„PROFESSOR ENG. CONSTANTIN GHIULAI"
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING CONTEST

The Society of Automotive Engineers of Romania – SIAR initiated the first edition of the international contest for automotive engineering students in 2014. This initiative falls within the objectives assumed by SIAR in the direction of promoting/encouraging study and achieving a high level of professional competence among students from university with study programs degree in automotive engineering.

In Romania, university study programs in this field are held at the universities: National University of Science and Technology Politehnica of Bucharest (Bucharest and Pitești), Transilvania University of Brasov, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, Gheorghe Asachi Technical University of Iasi, University of Craiova, Politehnica University of Timisoara, University of Oradea, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Lower Danube University of Galati, Ovidius University of Constanța, Stefan cel Mare University of Suceava and Ferdinand I Military Technical Academy of Bucharest, and in the Republic of Moldova at the Technical University of Moldova of Chisinau and study programs in the field of road transportation the Alecu Russo University of State of Balti.

The existence of a significant number of students in the field of automotive engineering ensured the success of this student competition.
Only undergraduate students in automotive engineering can participate in the contest; no master's or doctoral students or students on other undergraduate degree programs are accepted.

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The student contest includes two stages, as follows:
- stage I (local) takes place at the level of each university during the second semester of the academic year under the coordination of the SIAR section of the university and the specialized professors; it ends with the establishment of a ranking and the awarding of diplomas and prizes at the university level; the first 3 ranked are the representative team for the final stage of the contest - 1-2 reserves are also established.
- the final stage of the student contest takes place in the fall during the SIAR International Annual Congress of Automotive and Transport Engineering; this aspect ensures the achievement of several objectives as follows: the participation of competing students in the congress proceedings, the contact with this type of scientific event and with delegates to the congress, the increased visibility of the competition and student teams, including at the international level, the contact of students with the representatives of the industrial environment congress participants and, last but not least, a simplification of logistical support.

The student contest started in 2014 with the "Vehicle Dynamics" section, but since 2017 it has included a second section: "Automotive CAD - CATIA V5".

The rules of the contest, the themes and the recommended bibliography, the professors and specialists involved, the names of the participating students and the winners are published on the SIAR website on the SIAR Junior page (http://siar.ro/siar-junior/). Also, the support of sponsors.

Students' participation in the competition was significant and is summarized in the following table.

The 2026 edition of the international automotive engineering student contest „Professor eng. Constantin GHIULAI" will be organized simultaneously with the SIAR International Congress of Automotive and Transport Engineering CAR 2026 which will be hosted by the National University of Science and Technology Politehnica Bucharest - Pitesti University Center.

No.	Year*	Sections	Host university	Number of participating universities	Number of participating students		Obs.
					at the preliminary stage	at the final stage	
1	2014	Automotive Dynamics	University of Craiova	7	191	28	
2	2015	Automotive Dynamics	Politehnica University of Bucharest	9	202	35	
3	2016	Automotive Dynamics	Transilvania University of Brașov	8	185	20	
4	2017	Automotive Dynamics Automotive CAD CATIA	University of Pitesti	11	242	49	
5	2018	Automotive Dynamics Automotive CAD CATIA	Technical University of Cluj-Napoca	12	361	49	
6	2019	Automotive Dynamics Automotive CAD CATIA	University of Craiova	12	338	53	
7	2021	Automotive Dynamics Automotive CAD CATIA	Technical University of Moldova – Chisinau	2	53	9	
8	2022	Automotive Dynamics Automotive CAD CATIA	Politehnica University of Timisoara	12	335	53	
9	2023	Automotive Dynamics Automotive CAD CATIA	NUST Politehnica Bucharest	12	314	50	
10	2024	Automotive Dynamics Automotive CAD CATIA	Transilvania University of Brasov	9	274	52	
11	2025	Automotive Dynamics Automotive CAD CATIA	Technical University of Cluj-Napoca	11	330	53	

** The measures imposed by the authorities during the COVID pandemic prevented/limited the organization of the competition in 2020 and 2021.*

Emeritus Professor Minu MITREA
General Secretary of SIAR

NB
Professor eng. Constantin Ghiulai is considered by SIAR the founder of university education in the field of automotive engineering.