

► "Prior to this program, I had no experience in the field of business consulting. I never realized others could have such a different point of view on every aspect of life. Without this experience, I would have never considered that my business knowledge could help the progression of science technology. It completely changed my outlook."

—ESZTER MAJOR, ALUMNA, UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS



ABOUT US

The Simonyi Center is hosted at the University of Pécs, Hungary, which is one of the largest Universities in Hungary. As well as being recognized for its quality education practices, the University of Pécs and its region are rich in cultural arts and science and innovation. Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, USA has shared a relationship with University of Pécs since 1989. Originally focusing on student/faculty exchange and research the relationship evolved in 2005 with contributions from the Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences and various donors to create the Simonyi Center for Entrepreneurship, Applied Education and Regional Development. The programs offered have been successful at leveraging Ohio University's progressive approach to education. Ohio University's integrated educational economic development model, which educates students as well as impacts the surrounding community, is now being implemented in Hungary. The learning, which is mainly focused on Western Capitalist ways of thinking, has extensive outreach that truly goes beyond borders by transforming the mind sets of all participants.

"The program that is being created in Pécs, by The Simonyi Center and Ohio University, could be a national model for education and economic development throughout Hungary."

— APRIL H. FOLEY,
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO HUNGARY

OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

SIMONYI CONSULTING CENTER

This entrepreneurial business support services center at the University of Pécs is staffed with full-time business professionals and University of Pécs faculty and students year-round. Combining education with real-world application, the center serves as a progressive model of regional transformation not only for other universities in Hungary, but also in surrounding countries.

UNIVERSITY ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INNOVATION, AND COMMERCIALIZATION PROGRAM

This program is a collaborative effort with the Technology Transfer Offices of University of Pécs and other Hungarian Universities working with Faculties of Engineering, Medical Schools, and Faculties of Arts and Sciences to commercialize ideas, innovations, products and patents. In addition, it has established relationships with innovation centers, technology parks and biotechnology consortiums throughout Hungary.

FACULTY, STUDENT AND PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH AND EXCHANGE

Faculty exchange founded the relationship between the University of Pécs and Ohio University. The two universities continue to collaborate in research efforts, student scholarship opportunities, summer study abroad programs, as well as year-round seminars, conferences and exchanges.

SIMONYI SUMMER INNOVATION PROGRAM

This intensive ten-week, summer semester program held at the University of Pécs is for University of Pécs, Ohio University and Eastern European students from interdisciplinary backgrounds. Students are trained and teamed up, allowing them to gain a business knowledge and experience. They provide business support services for small and medium-sized businesses in the Southern Transdanubian region. It also exposes scientists, engineers, researchers and developers with little business experience, as well as professionals with business backgrounds, to the world of innovation and commercialization. By incorporating students from Serbia, facilitated by the U.S. State Department, this program has truly reached beyond borders.

BUSINESS CONSULTING CERTIFICATE

This certificate program is offered to Hungarian students at the University of Pécs. As an English language undergraduate certificate, this program educates students on Hungarian methods of small and medium-sized enterprises, consulting and development. Additionally, it exposes Hungarian students to Western Capitalist ways of entrepreneurship, ideas and business people, delivered by both Hungarian and American professionals and faculty.

OUR MISSION

We facilitate the transformation of Hungarian and Eastern European economies from a post-socialist to a western capitalist approach consequently better positioning the region within the European Union, as well as the global marketplace. This transformation entails changing mindsets and the ways people do business, educating students and entrepreneurs on alternative capitalist ways of doing business and providing hope and business opportunities to upcoming generations. It is a long process throughout which the continuity of entrepreneurial support programs is vital. This is what makes our initiative different from previous, one-time programs and projects. By operating year-round, education and business services and programs create a presence in the community and region. Here, entrepreneurs and businesses in need of assistance rely on our services and return for help in the future. Furthermore, we will educate the upcoming generation of students; providing them invaluable applied business competencies, client interaction and problem solving skills and, more importantly, uncovering hidden opportunities in the region.

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For information on making a gift to the Simonyi Center, please contact:

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Email: giving@ohio.edu

Secure online giving at: www.ohio.edu/give

IMPACTS OF THE SIMONYI CENTER FROM 2005—PRESENT

clients	students	consulting hours
147	623	31,375

Science (18,678 hours)
 Arts (6,640 hours)
 Regional Development (6,057 hours)



The Simonyi Center in Pécs, Hungary focuses in the following signature areas:

CULTURAL ARTS, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

The Simonyi Center in Pécs, Hungary focuses on transforming innovation into practice and creating a framework of commercialization.

A support system for the arts will make existing and new arts accessible to citizens of the region, as well as help artists gain more exposure. Furthermore, this support system will inspire the public to pursue arts on a greater level.

APPLIED EDUCATION

Applied education integrates classroom curriculum with real world application of knowledge via exposure to working with real businesses, artists, scientists and other clients. Educational impacts can be seen through language development, applied business skills, negotiation skills and cultural exposure of students. The training and assigning of student teams provides regional businesses with solutions to real-world problems and has enabled almost 400 students to develop entrepreneurial and business skills.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Providing in-depth business assistance services to more than 80 businesses through 18,000 hours of intensive consulting, the program is fostering entrepreneurship and a spirit of capitalism in the Pécs area, as well as, all over Hungary.

Funding Partners

CHARLES SIMONYI FUND

The Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences is a 501(c)(3) private foundation that distributes funds to worthy organizations that demonstrate excellence in the arts, sciences and education. The Fund was founded in 2004 by Charles Simonyi, an avid philanthropist and renowned computer software developer who was born in Budapest, Hungary and received an honorary doctorate from the University of Pécs in 2001.

UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS

With its ten faculties, the University of Pécs plays a significant role in Hungarian higher education. The university offers a broad range of training and degree programs, ensuring high-level knowledge-transfer and research. With its more than 33,000 students and nearly 2,000 teaching and research staff the impact of the University of Pécs extends well beyond the borders of Pécs.

OHIO UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The College of Business provides a distinctive learning environment that actively engages students, faculty and the business community in developing knowledge and skills relevant for success in a complex, global economy. This environment stimulates student learning and faculty research so graduates are able to: apply the holistic integrated approach to business problems; apply the communication, leadership, team and technological skills needed to succeed in their business careers; understand how to work with people from other cultures and to operate effectively in other countries; and understand the social responsibilities of individuals and organizations and evaluate the ethical dimensions of decision in a business context.

CLEVELAND HUNGARIAN DEVELOPMENT PANEL

The Cleveland Hungarian Development Panel (CHDP) is a non-profit organization of dedicated volunteers who recognize the need to promote and support educational and cultural ties between Americans and Hungarians. The mission of the CHDP is to provide assistance and the exchange of ideas for Hungarian projects in the areas of commerce, education, health and human services.

Collaborating Partners

CULTURAL ARTS

- European Cultural Capital 2010
- Pécs Cultural Center
- Zsolnay Ceramics Museum

SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

- The Cleveland Clinic
- Bio Enterprise
- Case Western Reserve University
- The Cleveland Foundation
- NE Ohio Economic Development Program
- Hungarian National Academy of Sciences
- Budapest University of Technology and Economics
- Biotech Consortium -Pécs

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Hungarian Investment and Trade, Development Agency, Pécs Office
- The Baranya County Chamber of Commerce
- The City of Pécs Mayor's Office
- American Corner
- Consortium for Digital Technology

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL

- Hungarian Investment and Trade, Development Agency
- US Ambassador to Hungary
- U.S. Embassy, Budapest
- U.S. State Department
- Serbian State Department



SIMONYI CENTER

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A joint initiative between
The University of Pécs, Hungary
& Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, USA

Collaborating to transform the economy with the promotion and support of science and innovation, cultural arts, entrepreneurship and applied education.



OHIO
UNIVERSITY