



SLOVESNA OTVORITEV
AKADEMSKEGA LETA 2023/2024

Dvorec Lanthieri, 12. oktober 2023

Nagovor rektorja Univerze v Novi Gorici prof. dr. Boštjan Golob

Leto je naokrog in ponovno pričenjamo akademsko leto. Kot vsako leto na vseh univerzah tudi to pričenjamo zanosno, z novimi ali prenovljenimi programi, z novimi, upam, da uka željnimi bruckami in bruci, z novimi sodelavci, z novimi zapiski pod roko, ko stopamo v predavalnice. Zavedamo se, da visoko šolstvo ni šprint, pač pa tek na dolge proge. Zato leto pričenjamo v znosnem tempu, z odločnostjo, da na cilju vsem slušateljem naših programov posredujemo znanje in kompetence, potrebne za uspešno profesionalno kariero. Ali z besedami častnega doktorja UNG, japonskega pisatelja Harukija Murakamija: »Nogo pred nogo. Ponavljam, dokler ne dosežeš cilja.«

UNG je majhna, nekateri pogosto uporabljajo izraz »butična«, univerza. Svojo majhnost, »butičnost«, če želite, skušamo izkoristiti za čim bolj neposreden odnos med učitelji in slušatelji naših programov. Vrata visokošolskih učiteljic in učiteljev, asistentk in asistentov skušamo imeti odprta za vprašanja, probleme in ideje naših študentk in študentov. To ni lahko, saj se vsi, ki delujemo na področju izobraževanja in znanosti, soočamo z naraščajočo količino dela, ki ni neposredno vezano na poučevanje in raziskave. Na naši univerzi še posebej, saj moramo imeti vse, kar imajo veliki. Za vse te napore sem hvaležen sodelavkam in sodelavcem. Zavoljo njihovih naporov se lahko UNG med drugim pohvali z redom za zasluge za izjemno uspešen razvoj in dosežke, s katerimi je oplemenitila slovenski visokošolski prostor, ki ji ga je ob dvajsetletnici obstoja podelil tedanji predsednik Republike Slovenije, gospod Borut Pahor. Z napori sodelavk in sodelavcev UNG prispeva majhen, a nezanimarljiv košček v mozaik slovenskega visokošolskega izobraževanja in znanstvenih raziskav. Kakovost slovenskega visokega šolstva in znanstvenoraziskovalne dejavnosti je – normirana na velikost države, torej na kadrovsko in finančno velikost slovenske akademske sfere – v globalnem merilu zavidljiva.

Glede na statistične pokazatelje imata vrhunsko znanost in najodličnejše terciarno izobraževanje ZDA in Kitajska. Glede na večino normiranih kazalcev je Slovenija v skupini nekaj deset držav, ki omenjenima sledijo. Lahko bi rekli, da

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je slovenska akademska sfera, če že ne vrhunska, gotovo odlična. Za korak do vrhunskosti potrebujemo osredotočenje na kakovost posameznih aktivnosti, ki jih izvajamo, brez prerekanja o tem, kdo je pomembnejši, o tem, od kod prihajamo, ali o tem, kakšna je naša in kakšna provenienca drugih. Potrebujemo sodelovanje pri skupnih projektih, osredotočenost na svoje delo, na tisto, kar znamo, in ne na tisto, kar nas morebiti moti pri drugih. S tem lahko morda, gotovo z znatnimi napori, dosežemo večjo prepoznavnost na domačem, evropskem dvorišču in širše. Morda je to utopija, a naj se ponovno zatečem k Harukiju Murakamiju, ki v svoji knjigi *Kafka na obali* pravi: »Vse je vprašanje domišljije. Naša odgovornost se prične z zmožnostjo domišljije.«

Zmožnost domišljije nedvomno odlikuje naše današnje slavljenke. Nagrajene študentke in študenti brez zmožnosti domišljije ne bi postali prve in prvi, najboljše in najboljši v svoji generaciji. Brez domišljije ne bi bilo ultralahkih letal in ne prevzemajočih oblikovalskih dosežkov. Domišljija je tista, ki nas osebno zapolnjuje, dejanja, porojena iz domišljije, pogosto naletijo na največje odobravanje naše okolice. Je tudi obrambni mehanizem, k njej se zatečemo, ko nas narava opomni na našo majhnost. Domišljija rodi hiše, ki nastanejo na novo po uničujočih poplavih.

Pred nedavnim sem gostil kolega fizika iz Japonske, bivšega vodjo velike mednarodne skupine znanstvenikov, in lahko bi rekel, svetovljana. Doma je iz iste male vasi blizu Osake kot Haruki Murakami. Popeljal sem ga na Pomnik miru in razgledni stolp na Cerju. Pogled na goriško pokrajino in sosednjo Italijo ga je vidno prevzel. Navkljub »butičnosti« Slovenije, ali pa prav zaradi te, se je vrnil na Japonsko s še večjim poznavanjem in spoštovanjem naše dežele.

Kot je UNG butična v Sloveniji, je Slovenija butična v svetu. Kot drugod po Sloveniji na UNG gojimo domišljijo in si prizadevamo za uresničitev idej, ki se nam porodijo. Ne mislimo, da je majhnost hiba, ki nas ovira. Nasprotno, vemo, da vsak delček mozaika prispeva k njegovemu sijaju.

Na UNG smo ponosni, da to, kar delamo, delamo kakovostno ter da se ne bojimo uporabiti domišljije za nadaljnji razvoj. Te vrednote, sem prepričan, delijo tudi vsi današnji nagrajenci. Vsem skupaj čestitam in upam, da bomo skupaj prehodili še velik del poti razvoja naše univerze.

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Address by the Rector of the University of Nova Gorica, Prof. Dr. Boštjan Golob

Another year has come full circle, and once again we embark on a new academic year. Like every year at every university, we start this one with enthusiasm, with new or updated programmes, with new, hopefully eager first-year students, with new colleagues, and with new notes in hand as we enter the lecture halls. We understand that higher education is not a sprint but a long-distance race. Therefore, we begin it at a manageable pace, with a determination to provide all our programme participants with the knowledge and competences necessary for a successful professional career. Or, in the words of UNG's honorary doctor, Japanese writer Haruki Murakami: „One foot in front of the other. Repeat as often as necessary to finish.“

UNG is a small university, some often use the term „boutique“ to describe it. We try to leverage our small size, our „boutique“ nature if you will, to establish a more direct relationship between teachers and students on our programmes. We strive to keep the doors of university lecturers, assistants, and professors open to the questions, problems, and ideas of our students. It's not easy, as all of us in the field of education and science are facing an increasing amount of work that is not directly related to teaching and research. This is particularly true at our university, as we must do everything that larger institutions do. I am grateful to my colleagues for all their efforts. Thanks to their efforts, UNG can boast, among other things, the Order of Merit for the exceptional development and outstanding achievements that has enriched the Slovenian higher education landscape. This honor was bestowed upon UNG by the former President of the Republic of Slovenia, Mr. Borut Pahor, on the occasion of its twentieth anniversary. Through the efforts of UNG's staff, the university contributes a small but significant piece to the mosaic of Slovenian higher education and scientific research. It is thanks to them that UNG contributes a small but significant piece to the mosaic of Slovenian higher education and scientific research. The quality of Slovenian higher education and scientific research, normalized for the size of the country in terms of personnel and financial resources, is indeed impressive on a global scale.

According to statistical indicators, the top-notch science and the finest tertiary education are available in the USA and in China. Slovenia, according to most normalized

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*indicators, belongs to a group of a few dozen countries that are following the aforementioned giants. We could say that if not top-notch, Slovenian academia is certainly excellent. To strive for further improvement, we need to focus on the quality of the individual activities we undertake, without arguing about who is more important, where we come from, or what our provenance is. We need to collaborate on joint projects and focus on our work – that is, on that at which we excel – rather than being preoccupied with what may bother us about others. With significant effort, we can achieve greater recognition on the domestic, European, and global stages. Perhaps it's a utopia, but if I turn to Haruki Murakami again, as he says in his book *Kafka on the Shore*: „It's all a question of imagination. Our responsibility begins with the power to imagine.“*

The ability to imagine undoubtedly distinguishes today's honourees. Without imagination, dedicated students like you would not have become the best in your generation. Without imagination, there would be no ultralight aircraft and no overwhelming design achievements. Imagination fills us personally, and actions born from imagination often receive the greatest approval from our surroundings. It's also a defense mechanism we resort to when nature reminds us of our insignificance. Imagination gives birth to houses that rise anew after devastating floods.

Recently, I hosted a colleague from Japan, the former leader of a large international group of scientists and, I could say, a cosmopolitan. He comes from the same small village near Osaka as Haruki Marukami. I took him to the Peace Monument and the observation tower at Cerje. The view of the Gorizia region and of neighbouring Italy visibly moved him. Despite Slovenia's „boutique“ size, or perhaps precisely because of it, he returned to Japan with even greater knowledge and respect for our country.

Just as UNG is a boutique university in Slovenia, Slovenia is boutique in the world. Like elsewhere in Slovenia, at UNG we nurture imagination and strive to bring to life the ideas that arise within us. We do not believe that smallness is a flaw that hinders us. On the contrary, we know that every piece of the mosaic contributes to its brilliance.

At UNG, we take pride in doing what we do with quality and in not hesitating to use our imagination for further development. I am confident that all of today's award winners share these values. Congratulations to all, and I hope that together we will travel along a significant part of the future development path of our university.

Alumnus primus in alumnus optimus Univerze v Novi Gorici

Poslovno-tehniška fakulteta

Dodiplomski študijski program Gospodarski inženiring

alumnus primus

- **Ibrahim Mujezinović**

alumnus optimus

- **Matevž Gros**

Magistrski študijski program Gospodarski inženiring

alumnus primus

- **Stefan Subotić**
- **Amina Uglješa**

alumnus optimus

- **Amina Uglješa**

Magistrski študijski program
Načrtovanje in vodenje odprtega izobraževanja

alumnus primus

- **Mojca Drevenšek**

alumnus optimus

- **Mojca Drevenšek**

Fakulteta za znanosti o okolju

Dodiplomski študijski program Okolje

alumnus primus

- **Lucijan Danijel Zgonik**

alumnus optimus

- **Lucijan Danijel Zgonik**

Magistrski študijski program Okolje

alumnus primus

- **Manuel Persoglia**

alumnus optimus

- **Manuel Persoglia**

Fakulteta za humanistiko

Dodiplomski študijski program Slovenistika

alumnus primus

- **Taja Petrič**

Dodiplomski študijski program Kulturna zgodovina

alumnus primus

- **Vinka Kovačević**

Magistrski študijski program Slovenistika, smer Literarne vede

alumnus primus

- **Lara Vončina**

Fakulteta za naravoslovje

Dodiplomski študijski program Fizika in astrofizika

alumnus primus

- **Brankica Apostolova**

alumnus optimus

- **Martina Larma**

Fakulteta za vinogradništvo in vinarstvo

Dodiplomski študijski program
Vinogradništvo in vinarstvo

alumnus primus

- **Urban Hlade**
- **Ivana Milivojević**
- **Matija Gregorič**

alumnus optimus

- **Ivana Milivojević**

Akademija umetnosti

Dodiplomski študijski program
Digitalne umetnosti in prakse

alumnus primus

- **Una Savić**

alumnus optimus

- **Miha Reja**

Častna naziva Univerze v Novi Gorici

zaslužni profesor
prof. Oskar Kogoj

častni doktor
Ivo Boscarol

Zaslužni profesor Univerze v Novi Gorici prof. Oskar Kogoj

Senat Univerze v Novi Gorici je na seji 20. septembra 2023 sklenil, da naziv zaslužni profesor Univerze v Novi Gorici – professor emeritus – prejme prof. Oskar Kogoj za pomemben prispevek k razvoju umetniške dejavnosti ter za vzorno opravljanje pedagoškega in mentorskega dela.

Umetniški opus Oskarja Kogoja je izjemen in ga uvršča med vrhunske oblikovalce z velikim mednarodnim ugledom. Razstavljal je v Narodni Galeriji v Ljubljani in številnih drugih razstavnih prostorih po Sloveniji, ob tem pa tudi v Benetkah, Milanu, Jeruzalemu, New Yorku, Madridu, Kopenhagenu, palači Združenih narodov v Ženevi in še marsikje. Poleg Galerije Oskarja Kogoja v njegovem domačem Mirnu njegova dela hrani več kot sto galerij in umetniških zbirk širom sveta. Ne glede na to, ali krasijo in bogatijo domove, poslovne ali javne prostore, vanje vnašajo lepoto in močno sporočilnost, prežeto z globokim spoštovanjem narave, kulturne dediščine in vseh dimenzij življenja, tudi tistih, ki daleč presegajo običajno dožemanje. Prejel je več kot 60 nagrad, med njimi leta 1971 nagrado Prešernovega sklada, leta 2020 pa nagrado Društva oblikovalcev Slovenije za življenjsko delo.

Oskar Kogoj je diplomiral na Državni umetniški univerzi v Benetkah. Njegove prve pedagoške izkušnje segajo v šestdeseta in sedemdeseta leta, ko je poučeval v Benetkah in Firencah. Z Univerzo v Novi Gorici je pričel sodelovati leta 2003. Štiri leta kasneje je bil izvoljen v rednega profesorja. V študijskem letu 2007/08 je pričel poučevati predmet Industrijsko oblikovanje na takrat novoustanovljenem magistrskem študijskem programu Gospodarski inženiring na Poslovno-tehniški fakulteti. Vse do leta 2019 je naše študente strokovno, predano ter izvirno vodil k odkrivanju in aktiviranju lastnega ustvarjalnega potenciala. To je na fakulteti, katere področje je inženirsko in ne umetniško, poseben izziv. A Oskar Kogoj se je tudi tega lotil polnosrčno, z njemu lastno temeljitostjo in vztrajnostjo, in je zastavljene pedagoške cilje dosegal vrhunsko. S svojim izjemnim znanjem pa tudi z osebnostno in pedagoško karizmo je študente vodil po načelu učenja z delom. Vsak med njimi je zasnoval in uresničil svoj lastni oblikovalski projekt, on pa jih je mentorsko vodil skozi proces, v katerem

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je bilo treba premagati marsikateri predsodek in odpreti pot ne le ustvarjalni domišljiji, pač pa tudi samozavesti in pogumu ter vztrajno premagovati ovire na poti do rezultata. Vsak študent brez izjeme je bil pri tem deležen njegove polne pozornosti in podpore. Še leta po tem odzvanja sporočilo, ki ga Oskar Kogoj tako rad posreduje, predvsem pa ga živi in z zgledom dokazuje brez najmanjšega kompromisa: dragulj zasije le, če ga vztrajno brusimo. Študenti, ki so ob začetku predmeta morda z bojznijo zatrjevali, da nikoli ne bodo znali risati, so svoj izdelek čez nekaj mesecev ponosno vzeli v roke in ga tudi javno predstavili. Profesor Oskar Kogoj zna doseči, da se takšne izkušnje globoko vtisnejo v spomin in marsikomu kažejo pot za zmeraj.

Profesor Oskar Kogoj je dosegel izjemne rezultate na umetniškem in pedagoškem področju. Kot vrhunski pedagog in mentor je pomembno prispeval k vpeljevanju novih študijskih vsebin in doseganju najvišjih standardov kakovosti, s tem pa tudi k razvoju Univerze v Novi Gorici.

At its session on 20 September 2023, the Senate of the University of Nova Gorica decided that the title of professor emeritus of the University of Nova Gorica will be given to prof. Oskar Kogoj for his significant contribution to the development of artistic activity, and for his exemplary performance of pedagogical and mentoring work.

Oskar Kogoj's exceptional artistic oeuvre positions him as one of the country's top designers, and one of great international renown. His works have been exhibited in the National Gallery in Ljubljana and many other exhibition spaces in Slovenia, as well as in Venice, Milan, Jerusalem, New York, Madrid, Copenhagen, the Palace of the United Nations in Geneva, and more. In addition to the Oskar Kogoj Gallery in the artist's hometown of Miren, his works are kept in more than 100 galleries and art collections around the world. Regardless of whether they decorate and enrich homes, business spaces, or public locations, they adorn them with a beauty and a strong message, imbued with a deep respect for nature, for cultural heritage, and for all aspects of life, even those that go far beyond ordinary means of perception. He has received more than 60 awards, including the Prešeren Fund award in 1971, and the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Designers Society of Slovenia in 2020.

Oskar Kogoj graduated from the State University of Fine Arts in Venice. His first teaching experience dates back to the 1960s and 1970s, when he taught in Venice and

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Florence, while his cooperation with the University of Nova Gorica began in 2003. Four years later, he was elected full professor. In the 2007/08 academic year, he began teaching the Industrial Design course on the then newly established Economic Engineering master's study programme at the School of Engineering and Management. Up until 2019, he guided our students on their educational paths in a professional, dedicated, and original way aimed at discovering and activating their own creative potential. This presents a special challenge when working at a college whose primary field is engineering rather than art. But Oskar Kogoj tackled this challenge wholeheartedly with his own brand of thoroughness and persistence, and always achieved the pedagogical goals set out for him in a superb manner. With his exceptional knowledge, as well as his personal and pedagogical charisma, he taught his students according to the principle of learning through work. Each of his students would conceive and implement their own design project, with him mentoring them through the process, which required overcoming many prejudices and opening up not only to creative imagination, but self-confidence and courage as well, and persistently overcoming obstacles on the way to the finish line. Every student, without exception, always received his full attention and support. And the saying that Oskar Kogoj always likes to convey, and by which he lives and leads by example without the slightest compromise, still resonates to this day: A gem shines only if it is persistently polished. Students who, at the beginning of the course, might have anxiously claimed that they would never know how to draw properly would, after a few months, proudly take up and publicly present their product. Professor Oskar Kogoj knows how to make such experiences leave a deep imprint in the mind, so that they can forever keep showing people the way.

Professor Oskar Kogoj has achieved exceptional results in the artistic and pedagogical fields. As a top educator and mentor, he has contributed significantly to the introduction of new study content and to achieving the highest possible standards of quality, and consequently also to the overall development of the University of Nova Gorica.

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Častni doktor Univerze v Novi Gorici

– *doctor honoris causa* –

Ivo Boscarol

Senat Univerze v Novi Gorici je na seji 20. septembra 2023 sklenil, da naziv častni doktor Univerze v Novi Gorici – *doctor honoris causa* – prejme Ivo Boscarol za izjemne znanstvene in strokovne dosežke na področju letalstva in podjetništva v Sloveniji ter za prispevek k ohranjanju okolja.

Gospod Ivo Boscarol je znanost vedno obravnaval kot temelj za reševanje zahtevnih tehnoloških problemov. Z njimi se je srečal že v mladosti, ko se je loteval aerodinamskih računov pri načrtovanju in izdelavi letočih letalskih modelov. Strast do letenja in vsega, kar je povezano s premikanjem meja v aerodinamiki, ga spremlja od takrat in ni naključje, da je prav na tem področju začel svojo uspešno podjetniško pot, saj je leta 1987 ustanovil podjetje Pipistrel, ki je proizvajalo motorne zmale. To je bilo prvo tovrstno podjetje na območju Balkana in je prinašalo inovativne rešitve na področju povezovanja gibkih kril z motornimi sklopi, ki še danes veljajo za edinstvene. Podjetje je bilo eno prvih, ki je svojo dejavnost osredotočalo zlasti na varnost letalcev z neizprosno natančnostjo proizvodnje, pri kateri je vztrajal gospod Ivo Boscarol. V podjetju je poleg vodenja prevzel tudi del načrtovanja letal, tako da je Pipistrel kmalu postal prepoznaven kot proizvajalec in izvoznik zanesljivih motornih zmalev. Podjetje je hitro raslo in se povezovalo z vrhunskimi letalskimi inženirji, ki so pod vodstvom gospoda Iva Boscarola izdelali načrte za več povsem novih ultralahkih letal, ki so zaradi inovativnih aerodinamskih rešitev, zlasti pa rešitev na področju varnosti, hitro pridobila kupce po vsem svetu.

Gospod Ivo Boscarol je podjetje Pipistrel načrtno usmerjal v raziskovalne aktivnosti in leta 2007 ustanovil raziskovalno skupino »Laboratorij za napredne letalske rešitve«, ki se je začela ukvarjati z novimi tehnološkimi rešitvami za letalstvo. Pod njegovim vodstvom je raziskovalna skupina dosegla izjemne uspehe tako na področju aerodinamike kakor tudi na področju električnih letalskih pogonov, katerih razvoj se je na njegovo pobudo začel prav v Pipistrelu, saj je ena od velikih strasti gospoda Iva Boscarola prav skrb za okolje. Veliko

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znanstvenih naporov je usmeril v razvoj električnih letal in z novimi rešitvami med drugimi osvojil tudi nagrado NASA Challenge za Taurus G4. Pipistrel je proizvedel prvo električno motorno jadralno letalo na svetu, prvo štirisedežno letalo, ki ga poganja hibridni motor, in prvo štirisedežno letalo, ki ga poganja motor na vodikove gorivne celice. V svoji želji postaviti raziskovalno razvojno dejavnost Pipistrela na trdne znanstvene temelje je gospod Ivo Boscarol navezal plodne raziskovalne stike z več raziskovalnimi institucijami in univerzami v Sloveniji in po svetu. Rezultati teh sodelovanj so pomembna nova dognanja na področju oblike in strukture letalskih kril in trupov ter na področju alternativnih pogonskih sistemov. Veliko raziskovanih naporov vlagajo tudi v uvajanje novih materialov v letalstvo. Gospod Ivo Boscarol je tudi pobudnik projekta »Razvoj tehnologije nanosa fotocelic na kompozitno površino letala Elektrotaurus«, ki so ga skupaj izvedli Pipistrelova raziskovalna skupina in raziskovalci Univerze v Novi Gorici. Nepogrešljiv je tudi njegov prispevek pri načrtovanju novega štirisedežnega letala Panthera, pri katerem so sodelovali raziskovalci Univerze v Novi Gorici.

Gospod Ivo Boscarol je velik filantrop, ki se zaveda ključne vloge znanosti pri razvoju človeške družbe. V tej vlogi je kot predan ljubitelj Ajdovščine iz izdatno Pipistrelovo donacijo leta 2006 pripomogel k hitremu dokončanju izgradnje poslopja Univerze v Novi Gorici v Ajdovščini, z izjemno visoko donacijo v lanskem letu pa je skupaj s Tajo Boscarol omogočil, da se je v Občini Ajdovščina začela izgradnja družbeno pomembne infrastrukture na področju zdravstva, znanosti in kulture.

Gospod Ivo Boscarol je s svojo dejavnostjo pomembno vplival na razvoj aerodinamike ultralahkih letal in splošnega letalstva ter na razvoj okolju prijaznih pogonskih sistemov. Izjemno velika je tudi njegova filantropska vloga pri razvoju znanosti in znanstvene infrastrukture.

At its session on 20 September 2023, the Senate of the University of Nova Gorica decided that Ivo Boscarol is to be awarded the title of honorary doctor of the University of Nova Gorica, doctor honoris causa, in recognition of his outstanding scientific and professional achievements in the field of aeronautics and entrepreneurship in Slovenia, and for his contributions to nature conservation.

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Mr Ivo Boscarol has always treated science as the basis for resolving complex technological issues. He was challenged by such issues in his early years when working on aerodynamics calculations in the planning and design of flying aircraft models. His passion for flying and everything related to pushing the limits in aerodynamics has been with him ever since, and it is no coincidence that he began his successful entrepreneurship career in this very area, founding the company Pipistrel in 1987, which at the time, was producing powered hang gliders. This was the first company of its kind in the Balkans, and it brought innovative solutions to connect flexible wings with motor assemblies, which are still unique today. The company was one of the first to focus specifically on the safety of aviators, with their relentless attention to detail during the production process, which was something Mr Ivo Boscarol insisted on. In addition to managing the company, he also designed the aircraft, and Pipistrel soon became a recognised manufacturer and exporter of reliable powered hang gliders. The company grew quickly and employed top engineers in aeronautics who, under the management of Mr Ivo Boscarol, designed plans for several completely new ultralight aircraft which quickly attracted buyers all over the world, due to their innovative aerodynamic solutions and especially solutions in terms of safety.

Mr Ivo Boscarol intentionally directed Pipistrel into research and development activities and founded the Laboratory for Advanced Aeronautic Solutions in 2007, which was engaged in new technological solutions for the aeronautics industry. Under his leadership, the research and development group achieved exceptional results in the field of aerodynamics and electric aircraft drives, the development of which started at Pipistrel on his initiative, because one of the major passions of Mr Ivo Boscarol is care for the environment. He directed a lot of scientific effort into the development of electric airplanes, and his new solutions also won him the NASA Challenge award for the Taurus G4. Pipistrel produced the first electric glider in the world, which is the first four-seater airplane powered by a hybrid engine, and the first four-seater airplane powered by an engine running on hydrogen fuel cells. In his desire to place the research and development activity of Pipistrel on firm scientific grounds, Mr Ivo Boscarol made fruitful research connections with several research and development institutions and universities in Slovenia and abroad. The results of this cooperation are new insights concerning the form and structure of airplane wings and bodies, as well as in terms of alternative drive systems. They are also investing a lot of research effort in the introduction of new materials in the aeronautics industry. Mr Ivo Boscarol

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is also the initiator of the "Development of Technology of using Photocells on the Composite Surface of the Elektrotaurus Airplane" project, which was a joint project between Pipistrel's research and development group and the researchers at the University of Nova Gorica. His contribution to planning a new four-seater plane Panthera was also indispensable, and researchers from the University of Nova Gorica were also involved.

Mr Ivo Boscarol is a big philanthropist and is aware of the key role science plays in the development of society. As someone who greatly loves Ajdovščina, his substantial donation in 2006 contributed to the quick completion of the building of the University of Nova Gorica in Ajdovščina, and his very generous donation last year, together with Taja Boscarol, made it possible for the Municipality of Ajdovščina to start building important infrastructural facilities relating to healthcare, science and culture.

Mr Ivo Boscarol has had a very important impact on the development of aerodynamics of ultra light aircraft and aeronautics in general, as well as on the development of environmentally friendly drive systems. His philanthropic role in the development of science and scientific infrastructure is also invaluable.

