

PAVOL JOZEF ŠAFÁRIK UNIVERSITY IN KOŠICE



2020

ANNUAL
REPORT

Wisdom of the Past -
Knowledge of the Present -
Education for the Future

In order for UPJŠ to stay a modern and internationally renowned institution, it has to constantly be looking for ways to developing its personal and scientific potential

In 2020, UPJŠ strengthened its position in accordance with the objectives of the LongTerm Plan of UPJŠ in Košice for the period 2020 to 2025. It became a soughtafter research partner in the whole European area, an attractive educational destination for both national and international students, it increased its impact on economic and social processes not just in the city of Košice, in the Košice selfgoverning region, but also throughout Slovakia. By creating mutually rewarding partnerships with employers, the third sector, and European consortia, it has created a milieu for increasing the real possibilities of employing its graduates in practice and contributing to the development of key industries in the commercial sector. As a researchoriented university, UPJŠ continued to identify and strategically support key scientific research directions and present their results to the public. It exerted efforts to create a fair and ethical milieu characteristic of academia, but also for the developing interdisciplinary forms of scientific research. Attaining strategic objectives in the relevant areas of the University's activities was being implemented through strategic objectives and tools in the calendar period evaluated. In the area of higher education, the offer of study programmes was being systematically re-evaluated in accordance with the internal quality system. Through transparent rules of personnel policy (Human Resources Strategy for Researches HRS4R), a system of support for their further education and an internal system of research support was provided. Support continued in the creation of interfaculty interdisciplinary study programmes reflecting a certain degree of relatedness with regard to the possibilities of graduates' employment and the requirements of practice. Despite the unfavourable pandemic situation associated with

the occurrence of the coronavirus COVID-19, we witnessed active (both inclass and virtual) involvement of students in research, pedagogical and popularisation activities and increasing their motivation through extraordinary scholarships. Revision of the offer and content of the scholarship programmes aimed at making them clearer and simpler in accordance with the internal quality system, following social needs and technological trends. Systematic monitoring of graduates' employment and responding to developments in the labour market, creating useful partnerships with employers and the third sector in order to increase the real possibilities of graduates' employment in practice seemed essential. In the field of science, research, innovation, and artistic activity, UPJŠ continued to strengthen the creative background in order to use the potential of the University science parks, research centres of excellence for qualitative development of biomedicine, materials research, and informatics and information and communication technologies with the creation of significant intellectual property and the subsequent transfer of research results into practice. Supporting key scientific research directions, research pillars based on the principles of interdisciplinarity, internationalisation and innovation, and coordinating involvement in projects from the Structural Funds were the tools for exploiting the uniqueness of the University from medical sciences to social sciences and humanities, legal and administrative disciplines. The challenge remains to find opportunities to connect to the trends and quality of leading international scientific networks, to intensify activities within the EUA and to engage in international research partnerships and consortia (Horizon Europe). One of the University's priority goals is to use the potential of the Technology and Innovation Park (TIPUPJŠ) to support innovative projects and to effectively transfer the results into practice. In 2020, the intensive process of preparing the Košice New Industry Cluster (CNIC) project continued, the aim of which is to create a sustainable knowledge economy in the region of eastern Slovakia, including material and biomedical technologies, green and digital technologies, and quantum technologies.

Support and intensification of the international cooperation of the University in the field of science and research continued in the evaluated calendar period also within the framework of the strategic plan in the field of international relations. The application of incentive measures for the development of internationalisation was affected by the commencement and spread of the coronavirus pandemic which affected mainly trips abroad and mobility grant programmes. Implementation of the Human Resources Research Strategy (HRS4R) to developing an internal human resources strategy, adhering to the recommendations and principles set out in the Charter and Code to ensure transparency, accessibility, fairness, and the pursuit of excellence in the recruitment of researchers was an important step made in creating a quality international milieu at the University. By regularly participating in the evaluations of international ranking agencies, this University received a very favourable evaluation in the field of quality of education and research, namely in the URAP, Best Global Universities Ranking, U-Multirank, RankPro, QS EECA, The WUR, The Impact Rankings, and The Emerging Economies.

In 2020, UPJŠ continued to computerise processes and build information and communication technologies in accordance with the recent trends to ensure the development of attractive forms of education and to support scientific teams. It has defined a critical information and communication infrastructure and is gradually developing a plan for its sustainability and development. It implemented elements of e-government to streamline e-learning processes during the longterm pandemic situation of COVID-19. It has maintained and kept increasing the scope, quality, and availability of electronic services, including the availability of electronic study materials for students.

The process of quality management of educational activities at the University was based on the Rector's Decree on Quality Assurance in Higher Education based on ESG 2015 (European Standards and Guidelines, ESG) and generally binding legal regulations of the Slovak Republic. Indicators for quality assessment are continuously published on the websites of the

University and faculties. In 2020, preparations were underway for the full implementation of the internal quality system (IQS) in accordance with Law Act 269/2018 Coll. on quality assurance in higher education and the IQS Standards IQS and study programmes issued by the Slovak Accreditation Agency for higher education. The whole process resulted in the discussion and approval of the amendment to the University Statute which enshrined the Internal Quality Assurance and Verification System at UPJŠ and defined two main coordinating and advisory bodies: UPJŠ Quality Verification Council and UPJŠ International Council. The framework for building media and marketing promotion in 2020 developed the potential for cooperation with external professional backgrounds and stimulated cooperation with the State and business spheres, and the public sector. Due to the pandemic situation, promotion of the results of the University's activities focused mainly on the virtual milieu; most of the events within the University and those for the public were carried out online. Awareness has intensified and become more professional, especially on University social networks or the University website with the use of new symbols as its visual identity elements.

The main mission of the university will continue to provide three-level higher education based of the recent scientific knowledge in a broad international context and in line with European trends in this field. The University will continue to apply for the status of a research university where internationally recognised scientific research is carried out, which is competitive in the national and the international research milieu. It will also be involved in the European Research Area by acquiring international scientific projects and participating in European research consortia.



UPJŠ IN KOŠICE



UPJŠ in Košice Management

RECTOR

prof. RNDr. Pavol Sovák, CSc.

VICE RECTORS

Vice Rector for Scientific Research and PhD Studies

prof. RNDr. Peter Fedoročko, CSc.

Vice Rector for Marketing and Public Relations

Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Regina Hučková, PhD.

Vice Rector for Development and European Affairs

prof. MUDr. Pavol Jarčuška, PhD.

Vice Rector for Higher Education, Academic Traditions and Ceremonies

prof. PaedDr. Martin Pekár, PhD.

Vice Rector for International Relations and Mobility

Assoc. Prof. Ing. Silvia Ručinská, PhD.

Vice Rector for Informatisation and Quality Management

prof. RNDr. Gabriel Semanišin, PhD.

BURSAR

RNDr. Ing. Michal Tkáč, PhD.

UPJŠ IN KOŠICE ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT

Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Renáta Bačárová, PhD., LL.M.

Faculties

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Prof. MUDr. Daniel Pella, PhD., Dean

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Assoc. Prof. RNDr. Roman Soták, PhD., Dean

FACULTY OF LAW

Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Miroslav Štrkolec, PhD., Dean

FACULTY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Mgr. Michal Jesenko, PhD., Dean

FACULTY OF ARTS

Prof. PhDr. Oľga Orosová, CSc., Dean

Other Constituents of the University

UNIVERSITY UNITS

- Institute of Physical Education and Sport
- Botanic Garden
- University Library
- University Counselling Centre
- Centre for Lifelong Learning and Project Support
- Centre for Information and Communication Technologies
- Student Dormitories and Canteens
- Teaching and Training Facility in Danišovce

SPECIALISED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT

- Technology and Innovation Park

ASSOCIATIONS WITHOUT A LEGAL STATUS

- MEDIPARK University Science Park
- TECHNICOM University Science Park
- PROMATECH Scientific Research Centre





Mission

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice ranks among the significant and recognised educational and scientific institutions in the Slovak Republic and in developed Europe.

At present, the University consists of the Faculties of Medicine, Science, Law, Public Administration, and Arts, which train physicians, experts in natural sciences, mathematics and informatics, teachers, lawyers, public administration experts, psychologists, scientists, social workers, political scientists,

historians, translators and interpreters, experts in the English language and linguistics, literary scholarship, and culture of the English-speaking countries, in gender studies, experts in philosophy, applied ethics, mass media studies, teachers of the Slovak, English, German, and Latin languages and literatures, psychology as double major. Graduates from this second oldest classical Slovak university have a good reputation both at home and abroad.



HIGHER EDUCATION



Study Programmes Provided

BACHELOR AND MAGISTER STUDY PROGRAMMES

UPJŠ offered 170 study programmes in the Slovak and the English languages at the 1st, the associated 1st and 2nd, and the 2nd levels of study in full-time and part-time forms in the past academic year. The Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Science had the widest range of study programmes, which is mainly related to the existence of a range of interdisciplinary Bachelor study programmes and teacher training programmes at the Magister level.

PHD STUDY PROGRAMME

46 PhD study programmes at UPJŠ have successfully passed the evaluation process of the previous comprehensive accreditation or those with applications for accreditation pending (after comprehensive accreditation).

Student Structure

BACHELOR AND MAGISTER LEVELS OF STUDY

As of 31.10.2020, the total number of students enrolled in the study programmes at the 1st, 2nd, the associated 1st and 2nd and the 3rd levels in full-time and part-time forms amounted to a total of 7,260 students. Out of them, 6,670 students were in full-time form and 590 were part-time students. There are 4,815 females studying at this University representing 66% of the total number of students, and 1,610 international students, which makes up 22% of the total number. The interest of international students is an important indicator of the quality of studies. In the academic year 2020/2021, students from 55 countries of Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South Americas studied at UPJŠ. The vast majority of them studied study programmes in English. Most international students came from Poland and Germany. Students from Ukraine are a specific phenomenon in the region - they currently form the third most numerous group, and they have surpassed Israel and Spain in this indicator.

PHD LEVEL OF STUDY

A total of 57 foreigners studied at the 3rd level of study at UPJŠ out of 502 PhD students, i.e. the proportion of foreigners was 11.6%. The largest number of PhD students from abroad was at the Faculty of Science. All the above data on international students do not refer to the number of international students within the Erasmus+ ex-change programme.

Academic Student Mobility

In the academic year 2019/2020, there was a decrease in the number of students sent as well as accepted compared to the previous academic year. A total of 154 students were sent and 123 students were accepted for study or internship at all the Faculties of the University. The situation in the field of mobility has been affected since the beginning of 2020 by the spread of the COVID19 disease, which has led to the cancellation of several mobility sojourns of UPJŠ students. The reasons included measures at the host universities and organisations, measures introduced at UPJŠ, as well as individual decisions of students to cancel their mobility.

Admission to Study Procedure

In addition to tradition and a good reputation, the strength of the University is also in a relatively wide and stable portfolio of the study programmes offered, thanks to which the University is able to respond flexibly to societal demands. The percentage of international students in full-time study is the highest of all the universities in Slovakia. The University considers it an important step in fulfilling the objective of admitting high-quality secondary school graduates to be able to award a "Scholarship for Talented Students" to those graduates who have been e.g. winners of significant knowledge olympiads, or national contest. In the academic year 2020/2021, scholarships were awarded to 23 secondary school graduates.

ADMISSION TO THE BACHELOR AND DOCTORAL STUDY PROGRAMMES

Interest in Bachelor and doctoral studies at the University in the academic year 2019/2020 increased slightly again, thanks to which the University reached a five-year maximum in the number of students admitted and enrolled. The highest interest of applicants has been in the study at the Faculty of Medicine. In the academic year 2019/2020, the interest also exceeded the capacity of the Faculty despite the fact that based on the decision of the Government of the Slovak Republic, the planned number of accepted Slovak applicants was increased to the reference number 300 for the study programme of General Medicine. There are reserves, at some other Faculties while this statement does not apply equally to all the study programmes offered at any Faculty. The study programme of Psychology at the Faculty of Arts has traditionally been of great interest.

At some University, units, information seminars were organised for newly enrolled students (Faculty of Public Administration), introductory gatherings of freshmen and repetitoria in mathematics and chemistry (Faculty of Science), introductory meeting for first-year students in the Slovak and English (Faculty of Medicine), which aim to facilitate students' transition to higher education and to get to know their university.

ADMISSION TO MAGISTER STUDY PROGRAMMES

UPJŠ offers Master studies at all of its Faculties, but only very marginally at the Faculty of Medicine. The Institute of Physical Education and Sports is without the offer of a Magister degree. Interest in Magister studies (number of applicants) is at a level comparable to a year ago, but the total number of students admitted and enrolled has been constantly declining. This is a logical consequence of the several-year continuous decrease in the number of students at the first level of study. UPJŠ is still interesting for Bachelor degree graduates from other universities, as evidenced by the comparison of the number of first-level graduates at UPJŠ in the academic year 2018/2019 (532) with the number of registered applications for the 2nd level for the academic year 2019/2020 (672). The difference in this simple comparison is about 20%. It is also true that 21.5% of the Bc. graduates at UPJŠ from the academic year 2018/2019 (532) either continue their studies elsewhere or do not continue their studies (418 graduates of Bc. graduates from UPJŠ enrolled for Mgr. studies in the academic year 2019/2020). In the case of the Magister degree, the difference in the number of students admitted and enrolled at the acceptable level is around 15%. Most of the enrolled students at the Magister level (up to 86%) are UPJŠ graduates, which corresponds to the general situation in the Slovak university milieu.

An overview of the number of students enrolled in the first grade of the 1st and the associated 1st and 2nd levels of education in the previous five academic years by Faculties

Faculty	AY 2015/2016		AY 2016/2017		AY 2017/2018		AY 2018/2019		AY 2019/2020	
	full-time	part-time	full-time	part-time	full-time	part-time	full-time	part-time	full-time	part-time
FM	559	0	580	0	758	0	698	0	759	0
FS	222	8	242	7	212	0	274	7	210	7
FL	118	49	151	123	146	91	141	103	154	80
FPA	203	32	178	21	167	29	163	17	197	24
FA	351	40	338	25	341	24	349	10	366	16
IPES	50	8	49	0	48	0	39	0	59	0
UPJŠ	1503	137	1 538	176	1 672	144	1 664	137	1 745	127

ADMISSION TO PHD STUDY PROGRAMMES

In the academic year 2020/2021, 377 topics were announced as part of the admission procedure carried out at the University, to which 147 full-time applicants and 53 part-time applicants applied. Of these, 91 were admitted to full-time PhD study and 45 for part-time study.

In the full-time form of study, this represented 62% of applicants who successfully completed the admission procedure and were admitted to PhD studies; in the part-time form, 85% of them successfully completed the admission interview. Among full-time students in the 1st year, there are 11 foreign PhD students and 1 foreign student was admitted in the part-time study. In the part-time educational institutions, the University admitted 6 new PhD students in cooperation with the SAS institutes.

University graduates

The issue of employment of university graduates has been resonating in Slovak society for a long time and is currently becoming one of the priority topics discussed in the public. UPJŠ does not underestimate this issue and takes measures to improve the employment of graduates in life:

- In order to improve the training of graduates and bring them closer to practice, the University cooperates with experts from practice (e.g. lectures, seminars, degree theses). The University cooperates with many companies and presents this cooperation to the public on appropriate occasions.
- we consider introduction of interdisciplinary certified courses for UPJŠ students an important measure that can contribute to better employment of university graduates in the labour market. The offer of these courses for university students regardless of their parent faculty contributes to the profiling of graduates and their subsequent better application in the field.

- The University Counselling Centre provides career services to students and graduates. It provides students with information (e.g. on the situation in the labour market, job opportunities, correct set-up of a CV, cover letters), it works with them to improve their self-awareness (identification of strengths and weaknesses, awareness of their own competencies) and provides them opportunities to develop competencies (with regard to the development of skills for managing their own careers). The natural continuation of these services is in the mediation of contact with the practice, with employers or with job opportunities (internships, job offers, volunteering).
- Measures were taken to more effectively find out feedback from graduates by creating an electronic questionnaire for graduates in the Academic Information System, but a printed form of questionnaires is also used, where graduates may assess the applicability and satisfaction with studying at the University.

In the academic year 2019/2020, 1,556 students of the 1st, 2nd associated 1st and 2nd degree of study and the 3rd degree successfully completed their studies, which is a figure comparable to the previous AY. At all the levels of study, the proportion of graduates with distinction was 13.3%. The level of education attained is an important factor influencing the further working life of young people. It is true that the higher the level of education, the lower the recorded unemployment rate of young people.

According to current statistics with data of September 2020, 13.3% (192) of UPJŠ graduates were unemployed, which roughly corresponds to the average number of unemployed young people with a university degree in Slovakia. Graduates from social sciences and humanities predominate among them. As can be seen in the table, up to a five-year low of 4.32%, the share of registered unemployed UPJŠ graduates out of the total number decreased.

PROVISION OF FURTHER EDUCATION



The Centre for Lifelong Learning and Project Support participates in the implementation, support and development of education in the 1st, 2nd and associated 1st and 2nd degree study programmes, whether through educational or support activities aimed at students or university teachers.

CERTIFIED INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

They were created as a follow-up of the successful project Development of Innovative Forms of Education and Support of Interdisciplinarity of Studies at UPJŠ in Košice (RIFIV). Administrative courses are provided by the Centre for Lifelong Learning and Project Support to increase the chances of graduates to find a job in the labour market and their attractiveness among employers. They are intended for all the students of



Bachelor, Magister, doctoral, PhD full-time and part-time studies at all the Faculties and at the Institute of Physical Education and Sports. ICATE SAP Academy.



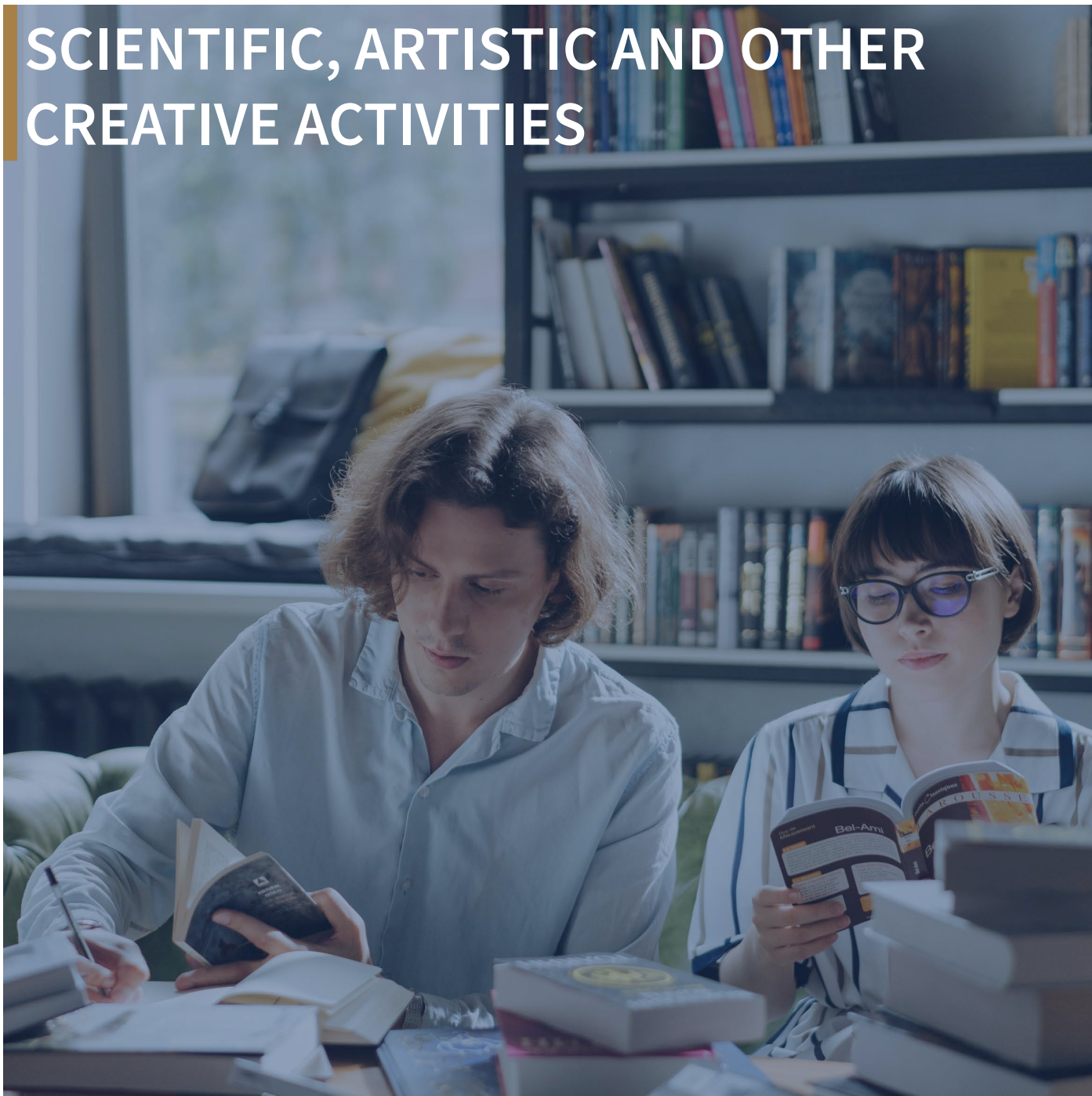
ELECTRONIC LEARNING (E-LEARNING)

The worsening pandemic situation of Covid19 in 2020 changed the way University education took place. Traditional lectures and exercises were transferred to the virtual world and teaching methods began to be made more effective, in which modern digital technologies were used to a large extent. The University began developing forms of distance learning. It was necessary to build technological and personnel infrastructure for the e-learning support of education as a tool for improving the quality of higher education; creating pilot courses and educational combined programmes; a system for measuring the quality of higher education in relation to elearning;

creating educational, training, and consulting services aimed at developing the skills of employees and students. The Centre for Lifelong Learning and Project Support actively manages a university-wide educational portal for the support of e-learning in terms of technology (setting up courses, problem solving, development) and methodological (training, consultations). The number of active users and electronic courses (subjects) offered has an increasing tendency within the lms. upjs.sk portal. A large increase in applications for the establishment of support for study subjects through electronic courses increased during March - May 2020. All students and staff with an active account in the Academic Information System AIS have access to the system. There are currently 793 active e-courses / subjects and 187 inactive e-courses / subjects in the system.



SCIENTIFIC, ARTISTIC AND OTHER CREATIVE ACTIVITIES



UPJŠ ranks among institutions with a long tradition of scientific research which fulfils the mission of the University and belongs to its priorities. Areas of research direction are defined in the Long-term Plan of UPJŠ in Košice for the years 2020 to 2025.

TOP RESEARCH TEAMS

Research teams, organised by prominent scientific personalities, are the basic form of research organisation at UPJŠ and its components; these scientific personalities are the bearers of research issues. Research teams, especially in interdisciplinary research, are often formed of researchers from various institutes, faculties, and scientific cooperation also goes beyond the scope of the University, where researchers from other national as well as international universities or scientific institutions, even from the business environment, if appropriate, also participate in addressing research issues.



Top team name	Top team acronym	Faculty
Quantum Magnetism and Nanophysics	QMAGNA	Faculty of Science
The Research Team of Bioactive Substances for Biomedical Applications	BioAktiv	Faculty of Science
Excellent Team for the Research into Atherosclerosis	EXTASY	Faculty of Medicine
Top Team of Research into Inorganic Materials	TRIANGEL	Faculty of Science
Košice Group of Discrete Mathematics	KOSDIM	Faculty of Science
Onomasiology - Word Formation - Typology	OST	Faculty of Arts

PROJECTS SUPPORTED FROM NATIONAL GRANT SCHEMES

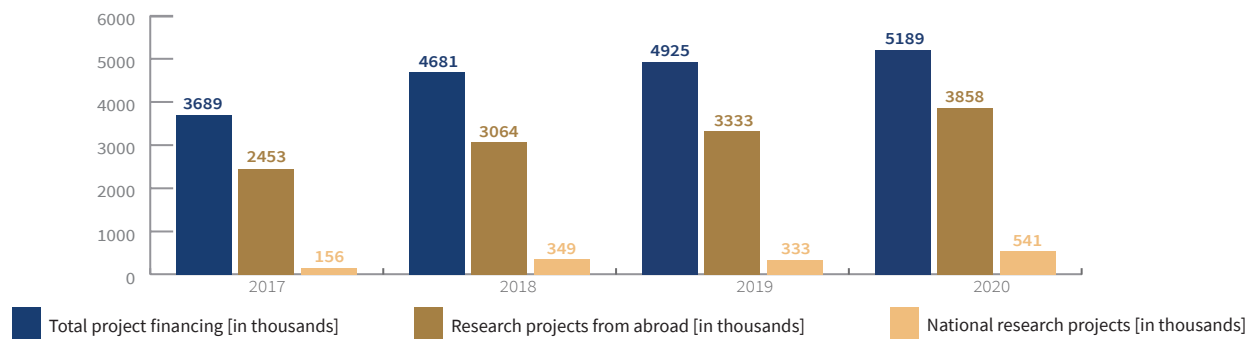
In 2020, a total of 273 projects supported by both national and international grant or other schemes were addressed at UPJŠ, of which 204 were research projects and 67 other non-research projects. Projects from national grant or other schemes were structured as follows:

Research projects:

- 107 VEGA projects, 35 of which started in 2020
- 23 KEGA projects, 10 of which started in 2020
- 73 APVV projects, 17 of which started started in 2020
- 19 projects from other grant schemes or contracts, 9 of which started in 2020.

Other projects:

- 4 APVV projects of the bilateral cooperation type
- 5 non-research projects



PROJECTS SUPPORTED FROM INTERNATIONAL GRANT SCHEMES

In 2020, 41 projects supported by international grant or other schemes were addressed at UPJŠ, 11 of which started in 2020. Since UPJŠ as a classical university mainly performs basic research. The main types of outputs of scientific work by UPJŠ creative staff included, depending on the area of research, the publication outputs mainly in the form of monographs, papers in monographs or scientific works published in journals indexed in the WoS, SCOPUS and recently also in ERIH databases. Following the new evaluation criteria developed by the Accreditation Commission, what became an important aspect was the effort to publish research results in scientific journals with a registered impact factor (IF) and that the IF of the journal has a value higher than the value determined by the Accreditation Commission for inclusion the paper in the category A. This aspect has also become important in connection with the new minimum requirements for the accreditation of rights to habilitation procedures and procedures for the appointment of professors. Thanks to resources from the Structural Funds, the equipment of UPJŠ scientific units has significantly improved in the field of research infrastructure, which should be a significant impetus for the further development of scientific research and development at UPJŠ.

PROJECTS WON IN COMPETITIONS

UPJŠ research staff received the total of € 4,018,853 in competitions from national sources, of which € 2,344,798 for

APVV projects, € 1,148,005 for VEGA projects, € 182,230 for KEGA projects, and € 343,820 for other national projects for addressing research projects and other projects in 2020.

INTERNAL GRANT SCHEME

In order to strengthen the education of PhD students as well as young research and teaching staff, the so-called Internal Scientific Grant System (VVGs) of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice was introduced for young university teachers and researchers and PhD students in their full-time form of study. Since 2016, calls have been issued in three programmes that are open to all the members of the UPJŠ academic community, specifically: the programme of „Interdisciplinary Research Projects for University Teachers and Researchers of up to 35 Years of Age and PhD Students in Full-time PhD Studies“ (hereinafter referred to as VUaVP35), the programme of “Targeted Research Projects” intended for all the creative employees, and the programme of “Institutional Support for the H2020 Projects” intended for all the creative employees. Since the UPJŠ management considers VVGs to be an important part of the training of PhD students for research work, the VUaVP35 scheme for young researchers and PhD students was innovated with the absolute emphasis on interdisciplinary projects linking at least two areas of research and formation of larger research teams. In 2020, the support of the „Institutional Support of the Projects H2020“ programme in fact terminated as of 31 December, on the other hand a new joint programme with the Slovak Academy of Sciences „SASUPJŠ ERC Visiting Fellowship Grants“ was approved and during 2020 a call for

project proposals within this programme for researchers was published for researchers in all the research disciplines.

Excellence of research and the potential of the applicant to obtain an ERC grant is the main criterion of this programme. In 2020, 66 VVGS projects were addressed, for which funds in the amount of € 93,837.90 were allocated in that year.

In 2011, legislative conditions were created for the establishment of postdoctoral positions at UPJŠ. Following this possibility, a call for these postdoctoral positions was announced in 2020 as well. Eight positions for postdoctoral staff were filled as part of the competition process, two of whom worked at the Faculty of Medicine, three at the Faculty of Science, two at the Faculty of Law, and one at the Faculty of Arts.

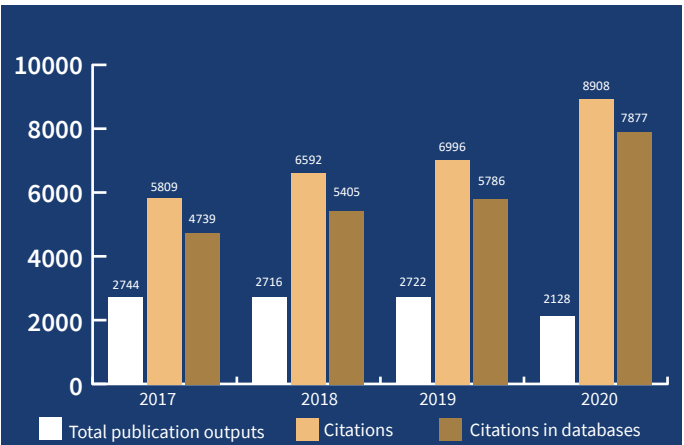
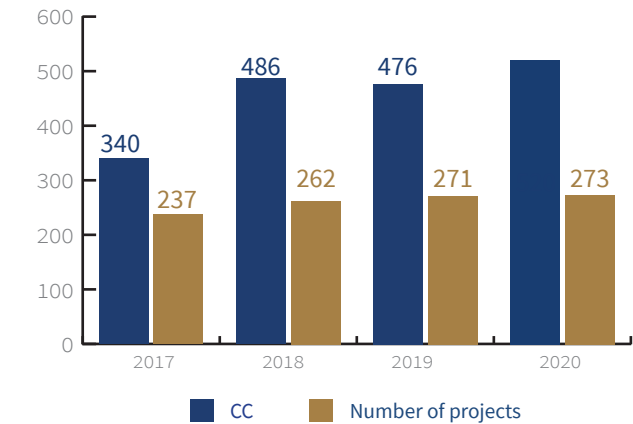
QUALIFICATION PATTERN

In 2020, a total of 958 creative employees worked at UPJŠ. Of these, 791 were university teachers and 167 were researchers. Among university teachers, there were 108 teachers in the position of professor, 157 teachers in the position of associate professor, and 527 assistant professors or assistants (in recalculated number it was 671 university teachers and 130 research employees, i.e. a total of 801 creative employees). Of the total number of creative employees at UPJŠ, 31 of them were holders of the scientific degree of Doctor of Science „DrSc“.

PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES

In 2020, UPJŠ employees published a total of 2,128 (of which 520 CC) publication outputs. We have noted a decline in publication outputs in the categories conditioned by participation in both national and international conferences (due to the COVID19 pandemic, employee participation in conferences in 2020 was minimized, of course). In other categories, it is at a level comparable to the number of published outputs in 2016 (2,460 publication outputs), in 2017 (2,744 publication outputs), in 2018 (2,716 publication

outputs), in 2019 (2,722 publication outputs). The research focus of UPJŠ is evidenced by the fact that University employees published 544 papers in peer-reviewed journals in the reporting period of 2020 according to the records of the Central Register of Records of Publishing Activities (CRRPA), which represents over 13% of all the papers in peer-reviewed journals published by universities in Slovakia, registered in the CRRPA system (in the reporting year 2020, there are publications of the relevant categories in the CRRPA with the years of issue 2019 and 2020). The proportion of UPJŠ in the total number of students of public universities in the Slovak Republic only represents 5%.



HUMAN RESOURCES



EMPLOYEE STRUCTURE

In accordance with the Long-Term Plan, the effective integration of academic, economic and other related activities in the area of organisation and management at the University continued in 2020. In order to ensure stability of the University, attention was focused on creating an effective organisational structure with a view to the success of the University in the next comprehensive accreditation. The basic premise was to create conditions for personnel development of all the employees, as well as adequate social welfare conditions for both employees and students. It was necessary to comply with the

internal wage regulations in such a way that the evaluation of the quality of employees’ work was carried out in the variable component of the position salary. Achieving a continuous qualified personnel background of individual workplaces in the area of human resources development was focused on increasing the qualification structure and creating conditions for personnel development of young researchers. The goal remains to morally and financially motivate the University creative staff for improved performance on the principle of transparency and deserved justice.

Average recalculated numbers of employees in 2020

	Teaching staff					Other employees (spec., admin., oper.)	Science and research staff	Total	of whom paid from		
	Prof.	Doc.	OA	A.L	Total				ME SR	non-subsidised main activity	business activity
LF	46.8	45.7	166.3	70.6	329.4	191.6	54.9	575.9	456.9	119.0	
PF	29.3	49.3	60.9	1.0	140.5	88.9	57.9	287.3	281.8	5.1	0.4
PrávF	6.3	20.3	19.7	2.4	48.7	26.8	8.1	83.6	83.4	0.2	
FVS	2.0	10.7	16.3		29.0	18.0	0.5	47.5	46.1	1.4	
FF	14.8	26.8	66.2	14.6	122.4	29.3	4.0	155.7	147.6	7.7	0.4
RaUP	4.0	2.0	7.0	2.7	15.7	266.5	8.5	290.7	273.3	12.1	5.3
ŠD						59.5		59.5	49.9	7.2	2.4
ŠJ						41.3		41.3	10.1	20.6	10.6
Total	103.2	154.8	336.4	91.3	685.7	721.9	133.9	1541.5	1349.5	173.3	19.1

Key:

- OA assistant professors
- A assistants
- L lectors
- LF Faculty of Medicine
- PF Faculty of Science
- PrávF Faculty of Law
- FVS Faculty of Public Administration
- FF Faculty of Arts
- RaUP Rectorate and University units
- ŠJ Student Canteens
- ŠD Student Dormitories



RECALCULATED NUMBER OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS AS ON 31/12 IN 2020 AND 2019

	2020	2019
Number of professors and assoc. prof. with DrSc.	100.83	102.69
Number of associate professors without the scientific degree of DrSc.	173.49	174.07
Number of teachers with the scientific degree of CSc., PhD.	319.64	320.14
Number of teachers without a scientific degree	95.89	100.67
Total	689.85	697.57

OVERVIEW OF RECALCULATED NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES BY FACULTIES AND UNITS IN THE YEARS 2019 AND 2020

Faculty/ University Units	University teachers			Science and research staff			Other employees			Total		
	2020	2019	increase+ reduction-	2020	2019	increase+ reduction-	2020	2019	increase+ reduction-	2020	2019	increase+ reduction-
LF	329.4	322.3	7.1	54.9	53.6	1.3	191.6	187.3	4.3	575.9	563.2	12.7
PF	140.5	139.9	0.6	57.9	54.3	3.6	88.9	87.9	1	287.3	282.1	5.2
PrávF	48.7	49	-0.3	8.1	7	1.1	26.8	28.5	-1.7	83.6	84.5	-0.9
FVS	29	29.7	-0.7	0.5	0.8	-0.3	18	18.5	-0.5	47.5	49	-1.5
FF	122.4	123.7	-1.3	4	6.5	-2.5	29.3	30.3	-1	155.7	160.5	-4.8
RaUP	15.7	13.7	2	8.5	9.8	-1.3	367.3	365.9	1.4	391.5	389.4	2.1
Total	685.7	678.3	7.4	133.9	132	1.9	721.9	718.4	3.5	1541.5	1528.7	12.8

AGE STRUCTURE OF EMPLOYEES AS ON 31 DECEMBER 2020

Age	Number of employees	in %
up to 30 years	159	9.23
up to 40 years	389	22.58
up to 50 years	473	27.45
up to 65 years	162	9.4
over 65 years	141	8.18

INVOLVEMENT OF EMPLOYEES IN MOBILITY

139 employees of the University carried out international mobility for the purpose of educational, research, lecture stays of various forms and duration in the academic year 2019/2020. There was a significant decrease in mobility of all types compared to the academic year 2018/2019. All the University Faculties and units noted a decline due to the pandemic situation of Covid-19, and at some Faculties mobility decreased to a fifth of the value of the previous period. As of March 2020, following the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic, all the outgoing mobility sojourns were suspended, which significantly contributed to low mobility rates. The international mobility of UPJŠ employees, which had taken place before the pandemic, was financed mainly from the EU programmes. Approximately half of the mobility sojourns were implemented from the resources other than Erasmus+ within scientific and educational projects and programmes.

INCOMING STAFF FROM ABROAD TO UPJŠ

UPJŠ received 60 employees from international universities, institutions, and workplaces, who implemented mobility in the field of research, education, management, and administration at UPJŠ Faculties and workplaces in the academic year 2019/2020.

The number of incoming experts, as in the case of outgoing mobility trips, showed a more significant drop due to the global pandemic situation of Covid-19, to around one third compared to the previous period. Incoming mobility trips were funded by EU programmes, the National Scholarship Program, the University development project „3i - Internationalisation, Interdisciplinarity, and Innovation of Higher Education at UPJŠ“ supported by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the Slovak Republic, and other programmes.



STUDENT SUPPORT



Study Support

SOCIAL WELFARE SCHOLARSHIPS

The core of student social welfare support was made up of three components: social welfare scholarships for students from low-income families, student accommodation and meals. In the calendar year 2020, social welfare scholarships from the subsidy of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic were paid out in the total amount of € 467,120.00.

STUDY ACHIEVEMENTS SCHOLARSHIPS

In the academic year 2019/2020, student support took various forms, including in the form of financial motivation - a motivation scholarship, which was implemented by paying a trade scholarship, a study achievement scholarship for ten percent of students with the best achievement attained in the past academic year, in the form of annual Rector's Awards and special welfare scholarships. In the calendar year 2020, the motivational scholarship for full-time students was paid out in the total amount of € 308,070.00, of which € 170,010.00 was provided by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sports, which was awarded to students studying in selected study programmes at the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Arts.

ANNUAL RECTOR'S AWARD

The Annual Rector's Award and motivational scholarship are significant motivation for the best students of UPJŠ, which are awarded not just for excellent study results throughout the study (the study point average of up to 1.1), but also for publishing activities of students, representation of UPJŠ at international professional conferences, in sports, art, or for civic engagement. Based on the approved criteria, students were awarded prizes in the total amount of € 40,110.00.

Support Activities

IMPROVING THE STUDY MATERIAL CONDITIONS

In 2020, the addressing of scientific and educational projects in particular contributed to the improvement of the quality of the premises at the Faculties. The conditions for studying at the University are comparable to the conditions for studying at advanced educational institutions abroad.

At the Faculty of Medicine, it was possible to revitalise the lecture halls and reconstruct the seminar rooms. The Faculty of Medicine also regularly invests in the purchase of teaching materials (e.g. dental materials, chemicals, textbooks). The priority of the Faculty management is to build a simulator centre, which partially replaces the practical teaching of students, which was limited in clinics during the COVID19 pandemic. The Faculty of Science, for the sustainability of the technical condition of equipment annually invests the funds for CAI for sustainability of the technical condition of equipment in the lecture halls with computers, data projectors, providing WiFi connection in the Faculty premises and information monitors. The Faculty suffers from the fact that it is located in several historic buildings, the maintenance and renovation of which is extremely costly. Efforts to improve premises for students were also implemented by renovating the lecture hall in the premises of the Institute of Chemical Sciences.

There was a significant improvement in the teaching premises in the area of the UPJŠ Botanic Garden, where, thanks to a joint investment by the University and the Faculty, the electrical wiring and the related renovation of the auditoriums interior were reconstructed.

At the Faculty of Law, students use all the public computers located in the library to access professional resources. The Faculty has well-equipped specialised computer classrooms, but also classrooms used for teaching clinical subjects. A video conferencing device is located in the conference room, by means of which it is possible to conduct or join a video conference, at the same time a large screen and a video projector are located in the newly renovated meeting room.

The Faculty of Arts continued the trend of improving the technical parameters of classrooms and cultivating a relaxa-

tion zone for students on the campus. Premises in the Plátón building enabled full implementation of a quality computer park, interpreting headsets, various software and hardware solutions, especially in the interpreting and computer laboratories.

In the Aristotle building, the Laboratory of Experimental Phonetics and Communication, as well as the television and film studio and the pedagogical laboratory are significantly equipped with state-of-the-art technology. The Psychological Laboratory is being developed in the Socrates building, equipped, among other things, with specialised statistical software (SPSS, Amos), specialised software for SUPERLAB psychological laboratories, and a set of electronic versions of psycho-diagnostic tests.

The equipment of the teaching classrooms of the Faculty of Public Administration is standard (computer, data projector, interactive whiteboard), two language laboratories have been set up and a video conference set is installed in one room.

There are, among other things, 3 halls in the UPJŠ buildings available for teaching, namely the AK 0A7 auditorium (the former P5 auditorium) with a capacity of 160 persons at dr. Kostlivého Street. The RB0A5 lecturing hall (formerly the M5 auditorium) with a capacity of 280 persons in the RBL pavilion building and the RE0A6 hall (the former M6 auditorium) with a capacity of 164 persons in the building of the Institute of Anatomy in the Šrobárova 2 complex. Videoconferencing technology is also installed in the RB0A5 hall.

As part of larger university-wide investment projects, construction work (roof reconstruction, window replacement, heating) was carried out in the amount of around EUR 5 million including the VAT in several buildings mostly used for education. For example, the laboratories in the building of the national cultural monument Park Angelinum and the lecture hall at the Faculty of Law were reconstructed, and an extensive reconstruction of the building of the Faculty of Medicine at Trieda SNP 1, etc.

SUPPORT FOR EXTRA MURAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

In 2020, a total of 13 student organisations and interest groups operated at UPJŠ and its Faculties. In order to better coordinate activities and cooperate more effectively with the Uni-

versity, their representatives decided to establish a central Association of Student Organisations at Pavol Jozef Šafárik University. Traditionally, the most active association activity is at the Faculty of Medicine, where the Association of Medics of the City of Košice and the Slovak Association of Dental Students operate. Associations have traditionally operated in the field of edification and education focused on schools and the general public.

In the past academic year, it is necessary to highlight the activities of members of these associations and all the students of the Faculty of Medicine who as volunteers participated in the implementation of anti-epidemic measures in health care facilities throughout eastern Slovakia. In various forms and at



different levels, 115 students of the Faculty of Medicine engaged themselves in this way without the claim to a financial reward. Following an agreement with the Faculty management, their volunteering within the coronavirus epidemic was accepted as part of their professional field training.

University students are active in the field of media. Students of the Faculty of Science publish the PRÍMES periodical and students of the Faculty of Arts publish their own student magazine Univerzál. Within ELSA, students of the Faculty of Law participate in developing and publishing the LegalPoint magazine. The University student television broadcasts at the University, which was established as a project of students of mass media studies at the Faculty of Arts.

The student dormitory broadcast ŠtuRko is being successfully implemented in the student dormitories on Medická Street. Student Radio Košice focused its activities on social networks, in the form of video recordings, live streams and podcasts. Its members include mainly students of the field of mass media studies, whose radio activities enrich not just professionally

but also personally.

The Student Dormitory Council consists of representatives of students from all the Faculties and, in cooperation with the management of the Student Dormitories and Canteens, actively participated in setting up the waiting lists of applicants for accommodation and in the course of life in student dormitories. University television shifted its activities from the creation of audio-visual products to the management of social networks. In the summer semester 2019/2020, they managed to complete several commenced projects (11), for which students had pre-designed materials. With the tightening of measures - without access to technology and software in the television studio - production has declined rapidly, and since the winter semester of 2020/2021, the editorial staff have been involved almost exclusively in the management of social networks and the creation of graphic materials. Most of the board of editors are represented by students of mass media studies, but we are also pleased with the partial interest of students from other (mostly humanities) disciplines. Thanks to the project funds, in 2020 the necessary update of technology and software in the television and film studio was achieved.

The Chorus Universitatis Šafarikianae (CHUŠ) choir focuses on performances of a university nature both at home and abroad. As on 31 December 2020, the choir had 35 members from the ranks of employees, students, and part-time students. Due to the pandemic situation of COVID 19, the exercises were limited and carried out mainly in a distance form so that after the measures were lifted, the choir could perform at the event on the occasion of the annual Botanic Garden event. At the end of 2020, CHUŠ released a Christmas composition in the form of a distance video on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of its establishment, while also studying several new compositions of various genres, from classical early music to modern and film music.

The folklore ensemble Hornád became visible through its activities in 2020, despite the significant intervention of the COVID19 pandemic. In 2020, a new DVD and CD Things That Happen was released which capture the unique dance theatre and musical processing of a successful musical.

COUNCELLING AND CAREER SERVICES

The University Counselling Centre (UNIPOC) has been providing counselling services for all the students, including support for students with special needs, since 2013. Students have the opportunity to use psychological (also in English), career (also in English), social and law counselling. Advice is also available in the form of e-counselling. The number of counselling services provided by a distance form increased and counselling in the form of video calls began to be provided to a greater extent. A novelty is in the creation of chat counselling. In 2020, a unique podcast called UNIPokeC was created, which is freely available on the Spotify, Anchor, and Google Podcasts platforms. In 2020, episodes were released focusing on mental health care during the pandemic, effective learning or distance learning, and good time management. UNIPOC offers students and graduates career services. The natural continuation of these services is in the mediation of contact with the practice, with employers or with job opportunities. It is for this reason that the UPJŠ Career Club was established in the summer semester of the 2017/2018 academic year, the aim of which is long-term cooperation between the University and employers to improve students' readiness for the labour market and at the same time to create opportunities to implement their potential.

ACCOMMODATION AND CATERING SERVICES

Undoubtedly, the support of the study also includes the services provided by the Student Dormitories and Canteens of UPJŠ (SDC). In 2020, UPJŠ had 1,760 beds available in its own facilities for student accommodation. Another 850 beds (Ubytovňa Kosmalt, Ubytovňa Pražská 2) are held by the University in rented accommodation facilities of external contractual partners (Arcona Capital), which also accommodates 70 students who came to the University within the Erasmus exchange programme. The conditions and method of allocating beds to interested parties are explicitly and transparently regulated by the UPJŠ House and Accommodation Rules. In accordance with them, the entire accommodation capacity was allocated to University students, regardless of the study programme and the Faculty at which they study. The whole process is monitored and approved by the Accommodation Commission. The Commission also set up mechanisms for the accommodation

of students coming to UPJŠ from other universities for Master studies, as well as the accommodation of students after the suspension of their studies. Unlike several Slovak universities, the difference between supply and demand is relatively mild. Accommodation was allocated to all the applicants with severe disabilities and also to all the applicants - third-level students. Students may take their meals in three student canteens. In 2020, almost 300,000 meals were served to students.



LIBRARY INFORMATION SERVICES

The main mission of the University Library (UL) is to participate in the information provision of teaching and scientific research activities of its staff and students, to create conditions for the support of the educational process and an inspiring environment for users. The UL fulfils this mission through the creative use of information resources and technologies, the provision of documents, information and consultations, the expertise of staff and facilities to support teaching, education and research. In 2020, the services of the University Library were used by 7,684 registered users, of which the largest share were students of all the levels of study (80%). The UL services were provided through deployed workplaces. The library fund represents 255,277 library units. Through its acquisition policy, the UL also fulfilled its mission in 2020 to satisfy the needs of users in ensuring access to study and professional sources, including periodicals for all the UPJŠ Faculties using the UPJŠ subsidies, own revenues and extra-budgetary resources, building a Virtual Study Room (825 titles) through

the system of MedialInfo Access to Digitised Study and Professional Literature. Thanks to the national project of National Information System for the Support of Research and Development in Slovakia - Access to Electronic Information Sources IV (NISPEZ IV), UPJŠ had access to 12 professional full-text and scientometric databases in 2020. The ŠafárikPress UPJŠ publishing house provides a comprehensive agenda related to the University's requirement to ensure the publishing process in accordance with the needs of the educational process of the Faculties and University workplaces. The outputs of publishing activities (monographs, textbooks, scripts, collections, etc.) were implemented in printed and electronic forms. The Unibook portal provides a permanent repository of electronic documents, an archive of all the published works and at the same time modern possibilities for purchasing book publications via a standard e-shop web interface.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

The Information and Communication Technology Centre ensures the development of the optical structure, the University network, the data centre, servers, and the central management of the wireless network with client authentication connected to the Eduroam network. It has successfully upgraded its second central University router to the Cisco 9500, a digital network map that allows current status to be recorded and an overview of the capacity of the University optical paths.

The production environment of the GP webpay payment gateway was successfully launched. At the same time, the integration of the GP webpay payment gateway with the Sofia Economic System and the Academic Information System (AIS2) was developed, the function of the CA DISIG registration authority was implemented, and thus the possibility of obtaining a certificate for electronic signatures for employees. The implementation of the attendance system at the University continued, the installation of new cameras to ensure the protection of the University's property, the new Eset Antivirus anti-virus system was procured as part of security, and it was gradually implemented throughout the University. The University Secularity Incident Response Team of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (CSIRTUPJS), which

has been included in the list of security incident management teams maintained by the international organisation TFCSIRT (Trusted Introducer), has been working at the University for a long time. It performs proactive (preventive) activities and reactive activities aimed at minimising the number of security incidents, or reducing the impact in the event of their occurrence, increasing the security awareness of the University staff and students and other activities necessary to ensure information security of the University.



SPORT ACTIVITIES

Extra mural activities are strongly supported by the Institute of Physical Education and Sport which offers, in addition to its own study programme of Sports and Recreation, a wide range of sports activities for students throughout the University every year. In 2020, students of all the levels of study had the opportunity to choose from over twenty physical training activities (e.g. aerobics, swimming, badminton, yoga, body building, tennis, chess). The institute, in cooperation with the Faculty of Science and the Slávia UPJŠ Physical Education Society, offered students chess in three forms, and the newest sport that has entered the offer of sports activities is aikido. In addition to the offered forms of physical activities, students

had the opportunity to participate in the year-round University league in futsal, basketball, floorball, and volleyball. Winter and summer courses are a traditional complement to sports activities. The implementation of all the physical and sports activities in the summer semester of the academic year 2019/2020 was negatively affected by the pandemic of the coronavirus COVID-19.



BOTANIC GARDEN

The Botanic Garden is one of the most exposed parts of the University in the media. In 2020, we commemorated the 70th anniversary of its founding (organisation of the anniversary conference „70 Years of the UPJŠ Botanic Garden in Košice“ and the Slovak Post issued a postage stamp in its Nature Protection issue). A series of summer concerts performed during 3 weekends of summer holidays also received a very good response.



DEVELOPMENT



CONTRACTED PROJECTS FINANCED BY ESF AND ERDF

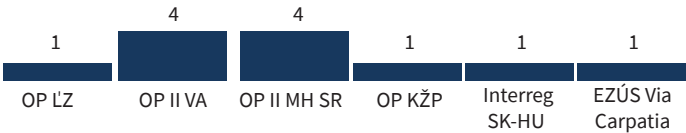
The year 2020 is one of the most successful in the last 4 years in the area of obtaining extra-budgetary project financial resources. Through the contracting of national (priority ESIF projects of operational programmes Human Resources, Integrated Infrastructure, and Environmental Quality), international (cross-border Interreg SK-HU, ENI CBC HUSKROUA) and foreign (Horizon 2020) development projects, the University has the ambition to ensure adequate motivation for human resources, to give the opportunity to young researchers as well as to modernise and innovate the research infrastructure at the affected workplaces and to ensure the implementation of the research and development objectives defined in the projects. Compared to previous periods, we can even state a leap for the better both in the number of successful contracted projects and in the volume of grant funds allocated.

Contracted projects ESI Fund, Interreg, ENI CBC in the last 4 years



Especially within the European Structural and Investment Funds of the EU (ESF, ERDF), after years of tireless efforts of creative employees, who could not be discouraged by frustrated efforts to eliminate several calls from managing and intermediary bodies, both Faculty and University workplaces succeeded. The University management, Faculty and University departments systematically supported the individual preparatory teams, allocated financial resources for co-financing in their budgets and thus enabled them to submit grant applications as a beneficiary or partner in consortium projects, which was reflected in the contracting of 12 projects.

Contracted projects ESI Fund, Interreg, and ENI CBC in the 2020



In particular, the contracted research projects of the OP Integrated Infrastructure (VA and MH SR) are set up interdisciplinary, they are covered by several workplaces of the University and within large consortia cooperation of universities, SAS workplaces, and commercial entities is possible. Other projects are based on the needs of the individual workplaces concerned and on their acquired links to new external partners, as in the case of the Interreg SK-HU or EGTC Via Carpatia projects. Infrastructure projects can include a project to reduce the energy intensity of the Botanic Garden office building and education will be supported by innovation in pedagogical field trainings.

SUBMITTED AND APPROVED PROJECTS FINANCED BY ESF, ERDF, EEA GRANTS, AND NORWAY

In the past year, marked by operating constraints at all the University's workplaces resulting from the coronavirus pandemic, several major COVID-19 projects have been submitted. These included 5 applications for the provision of NFM submitted to the Research Agency on the basis of COVID calls for projects for mobilisation and research potential (4 projects) and calls with an international aspect of submitted projects (1 project). In 2020, an application was submitted for a cross-border project of the ENI CBC HUSKROUA programme and the projects of the Interreg SK-HU and EGTC Via Carpatia grant schemes were approved. In the case of two EEA and Norwegian Grant projects, the University management had to decide which one to prefer, as both were highly rated, but due to insufficient funding for the calls in question, the provider made the contract conditional on the selection of one of them. In total, there are 21 projects in which the Faculty of Science (12) and the Faculty of Medicine (8) participated the most.

ESIF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

20 projects continue at the sustainability stage after 31 December 2020, of which 5 projects are OP Education and 15 projects are OP Research and Development. The year 2021 will be the last subsequent monitoring year for these projects. In the case of University science parks, follow-up monitoring will continue within the 2nd stage of these projects.

Operational programme	Project focus	Acronym
OP Education	Education	KVARK
		IRES
		SOFOS
		RIFIV
		REZIDENT
OP Research & Development	Infrastructure Project	INNOVATION of ICT
		PLATÓN
	University Science Park	TECHNICOM
		MEDIPARK
	Scientific Research Centre	PROMATECH
		BIODIAG
	Application of Research in Practice	Tfaktor
		VERZDRAV
		IFNG
		CEEPM
	Centre of Excellence	CEMIO
		CEBT
		NEUREG
		Probiotech
	Competence Centre	DIAGONKO

In 2020, the University implemented ESI Funds projects through the operational programmes Human Resources (European Social Fund), Integrated Infrastructure (European Regional Development Fund), and Quality of the Environment (European Regional Development Fund). Selection of projects addressed: IT Academy - Education for the Century; Development of Key Competencies of Public Administration Employees; Innovation of Pedagogical Field Trainings at UPJŠ focused on targeted development of professional competencies of future teachers; New Unconventional Magnetic Materials for Applications; Bioactive Substances for Health Promotion and Prevention of Chronic Diseases; Use of Wood Collections of Botanic Gardens in Košice and Nyíregyháza in the upbringing and education of children and adults; Environment For the Future by Scientific Education; Robot-Assisted Rehabilitation; The Future of Public Administration; etc.

HORIZON EUROPE EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS

Horizon Europe European Partnerships should be viewed as an opportunity to acquire new strategic partnerships / alliances to submit future project proposals as well as to engage in European scientific calls. It is a „practical form of implementing UPJŠ policy in the environment of European science“. Involvement in European partnerships is a strategic main political task of the UPJŠ management as well as the management of the relevant Faculties. It is a way to gain respect at the EU level. The management of the Faculties and of the University selected the involvement in the preliminary 10 European partnerships of Horizon Europe during the year 2019. Given that the anticipated start of the Horizon Europe programme is in 02/2021, UPJŠ opens up a large space to engage in individual partnerships. UPJŠ has established cooperation with the City of Košice in order to be involved in the Horizont Europe mission (Climate Neutral and Smart Cities Mission - NaSC). Its ambition is to get among the 100 „selected“ cities in order to achieve climate neutrality by 2030. As part of this cooperation, the Emission Balance of the City of Košice was prepared.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

In 2020, UPJŠ successfully continued the implementation of the national project „IT Academy - Education for the 21st Century“. The duration of the project activities was extended to the period 09/2016 - 08/2021 in connection with the restrictions resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. IT Academy is an educational project with a nationwide impact, the main goal of which is to create a model of education and training of young people for the current and future needs of the knowledge society and the labour market with a focus on informatics and ICT. The main partner / recipient is the Centre for Scientific and Technical Information of the Slovak Republic. In accordance with the Partnership Agreement, this University cooperates with 4 other universities within the project and, in addition to agreements with several cooperating public and commercial entities focused on IT. In addition to educational activities, the project also enabled the modernisation of the infrastructure with the establishment of a mobile classroom within the ECDL. The total eligible expenses of the University are contracted in the amount of EUR 5,482,941.03, of which the NFC is in the amount of EUR 5,208,793.98 and co-financing 5% from own resources in the amount of EUR 274,147.05.

In 2020, this University completed the implementation of a demand-side educational project within the State aid scheme focused on lifelong learning “Development of Key Competencies of Public Administration Employees (DKCE). The original termination of the project activities was postponed from 04/2020 to 10/2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. It was a university project, the aim of which was to create a model of educational activities for public administration employees who, by improving their digital skills and increasing their legal awareness, will be better applicable in practice, flexible in the use of new technologies, and increase their work efficiency. The target group of the project included public administration employees of the Košice and Prešov regions. The total eligible expenses of the University are contracted in the amount of EUR 139,224.85, of which the NFC amounts to EUR 132,263.61 and the co-financing 5% from own resources in the amount of EUR 6,961.24.

In the autumn of 2020, UPJŠ began to implement the on-de-

mand educational project „Innovation of Pedagogical Field Training at UPJŠ Focused on the Targeted Development of Professional Competencies of Future Teachers“. The period of implementation of activities is set at 09/2020 - 08/2023. The amount of the provided NFC is EUR 293,348.19. The aim of the project is to contribute to the improvement of practical professional training of students of teacher training programmes at UPJŠ. In order to attain the goal, it is necessary to more effectively connect the university training of teacher students with practical teaching carried out within the field training at training schools. Defining the scope and content of the portfolio of practical experience of the graduate from teacher training, which he / she will gain within the framework of pedagogical field trainings, and implementing the portfolio within the innovations of the output pedagogical field training. Creating supporting educational materials for pedagogical employees of training schools focused on the implementation of innovative strategies and teaching methods into the educational process at training schools. The content of the project is in four interconnected stages of activities focused on the implementation of criteria for the selection of training schools and training teachers, updating the network of training schools at UPJŠ, analysis of evaluations of pedagogical field trainings of students of teaching study programmes at UPJŠ, designing and implementing student portfolio of practical experience teaching studies within the innovation of output field training and the creation of educational materials for practicing teachers focused on the implementation of innovative strategies and teaching methods.

Specialised research facility of the UPJŠ Faculty of Medicine, The MediPark Clinical and Preclinical Research Centre, whose basic organisational research unit is the USP MediPark University Science Park, responded to several research calls and goals last year, the dominant ones of which included SLOVAKRIN activities and the efforts of this national infrastructure to acquire projects in H2020, as well as the efforts to achieve success in the evaluation of the ESI Funds project focused on COVID, which was submitted in 08/2020. The original research groups of the USP MediPark, both at the UPJŠ Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Science, continued to carry out basic, applied, preclinical, and clinical research in the field of human medicine and biomedicine in accordance with the „One Health“ concept. In 2020, consortium cooperation continued

with the project partners (University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy, Biomedical Centre of the Slovak Academy of Sciences - organisational unit Institute of Neurobiology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and Technical University in Košice), as well as with State and commercial medical facilities.

In the field of Information and Communication Technologies, research continued to be developed in 2020 within the pilot projects of the USP Technicom University Science Park: Applied Research in the Field of Parallel and Distributed Computing; Development of Tools and Methods for Virtual Collaboration; Research in the Field of Innovative Human - Computer Interactions; Development of Information Systems to Support the Management of Education, Science, and Research; Research in the Field of Data Representation and Analysis; Research and Development of Geoprocessing Methods in Geospatial Technologies and Services. The workplaces of the Faculty of Science (II, IMS, IG, CAI) and the Centre for Informatics and Information Technologies TIP-UPJŠ with TUKE as the main partner participate in the sustainability of research.

Last year, the project of the Institute of Physical Sciences of the Faculty of Science for the support of scientific research capacities within the Operational Programme Integrated Infrastructure of the programming period 2014-2020 „New Unconventional Magnetic Materials for Applications“ was in the final settlement stage. In 2020, a request for payment was approved - a refund in the amount of EUR 207 thousand with personnel and flat-rate expenses for the period 01/2016 - 11/2019. Refunded NFC funds for personnel expenditures for 2016-2018 are subject to the provisions of the Agreement on Cooperation between UPJŠ and the Research Agency, which implies the need to use these funds for young researchers and scientific research infrastructure.

At the beginning of 2020, two applications for payment were submitted within the project - reimbursement of the project to support scientific research capacities „Bioactive Substances for Health Promotion and Prevention of Chronic Diseases“ for the project implementation period 01/2016 - 12/2019 cumulative in the amount of EUR 472 thousand. The beneficiary of the project is the Faculty of Medicine and the project is gov-

erned by a refund financing system.

In 2020, the Research Agency evaluated long-term strategic research projects outside the domains of Industry for the 21st Century and Digital Slovakia and the Creative Industry, whose calls it cancelled. Based on the decision on the approval of financing, the University contracted 4 projects out of 13 submitted - OPENMED, LISPER, Drive4SIFood, and iCoTS with a total eligible expenditure for the University in the amount of EUR 7,119,087.15. In the previous year, the Research Agency announced two COVID calls (a call for mobilisation and research potential of institutions and a call with an international aspect of projects), in which the University submitted 5 projects, of which 3 projects were approved for contracting (LF - AKARDIOCOVID-19, IPMVDCov, PF - NANOVIR with the total eligible expenditure for the University in the amount of EUR 12,077,355.31), 2 projects (TIP-UPJŠ, PF - BioPickmol, LF - IZO-TAP) were in the expert evaluation as on 31/12/2020.

Last year, the OP Integrated Infrastructure projects were evaluated within calls of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic aimed at supporting innovations through industrial research and experimental development within RIS3 domains, in which commercial entities were the main partners and UPJŠ was in the position of partner - research institution. The projects were submitted in the period 2018-2019, then at the end of 2019 and in 2020 with a total eligible expenditure for the University of EUR 368,269.75.

The Slovak Innovation and Energy Agency has announced a call for water retention measures, while the University has developed a project for the land lot at Moyzesova Street 9, but as a result of the restrictions resulting from the coronavirus pandemic as well as in connection with the problematic opinion of the Heritage Authority, did not finally submit an application for the provision of NFC. The second approved project of the OP Quality of the Environment is “Insulation of the UPJŠ Building, Jesenná 5, Košice”, which was submitted in 2019. The amount of the non-repayable financial contribution is EUR 1,145,675.96. At the beginning of 2020, an application for the provision of NFC was approved, followed by a contracted project to reduce the energy intensity of the Botanic Garden office building.

Since July 2020, the contract on the provision of NFC for the implementation of the project with the acronym DENDRO within the Interreg VA Slovak Republic - Hungary Cooperation Programme for the project „Utilisation of Wood Collections of Botanic Gardens in Košice and Nyíregyháza in Education of Children and Adults“ which is implemented with the partner university A Nyíregyházi Egyetem and is intended to contribute to the preservation and promotion of the natural heritage in the programme area. Project duration 06/2020 - 05/2021. Total budget: EUR 58,455.95. The contribution of 85% from the European Regional Development Fund amounts to EUR 49,687.56, of which that of UPJŠ amounts to EUR 34,706.29.

At the beginning of last year, the project HUSKROUA/1901/6.1/0075 „Environment for the Future by Scientific Education“ was submitted and was also approved, albeit with a reduced budget due to a general reduction in the budgets of all the projects selected for funding by 15%. This is a cross-border project within the Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine programme, ENI Cross-border Cooperation Programme, which will be implemented within the Faculty of Science in 2021. NFC in the amount of 90% in the amount of EUR 217,885.05 is financed from the European Regional Development Fund - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, in the amount of 5% in the amount of EUR 12,104.72 is financed from the Slovak budget MIRRI SR and co-financing from own resources is 5% in the amount of EUR 12,104.72.

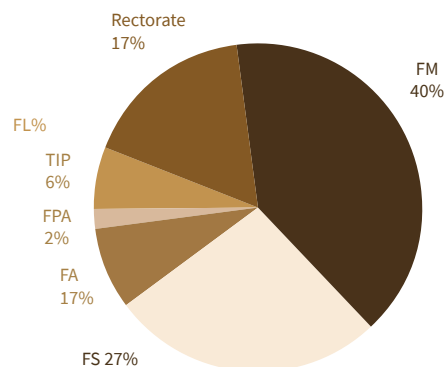
The Robot-Assisted Rehabilitation (RaRe) project, the main objective of which is to increase the level of cross-border inter-institutional cooperation, expanding cross-border cooperation and joint research and development activities between public institutions of the regions concerned in the field of rehabilitation procedures, is implemented in cooperation with Országos Orvosi Rehabilitációs Intézet (Hungary). The total amount of NFC for UPJŠ is EUR 166,914.05.

The Future of Public Administration (FoPA) project and its individual project activities are, taking into account violation of the standards of integrity and applying responsibility in the current democratic States, recognising the existence of risks threatening the drawing of personal accountability, as well as recognising the differences in the approaches to accountabil-

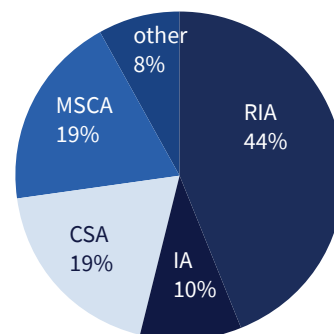
ity and integrity in European countries aimed at supporting the application of the principles of good governance, promoting adherence to high standards of public integrity and accountability in public administration.

In the course of 2020, UPJŠ research teams submitted 48 project proposals within the Horizon 2020 programme. This was the highest number of submitted project proposals in recent years. The Faculty of Medicine submitted 19 proposals, the Faculty of Science 13 proposals, the Faculty of Arts 4 proposals, the Faculty of Public Administration 1 proposal (plus 2 together with the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Law), the UPJŠ Rectorate submitted 8 proposals, TIP-UPJŠ submitted 3 proposals, and the Faculty of Law submitted 2 proposals together with the Faculty of Medicine. A total of 5 project proposals were successful, broken down by: Faculty of Medicine 3, Faculty of Arts 1, TIP-UPJŠ 1. This is the highest number of successful project proposals in the recent period.

Number of submitted project proposals H2020 in 2020 UPJŠ



Structure of project proposals submitted by UPJŠ



European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) is not directly part of the Horizon, but it is an important opinion-forming space influencing the future direction of European Commission funds to science and research. At the same time, it is a space for building partnerships that result in consortia that jointly submit project proposals in the Horizon. UPJŠ involvement in the ESFRI infrastructures: ECRIN ERIC (European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network), EUBI ERIC (Euro Biomedicine Network), European XFEL, EHRI ERIC (European Holocaust Research Infrastructure).



UPJŠ IN KOŠICE TECHNOLOGICAL AND INNOVATION PARK (TIP-UPJŠ)

The main mission of the University workplace of Technology and Innovation Park (TIP-UPJŠ) is building a major European centre for capitalisation research and applications, with an effectively functioning background for business activities in high-tech industry. The main result of 2020 was the development of the project plan „Košice Cluster of New Industry“. TIP-UPJŠ was established in connection with the successful implementation and results of the implementation of CELIM projects (FP7), as a specialised research and development workplace that implements activities in four technological and innovation centres: Centre for Interdisciplinary Biosciences (CIB), Centre for Translational Medicine (CTM), Centre of Informatics and Information Technology (CIIT), Centre for Advanced Materials (CPM) with a focus on: nano-medicine, regenerative medicine, personalised medicine, aging, environment, information and knowledge systems, cyber security, communication and collaboration systems, development of progressive materials with potential applications in human medicine, nanotechnologies and information technologies on the basis of current staffing within individual Faculties. Technology transfer is the main goal of all the TIP-UPJŠ activities. The focus on technology transfer is a set of organisational and financial measures of TIP-UPJŠ which lead to an effective system of creation of high-tech companies. TIP-UPJŠ will thus significantly contribute to creating a new industry with high added value of production not just in the region, but also in the whole of Slovakia. In 2020, cooperation was established with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Brussels and also with nominated EU experts in individual areas of activity of the planned CNIC (Košice New Industry Cluster) project. The cooperation was made by preparing an evaluation report, which was very positive for the project. Other activities managed by TIP-UPJŠ leading to the creation of a consortium of legal entities/partners (UPJŠ, TUKE, UVLF, SAS, LPUH, Cassovia Discovery Park, City of Košice and KSR) were reported in the implementation of the CNIC project, the ultimate goal of which is establishing a formal CNIC association legal entity with the corresponding shares of the relevant partners.



INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES



INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In 2020, almost all of the UPJŠ international activities were affected by the start and spread of the coronavirus pandemic, which mainly affected international travel and mobility, participation of UPJŠ experts in international conferences and ventures, international negotiations and discussions, participation in transnational forums and international organisations. The listed activities are not just a manifestation of the internationalisation of the University, but are also a development element and a prerequisite for further development in the quality of education and research at the University. Any contact and cooperation that does not develop through personal meetings can be compromised or lost to the University. The pandemic has not only brought about a primary decline in activities in international relations, but also threatens their future development and follow-up.

Some activities in 2020 were carried out exclusively online, some were postponed to later periods. In 2020, the participation of University representatives in ventures resulting from UPJŠ membership in international organisations and networks was carried out online. UPJŠ in Košice is a member of the European University Association - EUA at the university level, it is a signatory of the Magna Carta Universitatum, it is a member of networks in Slovak organisations that carry

out international activities - in the Slovak-French University Institute - L'Institut universitaire franco-slovaque (IUFS), in the American Chamber of Commerce in Slovakia - AmCham, in the British Chamber of Commerce in the Slovak Republic - BritCham, in the international network Scholars at Risk (SAR).

In 2020, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice sought to involve the University in consortia and alliances focused on the European Universities initiative within the European Universities call (EAC-A02-2019). Participation of UPJŠ in the project of European Universities was a continuation of the efforts of 2019, when a team of „4U“ was created at UPJŠ focused on finding opportunities and cooperation in this topic. In 2020, UPJŠ became part of two consortia and projects that were submitted: to the Aurora Alliance, where the University stood as an Associate Partner and the project coordinator is Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and to the CATIA Alliance - Culture, Art, Tourism, Innovations Alliance“, where UPJŠ was a partner and the coordinator is the University of Economics in Varna, Bulgaria. The result of the submitted projects brought the University the opportunity to cooperate in addressing a valuable project of the Aurora Alliance, the activities of which gradually began to start at the end of 2020.



INTERNATIONALISATION

The strategy of internationalisation of UPJŠ, which is in line with the Long-term Plan of the University, emphasises the building and expansion of a network of quality international contacts that will contribute to increasing the international prestige of the University. In 2020, despite the unfavourable epidemic situation, the University and its components sought to establish new contacts with universities and scientific institutions around the world, and continued to maintain at least online cooperation with long-term partners. In these contacts, the emphasis was already on the proximity of the specialisation, the academic quality of the partner, and the benefit for the students. The possibility of transferring contacts and joint international activities between workplaces in the form of contractual cooperation has not yet been reflected in the number of agreements made. In 2020, UPJŠ registered a total of 139 international agreements, of which 16 agreements represent an increase in 2020.



General indicators of internationalisation	Indicator value in 2015	Indicator value in 2016	Indicator value in 2017	Indicator value in 2018	Indicator value in 2019	Indicator value in 2020
Number of memberships	407	405	450	416	508	545
Number of international Erasmus+ projects	5	6	4	7	5	6
Number of international Visegrad Fund, Ceepus, EEA projects	4	4	7	6	5	6
Number of double and joint degrees	8	10	17	16	13	13
Number of UPJŠ students at international contests	97	59	48	86	98	24
Number of foreign self-paying students	1050	1128	1311	1306	1335	1292
Number of foreign trips except Erasmus+	-	1089	1112	1225	1128	131
Number of full-time students from abroad studying in the Slovak language	31 (2015/2016)	109 (2016/2017)	144 (2017/2018)	156 (2018/2019)	237 (2019/2020)	324 (2020/2021)
Number of UPJŠ experts at invited lectures abroad	49	48	67	57	94	20
Number of international ventures organised at UPJŠ	40	50	41	62	63	23
Number of guests received from abroad at UPJŠ	130	235	180	171	383	55

HUMAN RESOURCES STRATEGY IN RESEARCH (HRS4R)

An important step in creating a quality international milieu at UPJŠ in 2020 was the implementation of the Human Resources Strategy in Research (HRS4R). In a letter to the European Commission in January 2020, the University expressed its interest in introducing HRS4R at UPJŠ and undertook its commitment to the European Commission to adhere to the principles adopted by the European Commission in March 2005 in the form of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct. The University supported the recommendations of the European Commission through the implementation of the project „Human Resources Strategy at UPJŠ“ and undertook, in accordance with its internal regulations and University policy, to further develop its internal human resources strategy, adhering to the recommendations and principles set out in the Charter and Code with the aim of fostering transparency, accessibility, fairness, and the pursuit of excellence in the recruitment of researchers.

Introducing the HRS4R was implemented at UPJŠ in the form of a project with all the project characteristics. A project team, a steering committee, and 4 other specific commissions and 2 working groups were created for its management. At the same time, a time schedule, determined competencies, specified target groups and communication with them, as well as financial and organisational support of activities and dissemination were prepared. Part of the strategy was in the implementation of a questionnaire survey among University staff and PhD students, the output of the process was, in addition to identifying strengths and weaknesses in human resource management, the development of GAP analysis, action plan and OTM-R form.



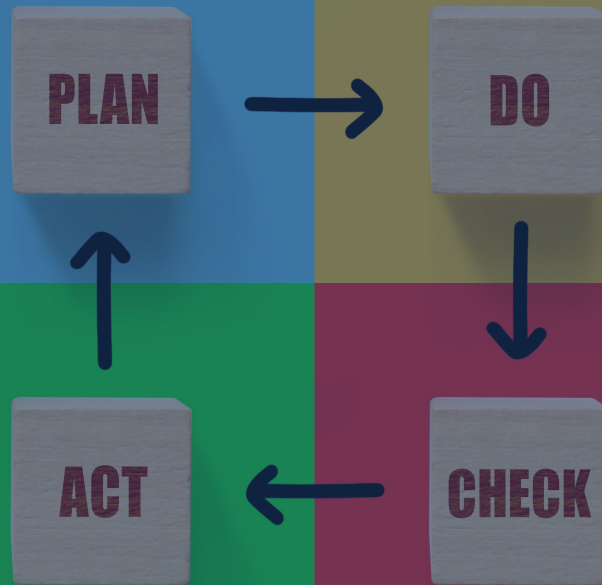
RANKING RATINGS

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice regularly deals with ranking evaluations of international ranking agencies, which evaluate the quality of education and research at the University, its international reputation and business activities and innovation potential.

UPJŠ regularly participates or monitors the rankings of URAP, Best Global Universities Ranking, U-Multirank, RankPro rankings. Other QS EECA, The WUR and The Impact Rankings were added last year. UPJŠ has also joined The Emerging Economies, the results of which will be published in early 2021.

Ranking	UPJŠ evaluation in 2020
URAP - University Ranking by Academic Performance	2019/2020: 1083rd place in the world, 434th place in Europe, 2nd place in Slovakia 2020/2021 1351st place in the world, 3rd place in Slovakia
QS EECA University Rankings	146th place
Best Global Universities Ranking	1148th place in the world, Physics – 546th place in the world, 451st in Europe, 2nd place in Slovakia)
RankPro - Worldwide Professional University Rankings	422nd place in the world, 216th place in Europe 2nd place in Slovakia
U-Multirank	2nd place in Slovakia, 9th place in the CZR and the SR 4 x evaluation A

QUALITY SYSTEM



INTERNAL QUALITY SYSTEM

In 2020, the policies and processes for managing the quality of educational activities were amended by Rector's Decree No. 9/2017 on Quality Assurance in Higher Education. This Decree is based on ESG 2015 (European Standards and Guidelines, ESG) and generally binding legislation of the Slovak Republic. Indicators for quality assessment are continuously published on the websites of the University and the Faculties.

In 2020, preparations were underway for the full implementation of the internal quality system (IQS) in accordance with Law Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance in Higher Education and the Standards for IQS and Study Programmes issued by the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education. The whole process resulted in the discussion and approval of the amendment to the University Statute, which enshrined the Internal Quality Assurance and Verification System at UPJŠ and defined two basic coordinating and advisory bodies: UPJŠ Quality Verification Council and UPJŠ International Council.

The UPJŠ Academic Senate also discussed the basic documents defining the IQS: the Statute of the Council for Internal Quality Verification (IQV) at UPJŠ; RVK Rules of Procedure; Rules of the Internal Quality Assurance and Certification System at UPJŠ; UPJŠ Accreditation Rules. Subsequently, at the beginning of 2021, these documents were discussed and approved by the UPJŠ Academic Board.

UPJŠ systematically ensures the quality of processes and activities in the relevant areas. It regularly evaluates the system of financial management, the quality of the budget and its observance, it achieves the set goals in non-subsidy sources or targeted savings (energy savings, improvement of public procurement, rationalisation of activities ...).

Quality assurance of study programmes

CHECKING COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CIQ (using PS and consultants)
PROFESSIONAL GUARANTEES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic officials Academic Board
TRAINING AND PERIODIC MONITORING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study Programmes Council Professional Council of the Field of Study ROHIK

Support of selected principles

Independence	Considering non-academic views	Complexity	Reasonable degree of administrative burden
Three types of nominations of RVK members	Representation of the external milieu and students in RVK	Assessment of all the key activities of the University	RVK Office Support
The Rector may not reject the nomination	Representation of students and the external milieu in the Study Programmes Councils		Use of the University Information System
RVK composition is not tied to the term of office of the Rector			Diversified responsibility for monitoring compliance with standards through indicators

Internal quality assurance and verification system at UPJŠ

QUALITY ASSURANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University and Faculties management Study Programme Councils University staff (indirectly) Students
QUALITY VERIFICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal Quality Verification Board Council for Quality Verification of the Habilitation and Inauguration Procedures (ROHIK) Study Programme Councils

PROMOTION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION PROMOTION

In accordance with the Long-term Plan of UPJŠ, the University's strategic plan in the field of promotion and public relations is not merely in building-up media and marketing promotion, present the University's results in science and education, but also to stimulate effective University cooperation with major State institutions, business, public sector and emphasis on creating the image of the University as a leader in education and research. The fulfilment of strategic goals in 2020 was directly related to the activities of the Rector's Office and Public Relations, namely in providing quality marketing, promotional and information services on the University through its website, social networks, fairs and various ventures for various target groups (employees, students, and the general public). Due to the unfavourable epidemic situation of COVID-19, it was not possible to carry out several activities in the traditional form of attendance, it was necessary to proceed to the implementation of promotion in an accessible online way.

With regard to the intention to systematise information, a new platform of inward communication - a document repository, which is accessible through an account in Office365, has been introduced. Following the content of the information communicated, a manual for the use of communication channels was developed. Last year, special emphasis was placed on social networks and the University website.

Social networks are an important communication channel that proved to be key in 2020. The most used social networks currently include Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Individual social networks have different users, or the published content has a different nature and purpose. Facebook and Instagram are used for content from everyday life. LinkedIn and Twitter are used to establish contacts with working partners, for maintaining contacts among classmates, the school and its graduates (potential use for the purposes of the Alumni Club).

NEW VISUAL IDENTITY - UNIFORM VISUAL STYLE

Presentation of the University requires certain stable graphic elements, through which it will be possible to identify the University and its components. The search for a new visual presentation of the University was carried out in connection with a discussion with representatives of the Faculties and the University units. The conclusion was in favour of a modern presentation of the tradition and values of this University, following the traditional motto: „Wisdom of the Past - Knowledge of the Present - Education for the Future“. This conclusion was reflected in the application of geometric shapes of the circle = history and tradition of the square = seriousness and triangle = modernisation - the future.

Part of the new visual identity is in the application of a new colour. Blue was chosen as the primary colour, which is perceived as traditional, timeless, but at the same time modern and discreet. An e-symbol was created from the logo of the University and the Faculties for the needs of communication on social networks. In accordance with this intention, uniform promotional videos were prepared for each Faculty and IPTS, at the same time professional campaigns were developed on social networks (also with the use of sponsored advertising).



Means of Promotion

DIGITAL TOOLS

The digital milieu has become an integral part of an individual's professional and private life. The relationship between traditional and modern methods of promotion must gradually „flip“ in favour of modern trends. The decisive reason is especially in the efficiency of digital tools. We compared the effectiveness of print advertising in opinion-forming periodicals and digital advertising in social media. With a comparable cost of both of the forms of promotion, the reach and effectiveness of digital promotion is unmatched by print advertising. At the same cost of EUR 1,500, print promotion will hit approximately 40,000 recipients at a time, while digital promotion will affect approximately 60,000 - 80,000 recipients in a 7-day cycle. In the case of advertising in the digital milieu, special emphasis should be placed on the possibility of influencing the targeting of advertising with regard to the persons of the addressees (age, gender, location, interests). Until the next period, it is necessary to intensify the promotion through digital tools. Especially recommended are sponsored advertising on social networks, the presentation of the University on web portals aimed at target groups.

PRINT PROMOTION

With regard to selected target groups, print promotion has an important place in the marketing promotion strategy. Although there is a clear trend of the massive advent of digital promotion, it is still necessary to pay adequate attention to promotions in selected print media. In the next period, the emphasis will be laid on a unified University presentation. Opinion-forming printing platforms are continuously identified, in which the University will be presented using a unified visual style. At the same time, periodicals will be preferred, which in the advertising package allow a combination of print advertising and other methods of promotion, especially promotion through websites, through the service of the so-called widgets, etc.

An irreplaceable place in the building of internal communication belongs to the University magazine Universitas Šafarikiana, which has the ambition to bring life at UPJŠ closer to the general public. It has been published since 1970 with the aim of informing its readers on ventures on the campus, it is published quarterly. The main topics in 2020 included Interdisciplinarity of Studies, Science and Research at UPJŠ; Pandemic COVID-19; Update of the UPJŠ Long-term Plan for the Years 2020 - 2025; Information Systems and Their Impact on the Quality of Education at UPJŠ in Košice.

PROMOTION IN EDUCATIONAL FAIRS

The traditional part of promotional activities includes the participation in educational fairs and presentation ventures. In 2020, however, these ventures were limited in personal attendance. Several traditional personal-attendance activities have been transferred to the online environment, especially to the environment of social networks. Following the effectiveness of these ventures, participation or non-participation in them was also evaluated and the organisation of our own online Open Day was preferred.

PROMOTION OF PERSONALITY AND WORK OF PAVOL JOZEF ŠAFÁRIK

The project related to the presentation of the life and work of Pavol Jozef Šafárik, a world-class scientific figure by whom this University was named in 1959, continued in 2019/2020 by preparing a scenario for the installation of the permanent exhibition Personality and Work of P. J. Šafárik in the entrance hall of the UPJŠ Rectorate. The scenario will continue to be implemented after the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, the development of the script for the film documentary Pavol Jozef Šafárik - a film documentary on his life and work (SILENT GENIUS) continued. In cooperation with the UPJŠ management and the management of Matica Slovenská national foundation, this film documentary began to be implemented in the summer of 2020. Work on it was suspended due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Its

completion is anticipated after the end of this serious disease. In 2020, the installation of a bust of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in the outdoor areas in front of the UPJŠ Rectorate building in Košice was completed.

UNIVERSITY VENTURES

University ventures are one of the important platforms for the presentation of activities at the University and the Faculties. They focus on different target groups and their importance is irreplaceable. The year 2020 was marked by the fact that many ventures could not be implemented or were implemented in the online environment (MS Teams platform, social networks). From the viewpoint of those interested in studying, the Open Day is the key day at the University. At the end of November, we implemented a virtual open day in cooperation with the company Promiseo on social networks in live stream format, a Week of Internship organised by the UNIPOC and other ventures at the Faculties (e.g. Focused on the Nobel Prizes 2020 of the Faculty of Science and smaller ventures at other Faculties) were also held. In the next period, it is necessary to select „flag events“ towards applicants for study and the general public, which need to be more strongly promoted and the technical format of their organisation needs to be considered (especially through online tools). The intention of the University management is to create a space for professional organisational support for ventures of the Faculties and University units.

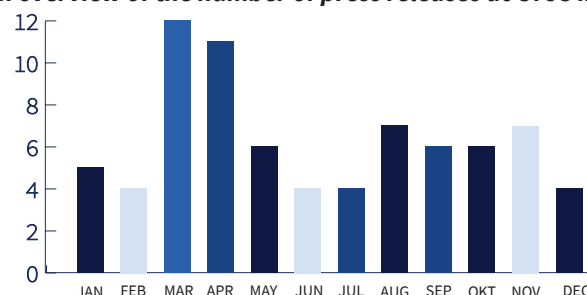
An important part of building the University identity is in the range of products bearing the visuals of the institution, which are offered to those interested, especially through the University's e-shop. Following the new visual style, a new marketing offer is currently being developed, including both the traditional range for organised ventures and promotional items.



UNIVERSITY IN THE MEDIA

In 2020, the Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of Media Outputs in 2020 was developed in cooperation with the company Slovakia online, s.r.o. Bratislava, based on outputs from regular daily monitoring of electronic media, websites, portals, and prints. A total of 76 press releases from the University level were issued in 2020 and two press conferences were held.

An overview of the number of press releases at UPJŠ in 2020



RECTOR'S AWARD FOR A SIGNIFICANT MEDIA ACT

The awarding of the Rector's Award for a significant media act is considered an expression of honour and recognition to individuals and groups for the positive presentation of UPJŠ in Košice in mass media. The mission of the award is to express public recognition of UPJŠ individuals and teams for their unique activities that have aroused a significant media response or response in the public. The winners of the Rector's Award for a significant media act in 2020 are: Prof. MUDr. Pavol Jarčuška, PhD for his active media presentation of expert opinions to the public in connection with the occurrence and spread of COVID-19 coronavirus, as well as related measures; UPJŠ Botanic Garden in Košice for spreading the renown of UPJŠ in Košice within the organisation of the Botanic Garden ventures on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of its foundation and for a significant media response to the ceremonial inauguration of the annual postage stamp with a botanical motif.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE ACTIVITIES AND VENTURES



SELECTED UNIVERSITY-WIDE VENTURES

27/01/2020 - Ceremonial meeting of the UPJŠ Academic Board on the occasion of awarding the honorary scientific degree of “Doctor Honoris Causa” to a prominent figure in the field of medicine, Prof. Maciej Banach, from the Medical University of Łódź in Poland. Professor Banach is a personality with a professional profile in the field of cardiology and lipidology in Europe (especially in its central and eastern parts). He made a significant contribution to mutual cooperation in the scientific and professional education of UPJŠ employees on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the UPJŠ Faculty of Medicine and the 60th anniversary of the founding of UPJŠ in Košice.



29/01/2020 - Award of the UPJŠ Commemorative Medal in Košice to the Karazin University in Kharkov on the occasion of the 215th anniversary of its foundation for significant contribution to the development of education and science and for long-term cooperation with UPJŠ in the field of scientific research. Representatives of UPJŠ, Prof. RNDr. Gabriel Semanišin, PhD., Vice-Rector for Informatics and Quality Management, and Dr.h.c. Prof. RNDr. Alexander Feher, DrSc. from the Institute of Physical Sciences of the UPJŠ Faculty of Science, presented the Medal to the Rector of Karazin University during a ceremonial joint meeting of the Board of Trustees and the University Academic Board.



20/02/2020 - The venture in the format of an informal discussion for the University students and staff on the topic of „Ecological Activities for a Better and More Beautiful Environment“ took place in the premises of the University campus at Moyzesova Street in Košice.

25/03/2020 - A working meeting of the rectors of Košice public universities with the aim of discussing measures related to the occurrence of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 in Slovakia. Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice, and the Technical University in Košice terminated in-class teaching on 9 March 2020 and continued in distance learning. The subject of the meeting was the exchange of experiences from the method of teaching, coordination of teaching processes for the rest of the summer semester or joint action in the field of labour law issues and the impact of preventive measures on the university staff.



06/04/2020 - Issuance of a statement of the representatives of the Association of Research and Technically Oriented Universities and the Slovak Academy of Sciences on the state of the art and perspectives of the social evaluation of Slovak science. The rectors of seven leading Slovak universities and the President of the SAS agreed on a joint statement emphasising the societal interest in quality scientific research and education. They recall the role of the State and the responsibility of political elites in the context of ensuring quality conditions for research and development, emphasising their contribution to the effort to address the current global crisis and its consequences.

15/05/2020 - Visit of the Minister of Education of the Slovak Republic Branislav Gröhling to the UPJŠ in Košice. At a joint meeting, the UPJŠ management presented the current situation as well as the development priorities of the University. The meeting was held in the vein of dialogue and the search for solutions to the basic issues of the future of higher education in Slovakia. The Rector of UPJŠ, Pavol Sovák, informed the Minister of the basic strategic objectives of the University in the field of education and scientific research activities. The debate was also on the importance of educating graduates in the humanities and social sciences, as well as on the need to continue projects from the ESI Funds in support of the University science parks. The Minister was introduced to the envisioned joint investment project of the Košice universities and institutes of the Slovak Academy of Sciences entitled Technology and Innovation Park in Košice, which these institutions are preparing for the next programming period 2021-2027.



17/06/2020 - The ceremonial inauguration of a postage stamp with a botanical motif on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the UPJŠ Botanic Garden in Košice. The venture took place in the Botanic Garden with the participation of representatives of the Slovak Post, the University management and other invited guests. The round anniversary was also dedicated to a scientific conference from 03 to 04 September 2020 focusing on the history and present of botanic research and nature preservation.



27-31/07/2020 - Children's University project „University Without Borders“. The popularisation-educational venture took place for the tenth time in the premises of the Faculties, University units, and the Rector's Office. Despite the current epidemic situation, it was attended by almost forty children who attended lectures and workshops on various topics under increased preventive measures.



18/09/2020 - UPJŠ as a part of the innovative Hydrogen Technology Research Centre. The UPJŠ Rector, the TUKE Rector, and the SAS President signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on the Establishment of the Hydrogen Technology Research Centre, which is to be the mainstay of reducing emissions in industrial practice, energy, and transport. The parties to the Memorandum agreed that there are strategic conditions for the application of scientific and research capacities in the premises of partner universities.

21/09/2020 - Grand opening of the academic year 2020/2021. Due to the continuing spread of coronavirus, the programme of the venture took place in a virtual form through an online web presentation: introduction of new professors, doctors of science, holders of scientific qualification IIa, as well as a photographic recording of decrees to new associates and Rector Awards on 11/09/2020 in the Grand Meeting of the UPJŠ Rectorate.



03/10/2020 - UPJŠ commemorated the centenary of academician Vladimír Hajko, physicist and pedagogue, founder of the UPJŠ Faculty of Science and its first Dean, Rector of the University and builder of a research base in eastern Slovakia and the Slovak Academy of Sciences President. The ceremonial agenda of ventures was planned on 08/10/2020, but due to the unfavourable epidemic situation associated with the COVID-19 coronavirus, it did not take place. On the occasion of the centenary of this important personality, the University published a publication entitled „A Retrospective of My Life“.

19/10/2020 - CSIRT members of the European Security Teams. The University team dealing with security incidents has successfully completed the accreditation process within the European Security Teams Association TF-CSIRT, thus succeeding in building cyber security. The successful accreditation of the CSIRT-UPJŠ to European structures is a great success and appreciation of the efforts of our experts, ensuring the protection of all the constituents of the University and at the same time a commitment to constant monitoring and improvement within current trends in cyber security.

25/11/2020 - Virtual Open Day. The tenth year of the event was implemented in cooperation with an external partner through the University Facebook profile. The scenario was adapted to the intention to present all the Faculties and IPES to the same extent. Professionally prepared brand videos in a uniform format were presented within the DOD project, but they will also find their use in other promotional activities of these relevant University units.



17/12/2020 - Press conference under the auspices of the Košice Self-governing Region on the establishment of the Innovation Centre of the Košice Region (ICKR), the aim of which is to support the development of innovation and new technologies in the East Slovak region. The Cassovia New Industry Cluster (CNIC) is the first major ICKR project, which aims to create a sustainable knowledge economy in the region of eastern Slovakia, including material and biomedical technologies, green and digital technologies, and quantum technologies.

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