

Report of the Quality Management Committee

on meeting the quality objectives of the University of Pécs set for the year 2018/2019

On the 25 October 2018 meeting of the Senate of the University of Pécs, three quality objectives set by the Rector for the academic year 2018/2019 were approved. The Quality Management Committee checked the meeting of these quality objectives, the result of which is summarised below as follows:

#	Specification of quality objective	Description/way of measurement	Baseline value	Goal
1.	Increase of the number of foreign students	Number of foreign students registered <i>Quality policy reference: Students ("we increase the number of our international students")</i>	Number of foreign students registered in the Spring semester of the year 2018	The number of foreign students in the Spring semester of 2019 exceeds that of the Spring semester in 2018.

Statements of the Committee concerning the meeting of the quality objective:

The university maintained and further intensified its efforts for internationalisation in the 2018/2019 academic year. The measurement of the success of these efforts takes place, on the basis of the specification of the quality objective, on the ground of the number of international students in the Spring semester. According to statistics by the National Statistical Data Collection Programme

- the number of international students registered at the UP was 3,503 in March 2018, while
- the same number was 3,738 in March 2019.

We can see that the number of international *students* increased from 2018 to 2019 by 235 (6.7%), accordingly *Quality objective 1 was met*.

#	Specification of quality objective	Description/way of measurement	Baseline value	Goal
2.	Integration of the view of sustainability in decisions made on the launch of programmes	Examination of the sustainability of programme with small numbers of students, supervision of programmes to be launched with less than 5 students in accordance with the relevant instruction of the Rector. <i>Quality policy reference: Sustainability ("We operate in a financially sustainable way; we try to achieve stable financing.")</i>	no	In the admission procedures 2019, no programme is launched with less than 5 students – unless specifically allowed by the Rector –, in accordance with the relevant instruction of the Rector.

Statements of the Committee concerning the meeting of the quality objective:

Quality objective No. 2 expressed the definite wish of the Rector's office for the increase of long-term sustainability (the aspects of operating economically) at the making of decisions on the launch of programmes. At the time of the setting of the quality objective the Rector's Decree No. 1/2018 issued on 23 July 2018 was in effect, and the way of measurement ordered to the objective also followed this: in accordance with the relevant instruction of the Rector, under the 5-student lower limit no programme can be launched, from which deviations are possible with the Rector's permission.

A special ad-hoc committee also dealt with the issue of sustainability, also, on the initiative of the vice rector for educational affairs, a dialogue was started between the Rector's office and the faculties (deans). This series of negotiations resulted in significant achievements, manifested in a new calculation methodology much more accurate and professionally better supported than the previous one. The new methodology was accepted with a significant majority of the faculties, and it was made obligatory in the Rector's new instruction (1/2019, of 18 July 2019) repealing the Rector's previous instruction, so this was the basis of decisions made on the launch of new programmes at the general admission procedure of 2019. The most significant progress offered by the new methodology was that the former normative regulation (requiring a minimum of 5 persons) was replaced by a regulation specifying a minimum number of first year students specifically for the respective programmes, taking into consideration characteristics typical of the respective faculties and programmes, besides allowing faculties to specify the calculations of sustainability within the limits defined by the centrally set parameters, in order to adjust them better to the characteristic features of the respective faculty. Provided that the requests concerning this were approved by the Rector's office, the decision on the launch of the specific programme could be made on the basis of this amended calculation. Finally, in the case of programmes certainly qualified as uneconomical by the calculations, the Faculty was entitled to directly appeal to the Rector, detailing the other (non-economical) aspects about the programme, on the ground of which the Rector made individual decisions on the possibility to launch the programme.

The statistics made available by the vice rector of the UP demonstrate that in more than 50% of the cases the faculties accepted the minimum number calculated centrally, and their decisions on launching or not launching the respective programmes were made on the basis of this. The requests for parameter corrections by the faculties were approved by the Rector's office in the overwhelming majority of the cases. *As regards special requests for the launch of programmes qualified as uneconomical with full certainty, they were supported by the Rector in less than half of the cases, only.*

Our interpretation of the processes above is that the management of the University of Pécs is dedicated to launching programmes that are financially sustainable in the long run, only, apart from for exceptionally justified cases.

The considerable further development of the background methodology during the year, and the Rector's new instruction No. 1/2019 are obvious signs that the aspect of sustainability has been organically integrated, with the support of the upper management, in the decisions of the UP on the launch of programmes in the year 2019; accordingly ***Quality objective 2 was met.***

#	Specification of quality objective	Description/way of measurement	Baseline value	Goal
3.	Start of inter-faculty cooperations aiming at the consolidation of subjects at the UP	Number of inter-faculty cooperations promoting the consolidation of subjects at the UP, reported to the Teaching Directorate <i>Quality policy reference: Sustainability</i> <i>(“We use our resources for the implementation of our goals, and manage our activities in a financially prudent manner.”)</i>	no	Making at least one new inter-faculty cooperation until 31 May 2019 and reporting it/them to the Teaching Directorate.

Statements of the Committee concerning the meeting of the quality objective:

Before the setting of the quality objective the internal audit called “A system control of programme and subject consolidation processes at the UP” had been made, following which an action plan was made by the chairpersons of the three committees of the University operating at the time (Economic, Investment and Development Committee; Educational and Credit Committee; Quality Development Committee) and the director responsible for educational affairs. According to this, members delegated by these committees created the subject consolidation ad-hoc committee with the task of reconsidering the inter-faculty competency boundaries and the elaboration of a procedure that obliges faculties to negotiate, and promotes the making of agreements that can contribute to the decrease in the number of parallels at the faculties and thereby the increase of the efficiency at university level. The ad-hoc committee assigned the Big Data research group of the university to pursue a query by keywords that identified, on the basis of the Training and Outcome Requirements, those subjects/competencies that belong to a respective faculty but are taught at other faculties. The objective of the inter-faculty negotiations required after this (besides the reinforcement of the already operating system of cross-teaching, i.e. courses taught by lecturers from other faculties) was to take into consideration the module leader position or the participation in teaching of the faculty responsible for those subjects that are taught at other faculties without the participation of the faculty responsible for the competencies.

Negotiations were held in the Spring of 2019. The table made by the learning directorate, summarising the situation as of 11 June, reveals that *in the framework of the subject consolidation project, consolidation negotiations were held and agreements made concerning a total of 27 inter-faculty relations until the end of the academic year*, which means that *Quality objective 3 was met*.

26 September 2019

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Chair of the Quality Development Committee