THE UNIVERSITY OF ŽILINA IN ŽILINA / 2015 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT / 2015 UNI

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# THE UNIVERSITY OF ŽILINA IN ŽILINA

Taking into account both quantitative and qualitative indicators, the University of Žilina in Žilina belongs to the most significant universities in Slovakia on a long-term basis. Based on accreditation by government authorities, the University provides higher education in all three degrees of study – Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral in both full-time and part-time forms.



The mission of University of Žilina in Žilina (hereinafter referred to as the UNIZA) is to develop education on the basis of science, research and art activities within national and democratic traditions, to develop harmonic personality, knowledge, the good and creativity of a man and to contribute to the advancement of education, science, and culture for the welfare of the whole society. Its activities conduce to the development of education as a part of culture and to the enhancement of science, technical, economic, and artistic level of society. These activities are in line with the worldwide development in science, technology, art, and culture.

# PROFILE

Its professional profile makes the University of Žilina unique among Slovak universities. It includes transport (road, railway, water, air), transport and postal services, communications, roadway and building construction, electrical engineering, telecommunications, informatics, information and communication technologies, management and marketing, mechanical engineering, materials and technologies, robotics, machinery design, energies, civil engineering, crisis and security management, civil security, fire protection, forensic engineering, applied mathematics, teacher training, library and information sciences, social pedagogy and high mountain biology.



### **RECTOR:**

Dr. h. c. Prof. Ing. Tatiana Čorejová, PhD.

**FIRST VICE-RECTOR AND VICE-RECTOR FOR EDUCATION:** Assoc. Prof. Ing. Milan Trunkvalter, PhD.

VICE-RECTOR FOR SCIENCE AND RESEARCH: Prof. Ing. Ján Čelko, PhD.

**VICE-RECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND MARKETING:** Assoc. Prof. Ing. Jozef Ristvej, PhD.

**VICE-RECTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT:** Prof. Ing. Jozef Jandačka, PhD.

VICE-RECTOR FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS: Prof. Ing. Karol Matiaško, PhD.

**BURSAR:** Ing. Jana Gjašiková





Education is provided at 7 faculties: Faculty of Operation and Economics of Transport and Communications (FPEDAS), Faculty of Mechanical Engineering (SjF), Faculty of Electrical engineering (EF), Faculty of Civil Engineering (SvF), Faculty of Management Science and Informatics (FRI), Faculty of Security Engineering (FBI), Faculty of Humanities (FHV) and one study programme is provided by the Institute of High Mountain Biology (VÚVB) in Tatranská Javorina on the whole university level. Activities connected with continuing education are carried out at the Institute of Life-

Activities connected with continuing education are carried out at the Institute of Lifelong Learning, Aviation Training and Education Centre, etc. The UNIZA launched new services and functions in its information systems and the upgrade of its hardware infrastructure. As for information technologies, they are of the highest importance for the smooth running of the University and they require high quality level of development, management, administration, security and operation of IT infrastructure.





The quality of higher education is the indicator of the level and successfulness of a higher education institution. At the UNIZA it is managed by the internal quality system which was implemented at all faculties and institutes in 2014. 17 measurable quality indicators were created in order to measure performance and quality. As for ensuring the quality of education, the UNIZA Board of Quality was established as the Rector's advisory and coordinating body. The internal quality system of education at the University takes into consideration the uniqueness of an academic environment and it contributes to the quality of managing processes.

SCORE S

In the academic year 2014/2015, the UNIZA faculties and institutes provided 196 study programmes altogether, out of which 124 were provided in a full-time form and 72 in a part-time form of study.

In 2015, the complex accreditation of the University was completed. Based on the evaluation of criteria fulfilment, the Accreditation Commission proposed to categorize the University of Žilina in Žilina as a university higher education institution. In 2015, the activities within structural fund projects continued which resulted in creation of new accredited study programmes (Applied Telematics, Photonics, Autotronics, Buildings, Planning of Transport Infrastructure, Security and Protection of Critical Infrastructure, Risk Management), other study programmes were innovated (Informatics, Information Systems) and new study materials were prepared (laboratory tasks, presentations, multimedia materials, study portal, etc.).

### Number of accredited study programmes to 1. 9. 2015

Faculty	Degree and form of study					Forms o To	Total		
	]	L.	2	2.	3	3.			
	F	Р	F	Р	F	Р	F	Р	
FPEDAS	9	5	8	6	5	5	22	16	38
SjF	5	2	10	2	9	9	24	13	37
EF	6	0	6	1	6	6	18	7	25
SvF	4	2	5	4	4	4	13	10	23
FRI	5	0	7	0	2	3	14	3	17
FHV	9	4	7	2	2	2	18	8	26
FBI	5	5	5	5	4	4	14	14	28
CUŠP*	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Total	44	19	48	20	32	33	124	72	196
	6	i3	6	8	6	5	19	96	

\*CUŠP – whole university study programme Ranger which is provided by the Institute of High Mountain Biology (VÚVB) in Tatranská Javorina F – full-time form, P – part-time form

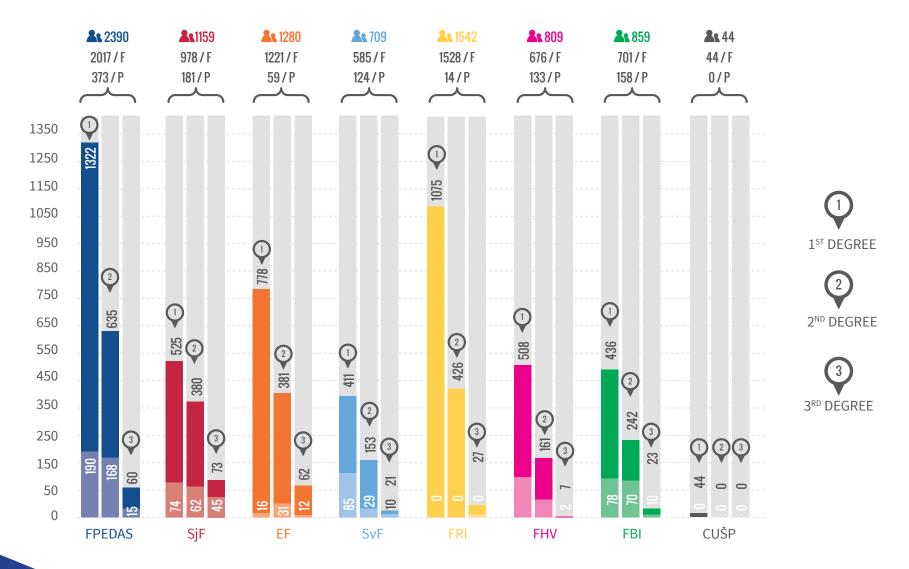




Regarding the total number of students 7,477 in Bachelor's and Master's study programmes in a full-time form of study, the UNIZA was placed the fourth among Slovak public higher education institutions. The number of full-time students in Bachelor's and Master's degrees decreased by 7.4 % compared to 2014.



NUMBER OF STUDENTS AT FACULTIES



F – full-time form, P – part-time form



### Number of students according to forms and degrees of study

Degree of study	Full-time form	%	Part-time form	%	Total
1.	5,059	90.6	531	9.4	5,630
2.	2,378	85.5	403	14.5	2,781
3.	273	71.7	108	28.3	381
Total	7,750	88.2	1,042	11.8	8,792

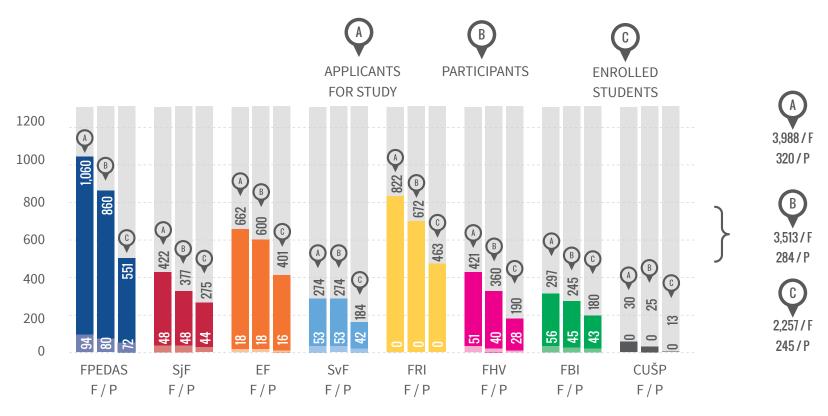
The interest in studying at the UNIZA was in average two times higher than its capacity. However, it was unequally distributed at individual faculties and study programmes.

At present the order of faculties according the total number of applicants is as follows: Faculty of Operation and Economics of Transport and Communications, Faculty of Management Science and Informatics, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Security Engineering and Faculty of Civil Engineering.

The number of **foreign students** has been stable for a long time. In 2015, the UNIZA had 122 foreign students studying in Bachelor's and Master's study programmes (82 in a full-time form and 40 in a part-time form) and 17 foreign students in Doctoral study programmes (1 in a full-time form and 16 in a part-time form). The students come from various countries: Czech Republic, Germany, Poland, Kazakhstan, Serbia, Russia, Belarus, Kenya, China, Ukraine, Italy, Austria, Hungary, Holland, and Vietnam.

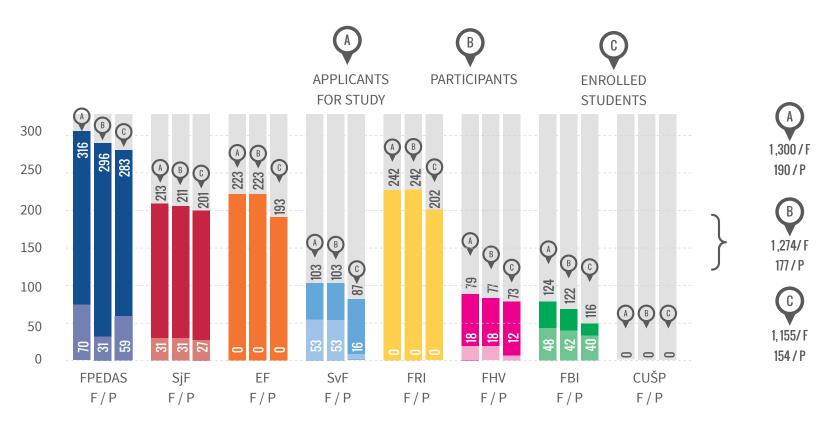


**ENTRANCE EXAMINATION STATISTICS IN 2015 – 1<sup>ST</sup> DEGREE** 



F – full-time form, P – part-time form

### ENTRANCE EXAMINATION STATISTICS IN 2015 – 2<sup>ND</sup> DEGREE



F – full-time form, P – part-time form

12/13

### INNOVATION AND INTERNATIONALISATION

In 2015, the implementation of structural fund projects continued (ESF – Operational Programme Education). These activities were oriented towards innovation of education on the level of individual faculties and also on the whole university level. The University implemented the project Quality Education with the Support of Innovative Forms, Quality Research and International Cooperation – a Successful Graduate for the Needs of Practice and Innovation and Internationalisation of Education –Tools for Increasing the Quality of the University of Žilina in the European Educational Space. Within these two projects, new accredited study programmes were opened, 69 textbooks and monographs were published (in printed or electronic forms) with the total cost 81,240 euros, academic literature (521 books) was bought to Uni-

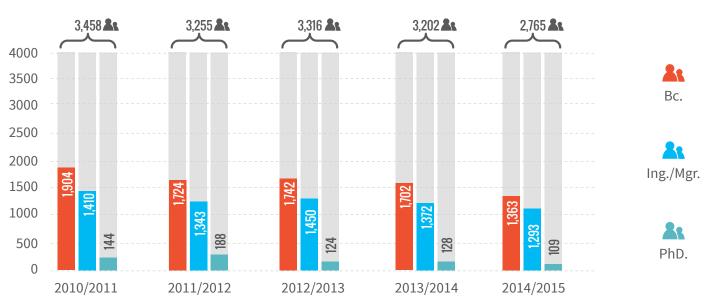
versity Library with the total cost 23,305 euros and ICT equipment for innovation of education forms was bought (335,000 euros). Based on the analyses of current situation in mobility processes and language training, new updated models and strategic documents were prepared in order to support international student mobility, e.g. the list of activities, competencies and liability of university departments in mobility implementation process; the regulation on evaluation criteria; the strategy of internationalisation of education at the UNIZA and mobility support. Updated promotional brochures about the University were published in both English and Slovak languages. In the last two years, preparation courses for Cambridge exams (FCE, CAE, TKT) were funded for 137 participants (47 employees and 90 students). Almost 3,000 students graduate from the UNIZA every year and more than 75,000 students have graduated from the University during 63 years of its existence.

Faculty		Full-tim	e form			Part-tin	ne form		Total
	1.	2.	3.	Total	1.	2.	3.	Total	
FPEDAS	300	343	16	659	33	53	0	86	745
SjF	177	161	32	370	11	19	6	36	406
EF	186	197	14	397	0	0	3	3	400
SvF	123	84	6	213	5	8	4	17	230
FRI	198	130	6	334	0	0	0	0	334
FHV	149	59	5	213	35	30	1	66	279
FBI	115	138	8	261	24	48	5	77	338
CUŠP	11	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	11
Total	1,259	1,112	87	2,458	108	158	19	285	2,734

### NUMBER OF GRADUATES 31. 12. 2015



### NUMBER OF GRADUATES IN 2010-2015





In 2015, the UNIZA research teams concentrated on various tasks of basic and applied research within national and international context. Apart from the research itself, the issues of high quality technical equipment of experimental work places and enhancement of human resources have continuously been monitored. A special emphasis has also been given to the transfer of results of research and development into practice.

The research capacity of the UNIZA was 981,000 hours

in 2015, which is equivalent to ca 490.5 full-time workers conducting scientific research. Individual work places obtained for their projects 2,290,971 € from VEGA, KEGA and APVV grant schemes.

The UNIZA obtained funds for implementation of 21 foreign research projects which was the total of 389,268€. The UNIZA teams actively participated in three projects within the new EU Framework Programme HORIZON 2020. Many workers were awarded prizes for their contribution to science and technology.



### FUNDS OBTAINED FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS WITHIN NATIONAL AND FOREIGN GRANT SCHEMES IN 2015:

Obtained funds	FPEDAS	SjF	EF	SvF	FRI	FBI	FHV	INSTITUTES
Scientific Grant Agency (VEGA)	88,667	269,781	146,460	96,117	53,560	22,967	5,801	0
Cultural and Edu-cational Grant Agency (KEGA)	7,141	141,058	42,553	12,397	15,524	6,256	13,535	0
Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV) - coordination	71,037	305,061	424,486	142,248	124,310	94,718	0	138,086
Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV) - participation	3,018	3,050	19,155	0	15,928	0	0	28,057
Funds from state budget	169,863	718,950	632,654	250,762	209,322	123,941	19,336	166,143
Funds from abroad	187,976	16,760	33,848	41,444	18,258	49,779	1,507	39,696
Total	357,839	735,710	666,502	292,206	227,580	173,720	20,843	205,839
Number of creative workers	129.82	128.34	123.65	73.65	87.64	49.01	75.57	93.1
Funds per 1 worker in € in 2015								
2015	2,756	5,733	5,390	3,967	2,597	3,545	276	2,211
2014	1,880	6,239	7,680	3,212	2,680	7,556	181	2,066
2013	2,078	6,961	3,718	2,815	1,855	5,166	446	1,100
2012	1,327	8,003	4,039	3,124	1,748	726	3,353	3,473

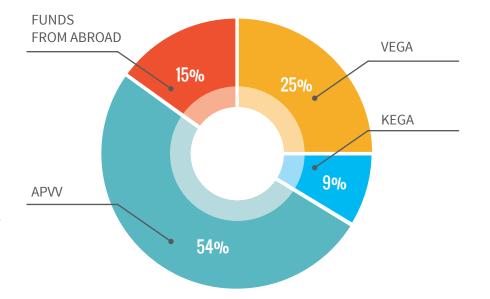
		FPEDAS	SjF	EF	SvF	FRI	FBI	FHV	INSTITUTES	TOTAL
Number	2015	6	1	3	3	1	2	2	3	21
	2014	5	0	4	2	2	2	0	3	18
	2013	6	0	3	4	2	3	1	3	22
	2012	4	0	3	3	3	1	2	8	24
Finance	2015	187,976	16,760	33,848	41,444	18,258	49,779	1,507	39,696	389,268
	2014	138,031	0	423,441	25,101	84,769	217,038	0	135,693	1,024,073
	2013	194,035	0	14,665	43,201	12,636	93,843	293	38,131	396,804
	2012	97,245	31,487	107,682	66,806	70,162	12,439	6,221	233,809	625,851

### NUMBER OF GRANT SCHEMES AND FUNDS OBTAINED FROM FOREIGN RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2012 - 2015

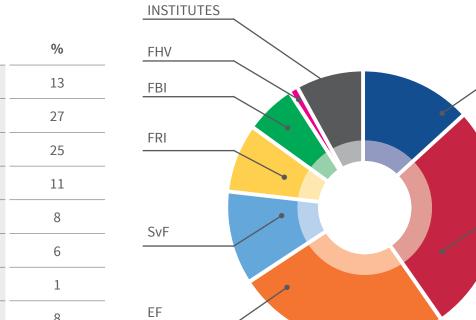


### **TYPE OF PROJECT/OBTAINED FUNDS IN 2015**

Type of project	Obtained funds in €	%
VEGA	683,353	25
KEGA	238,464	9
APVV	1,369,154	54
Funds from abroad	389,268	15
Total	2,680,239	100



Work place	Obtained funds in €	%
FPEDAS	357,839	13
SjF	735,710	27
EF	666,502	25
SvF	292,206	11
FRI	227,580	8
FBI	173,720	6
FHV	20,843	1
INSTITUTES	205,839	8
Total	2,680,239	100



WORK PLACE/OBTAINED FUNDS IN 2015

FPEDAS

SjF

### ORGANISATION OF SCIENTIFIC EVENTS AND PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS

In 2015, individual UNIZA work places organised up to 60 scientific events. Publication activities belong to the main activities via which development, storage and spread of academic knowledge have been ensured. Apart from the publication activities and presentation of the latest results, the most significant output of these scientific activities is making new contacts, creating international research teams and establishing close cooperation on the international level.

	FPEDAS	SjF	EF	SvF	FRI	FBI	FHV	INSTITUTES	TOTAL
Total	791	739	369	262	266	332	163	265	3187
Number of creative workers	129.82	128.34	123.65	73.65	87.64	49.01	75.57	93.1	760.78
Ratio per creative worker in 2015	6.09	5.76	2.89	3.56	3.04	6.77	2.16	2.85	4.19
2014	6.28	4.82	3.10	3.61	2.85	5.94	2.04	1.21	3.76
2013	6.80	4.58	2.94	3.30	3.38	5.23	2.08	0.56	3.77

#### **PUBLICATION ACTIVITIES IN 2015**

Note:

• if the authors of a publication are members of different faculties, the publication counts for each faculty

• creative workers = pedagogical workers + research workers





As for the number of employees, the UNIZA had 1,545 workers (number from 31. 12. 2015), out of which 836 were women. It represents 54 % out of the total number of employees. There were 654 university teachers at seven faculties and five institutes altogether. 223 employees worked in the field of research. There were also 2 visiting professors, 26 foreigners including 14 employees from the Czech Republic and 63 disabled citizens working at the University.

## THE NUMBER OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS WITH A SCIENTIFIC DEGREE HAS CONTINUALLY BEEN INCREASING.

In 2015, 5 UNIZA teachers were awarded the degree of Professor and 3 teachers were awarded the degree of Associate Professor. 18 employees completed their doctoral studies and the academic degree of PhD. was conferred on them.

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Employees	Nun	ıber	Ratio %		
	2015	2014	2015	2014	
University teachers*	624.3	629.2	40.5	40.7	
Research workers	192.7	196.2	12.5	12.7	
Specialised employees	175	169.6	11.4	11.0	
Administrative staff	203.2	201.2	13.2	13.0	
Operational staff at rectorate and faculties	166.5	160.7	10.8	10.4	
Employees at housing facilities	112.5	124.4	7.3	8.0	
Employees at canteens and cafeterias	66.5	64.1	4.3	4.2	
Total	1 540.4	1 545.4			

### NUMBER AND STRUCTURE OF EMPLOYEES

\*Professor, Assoc. Professor, Lecturer with doctoral degree, Lecturer without doctoral degree, Lector

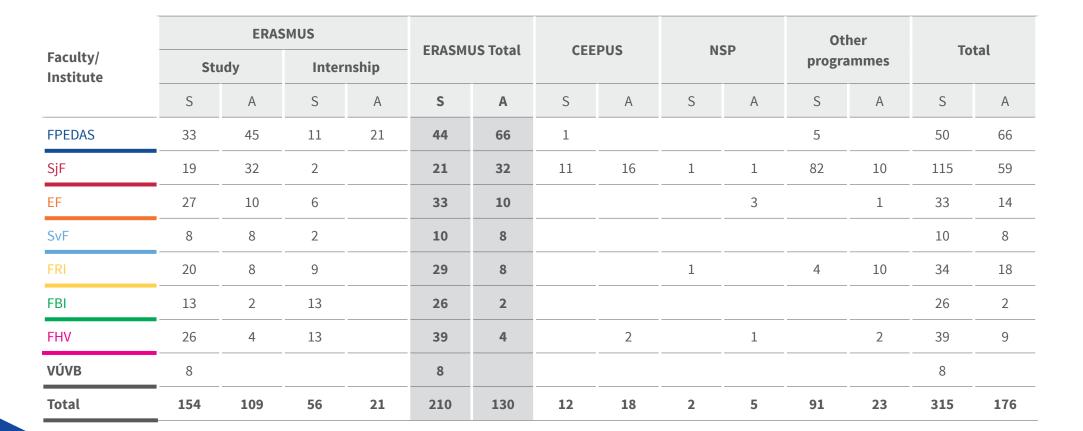


As for international cooperation, the University cooperated with many foreign higher education institutions mainly in the field of education, research and art not only in Europe, but also in America (the USA, Mexico) and Asia (the Republic of Korea, Japan, China and Taiwan) in 2015. The cooperation is based on bilateral agreements, contracts and memoranda within the ERASMUS+ Programme, some other programmes (NSP, CEEPUS, etc.) and grant schemes supporting foreign activities in the field of higher education, science and research. The UNIZA participated in more than 40 foreign non-research projects, out of which 36 were funded with the total sum of 1,327,745 € in 2015.





Since the academic year 2014/2015 the UNIZA has been participating in a new programme Erasmus+ and was given a grant of 579,000 €. The academic year 2014/2015 was the most successful year since the start of Erasmus mobility project implementation in 1999/2000 in spite of the decrease in the total number of students. 210 students were seconded to foreign study stays and internships, which is 17 more than last year and 130 foreign Erasmus students were admitted mainly from Poland, Turkey and Spain.



### **STUDENT MOBILITY IN 2014/2015 (S - SECONDED STUDENTS, A - ADMITTED STUDENTS)**

of the north-west region of Slovakia.

s technical infrastructure.

In spite of the slight decrease in teacher mobility activities (seconded and also admitted), the UNIZA belongs to the most active universities in the field of teacher mobility.

### ERASMUS TEACHER MOBILITY IN 2013/2014 AND 2014/2015 - NUMBER OF SECONDED AND ADMITTED TEACHERS

Facul-ty/Institute	Secondec	l teachers	Admitted teachers		
	2013/2014	2014/2015	2013/2014	2014/2015	
FPEDAS	17	17	36	21	
SjF	21	17	49	30	
EF	29	20	23	13	
SvF	7	6	14	17	
FRI	9	7	11	6	
FBI	18	17	12	16	
FHV	14	14	14	10	
ÚCJ	9	7	1		
Total	124	105	160	113	

Krajina	Seconde	Seconded teachers		teachers
	2013/2014	2014/2015	2013/2014	2014/2015
Poland	32	28	99	63
Czech Republic	27	23	36	34
Germany	15	8	1	0
Spain	10	9	1	0
Italy	9	6	0	3
France	2	1	0	1
Greece	5	4	2	1
Portugal	4	7	0	0
Bulgaria	5	3	7	4
Slovenia	5	0	0	1
Rumania	1	2	0	1
Latvia	0	1	1	1
Great Britain	0	0	1	0
Finland	2	5	0	1
Lithuania	3	3	5	0
Turkey	1	2	5	2
Croatia	2	3	1	1
Austria	0	0	1	0
Total	124	105	160	113

#### ERASMUS TEACHER MOBILITY IN 2013/2014 AND 2014/2015 - VISITED COUNTRIES

During the implementation of Erasmus programme, more than 1,600 students have been seconded to foreign study stays and almost 350 students have been seconded to Leonardo and Erasmus internships. 730 foreign students altogether have been admitted to the University, mainly from Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic and Spain. Within the teacher mobility programme, almost 1,200 teachers were seconded to foreign universities and 750 foreign teachers came to the UNIZA for a teacher mobility stay.

### MEMBERSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Membership of the University as a whole, its faculties, departments and also individuals in international organisations is a key factor for creating conditions suitable for taking part in international projects, for getting acquainted with the latest information on new trends in education, science, research and overall development of higher education institutions. It also serves as a tool for making new contacts and for promotion of the University abroad.

The UNIZA is a member of the following international organisations: EUA, ECTRI, FEHRL, EAIE, IGIP, Magna Charta Universitatum.



### COOPERATION BASED ON DIRECT BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

As for the direct bilateral cooperation, the UNIZA has had a developed cooperation with universities and higher education institutions in the field of science, research and education on the whole university level according to 38 existing framework agreements and more than 100 agreements have been signed at individual faculties and institutes.

It is still necessary to enhance cooperation mainly with research-oriented universities which enables active involvement of the UNIZA in the European research area (ERA) and Horizon 2020 platform.

It is in the spirit of global educational cooperation, improved cross understanding, and friendship that the YEUNGJIN College (YJC) in Daegu, 702-71 understanding as Yeungjin College, #112, 218, Bokhyun-Dong, Buk-gu, Daegu, 702-71 Korea, decided together with University of Zilina (UNIZA), established as Žilinská u

COUNTRY	PARTNER INSTITUTION	COUNTRY	PARTNER INSTITUTION
	Todor Kableshov Higher School		Akademia Gornico- Hutnicza Krakov
Bulgaria	of Transport Sofia		Politechnika Rzeszov
	TU Varna		Politechnika Sliezska Gliwice
	Univerzita Pardubice		Higher Hanseatic School
Czech Republic	VŠB - TU Ostrava	Delevel	of Management in Slupsk
-	Univerzita Hradec Králové	Poland	University of Economics
	Guizhou University of Technology,		and Innovation in Lublin
	Guiyang, Guizhou		Politechnika Czestochowska
	Zhejiang University of Science		Politechnika Swietokryzska
China	and Technology		Politechnika Lublin
	Ningbo University		Moskovskij institut inženerov
	of Technology – memorandum		železnodorožnovo tansporta (MIIT)
inland	Aalto University- memorandum		Moskva
France	École Nationale de l´Aviation Civile		Moskovskij avtomobiľnodorožnyj
	Toulouse	Durania	institut (MADI) Moskva
	Toyohashi University of Technology	Russia	Tulskij politechničeskij institut
Japan	University of Toyama		Moscow Technical University
Korea	Korea University Soul		of Communications and Informatics
Hungary	University of Pécs		Moscow State Technical University
Acuica	Universidad Nacional Autónoma		of Civil Aviation
Mexico	de México	Switzerland	ITU Ženeva
	Technische Universität Dresden	Italy	Universita Degli Studi di Parma
	Hochschule für Telekomunikationen	Taiwan	Kaohsiung University Road
Germany	Leipzig		National Aviation University Kijev
	Hochschule für Wirtschaft		Khmelnytskyi National University
	und Technik Dresden		National University of Shipbuilding
		Ukraine	Nikolajev
			Ternopil Ivan Puluj National
			- I I I I I I I

Technical University

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In 2015, long-term development objectives of the UNIZA included these activities: support of infrastructure and research development, support and enhancement of educational process, improvement in the field of administrative and financial procedures connected with calls for project proposals via offered support services at the University and also individual faculties and departments, completion of the whole university research centres of excellence, completion of strategically significant projects – the University Science Park and Research Centre, construction and reconstruction of buildings belonging to the University; innovations in technical equipment of existing buildings and procurement of new instruments and devices needed for modernisation of science and research infrastructure.

The funding of the UNIZA development activities was in 2015 provided mainly from these sources: European structural funds, own sources, funds from the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and extrabudgetary funds.



# In 2015, the University was funded from five operational programmes (within the programme period 2007 – 2013):

- Operational programme Research and Development 29 projects
- Operational programme Education –11 projects
- Operational programme of cross-border cooperation CR SR 9 projects
- Operational programme of cross-border cooperation PL SR 1 project
- Operational programme Environment international cooperation Swiss Financial Mechanism 1 project

# As for the further development, in 2016, the UNIZA will focus on preparation and implementation of the following activities:

- taking part in preparation of European structural funds projects within the operational programmes Research and Innovations and Education
- taking part in preparation of European structural funds projects within the operational programmes Quality of Environment and possibly their implementation
- drawing up of a zone planning scheme
- preparation of projects connected with the restoration of the historical building "A"
- preparation and implementation of projects connected with the UNIZA archive
- preparation and implementation of the project for the car park in front of the Faculty of Management Science and Informatics
- preparation of project documentation for the restoration of the auditorium in the Faculty of Management Science and Informatics





As for obtaining funds, the year 2015 was relatively successful when compared to 2014. Except for funds from the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of The Slovak Republic, the UNIZA obtained a considerable amount of funds from the European structural funds, Slovak Research and Development Agency and international cooperation, e.g. projects within the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union, ERASMUS+, Swiss and Norwegian financial mechanism, etc. **The University finished the year 2015 with a positive economic result of 3,585,397.80 € in total before tax, thus maintaining the optimum level of profitability.** 

The economic result of the University in 2015 is as follows:

### ECONOMIC RESULT IN 2015 (€)

The University of Žilina in Žilina	Revenues	Costs	Economic result
Main activity	60,686,760.20	57,123,434.05	3,563,326.15
Business activity	3,954,224.67	3,932,153.02	22,071.65
TOTAL	64,640,984.87	61,055,587.07	3,585,397.80

The economic result from the main activities is 3,563,326.15 € in total. The total revenue from the main activities is 7,336,513.25 € higher in comparison to the year 2014. The highest increase is in subsidies from the national budget (3,879,283 €).

An increase in the costs of main activities was 5,109,064 € higher than last year. This was caused mainly by 31% increase in depreciation of assets obtained from projects (2,715, 709 €), 57% increase in costs for services (1,589,189 €) and 35% increase in travelling expenses.

The positive economic result from business activities € 22,071.65 € is the result of a slight increase in takings from selling own products and services.





SIGNIFICANT EVENTS The first half of 2015 was connected mainly with the complex accreditation. Based on the evaluation of criteria fulfilment, the Accreditation Commission proposed to categorize the University of Žilina in Žilina as a university higher education institution. The University was placed among the first five Slovak universities.

In 2015, several prominent personalities visited the University of Žilina. In March, it was a Europe-an commissioner for transport and mobility Violeta Bulc and in April, an Ambassador of Russian Federation to Slovakia Alexej Fedotov.

The UNIZA representatives negotiated with the management of MIBA, Volkswagen and Railways of Slovak Republic. The contract on cooperation with Railways of the Slovak Republic and memorandum on cooperation with the Supreme Audit Office of the Slovak Republic were signed in December.

A significant milestone in the UNIZA history was the completion of the 1st phase of strategically significant projects – the University Science Park and the Research Centre of the University of Žilina in Žilina. The opening ceremony of these newly built buildings was held on December 7, 2015. The Minister of education, science, research and sport and many other honoured guests took part in this special event. A business trip of the UNIZA representatives together with the management of the city of Žilina and the CEIT company to Tampere in Finland belongs to important events as well. It contributed to the development of cooperation in the field of Smart Cities project.

Representatives of the UNIZA management took part in the meetings of the Board of Entrepreneurs, the Association of the Universities of the Third Age and the conference Innovative Development of Region 2015 and had presentations on the following areas: support of talented students, entrepre-neur profession, popularisation of science and technical fields, children's university and country of waves.

The Rector Dr. h. c. prof. Ing. Tatiana Čorejová, PhD. took part in the national conference How to Effectively Interlink Higher Education with Needs of Employers organised by a national project Higher Education Institutions – Driving Force of a Knowledge-based Society.

The faculties and institutes organised many important national and international educational and scientific events, seminars, conferences. The international conference of young researchers and teachers TRANSCOM was held at the end of June. One of its aims was to establish and develop further international cooperation.

The UNIZA actively participated in a popular event Festival of Science – European Researchers 'Night.





In 2015, two university auditoriums were reconstructed and modernised in cooperation with Siemens and Datalan companies.

In the field of marketing and PR, a visual style guide (a design manual) was put into practice. It unified the UNIZA visual communication in both internal and external communication. An effective channel of communication between employees, students and the public is the section informing on current events on the UNIZA web page www.uniza.sk. In 2015, 131 announcements were published on the UNIZA web page and a social website Facebook had approximately 3,800 fans at the end of 2015.

The communication with regional and national media was intensified. The International Relations and Marketing Office released 30 press news and provided the University's advertising in a national broadsheet in the appendix on higher education institutions.

In October, the UNIZA took part in the Study and Career Fair AKADÉMIA&VAPAC 2015 in Bratislava and European fair of lifelong education Gaudeamus in Nitra. The UNIZA participated in the Czech largest education fair Gaudeamus in Brno as an exhibitor for the first time.

In November, the UNIZA organised the event UNIZA Day in order to promote the University to potential students. The UNIZA workers visited grammar and secondary schools in Dolný Kubín, Poprad and Trenčín and made presentations on the University, possibilities of study, student's life and free time activities at the University.

In 2015, a series of lectures started within the cycle Research Station. The UNIZA researchers and scientists presented the results of their research to the public at the cultural junction Stanica Žilina – Záriečie. They gave lectures on the following topics: skCUBE – the first Slovak satellite, Higgs boson and transport junction simulation.

The Institute of Forensic Research and Education was accredited to provide doctoral study pro-gramme Forensic Engineering. It was also admitted conferment and inauguration rights. The Institute increased its importance within international scientific organisations.

The Institute of Physical Education organised many sports events, such as University Sport Days, the 17th November Run, Strečno Castle Run, Olympic Day Run, Rector's Sport Day, Slovak Univer-sity Golf League and University league in floorball and squash. The UNIZA students won many university sport competitions.

The Section of Foreign Languages was incorporated into the Institute of Lifelong Learning on 1st September 2015. The Institute also celebrated the 20th anniversary of the University of the Third Age.

The University Library implemented the project of textbook digitalisation and it started to offer electronic books. It provided information and library services supporting learning, teaching and re-search.

Teachers, researchers and students were awarded numerous prizes on national and international levels in 2015, e.g. Personality of the Year 2015 in the field of transport; National Aviation Prize of the Slovak Republic – Golden Wings in the field of science, research and education (in memoriam); the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering was awarded the prize for EMA 2015 exhibition on the 22nd International Machinery Trade Fair in Nitra; the Faculty of Electrical Engineering was awarded the prize The Ecological Act of the Year at the ELOSYS 2015 exhibition for reluctance motor for elec-tromobiles; the Faculty of Civil Engineering won Arpád Tesár Student Prize for a diploma thesis and also International Concrete Federation prize; the Faculty of Management Science and Informatics won a prestigious prize of industrial certification Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP) Routing&Switching; the Faculty of Security Engineering won the Slovak Literature Fond prize, etc.



### UNIVERSITY OF ŽILINA - THE RECTOR 'S ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD ON THE PREMISES OF THE UNIZA RESORT OF ZUBEREC, THE WESTERN TATRAS – ROHÁČE

1<sup>st</sup> row left:

Prof. Ing. Zdeněk Dvořák, PhD., dean of FBI
Prof. Ing. Milan Dado, PhD., dean of EF
Dr. h. c. Prof. Ing. Tatiana Čorejová, PhD., rector
Ing. Jana Gjašiková, bursar
Prof. Ing. Anna Križanová, PhD., dean of FPEDAS
Assoc. Prof. PaedDr. Vlasta Cabanová, PhD., dean of FHV
Assoc. Prof. Ing. Milan Trunkvalter, PhD., first vice-rector and vice-rector for Education

### 2<sup>nd</sup> row left:

Prof. Ing. Jozef Jandačka, PhD., vice-rector for Development
Prof. Ing. Josef Vičan, PhD., dean of SvF
Assoc. Prof. Ing. Jozef Ristvej, PhD., vice-rector for International Relations and Marketing
Prof. Ing. Ján Čelko, PhD., vice-rector for Science and Research
Prof. Dr. Ing. Juraj Gerlici, chairman of Academic Senate of UNIZA
Prof. Dr. Ing. Milan Sága, dean of SjF
Prof. Ing. Karol Matiaško, PhD., vice-rector for Information Systems
Assoc. Prof. Ing. Emil Kršák, PhD., dean of FRI

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