

FACULTY OF WOOD SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Technical University in Zvolen



LONG-TERM PLAN **Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology** **Technical University in Zvolen** **for the years 2017 - 2023**

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PREFACE

Act No.131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Additions to Certain Acts, as amended in Section 2, paragraph 10, obliges higher education institutions to develop a long-term plan that is in line with the mission and tasks of higher education institutions under this Act (Section 1, paragraph 2 to 4) and regulates the mission, tasks and objectives of the higher education institution in individual areas of activity for a period of at least six years.

The Long-term plan of the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology in Zvolen for the years 2017 - 2023 (hereinafter also referred to as the "long-term plan of the Faculty" or "long-term plan") is based on The Long-term plan of the Technical University in Zvolen for the years 2017 - 2023 and represents the main planning and development document with strategic objectives, tools and indicators (measurable indicators) in the horizon of seven years. At the same time, it builds on the fulfilled vision of the previous long-term plan (the Long-term Plan of the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology of the University of Technology in Zvolen for the years 2011-2016).

The Long-term plan of the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology of the Technical University in Zvolen for 2017-2023 with a vision to 2030 defines the identity, mission and core values of the Faculty, the vision to 2030 and the strategic goal in 2023. The main and cross-cutting areas of development of the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology are an essential part of the plan. The long-term plan is an open document, the fulfilment of the strategic objectives will be evaluated annually on the basis of defined indicators, the measures will be updated if necessary in accordance with the change of internal and external conditions of its implementation.

1. IDENTITY, MISSION AND VALUES OF THE FACULTY OF WOOD SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

The Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology is a part of the Technical University in Zvolen (formerly the University of Forestry and Wood Technology in Zvolen), which was established by Government Decree No. 30/1952 Coll. on certain changes and organization of higher education institutions and by Slovak National Council Act No. 26/1992 Coll. on the change of the name of the University of Forestry and Wood Technology in Zvolen, its name was changed to the Technical University in Zvolen. Under Act No 131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education and on Amendments and Additions to Certain Acts, the Technical University in Zvolen is a public university and is classified as a university higher education institution on the basis of the results of the comprehensive accreditation of 2015.

The Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology of the Technical University in Zvolen is one of the top educational and scientific research institutions in the higher education system of the Slovak Republic. The main mission of the faculty is to provide higher education, develop scientific research and creative artistic activity. The educational process is based on the latest world knowledge of science, technology, economics, its own basic and applied research, cooperation with other universities, scientific research institutes, the industry of processing and use of wood and wood products. It trains university-qualified specialists - bachelors, engineers and doctors for the whole complex area of wood and wood products, not only wood technologists, but also designers and interior consultants, managers, economists and specialists in firefighting and rescue services for the needs of Slovakia and abroad.

In education, the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology fulfils its mission in the study fields of Woodworking, Design and Processes of Wood Products Production, Economics and Business Management, Design and Rescue Services in the first and second study levels and in the study fields of Wood Processing Technology, Structure and Properties of Wood, Design and Processes of Wood Products Production and Rescue Services in the third study level with the possibility of carrying out programmes in foreign languages.

In the field of research, it fulfils its mission by solving research projects and programmes of national and international character with an orientation on the complex use of wood raw material, technology, engineering, economics, security services, art, as well as in other related and application areas.

The basic values that are applied at the Technical University in Zvolen in practice, i.e. in ensuring its mission and the implementation of its main and supporting activities within the institution, but also in relation to the external environment, are humanism, correctness, transparency, morality, equality of opportunity, respect, loyalty, efficiency, progress, quality and diversity.

2. BASIS FOR THE LONG-TERM PLAN

The Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology as a part of the Technical University in Zvolen is a stabilized institution providing quality higher education in accordance with the profile of the university in all three levels of study within Slovakia as well as the European educational area with an established access to higher education for traditional as well as new target groups of candidates.

The Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology is a modern scientific research institution involved in building a European knowledge society within its profiling with its uniqueness in Slovakia in the field of wood technology with appropriate extension to other technical, security, economic and artistic areas.

The Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology makes efficient use of the available property and has created material and technical conditions enabling the improvement of the performance of the workplaces, with the corresponding technical and information infrastructure for the pedagogical and scientific research process.

3. VISION 2030

In accordance with the vision of the Technical University in Zvolen, in 2030 the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology will be part of an internationally recognized, research-oriented university and will be one of the Slovak leaders in its scientific research focus.

In 2030, the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology will provide modern education as a systematic transmission of knowledge and common cultural and democratic values in an intergenerational process, as well as strengthening the ideas of humanism, tolerance, cooperation and responsibility towards life.

According to the vision of the Technical University in Zvolen in 2030, the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology will fulfil the concept of a "green university", providing state-of-the-art scientific knowledge for consistent adherence to the principles of sustainable living.

4. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE IN 2023

In accordance with the strategic goal of the Technical University in Zvolen, in 2023 the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology will be part of a university and research university that:

- is respected and successful both nationally and internationally,
- has a high quality of educational activities, scientific research and artistic activities,
- has graduates who are well placed in practice,
- is aimed at supporting the development of a knowledge-based and innovative economy,
- focuses on the efficient and environmentally friendly use of natural resources,
- is aimed at the third mission of the universities by specific services for the development of society and the region,

- has all processes ensured on ethical principles and evaluated by an internal quality management system,
- applies the concept of effective internal governance and risk management in all processes.

5. MAIN AND CROSS-CUTTING AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE FACULTY OF WOOD SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

AREA 1 EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Strategic objective

Quality education comparable to international standards, taking into account the needs of the labour market

Measures

1.1 Maintain the traditional areas of education at the Faculty with a varied offer and regular innovation of study programmes, in which the latest knowledge from scientific research and artistic activities is applied.

Indicator: number of newly accredited or re-accredited study programmes in all three levels of study in each research area.

1.2 To optimize faculty applicant and student numbers through consistent, active marketing and improved collaboration with high schools.

Indicator: number of students enrolled, admitted and enrolled. The ratio of the number of students enrolled to the total number of students admitted.

1.3 Improve the quality of education provided through systematic processes.

Indicator: student satisfaction with the quality of teaching provided. Ratio of the number of successfully completed students to the number of enrolled students in the study programmes at each level of study. Regular evaluation of the quality of education provided.

1.4 Internationalisation of studies - to increase the proportion of international students studying at the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology and to increase student mobility.

Indicator: percentage of international students in the faculty. Number of student mobilities. Number of study programmes in a foreign language.

1.5 Participate in lifelong learning through the Centre for Continuing Education.

Indicator: Number of courses in further education delivered. Number of participants and graduates of continuing education courses.

1.6 Gather feedback from students at all levels of study and from alumni through questionnaires and surveys and implement measures to improve the quality of education based on the findings.

Indicator: evaluation of student feedback. Number of measures based on student feedback.

AREA 2 RESEARCH, CREATIVE AND ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

Strategic objective

Internationally accepted results in research and artistic activities and transfer of knowledge into economic and social practice.

Measures

2.1 Publish the results of research, creative and artistic activities in the international environment, especially in indexed reputable international scientific journals.

Indicator: number of publications registered in CCC, Web of Science and SCOPUS per creative employee. Number of top quality outputs in artistic creation per creative employee of artistic activity.

2.2 Strengthen the position of the faculty in national and international collaborative research projects.

Indicator: number of grants from international sources, including the amount of financial support per creative employee. Number of grants from domestic sources, including the amount of financial support per member of staff.

2.3 Build research infrastructure, including skilled personnel.

Indicator: financial value and outputs of research infrastructure. Number of creative staff and students using research infrastructure units.

2.4 Deepen the involvement of PhD students in research, creative and artistic activities with the condition of publication in indexed reputable international scientific journals.

Indicator: number of publications registered in CCC, Web of Science and SCOPUS, number of artistic works registered in category Z: "Serious artistic works" per doctoral graduate.

2.5 Build and ensure effective dissemination and commercialisation of research results through the university's technology transfer centre.

Indicator: number of contracts for scientific research activities and financial value of income from research and development projects per creative employee. Number of patents, utility models and designs per creative employee.

2.6 To popularize and make visible the results of scientific research, artistic and other creative activities of the faculty to the professional public.

Indicator: number of international and national scientific, professional and artistic events organised.

AREA 3 PUBLIC RELATIONS, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Strategic objective

Building a positive image of the faculty, strengthening national and international cooperation.

Measures

3.1 To popularize the results of scientific research, pedagogical and other activities of the faculty to the general public.

Indicator: number of faculty outputs and events and number of participants.

3.2 Strengthen communication with the media and the public and promotion/marketing of the Faculty.

Indicator: number of media outputs and responses to the activities of the faculty, position in rankings of universities and research institutions.

3.3 Strengthen cooperation with economic and social practice - from private industry to public institutions.

Indicator: Number of cooperation contracts and count of their implementation. Participation of faculty members in expert committees and councils.

3.4 Promote student and staff mobility.

Indicator: Percentage of students and staff undertaking student and staff mobility or work experience abroad.

3.5 Strengthen cooperation with professionally and professionally close departments of V4 and EU universities and international organisations.

Indicator: number of joint scientific publications registered in CCC, Web of Science, joint projects, participation in COST.

AREA 4 HUMAN RESOURCES

Strategic objective

High-quality qualification structure and staff motivation.

Measures

4.1 To recruit and select staff based on demanding criteria, taking into account the dynamics of the curriculum and to support the career development of staff.

Indicator: coefficient of faculty qualification structure. Number of publications registered in CCC, H-index of creative employee, workplace. Value of evaluation score of creative employee, workplace.

4.2 Promote excellence in teaching, research and the arts.

Indicator: share of incentive pay per creative employee.

AREA 5 STUDENT SUPPORT

Strategic objective

Effective motivation of students, making spaces for student activities more attractive and providing social needs also for students with specific needs.

Measures

5.1 To encourage and motivate students by awarding incentive and special scholarships for outstanding academic performance and significant awards, achievements and activities for the benefit of the Faculty.

Indicator: number of students awarded incentive and exceptional scholarships. Number of students involved in student organizations.

5.2 Promote cultural, social and sporting activities of students at the faculty.

Indicator: Number of actions based on feedback from surveys. Number of students involved in cultural, professional, social and sporting activities at the faculty.

5.3 Support the provision of quality counselling services in the areas of study, career, personal and social situation.

Indicator: number of graduates employed in their field of study in relation to the total number of students.

AREA 6 GOVERNANCE, FINANCING AND MANAGEMENT

Strategic objective

Efficient financing and management of the Faculty.

Measures

6.1 Maintain a positive economic performance of the Faculty or improve its financial performance.

Indicator: faculty management results (revenues, costs, profit).

6.2 Make the most of opportunities to obtain EU funding for infrastructure development, further development of centres of excellence.

Indicator: amount and structure of EU funding received for infrastructure.

6.3 Evaluate available opportunities to use the faculty's assets for the development of its business activities.

Indicator: amount of financial resources obtained from the entrepreneurial activity of the institutes.

6.4 Periodic evaluation of workplace performance, where possible down to the level of the individual worker, and incentive comparisons.

Indicator: performance of departments and staff.

6.5 Optimise the organisational structure in order to improve the level of management, the quality of planning and management results.

Indicator: number of changes in organisational structure and financial contribution to the faculty.

STRAND 7 TECHNICAL AND INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT

Strategic objective

High level of technical and technological infrastructure.

Measures

7.1 Revitalise and modernise the teaching, research and other facilities of the Faculty.

Indicator: number of modernised workplaces and spaces

7.2 Undertake technical and technological upgrading of the faculty's workplaces in the VDL.

Indicator: number of modernised workplaces

CONCLUSION

The Long-term Plan of the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology, developed on the basis of the Long-term Plan of the Technical University in Zvolen for 2017-2023 with a vision to 2030, as a basic planning document will ensure the development of the faculty in all key areas.

The long-term plan of the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology of the Technical University in Zvolen for the years 2017-2023 with a vision to 2030 was discussed in the Scientific and Artistic Board of the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology of the Technical University in Zvolen on 14.3.2017 and approved by the Academic Senate of the Faculty of Wood Sciences and Technology at the meeting on 25.4.2017.