in its designation over time. She also addressed the department’s relationships with various ministries, gaps in legal regulations, ambiguities regarding professional roles and employment areas, and the practical challenges encountered in the field.

In her presentation titled “Touching Little Hearts,” Research Assistant Hatice Zelal BINGOL emphasized that child development is not merely a profession but a meaningful field that carries the responsibility of bringing hope to children's lives and leaving a lasting impact on their future. Sharing examples from her own academic journey, she highlighted the importance of perseverance and determination. Bingöl stated that child development specialists are professionals who understand children's emotions, support families, and contribute to shaping the future of society. She concluded her speech by underscoring the social significance of the profession, stating: “A strong future requires a strong generation, and that strong generation depends on us, the child development specialists.”

Happy May 20

Child Development Specialists Day!

In her presentation titled “The Horizon of the Child Development Specialist,” Research Assistant Aişe Büşra CIGER emphasized that child development specialists should continuously support not only their professional competencies but also their personal development. She also highlighted the importance of critically re-evaluating the contemporary child development literature, noting that certain theoretical and practical approaches should be adapted to the realities of today’s world in response to changing social dynamics and contemporary needs. Furthermore, she stated that diversifying the academic resources utilized in the field would strengthen interdisciplinary perspectives and contribute to a more holistic approach to child development studies.

In her presentation titled “Being a Child Development Specialist in the Field,” Research Assistant Rabia Ceren CAVGA emphasized the importance of making the most of the undergraduate years for professional development. She noted that internships, volunteer work, and field experiences undertaken during studentship make significant contributions to professional preparation. Çavga also pointed out that child development specialists may encounter various challenges throughout their careers, including communication with families, inter-institutional collaboration, and differences in field practices. She stressed that maintaining a patient, solution-oriented mindset and a commitment to continuous self-improvement are essential for professional success.



THE KITCHEN OF THE FUTURE: A WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY SNACKS FOR CHILDREN

The “Kitchen of the Future: A Workshop on Sustainable and Healthy Snacks for Children”, organized by the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Faculty of Health Sciences at Istanbul Gelisim University, was held on Thursday, May 7, 2026.

Within the scope of the workshop, the importance of establishing healthy eating habits during childhood was emphasized, and sustainable and nutritious snack alternatives for children were evaluated through practical applications. Throughout the event, participants gained theoretical knowledge about healthy food choices that support children’s growth and development processes and had the opportunity to put this knowledge into practice through the preparation of various recipes. In the prepared snacks, fundamental criteria such as nutrient balance, the use of natural ingredients, appropriate portioning, and suitability for children’s eating habits were taken into consideration.

The workshop also addressed environmentally friendly kitchen practices within the framework of a sustainable nutrition approach. During the preparation of recipes, issues such as reducing food waste, preferring local and seasonal foods, efficient use of resources, and supporting sustainable consumption habits were emphasized. In this respect, the event contributed to addressing the relationship between child nutrition and environmental sustainability from a holistic perspective.

Through the workshop, it was aimed to increase awareness regarding the development of healthy and sustainable snack alternatives for children, promote awareness of sustainable kitchen practices, and provide practical knowledge and skills related to the preparation of healthy snacks.



YURLIG BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

The Yurtlig Women's Basketball Türkiye Finals, held at Balçova Spor Salonu with the participation of 70 athletes from 7 provinces, brought together successful athletes from across Türkiye. Among the athletes who achieved the Yurtlig Türkiye Championship as members of the Istanbul team was our Department of Speech and Language Therapy second-year student, Nevruz Sönmez. Our student made us proud with her successful performance and valuable contribution to her team.

The active participation of our students not only in academic fields but also in sports, arts, and social activities is regarded as an important indicator of their multidimensional development. In this context, we congratulate our student Nevruz Sönmez on her achievement and wish her continued success in both her academic and sporting career.





CULTURE-ART-LITERATURE

“WHAT IS CULTURE
FOR?” – TO SEE
WITH THE EYE OF
THE HEART...

ALMAGÜL ŞİRİYEVA

Department of Social Work
First-Year Student

“Introduction” – Close your eyes!

“Friendship” – Well then, what do you see?!

“Hope” – Can’t you see anything?

“Balance” – Think carefully!

“Compassion” – Did you see it?

“Knowledge” – Open your eyes!...

“Encouragement” – Now what do you see?

“Appreciation” – Well,

“Perspective” – Can I tell you something?...

“Conclusion” – Welcome among us!





**Faculty of
Health Sciences**

ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY ALUMNI TRACKING SYSTEM

The Alumni Tracking System (METSIS) was created in order to monitor the employment and postgraduate education status of our graduates and to generate statistical data.

Istanbul Gelisim University launched METSIS in order to strengthen its relations with alumni and contribute to the employment of graduates. Members of METSIS can sign up for free after graduating. Our graduates can become a member of METSIS free of charge. Our graduates who are members of METSIS can update their personal profiles and follow our job postings.

What Are the Steps to Join METSIS?

1. Use the web interface at metsis.gelisim.edu.tr to log in
2. You can follow the postings in the open positions box.
3. To apply for the positions, you can establish an account from the "new candidate" box.
4. You can view job posts after making an account on the top page and apply for positions that interest you.



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LinkedIn -
IGU ALUMNI AND
MEMBERS COORDINATOR

Dear IGU Alumni,
To benefit from the Virtual Alumni Card and membership privileges, it is sufficient to complete the membership form in full and upload your photograph to the relevant section. IGU Alumni Card holders have the opportunity to use the campus library, attend alumni events, benefit from advantages in DGS-ALES courses and postgraduate education, obtain discounts and privileges at many institutions and businesses, and take advantage of online certified trainings and various trainings and seminars free of charge or at a discount. They can also benefit, on a priority and discounted basis, from the trainings, seminars and career support offered by the Career Center and IGUSEM.



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