

# Annual Report 2012

# WISDOM OF THE PAST, KNOWLEDGE OF THE PRESENT, EDUCATION OF THE FUTURE

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## **BASIC INFORMATION**

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (UPJŠ) ranks among the major educational and scientific institutions recognized not only in the Slovak Republic, but also in advanced Europe. In the current period, the University consists of its Faculty of Law, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Public Administration, and Faculty of Arts, educating physicians, experts in science disciplines, mathematics and computer science, teachers, lawyers, experts in the field of public administration, philosophy, languages, psychology, and social-welfare work. The graduates from this second oldest classic Slovak University enjoy a good reputation both at home and abroad.

#### UPJŠ IN KOŠICE UNITS

#### FACULTIES

Faculty of Medicine	Faculty of Science	Faculty of Law	Faculty of Public Administration	Faculty of Arts

#### OTHER UPJŠ IN KOŠICE UNITS

#### UNIVERSITY UNITS

Research and teaching units:

Institute of Physical Education and Sport Botanical Garden Information units:

University Library Centre of Information and Communication Technologies Special purpose units: Hostels and Canteens Teaching and training facility in Opátka Teaching and training facility in Danišovce The Hornád Folk Ensemble



## **EDUCATION**

#### STUDY PROGRAMMES PROVIDED

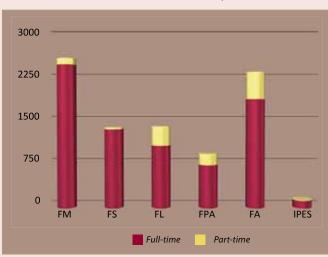
The UPJŠ top priority at present is to ensure that the study at all the units of the University is provided by being based on high-quality scientific research and lean against a team of highly skilled erudite teachers who lecture on the basis of their own results of scientific inquiry. As on the 1st September 2012, this University offered higher education accredited study programmes at the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> levels, the joined 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> levels, and at the 3<sup>rd</sup> I level of study. The structure of the accredited study programmes according to the degree programme levels was the following: 108 first-level study programmes, 65 second-level programmes and those at the joined first and second degree levels, and 39 programmes at the third-level degree study programmes. Overall, one may say that this University did not lay emphasis on extending the study programmes offer; rather, it concentrated substantially more on their modernization, improvement, and high compatibility with the requirements of practice.

#### LIFELONG EDUCATION

- lifelong education University of the Third Age
- doctoral proceedings
- specialized studies
- national projects "Modernisation of Education at Primary Schools" and "Modernization of Education at Secondary Schools"
- continuous education
- attestation examinations for teachers
- training, instructing and e-learning courses
- post-graduate specialization education
- qualification education of primary schools teachers in the English language.

#### STRUCTURE OF THE STUDENTS

As on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012, a total of 8 431 students studied at UPJŠ in Košice in all forms and at all levels of education, of which 7 338 students in the full-time form of study and 1 095 students in the part-time form of study.



#### Structure of the number of students at UPJŠ by faculties

## RESEARCH

## PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE NATIONAL GRANT SCHEMES

Research projects:

- 96 VEGA projects (68.5% success rate);
- 14 KEGA projects (40% success rate);
- 24 APVV projects (34% success rate);
- 1 APVV project of the type: reimbursement of the cost of preparing the 7<sup>th</sup> FP project;
- 10 other projects (Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic, the Office of the Government of the Slovak Republic, the special-purpose subsidy of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the Slovak Republic, the Foundation for Cancer Research, etc.);
- 18 APVV-type projects "Support to the Human Potential in the Field of Research and Development and Popularization of Science" (LPP), (16 – principal researcher at UPJŠ and 2 co-researchers at UPJŠ), none of which beginning in the year 2012.

## PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY INTERNATIONAL GRANT SCHEMES

- 4 projects of the 7<sup>th</sup> EU Framework Programme
- 17 other research projects
- 8 other international projects of other than research nature The 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme, the International Visegrad Fund, Erasmus)

In order to get involved in international research projects and other international projects, the UPJŠ staff acquired the resources in the year 2012 through public bids in the total amount of 855 thousand  $\in$ , of which  $\in$  407,337.00 for addressing international research projects. The average amount of funds obtained from

international grants per one

creative staff member of UPJŠ represents more than  $\in$  1,110.00. Whereas it is in particular the basic research that is carried out at UPJŠ as a classic university, the main types of research outputs by the creative staff are, depending on the type of research, represented by publications in particular in the form of monographs, papers in monographs or articles in journals registered in the Current Content Connect (CCC) database.

#### PUBLICATIONS

In the year 2012, the UPJŠ staff published a total of 2 785 publication outputs. This number of registered output corresponds to the status of 28/03/2013 and is comparable to the number of outputs published in the year 2009 (2 219 outputs), in the year 2010 (2 262 outputs), and in the year 2011 (2 395 outputs). The structure of research papers published in the year 2012 is given in Table 13 to be found in the Annex to this report a tabular. Each creative employee published 3.6 units or, respectively, 0.34 units in CCC journals.

The UPJŠ research orientation is evidenced by the fact that according to the CREPČ database, the University staff published 264 works in CCC journals in the reported period of the year 2012, which represents 12.5% of all the papers published in CCC journals published by higher education establishments in the Slovak Republic (2 108) and registered in the CREPČ system. It should be noted that the proportion of UPJŠ in the total number of students in public higher education establishments in this country is only 5%.



### **EMPLOYEES**

	Main performance										
	Subsidy from the ME SR							Non-subsidy			
Unit	Teaching staff				Other staff	Science and		main	BP	TOTAL	
	Prof.	Assoc. Prof.	SE	A, L	Total	without science	research staff	Total	performance		
FM	43.5	37.9	152.1	32.2	265.7	150.9	48.2	464.7	23.0	0.1	487.8
FS	27.9	48.2	58.3	4.9	139.3	103.8	48.7	291.8	9.1	10.4	311.3
FL	8.4	13.5	29.6	1.6	53.1	27.5	2.3	82.8	-	-	82.8
FPA	2.7	6.8	18.3	0.0	27.7	19.2	0.9	47.9	0.5	-	48.4
FA	19.7	17.5	59.5	15.8	112.6	25.9	0.2	138.7	0.9	-	139.6
UU	2.2	3.1	4.2	3.6	13.1	163.4	-	176.5	11.7	7.8	196.0
SH	-	-	-	-	-	50.7	-	50.7	5.1	3.6	59.4
SC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	12.6	9.8	22.4
TOTAL	104.3	127.0	322.0	58.2	611.4	541.4	100.3	1253.1	62.9	31.7	1347.7

Key:

- specialized employees SE
- А assistants L
- lectors MP main performance
- BP business performance
- SC student canteens SH
  - student hostels
- FM Faculty of Medicine
- FS Faculty of Science FL
  - Faculty of Law
- FPAFaculty of Public AdministrationFAFaculty of ArtsUUUniversity units

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### SUPPORT TO STUDENTS

#### SOCIAL WELFARE SUPPORT TO STUDENTS

The core of the social welfare support to students consisted of three components: social welfare scholarships to students from low income families, student accommodation, and catering. Social welfare scholarships from the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the Slovak Republic subsidy were paid out in the total amount of € 2,012,160.00 in the year 2012. The Chart below offers an outline of drawing by the University faculties:



Drawing of social welfare scholarships in the year 2012

#### **STUDY SUPPORT**

Support for the study of students had diverse forms in the year 2012. One of them also included financial motivation. This took the form of scholarships paid out to students with the best study achievements to ten per cent of student with the best study achievements during the previous academic year, and also in the form of the Rector's annual awards. Study achievement scholarships was paid out in the year 2012 in the total of  $\in$  319,076.17 to full-time students and  $\in$  39,425.00 to part-time students

The Rector's awards were awarded in two categories: firstly, to graduates from the first-level or second-level forms of study for outstanding academic achievements throughout the entire study and, secondly, to the students who attained notable results in the field of scientific research and sport. In both of the categories, the Rector's awards were paid out in the total of  $\leq$  35,625.00.



Subsidy for PhD students' scholarships amounted to  $\notin$  1,944,004.50 in the year 2012. From the non-specialpurpose subsidy for PhD students, the amount of  $\notin$  57,352.25 was allocated to post-PhD students.

The study al all three levels of education in the full-time form and its standard length was offered free of charge by the University to citizens of the Slovak Republic, citizens of the EU Member States, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, the Republic of Serbia, and the Republic of Ukraine. International students and those students, who occurred under an obligation to pay for their tuition because of the above-standard length of study, were paying their tuition fees in accordance with the Fees Procedure as laid down for the academic year 2011/12.

The support to study no doubt includes services rendered by the UPJŠ Student Hostels and Can-teens (SHC). In the year 2012, UPJŠ had 1 760 places available in its own and rented accommodation facilities, and 650 other places in accommodation establishments of two external contractual partners.

#### SUPPORT TO CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

A number of student clubs and organizations of a variety of orientations exerted their activities at UPJŠ in the year 2012. One may mention the Association of Medics of Košice and the local organisation of the European Association of Law Students, ELSA.

Students of the Faculty of Arts issued their own student magazine Univerzál, students of the Faculty of Science published the PRÍMES magazine and organised the annual Science Days.

Broadcasting of the ŠtuRKo student hostel radio was successful in the student hostels at Medická street. The Student Hostel Council made up of representatives of students of all the faculties, in cooperation with the Student Hostels management, actively participated in compiling the waiting lists of applicants for accommodation and in the course of life in Student Hostels.



## SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES

#### **UNIVERSITY LIBRARY (UL)**

In the year 2012, the UL registered 9 333 of its users, to whom it rendered the interior facilities in the units of the Medical Library, the library at the Faculty of Public Administration,, Law Library, and in the study room of the Science Library at Park Angelinum street in Košice.

The UL was involved in the educational process of its users by the implementation of the library-information and cultural forms. Their goal was to increase the information literacy of the users, which is to lead to self-orientation in their search for relevant information, their evaluation and proper use from the available professional internal and external information sources. Support to science and research at the University is provided by the UL via the Access to both printed and electronic information sources – classical approaches (citation, bibliographic, and full-text databases). In the year 2012, the national project of the National Information System of the Support to Research and Development in Slovakia – Access to Electronic Information Resources (NISPEZ) continued, through which the University has access to 13 databases (more on http://nispez.cvtisr.sk/) with the use of the first search portal of its kind in Slovakia - http://scientia.cvtisr.sk/. It offers not only comfortable search in several ElZs, but also a link to full-text articles and e-books.



#### INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT (IPES)

The Institute of Physical Education and Sport, being one of the University units, created in the year 2012 a favourable milieu through its mission for all the University students by offering a wide range of sports. It offered a wide range of sporting activities, which were implemented at the compulsory and the optional physical education classes for students of all five faculties of the University. Students had an option to choose a programme from among 14 physical activities: aerobics, basketball, badminton, hockey, yoga, karate and self defence, pilates, swimming, body building, indoor football, table tennis, tennis, volleyball, and therapeutic physical education. The IPES expanded its offer in the academic year 2012/13 in an interesting intervention programme meant for the University students for regulating their body weight, which was prepared within the framework of the VEGA research project.

The Institute of Physical Education and Sport, after terminating the study programme of Sport and Recreation, started to observe more closely the quality of its personnel structure. From a kind of service unit in the physical-training and sports services, professional training and scientific research are beginning to develop.

#### Sports activity

The year 2012 was traditionally abundant in sports competitions thanks to the unceasing activity of the IPES teachers, who organized and managed sporting and physicaleducation events all year round. In addition to sporting ventures, the IPES either organized or was coorganiser of some of the major events, and the Institute also worked closely with the sporting association TJ Slávia UPJŠ. Within the period under review, 34 major sports ventures at UPJŠ were held, participated by 1 594 active athletes, out of them 1 397 UPJŠ students. The basis for all the sporting events are periodic events, such as UPJŠ Sporting Days - spring and autumn parts, as well as events organized by clubs and teams of TJ Slávia UPJŠ association. Represented therein were such sports as aerobics, basketball, badminton, hockey, floorball, indoor football, body building, minifootball, table tennis, chess, volleyball, boating and hiking. In addition to the activities during the academic year, the university league takes place in sports like

basketball, badminton, floorball, and minifootball. Organisation of summer and winter sports courses (exercises at sea, floating the rivers, ski courses in Slovakia and abroad) is an integral part of the Institute activities. From among the other activities carried out, one may mention the 4th &ear of Wellness Day, Věra Medveďová Memorial, and Christmas Gaiety. The Institute also participated as organizer in the Minifootball events (ELSA), M. Gejdoš Memorial in indoor football (15th year), MInifootball (matriculatory tournament), Nation-wide Finals of the Slovak Republic Universities, 24-hours in Basketball Finals, the Košice Swimming Relay (24 hours), the Mayor of the Košice – South Municipal District Run, etc.



#### CENTRE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (CICT)

The Department of development of the Academic Information System within the framework of the Centre of Applied Information Science is a specialized unit of the Faculty of Science, which continued in the development and implementation of the AIS2 Academic Information System. This system is currently successfully implemented in 13 public higher education establishments in Slovakia.

At the UPJŠ Faculty of Science, the Laboratory of the Transfer of Technologies (LTT) operates as a specialized workplace of the Centre of Applied Information Science. The LTT develops and implements communication technologies and methodologies of distance cooperation in close collaboration with the California Institute of Technology and its subsidiary Evogh. The implemented system has more than 75 000 registered users (more than 2 300 in Slovakia). In the year 2012, the Memorandum of Collaboration between CalTech and the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the SR was signed. This creates a framework for further

collaboration and application outputs that should be implemented within the framework of UVP TECHNIKOM.

In the catering system, import of banking payments has been initiated into the Cardpay catering system. The SAP Business Explorer module has been introduced for the development of managerial administration of nances – Reporting a SAP Business Objects for processing the annual report. In the year 2012, the attendance system Spido was introduced into operation.

#### **BOTANICAL GARDEN (BG)**

The Botanical Garden is an institution that specializes in the growing and maintenance of selected species of the endangered, rare, precious or otherwise significant protected material and ornamental plants and in the study of biological characteristics of plants and transfer of information to the general public. In the year 2012, the BG attracted almost 40,000 visitors. The University employees of the BG directly provided part-time teaching at the Institute of Biological and Environmental Sciences at the UPJŠ Faculty of Science and at the Institute of Geography of the UPJŠ Faculty of Science in 6 study subjects. At the same time, and

within the APVV project, a number of expositions, thematic exhibitions and events for the public have been carried out. As a member of the travel agency TURIZMUS – Košice a non-profit organization, the BG in the professional Chamber of Attractiveness and Ventures actively provided and organized ventures for the public with the aim of presenting the diversity of flora from different phytogeographical areas of this planet and educated the visitors in creating environmental awareness and a responsible approach to the development and protection of the environment.





#### STUDENT HOSTELS AND CANTEENS (SHC)

Student hostels are made up of 4 separate and territorially detached buildings, which were put into use at different times and have been used for accommodation of full-time students. international students, PhD students, visiting teachers, staff, as well as international guests. Student hostels provided accommodation for students in the year 2012 not only in its two oldest buildings with a capacity of 1 405 beds established at Medická 4 and 6 in Košice, but also in at the Hostel at Popradská 66 (155 beds) and the Hostel at Popradská 76 (200 beds). Via external providers, accommodation was made possible in hostels Kosmalt (capacity 500 beds) and at Pražská 2 with a capacity of 220 beds through the company MERE, at

Považská 40/B (150 beds) and Tolstého 22 (50 beds) through the company SOMO.

Most of the funds were invested in the year 2012 for the hostel at Medická for windows replacement and upgrading of wiring. Within the University project, the heating system was regulated and radiators were equipped with thermostatic valves. Subsequently, a gradual reconstruction of sanitary installations was commenced, the main entrance at Medická 6 was upgraded, and the reconstruction of the Internet started (so far only in A block).

Student Canteens (SC) consisted of a kitchen with a dining room in the year 2012 at Medická 4 and other five dispensaries, which are technologically

different. These dispensaries are ready serve meals prepared at Medická 4 to caterers in other places on the basis of the number of meals ordered in advance. The dispensary at Medická underwent conceptual changes and provided dining options through an ordering system, as well as catering in free sale. At the beginning of the year 2012, we managed to put into operation another dispensary with buffet at the Faculty of Medicine. The number of meals served has a small increase compared to last year. In the year 2012, 157 thousand meals were served (the increase compared to the year 2011 is by about 20 000 meals). To assess the level of satisfaction to express their satisfaction, the caterers take advantage of the Academic Information System.

## DEVELOPMENT

#### UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

In the year 2012, 6 projects of the EU Structural Funds from the operation system Education were implemented at UPJŠ. The total amount of those projects approaches the sum of € 3,125,801.55, of which sum € 857,577.40 were drawn in the year 2012.

Project name	Modern and Interactive Education at UPJŠ
Project name	Modern Public Administration – Creation and Innovation of the Faculty Study Programmes (MoVeS)
Project name	Modernization of PhD Study Programmes in Sciences and Humanities at UPJŠ (DOKTORAND)
Project name	Research and Education at UPJŠ – Leading to Excellent European Universities (EXPERT)
Project name	KVARK – Quality of Education and Development of Competences of PhD and post-PhD students at UPJŠ
Project name	IRES – Innovations for Knowledge-based Society

## DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

In the year 2012, implementation and integration of the University information system continued at UPJŠ, while the EU structural funds operational programme was implemented from the operational programme Science and Research, "Innovation and Spread of ICT in the Educational Process and the Construction of the Multifunctional Building of Lecturing Halls at UPJŠ in Košice" in the total approved amount of  $\in$  5,580,697.92, of which the nonrefundable financial contribution was drawn in the amount of  $\in$  3,673,782.14 in the year 2012.

Project name

Innovation and Spread of ICT in the Educational Process and the Construction of the Multifunctional Building of Lecturing Halls at UPJŠ in Košice

#### SCIENCE, RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND ARTISTIC ACTIVITY

In the year 2012, 20 projects were implemented from the EU's structural funds, operational programme of Science and Research. The total amount of non-refundable funds from these projects represents the sum of  $\in$  50,335,679.83,  $\notin$  6,076,118.98 having been drawn in the year 2012.

Project name	Research Centre of Applied Biomedical Diagnostics (working title SEMBID)
Project name	Centre of Excellence for the Research Into Factors Affecting Health Focused on the Group of Marginalized and Immunity-compromised Persons
Project name	Centre of Excellence of Biomedical Technologies
Project name	Centre of Excellence for Electromagnetic Fields in Medicine CEEPM
Project name	Centre of Excellence Neuroregeneration Research
Project name	Development of Optical nanosensors for Multicompotential Analysis of Trace Amounts of Pollutants in the Environment and Pharmaceuticals (NanoBioSens)
Project name	Probiotic Microorganisms and Bioactive Substances of natural Origin for a healthier Population of Slovakia
Project name	Centre of Excellence for the research Into Atherosclerosis (CEVA)
Project name	Extrem – Completing the Centre of Advanced Physical Studies of Materials Under Extreme Conditions
Project name	Building the Infrastructure of the Centre of Excellence SEPO-II
Project name	Centre of Cosmic Researches: Effects of Cosmic Weather – (second stage CKV I)
Project name	NanoCEXmat II. – Building the Infrastructure of the Centre of Excellence of Progressive Materials with Nano- and Submicron Structure
Project name	MIKROMATEL – Progressive Technology of Preparing Microcomposite Materials for Electrical Engineering
Project name	Competence Centre for Research and Development in the Field of Diagnostics and Therapy of Oncological Diseases (DIAGONKO)
Project name	Competence Centre for Biomodulators and Nutritional Supplements (PROBIOTECH)
Project name	Tfaktor – Innovation of Technological Processes in Preparing the Immunomodulation Transfer Factor, Verification of Its Effectiveness , Safety, and Composition
Project name	Centre of Research Into Innovative Therapeutic Procedures in Molecular Medicine (MOLMED)
Project name	Building the Magnetic Resonance Laboratory for Cardiovascular Research (MRKARDIO)
Project name	Research Centre of Modern Technologies of Monitoring and Diagnostics of Diseases Threatening Public Health (VERZDAV)
Project name	CeZIS – Centre of Knowledge and Information Systems

## **INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (UPJŠ) in its Longterm Plan for the years 2011-2017 and its latest update of June 2012 declared the pursuit of internationalization in all the basic areas of its activities. UPJŠ wishes to become as good a university as possible at both national and international levels, it wishes to implement a high quality research based on broad international cooperation, it wishes to educate its students in accordance with international standards, in order to help them ensure their competitiveness on the European scale, and wishes to develop cooperation with the internationally recognized educational and scientific-research institutions.

In the year 2012, the offices, the UPJŠ staff and students followed the line of recent trends and attempted to increase the international prestige of UPJŠ based on high-guality cooperation with international universities. We have significantly improved our activities within the European University Association (EUA), where we got involved in the project Mapping the University Mobility (MAUNIMO) as the only Slovak University and participated in the EUA Assessment Board activities. We continued to participate in the regular activities of the Magna Charta Universitatum Observatory. We actively participated in the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region, and renewed the membership of the University in the Slovak Academic Association for International Cooperation (SAAIC) where we also had representation in the Board of Directors. We consolidated our membership in the Košice IT Valley Association, and international institutions, such as the European Documentation Centre, the Institute of the European Law, and the Austrian Library operated in the UPJŠ premises.

The University units, its staff and students, being aware of the need for representation in the representative, advisory, and steering committees and bodies of international organisations, professional associations, and networks that affect priorities of the European university milieu, were in the year 2012 members of over 150 European and world organizations.

#### INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

In the year 2012, UPJŠ was significantly involved in the acquisition of international scientific projects in the European research area. These were implemented by making intergovernmental treaties, engaging in international projects, and entering into international inter-university treaties.

The UPJŠ Faculty of Science participated in four major projects financed on the basis of intergovernmental treaties. Its staff cooperated with the United Institute of Nuclear Research in Dubno (Russia), the Swiss Centre CERN, and the research staff of several institutes cooperated with the European XFEL GmbH and the DESY (Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron) in Hamburg, Germany in the development of the unique equipment XFEL (X-ray Free Electron Laser) for the research into the structure of substances. The XFEL project belongs to the EU most prestigious projects in a competitive environment of the world of science. The National Commission for Cooperation in the year 2012 reconstructed by the Minister of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the Slovak Republic as the Commission for Coordination of Activities of the Slovak



Republic in the ESFRI Projects oriented at materials, physical sciences, with the application potential for biological and medical sciences, chemical sciences and IT, with two members from UPJŠ in the Commission.

Within the framework of the international scientific and research cooperation, UPJŠ addressed 58 projects in the year 2012. In terms of the duration of projects, these lasted between one and five years, the projects having been largely financed by the EU funds – in particular from the 7th Framework Programme and the European Social Fund, and from the resources of the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic – mainly from the APVV funds. A small proportion of funds were obtained from other international grant, such as the International Visegrad Fund and the Cross-border Cooperation Programme. The partners in the project involved universities and scientificresearch institutions in European countries and several projects included institutions from the USA, Canada, and Russia.

#### INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

International cooperation was greatly enhanced In the year 2012 also in educational activities of employees and students implemented both at home and abroad. Educational activities were carried within the framework of international educational projects, as well as in the LLP/ Erasmus mobility programme and mobility within the National Scholarship Programme of the Slovak Republic.

UPJŠ attempted to make student mobility more attractive in order to study at a university abroad and student mobility for placements in foreign businesses, which allow the improvement of employment due to acquisition and exchange of knowledge, experience, development of language and intercultural competences, as well as promotion of personal contacts. We continued to improve the conditions for cross-border mobility of students and tried to continue to encourage especially young employees to participate in international sojourns and internships at top international universities and in research centres with a view to passing over their experiences after returning and to contribute to increasing the level of research at UPJŠ.



The overall interest of UPJŠ students in mobility in the LLP/ Erasmus programme is relatively stable, and the decrease in mobility for the purpose of the study is shifted to mobility for the purpose of the internship. What is positive is that PhD students gradually begin to participate in mobility, for whom mobility, in addition to the basic study content, have a special added value of research - access to libraries, archives, laboratories, building networking, and many more.

In the year 2012, we witnessed a surge of interest by international students in mobility at UPJŠ, most of the students coming from Turkey, Poland, and Spain. For those

interested not only at UPJŠ, we organized in the year 2012 the EILC – Erasmus Intensive Language Course, an intensive course of the Slovak language, which in addition to the instructional part included knowing the culture of Slovakia. Mobility students at UPJŠ had the opportunity to undergo a course of the Slovak language during both winter and summer semesters. Regular information meetings were organized for these students, with the Erasmus Student Network, a volunteer organization operating at UPJŠ, taking active part in rendering services to international students and promoting and making the study at UPJŠ more attractive.

An overview	of the acade	emic mobility	of students

Faculty	Students Sent	Incoming Students
Faculty of Medicine	18	15
Faculty of Science	8	6
Faculty of Law	15	5
Faculty of Public Administration	9	9
Faculty of Arts	37	4
TOTAL	87	39

ac. year 2009/2010 ac. year 2011/2012 ac. year 2012/2013 ac. year 2010/2011 Austria 1 0 0 2 0 1 **Bulgaria Czech Republic** 0 2 6 Germany 0 1 0 **Spain** 11 8 9 France 0 0 1 Greece 4 5 4 1 0 0 Hungary 5 2 4 Italy Lithuania 2 0 1 Poland 9 14 13 Portugal 7 2 3 0 Romania 0 1 6 7 Turkey 18

An overview of the incoming students within the academic mobility by country

The numbers of teachers' teaching mobility increased in the year 2012, and the number of training mobility increased as well. Within the framework of teaching mobility, a higher number of teachers came at UPJŠ compared to previous season. In the year 2012 we saw a significant increase in the number of new bilateral agreements allowing the implementation of mobility. In addition to the LLP/Erasmus mobility, employees and students had the opportunity to take advantage of the National Scholarship Programme of the Slovak Republic for implementing their mobility. Mobility abroad was used by UPJŠ PhD students and employees in the year 2012, and staff and students from institutions abroad came at UPJŠ to implement their mobility here. In the year 2012, creation of joint study programmes at the 3<sup>rd</sup> level of study continued. Agreements were made on co-supervising the PhD students, "co-tutelle de thèse", on the completion of the study programmes with the aim of awarding double PhD degrees for 11 students of UPJŠ. The Department of Biophysics of the Faculty of Science Institute of Physical Sciences became the training centre of the PhD School "Interdisciplinaire pour le vivant" (the Interdisciplinary School of Live Nature Sciences) at Université Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris.

In promoting of UPJŠ abroad, we regularly renewed the UPJŠ website in English, prepared promotional materials of UPJŠ in English, and distributed them to educational fairs in Lithuania, Russia, Turkey, and Canada and at the Annual Forum of the EU strategy for the Danube Region in Regensburg.



## **QUALITY SYSTEM**

#### **QUALITY OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

The revenue part of the budget is divided in the subsidy from the national budget in form of a subsidy contract, subsidies obtained through the grant system of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the Slovak Republic in form of competition, and non-subsidy revenues. All of the constituents of UPJŠ participate in obtaining the grants and non-subsidy revenue. A key source for covering the costs in the field of educational process, scientific and research work, as well as socialwelfare support to students was in the year 20121 a subsidy from the national budget granted by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the Slovak Republic.

One of the indicators, which attest to the quality of budget keeping and management of public funds, is profit, having reached the amount of  $\in$  1,297, 386.41 in the year 2012. The profit was earned through the difference between the total revenue of  $\in$  41,730,125.02 and the total costs of  $\in$  40,432,738.61. These values reflect both main and business activities.

#### **QUALITY OF EDUCATION**

The quality of education at UPJŠ is evaluated annually by the University Academic Board and by the Academic Boards at individual faculties. The University Academic Board Education assessed the quality of education, its problems and development in the academic year 2011/12 at its meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2012. The report was framed in accordance with Section 87 Law Act on Higher Education and addressed all the aspects recommended by the Accreditation Commission. The assessment report was made available in full to all the staff of the University and its students through the Academic Information System. The Academic Board discussed the report in detail, focusing in particular on the issues of creating study programmes, study achievements, quality of education, and employment of graduates. In general, the increasing quality of education in all of its dimensions was stated.

The Academic Information System AiS2 is an essential part of the planning, organizing, and registering the study, which has become a standard tool in virtually all of the dimensions of administration of university education at UPJŠ. The AIS2 currently administers the study at 13 public and 3 private universities. A consortium of users through its Managing Council and its Implementation Council takes decisions on the priorities in the development and mode of implementation of new products. In the previous period, its use was extended on another important area, which is Electronic Enrolment. In addition to the tasks as set out by the Managing Council for common clients (teachers and students) the following were of particular importance:

a) the WAI-ARIA standard has been incorporated into the AiS2 for those with health disabilities (the task still lasts);

b) the system of access by external users was completed;

c) the AIS2 modules were extended by the alumni administration module;

d) functions were completed for the support of

implementation of lifelong learning, doctoral proceedings, PhD and specialized study;
e) partially fulfilled was the task (at the level of analysis, it goes on) of making complete the functions for defining and checking the completing individual stages of study within a given study programme.

The low number of interruptions of study in the year 2012 was a rewarding fact, with less than five percent of the total number of all the students of the University. Approximately the same number of students exceeded the standard length of study. As in previous years, the average study achievements and the structure of students' assessment by the assessment scale were pursued in the year 2012 in the context of individual study programmes and in the context of individual faculties.

Despite considerable diversity of study specializations, the weighted study average of students at all of the faculties was approximately at the same level, around the value of 2.0. Significantly larger differences occurred at individual faculties in the proportions of students who completed their studies prematurely. This proportion was lowest among the students of the Faculty of Law (1.5%) and the highest (17%) among the students at the Faculty of Science. The highest number of students terminating their study prematurely was in the first year of study, and was decreasing significantly in the following years. The numbers of students who completed their university education in the year 2012 at UPJŠ prematurely in the first two years of study is set out the following chart.

#### QUALITY OF RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

To ensure ethics of the research carried out at the University, the Ethics Commission Works, among whose member is also Vice Rector for legislation, Prof. h. c., Associate Professor JUDr. Mária Bujňáková, CSc. The Ethics Commission examines in particular ethical aspects of research in the field of medical and biological sciences. Ethics in research is closely linked with the use of the antiplagiarism system introduced by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research, and Sport of the Slovak Republic especially for the check on the PhD degree theses, which are of a scientific nature and their results are published in reputable scientific journals.

The quality of research is also provided by international cooperation, which is carried out at the level of the scientist teams. In support of international co-operation, UPJŠ had in the year 2012 agreements made with 70 international universities and workplaces, 5 bilateral APVV projects were addressed. In the year 2012, international cooperation was enhanced by the implementation of almost 965 short-term and long-term research sojourns and internships of creative staff and PhD students at international universities from more than 120 countries of the world. On the other hand, 132 study, research, and lecturing internships were carried out at UPJŠ in the year 2012.

In the administrative support of research, competences are divided at the University as follows: home research projects are administered at the level of faculties. International projects, including the framework programmes, are administratively carried out in close collaboration between the faculty management and the UPJŠ Rectorate, whereas research projects are administered by the Office of Science and Research of the UPJŠ Rectorate and educational projects are administered by the Office of International Relations of the UPJŠ Rectorate.

Projects under the structural funds are administered at the University by a separate office – the Project Administration - in close cooperation with the management of individual projects at the level of faculties. At the Faculty of Science, administration of projects from the structural funds is carried out by the Project Support Centre and the Centre for Lifelong Learning.

For the purposes of the administrative registration of all the projects, including the submitted subsequently failed

projects, work began on the creation of the Project Portal, which is to become part of the AIS2. Evaluation of the level of the scientific research activities is carried out regularly every year at the level of faculties and UPJŠ. The evaluation report on the level of the scientific research activities at UPJŠ is annually discussed at the UPJŠ Academic Board.

The financial management system is assessed separately in the annual report on the financial management at UPJŠ in Košice in the year 2012 (the budget quality and maintaining the budget discipline, attaining the objectives in nonsubsidized funding sources, targeted savings, etc.).



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The realistic aim of Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice is to educate the best individuals of our population and in doing so to implement the top, internationally recognized research. In the transmission of expertise, the University clearly wants to take care of the universal knowledge basis of the educated top of this society. Since education is just one of the attributes of University graduates and without character values of individuals it is losing heavily in meaning, it is the responsibility of the University milieu to ensure the morale, attitudes and character strength of its employees and its prospective graduates. Within the meaning of academic freedom, autonomy, unity of research and teaching, the Long term Plan of UPJŠ in Košice for the years 2011-2017 was approved.

In terms of the quality of education, a positive trait may be recognized in the relatively low proportion of students in the part-time form of education and the ever increasing proportion of students at the third level of education. What remains as a challenge for the coming years is the creation of conditions for increasing the proportion of international students at all the faculties and at all levels of education. One of the conditions that would be able to help to attain this objective is, inter alia, the provision of standardized options (to both national and international students) to teach courses in a foreign world language in addition to Slovak.

The Department of Development of the Academic Information System continued in the development and implementation of AIS2 Academic Information System. This system is currently implemented successfully at 13 public universities and 5 private higher education establishments.

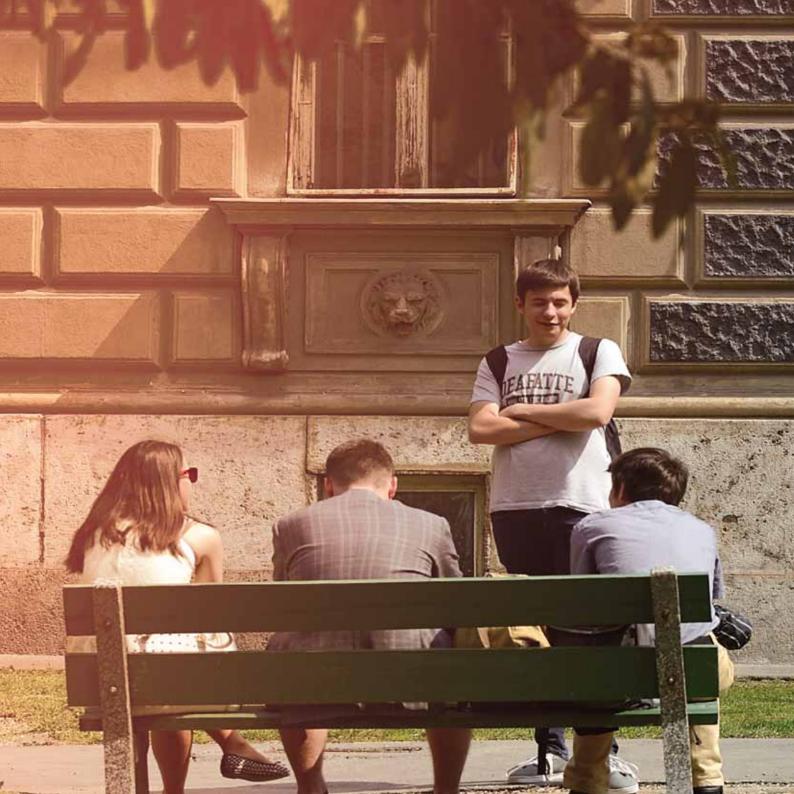
In the year 2012, the University units, staff and students followed the latest international trends and were attempting to increase the international prestige of UPJŠ based on high-quality cooperation with excellent international universities. We have significantly strengthened our activities in the European University Association (EUA), where we as the only Slovak University got involved in the project Mapping the University Mobility (MAUNIMO) and participated in the activities of the EUA Evaluation Commission. We continued to participate in the regular activities of the Magna Charta Universitatum Observatory. We actively participated in the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region, and renewed our membership in the Slovak Academic Association for International Cooperation (SAAIC), where we also gained representation in its Board of Directors. We consolidated our membership in the IT Valley Association Košice, and international institutions operated in the UPJŠ premises – the European Documentation Centre, the Institute of European Law, and the Austrian Library.

UPJŠ was trying to make its student mobility more attractive with the purpose of studying at a university abroad and student mobility for placements in foreign businesses, which allow the improvement of employment due to acquisition and exchange of knowledge, experience, development of language and intercultural competences, as well as promotion of personal contacts. We



continued to improve the conditions for cross-border mobility of students and tried to continue to encourage especially young employees to participate in international sojourns and internships at top international universities and in research centres with a view to passing over their experiences after returning and to contribute to increasing the level of research at UPJŠ.

In the SIR ranking of research institutions Scimago Institutions Rankings World Report, UPJŠ ranked as the third best university and the fourth best scientific organizations in the Slovak Republic. The ranking is based on quantitative bibliometric indicators and the data from the Scopus scientific database Scopus. This includes 3 290 research institutions from 106 countries of the world. UPJŠ took the 115<sup>th</sup> place in the geographic region of "Eastern Europe" and the 2 101<sup>st</sup> place in the world.







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