

Internationalisation Strategy of the Faculty of Informatics

The main goal for the internationalisation of the Faculty of Informatics is to ensure that the faculty increases its international prestige and stands strong in international comparisons as an important and attractive educational and research institution. The successful future of the Faculty of Informatics is dependent on its ability to attract qualified staff, students and researchers and provide them with the necessary means to succeed in the face of intensified competition, regardless of whether they choose to remain in the Czech Republic or go abroad.

The main priority areas have been identified in accordance with the Masaryk University internationalisation strategy and long-term policy target, covering the period until 2010. The faculty attaches key importance to ensuring that globalisation and internationalisation is being integrated into all faculty processes and activities (not in isolation – but thoroughly and in interrelation); the internationalisation process must concern all faculty members. In this respect, the faculty's international recognition in research and development excellence plays a key role in the internationalisation process. Thus, the most important current task is to define an integrated internationalisation plan (in accordance with the above documents and the faculty's long-term policy target), identify global goals and priority areas, and define procedures for achieving those.

The long-term strategic priority areas have been identified as the following:

1. Increase significantly the number of outgoing and incoming students in all programmes, particularly at Master's and doctoral level.
2. Create conditions for appointing the best international experts to FI academic posts and widen their involvement at the faculty.
3. Develop international cooperation of the faculty in research and development with the goal to increase the number of projects in which the faculty is involved as the scientific coordinator.
4. Ensure that the faculty is not left behind as a mono-lingual institution and make a special effort to ensure that there are no language barriers for foreign students, researchers and teachers for studying, researching or working at the faculty.

Goals in the area of education:

1. Create and obtain an accreditation for a Master's study programme in English.
2. Make doctoral study programmes available exclusively in English.
3. Increase the number of international students, particularly in doctoral programmes.

4. Increase the number of subjects taught in English.
5. Expand study programmes on subjects related to international issues.
6. Widen the involvement of the faculty in international student mobility support projects.
7. Create conditions for enhancing individual student mobility.
8. Develop joint study programmes at Master's and doctoral level (double-degree, joint-degree) with international partners.
9. Achieve wide publicity and awareness amongst foreign students about study programmes offered at the faculty. The publicity and awareness campaigns should include well-presented and up-to-date web pages, information materials, together with intensive partnership and cooperation with foreign universities. A marketing research directed at the interest amongst students to study at the faculty should also be included in the publicity campaign.
10. Require without exception proof of "advanced" English language knowledge from every FI Master's study graduate.
11. Create financial aid and preferably grant schemes for foreign students in Master's and doctoral study programmes, and strengthen financial support for outgoing students.

Goals in the area of research and development:

1. The faculty's focus will be on both short-term and long-term stays of foreign teachers and researchers at FI, the conditions of their stay and results of their activities.
2. Strengthen the faculty's participation in international associations and professional research and development support organisations.
3. Prosper from international scientific programmes with the goal to strengthen the faculty's role in all the areas of the scientific world, in which the faculty's research has achieved excellent and internationally recognised results; provide those research and development areas with the faculty's own financial aids.
4. Strengthen the importance of FI departments' and staff's participation in international scientific programmes; evaluate their activities based on this criteria, particularly in habilitation and appointing processes.
5. As far as technology transfer is concerned, attach key importance to cooperation with leading international firms, centers and agencies, such as Red Hat, IBM, Honeywell and Microsoft.

6. Strengthen professionalism in the preparation, management and administration areas of international projects. Provide consultation and information services for acquisition of research projects and grants.

Goals in the area of management, administration and human resources:

1. Prosper from international partnerships with the goal to broaden the knowledge and skills of the faculty's executives, particularly in the area of human resources.
2. Demand language skills in the appointment of academic as well as non-academic staff.