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## Plenary lecture

# Four Centuries of Science at Vilnius University

RAMŪNAS KONDRATAS

Vilnius University

Science played an important role in all of the different historical periods of Vilnius University: mathematics, physics and astronomy at the Jesuit Vilnius University (1579–1773); the natural sciences and medicine during the Age of Enlightenment at the Main School of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (1773–1803) and at the Imperial Vilnius University (1803–1832); astronomy, physics, mathematics and medicine at the Polish Stephen Bathory University (1919–1939); mathematics, physics and medicine at the Soviet-era Vilnius University; and physics, medicine and the life sciences today at Vilnius University (1990 – ). Many well-known scientists and physicians worked and taught at the University, and made significant contributions to the development of science, medicine and technology. All had ties with other European universities. This overview will highlight the most important personalities and their contributions.