

Directive No. 236

Statute of the University of Žilina

Approved by: UNIZA Academic Senate on 30 January 2023

Effective: on the date of entry into force of the decision on its registration

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PREAMBLE

1. The historical establishment of the University of Žilina refers to the date of 1 September 1953, when **the University of Railway Transport in Prague** was founded by separating the Faculty of Railway Transport from the Czech Technical University in Prague. By the Government Regulation No. 58/1959 Coll. on Changes in the Organization of Higher Education Institutions, effective from 1 September 1959, the name of the university was changed to the University of Transport in Prague (*Vysoká škola dopravná v Prahe*). By the Government Regulation No. 120/1960 Coll. on Changes in the Organization of Higher Education Institutions, it was decided that the seat of the University of Transport in Prague would gradually be transferred from Prague to Žilina. Therefore, with effect from 1 September 1962, the university was renamed **the University of Transport in Žilina** (*Vysoká škola dopravná v Žiline*).

After expanding the profile of the university to include fields of study of communications, the university was, by the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 121/1979 Coll. on Changing the Name of the University of Transport in Žilina, renamed as the University of Transport and Communications in Žilina with effect from 1 January 1980.

In the period of the 80s and 90s of the 20th century, there was another substantial expansion of the profile of the university, including the creation of new faculties. By the Act No. 324/1996 Coll., amending the Act No. 172/1990 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions, as amended, with effect from 20 October 1996, the name of the University of Transport and Communications in Žilina was changed to **the University of Žilina**.

2. The activities of the University of Žilina are governed by this statute which is based on the provisions of the Act No. 131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the "Higher Education Act"), the Act No. 552/2003 Coll. on the Performance of Work in the Public Interest, as amended, the Act No. 176/2004 Coll. on the Disposal of the Property of Public Institutions and on the Amendment of the National Council of the Slovak Republic Act No. 259/1993 Coll. on the Slovak Forestry Chamber, as amended by the Act No. 464/2002 Coll., as amended, the Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance of Higher Education, as amended and the Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as the "Higher Education Quality Assurance Act"), the Standards of the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as the "SAAHE") and other generally binding legal regulations, which a public university is obliged to follow.

Section 1 Mission of the University of Žilina

- 1. **The University of Žilina** (hereinafter referred to as "the university" or "UNIZA") is a public university. Its seat is at Univerzitná Street No. 8215/1, ZIP code SK-010 26 Žilina. The domain name for the electronic connection is: *uniza.sk*. The abbreviation "UNIZA" will be used for the University of Žilina in practice. The English translation of the official name is University of Žilina.
- The mission of the university is to contribute to the development of education, knowledge, science and culture in accordance with the needs of society, to develop knowledge, skills, wisdom, creativity and goodness of man and thereby contribute to the development of a knowledge society. Fulfilling this mission with a focus on the student is the main activity of the university.
- 3. It fulfils its mission based on the utilisation of the results of scientific research and artistic activities via:

- a) enabling access to higher education, especially in accordance with the needs of society, so that the educational process prepares a graduate with high-quality professional knowledge and high moral principles, civic and social responsibilities, especially for corresponding application in practice and research, development or artistic and other creative activities.
- providing education in the spirit of the values of democracy, humanism and tolerance, which makes it possible to acquire, expand, deepen or renew knowledge from various fields of knowledge and culture and is an essential part of lifelong education at the highest level,
- c) education to understanding, preserving, disseminating and improving the national cultural heritage and different cultures in the spirit of cultural pluralism,
- d) developing, preserving and disseminating knowledge through research, development or artistic and other creative activities.
- e) providing further education and organizing further training and organizing attestations of teaching staff and professional staff,
- f) by contributing to the development of education at all levels, from primary education to higher education, in particular by further training of teachers of primary schools, secondary schools, educational facilities and higher education institutions/universities, cooperation in the education of exceptionally gifted pupils of primary schools and secondary schools,
- g) engaging in public debate on social and ethical issues and on the formation of civil society,
- h) creating theoretical models of the development of society, economy, culture and art, especially for the needs of state bodies, municipalities and higher territorial units,
- i) cooperation with state administration bodies, municipalities, higher territorial units and institutions from the field of culture and economic life,
- j) developing international, especially European cooperation by supporting joint projects with higher education institutions/universities abroad and other foreign institutions, mobility of employees and students of higher education institutions/universities and mutual recognition of study and documents on education.
- 4. In fulfiling its mission, it is based on the professional profile of individual scientific research and educational workplaces focused mainly on the areas of transport, postal technologies, telecommunications, informatics, electrical engineering, electronics, mechatronics, biomedicine, electro-technical materials, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, economics, management, security, pedagogy, mathematics and natural sciences and humanities. Due to the historical development, its professional profile is strongly oriented towards the issues of technical, economic, technological, ecological, social sciences and humanitarian aspects of transport and communications.
- 5. The main task of the university is to provide higher education in accordance with the needs of society.
- 6. The university supports students and their participation in the exercise of self-governing powers of higher education institutions.
- 7. The university allows students to actively participate in the activities and management of the university and its components, especially when it comes to ensuring the quality of higher education, organizing study and deciding on the academic rights and obligations of students.

Section 2 Legal Status

1. The university is a public and self-governing educational, scientific and artistic institution.

- 2. It is a legal entity that acts on its own behalf in legal relations.
- 3. The organization and activities of the university are decided by the university bodies in accordance with the Higher Education Act.

Section 3 University Campus, Academic Rights and Freedoms

- 1. The university campus is a space defined by immovable property that the university owns, manages, leases or where it fulfils its mission and main tasks.
- 2. Political parties and political movements may not perform or promote political activity or establish their organizations on the university campus.
- 3. In order to ensure academic rights and academic freedoms at the university, the inviolability of the university campus is guaranteed, except in cases of threat to life, health, property or cases of natural disaster. The entry of law enforcement authorities to the university campus is authorized by the rector.

Section 4 Academic Community, Bodies of the Academic Community

- The academic community of the university consists of university teachers, researchers and other employees of the university with a university degree employed in positions where a university education/degree is required, and who are employed by the university for the fixed weekly working hours (the employee part of the academic community of the university) and university students (the student part of the academic community of the university).
- 2. Members of the academic community have the right to propose candidates for the election of the candidate for rector and dean.
- 3. The academic community is the basis of the academic self-government which elects and dismisses members of the academic senate of the university in accordance with the provisions of the Higher Education Act.
- 4. The bodies of the university are the bodies of the academic self-government and other bodies of the university.
- 5. The bodies of the academic self-government are:
 - a) academic senate of the university,
 - b) rector,
 - c) scientific board of the university,
 - d) disciplinary committee of the university for students. This disciplinary committee also discusses the disciplinary offences of students of a faculty unless the faculty has established a faculty disciplinary committee for students by its statute.
- 6. Other bodies of the university are the bursar and the board of trustees of the university.
- 7. With regard to the fulfilment of the mission and goals of UNIZA, in accordance with the provisions of the Higher Education Act and the Act on Quality Assurance of Higher Education, the university has created a comprehensive internal quality assurance system at the University of Žilina (hereinafter referred to as "IQAS UNIZA") in order to achieve compliance with the SAAHE standards.

- 8. In order to ensure the quality of higher education, the university has established **the Accreditation Board of the University of Žilina** which is the highest decision-making body within the framework of ensuring the quality of higher education, accreditation of study programmes and the habilitation proceedings and the proceedings for the appointment of professors (hereinafter referred to as the "inauguration proceeding(s)") at UNIZA in accordance with the Act on Quality Assurance of Higher Education and the SAAHE standards.
- 9. The Accreditation Board of the University of Žilina approves, upon the proposal of the rector, the internal regulations of the university regulating the internal system of quality assurance of higher education pursuant to Section 15 paragraph 1 letter b) of the Higher Education Act in accordance with Section 15 paragraph 2 letter n) of the Higher Education Act after their discussion in the scientific board of the university.
- 10. The composition and the competences of the Accreditation Board of the University of Žilina are regulated in the Directive No. 210 "Statute of the Accreditation Board of the University of Žilina".
- 11. The IQAS UNIZA is regulated by a set of interrelated internal regulations of the university which cover all requirements and areas established by legislation, describe structures, activities and key processes that are necessary to ensure the quality of higher education.

Section 5 Academic Senate of the University

- 1. The academic senate of the university (hereinafter referred to as the "AS UNIZA") is a body of academic self-government consisting of elected representatives of the academic community of the university.
- 2. The AS UNIZA has 40 members; it consists of three members of the employee part of the academic community and two members of the student part of the academic community for each faculty, four members of the employee part of the academic community from other components of the university and one member of the other student part of the academic community. The position of a member of the AS UNIZA is incompatible with the position of a rector, vice-rector, dean, vice-dean, bursar and head of a university component.
- 3. The term of office of AS UNIZA members is at most four years.
- 4. The AS UNIZA:
 - a) approves upon proposal
 - 1. of **the rector** the internal regulations of the university pursuant to Section 15 paragraph 1 letter a), letters c) to f) and k) to n) of the Higher Education Act,
 - of the chairperson of the AS UNIZA the internal regulations of the university pursuant to Section 15 paragraph 1 letters g) to i) of the Higher Education Act; the principles of election of a candidate for the rector and acceptance of a proposal to dismiss the rector prior to the meeting of the board of trustees of the university,
 - 3. of **a dean**, a faculty statute after its prior approval by the academic senate of the faculty.
 - b) approves upon proposal of the rector prior to the meeting of the board of trustees
 - 1. the long-term plan of the university,
 - 2. merger, fusion, cancellation, division, change of name or change of seat of the university.

- 3. establishment, merger, fusion, cancellation, division, change of name or change of seat of a component of the university,
- 4. the university budget,
- 5. methodology for the allocation of state budget subsidies from the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as the "Ministry of Education") pursuant to Section 89 of the Higher Education Act for the components of the university,
- c) discusses, upon the proposal of the rector, prior to the meeting of the board of trustees, the allocation of the state budget subsidies from the Ministry of Education pursuant to Section 89 of the Higher Education Act for the components of a public higher education institution/university,
- d) **approves the rector's proposal** for the appointment and dismissal of members of the scientific board of the university,
- e) **controls** the management of the funds and property of the university and reports the results of the control to the board of trustees,
- f) **approves** the terms of admission to study presented by the rector,
- g) **comments** on the initiatives and opinions of the board of trustees pursuant to Section 41 paragraph 12 of the Higher Education Act,
- h) **elects a representative** of the university to **the Council for Higher Education (Rada vysokých škôl)**; its student part elects a representative of the university to the Student Council for Higher Education,
- i) **submits a report on its activities** to the academic community of the university once a year, which it publishes on the university website for at least four years,
- j) approves the annual activity report of the university and the annual report on the management of the university submitted by the rector after the previous opinion of the board of trustees,
- k) approves the rector's proposals for legal acts according to Section 41 paragraph 3 letters a), b) and d) to f) of the Higher Education Act prior to they are submitted for approval to the board of trustees, if the price of the property, the value of the deposit or the amount of the loan is higher than three hundred times the amount from which the property is considered tangible property according to a special regulation.
- I) takes note of the activity report of the board of trustees,
- m) **performs other tasks** according to this law and according to the internal regulations of the university (e.g. according to Section 10 paragraph 10 of the Higher Education Act, comments on the rector's proposal for the appointment of vice-rectors, according to Section 40 paragraph 14 of the Higher Education Act, determines the rules for the provision and determination of the amount of remuneration and reimbursement of expenses of members of the board of trustees of the university upon the proposal of the rector).
- 5. The AS UNIZA submits a proposal for the appointment or dismissal of the rector to the Minister of Education within 15 days from the adoption of the relevant resolution.
- 6. The AS UNIZA in the exercise of powers pursuant to paragraph 4 letters d) and h) decides by secret ballot; in the performance of other powers pursuant to paragraph 4, it can take decisions by secret ballot, if the AS UNIZA decides so at the meeting in question.
- 7. The AS UNIZA is authorized to exercise the powers of the academic senate of the faculty only to the extent of approving changes to the internal regulations of the relevant faculty so that these changes do not conflict with the law, other generally binding legal regulations or this statute. If the academic senate of the relevant faculty performs its duties in a composition that is in conflict with this statute, the AS UNIZA is entitled to take measures to bring the composition of the academic senate of the faculty into compliance with the relevant regulation.

- 8. If a member of the academic senate of the university has lost his/her membership prior to the end of the term of office according to Section 8 paragraph 6 of the Higher Education Act, the substitute member for him/her shall be a candidate for the member of the academic senate of the university from the relevant part of the academic community, who placed first in the order of the election after the successfully elected member of the academic senate of the university or a candidate who is already acting as a substitute member of the academic senate of the university. If there is no such candidate, a new member of the academic senate of the university will be elected for the remaining term of office of the member of the academic senate of the university whose membership has expired prematurely. The substitute will act in place of the member of the academic senate of the university, whose membership has expired prematurely, until the end of his/her original term of office.
- 9. A member of the student part of the academic senate of the university, who is not a student of the doctoral degree study programme, may ask the university in writing to suspend his/her membership in the academic senate of the university prior to the proper completion of his/her study. The membership will be suspended from the day following the day of proper completion of his/her study. The membership is renewed on the day when he/she again becomes a member of the student part of the academic community of the university or a member of the academic community of the component of the university for which he/she was elected. For the duration of the suspended membership, a substitute who meets the conditions for membership in the academic senate of the university becomes a member of the academic senate of the university. The substitute will be the candidate for the member of the student part of the academic senate of the university, who placed first in the order of the election after the successfully elected member of the student part of the academic senate or the candidate who is already acting as a substitute. If there is no such candidate, a new member of the student part of the academic senate will be elected for this period. The membership of the substitute in the student part of the academic senate of the university automatically expires upon the renewal of the membership of the original member of the academic senate of the university.
- 10. The meeting of the academic senate of the university can be held via video conference or other means of information and communications technology without physical presence, including voting and secret voting, if the technical conditions allow it.

Section 6 The Rector

- 1. The rector is the statutory body of the university.
- The rector is accountable for his/her activities to the AS UNIZA and the board of trustees
 of the university. He/she is accountable to the Minister of Education for the purposeful and
 efficient use of subsidies and their settlement with the state budget and for the
 management of the property of the university.
- 3. The Rector is appointed and dismissed by the President of the Slovak Republic upon the proposal of the Minister of Education.
- 4. The election process and the dismissal of the rector from office are governed by the "Principles of election of a candidate for the rector and acceptance of a proposal to dismiss the rector".
- 5. The rector's term of office is four years. At the university, the same person can serve as rector for a maximum of two consecutive terms of office.

- 6. The Rector:
 - a) manages the university, acts on its behalf and represents it externally,
 - b) proposes
 - merger, fusion, cancellation, division, change of name or change of seat of the university and
 - 2. establishment, merger, fusion, cancellation, division, change of name or change of seat of a component of the university,
 - submits the long-term plan of the university to the Ministry of Education for opinion prior to submitting it for opinion to the scientific board of the university and for approval by the AS UNIZA and the board of trustees of the university,
 - d) submits to the AS UNIZA and the board of trustees of the university a proposal for the budget of the university and a proposal of the methodology for the allocation of state budget subsidies from the Ministry of Education pursuant to Section 89 of the Higher Education Act for components of the university,
 - e) awards, on the basis of a decision of the scientific board of the university or on the basis of a decision of the scientific board of a relevant faculty, a scientific-pedagogical title or an artistic-pedagogical title "associate professor",
 - f) submits to the Minister of Education proposals for the appointment of professors approved by the scientific board of the university,
 - g) awards the honorary title "professor emeritus" at the proposal of the scientific board of the university,
 - h) determines the dean's salary after a written opinion of the board of trustees of the university,
 - i) performs other tasks pursuant to the Higher Education Act and according to the internal regulations of the university.
- 7. The rector can withdraw his/her proposal submitted for discussion of the collective body of the university (board of trustees, scientific board and academic senate) to vote on it.
- 8. If the rector, while performing his/her duties, has reasonable doubts that the competent body has not complied with the university's criteria for evaluating the fulfilment of the conditions for obtaining the scientific-pedagogical title or the artistic-pedagogical title "associate professor" (hereinafter referred to as "criteria for obtaining the title of associate professor") or during the course of the habilitation proceeding there have been procedural errors, he/she can return the proposal to the competent body for a new procedure or stop the procedure.
- 9. If the rector, while performing his/her duties, has reasonable doubts that the competent body has not complied with the university's criteria for evaluating the fulfilment of the conditions for obtaining the scientific-pedagogical title or the artistic-pedagogical title "professor" (hereinafter referred to as "criteria for obtaining the title of professor"), or during the course of the proceeding for the appointment of a professor (hereinafter referred to as the "inauguration proceeding(s)"), there have been procedural errors, he/she can return this proposal to the competent body for a new procedure or stop the procedure.
- 10. If there was a period in which the university did not have a rector, the AS UNIZA will entrust the performance of the rector's position until the appointment of a new rector, for a maximum of one year, to a person whose appointment shall be approved by the majority of the total number of members of the AS UNIZA and the board of trustees. The AS UNIZA will immediately notify the Minister of Education of this fact. The AS UNIZA or the board of trustees can propose the person who is to temporarily perform the rector's position. The same person may not be entrusted with the performance of the rector's position repeatedly.

Rector's Advisory Bodies

- 1. **The rector's board (the rector's collegium) and the university management** are the permanent advisory bodies of the rector.
- 2. **The rector's board** is the rector's advisory body which deals mainly with conceptual issues of the activity of the university. The rector's board is chaired by the rector. The members are the vice-rectors, the bursar, the deans of the faculties and the chairperson of the academic senate. The rector can invite the heads of all components of the university, the chairperson of the trade union organization and other members of the academic community to meetings of the rector's board as needed.
- 3. The university management is an advisory body of the rector which mainly deals with issues of operational management of the university. The members of the university management are the rector, vice-rectors and the bursar. The university management is chaired by the rector. If the discussed issue requires it, the rector invites other university employees to the meeting.
- 4. The rector establishes **permanent and temporary committees** to solve special issues. The permanent committees are the Damages Committee, the Ethics Committee and the Disciplinary Committee. When establishing a committee, the rector determines the role of the committee as well as its chairperson who is accountable to the rector for the committee's activities. The rector can also entrust individual employees with the performance of tasks of special significance.

Section 8 Vice-rectors of the University

- 1. The vice-rectors are appointed and dismissed by the rector after an opinion of the AS UNIZA. The vice-rectors are accountable to the rector for their activities.
- 2. The term of office of the vice-rectors is four years.
- 3. The university has a maximum of 5 vice-rectors. Their competencies are determined by the rector. The vice-rectors mainly ensure the following areas:
 - a) educational.
 - b) scientific research,
 - c) international relations and marketing,
 - d) development,
 - e) information systems.
- 4. The rector, in his/her absence, is represented by a vice-rector designated by him/her to the extent determined by the rector. In the event that such a vice-rector is not designated, the first vice-rector represents the rector in its entirety. The first vice-rector is usually the vice-rector for the field of education based on the rector's mandate.
- 5. The vice-rectors are authorized to convene the vice-deans of the faculties with the corresponding field of competence and to appoint and convene committees and to discuss with them the tasks of the university and its faculties.

Section 9

Senior University and Faculty Employees, Researchers and University Teachers

- 1. The senior employees of the university are the bursar and the individual heads of the components of the university which are specified in the organizational rules.
- The senior employees of the university are appointed to their positions on the basis of a selection procedure and dismissed from the positions by the rector. The selection procedures for the positions of senior university employees, university teachers and researchers are conducted in accordance with the internal regulations of the university.
- 3. The Bursar is under the direct authority of the rector to whom he/she is accountable for his/her activities.
- 4. The bursar ensures and is accountable for the economic, operational and administrative running of the university and acts on its behalf to the extent determined by the rector. In his/her absence, the bursar is represented by the head of the economic department.
- 5. In the economic field, the bursar methodically directs the activities of the secretaries of the faculties and other senior employees of the university or its components.
- 6. The senior employees of a faculty are the secretary of the faculty and the individual heads of pedagogical, research, economic-administrative and information workplaces as well as dedicated facilities of a faculty. The positions of senior faculty employees are occupied through a selection process. The method of the selection procedure for the positions of senior faculty employees is determined by the internal regulation of the university.
- 7. The secretary of the faculty ensures the economic and administrative running of the faculty. He/she is under the direct authority of the dean of the relevant faculty.

Section 10 Scientific Board of the University

- 1. The members of the scientific board are members of the academic community of the university and prominent experts from the areas in which the university performs educational, research, development, artistic or other creative activities. The members of the scientific board of the university who are members of the academic community of the university can only be persons who work in the position of professor or associate professor or researchers with scientific qualification level IIa or with scientific qualification level I or artistic workers.
- 2. At least one quarter and at most one third of the members of the scientific board of the university are persons who are not members of the academic community of the university.
- 3. The appointment, term of office and authorities of the scientific board are regulated in the Higher Education Act.
- 4. The scientific board of the university discusses, upon the proposal of the rector, the internal regulations of the university regulating the internal system of quality assurance of higher education in accordance with Section 15 paragraph 1 letter b) of the Higher Education Act prior to their approval by the Accreditation Board of the University of Žilina.

Section 11 Board of Trustees of the University

1. The board of trustees of the university is a further body of the university, which, within the scope of the mandate established by the Higher Education Act, supports the strengthening

of the bond between the university and society. It implements and promotes the public interest in the activities of the university.

- 2. The members of the board of trustees of the university are mainly prominent scientific figures or artistic figures, representatives of public life at the national or regional level, and prominent representatives of the business field in accordance with the mission of the university, or persons who have experience in the management of property and financial resources of a legal entity. Only a person who has at least a first-level university education, has at least four years of managerial experience in a legal entity and demonstrates skills in handling the property and financial resources of a legal entity can be elected or appointed as a member of the board of trustees of the university. Proposals for candidates for members of the board of trustees of the university are submitted to the academic senate of the university and the Minister of Education by legal entities registered in the register of non-governmental non-profit organizations, municipalities, self-governing regions, the Slovak Academy of Sciences, public research institutions and other legal entities that hold a certificate of competence to conduct research and development in addition to higher education institutions/universities, representative associations of employers, museums, galleries and theatres.
- 3. The board of trustees of the university consists of 11 members. One member of the board of trustees of the university is elected and dismissed by secret ballot by the other members of the board of trustees of the university. One half of the other members of the board of trustees of the university are elected and dismissed by the academic senate of the university of which one member of the board of trustees of the university is elected and dismissed only by its student part. The other half of the other members of the board of trustees of the university are appointed and dismissed by the Minister of Education.
- 4. The board of trustees of the university approves, upon the proposal of the rector, after being approved by the academic senate of the university, the budget of the university and a proposal of the methodology for the allocation of state budget subsidies from the Ministry of Education pursuant to Section 89 of the Higher Education Act for components of the university.
- The board of trustees of the university approves, upon the proposal of the rector, after the
 opinion of the academic senate of the university, the allocation of state budget subsidies
 from the Ministry of Education pursuant to Section 89 of the Higher Education Act for
 components of the university.
- 6. The board of trustees of the university grants prior written consent to the rector's proposals for legal actions by which the university wishes to:
 - a) acquire immovable property, the price of which is higher than three hundred times the amount from which the property is considered tangible property according to the Income Tax Act, or transfer it; this price is considered to be the amount for which such or comparable real estate is usually sold at a certain time and in a certain place,
 - b) acquire a movable property, the price of which is higher than three hundred times the amount from which the property is considered tangible property according to the Income Tax Act, or transfer it,
 - establish an encumbrance on the property of the university for a period longer than five years,
 - d) establish a right of pre-emption to the property of the university, the price of which is higher than twenty times the amount from which the property is considered tangible property according to the Income Tax Act,
 - e) establish another legal entity or make a monetary contribution or a non-monetary contribution to it or to another legal entity, or
 - f) enter into a loan agreement; the board of trustees of the university will not grant

consent if the purpose of using the funds obtained from the loan is not in accordance with the long-term plan of the university or according to it, the repayment of the loan may threaten the security of the main activity of the university.

- 7. The board of trustees of the university approves, upon the proposal of the rector, after prior approval of the academic senate of the university:
 - a) the long-term plan of the university,
 - b) merger, fusion, cancellation, division, change of name or change of seat of the university,
 - c) establishment, merger, fusion, cancellation, division, change of name or change of seat of a component of the university,
- 8. In accordance with Section 17 paragraph 1 of the Higher Education Act, the board of trustees fulfils the role of a collective body in managing the property of the university. In view of this, the board of trustees grants **prior written consent** to the rector's proposal for:
 - a) deposit of the property of the university into the property of another legal entity or deposit upon the establishment of another legal entity,
 - b) deposit of the property of the university into a business company or deposit at the establishment of a business company,
 - c) sale of unnecessary immovable property for at least a reasonable price, for every sale of unnecessary immovable property for a price lower than the reasonable price and for the donation of unnecessary immovable property,
 - d) donation of unnecessary movable property, the purchase price of which was higher than EUR 15,000 and the residual value kept in the accounting is higher than EUR 10.000.
 - e) exchange of immovable property,
 - f) provision of immovable property for the purposes of the association according to a special regulation,
 - g) loan of immovable property for a period longer than one year or for an indefinite period,
 - h) lease of immovable property for a period longer than one year or for an indefinite period,
 - i) securing an obligation by establishing a lien or securing an obligation by transferring the right to immovable property,
 - i) debt forgiveness in the amount of more than EUR 10,000,
 - k) write-off of receivables in the amount of more than EUR 6,000,
 - assignment of the claim, if the repayment is lower than 80% of the nominal value of the claim,
 - m) conclusion of a concession contract,
 - n) conclusion of a contract on energy efficiency for the public sector.

The immovable property for which the prior written consent of the board of trustees is required for sale or exchange is:

- a) a plot of land or its part with a total area of more than 50 m²,
- b) a building or part of it with a total floor area of more than 50 m².
- 9. The board of trustees of the university approves, upon the proposal of the chairperson of the academic senate of the university, after prior approval of the academic senate of the university the principles of election of a candidate for the rector and acceptance of a proposal to dismiss the rector.
- 10. The board of trustees of the university discusses initiatives submitted by the academic senate of the university or the academic senate of a faculty.

- 11. The board of trustees of the university expresses its views on the matters submitted to it for discussion by the rector, the chairperson of the academic senate of the university or the chairperson of the academic senate of a faculty.
- 12. The board of trustees of the university expresses its opinion on the annual activity report of the university and on the annual report on the management of the university prior to its approval by the academic senate of the university (Section 9 paragraph 1 letter k/ of the Higher Education Act).
- 13. The board of trustees of the university determines the rector's salary in accordance with a special regulation. The bursar shall notify the rector in writing of the amount and composition of the functional salary based on the decision of the board of trustees of the university. The rector can be given a bonus according to a special regulation only because of the fulfilment of measurable indicators and goals agreed in advance between the board of trustees of the university and the rector. The agreed goals and measurable indicators and the evaluation of their fulfilment as of 31 December of the respective year are published annually on the university website by 31 January of the following year.
- 14. Approval of actions according to paragraphs 4 to 9 requires the consent of a majority of all members of the board of trustees of the university.
- 15. The board of trustees of the university adopts its conclusions in the form of a resolution.
- 16. In the proposals pursuant to paragraph 7, the board of trustees of the university must make a decision within 45 days from the date of forwarding the proposal approved by the academic senate of the university to the board of trustees of the university. If the board of trustees of the university does not make a decision within this period, it is considered that it has approved the proposal.
- 17. The board of trustees of the university gives suggestions and opinions on the activities of the university which the university publishes.
- 18. The board of trustees of the university elaborates and publishes a report on its activities on the university website at least once a year. The report on the activities of the board of trustees of the university is discussed by the academic senate of the university prior to its publication. The report on the activities of the board of trustees of the university mainly contains information on its meetings, the participation of individual members in the meetings, recommendations of the board of trustees of the university on the activities of the university and a list of adopted resolutions.
- 19. The board of trustees of the university may request from the university bodies in particular:
 - a) draft budgets of the components of the university,
 - b) annual activity reports of the university and its components.
 - c) annual reports on the management of the university and its components.

Section 12 Division of the University

- 1. The university is divided into components:
 - a) faculties,
 - b) other educational, scientific research, development, artistic, economic-administrative and information workplaces,
 - c) dedicated facilities,
 - d) other components, if the rector so decides based on the approval of the academic senate and the board of trustees of the university.

- The economic-administrative workplace of the university is the rectorate, which provides services to the faculties and other components of the university, elaborates documents for the negotiations of the academic self-government bodies and ensures their performance. The rectorate is managed by the rector, with the exception of departments that are directly managed by the bursar.
- 3. Other educational, scientific research, development, artistic, information workplaces and dedicated facilities are specified in the organizational rules of the university.
- 4. In the organizational rules of the university, the following are listed in more detail:
 - a) organisational departments of the rectorate under the direct management of the rector and under the direct management of the bursar,
 - b) educational, scientific research, development, artistic, economic-administrative and information workplaces and dedicated facilities of the university.

Section 13 Faculties

- 1. The faculties contribute to the fulfilment of the university's mission, participate in the fulfilment of the main tasks of the university in the defined field of knowledge, which is defined by its name, and deliver study programmes in defined fields of study and, in accordance with their focus, they conduct research, perform development, consulting, expertise, as well as artistic and other creative activities.
- 2. The academic community of a faculty consists of university teachers and researchers assigned to the faculty, who are employed by the university for the fixed weekly working hours, other employees assigned to the faculty with a university degree employed in positions where a university education/degree is required (the employee part of the academic community of the faculty) and students enrolled in study programmes conducted at the faculty (the student part of the academic community of the faculty).
- 3. The following faculties are established at the university:
 - Fakulta prevádzky a ekonomiky dopravy a spojov (FPEDAS) (Faculty of Operation and Economics of Transport and Communications),
 - Strojnícka fakulta (SjF)
 - (Faculty of Mechanical Engineering),
 - Fakulta elektrotechniky a informačných technológií (FEIT) (Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology),
 - Stavebná fakulta (SvF)
 - (Faculty of Civil Engineering),
 - Fakulta bezpečnostného inžinierstva (FBI)
 - (Faculty of Security Engineering),
 - Fakulta riadenia a informatiky (FRI) (Faculty of Management Science and Informatics),
 - Fakulta humanitných vied (FHV)
 (Faculty of Humanities)

Scope of the Powers of the Faculty

1. The faculty within its competences:

- a) determines the conditions of admission to study and decision-making in the admission procedure for study programmes delivered by the faculty,
- b) creates new accredited study programmes after their approval by the Accreditation Board of the university and implements them at the faculty,
- c) decides on matters related to the academic rights and obligations of students enrolled for study according to the study programmes delivered by the faculty,
- d) concludes, changes and cancels labour law relationships according to the number and structure of job positions, which are based on the long-term plan of the university and the relevant faculty, depending on the fields of study and study programmes,
- e) performs business activity in the sense of the regulation as stated in Section 25 of this statute.
- f) cooperates with other higher education institutions/universities and institutions in the sense of the regulation as stated in Section 25 of this statute.
- 2. The self-governing powers of the faculty also include:
 - a) internal organization of the faculty,
 - b) determination of the number of accepted applicants for study,
 - c) study organization in accordance with the study regulations of the university,
 - d) determination of the focus and organization of research, development, artistic and other creative activities,
 - e) election of members of the academic self-government bodies of the faculty,
 - f) performance of foreign relations and activities in the areas in which the faculty operates,
 - g) management of funds allocated to the faculty by the university and funds otherwise obtained by the faculty for the performance of its tasks in accordance with the internal regulations of the university.

Section 13b Bodies of Academic Self-government of the Faculty

- 1. The bodies of academic self-government of a faculty are:
 - a) the dean,
 - b) the academic senate of the faculty.
- 2. The faculty may establish a faculty disciplinary committee for students which will be authorized to discuss disciplinary offences of faculty students. In case of its establishment, its activity will be regulated in the statute of the relevant faculty.

Section 13c The Dean

- 1. The dean is appointed by the rector on the basis of an election.
- 2. The dean is employed by the university at which he/she is assigned to the faculty he/she manages. When appointing the dean, the rector concludes a performance contract with him/her for the duration of the term of office, which contains measurable indicators for the purpose of increasing the quality of higher education provided by the faculty and the level of research, development or artistic and other creative activities of the faculty as well as the goals that result from the long-term plan of the university.
- 3. At one faculty, the same person can serve as the dean for a maximum of two consecutive terms of office.

- 4. The dean is represented by vice-deans to the extent determined by him/her. The vice-deans are appointed and dismissed by the dean after the opinion of the academic senate of the faculty. The term of office of the vice-deans is four years.
- 5. The dean performs legal acts in labour law relationships for university employees assigned to the faculty to the extent and under the conditions specified in this statute.
- 6. The termination of employment related to the performance of the dean's position is conditional upon the previous termination of the dean's position.
- 7. The dean can establish advisory bodies or committees as needed. Their activity will be regulated in the statute of the faculty.

Section 13d Election of a Candidate for the Position of the Dean and His/her Dismissal

- 1. The dean is elected by the electoral assembly, which consists of:
 - a) representatives of the academic community of the faculty and
 - b) persons appointed by the rector in a number corresponding to ½ of the number of all members of the electoral assembly.

The representatives of the academic community of the faculty for the purposes of the electoral assembly are the members of the AS of the relevant faculty. In the event that their number is not divisible by 3, the members of the electoral assembly will be selected by lot, in the number of the nearest lower number divisible by 3.

- The persons appointed by the rector for the electoral assembly of the faculty are always appointed by the rector for the specific election of the dean. The electoral assembly is convened and managed by the chairperson of the academic senate of the relevant faculty. The appointment of the dean and the proposal for his/her dismissal are decided by secret ballot.
- 3. A person who served as a member of the executive board of the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (hereinafter referred to as the "agency") may be appointed a dean no earlier than three years after the termination of the membership in the executive board of the agency.
- 4. The university announces the election of a candidate for the dean on its website no later than 120 days prior to the end of the term of office of the dean. The university shall set a minimum of 60 calendar days and a maximum of 90 calendar days for submitting proposals to occupy the position of the dean, and the election date no later than 45 calendar days after the deadline for submitting proposals for the position of the dean. If the performance of the dean's position is terminated prior to the end of his/her term of office, the election of the dean is announced within 30 days from the end of this performance, or if the election did not take place, the election to occupy the position of the dean is announced within 30 calendar days from the occurrence of this fact. The election is announced in the Slovak and English languages.
- 5. The appointment of the dean by election is announced by the chairperson of the academic senate of the faculty by a decree, which is approved by the electoral assembly by a majority of the votes of the members present.
- 6. The decree announcing the election of the dean contains:
 - a) the election schedule which sets out:

- the deadline for submission of proposals for the position of the dean,
- the closing date and confirmation of the list of candidates for the position of the dean.
- the date and place of publication of the list of candidates,
- the date of the meeting of the electoral assembly at which the election of the dean will take place, which also includes a public hearing of the candidates,
- b) the method of proposing candidates for the position of the dean.
- 7. The election of the dean is organizationally ensured by the electoral committee formed from the members of the electoral assembly. The proposals for its members prior to the election of the dean are submitted by the members of the electoral assembly to the chairperson of the academic senate of the faculty, who is also its chairperson.
- 8. The election committee consists of seven members, four are members of the academic senate of the faculty, one member of which is a student and three members are selected from the persons appointed by the rector.
- 9. The election committee is approved by the electoral assembly by a majority of the votes of the members present at the proposal of the chairperson of the academic senate of the faculty at the same meeting at which the decree announcing the election of the dean is approved according to paragraph 6.
- 10. After the approval of the election committee, the members of the electoral assembly elect from among themselves the enumeration committee, which consists of four members of the academic senate of the faculty, one member of which is a student, and three members are selected from the persons appointed by the rector. The enumeration committee shall elect a chairperson of the enumeration committee from among its members.
- 11. The members of the academic community of the faculty and the university (individuals or groups) have the right to propose a candidate for the position of the dean within the period specified in the second sentence of paragraph 4 from the announcement of the election. The proposal may contain no more than one candidate for the position of the dean.
- 12. Proposals for the inclusion of a candidate for the position of the dean on the list of candidates are submitted in writing to the members of the election committee in a sealed envelope marked "Proposal of a candidate for the position of the dean". The proposal must include the name, surname and titles of the candidate for the position of the dean and the name, surname, titles, date and signature of the proposer(s). The proposals for a candidate for the position of the dean can be submitted to the members of the election committee in person, through the registry office or by post. In the case of personal delivery and submission of the proposal in the registry office, the date of receipt is decisive, and in the case of sending the proposal by post, the proposal must be delivered to the university by the deadline set for submission of proposals. The member of the election committee is obliged to inform the chairperson of the academic senate of the faculty electronically about the acceptance of the proposal. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered.
- 13. After the deadline set for submission of proposals for inclusion of a candidate for the position of the dean on the list of candidates, the election committee will check the correctness of the submitted proposals in terms of compliance with the requirements, close and confirm the list of candidates for the position of the dean, which cannot be subsequently amended.
- 14. After confirming the list, the election committee will request written consent to the candidacy and a brief biographical and professional description from the proposed

candidates for the position of the dean. It will then publish the list of candidates in electronic form on its website so that every member of the academic community of the faculty can familiarize themselves with it. The list of candidates will be published within 7 days of the deadline for the submission of proposals.

- 15. The election of a candidate for the position of the dean will take place if at least 2/3 of its members are present at the meeting of the electoral assembly.
- 16. Voting on the proposal of a candidate for the position of the dean cannot take place outside the electoral assembly, which is made up of members of the academic senate and the members appointed by the rector.
- 17. At the meeting of the electoral assembly, at which the election is held, a public hearing of the candidates for the position of the dean is held. During the public hearing, the management experience of the candidates, their relationship to higher education, science and technology, and their relationship to the mission and the field of activity of the faculty are ascertained. At the same time, the candidate for the position of the dean will present a proposal for the development strategy of the faculty, and if the electoral assembly so decides, the candidate may be required to provide additional information. The candidates for the position of the dean will then appear in the order they are drawn at the meeting. The presentation of the candidates for the position of the dean must take place under the same conditions for all candidates.
- 18. The candidate for the position of the dean is elected by voting using ballots. On the ballot, the member of the electoral assembly marks his/her choice by circling the number in front of the name of one of the candidates for the position of the dean. If the ballot is marked differently or not marked, the vote of the member of the electoral assembly is invalid. The ballot must contain:
 - a) the name "The Electoral Assembly of the Faculty",
 - b) the date and place of the election of the candidate for the position of the dean,
 - c) the information on which round of the election is taking place,
 - d) name, surname and titles of candidates for the position of the dean in alphabetical order with a serial number for each candidate,
 - e) the method of voting.
- 19. Each member of the electoral assembly entitled to vote, after leaving the area designated for editing the ballot, shall insert the by him/her edited ballot into the ballot box, which is placed in front of the other members of the electoral assembly. After the completion of the electoral act of all the members of the electoral assembly, the chairperson of the enumeration committee will open the ballot box in front of all the members of the electoral assembly. Subsequently, the enumeration committee counts the votes given to individual candidates for the position of the dean and prepares minutes of the act of counting the votes after each round.
- 20. During the election, proposed candidates for the position of the dean may withdraw their candidacy, always prior to the start of the relevant election round. The chairperson of the election committee, in cooperation with the secretary of the academic senate of the faculty, shall ensure that this candidate for the position of the dean is removed from the ballots prepared for the next round of the election.
- 21. In order to elect a candidate for the position of the dean, the candidate must receive the votes of a majority of all members of the electoral assembly.
- 22. If in the first round of the election all candidates for the position of the dean received the same number of votes, all candidates for the position of the dean advance to the second

round of the election.

- 23. In the event that there are more candidates for the position of the dean than two, and in the first round of the election, all the candidates for the position of the dean did not receive the same number of votes, and none of the candidates for the position of the dean received the majority of votes of all members of the electoral assembly in the first round of the election, the candidate for the position of the dean with the lowest number of votes, or the candidates for the position of the dean with the same lowest number of votes, provided that there are at least two candidates who received a higher number of votes, will be removed from the ballot by the election committee. The remaining, not removed, candidates for the position of the dean proceed to the second round of the election. This procedure for the election of a candidate for the position of the dean is repeated until there are two candidates left for the position of the dean. In the event that there are only two candidates left for the position of the dean, the next round of elections will proceed. If, even in this round, one of the candidates for the position of the dean does not obtain a majority of all the votes of the electoral assembly, a public debate of the members of the electoral assembly follows, lasting no more than 30 minutes. After the end of the public debate, the last round of the election of a candidate for the position of the dean will take place, and if even in this round one of the candidates for the position of the dean does not receive the votes of the majority of all members of the electoral assembly, i.e. if a candidate for the position of the dean is not successfully elected, the chairperson of the academic senate of the faculty shall announce a new election of the candidate for the position of the dean within 30 days of the end of the unsuccessful election according to the rules set out in this part of the statute. Candidates for the position of the dean can also be the original candidates.
- 24. If only one candidate for the position of the dean is registered and does not receive the votes of the majority of all members of the electoral assembly in the first round of the election, a public debate of the members of the electoral assembly will follow, lasting no more than 30 minutes. After the end of the public debate, the last round of election of the candidate for the position of the dean will take place. In the event that he/she does not receive the votes of the majority of all members of the electoral assembly even in this round, the chairperson of the academic senate of the faculty shall announce a new election of the candidate for the position of the dean within 30 days from the day of the unsuccessful election.
- 25. The secretary of the academic senate of the faculty will elaborate a record of the course and result of the election of a candidate for the position of the dean, the correctness of which will be confirmed by the members of the election committee with their signatures. The minutes of the enumeration committee will be the basis for the preparation of the record and an appendix to it.
- 26. The academic senate of the faculty, represented by its chairperson, will submit the proposal of the electoral assembly for the appointment of the dean together with the election result to the rector within 15 days from the adoption of the decision of the electoral assembly.
- 27. The meeting of the academic senate of the faculty can be held via video conference or other means of information and communications technology without physical presence, including voting and secret voting, if the technical conditions allow it.
- 28. The performance of the dean's position ceases upon:
 - a) expiry of the term of office,
 - b) resignation from the office; the performance of the dean's position shall end on the date of delivery of the written notice of resignation to the rector, unless a later date is specified in the notice,

- c) dismissal from the office; the performance of the dean's position will end on the day specified in the dismissal from the office,
- d) the validity of the sentence by which he/she was convicted of an intentional crime or by which an unconditional prison sentence was imposed on him/her,
- e) limitation of the capacity for legal acts,
- f) death or being declared dead.
- 29. The rector can dismiss the dean only if the dean:
 - a) does not fulfil his/her obligations in a serious way,
 - b) seriously damaged the interest of the university or the faculty or
 - c) has seriously violated laws, generally binding legal regulations or internal regulations of the university or the faculty.
- 30. The rector can dismiss the dean only with the prior consent of the majority of all members of the electoral assembly.

Section 13e Academic Senate of the Faculty

- 1. The academic senate of the faculty (hereinafter referred to as the "AS of the faculty") is a collective self-governing body, which consists of elected representatives of the academic community of the faculty and is divided into an employee part and a student part. The faculty elects members of the employee part and the student part of the academic community of the faculty according to the internal regulation which determines the principles of elections to the academic senate of the faculty. Members of the employee part of the AS of the faculty make up 2/3 of all members of the AS of the faculty. Students of the given faculty make up 1/3 of all members of the academic senate of the faculty.
- 2. The position of a member of the AS of the faculty is incompatible with the position of the rector, vice-rector, dean, vice-dean, bursar and the secretary of the faculty.
- 3. The term of office of the members of the AS of the faculty is at most four years.
- 4. The meetings of the academic senate of the faculty are public. The dean or on his/her behalf the vice-dean or the secretary of the faculty and the rector have the right to speak at the meeting of the AS of the faculty in accordance with the rules of procedure of the AS of the faculty whenever they request it. Upon the request of the dean or rector, the chairperson of the AS of the faculty is obliged to convene a meeting of the AS of the faculty without delay, but within 14 days at the latest. If the chairperson of the faculty does not do so, the dean or the rector will convene the meeting of the AS of the faculty.
- 5. The membership in the AS of the faculty ceases upon:
 - a) the end of the member's term of office,
 - b) the appointment of a member to one of the positions listed in paragraph 2.
 - c) the termination of the membership in the employee part of the academic community of the faculty,
 - d) the interruption of the study of a member of the student part of the academic senate of the faculty,
 - at the end of the study of a member of the student part of the academic senate of the faculty, if he/she has not applied for the suspension of the membership in the academic senate of the faculty according to paragraph 8,
 - f) not registering for study at the faculty for which he/she was elected, at the latest on the last day designated for the registration of admitted applicants for study in the relevant academic year, if he/she is a member with suspended membership,
 - g) the expiration of six months from the date of suspension of membership; this does not apply if the membership was renewed within this period,

- h) the resignation from the position of a member,
- i) the dismissal of a member from his/her position by the academic community of the faculty,
- j) the death of a member.
- 6. If the membership of the AS of the faculty expires prior to the end of the term of office pursuant to paragraph 5, the candidate for the member of the AS of the faculty from the relevant part of the academic community of the faculty, who placed first in the order of the election after the successfully elected member of the AS of the faculty, will be the substitute. If there is no such candidate, a new member of the academic senate of the faculty will be elected for the remaining term of office of the member of the academic senate of the faculty whose membership has expired prematurely.
- 7. The substitute will act in place of the member of the academic senate of the faculty, whose membership has expired prematurely, until the end of his/her original term of office.
- 8. A member of the student part of the academic senate of the faculty, who is not a student of the doctoral degree study programme, may ask in writing to suspend his/her membership in the academic senate of the faculty prior to the proper completion of his/her study. The membership will be suspended from the day following the day of proper completion of his/her study. Membership is renewed on the day when he/she again becomes a member of the student part of the academic community of the respective faculty, if it has not expired by then for other reasons. For the duration of the suspended membership, a substitute designated according to point 6, who meets the conditions of the membership, becomes a member of the academic senate of the student part. His/her membership automatically expires upon the renewal of the membership of the original member of the academic senate of the faculty.
- 9. The academic senate of the faculty can establish advisory bodies.

Section 13f Powers of the Academic Senate of the Faculty

- The academic senate of the faculty:
 - a) approves the following internal regulations at the dean's proposal: the statute of the faculty and the organizational rules of the faculty,
 - b) approves, upon the proposal of the chairperson of the academic senate of the faculty, the principles of elections to the academic senate of the faculty and the rules of procedure of the academic senate of the faculty,
 - c) is part of the electoral assembly that elects the dean,
 - d) comments on the dean's proposal for the appointment and dismissal of vice-deans,
 - e) approves the dean's proposal for the appointment and dismissal of members of the scientific board of the faculty,
 - f) approves the proposal of the faculty budget submitted by the dean and controls the management of the financial resources of the faculty,
 - g) approves the long-term plan in the educational, research, development, artistic or other creative activities of the faculty (hereinafter referred to as the "long-term plan of the faculty") elaborated in accordance with the long-term plan of the university, submitted by the dean after discussion in the scientific board of the faculty and its updates,
 - h) approves the annual activity report and the annual report on the management of the faculty submitted by the dean,
 - i) approves other conditions for admission to study in study programmes delivered by the faculty submitted by the dean,

- j) comments on the dean's proposal for the establishment, merger, fusion, division or cancellation of workplaces of the faculty,
- k) elects a faculty representative to the Council for Higher Education (Rada vysokých škôl) (Section 107, paragraph 3 of the Higher Education Act),
- once a year submits a report on its activities to the academic community of the faculty, which it publishes on the university website for at least four years,
- m) accomplishes other tasks determined by the internal regulations of the university or the faculty.
- 2. The AS of the faculty in the issues mentioned in paragraph 1 letters c) and e) decides by secret ballot and decides on the other issues mentioned in paragraph 1 by secret ballot, if it decides on a secret ballot in the given matter.

Section 13g Scientific Board of the Faculty

- 1. The scientific board of the faculty is a body of a faculty. Its members are appointed and dismissed by the dean with the approval of the academic senate of the faculty. The term of office of the members of the scientific board is four years.
- 2. The members of the scientific board of the faculty are prominent experts from the areas in which the faculty performs educational, research, development, artistic or other creative activities. The members of the scientific board of the faculty who are members of the UNIZA academic community can only be persons who work in the position of professor or associate professor or researchers with scientific qualification level IIa or with scientific qualification level I or artistic workers. At least one quarter and at most one third of the members of the scientific board of the faculty are persons who are not members of the UNIZA academic community.
- 3. The members of the scientific board of the faculty are in accordance with Article 14 paragraph 4 of the Methodology for the Evaluation of Standards of the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education of the Slovak Republic at the same time significant experts, including at least one expert with the professional capacity to review the habilitation proceedings as well as the inauguration proceedings in the relevant field of the habilitation proceedings and inauguration proceedings or in the field(s) of study to which this is assigned.
- 4. The chairperson of the scientific board of the faculty is the dean.
- 5. The deliberations of the scientific board of the faculty are governed by the rules of procedure of the scientific board.

Section 13h Powers of the Scientific Board of the Faculty

- 1. The scientific board of the faculty
- a) discusses the long-term plan of the faculty elaborated in accordance with the long-term plan of the university,
- b) discusses, upon the proposal of the dean, the internal regulations of the faculty, which are related to the internal quality assurance system of UNIZA, prior to their discussion in the scientific board of the university and subsequent approval in the Accreditation Board of the University of Žilina,
- c) evaluates the level of the faculty in educational activities and in the field of science, technology or art at least once a year,

- d) approves other experts who have the right to examine in final state examinations for the study programmes delivered by the faculty (Section 63 paragraph 3 of the Higher Education Act); approves supervisors for doctoral degree study pursuant to Section 54 paragraph 4 of the Higher Education Act,
- e) discusses and submits to the scientific board of the university the criteria for obtaining the title of associate professor and the criteria for obtaining the title of professor at the faculty,
- f) discusses proposals for awarding the title of "associate professor" at the faculty and decides on their outcome.
- g) discusses and submits proposals for the appointment of professors to the scientific board of the university after the approval of the scientific board of the faculty,
- h) discusses and submits proposals to the scientific board of the university for awarding the honorary title "doctor honoris causa" (abbreviated as dr. h. c.) to important personalities,
- i) discusses and submits to the scientific board of the public university general criteria for occupying the positions of professors and associate professors at the faculty,
- j) discusses and submits to the scientific board of the public university the specific conditions of the selection procedure for occupying the positions of professors at the faculty,
- k) approves the rules of procedure of the scientific board of the faculty upon the proposal of the chairperson of the scientific board of the faculty,
- accomplishes other tasks determined by the internal regulations of the university or the faculty.
- 2. The scientific board of the faculty discusses the questions presented to it by the chairperson of the scientific board of the faculty, or the questions on which it decides.

Section 14 Education at the University

- 1. Higher education at the university is delivered in accredited study programmes at the faculties and at the university (university-wide study programmes). The study programmes are delivered in three cycles/degrees.
- 2. The university, its faculties and some institutes provide further education and training in the professional development of the teaching and professional staff (e.g. qualification training).
- 3. The framework conditions for the provision of higher education at the university and the details of the study are determined by the internal regulations of the university.

Section 15 Framework Conditions for Admission of Applicants for Study

- Applicants who have met the basic conditions for admission according to the Higher Education Act and other conditions for admission approved by the AS of the relevant faculty, or by the academic senate of the university for university-wide study programmes in accordance with the principles and rules of the admission procedure for study at the university, are accepted for study.
- 2. The approximate number of applicants admitted to the first year of study of the relevant degree is determined by the rector upon the proposal of the dean, after prior approval of the AS of the relevant faculty, taking into account the long-term plan of the university/faculties, its capacity possibilities and possible limitations according to Section 102 paragraph 2 letter f) of the Higher Education Act after discussion in the rector's board.

3. Applicants for study in study programmes at the faculties are accepted by the dean, in university-wide study programmes by the rector, based on the results of the admission procedure. The conditions for admission of applicants for study and the registration of accepted applicants according to Sections 55 to 59 of the Higher Education Act are established by the internal regulations of the faculties or the university.

Section 16 Framework Conditions for Study of Foreigners

- 1. Citizens of member states of the European Union and foreigners with permanent residence in a member state are not considered foreigners for the purpose of this paragraph.
- 2. Foreigners are admitted to study based on the admission procedure. As part of the admission procedure, the fulfilment of the following conditions is verified:
 - a) applicants must provide proof of obtaining a complete secondary or complete secondary professional education or a comparable education abroad; the fulfilment of the condition is approved by the dean of the faculty or the rector for admission to university-wide study programmes,
 - b) applicants must demonstrate the language skills necessary to study the selected study programme,
 - c) applicants are accepted based on the fulfilment of other conditions approved by the academic senate of the university/faculty.
- 3. The relevant provisions of the Higher Education Act and the internal regulations of the university apply to foreigners accordingly.
- 4. The agreed conditions apply to the study of citizens of states with which the Slovak Republic has concluded agreements on special study conditions. Other foreigners study on the basis of a study contract concluded between the student and the university, which specifically defines the special rights and obligations of the student and the university, including tuition fees.
- 5. Upon completion of study, foreign nationals are issued documents on completion of study under the same conditions as citizens of the Slovak Republic.
- 6. In the case of persons who have been granted asylum, provided with supplementary protection or provided with temporary shelter, the fulfilment of the condition according to paragraph 2 letter a) can be proven by an affidavit and successful completion of the general study prerequisites test. The details will be determined by the internal regulations of the university.

Section 17

Provisions on Tuition Fees and Fees Associated with Study and Qualification Growth

 The university and its components are entitled, according to the provisions of the Higher Education Act, to collect the following tuition fees and fees associated with study or admission to study:

- a) tuition fees for study after exceeding the standard length of study,
- b) tuition fees for the study of a second or additional study programme during concurrent study,
- c) tuition fees for part-time form of study,
- d) tuition fees for study a study programme conducted exclusively in a language other than the state language,
- e) fee for material security of the admission procedure,
- f) other fees in accordance with legal regulations.
- 2. The amount of the basis for the determination of the tuition fees and other fees is determined by the Ministry of Education for each academic year. The tuition fee and other fees are payable once by transfer order or postal order. The deadline for payment of the tuition fee is determined by the faculty or the university in the case of university-wide study programmes. The fees are due prior to the requested action is performed. In justified cases, the rector can reduce, waive or postpone their due dates, taking into account the student's academic results, social and health situation or other facts worthy of special attention.
- 3. In their statement on the student's request, the dean and the rector take into account the following principles for **the reduction of the tuition fees** when deciding on concessions for the payment of the tuition fees:

a) by half:

- a) in the case of a poor social situation of the student: The social situation can be assessed according to whether the student receives a social scholarship in the amount of up to EUR 150 per month, or whether he/she would be entitled to such a social scholarship, but does not receive it because the Section 96 paragraph 2 of the Higher Education Act is applicable to him/her. The amount of the social scholarship for the purposes of applying this paragraph will be determined by the university based on the currently valid decree of the Ministry of Education.
- b) for exemplary representation of the university, excellent study results, etc. in the past academic year; the student's results can be assessed according to the weighted academic average or also according to whether he/she was awarded an extraordinary or merit scholarship in the past academic year for these activities.
- c) in the case of proven health problems which have resulted in an extension of the period of study.

b) for the amount of EUR 100:

- b) for the repeated reasons listed in paragraph 4 letters a), b) and c) and in other noteworthy circumstances (in the case of maternity, maternity/parental leave, long-term and serious health problems, current representation at the World, European and Slovak Championships, natural disaster at home).
- 4. In their statement on the student's request, the dean and the rector take into account the following principles for the remission of the tuition fee when deciding on the tuition fee remission:
 - a) in the case of a poor social situation of the student: The social situation can be assessed according to whether the student receives a social scholarship in the amount of up to EUR 150 per month, or whether he/she would be entitled to such a social scholarship, but does not receive it because the Section 96 paragraph 2 of the Higher Education Act is applicable to him/her. The amount of the social scholarship for the purposes of applying this paragraph will be determined by the university based on the currently valid decree of the Ministry of Education.
 - b) in the case of proven long-term and serious health problems which have resulted in an extension of the period of study.

- if the student, after successful completion of a study stay abroad with the consent of the faculty/university, still needs to take some compulsory or compulsory - elective courses.
- 5. In their statement on the student's request, the dean and the rector, when deciding on the reduction, remission or postponement of the due dates, take into account the principles stated in paragraph 3 and paragraph 4 appropriately.
- 6. In his/her statement on the student's request, the dean also takes into account the course of study to date (study results, duration of the study). The recommended threshold for a positive statement is a weighted average of up to 2.00.
- 7. Each student's request for tuition fee concession is assessed individually.
- 8. The rector reduces tuition fees, or tuition fees are waived only once during the study in the 1st and 2nd degree of university study, with the exception of tuition remission for the reasons specified in paragraph 4 letter a) or b).
- 9. In study programmes of the 3rd degree of university study in a part-time form of study, the rector can reduce, waive or postpone the due date of tuition fees only for employees of the university based on the consent statement of the dean/director of the workplace where this employee is occupied and the consent statement of the dean/director of the training centre within the university.
- 10. Failure to pay the specified tuition fee by the stipulated due date is a reason for excluding the student from study pursuant to Section 66 paragraph 1 letter c) of the Higher Education Act.
- 11. The university collects fees for further education and training in the professional development of pedagogical and professional staff, the amount of participant fees is approved by the rector, in the case of courses organized by the faculty, by the dean or, in the case of courses organized by other components, by the relevant director.

Section 18 Framework Provisions on Social Support for Students

- 1. The university provides social support to students in a direct and indirect manner in accordance with the Higher Education Act.
- 2. The university grants various types of scholarships to students and, depending on its possibilities, loans to cover part of the study costs from the scholarship fund. The rules for provision of scholarships and loans are determined by an internal regulation, except for social scholarships, which are governed by a special regulation.¹)
- The university allows students to use the services of its catering facility or dine in contracted catering facilities in places where it does not have its own catering facility. It also provides students with an allowance for served meals from the means of the state subsidy for social support of students.
- 4. The university provides accommodation to students within its possibilities in its accommodation facilities or in contracted facilities. Through the Accommodation Facility, the university provides students with an allowance for accommodation from the means of

¹) Decree of the Ministry of Education No. 102/2006 Coll. on Awarding Social Scholarships to University Students, as amended.

the state subsidy for social support of students. The details are governed by an internal regulation.

- 5. According to its possibilities, the university creates conditions for sports, cultural and other free-time activities of students. It contributes to these activities of students from the means of the state subsidy intended for this purpose and also from its own funds. The contribution to these activities is part of the budget of the university.
- 6. The university creates conditions for the study of students with specific needs without reducing the requirements for their academic performance.

More Detailed Definition of Academic Rights and Obligations of Students Section 19 Rights of Students

- 1. The Higher Education Act determines the general rights of students.
- 2. The university students are guaranteed additional rights to:
 - a) utilise communication and information services for the purposes and according to the rules resulting from the internal regulations,
 - b) utilise the opportunities for physical education, sports and culture offered by the university,
 - c) utilise additional forms of education provided by the university, such as language training, supplementary pedagogical studies, educational programmes of lifelong learning according to a special regulation,²)
 - d) utilise the possibilities of the social support system,
 - e) submit comments and complaints about all aspects of life at the university to the rector, deans and other senior employees and receive an appropriate response to them,
 - f) have their disciplinary offences assessed by a disciplinary committee.
- 3. For exemplary performance of duties or for extraordinary results beyond the scope of duties, the dean or the rector may award the student a commendation, honourable mention, special reward or special motivational scholarship.

Section 20 Obligations of Students

- 1. The Higher Education Act determines the general obligations of students.
- 2. Other obligations of university students mainly include:
 - a) proper fulfilment of their study and civic obligations,
 - b) compliance with generally binding legal regulations and internal regulations of the university,
 - c) respecting the rights of other members of the academic community,
 - d) taking care of the good name of the university through public speaking,
 - e) in case of violation of an obligation be subject to disciplinary measures in accordance with internal regulations.
- 3. A serious violation of obligations by a university student is discussed by the disciplinary committee of the university.

²) For example, Act No. 568/2009 Coll. on Lifelong Learning and on Amendments to Certain Acts, as amended.

4. A violation of accommodation regulations is an offence according to the "Accommodation Regulations of the Accommodation Facilities of the University of Žilina" and the procedure in case of violation of the accommodation regulations is governed by the "Offence Rules and Rules of Procedure of the Offence Committees of the UNIZA Accommodation Facilities".

Section 21

Rules for the Use of Academic Insignia and Performance of Academic Ceremonies

- 1. Academic insignia are a symbol of historical traditions of the university.
- The academic insignia are the rector's sceptre, medals with chains of academic dignitaries
 who wear them at university ceremonies matriculation, graduation and conferment of
 honorary doctorates and at academic ceremonies of other higher education
 institutions/universities or research institutions where they represent the university or its
 component.
- 3. The rector, vice-rectors, bursar, deans and vice-deans, secretaries of faculties, professors, associate professors and professional assistants are authorized to use the insignia on ceremonial occasions according to the instructions of the rector or dean, the chairperson of the academic senate of the university, the chairperson of the academic senate of the faculty and important guests upon the decision of the rector.
- 4. The rector is ceremonially introduced to the position by inauguration.
- 5. As a rule, students complete their university studies at a special graduation ceremony.
- 6. Parts of the matriculation and graduation ceremonies are the academic matriculation pledge and the academic graduation pledge.
- 7. Graduations of "Doctors of Science", "Doctors honoris causa" and graduates of the third degree of university study, as well as the awarding of the honorary title "Professor Emeritus" take place according to the protocol determined by the rector.
- 8. Academic matriculation pledge:
 - I, a student of the University of Žilina, promise that I will use all the rights given by the Higher Education Act to obtain a higher education.
 - I will make every effort to fulfil the obligations of a student and by my actions I will contribute to the development of personality.
 - I promise to honour, protect and spread the good name of the University of Žilina.
- 9. Academic graduation pledge:

I promise.

- that I will use the acquired knowledge and experience for the development of a democratic and humane society,
- that I will perform my duties properly, conscientiously, willingly and with full awareness of responsibility.
- that I will live so that my behaviour is consistent with my profession,
- that I will constantly deepen my education and continue to expand it.
- that I will keep in grateful memory the University of Žilina.

Section 22 Student Organizations

- 1. Students have the right to establish and participate in the activities of independent associations operating on university campus (student organizations) for the purpose of developing their extracurricular activities.
- 2. These associations are governed by statutes approved by the rector.
- 3. Their heads are accountable to the rector for the activities of these associations.

Section 23

Basic Principles of Labour Law Relationships at the University and its Faculties and the Procedure for Taking Decisions on These Matters

- 1. The university, as a public higher education institution, acts as an employer in labour law relationships.
- 2. Labour law relationships of employees with the employer are regulated by special regulations.³)
- 3. The self-governing powers of the university include conclusion, change and cancellation of labour law relationships and determination of the number and structure of job positions. Determination of the structure and number of job positions is based on the long-term plan of the university and of the faculties, depending on the fields of study and study programmes. The structure and number of job positions at the university are determined by the organizational rules of the university, which are approved by the academic senate of the university upon the proposal of the rector, and the organizational rules of the faculties, which are approved by the academic senates of the faculties upon the proposal of the deans. Job positions can only be occupied within the approved organizational structure and the approved number of job positions, taking into account the financial resources allocated to the respective workplace.
- 4. The Minister of Education performs legal acts on behalf of the employer vis-à-vis the rector.
- 5. The rector is a statutory body, he/she performs legal acts in labour law relationships with the employees of the university, with the exception of those legal acts in labour law relationships, which he/she delegated in accordance with the organizational rules of the university to the bursar and legal acts of the faculties pursuant to paragraph 6.
- 6. Faculties have the right to decide or act on behalf of the university in matters of conclusion, change and cancellation of labour law relationships of the employees assigned to the faculty. The dean performs legal acts in labour law relationships, within the scope of the available salary resources of the faculty and according to the number and structure of job positions at the faculty determined in the organizational rules of the faculty. The dean is accountable to the rector for cases of violation of generally binding legal regulations and internal regulations of the university in the field of labour law relationships at the faculty as well as for the remuneration of employees. In case of violation of the internal regulations of the faculty in the field of labour law relationships of employees assigned to the faculty, the dean is accountable to the academic senate of the faculty.
- 7. The bursar has the right to decide and act on behalf of the university in matters of conclusion, change and cancellation of labour law relationships of all employees in the

³) Act No. 552/2003 Coll. on the Performance of Work in the Public Interest, as amended, Act No. 553/2003 Coll. on Remuneration of Certain Employees in the Performance of Work in the Public Interest, on the Amendments of Certain Acts, as amended, Act No. 311/2001 Coll. The Labour Act, as amended.

departments he/she manages. He/she is accountable to the rector for this activity, including the remuneration of employees.

Section 24

The Internal Management Rules of the University, Including Rules for Conducting Business Activity

- 1. The Rector is accountable to the Minister of Education for the management of the property of the university.
- 2. The management of property in the conditions of the university is governed by the Higher Education Act and, in matters not regulated by this Act, by special regulations.⁴)
- 3. The board of trustees performs the role of the self-governing body in handling the property of the university.
- 4. **The university**, including individual faculties and components, may <u>validly</u> conduct business activity using the property of the university in relation to third parties, namely natural persons, legal persons or natural persons entrepreneurs, <u>only on the basis of written legal acts.</u>
- 5. The costs of business activity must be covered by the income from it. The dean or the head of the component are accountable to the rector for business activity conducted using the property of the university.
- 6. The components of the university are represented by the heads of components when they conduct business activity, including the conclusion, changes, cancellation and signing of legal acts (e.g. contracts) related to their business activity, the management of financial resources intended for this activity and the management of financial resources obtained from this activity, if the total amount of payment or the sum of individual payments in the same legal act is less than EUR 35,000. In other cases, the rector signs legal acts. The heads of individual components are accountable to the rector for these activities.
- 7. If the legal act is signed by the head of the component, the university as a participant in the legal act must be marked as follows in the introductory part of the legal act (in the so-called header):

⁴) For example, Act No. 176/2004 Coll. on the Disposal of the Property of Public Institutions and on Amendment of the National Council of the Slovak Republic Act No. 259/1993 Coll. on the Slovak Forestry Chamber, as amended by Act No. 464/2002 Coll., as amended.

Head of the component

8. All legal acts connected with the long-term lease of immovable property of the university are signed on behalf of the university as lessor, or borrower, always **by the rector**, except for short-term leases (with a maximum duration of 1 week) of movable and immovable things, which are signed by the bursar.

Section 25

Rules for the Performance of Powers of the Faculties in Matters in which They Act on Behalf of the University

- 1. The faculties exercise the self-governing powers of the university as a public higher education institution to the following extent:
 - a) determination of other conditions of admission to study and decision-making in the admission procedure for study programmes delivered by the faculty,
 - b) decision-making on matters related to the academic rights and obligations of students enrolled for study according to the study programmes delivered by the faculty.
 - c) conclusion, change and cancellation of labour law relationships to the extent and under the conditions specified in this statute,
 - d) conducting business activity (Section18 of the Higher Education Act) according to the rules specified in this statute,
 - e) cooperation with other higher education institutions/universities, legal entities and natural persons, including foreign ones, in the areas in which the faculty operates, to the extent and under the conditions specified in this statute and the internal regulations of the university.
- 2. In matters referred to in paragraph 1 letters a) to e) the dean acts on behalf of the university. He/she is accountable for his/her activities to the rector.
- 3. If, after assessment (from the substantive side), a specific legal act can be included among the matters belonging to the self-governing competence of the faculty in the sense of paragraph 1 letters a), b), c) d) and e) of this provision, in such case the legal act is signed by the dean and the authorization from the rector is not required.
- 4. If the legal act is signed by the dean, the university as a participant in the legal act must be marked as follows *in the introductory part* of the legal act (in the so-called header):

University of Žilina Faculty Represented by:, the dean Seat: Company identification number:
Tax ID: legal form: a public institution established by the Higher Education Act. No. 131/2002 Coll. as a public higher education institution
In the final part of the legal act (in the signature part) as follows: University of Žilina Faculty
(handwritten signature) Dean

5. The faculties are represented by the deans when they conduct business activity, including the conclusion, changes, cancellation and signing of legal acts (e.g. contracts)

related to their business activity, the management of financial resources intended for this activity and the management of financial resources obtained from this activity, if the total amount of payment or the sum of individual payments in the same legal act is less than EUR 35,000. In other cases, the rector signs legal acts.

6. When implementing the faculty's cooperation with other higher education institutions/universities and their components, legal entities and natural persons, including the foreign ones, in the areas in which the faculty operates, including the conclusion, changes and cancellations of contractual relationships related to this area of the faculty's activity, the management of financial resources intended for this activity and the management of financial resources obtained from this activity, the faculty is represented by the dean.

Section 25a Official Notice Board

- The university and its faculties have their official notice boards. If the internal regulations
 of the university do not stipulate otherwise, documents relating to the entire university are
 published on the official notice board and documents relating to the faculty are published
 on the official notice board of the respective faculty.
- The official notice board of the university must be clearly marked and placed in an easily
 accessible place in the premises where the rectorate of the university is located. The
 official notice board of the faculty must be clearly marked and placed in an easily
 accessible place in the premises where the dean's office of the relevant faculty is located.
- 3. The documents established by the Higher Education Act are published on the official notice board. In addition, other documents and announcements may be published on the official notice board upon the decision of the rector or the dean.
- 4. As a rule, the documents posted on official notice boards are also made available through the university website.

Section 25b Amendments to the Statute

- 1. Amendments to the statute are made in the form of written amendments which are subject to registration by the ministry.
- 2. Every time the statute is amended, its full text is also issued.
- 3. The statute, its amendments and the full text are published in electronic form on the university website.

Section 26 Transitional Provisions

- 1. The internal regulations of the components of the university must comply with the internal regulations of the university.
- 2. All components shall harmonize their internal regulations with this statute no later than three months from the date of its entry into force. Those parts of the internal regulations that conflict with the provisions of this statute are invalid after the expiration of this period.

Section 27 Final Provisions

- 1. This statute was approved by the UNIZA Academic Senate on 30 January 2023.
- 2. This statute enters into force from the date of the registration by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and is effective from the date of entry into force of the decision on its registration.
- 3. The Directive No. 106 Statute of the University of Žilina, as amended, is repealed.

prof. Ing. Róbert Hudec, Ph.D Chairperson of the UNIZA Academic Senate prof. Ing. Ján Čelko, CSc. Rector