

**THE STRATEGY OF EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PRESOV**

Introduction

The Strategy of Education Development of the University of Presov has been developed on the basis of analysis of the current state in the field contained in the Long-term Strategy of the University of Presov and on the basis of a set of suggestions and tasks, which were expressed and accepted at the meetings to elaborate a strategy for the development of education at UP. The meetings were held with the participation of the involved Vice-Rectors, the manager for quality and invited experts. The strategy is designed in such a way that in some cases it sets out the intentions that have a long-term character, requiring a gradual solution or refining the direction of the solution and only subsequent finalizing into an implementation document. In some cases, a proposal is set out directly the wording of the directive. To specify the objectives and measures and to monitor the progress of their implementation action plans are drawn up. Action Plans (APs) determine who will do what, by when and what to do needs. The APs have the same structure, but different details of elaboration. In the case, where, for example, the intention is clear in its formulation, but implementation is continuous and long-term, the AP is drawn up which sets out control deadlines for monitoring the progress of the implementation of the given measures and also the responsibilities for their implementation, or specific measures will be determined in the AP in the current year for the following year and will be gradually established for subsequent periods, or will be set for a time horizon of realistically feasible implementation.

Their evaluation shall be carried out within set deadlines and on this basis specific and feasible measures can be taken. Action plans may be updated. Responsibility for drawing up the action plan shall lie with the responsible person. The responsible person is listed in the section 'responsible persons' in the 1st place. Subsequently, the responsible persons are listed. The responsible person is e.g. manager, a specific person, head of an organizational unit, etc. The executive manager is appointed by the relevant Vice-Rector. Responsible for the action plans are the relevant Vice-Rectors. In such a case, where the solution of the plan is comprehensive and gradual, an action plan shall be drawn up containing a sequence of steps that will demonstrate its effectiveness and feasibility. And subsequently, for example in the case of the establishment of a new organizational unit, its statute and staffing arrangements shall be drawn up, resourcing and provision of other necessary requirements, and only then will be decided on the next steps in its implementation. Action plans are drawn up for each measure.

When action plans are drawn up for the implementation of the strategies they are drawn up by details only those steps for which we can determine their content, the deadline for implementation, responsibilities and resourcing. However, it is necessary to indicate in the action plan which conditions need to be met in order to proceed with the necessary next steps. Action plans can take different forms. It is a question of what purpose they fulfil.

Each action plan must have a designated executive manager or a leader of the project team.

We understand the strategy as an open document that can be updated if there are significant suggestions for its updating.

The strategy is an open-ended long-term plan that aims to make a significant contribution to the development of education at UP. Outside the control mechanisms contained directly in the individual measures and plans, the development in its implementation is discussed at the meetings convened by the Vice-Rector for Education of UP at least twice a year. These meetings may also give rise to suggestions for its updating.

Analysis of the current situation in the given field

A detailed analysis of the state of education development at UP is contained in the Long-term Strategy of the University of Presov for 2014-2020 with a 2022 perspective.

Vision of the development of education at UP

The University of Presov will build and develop a functional, open system, supporting the development of education in synergy with the development of science and research, enabling the achievement of results in a given field at the same qualitative level as those achieved by leading universities in the Slovak Republic. It will also develop a system enabling, in selected areas, the achievement of results at the level of universities in the Central Europe. The intention is to achieve internationally accepted quality results in education, disseminating knowledge through teaching, learning and publication activity.

The relationship between education and scientific-research activity

The relationship between higher education and research, development or artistic research and other creative activity at the university is characterised:

- (a) In the UP mission statement in the following wording: "The University shall carry out creative, scientific, educational, artistic and spiritual activities. The pedagogical activity of the university is based on the latest scientific knowledge, including its own scientific research." The results of its own scientific research, in connection with the university's education, are directly contained in the syllabuses and information sheets of the subjects taught.
- (b) In the documents of Internal Quality System of the UP, in particular in the Rector's Directive entitled „Quality Assurance of University Teachers“.

The above-mentioned Rector's directive also contains a section on „Linking scientific and pedagogical component“, which characterises the relationship between education, research and development component at UP, i.e. the teacher implements in the educational process traditionally proven as well as the latest results of scientific research in a given field, including the results of his own scientific activities. The university creates conditions for this. The teacher involves students in the scientific research in various ways in accordance with the legislation in

force. The results of educational, research and other creative activities are regularly published annually in the University's annual reports.

Major and supporting objectives for the fulfilment of the vision

- C1. Created and functional internal quality system (IQS) should be further developed as a significantly supportive system for the fulfilment of the adopted vision in the given field, i.e. to develop and improve the documented system structure of UP processes and to apply other effective methods and techniques.
- C2. Continuously raise awareness of UP through a complex of synergistic areas (presentation, promotion, cooperation,...). To design and implement the quality of education as an integral part of brand building.
- C3. The educational process and conditions of study should be understood as a space for building the status of the university and the acquisition of students' competences for employment in society.
- C4. The professional and qualification growth of teachers should be understood as a condition for improving the quality of education processes.
- C5. The internationalization strategy of UP is aimed at strengthening the international dimension activities of the university, dynamizing efficient international relations at the university, and cooperation with external foreign partners in order to increase the quality of educational and research activities.

Specification of the measures for individual goals

- C1. Created and functional internal quality system (IQS) should be further developed as a significantly supportive system for the fulfilment of the adopted vision in the given field, i.e. to develop and improve the documented system structure of UP processes and to apply other effective methods and techniques.

C1.a. Continuously analyse, through creative debates and audits, the possibilities of improvement of the IQS in order to have a documented system structure of the processes at UP.

Responsible: Vice-Rector for Education
Vice-Rector for University Development, Information Technology and Quality Assurance

Deadline: annually, always by 31.3.

- C2. Continuously raise awareness of UP through a complex of synergistic areas (presentation, promotion, cooperation,...). To design and implement the quality of education as an integral part of brand building.

C2.a. Systematically and effectively participate in presentations of the university, its faculties and institutes at education-related events at regional, national and international levels. To present UP also in mass communication media.

R: Vice-Rector for Education

Vice-Rector for Strategy and Marketing
UP spokesperson
Deans of faculties
D: annually, always by 31.3.

C2.b. Continuously improve the quality of relevant information on admission conditions to study in individual disciplines, programmes and levels of education at UP - university and faculties websites, social networks, media.

R: Vice-Rector for Education

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C2.c. Expand, improve and promote conditions for students' independent study, enabling wider use of computers (ICT resources) during the time without contact teaching with the expansion of the range of information resources available.

R: Vice-Rector for Education

Vice-Rector for University Development, Information Technology and
Quality Assurance

Vice-Rector for Strategy and Marketing

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3. The educational process and conditions of study should be understood as a space for building the status of the university and the acquisition of students' competences for employment in society.

C3.a. Achieve quality learning outcomes by modernizing the educational process in the intentions of the latest didactic knowledge, and modern technologies in processes of active learning of the dynamics of students' needs and the needs of society. To promote the development of personality and society by the gradual flexibility of teaching forms as the central quality of the educational system.

R: Vice-Rector for Education

Vice-Rector for University Development, Information Technology and Quality Assurance

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3.b. Analyse study programmes with the intention to carry out a review of all study programmes in the intentions of their optimization in relation to the needs of society, its own human resources, the interest in the study programme in the contexts of the university and individual profile.

R: Vice-Rector for Education

Vice-Rector for Science, Art, Sport and Accreditation

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units, guarantors of study programmes
D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3.c. Permanently upgrade teaching spaces with the latest technologies that make the teachers' work more efficient, provide space for the modernization of the teaching process, create conditions for self-study.

R: Vice-Rector for Education
Vice-Rector for University Development, Information Technology and Quality Assurance
Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units,
Director of the University Library
D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3.d. By offering attractive elective subjects, provide students with the opportunity to apply their talents and hobbies in leisure, artistic and sporting activities.

R: Vice-Rector for Education
Director of the University Library
D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3.e. Update and implement the system of support for student activities - student scientific and artistic conferences, etc.

R: Vice-Rector for Education
Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units
D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3. f. Expand or improve the counselling services provided to students through the first contact centre.

R: Vice-Rector for Education
Deans of Faculties
D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3. g. Obtain feedback from students and graduates as the means of improving the quality of educational processes.

R: Vice-Rector for Education
Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units
D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3.h. Support the objectification and standardization of the admission procedure by using the results of academic prerequisites testing (e.g. SCIO)

R: Vice-Rector for Education
Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units
D: annually, always by 31.3.

C3.i. Develop competency-based, lifelong and distance learning. Subordinate to this also the restructuring of the university centres which will organize such forms of study (create and offer attractive programmes from the users' point of view).

R: Vice-Rector for Education

Vice-Rector for University Development, Information Technology and Quality Assurance

Director of Centre of Competences and Lifelong Learning (CCLL)

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C4. The professional and qualification growth of teachers should be understood as a condition for improving of the quality of processes education.

C4.a. Provide teachers with further training opportunities in the field of higher education pedagogy.

R: Vice-Rector for Education

Director of the Institute of Pedagogy, Andragogy and Psychology FHNS - to be given to AP

Deans of Faculties

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C4.b. Intensify the processes of acquiring language competences for teaching purposes of study programmes in foreign languages.

R: Vice-Rector for Education

Director of Centre of Competences and Lifelong Learning (CCLL)

Deans of Faculties

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C5. The internationalization strategy of UP is aimed at strengthening the international dimension activities of the university, dynamization productive international relations at the university, cooperation with external foreign partners in order to increase the quality of educational and research activities.

C5.a. Ensure staff awareness of the ERASMUS+ programme and its opportunities; analyse rigorously the activeness of the bilateral agreements and consequently conclude the agreements within the ERASMUS+ programme; create modular teaching for mobility students in a foreign language.

R: Vice-Rector for International Relations

Deans of Faculties

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C5.b. Support the intensification of student and staff mobility through schemes other than ERASMUS+.

R: Vice-Rector for International Relations

Vice-Rector for Education

Deans of Faculties

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C5.c. Publish and regularly update periodic and non-periodic information and promotional materials about UP (Yearbook of University of Presov, promotional films about UP and its faculties, materials for contact with the external environment respecting the preferences of target groups - for prospective students, foreign students, leaflets for exhibitions and fairs, audio carrier with recordings of performances of UP art ensembles, posters and information boards, souvenirs).

R: Vice-Rector for Strategy and Marketing

Vice-Rector for Education

Vice-Rector for International Relations

Deans of Faculties

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units

D: annually, always by 31.3.

C5.d. Continue to develop the regional cooperation and cooperation built up over the years with universities within the V4 and the Euroregion, however, to adjust the proportionality in foreign orientation of our university by expanding the network of partners to cover all EU and non-EU locations. In this context, to create the conditions for departments to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the EU and ERASMUS+ programmes.

R: Vice-Rector for International Relations

Deans of Faculties

Relevant Vice-Deans at faculties and officers in charge of other UP units

D: annually, always by 31.3.

INFORMATION ON THE APPROVAL PROCEDURE FOR STRATEGIES, ACTION PLANS AND THEIR DISCLOSURE

Action plans resulting from the Education Strategy are processed by the Vice-Rector for Education, their correctness is checked by the Quality Representative and approved by the Rector of the University.

The Education Strategy and action plans are published on the university's website and are publicly available.