



FULL TEXT OF DIRECTIVE No. 213

elaborated on 5 May 2022

Quality Assurance Policies at the University of Žilina

Discussed by: UNIZA Academic Senate on 25 April 2022

Approved by: UNIZA Scientific Board on 5 May 2022

Effective from: 5 May 2022

Article 1

Introductory Provisions

1. The University of Žilina (hereinafter referred to as “UNIZA”) has long focused on the creation, implementation and maintenance of an effectively functioning internal quality assurance system for higher education at UNIZA (hereinafter referred to as “IQAS” *in Slovak* “VSK”) in accordance with the requirements of the Act No. 131/2002 Coll. on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments to Certain Acts, the Act No. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance in Higher Education and on Amendment to the Act No. 343/2015 Coll. on Public Procurement and on amendments to certain acts, as amended, respecting the Standards of the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (SAAHE) and the University's Long-term Plan which defines “Quality Assurance Policies at the University of Žilina” as an internal regulation (Directive) of UNIZA (hereinafter referred to as “UNIZA policies”).
2. The purpose of UNIZA policies is to set out the principles that apply to UNIZA through strategies, objectives, procedures, rules, and indicators. The application of the principles is set up so that it can be examined whether they have been applied in the relevant UNIZA objectives, procedures, rules, and indicators in a correct manner.

Article 2

Policy for the Creation, Modification and Approval of Study Programmes

1. UNIZA provides study programmes in the field of knowledge determined by the UNIZA Long-Term Plan, in accordance with UNIZA partnerships, current international trends, while respecting the interrelation of education with creative activities and the requirements of practice.
2. The study programmes at UNIZA shall correspond to the appropriate level of the qualifications framework and shall have a clear link with the system of professions.
3. The study programmes shall have clearly defined learning objectives as well as learning outcomes and UNIZA shall use an appropriate range of pedagogical and assessment methods to master and demonstrate them.
4. The internal composition of the study programmes at UNIZA shall allow for the flexibility of learning paths in the study and allows for the development into lifelong learning programmes.

Article 3

Policy for the Involvement of Employers and Other Stakeholders in Participation and Decision-making at UNIZA

1. UNIZA shall be interested in opinions and requirements of employers, employees and other stakeholders and involve them in the processes of the design and approval of the quality assurance system in order to create greater added value to the UNIZA's activities and results.
2. UNIZA shall obtain targeted feedback on its activities, decisions and results from stakeholders or authorities from practice in order to be able to validate its results and be inspired by the further development of UNIZA through improved and innovative processes and services.

3. UNIZA shall create an environment for the meaningful and mutually beneficial involvement of teachers in research activities and the involvement of researchers into the educational process.
4. UNIZA shall create favourable conditions for the further development of the internationalization of the education system.

Article 4

Policy for the Students Support and Involvement of Students

1. UNIZA shall ensure the timely identification of students in need of support and assistance in order to provide them with specific arrangements and information.
2. UNIZA shall ensure awareness of resources and services, the availability of the necessary resources and services for the support of education and learning for the students.
3. UNIZA shall support the personal development of students by encouraging their initiative and creativity, by conducting a dialogue in order to promote the student – teacher relationship, by providing opportunities as well as resources for organizing events.
4. UNIZA rejects any discrimination and intolerance and also in relation to students it takes effective measures in order to prevent any manifestations of discrimination and intolerance.

Article 5

Policy for Transparency and Public Information

1. The information published on the UNIZA's mission, study programmes, graduates and the functioning of the internal system shall meet the relevant needs of stakeholders in terms of timing, form, and content.
2. UNIZA shall ensure the transparent management of financial resources and shall ensure the efficient use and management of its assets.
3. UNIZA shall ensure that its responsibilities towards the set strategic goals are addressed.
4. UNIZA obtains the information necessary for management in such a way and by such means as to place a minimum burden on the creative staff and students of UNIZA.

Article 6

Policy for Monitoring, Reviewing, Approval and Improvement of the Internal Quality System

1. The management of UNIZA shall ensure the independence and objectivity of the monitoring, evaluation, and approval of study programmes in order to achieve the required level of quality of education and to increase it.
2. Through continuous monitoring of the external as well as the internal environments, UNIZA systematically obtains the information necessary for the modification of the study programmes and the educational environment, while feedback from internal and external stakeholders (partners) on UNIZA's activities, outputs and outcomes creates an essential source of information for improvement.
3. The monitoring of progress in research and fields of study is a matter for all creative employees and is organized at all levels of UNIZA.

4. UNIZA shall respond to societal changes and threats and take measures in order to reduce environmental burdens.
5. The management of UNIZA shall regularly review the UNIZA internal quality system in order to verify its functionality and to improve it systematically through the measures taken.
6. The measures taken and their effectiveness shall be continuously integrated into the UNIZA monitoring system.

Article 7

Final Provisions

1. The quality assurance policies at UNIZA are an integral part of the quality assurance system which is the concept document of the Board for the Internal quality system at UNIZA.
2. This Directive shall be respected by all UNIZA workplaces (units), its employees and partners of UNIZA.
3. This Directive was discussed by the UNIZA Academic Senate on 21 June 2021 and approved by the UNIZA Scientific Board on 1 July 2021. The Directive is effective and enters into force on the date of its approval.
4. The Amendment No. 1 to the Directive No. 213 was discussed by the UNIZA Academic Senate on 25 April 2022 and was approved by the UNIZA Scientific Board on 5 May 2022.
5. The Amendment No. 1 shall enter into force and effect on the date of its approval by the UNIZA Scientific Board, i.e. on 5 May 2022.

In Žilina on 5 May 2022

prof. Ing. Jozef Jandačka, PhD
Rector