

2016
2020

Annual Activity Report
2020

University of South Bohemia
in České Budějovice



Jihočeská univerzita
v Českých Budějovicích
University of South Bohemia
in České Budějovice

Vision

In 2020 the University of South Bohemia aspires to be:

- a university beneficial to the city and the region
- a sought-after and friendly university that belongs among the best in the Czech Republic
- a competitive university on the European as well as global scale

Values

Professional	The University of South Bohemia relies on highly qualified and competent staff in all areas of its activities.
International	The University of South Bohemia builds on international cooperation on a global scale, with particular emphasis on the European Danube-Vltava region.
Open	The University of South Bohemia is open to accepting and sharing new ideas and approaches, as well as to establishing new partnerships.
Ambitious	The University of South Bohemia is a perceptive institution and aims high in all areas of its activities.
Integrating	The University of South Bohemia connects internal and external partners and is a free environment for expressing and fulfilling their ideas.



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Introduction

The document entitled 'Annual Activity Report of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice 2020' (hereinafter as 'AAR 2020') represents an integral part of strategic management, among other things, as well as the fulfilment of the vision of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice (hereinafter as 'USB'). According to the assignment of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic (hereinafter as 'MEYS'), the Annual Activity Report (AAR) 2020 is structured in three parts: core part, text appendix and table appendix. Higher education institutions compile all mandatory reporting data into Text and Table appendices. The outline of the appendices is binding for universities and is based on MEYS guidelines.

Fulfilling the 2020 Vision

The core part of the AAR 2020 is based on the structure of the USB Strategic Plan for 2016-2020 (formerly designated as the 'Long-term Plan') and the Implementation Plan of the USB Strategic Plan for 2020. Accordingly, five strategic topics in total are defined in the core part of the AAR 2020: education, research, internationalisation, openness, and management.

The mission of the core part of the AAR 2020 is to describe the status of implementation of the Implementation Plan of the USB Strategic Plan for 2020. Individual priority objectives are supplemented by descriptions of implementation of the most important activities planned that were desirable for the development of USB or that reacted to facts that were not clearly known during the preparation of the USB Strategic Plan for 2016–2020. In addition to the most important measures indicated in the Implementation Plan of the USB Strategic Plan for 2020, other specific activities for achieving objectives were implemented as well, however, these activities are taken into consideration in implementation plans of the Strategic Plan of individual faculties and subsequently in faculty AARs.

Vision

Mission

Education
Research
Social responsibility

Strategy

1. Education
 2. Research
 3. Internationalisation
 4. Openness
 5. Management
-

Resources

People
Cash
Infrastructure

A Word from the Rector

The Annual Report of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice 2020 is an adequate picture of the activities of this higher education institution in 2020. In any case, it was an exceptional year, as is evident in a number of places in this report. In many ways, it was a very successful year for USB. For example, in terms of our University's position in prestigious international rankings, including THE. On the other hand, we will all associate the past year mainly with the news from China, Italy and other countries about the spread of the Covid-19 virus, which very quickly jumped to the territory of the Czech Republic. The life of universities and the education system in general was thus unprecedentedly marked by the spread of the disease in the Czech environment and the Government's anti-pandemic measures, which have continued even into the spring of 2021. Higher education institutions operated in the system of online teaching almost the whole year and only occasionally – including during the summer months – managed to catch up with practical instruction or internships so that students did not have to extend their studies until the next academic year in their majority.

The year 2020, and also 2021, in which I am writing this introduction, is thus a year of extraordinary effort for many employees of higher education institutions, as well as for many students, and it is also a year of enormous psychological strain, which unfortunately has not been and probably never can be adequately balanced. It will undoubtedly affect the mental and physical well-being of all of us for the rest of our lives. Nothing will ever be the same in this respect, no one will ever give us back the lost time and possible personal development. In spite of that, USB managed to launch distance learning in the spring of 2020 already as one of the first universities. At first, it was somewhat improvised, e.g. via Skype, in the following days via suitable distance learning tools, which became a reality not only for the whole year 2020 but also for the whole academic year 2020/2021. I have already thanked all the staff and students for their commitment on various occasions, but I think it is appropriate to repeat this thanks to all those who have contributed to the successful management of the tasks of our University and the society-wide tasks here. The role of universities in society was thus visible, central to the management of the epidemic, and should therefore be taken into account in future years in terms of overall support and funding for universities. Society cannot do without the knowledge, expertise, but also the logistical and work efforts of universities in crisis situations – this is a fundamental realization of the past year.



From the point of view of the internal running of USB, paradoxically, one of the key points of my programme, with which I assumed the office of the Rector in the middle of the spring wave of the epidemic, was successfully fulfilled. It was and is a significant digitalisation of our University's remit, which became a reality during the transition to the online teaching system but also at many meetings and negotiations of University and faculty boards, although in a slightly different order of priorities than I imagined. On the other hand, 2020 did not much favour internationalisation, organisation of scientific conferences, which cannot be completely replaced by online meetings. However, much has been achieved in this direction, including several online international conferences, virtual meetings with those interested in studying abroad, etc.

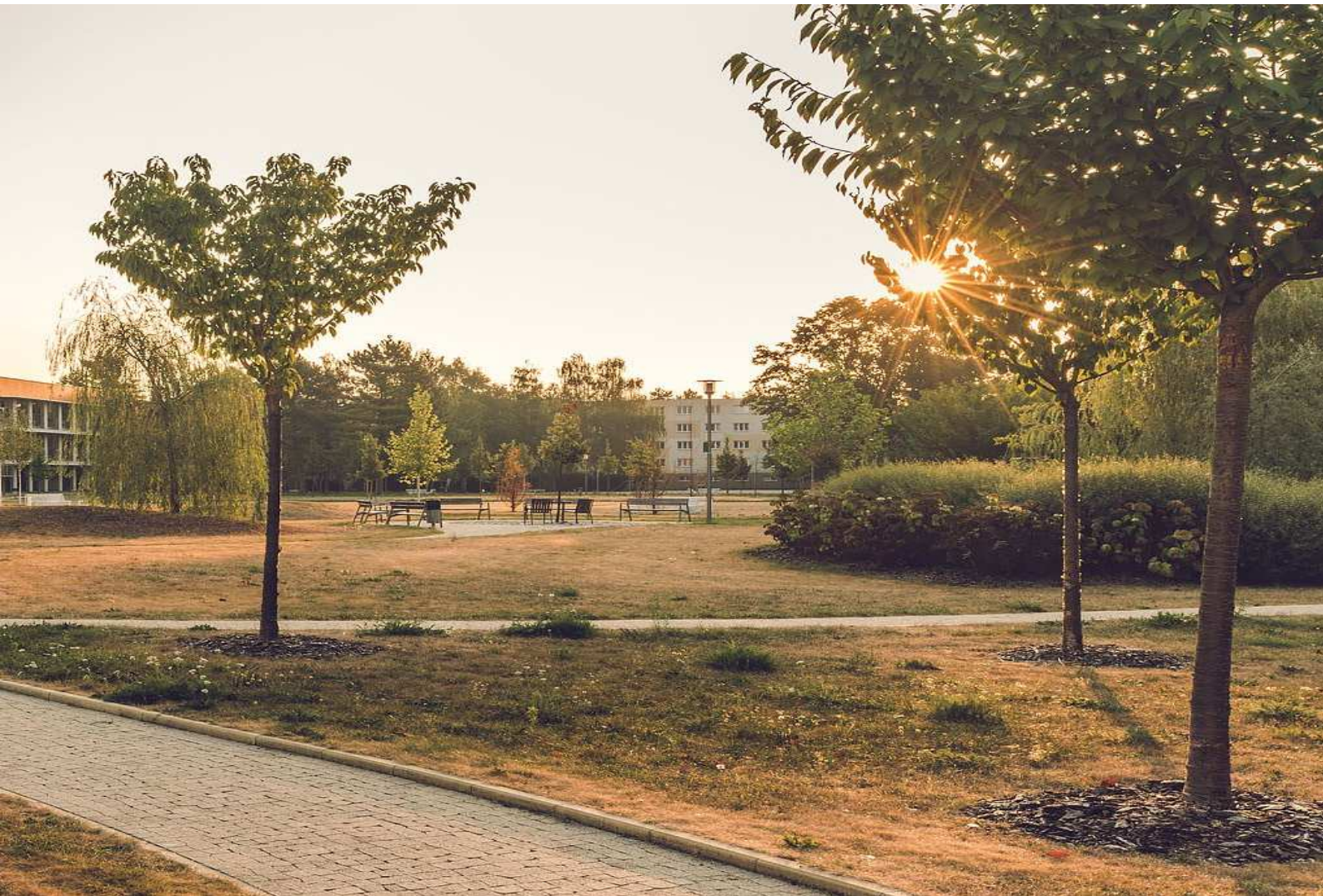
Thanks not only to the current but also to the past management of USB and all its faculties and units, it was possible to organise an online meeting of the International Evaluation Panel in autumn 2020 on the basis of previously prepared documents. In the context of the Czech Republic, it was one of those that worked very responsibly and took a thorough interest in what was happening at our school in connection with the provision of all the activities of USB at the European level. We will draw on its valuable reflections and insights in the years to come. Some of its conclusions also became the basis for the final revisions of the USB Strategic Plan 2021–2030, the preparation of which was also one of the main topics of 2020. The entire academic community must be thanked for the thorough discussion of this strategic document with which we will step into the fourth decade of our University's existence.

I believe that it will be a successful decade.

Prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr.
Rector



Our Performance in 2020





Education

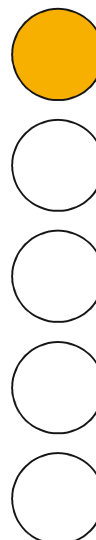
Objective 1.1 Establishment of the Institute of Technology (Centre for practical instruction of technological study fields)

Our Performance in 2020

Irrelevant - The strategic project entitled 'Centre for practical instruction of technological specialisations (CPITS)' as well as its later modification to 'Institute of Technology of the FSC USB (TECHIN)' were suspended due to grounds arising from conditions of the corresponding call of the OP RDE that does not support new construction of this kind.

Funding sources -

Responsibility Rector, Dean



Objective 1.2 Building, modernising, and innovating premises/equipment for degree programmes/fields (theory to practice education)

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Out of the planned University-wide priorities for building and modernising methods of instruction in accordance with the USB Investment Plan for 2020, it was possible to successfully:

- prepare and launch the project 'USB – FAG Chemistry Pavilion';
- prepare the project 'USB – FED Renovation of the Na Sádkách sports grounds';
- complete the design documents for the project 'USB – FTH Renovation of the Na Mlýnské stoce building';
- complete the project 'Simulation Centre for Health-oriented fields of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice' (SLNO) and to put the centre into operation;
- implement infrastructural innovations under the projects 'USB Development – ERDF' and 'USB Development – ERDF II'.

Funding sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, MEYS programme funding, institutional resources, University's own resources

Responsibility

Rector, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Vice-Rector for Development, Bursar, Dean

Objective 1.3 Optimisation of degree programmes/fields

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

The Internal Evaluation Department was reinforced by 1 person, which led to a better and more professional control of the submitted accreditation materials and to faster and more effective communication with faculties in the process of eliminating errors.

A reform of the evaluation of degree programmes and individual units of the University was initiated – preparation of an effective system of a five-year formative evaluation of degree programmes and individual faculties and their activities. The system is expected to be operational in 2021.

The system of cooperation with the sphere of application at the individual faculties is operating well. In 2020 it was subjected to a difficult test of pandemic restrictions on studies and related other contacts. As these restrictions have not yet ended, the effectiveness of solutions to individual cases cannot yet be fully assessed. However, all faculties where internships are important, are working hard on this matter and it can be expected that the experience gained during this time will help to develop this cooperation in the following periods. The USB Faculty of Education has prepared a concept of a university school as its clinical facility and the process of discussion of this concept in the USB Board of Trustees, whose approval is necessary for the successful establishment of the school, has begun.

The activities of the project 'USB Development – ESF II' were launched, aiming, among other things, to clarify the structure of the offer of degree programmes and to specify the study profile using annotations of degree programme profiles (under the responsibility of the USB Career Centre, coordinated by the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs). The project also includes the introduction of a modularised form of instruction at the USB Faculty of Science.

Funding sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, foreign resources

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Vice-Rector for Development, Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation

Objective 1.4 Bolstering efficiency and quality of instruction

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Also in 2020, within the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, activities aimed at supporting gifted students (especially at the consecutive master's and doctoral level) and their engagement in creative activities and instruction were facilitated.

At most faculties, the sub-activity DA 2.2 of the project 'USB Development – ESF' was completed. The project focused on the implementation of new methods of instruction, especially in relation to the infrastructural innovations implemented under the projects 'USB Development – ERDF'. At the same time, the implementation of the following strategic project 'USB Development – ESF II' was launched, which, among other things, addresses the innovation of instruction (modular arrangement of research-oriented instruction) at the USB Faculty of Science.

There is a new setup of the SEI system, which is integrated within the IS STAG database. The common basis of surveys for all faculty was simplified, but the faculties were left with the opportunity to expand the questions within the SEI at their own discretion. In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, there has also been an extraordinary expansion of questions to assess the methods of instruction used over the period of closure of full-time studies.

Due to the challenges brought by the Covid-19 pandemic, the introduction of distance learning and online support of instruction, especially using LMS Moodle and MS Teams, have been accelerated. In this context, also – following the planned completion of the DA 2.1 activity of the strategic project 'USB Development – ESF', which included enhancing the teaching skills and abilities of teachers, the educational module focused on e-learning (online course Fundamentals of e-learning for teachers) was intensively used.

In 2020, the activities of the project 'USB Development – ESF II' were also launched, aimed at developing support and counselling services for students and applicants for admission to studies, while these support services are also aimed at improving the quality and efficiency of instruction.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Vice-Rector for Research, Vice-Rector for Development, Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, Dean

Objective 1.5 Development of student-oriented services

Our Performance in 2020

Partially achieved

The main instrument aimed at the development of support and counselling services for students at USB is currently the strategic project 'USB Development – ESF II' (work on the project is planned for 2020–2022), specifically its sub-activities DA 1.1 'Support for the education of students with special needs', DA 1.2 'Development of career counselling' and DA 1.3 'Development of psychological counselling'. The counselling services were also supported by an investment activity consisting in the modernisation of the premises of the pedagogical and psychological counselling centre (under the strategic project 'USB Development – ERDF II').

Within the current portfolio of scholarships, attention was paid to the development of a scholarship programme for sports representatives in 2020. Other activities in this area that have already been steadily supported include, for example, the issue of preventing academic failure; in addition to counselling and support services, bridging courses are available, attention is paid to increasing the availability and quality of study aids and teaching materials, bolstering interactive elements in instruction, and the individual approach to students, etc.

In accordance with the USB Investment Plan 2020 in the field of accommodation and catering, the implementation of the construction under the project 'USB – Dormitories and Refectories, K4 dormitory renovation' was started.

As a result of the Government's measures against the Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible to fully develop the discussion (board meetings were online for most of the year, which limited them quite a bit) or specific measures for student admissions and subsequent risk assessment. The methods of instruction and examinations in 2020 were extraordinary and non-standard for the reasons mentioned above, so they did not allow the implementation of all the intended measures. On the other hand, this situation has accelerated the improvement of Moodle materials and brought the development of alternative methods of instruction.

Under the strategic project 'USB Development – ESF', the key activity 'Systemic bolstering of internationalisation', the development of services aimed at foreign students and bolstering the international environment at USB continued.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, MEYS programme funding, institutional resources, foreign resources

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for International Relations, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Vice-Rector for Development, Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Dean

Objective 1.6 Development and professionalisation of lifelong and continuing learning

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

The primary tool for the development and professionalisation of lifelong learning and continuing learning at USB in 2020 was the USB Institutional Plan. The key outputs of the IP project activities included increasing the efficiency of the organisation of the lifelong learning (LLL) system at USB (especially support for faculty coordinator positions); extension, optimisation and innovation of the LLL courses with regard to the Covid-19 pandemic, especially the development of online learning); further development of interest- or profession-focused LLL programmes; implementation of LLL programmes in locations in the region outside České Budějovice.

A marketing strategy for the LLL area was also developed and a visual style for the promotion of the LLL activities was approved.

Another significant achievement in 2020 was the provision of new premises in the centre of České Budějovice for the operation of the USB Goethe Centre (with the support of the USB Fund of strategic priorities).

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources except for R&D

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Vice-Rector for Development, Dean



Research

Objective 2.1 LCDRO redistribution system as a modern and flexible management tool

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

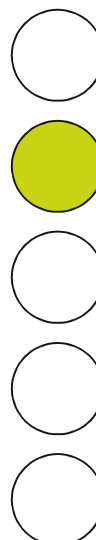
The USB budget methodology developed in 2019, relating to the method of distribution of the LCDRO grant across the University, remained valid in its basic outline in 2020. There were some minor changes in the selection and evaluation of non-bibliometric publication outputs, which respect the nature of the outputs and better reflect their importance for individual scientific fields (e.g. articles indexed in the Scopus database are now counted only within the fields falling under FORD 5 and FORD 6, patents are now divided into those granted or applied for in a given year). The methodology that is currently being finalised thus respects the instruments of the M17+ Methodology.

Due to the pandemic situation, the international evaluation of USB at the end of 2020 and the activities of USB leading to the creation of the School of Doctoral Studies in 2021, the application of the budget appropriations of the LCDRO budget chapter for the bonus for excellent teams and for the establishment of new research teams will be part of the budget only for 2022. This is due to the need to develop a strategy for the research directions supported by these appropriations in synergy with the goal of further development of doctoral studies at USB and the implementation of the recommendations of the USB International Evaluation Panel. These and the above-mentioned changes and modifications were approved by both the Rector's Board and the USB Academic Senate.

The individual faculties have their own methodologies for the redistribution of the allocated LCDRO, respecting their character and reflecting a common goal: quality scientific and research activity and motivation for this activity, including the development of interfaculty and interdisciplinary cooperation. Many faculties continue to distribute part of these funds through internal grant competitions. Two cross-cutting projects of the USB Institutional Plan for 2021 will also be a means of strengthening interfaculty and interdisciplinary cooperation: the organisation of a University-wide conference for PhD students and a popularisation brochure on recent significant results of research and development at USB.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources except for R&D, foreign resources

Responsibility Rector, Vice-Rector for Research, Vice-Rector for Development, Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, Dean



Objective 2.2 Bolstering the international standing of research

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

The international dimension of research is one of the main priorities of the University of South Bohemia. Cooperation with foreign institutions continued to take place mainly on an individual, non-contractual level, yet the number of scientific outputs produced jointly with foreign institutions increased year on year. In 2020, USB became a co-executor of two major European grants – EvoGamesPlus and EU-PolarNet. The international status of research at USB is undoubtedly improving. USB will continue to seek to bolster its involvement in international grants and human resource development at USB through the implementation of the HR Award Action Plan.

One of the recommendations of the international evaluation of USB, which took place at the end of 2020, was a certain centralisation of the administration of international scientific projects, including consulting activities. The training of R&D officers at the seminars held in 2020, which focused mainly on the administration and submission of project applications, in the implementation of this recommendation during 2021 and beyond, will certainly contribute to further creating a friendly environment in this area between USB and its researchers and will further bolster the international dimension of research at USB.

Unfortunately, the 'Covid' year 2020 did not favour trips and in-person meetings of representatives of USB partner institutions, as well as visits of foreign experts to USB. A number of foreign and domestic conferences were cancelled or postponed, including those planned at USB. Nevertheless, partnerships have been established or existing collaborations enhanced by means of distance communication, as in the case of Ton Duc Thang University (Vietnam) or National Taipei University of Technology (Taiwan).

In 2020, the University of South Bohemia has supported and will continue to support the development of the CENAKVA large research infrastructure, including its connection to international and national partners (e.g. within the ESFRI DANUBIUS-RI, AQUAEXCEL, etc.). USB supports the CENAKVA Centre mainly through a separate budget line under the LCDRO budget chapter. In 2020, an agreement was reached between the USB Faculty of Science and the USB Faculty of Agriculture to share the capacity of this large research infrastructure in the following years.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources except for R&D, foreign resources

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for Research, Vice-Rector for International Relations, Vice-Rector for Development, Dean

Objective 2.3 Systemic support for creating and maintaining workplaces for young researchers

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

In 2020, USB further developed its programme of support for university postdoctoral positions. Four university postdoctoral positions were announced for the first time, and this should continue to be the case in the coming years. The selection of applicants was carried out by committees composed of members of the USB Scientific Board based on the methodology approved by the board. Further direct support for young researchers has traditionally been provided through the USB Grant Agency at the university level and also through other support mechanisms (e.g. internal grant competitions) at the level of individual faculties.

For example, with the support of the OP RDE project 'USB Development – International Mobilities II', the USB Faculty of Science expanded its postdoctoral positions in 2020 with the competition 'Postdoctoral Junior Group Leader in Biology 2020', with the aim of attracting and supporting young promising scientists in establishing their own research team and securing further funding in the future. One of the conditions of both the support of university postdoctoral positions and the aforementioned competition at the USB Faculty of Science was and is an emphasis on non-University or foreign graduates (in order to prevent scientific inbreeding).

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources for R&D, special-purpose resources except for R&D

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for Research, Dean

Objective 2.4 Internal system of research evaluation

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

In 2020, the methodology for the distribution of institutional funds from the LCDRO budget chapter to USB units was refined. 20% of this chapter is now redistributed based on the results of M1 and M2 modules according to 17+ Methodology. According to the conclusions of the international evaluation of USB executed at the end of 2020, the inclusion of another M3 module will require the development of a new social relevance strategy at USB as well as the corresponding methodology.

USB uses the Information System for the Academic Staff Performance Evaluation (IS ASPE) to evaluate the quality of research. The individual faculties reward their academic and scientific staff on the basis of this system or use this system as a tool to further improve the quality of science and research.

Funding Sources institutional resources, special-purpose resources for R&D

Responsibility Vice-Rector for Research, Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, Dean

Objective 2.5 Systemic support for cooperation with the sphere of application

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Systemic support of cooperation with the commercial sphere continued to develop in 2020 both at the relevant USB units and was purposefully supported by the USB Technology Transfer Office (USB TTO), even during the period of the Covid-19 pandemic. USB TTO is still trying to obtain funding for the support and development of Proof-of-concept (PoC) activities, protection of intellectual property and for the development of the USB Technology Transfer Office (the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA CR) – significant involvement of faculties in the form of their own projects coordinated by USB TTO, Interreg, OP RDE, IP, etc.). USB TTO provided and provides functional and professional systemic support with practice mainly on the basis of partial outputs of the TA CR GAMA 1 and TA CR GAMA 2 projects, as well as through its own activities and seminars organised both for USB employees and students and for representatives of the commercial sphere. USB TTO has long been a member of various national and international technology platforms and expert committees, through which, among other things, contacts and mediation of cooperation between the academic and commercial spheres have taken place.

Stabilisation of the development of USB TTO will continue to be supported within the framework of the upcoming project 'USB Development – Capacities for R&D II'. The scouting network will be systematically expanded to include three humanities and social sciences faculties for broader support for knowledge transfers. Major steps towards this further development were taken in 2020.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources except for R&D, foreign resources

Responsibility Vice-Rector for Research, Dean

Objective 2.6 Development, modernisation, and upgrade of research infrastructure

Our Performance in 2020

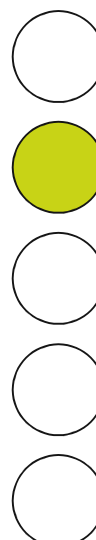
Achieved

Support for the large research infrastructures of USB (CENAKVA, the Centre for Polar Ecology and its Josef Svoboda Station on Svalbard) in 2020 was provided centrally by USB through a separate budget line within the LCDRO budget chapter.

The CENAKVA large research infrastructure is also directly supported by special-purpose resources of MEYS for great research infrastructures (Road map of large infrastructures of the Czech Republic). The development, modernisation, and upgrade of the research infrastructure within the faculties were mainly executed using their own resources, grant projects or projects for the development of research infrastructure for educational purposes.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources for R&D

Responsibility Vice-Rector for Research, Vice-Rector for Development, Dean



Objective 2.7 Systemic support for the promotion of significant research results

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

In 2020, USB published 48 new articles about science and research at USB on its portal www.sciencezoom.cz/. At the same time, it publicised the research by sending press releases to regional and national media. Some USB research activities have thus appeared, for example, in broadcasts of the [South Bohemian Television](#) or [Czech Television](#), on portals [iDNES](#), [vedavyzkum.cz](#), [univerzitas.cz](#), [jctt.cz](#), [transfera.cz](#), in the daily press, etc. USB researchers have also participated in various ways in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic and have received media attention (news portals, radio, television). USB also promoted the results of its research at science-popularisation events such as the national [Researchers' Night](#), [Festival of Science](#), etc.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources for R&D

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for Research, Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Dean



Internationalisation

Objective 3.1 Increasing the share of international students

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Questions of counselling and support for students and staff arriving at USB as well as students and staff of USB departing abroad were addressed under the ongoing execution of the project entitled 'USB Development – ESF'. So-called Orientation Week was organised for arriving international students in 2020 at the beginning of the winter as well as the summer semester. Two officer positions were created at the IRO of the USB Rectorate entitled 'Welcome officer' and 'Go abroad officer' to support students and staff of USB who wish to depart abroad and to support international students and staff. English language guides 'Welcome guide for incoming international students' and 'Welcome guide for Incoming Staff', 'Guide for employees participating in teaching or training mobility abroad' and 'Guide for students wishing to go abroad' have been created. The guides have been published on the USB website and are also offered in print to interested students and academic and non-academic staff. In 2020 the activities of the Euraxess Contact Point continued at USB. The University website with information for international students <http://www.jcu.cz/study-at-usb/practical-info/> was updated and modified, in autumn 2020 it was updated with information for students from Belarus who were interested in studying at USB from the winter semester 2020/2021.

From among other activities to support foreign students at USB, the following can be mentioned, e.g. organising courses of the Czech language for international students visiting for a semester-long stay and a year-long course Czech for foreigners that is concluded by a certified Czech language exam (under the auspices of FAR USB).

In 2020 there was also a one-week motivational stay at USB for a group of students from Russia (Chelyabinsk; 24/2 – 2/3/2020). Other planned motivational stays (e.g. for students from Ukraine) did not take place due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Online conference calls using IT technologies were used to a greater extent in the admission procedure for foreign students.

In 2020, within the framework of the USB IP 19–20 project 'Adaptation and Support for Foreign Students and Staff at USB', a plan was created and a method of dealing with emergency situations related to the stay of foreign students/staff at USB and the stay of USB students/staff abroad was set. An emergency contact line (24/7) for foreign students/staff at USB and the USB students/staff abroad has been established, including a methodology for the activities of the staff operating the Emergency Call line. This line proved to be very useful in dealing with emergency situations during the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in spring 2020 and later in autumn 2020. The project also supported psychological counselling for foreign students and employees at USB.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, foreign resources

Responsibility Vice-Rector for International Relations, Dean



Objective 3.2 Supporting international mobilities of students

Our Performance in 2020

Partially achieved

Students' trips abroad and internships in 2020 were negatively affected by the global pandemic Covid-19, which (and the associated restrictive measures to prevent the spread of the disease that were introduced by individual countries and foreign universities from March 2020) meant that most trips abroad did not take place as originally anticipated and planned.

In 2020, student mobilities were supported at USB mainly under the Erasmus+ programme (135 USB students travelled in 2020). The University 'Internal call of USB IRO: supporting international cooperation 2020' (MEYS funding for internationalisation) was announced to support student mobilities outside EU countries and the project 'International student mobilities' was addressed under the USB IP 19–20 to support mobilities lasting at least 30 days (a total of 27 mobilities lasting 99 student months were carried out within this project). Mobilities of students were also supported by scholarship funds of individual UBS faculties. Support for USB students was provided by a staff member at the IRO in the position of the 'Go Abroad Officer', which was introduced at USB within the framework of the OP RDE project 'USB Development – ESF'.

USB is also engaged in the projects 'USB Development – International mobilities' and 'USB Development – International mobilities – MSCA-IF'. The activities of these projects planned for 2020 could not all be implemented as planned, but changes were made and the start of some mobilities was postponed (based on consultations with the managing authority) so that the project conditions could be met.

Although acquisition trips to foreign universities were not made in 2020, new University-wide cooperation agreements were concluded with foreign universities National Taipei University of Technology, Taiwan; Astrakhan State University, Russia; VŠEMVS Bratislava, Slovakia; Ton Duc Thang University, Vietnam; Mongolian National University of Education, Mongolia.

In 2020, several foreign-language university documents were elaborated, and a number of current regulations, measures and other documents were issued simultaneously in Czech and English.

The activities of the international ESN USB Budweis student club within the European student network (ESN) continued in the context of the anti-epidemic measures (sewing masks in spring 2020, online student activities). The cooperation with the student organisation AIESEC continued to be supported.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, foreign resources

Responsibility Vice-Rector for International Relations, Dean

Objective 3.3 Development of the offer of studies in foreign languages

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Under the project 'USB Development – ESF', the offer of studies in foreign languages was supported – study courses in foreign languages were created at faculties. In 2020, the development of the offer of foreign language courses was also supported by IP USB 19–20 projects focused on the creation and innovation of foreign language courses at faculties. The engagement of academic as well as non-academic staff in international exchange programmes was supported by mobility programmes such as Erasmus +, the University project entitled 'Internal call of IRO USB: Supporting international cooperation 2019', GA USB, OP RDE 'mobilities'. There were 9 double degree programmes, 1 joint degree programme and 73 accredited degree programmes in a foreign language at USB in 2020. USB was involved in the Central development programme project for 2020 entitled 'Development and quality assurance of joint degree programmes implemented in cooperation with foreign universities' (coordinated by Charles University). The materials for the Rector's ordinance on the implementation of double/multiple degree and joint degree programmes were prepared.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, the planned English language courses in Ireland for USB staff did not take place. The implementation of foreign mobility of academic and non-academic staff was also affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and most of the planned trips could not be implemented. On the other hand, the arrivals of foreign postdoctoral fellows and senior researchers to the USB supported by the funds of the OP VVV projects 'USB Development – International Mobilities' and 'USB Development – International Mobilities – MSCA-IF' were successfully implemented and the project 'USB Development – International Mobilities' was executed.

In 2020, the 'Welcome guide for incoming international students' and the 'Welcome guide for Incoming Staff' were created for foreign staff and students coming to USB in print (electronic version on the USB website).

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, foreign resources

Responsibility Vice-Rector for International Relations, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Dean

Objective 3.4 Execution of targeted marketing campaigns in support of internationalisation

Our Performance in 2020

Partially achieved

The Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 has affected the organisation and participation of USB in educational fairs and the implementation of planned acquisition trips and presentations of USB abroad. According to the plan, a one-week motivational stay at USB for foreign students from Russia (Chelyabinsk; 24/2 – 2/3/2020) took place, but the motivational stay for students from Ukraine (planned for June 2020) has not taken place yet.

In 2020, USB participated in virtual fairs (with the participation of foreign students as USB ambassadors), from the student fairs they were: FFP EDU (Latin America) – 24/6/2020; BEGIN EDU (Ukraine, Belarus, Georgia, Azerbaijan) – 29/10/2020; Study in Europe Fair (European institutions) – 25/11/2020 and from the professional 2020 NAFSA eConnection – 26/5 – 27/5 and 3/6, 10/ 6, 17/ 6/2020; EAIE 2020 Community Exchange – 14–16/10/2020.

In 2020, the development of international marketing continued owing to the position of the so-called international marketing specialist and the established concept of international communication at USB. In 2020, individual activities of this concept were implemented, such as online PPC search and banner campaigns targeting priority world regions or an off-line campaign in foreign magazines, updating the foreign-language presentation of USB, promotional print materials with overviews of foreign-language degree programmes at USB, the English version of the web presentation and the USB Facebook profile. Separate campaigns were run on USB social networks and on social media together with the Czech National Agency for International Education and Research. The presentation of USB and its faculties took place on the portal czechuniversities.cz/, studyportals.com/ and Study in the Czech Republic, Study Advisor, European Region Danube–Vltava (evropskyregion.cz/), Top Universities portals.

In 2020, events to promote international mobilities were held in February (Welcome back for students who had spent the previous semester abroad) and in autumn, International Days were organised remotely. The event included the online 'Erasmus talks' and a seminar 'Welcome to the Czech Republic'. Several online activities for international students were organised by students of the ESN USB Budweis club. Regular consultations and information about foreign stays/internships were still provided, but they were moved from the premises of the USB Academic Library to social media networks (Instagram and Facebook of the USB International Relations Department).

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, foreign resources

Responsibility Vice-Rector for International Relations, Dean





Openness

Objective 4.1 Development of the key partner network

Our Performance in 2020

Partially achieved

In 2020, the Marketing Department implemented a number of activities to develop cooperation with key partners. Among the most important was the cooperation with other universities within the framework of CDP projects, owing to which, for example, the national event 'Researchers' Night' or a series of discussion panels on the topic of social responsibility of universities took place. At the same time, the national portal on science, research, and higher education – Universitas magazine – was further developed.

Among the CDP projects mentioned above, the 'Aim Higher' project was also implemented, thanks to which several presentations were made at partner secondary schools. The presentations focused on the importance of higher education and the right choice of a degree programme. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, these contact presentations were replaced by a series of video presentations. These were subsequently distributed to partner secondary schools. This project also led to the creation of a new web portal chcistudovat.cz/, where university studies were presented in an attractive way.

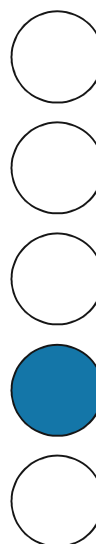
Other activities in this area include, for example, the start of preparations for the 30th anniversary celebrations of USB, which will take place in 2021. The celebrations will involve the active participation of the Statutory City of České Budějovice and the South Bohemian Region. The planned cooperation with the South Bohemian Society for Human Resource Development and the South Bohemian Chamber of Commerce on a traditional event called Adult Education Week did unfortunately not take place in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources

Responsibility

Rector, Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Dean



Objective 4.2 Building the University-wide Alumni Club

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Under the activity of the KA 4 project 'USB Development – ESF', a pilot survey among employers was executed in 2020. The aim of the pilot survey was mainly to improve feedback mechanisms in relation to employers. The links between a HEI, its graduates and current and potential employers allow for the acquisition of qualified information related to the educational process so that relevant innovation of degree programmes and their interdisciplinary linking in accordance with the needs of the labour market can be achieved. 664 employers were contacted as part of the pilot survey. The survey was executed in two waves, with a total of 138 responses received across the full spectrum of employers in many sectors of activity.

In 2020, a total of 9 lectures with USB graduates took place (3 at the USB Faculty of Agriculture, 3 at the USB Faculty of Economics and 3 at the USB Faculty of Science), the other planned lectures with USB graduates were postponed to 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The web platform for alumni needs was continuously updated in 2020. The needs of the University-wide Alumni Club were incorporated into the tender documentation for the new unified USB web presentation, see section 4.4.

During 2020, nearly two thousand members of the USB Alumni Club were communicated with via social networks, the USB website presentation and via email.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Dean

Objective 4.3 Fostering the reputation of the University

Our Performance in 2020

Partially achieved

In 2020, despite the unfavourable situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, a number of social, popularisation and educational events took place at USB and at individual faculties and units. Among the most important of these can be considered, for example, the traditional USB Open Day, which took place on 17 January 2020 in a coordinated and simultaneous manner at all USB faculties, and which was attended by hundreds of people, often with their parents, interested in studying at USB.

The USB organized its XXVII ball, which has long been considered one of the best in the entire ball season in South Bohemia. Each year, the ball attracts over a thousand guests from the academic community and the general public. This event took place on 7 February 2020 and was subtitled 'Red lips'. The musical singer and actor Jan Kopečný, the Metroklub Big Band, the Botox band and others performed there.

Due to the Government measures related to the Covid-19 epidemic, USB was forced to discontinue its regularly scheduled popularisation lectures for the general public called Academic Half-hours. Their implementation has been postponed to the period when contact lectures can be organised. For the same reason, it was necessary to cancel other events such as the Adult Education Week, the Maypole celebration, the exposition at the exhibition Země životelka, etc.

Although the situation in the Czech Republic did not allow for the organisation of contact events for most of 2020, a number of important events were held to spread the good name of the University. Among the biggest of these was undoubtedly the Researchers' Night event, which took place online this year and enjoyed great attendance. The University of South Bohemia executed nearly a five-hour live broadcast from the TV studio built on the premises of the USB Faculty of Science in which all faculties and the USB Academic Library presented themselves in a total of 21 reports. In addition to the USB Rector, Daniel Stach, editor at Czech television, was also a guest of the broadcast. Within this nationally coordinated event, the PR departments of the participating universities were connected and the complex presentation of the event to the target groups was unified. Optimal conditions have been created for the support and development of the interactive presentation of science and research of universities and scientific entities.

The marketing communication of the Researchers' Night promoting and popularising science throughout the Czech Republic was composed of traditional and new communication tools. Already proven online tools were used, managed by a national coordinator. Our University contributed photographic or video material that could be shared on this platform. In addition to the national marketing communication of the Researchers' Night, the University of South Bohemia implemented additional regional online advertising campaigns. It reached more than 115 000 unique users on FB, the regional campaign was viewed more than 890 000 times on Google and more than 5 000 unique users showed interest in it. The almost five-hour live stream of the USB Researchers' Night and its recording has more than 1,300 views on the YouTube channel, and the USB boasts more than 71 000 views on FB.

In addition to the Researchers' Night, USB also participated in an event called the Festival of Science, which was also held online in 2020. For participation in this festival, 12 popularisation videos presenting science across the faculties of USB were created.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources except for R&D

Responsibility

Rector, Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Dean

Objective 4.4 Development of marketing and communication with potential students

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

In 2020, individual marketing activities were implemented according to the set plan. In line with the unification of communication towards potential students, the most important activities were the joint presentation on the portal *vysokeskoly.cz*, which is one of the basic domestic signposts for applicants to higher education, and the creation of unified promotional items of the faculties and the university according to a uniform visual style. Promotional items were expanded during 2020 to include new products of the #StuduJU series, which is intended for current USB students.

All USB faculties presented themselves at the important national education fair Gaudeamus Prague, which took place on 21–23/1/2020, they also jointly executed the Open Day, etc.

During the year, the USB web presentation was updated. The update consisted mainly in the visual and content unification of the presentation of all USB faculties and units. This unified single presentation will be completed in the course of 2021.

As part of the unification of the University's communication towards the primary target group, a unified advertising campaign aimed at potential students, agreed by all faculties, was created this year. New marketing tools such as online PPC search and banner campaigns were also used in this campaign.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources except for R&D

Responsibility

Vice-Rector for Management and Public Relations, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Dean

Objective 4.5 Development of marketing and communication with the public and communities in the area

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

USB continued to unify communication on the website, social networks and within the media. The most significant achievement in this area was the unified presentation of the University on the portal *vysokeskoly.cz*, which addresses not only those interested in studying at the University but also the general public. Together with this activity, a new portal *chcistudovat.cz* was created, which unifies the presentation of all degree programmes at USB. In the area of public communication, it is also worth mentioning the work on the preparation of a new unified web presentation, see section 4.4 for details.

The University continues to develop cooperation with the media that are sent press releases concerning developments at USB regularly. At the same time, it tries to establish cooperation with other media players in the region and throughout the Czech Republic. The proof is, for example, the year-long cooperation with the South Bohemian Television and other media.

In 2020, the results of science and research of individual faculties were presented on the portal *sciencezoom.cz*, where 48 articles about science and research at USB were published. Five issues of the University-wide Journal were published during the year.

A set of promotional items supporting better communication of the USB Publishing House brand was prepared for the USB Publishing House in 2020.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, University's own resources

Responsibility

Rector, Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Dean





Management

INSTITUTION

Objective 5.1 Data-based decision-making or moving from financial control to management control

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

One of the outputs of the project 'USB Development – ESF' was the creation of a position of managerial data monitoring and further development of management reporting. This position was included in the organisational structure of the USB Rector's Office after the project was completed.

A functional instrument for systematic monitoring and evaluation of data has been built – a data warehouse, which will be further expanded both in the already monitored data and further, e.g. in the field of science and research. At the same time, the Rector's Ordinance R 453 was issued on the use of this instrument for the needs of the USB management and individual units.

Methodological and procedural documentation was also developed within the project and pilot versions of online reports in the field of accounting, HR and the student remit were launched. In the area of accounting, reports are prepared for the needs of the AFMR (Annual Financial Management Report), AAR (Annual Activity Report) and the indicators set out in the USB Strategic Plan are monitored and evaluated.

In the area of accounting, profit and loss statements are processed in detail, up to the maximum detailed values, reports entering the USB budget methodology, such as the calculation of the volume and number of scientific grants or external USB income, as well as calculations for interfaculty compensation.

In the area of human resources, reports are processed concerning the set and real calculated wages, full-time equivalents (which also include the auxiliary full-time equivalents of APWs and APJs), reports taking into account personnel controlling and describing particularly the information from the area of set wages in combination with other necessary structures such as professions or specific sources of funding.

In addition, periodic reports are prepared for the Czech Statistical Office, MEYS and other state administration bodies. These reports concern not only the full-time equivalents but also natural persons and include information on education, age, district of work, etc.

A detailed analysis of the age of employees and gender policy is prepared.

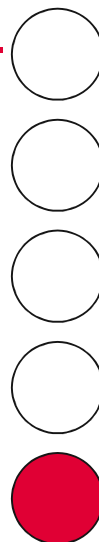
In the area of studies, factors affecting student success rate and issues of mobilities are monitored and evaluated.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, University's own resources

Responsibility

Rector, Vice-Rector for Development, Bursar, Dean



Objective 5.2 Quality system

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

The most important activity in terms of quality assurance at USB in 2020 was the International Evaluation Panel (IEP) meeting, which was held online due to the pandemic situation. The IEP evaluating USB was one of the most demanding panels in the whole country, which provided valuable feedback to USB, which, among other things, was incorporated into the final version of the USB Strategic Plan 2021–2030.

Consultations with other universities were held in 2020 to share experiences and prepare for curriculum assessment reform. In order to ensure professional quality assurance of the quality system, the USB Internal Evaluation Department was reinforced in 2020 to ensure monitoring and compliance with quality standards at USB, including the facilities for the USB Internal Evaluation Board. For more details, see the Addendum to the USB Internal Evaluation Report for 2020, including the monitoring of the position of USB in domestic and international rankings.

Database systems were updated and upgraded only partially: The SEI was integrated into the IS STAG and after discussion by the faculty quality coordinators and approval by the Rector's Board, the University question base common to all faculties was simplified. The ASPE and PEOS upgrades have been postponed until 2021, both because of complications caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and because the ASPE operating contract, with which any changes can be well-coordinated, will be updated in 2021. A consultation with the supplier (UP Olomouc) will also take place to decide whether to adopt the PEOS instead of the current questionnaire used at USB.

Within the quality assurance system, the parameters of the evaluation of academic and non-academic staff, the evaluation of the quality of individual faculties, as well as the evaluation in the system of student evaluation of teaching were set.

Student evaluation of teaching is now carried out in the IS STAG system in a separate module. The issues of student evaluation of teaching were adjusted, in particular, the quality of distance education was monitored and suggestions for improvement of distance education were evaluated, especially in the MS Teams system, which is – together with the Moodle system – the main tool for distance learning at USB.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, institutional resources, University's own resources

Responsibility Rector, Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, Dean

Objective 5.3 Professionalisation of support activities

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

In 2020, the position of Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs whose responsibilities include the management of the USB Centre of Information Technologies (USB CIT) and the related digitisation of remits, as well as the management of the USB Marketing Department was newly established at USB.

The USB e-shop was set up, the digital literacy of employees was significantly bolstered (among other things, training for online teaching), some functions within the processing of remits in VERSO were bolstered and newly introduced (e.g. processing of contract administration), and the IS STAG system was also newly used for the preparation of accreditation materials, the CIT underwent an organisational restructuring to optimise the activities within the IT provision at USB.

Within the framework of the project 'USB Development – ESF', a Rector's ordinance on process management was issued, selected processes were mapped and ratified, especially in the economic section of USB.

At the end of 2020, preparations were made for the online presentation of the USB at the Open Day, including presentations of the newly established web portal chcistudovat.cz/.

The current information systems for economic and personnel remits continued to be developed, especially in connection with updated and amended legislative regulations.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional resources, University's own resources, special-purpose resources except for R&D

Responsibility Rector, Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Bursar, Dean

Objective 5.4 Financial stability and effective management of financial resources

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Within the USB budget methodology, only partial parametric adjustments have been made, the model of distribution of the institutional part of the budget funds has been stabilised, including monitoring and evaluation in the qualitative budget indicator (indicator K, R&D evaluation).

Despite the difficult epidemiological and therefore economic situation of some units (especially in terms of economic activity), financial stability has been maintained, mainly thanks to effective management of financial resources and bolstered management control.

Attention continues to be paid to the funding of large infrastructures and the monitoring of financial management risks.

Within the framework of the project 'USB Development – ESF', the Rector's Ordinance R 446 was issued and subsequently, a methodology for risk management was developed.

Funding Sources institutional resources, own resources

Responsibility Rector, Bursar, Dean

PEOPLE

Objective 5.5 Human resources policy

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Under the project 'USB Development – ESF' DA 1.1, the Rector's Ordinance R 424 in the area of human resources policy was created, which includes a newly created Job Catalogue for non-academic employees for the classification of employees according to the upcoming update of the Wage Regulations.

Methodological and procedural documents have been developed to address further staff training, recommended qualification needs of non-academic staff, and requirements for senior staff.

As part of the HR Award, all employment law documents were updated, including the creation of new documents in Czech and English.

In preparation for the IEP meeting, the issue of intergenerational continuity was elaborated, and attention was also paid to modules 3 – 5 of the Methodology 17+ at individual units and within USB as a whole. Human resources policy was also addressed by the USB Internal Evaluation Board, especially in connection with the evaluation of accreditation files and the guaranteeing of individual degree programmes and courses. The feedback obtained in this way was included in the development of the new USB Strategic Plan and individual units (faculties).

In the framework of the human resources policy, the activities listed in point 5.1 were implemented.

The implementation of the activity DA 2.1 of the strategic project 'USB Development – ESF' was completed. The experience from the pilot testing of the pedagogical competencies course in the field of staff training will be used further. The modules of the pedagogical competencies course will be incorporated into the standard educational offer of the lifelong learning (LLL) courses for USB employees. With regard to the development of distance learning in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the module focused on e-learning (online course Fundamentals of e-learning for teachers) is intensively used.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, University's own resources

Responsibility Rector, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, Bursar, Dean



Objective 5.6 Employee incentive scheme

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

The implementation of the ASPE and PEOS system is already fully functional, the evaluation of academic staff is executed online and an electronic format is being prepared for the evaluation of non-academic staff of USB. A draft of updated wage regulations, including a newly prepared Catalogue of Jobs of Non-academic Employees, is being prepared, and the Career Regulations for academic and non-academic employees of USB are being prepared.

The benefits provided to employees are currently being evaluated and are being considered for updating in light of the current pandemic situation.

Funding Sources institutional resources, own resources

Responsibility Rector, Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, Dean, Head of the Human Resources Department of the USB Rector's Office

Objective 5.7 Institutional culture

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

In accordance with the Action Plan and the GAP analysis, the principles of the HR Award were implemented at USB, especially in the area of the Charter and the Code of Ethics of USB. Furthermore, an ombudsman was appointed, formal and informal communication was anchored, an OTM – R strategy was introduced in the context of selection procedures, an adaptation process for employees was set and employment law documents were created. Central to the entire USB was the definition of the principles of homeworking, which were widely used in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In 2020, meetings of USB employees, alumni and supporters were held to the extent that was made possible by the pandemic situation, i.e. mainly in an online environment, however, e.g. the USB Ball was still held in February 2020, and for 2021 it was prepared in the form of an online concert.

Funding Sources institutional resources

Responsibility Rector, Vice-Rector for Development, Dean

INFRASTRUCTURE

Objective 5.8 Managing and administering real estate

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

A sub-activity of the strategic project 'USB Development – ESF' DA 1.1 in the area of infrastructure was completed, namely the REVIZIO building management and revision system was set, which was put into practice throughout the University after an initial trial run and is now used by all USB units in accordance with the relevant Rector's Ordinance R 441.

The audit of the condition and use of real estate mainly addressed the issue of the chemistry pavilion, the missing USB lecture hall and the need to renovate the existing inadequate buildings, providing space for the USB Faculty of Science and space for lifelong learning (LLL) – FTH USB.

On the basis of the analysis, the USB Investment Plan 2021–2030 was prepared, which is a mandatory annexe to the USB Strategic Plan 2021–2030.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional resources, University's own resources

Responsibility Rector, Bursar, Dean

Objective 5.9 Development of services and facilities for students and employees

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

USB continually works on the development and quality improvement of services as well as facilities for employees and students. The following selected activities were started or executed in 2020:

- The execution of the project of the Simulation Centre of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (SLNO) was completed, including being put into operation.
- The project preparation of new parking spaces in the area of the building of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences on Boreckého street was started and the preparation of the design documents for the project Vltava IV stage was also started.
- The design documents for the renovation of the Na Mlýnské stoce building has been completed.
- A project was prepared for the construction of the new Chemistry Pavilion of the USB Faculty of Agriculture.
- Preparation of the renovation of the Na Sádkách stadium of the USB Faculty of Education was completed.
- The preparation of the K4 dormitory renovation was completed.
- New accommodation facilities were built in Vodňany (barn conversion), in close proximity to the IEEAIC centre (International Environmental Educational, Advisory and Information Centre of Water Protection Vodňany).
- The preparatory work was completed and the project 'USB Development – Without Barriers' was launched.
- Within the project 'USB Development – ERDF', the premises for instruction of the USB Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Theology and Faculty of Agriculture were modernised.

In the area of development of IT services for students and employees, it is worth mentioning the implementation of the interconnection of the MS Teams communication platform and the IS STAG student remit system, which allows students to automatically create teams from IS STAG and at the same time access them directly from IS STAG. In connection with the development of facilities and services for students, the concept of the USB shopping centre was prepared so that the USB e-shop could be opened in the following year, see section 5.11. In the area of communication services, the email handling within USB was regulated by Rector's Ordinance R 436. A University-wide licence of the Matlab mathematical software and a D-space server for publishing results of publications is available from 2020, see section 5.11. Further development of the wireless network on the USB campus was also underway.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, MEYS programme funding, institutional resources, University's own resources

Responsibility Rector, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Dean

Objective 5.10 Investment strategy implementation

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

Actions were implemented according to the USB Investment Plan for 2020. These are mostly partial steps in the preparation and subsequent implementation of the main USB investment projects, included in the grant title of the MEYS (PROGFIN) programme funding the time volume of which is set for the period 2018–2027.

The construction of the SLNO building was completed and after successful approval, the building was handed over to the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences.

For the investment action 'USB – Renovation of the USB lecture hall (Bobík)', all design documents for the construction were completed, a building permit was issued with legal force and subsequently the USB application for registration and granting of a grant was submitted to MEYS. Due to the expected financial volume of the investment project and the amount of the state grant, the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic was also involved in the approval process. The project was assessed by a professional expert group from both ministries, the required documents were completed by USB, incl. Feasibility Study, all questions of the expert group were addressed. USB continues to work towards completion of the assessment phase and subsequent issuance of the Project Registration and approval of the tender documents.

Within the framework of the investment project 'USB – FAG Chemistry Pavilion', complete design documents were completed in 2020, the provider of the grant (the MEYS of the Czech Republic) issued the registration of the project and consent to the tender documentation and the tender for the construction contractor was launched.

Project work in the documents stage for the building permit for the investment 'USB – FTH Renovation of the Na Mlýnské stoce building' and 'USB – FED Renovation of the Na Sádkách sports grounds' was completed. At the end of 2020, applications for building permits for both investment projects were submitted.

The preparation of the event 'Extension of the building of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences stage Vltava IV' took place according to the plan, after the selection of the designer, the work on the design documents for the zoning procedure started in 2020.

Funding Sources operational programmes, institutional plan, MEYS programme funding, institutional resources, University's own resources

Responsibility Rector, Bursar, Dean

Objective 5.11 Information technologies and systems

Our Performance in 2020

Achieved

The continuous development of electronic support for teaching was supported in 2020 in the area of IS STAG by its connection to MS Teams, access to the system was also enabled for external students and the online teaching records and online examinations were implemented. IS STAG was pilot-connected to the EWP project and the Mobility module was upgraded to include contract registration and tenders. From the students' point of view, the launch of the notification module and its connection to the #StuduJU mobile app, which now also supports the iOS platform, is significant. In IS STAG it was also necessary to implement processes forced by a change in legislation. The acquisition of a University-wide license of Matlab software certainly contributed to the support of teaching. In 2020, the USB Faculty of Economics joined the unified USB e-learning environment, and this portal, including the connection to IS STAG, is already used by 7 faculties. The development of distance learning has been supported by a number of investments in mobile and audio-visual equipment.

The upgrade and development of data repositories were represented in particular by the construction of the CEPH data repository with a capacity of 192 TB at the Rector's Office, and another data repository was built at the USB Faculty of Economics.

The most important activities in the area of service provision included the implementation of new functionalities and standards at the interface of invoicing modules in the iFIS system and support for the processing of extended VAT obligations. The connection of the iFIS system to the USB electronic business centre was put into operation. The internal payment system has been further developed with the addition of the possibility to pay by card via the Internet. In the iFIS system, the computerisation of asset disposal was implemented and in the area of the filing service, the interface for data boxes was newly implemented and the ePost office module was put into operation. Additional approval processes for re-billing of costs and revenues and electronic approval of contracts were newly implemented.

The project database was piloted in 2020 and will continue to be developed in 2021.

USB was connected to the HSM certificate repository Remsig operated by the CESNET association, and to the service of validation of electronic documents *validator.cesnet.cz/*, this activity will allow, for example, wider use of electronic signatures in the future.

In the area of email services consolidation, four other faculties decided to join Office 365. The expansion of the number of IS components using unified authentication (to 27 components) represented considerable comfort for users at USB.

In 2020, the commissioning of the D-space server for publishing the results of publishing activities and setting up its connection with the system for recording OBD and IS STAG publishing activities also contributed to the increase in the comfort of services for users.

Last but not least, it is necessary to mention the building of a data warehouse at USB and setting up its connection with the study, economic and personnel system. Thus, management reports were made available to key users through the PowerBI tool.

The most important activities in the area of renewal and development of server infrastructure include the commissioning of a new Proxmox virtualization cluster at the USB Rector's Office, a new Oracle database server that uses IS STAG, a VMware virtualisation server at the USB Rector's Office and the acquisition of a server for backup of central remits. Two 10 GB switches were purchased for the virtualisation cluster of the Rector's Office, two more 10 GB switches were purchased at the USB Faculty of Economics and Faculty of Theology, the wireless network in the buildings of the USB Academic Library and Faculty of Agriculture were also bolstered. A new optical connection between the buildings of the canteen, the dormitory and the Dean's Office of the USB Faculty of Economics was put into operation. The camera system on the buildings of the USB Dormitories and Refectories, Rector's Office and Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters was upgraded. In the area of personal data protection, identities were anonymised in the IDM according to the rules set in the ISMS documentation. Other modifications to the IDM in accordance with the USB security policy and GDPR rules also contributed to information security.

Funding Sources

operational programmes, institutional plan, MEYS programme funding, University's own resources, special-purpose resources except for R&D

Responsibility

Rector, Dean, Vice-Rector for Management and Public Affairs, Vice-Rector for International Relations, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs, Vice-Rector for Development

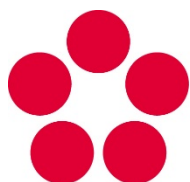
Conclusion

The list above represents the performance of the most important planned activities and tasks of USB in 2020 in direct relation to the Implementation Plan of the Strategic Plan of USB for 2020. In addition to these activities, the execution of other specific activities was planned in order to achieve objectives. These are, however, taken into account in implementation plans of the Strategic Plan of individual faculties and faculty annual activity reports. Specific figures and thematic descriptions are in the subsequent text and table appendices of the Annual Activity Report 2020.

All activities aimed at gradually delivering the vision, mission and activities of our University continuously and flexibly reacted to internal and external influences more than ever in 2020. The year 2020 was also marked by the preparation of the new Strategic Plan of USB 2021–2030, which to some extent builds on the plans and objectives defined for 2016–2020.

Appendices

- 1** Text appendix to the USB Annual Activity Report 2020
- 2** Table appendix to the USB Annual Activity Report 2020
- 3** Abbreviations and acronyms



Jihočeská univerzita
v Českých Budějovicích
University of South Bohemia
in České Budějovice

Annual Activity Report 2020

Text appendix

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1 Basic information about USB

1.1 Contact information

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice is a university public higher education institution pursuant to Act No 111/1998, on Higher Education Institutions and Amendments to Some Other Acts (The Higher Education Act), as amended (hereinafter as the 'Act'). Contact information of the University and individual faculties, other units (pursuant to Section 22(1)(c) of the Act) and special-purpose facilities (pursuant to Section 22(1)(d) of the Act) is displayed below.

Contact information of the University and faculties

Name	Abbreviation	Contact address	Website
University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice	USB	Branišovská 1645/31a 370 05 České Budějovice	www.jcu.cz
USB Faculty of Economics	FEC USB	Studentská 13 370 05 České Budějovice	www.ef.jcu.cz
USB Faculty of Arts	FAR USB	Branišovská 1645/31a 370 05 České Budějovice	www.ff.jcu.cz
USB Faculty of Education	FED USB	Jeronýmova 10 371 15 České Budějovice	www.pf.jcu.cz
USB Faculty of Science	FSC USB	Branišovská 1760 370 05 České Budějovice	www.prf.jcu.cz
USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters	FFPW USB	Zátiší 728/II 389 25 Vodňany	www.frov.jcu.cz
USB Faculty of Theology	FTH USB	Kněžská 8 370 01 České Budějovice	www.tf.jcu.cz
USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences	FHSS USB	J. Boreckého 1167/27 370 11 České Budějovice	www.zsf.jcu.cz
USB Faculty of Agriculture	FAG USB	Studentská 1668 370 05 České Budějovice	www.zf.jcu.cz

Contact information of other units (pursuant to Section 22(1)(c) of the Act)

Name	Abbreviation	Contact address	Website
USB Academic Library	AL USB	Branišovská 1646/31b 370 05 České Budějovice	www.lib.jcu.cz
USB British Centre	BC USB	Krajinská 2 370 01 České Budějovice	www.britskecentrum.cz
USB Centre of Information Technologies	CIT USB	Branišovská 1645/31a 370 05 České Budějovice	www.jcu.cz/ o-univerzite/organizacni- struktura/rectors_office/cit
USB Goethe Centre	GC USB	Krajinská 2 370 01 České Budějovice	www.goethecentrum.cz
Publishing House of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice	PH USB	Branišovská 1645/31a 370 05 České Budějovice	http://nju.jcu.cz

Contact information of special-purpose facilities (pursuant to Section 22(1)(d) of the Act)

Name	Abbreviation	Contact address	Website
USB Dormitories and Refectories	D&R USB	Studentská 800/15 370 05 České Budějovice	kam.jcu.cz
Preschool facilities of the USB – Children group 'Kvítek'	CG Kvítek	Šípková 1822/1 370 05 České Budějovice	www.jcu.cz/ o-univerzite/zazemi-a- sluzby/detska-skupina-ju

More information about the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, its individual faculties and other units can be found at the web portal of the University of South Bohemia¹, the official University profiles on social medial networks Facebook², Twitter³ and LinkedIn⁴, or the internet server YouTube⁵, where the University has its channel. Interesting photos capturing events at the University of South Bohemia can be found on the Instagram⁶ application by any interested parties.

¹ <https://www.jcu.cz/en/>

² <https://www.facebook.com/USouthBohemia>

³ <https://twitter.com/JihoceskaUni>

⁴ <https://www.linkedin.com/company/jihoceska-univerzita-v-ceskych-budejovicich/>

⁵ https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=jiho%C4%8Desk%C3%A1+univerzita

⁶ https://www.instagram.com/u_south_bohemia/

1.2 Organisational structure of UBS

The UBS Rectorate Regulations, the first annexe of which is the graphical representation of the organisational structure of USB and the USB Rectorate and constituent parts of USB – that are not faculties (Annexe 1), were issued in accordance with article 14(2) of the Statutes of USB with effect from 20 August 2020 as the Rector's Ordinance R 445. The second annexe adjusts the positions and competences of individual organisational units of the USB Rectorate. By issuing the ordinance, the Rector's Ordinance R 401 issued on 1 April 2019 was rescinded.

1.3 Structure of USB bodies

1.3.1 Managing staff of USB

Managing staff members of USB under Section 9(1)(a) of the Act are the Rector, vice-rectors, the Bursar, and deans of faculties.

Managing staff of USB in 2020

Rector	prof. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D. ⁷ (until 31/3/2020) prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr. (since 1/4/2020)
Vice-Rectors	
Vice-Rector for Student Affairs	PaedDr. Petr Bauman, Ph.D.
Vice-Rector for Research	prof. RNDr. Tomáš Polívka, Ph.D. (until 31/3/2020) doc. Ing. Luděk Berec, Dr. (since 1/4/2020)
Vice-Rector for International Relations	doc. PaedDr. Radka Závodská, Ph.D.
Vice-Rector for Development	prof. RNDr. Jan Zrzavý, CSc. (until 31/3/2020) Ing. Michal Hojdeckr, MBA (since 1/4/2020)
Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation	prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr. (until 31/3/2020) prof. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D. (since 1/4/2020)
Vice-Rector for Internal Management and Public Relations	Ing. Ludvík Friebeľ, Ph.D. (since 1/4/2020)
Bursar	Ing. Jiřina Valentová
Deans of faculties	
USB Faculty of Economics	doc. Dr. Ing. Dagmar Škodová Parmová
USB faculty of Arts	doc. PhDr. Ondřej Pešek, Ph.D.
USB Faculty of Education	doc. RNDr. Helena Koldová, Ph.D.
USB Faculty of Science	prof. Ing. Hana Šantrůčková, CSc.
USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters	prof. Ing. Pavel Kozák, Ph.D.
USB Faculty of Theology	doc. ThDr. Rudolf Svoboda, Th.D.
USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences	Mgr. Ivana Chloubová, Ph.D.
USB Faculty of Agriculture	prof. Ing. Miloslav Šoch, CSc., dr. h. c. (until 31/3/2020) doc. RNDr. Petr Bartoš, Ph.D. (since 1/4/2020)

The tenure of the USB management led by prof. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D., who was the USB Rector for one term in office, ended on 31 March 2020. Based on the results of the election in 2019, the new USB Rector took office on 1 April 2020. Prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr., previously the Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, became the USB Rector and also appointed a new USB management.

Doc. RNDr. Petr Bartoš, Ph.D., was appointed as the new Dean of the USB Faculty of Agriculture for the term in office from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2024. The new Dean replaced prof. Ing. Miloslav Šoch, CSc., dr. h. c.

⁷ doc. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D., was appointed professor on 15 December 2020.

1.3.2 Directors of other units and special-purpose facilities of USB

Directors of other units and special-purpose facilities of USB in 2020

Other units of USB	
USB Academic Library	Ing. Helena Vorlová
USB British Centre	PhDr. Ivana Šamalíková
USB Centre of Information Technologies	RNDr. Josef Milota
USB Goethe Centre	Mgr. Lucie Trnková
USB Publishing House	prof. PhDr. Petr A. Bílek, CSc.
USB Special-purpose facilities	
USB Dormitories and Refectories	Ing. Ivan Hájek
USB Preschool facility – Children's group Kvítek	Bc. Magdalena Marešová

1.3.3 USB Board of Trustees

USB Board of Trustees in 2020

Chair	
Mgr. Ing. Miroslav Šimek	The principal, deputy director and head of the State Property Transfer Department, Regional Land Office for the South Bohemian Region, České Budějovice
Vice-Chairs	
Ing. Jiří Boček ⁸	Former director of the company Budějovický Budvar, n. p.
Ing. Jan Kubeš	Director and owner of the company BELIS+ s. r. o., České Budějovice
Members	
RNDr. Vladimír Brablec	Director of the Department of Employment of the Regional Branch of the Labour Office of the Czech Republic in České Budějovice
Ing. Ivo Moravec	Deputy Mayor of the City of České Budějovice for affairs of public goods administration, public contracts, and the environment
Ing. Pavel Fantyš	Section Director, Tax Office for the South Bohemian Region, Territorial Branch in Prachatice
PhDr. Mgr. Robert Huneš, MBA	Director of Hospic sv. Jana N. Neumanna, o. p. s., Prachatice
Ing. Jan Hůda, Ph.D.	Chair of the board of Rybářství Třeboň Hld., a. s
MUDr. Jaroslav Novák, MBA	1st vice-chair of the board, deputy general director and Director of the Section of other healthcare fields of Nemocnice České Budějovice, a.s.
Mgr. Antonín Sekyrka	Director of Gymnázium Česká 64, České Budějovice
Ing. František Štangl	Director of Jihočeské museum in České Budějovice
Ing. Jaromír Talíř	Member of the Cultural Committee of the South Bohemian Region, former mayor, a former member of parliament and minister

Four regular sessions (sessions No 59 to 62) of the USB Board of Trustees and two votes by letter took place in 2020, during the course of which 23 so-called prior written consents of the USB Board of Trustees were issued (consents No 459 to 481). Brief summaries of the most important points of the regular sessions of the USB Board of Trustees are available on the website of the University of South Bohemia.⁹

Basic overview of prior written consents of the USB Board of Trustees issued in 2020

	Number of consents of the given type
Types of prior written consents of the USB Board of Trustees issued in 2020	
Contingent contract concerning an easement-servitude agreement concerning a utility project on USB land	11
Easement-servitude agreement concerning a utility project on USB land	6
Contract of sale of immovable property in the possession of USB	5
Land swap agreement	1
Total	23

⁸ the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports appointed Ing. Jiří Boček as a member of the USB Board of Trustees again with effect from 20 October 2020.

⁹ http://www.jcu.cz/o-univerzite/organizacni-struktura/board_of_trustees/zpravy/

Detailed overview of prior written consents of the USB Board of Trustees issued in 2020

Consent number	Description	Issue date
459	Conclusion of a contract of sale amending conditions of sale of a set immovable property in the possession of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice – the former recreational and instruction facility of FED USB 'Tejmlův' including the structure of the main building B.I.N. 38 on lot No 43 and other affiliated lots No 64/3, 74/1, 74/2, 74/3, 74/4, 75, 76/1, 210 that form a 'coherent functional unit' with the main structure in the Vacov municipality, cadastral community Javorník u Stach.	11/2/2020
460	Conclusion of an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines to the benefit of E. ON Distribuce, a.s., under the following title after execution: 'ČB, U Hada K 1959/4, p. Tupý, příp. NN' on the lot No 1961/2 in the cadastral community České Budějovice 2.	18/3/2020
461	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines and water channelling to the benefit of the association Pomoc Týn nad Vltavou, z. s., under the title 'Venkovská ZOO se zázemím pro dětskou skupinu' for the purpose of the execution, on lot No 3314/3 in the cadastral community Hněvkovice u Týna nad Vltavou.	18/3/2020
462	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines to the benefit of E. ON Distribuce, a. s., for the purpose of executing the construction under the title 'Propojí STL České Budějovice - Kněžské dvory (ul. A. Trágera a Nemanická) k. ú. České Budějovice 3' on lots No 4725/9 and 1121/1.	18/3/2020
463	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines to the benefit of E. ON Distribuce, a. s., for the purpose of executing the construction under the title 'Vodňany - Říční, Jih. univerzita: NN příp. kab' on lot No 631 in the cadastral community Vodňany.	18/3/2020
464	Conclusion of an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines to the benefit of the statutory city of České Budějovice for the purpose of execution of the construction under the title 'České Budějovice, Na Sádkách - kanalizace' on lot No 1606/2, lot No 1606/6, lot No 1606/7, and lot No 1620/1 in the cadastral community České Budějovice 2.	18/3/2020
465	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines of lighting of a ring road crossroads and the building of an access road being concluded through the organisation managing the property of the region, which is Správa a údržba silnic Jihočeského kraje for the purpose of executing the construction 'Jižní tangenta České Budějovice (km 0,000 - km 2,706), okr. ČB' on lots No 721/27, 714/73 a 714/75 in the cadastral community Boršov nad Vltavou.	18/3/2020
466	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines to the benefit of E. ON Distribuce, a. s., for the purpose of executing the construction under the title 'ČB, Nemanická K/1116 bytový dům - kabel NN' on lot No 1121/11 in the cadastral community České Budějovice 3.	29/4/2020
467	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines to the benefit of STARNET, s.r.o., for the purpose of laying data cables in casings on lots No 1931/1, 1933/2, and 1984/81 in the cadastral community České Budějovice 2.	29/4/2020
468	Conclusion of an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines to the benefit of E. ON Distribuce, a. s., for the purpose of executing the construction under the title 'Vodňany: náhrada TS Říční - TS Valcha, kabel VN + NN' in lot No 189/1, 472/5 and lot No 299 in the cadastral community Vodňany.	22/6/2020
469	Sale of lot No 226/16 of the other surface area of 8 m ² in the municipality of České Budějovice, in the cadastral community České Vrbné, to the statutory city of České Budějovice.	22/6/2020
470	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an agreement concerning the easement-servitude of utility lines to the benefit of Teplárna České Budějovice, a.s., for the purpose of executing the construction under the title 'Tepl vodní odbočka pro objekt Bytového družstva Branišovská 584/25, České Budějovice', on lot No 1272/1, in the cadastral community České Budějovice 2.	22/6/2020
471	Conclusion of easement-servitude agreements (path servitude and road servitude pursuant to Section 1274 and Section 1276 of Act No 89/2012) to the extent of the entire lot No 186/5 in the cadastral community Týn nad Vltavou to the benefit of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice.	16/9/2020
472	Conclusion of an agreement concerning a change of a contingent contract concerning an easement-servitude agreement (path servitude and road servitude pursuant to Section 1274 and Section 1276 of Act No 89/2012) on lots No 760/4, 760/46, 760/10 a 760/32 in the cadastral community Boršov nad Vltavou to the benefit of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, Addendum No 1.	16/9/2020
473	Sale of lot No 1928/13 of the other surface area of 568 m ² in the municipality of České Budějovice in the cadastral community České Budějovice 2 to the statutory city of České Budějovice.	16/9/2020
474	Sale of lot No 42 of the other surface area of 287 m ² in the municipality of České Budějovice in the cadastral community Haklový Dvory to Mr Jiří Návara.	16/9/2020

Consent number	Description	Issue date
475	Conclusion of a contract concerning an entitlement corresponding to easement-servitude to the benefit of the statutory city of České Budějovice for the purpose of storing and operating the cable distribution of road lighting installations (in the context of the modification to the Branišovská – J. Opletala crossroads). Affected lots No 1289/2, 1984/118, 1984/119, 2061/13 in the cadastral community České Budějovice 2.	16/9/2020
476	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an entitlement corresponding to easement-servitude concerning utility lines to the benefit of the statutory city of České Budějovice for the purpose of executing the construction under the title 'ČB, Pasovská ulice - kanalizace'. Affected lots No 1619, 1606/6, 1606/2, 1620/1, and 1620/1 in the cadastral community České Budějovice 2 (USB stadium site).	16/9/2020
477	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning an entitlement corresponding to easement-servitude concerning utility lines to the benefit of OPTIMALIST, a. s., and PAT-INVEST, a. s., for the purpose of executing the construction of storm sewers DN 500 on lot No 769/4 in the municipality and cadastral community Boršov nad Vltavou.	19/11/2020
478	Conclusion of a contingent contract concerning a servitude of utility lines (high-voltage cables, telecommunication network) to the benefit of E. ON Distribuce, a. s., for the purpose of executing the construction under the title 'ČB, Branišovská, nové Energocentrum, VN' (BC CAS site).	19/11/2020
479	Conclusion of a contract concerning the servitude of utility lines to the benefit of Vodafone Czech Republic a. s., for the purpose of executing the construction under the title 'SEK České Budějovice - Na Zlaté stoce'.	19/11/2020
480	Discussion of the plan to sell all immovable property obtained from the inheritance of the deceased Vladimír Hajduk registered at LV 2746 for the municipality Týn nad Vltavou in the cadastral community Týn nad Vltavou.	19/11/2020
481	Conclusion of a land swap contract between the statutory city of České Budějovice and the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. Land swap for transportation structures.	19/11/2020

1.3.4 USB Scientific Board

Membership of the USB Scientific Board until 31 March 2020

Chair	
prof. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D.	USB Rector
Internal members	
PaedDr. Petr Bauman, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Theology
prof. MUDr. Mgr. Alan Bulava, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences
doc. Ing. MgA. David Boukal, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Science
prof. PhDr. Václav Bůžek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
prof. Ing. Martin Flajšhans, Dr.rer.agr.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
prof. RNDr. Libor Grubhoffer, CSc., Hon. D.Sc., dr. h. c.	USB Faculty of Science; Biology Centre CAS, České Budějovice
prof. PhDr. Alena Jaklová, CSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr.	USB Faculty of Arts
doc. RNDr. Jan Kaštovský, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Science
prof. Ing. Pavel Kozák, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
prof. Ing. Martin Křížek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Agriculture
doc. PhDr. Miloslav Lapka, CSc.	USB Faculty of Economics
prof. Ing. Otomar Linhart, DrSc.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
doc. Ing. Miroslav Maršálek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Agriculture
prof. PaedDr. Vladimír Papoušek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
prof. RNDr. Tomáš Polívka, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Science
prof. PaedDr. Iva Stuchlíková, CSc.	USB Faculty of Education
doc. ThDr. Rudolf Svoboda, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Theology
prof. Ing. Hana Šantrůčková, CSc.	USB Faculty of Science
prof. Ing. Miloslav Šimek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Science; Biology Centre CAS České Budějovice
doc. Dr. Ing. Dagmar Škodová Parmová	USB Faculty of Economics
prof. Ing. Miloslav Šoch, CSc., dr. h. c.	USB Faculty of Agriculture
prof. PhDr. Valérie Tóthová, Ph.D., R. N.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Membership of the USB Scientific Board until 31 March 2020

prof. PhDr. Dalibor Tureček, CSc., DSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Jitka Vacková, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences
doc. RNDr. Radka Závodská, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Education
External members	
prof. Ing. Jiří Balík, CSc.	Czech University of Life Sciences Prague
prof. RNDr. Ivan Čepička, Ph.D.	Charles University in Prague
prof. RNDr. Bohuslav Gaš, CSc.	Charles University in Prague
prof. RNDr. Tomáš Herben, CSc.	Institute of Botany CAS, Průhonice; Charles University in Prague
doc. Dr. RNDr. Miroslav Holeček	University of West Bohemia in Pilsen
doc. PhDr. Michaela Hrubá, Ph.D.	University of Jan Evangelista Purkyně in Ústí nad Labem
prof. PhDr. Darja Jarošová, Ph.D.	University of Ostrava
prof. PhDr. Tomáš Kubiček, Ph.D.	Moravian Library
prof. Ing. Miroslav Ludwig, CSc.	University of Pardubice
prof. PhLic. Vojtěch Novotný, Th.D.	Charles University in Prague
prof. Ing. Petr Ráb, DrSc., dr. h. c.	Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics CAS, Liběchov
doc. Ing. Pavel Ryant, Ph.D.	Mendel University in Brno
prof. MUDr. Jaroslav Slaný, CSc.	University of Trnava, Slovakia
prof. PhDr. Stanislav Štěch, CSc.	Charles University in Prague
doc. Ing. Zdeněk Tůma, CSc.	ČSOB, a. s.; Charles University in Prague
prof. MVDr. Vladimír Večerek, CSc., MBA	University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno
prof. RNDr. Eva Zažímalová, CSc.	Czech Academy of Sciences

Membership of the USB Scientific Board since 1 May 2020

Chair	
prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr.	USB Rector
Internal members	
doc. RNDr. Petr Bartoš, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Agriculture
PaedDr. Petr Bauman, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Theology
doc. Ing. Luděk Berec, Dr.	USB Faculty of Science
prof. MUDr. Mgr. Alan Bulava, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences
prof. PhDr. Václav Bůžek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
prof. Ing. Martin Flajšhans, Dr.rer.agr.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
Ing. Ludvík Friebel, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Economics
prof. RNDr. Libor Grubhoffer, CSc., Hon. D.Sc., dr. h. c.	USB Faculty of Science; Biology Centre CAS České Budějovice
Mgr. Ivana Chloubová, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences
doc. RNDr. Jana Klicnarová, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Economics
prof. RNDr. Dalibor Kodrík, CSc.	USB Faculty of Science; Biology Centre CAS České Budějovice
doc. RNDr. Helena Koldová, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Education
prof. Ing. Pavel Kozák, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
prof. Ing. Martin Křížek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Agriculture
prof. Ing. Otomar Linhart, DrSc.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
prof. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D.	USB Faculty of Theology
prof. PaedDr. Vladimír Papoušek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
doc. PhDr. Ondřej Pešek, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Arts
prof. RNDr. Tomáš Polívka, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Science
prof. PaedDr. Iva Stuchlíková, CSc.	USB Faculty of Education
doc. ThDr. Rudolf Svoboda, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Theology
prof. Ing. Hana Šantrůčková, CSc.	USB Faculty of Science

Membership of the USB Scientific Board since 1 May 2020

doc. Dr. Ing. Dagmar Škodová Parmová	USB Faculty of Economics
prof. Ing. Miloslav Šoch, CSc., dr. h. c.	USB Faculty of Agriculture
prof. PhDr. Valérie Tóthová, Ph.D., R. N.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Jitka Vacková, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences
doc. RNDr. Radka Závodská, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Education
External members	
prof. Ing. Jiří Balík, CSc.	Czech University of Life Sciences Prague
prof. RNDr. Bohuslav Gaš, CSc.	Charles University in Prague
prof. RNDr. Tomáš Herben, CSc.	Institute of Botany CAS, Průhonice; Charles University in Prague
doc. Dr. RNDr. Miroslav Holeček	University of West Bohemia in Pilsen
prof. PhDr. Martin Holý, Ph.D.	Institute of History CAS
prof. PhDr. Darja Jarošová, Ph.D.	University of Ostrava
prof. Ing. Miroslav Ludwig, CSc.	University of Pardubice
prof. PhDr. Tomáš Nejeschleba, Ph.D.	Palacký University Olomouc
prof. PhLic. Vojtěch Novotný, Th.D.	Charles University in Prague
prof. PhDr. Jiří Pelán, Ph.D.	Charles University in Prague
prof. Ing. Petr Ráb, DrSc., dr. h. c.	Institute of Animal Physiology and Genetics CAS, Liběchov
doc. Ing. Pavel Ryant, Ph.D.	Mendel University in Brno
prof. Ing. Petr Sklenička, CSc.	Czech University of Life Sciences Prague
prof. MUDr. Jaroslav Slaný, CSc.	University of Trnava, Slovakia
prof. PhDr. Stanislav Štěch, CSc.	Charles University in Prague
doc. Ing. Zdeněk Tůma, CSc.	ČSOB, a. s.; Charles University in Prague
prof. PhDr. Petr Vorel, CSc.	University of Pardubice
prof. RNDr. Eva Zažímalová, CSc.	Czech Academy of Sciences

The mandate of the USB Scientific Board ended on 31 March 2020; the new USB Scientific Board was formed on 1 May 2020. Only one regular session of the USB Scientific Board took place in 2020 with respect to the Covid-19 pandemic as well. With respect to the pandemic situation, it convened through the online tool MS Teams. The USB Scientific Board discussed and approved the award of the honorary title 'doctor honoris causa' to PhDr. Karel Šprunk based on the proposal from the USB Faculty of Theology.

In 2020 the Rector's Award for a prestigious scientific publication in 2019 was awarded at the session of the USB Scientific Board. It was the publication entitled *Atlas sinic a řas I a II* [Encyclopedia of Blue-green Algae and Algae I & II] by doc. RNDr. Jan Kaštovský, Ph.D., and RNDr. Tomáš Hauer, Ph.D. Furthermore, Mgr. et Mgr. Václav Grubhoffer, Ph.D., was also awarded the award for the publication *Zdánlivá smrt – Noční můra osvícenské Evropy* [Seeming Death – the Nightmare of Europe in the Age of Enlightenment]. The USB Rector's Award was also awarded to prof. Dr. Karel Skalický, Th.D., for his publication *Církev v Evropě, Evropa v církvi: Teologický vhled do dějin Evropy prismaticem svobody a revoluce* [The Church in Europe, Europe in the Church: Theological insight into the history Europe through the prism of freedom and revolution].

Abstracts of publications awarded the 2020 Rector's Award for a prestigious scientific publication in 2019

***Atlas sinic a řas I a II* [Encyclopedia of Blue-green Algae and Algae I & II]** is a modern publication systematising the bountifulness of species in this area. It contains individual chapters about blue-green algae, Raphidophytes, Chrysophyceae, Xanthophyceae, Eustigmatophyceae, Haptophytes, centric and pennate diatoms (first part), and also Cryptomonads, Dinoflagellates, Euglenids, Glaucophytes, Desmidiaceae, and green algae (second part). The first part of every chapter is a guide to determining the genera, which is followed by genera descriptions, guides to determining the most important species and short texts concerning each of these species. Apart from morphological features for the determination, the descriptions of species contain basic information on the study of synonyms, ecology and frequency of incidence in the Czech Republic. Every species is also documented in drawing or photographically. This book will no doubt become the foundation for those pursuing alcolgy for years to come.

The monograph ***Zdánlivá smrt – Noční můra osvícenské Evropy* [Seeming Death – the Nightmare of Europe in the Age of Enlightenment]** focuses on the problem of the so-called seeming death that is connected particularly with European Enlightenment of the second half of 18th century and the beginning of 19th century. Seeming death is introduced as a cultural and culture-forming phenomenon – a fundamental theme of cultural history – because it was rather a constructed symbolic idea than a series of events graspable as historical facts. The idea of being buried alive clearly emerges, vanishes, and returns again in the 18th as well as the 19th century, and that is why even fear of being buried in such a way is anchored

Abstracts of publications awarded the 2020 Rector's Award for a prestigious scientific publication in 2019

between individual psychology and the collective societal memory. Václav Grubhoffer, the author, followed the increasing professionalisation of medicine in the European context, among other things the development of forensic medicine in the 17th century. The core of the research was the 18th century, the time when people were intensively concerned with the risk of premature burial, seeming death as well as with potentially saving the seemingly dead.

Abstract of the publication awarded the 2020 Rector's Award for a popularisation/overview work in 2019

The book *Církev v Evropě, Evropa v církvi [The Church in Europe, Europe in the Church]* offers a contextual interpretation of the history of the Church in Europe as well as the history of Europe itself. It is a bold attempt at looking at European history – history of 20th century Czechoslovakia and countries behind the iron curtain in particular – through the prism of key historical watersheds, i.e. revolutions. It is a unique feat in the area of theological and historical research. The monograph maintains the character of a gripping narration enriched with the personal testimony of the author who lived at the centre of Roman Catholic events for a major part of his life.

Minutes from regular sessions of the USB Scientific Board are available on the website of the University of South Bohemia¹⁰.

1.3.5 USB Academic Senate

Membership of the USB Academic Senate until 14 September 2020

Chair	PhDr. Iva Žlábková, Ph.D.
Vice-Chair of the Chamber of Academic Staff	JUDr. Rudolf Hrubý
Vice-Chair of the Chamber of Students	Mgr. Pavel Kilbergr
Members – academic staff	doc. Ing. Jan Bárta, Ph.D.
	Mgr. František Dolák, Ph.D.
	PhDr. Petr Dvořák, Ph.D.
	Ing. David Gela, Ph.D.
	Ing. Lenka Hanusová, Ph.D. (od 1. 4. 2020)
	doc. PhDr. Josef Hrdlička, Ph.D.
	Ing. Marie Hronková, Ph.D.
	PhDr. Andrea Hudáčková, Ph.D.
	doc. Mgr. Ondřej Chvojka, Ph.D.
	Mgr. Tomáš Jajtner, Th.D., Ph.D.
	Mgr. Martin Klapetek, Ph.D.
	Mgr. Martina Kočerová
	Ing. Martina Novotná, Ph.D.
	doc. Ing. Pavel Ondr, CSc.
	Mgr. Alena Polanová
	prof. Ing. Tomáš Randák, Ph.D.
	doc. RNDr. Petr Šmilauer, Ph.D.
	Mgr. Tomáš Veber, Th.D.
	doc. PhDr. Miluše Vítečková, Ph.D.
	Ing. Rudolf Vohnout, Ph.D.
Ing. Tomáš Volek, Ph.D.	
Ing. Luboš Zábranský, Ph.D.	
MVDr. Eliška Zusková, Ph.D.	
Members – students	Bc. Simona Berková
	Bc. Tomáš Buřič
	Bc. Ondřej Doktor, Dis.
	Mgr. Martin Dvořák
	Mgr. Jan Fiala
	Bc. Matyáš Hric
	Ing. Roman Jabůrek
	Ing. Radim Kuneš
	Ing. Filip Ložek

¹⁰ <http://www.jcu.cz/veda-a-vyzkum/vedecka-rada-ju/zapisy-z-jednani-vr-ju>

Membership of the USB Academic Senate until 14 September 2020

	Mgr. Lukáš Mareš
	Bc. Anna Marešová (née Burianová)
	Mgr. Jan Neugebauer
	Bc. Oldřich Pecha
	Bc. Jan Vaclík
	Bc. Marek Voráček

Membership of the USB Academic Senate since 24 November 2020

Chair	JUDr. Rudolf Hrubý
Vice-Chair of the Chamber of Academic Staff	Mgr. František Dolák, Ph.D.
Vice-Chair of the Chamber of Students	Lukáš Lang
Members – academic staff	doc. Ing. Jan Bárta, Ph.D.
	PhDr. Petr Dvořák, Ph.D.
	Ing. David Gela, Ph.D.
	Ing. Lenka Hanusová, Ph.D.
	Ing. Marie Hronková, Ph.D.
	PhDr. Andrea Hudáčková, Ph.D.
	doc. Mgr. Ondřej Chvojka, Ph.D.
	Mgr. Tomáš Jajtner, Th.D., Ph.D.
	Mgr. Martin Klapetek, Ph.D.
	Mgr. Martina Kočerová
	Ing. Martina Novotná, Ph.D.
	doc. Ing. Pavel Ondr, CSc.
	Mgr. Alena Polanová
	prof. Ing. Tomáš Randák, Ph.D.
	doc. RNDr. Petr Šmilauer, Ph.D.
	Mgr. Tomáš Veber, Th.D.
	doc. PhDr. Miluše Vítečková, Ph.D.
	Ing. Rudolf Vohnout, Ph.D.
	Ing. Tomáš Volek, Ph.D.
	Ing. Luboš Zábanský, Ph.D.
	MVDr. Eliška Zusková, Ph.D.
Members – students	Roman Bechyně
	Bc. Filip Bláha
	Ing. Pavel Franta
	Ing. Martin Hubálek
	Ing. Jan Kresan
	Bc. Jan Lassner
	Mgr. Aleš Lisner
	Mgr. Hynek Mazanec
	Mgr. Jan Neugebauer
	Adam Novák
	Mgr. et Mgr. Libor Staněk
	Tereza Svárovská
	Bc. Michaela Hana Votruba
	Mgr. Barbora Wernerová

Eight sessions of the USB Academic Senate took place in 2020 (some in a hybrid format and some online). The AS USB elections for the period of 2020–2023 that took place on 5–6 November 2020 were an important milestone. Elected members were given a certificate of election and AS USB selected the new chair and vice-chairs. JUDr. Rudolf Hrubý became the chair after PhDr. Iva Žlábková. AS USB also selected

its representatives on the USB Internal Evaluation Board and a representative on the Rada vysokých škol [Higher Education Council].

Minutes from sessions of the USB Academic Senate are available on the website of the University of South Bohemia¹¹.

1.3.6 USB Internal Evaluation Board

USB Internal Evaluation Board in 2020

Chair	
prof. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D.	USB Rector (until 31 March 2020)
prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr.	USB Rector (since 1 April 2020)
Vice-Chairs	
prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr.	USB Faculty of Arts (until 31. March 2020)
prof. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D.	USB Faculty of Theology (since 1 April 2020)
Chair of the USB Academic Senate	
PhDr. Iva Žlábková, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Education (until 14 September 2020)
JUDr. Rudolf Hrubý	USB Faculty of Economics (since 24 November 2020)
Student representative	
Mgr. Ondřej Selner	USB Faculty of Arts (until 22. October 2020)
Members	
doc. RNDr. Petr Bartoš, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Agriculture
prof. PhDr. Václav Bůžek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
prof. Ing. Vladislav Čurn, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Agriculture
doc. Ing. Ivana Faltová Leitmanová, CSc.	USB Faculty of Economics
prof. Ing. Martin Flajšhans, Dr. rer. agr.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
Ing. Vladimír Jandík	USB Faculty of Economics
doc. Ing. Milan Jílek, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Economics
doc. RNDr. Jan Kaštovský, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Science
doc. RNDr. Šárka Klementová, CSc.	USB Faculty of Science
doc. Ing. Martin Kocour, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
prof. PaedDr. Vladimír Papoušek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
doc. Jakub Sirovátka, Dr. phil.	USB Faculty of Theology
doc. RNDr. Vítězslav Straňák, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Science
prof. PaedDr. Iva Stuchlíková, CSc.	USB Faculty of Education
prof. RNDr. Ivo Šauman, Ph.D.	Biology Centre CAS České Budějovice
prof. PhDr. Valérie Tóthová, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences
doc. Mgr. et Mgr. Jitka Vacková, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Eight regular sessions of the USB Internal Evaluation Board took place in 2020. Summaries of the most important items of the regular meetings of the USB Internal Evaluation Board are available on the website of the University of South Bohemia¹².

1.3.7 USB International Board

USB International Board in 2020

Members	
prof. Dr. Klaus Baumann	Psychologist and theologian engaged in social work, psychology, practical theology, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany
assoc. prof. Ioan Bencsik, Ph.D.	Associate professor of Livestock Genetics, University of Agricultural Science and Veterinary Medicine Timisoara, Romania
prof. Dr. József Betlehem, Ph.D.	Professor in the area of nursing, University of Pécs, Hungary
prof. Dr. hab. Joanna Czaplińska	Professor of Czech Studies, Uniwersytet Opolski, Poland

¹¹ <http://www.jcu.cz/o-univerzite/organizacni-struktura/senate/zapisy>

¹² <https://www.jcu.cz/en/university/university-bodies/internal-evaluation-board>

prof. Dr. Martin Lindner	Professor of Teacher Training in Biology and Geography, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany
prof. Dr. Norbert Müller	Professor of Chemistry, Johannes Kepler University, Austria
prof. Dr. James Sanford Rikoon	Professor, an expert in the area of rural and environmental sociology, University of Missouri, USA
prof. Dr. Johan Verreth	Professor of Aquaculture and Fisheries, Wageningen University, Netherlands

The USB International Board is an advisory body of the Rector of the University of South Bohemia in assessing the direction and quality of the educational and creative activity of the University of South Bohemia, its system of management, funding, and other related activities, the discussion of which the Rector requests at his discretion. No session of the USB International Board has taken place yet.

More information on the USB International Board is available on the website of the University of South Bohemia¹³.

1.3.8 USB Ethics Committee

USB Ethics Committee in 2020

Chair	
doc. Jakub Sirovátka, Dr.phil.	USB Faculty of Theology
Members	
Mgr. et Mgr. Ondřej Doskočil, Th.D.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (until 27 May 2020)
Mgr. Zuzana Duchková, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Education (since 27 May 2020)
doc. František Hudeček, CSc.	USB Faculty of Education (until 27 May 2020)
Ing. Ján Regenda, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters
doc. PhDr. Marie Ryantová, CSc.	USB Faculty of Arts
doc. Ing. Milan Štech, Ph.D.	USB Faculty of Science
Ombudsman	
doc. MUDr. Jiří Šimek, CSc.	USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (since 27 May 2020)

Addendum No 1 to the Rector's Decision R 253 on the establishment of the Ethics Committee of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice and the amended Rules of Procedure of the USB Ethics Committee (as Rector's Ordinance R 433) were issued on 19 May 2020. Doc. MUDr. Jiří Šimek, CSc., was elected ombudsman at the session of the USB Ethics Committee on 27 May 2020.

One session took place in 2020 and the USB Ethics Committee issued two statements outside the session.

More information on the activity of the USB Ethics Committee is available on the website of the University of South Bohemia¹⁴.

1.4 USB representatives among the representation of Czech higher education institutions

USB representatives among the representation of Czech higher education institutions in 2020

Organisation	USB representative	Position in the representation body
Czech Rectors Conference	prof. Tomáš Machula, Ph.D., Th.D.	Plenum member (until 31 March 2020) Member of the Chamber of public and state HEIs rectors (until 31 March 2020) Member of the Working Group for the Preparation of the Evaluation of Higher Education Institutions in compliance with the Methodology 17+ Member of the Commission for Evaluation of Higher Education Institutions Research
	prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr. (since 1 April 2020)	Plenum member Member of the Chamber of public and state HEIs rectors

¹³ <https://www.jcu.cz/en/university/university-bodies/international-council>

¹⁴ <https://www.jcu.cz/en/university/university-bodies/ethics-committee>

USB representatives among the representation of Czech higher education institutions in 2020

	doc. RNDr. Radka Závodská, Ph.D.	Member of the Working Group for Study in the Czech Republic Portal
	prof. RNDr. Tomáš Polívka, Ph.D.	Member delegated by the CRC to the European University Association Expert Group for the area of Open Science/Science 2.0
	Bc. Lucie Brucknerová	Member of the Working Group for European Structural Funds Matters
Council of Higher Education Institutions	prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr. (until 31 March 2020)	Member of the Board Member of the Assembly representing USB Member of the Working Committee for Strategy and Development in Higher Education Member of the Working Committee for Quality of Higher Education Institutions and its Evaluation
	PhDr. Iva Žlábková, Ph.D.	Member of the Assembly representing USB Member of the Board (since 1 April 2020) Member of the Working Committee for Quality of Higher Education Institutions and its Evaluation Member of the Working Committee for Preparation of Teachers
	Ing. Rudolf Vohnout, Ph.D. (since 1 April 2020)	Member of the Assembly representing USB
	doc. Ing. Kamil Pícha, Ph.D.	Member of the Assembly representing FEC USB Member of the Economic Working Committee Member of the Working Committee for External and International Relations
	Ing. Ján Regenda, Ph.D.	Member of the Assembly representing FFPW USB Member of the Working Committee for Strategy and Development in Higher Education Member of the Working Committee for Quality of Higher Education Institutions and its Evaluation
	doc. RNDr. Vladimíra Petrášková, Ph.D.	Member of the Assembly representing FED USB Member of the Working Committee for Education Activity Member of the Working Committee for Preparation of Teachers
	doc. JUDr. Stanislav Příbyl, Ph.D., JCD	Member of the Assembly representing FTH USB Member of the Working Committee for Legislation Member of the Working Committee for Research Activity
	Mgr. František Dolák, Ph.D.	Member of the Assembly representing FHSS USB Member of the Working Committee for Quality of Higher Education Institutions and its Evaluation
	Ing. Luboš Zábranský, Ph.D.	Member of the Assembly representing FAG USB Member of the Working Committee for Strategy and Development in Higher Education
	BcA. Filip Martinek	Chamber of Students delegate Member of the Working Committee for Art HEIs (for art degree programmes)
	Bc. Richard Maršák	Student Chamber Delegate Alternate Member of the Working Committee for Educational Activity Member of the Working Committee for Ethics in Research and Education

1.5 Mission, vision, and strategic objectives

As the paramount centre of scholarship, independent learning, and creative activity, the University of South Bohemia is oriented towards a scientific, cultural, social, and economic development of society, and it fulfils the **mission of a university higher education institution** pursuant to Section 1 of the Higher Education Act. In accordance with the aforementioned Section 1 of the Act, USB Statutes (Article 2), and the Strategic (formerly Long-term) Plan of USB for 2016–2020, it is the fundamental mission of the University of South Bohemia to develop scholarship, support independent learning, and creative activity in research and development and to actively meet its social responsibility in the areas of economic, social, cultural, and environmental sustainability. Visions and values of the University of South Bohemia are built on these foundations.

The society-wide influence of the University of South Bohemia as a university that is the bearer of wider social responsibility and related tasks, although these are not explicitly set by specific statutory requirements, are considered as parts of the mission as well. At the University-wide level, these are activities of the less formal or symbolic character, such as active participation in the society-wide discussion on the question of human rights, societal and political culture. No less important is also opening the University environment to those interested in professionally or leisure-oriented programmes of lifelong learning in such a way that the offer of these activities is gradually expanded for all potentially interested in all age and social groups (the University of South Bohemia has long been organising programmes of the University of the Third Age, offering a broad spectrum of activities for children and youth – known under the designation 'Children's University' or 'Junior University' in recent years. The extent of these activities is characterised in greater detail in annual activity reports of the University of South Bohemia.

At the level of individual faculties of the University of South Bohemia, further examples of fulfilling the social responsibility may be given, e.g. significant specialisation of faculties in areas closely related to increasing the quality of life or environmental protection (healthcare fields at the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences; fields concerning social and charity work at the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences and the USB Faculty Theology; issues of fisheries, protection of waters and the environment at the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters – or at the large research infrastructure CENAKVA; issues of ecology and sustainable landscape management at the USB Faculty of Science and the USB Faculty of Agriculture; the designation of the USB Faculty of Economics as the 'Fairtrade faculty'; activities of the USB Faculty of Arts in the area of preservation of the cultural heritage during archaeological surveys related to construction in the South Bohemian Region, etc.). Education in accredited degree programmes and also educational lecture and advisory activities are significantly related to these specialisations. The Centre of Physiotherapy, Centre for Prevention of Lifestyle Diseases, and the Centre for Seniors operated by the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences are available to the public this way for example. The series of lectures Academic Half-hours is regularly organised in cooperation with the Biology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences in the centre of České Budějovice (the 14th series was to take place in 2020, but the series was substantially limited with respect to the coronavirus epidemic – only two lectures took place in spring), etc.

As a public higher education institution, the University of South Bohemia is aware of its social responsibility, particularly in the area of higher education and scientific and research activity. The University wishes to contribute to sustainable economic, social, and environmental development not only in the environment of the Czech Republic. The University of South Bohemia is aware of its responsibility to society as a whole, all its employees and partners, and particularly students and future graduates. Its objective is to build relationships with all its partners on the basis of mutual trustworthiness and respect with respect to the development of the University of South Bohemia, the quality of education as well as the social environment and environment itself that will be sustainable in the long term in harmony with its Code of Conduct, USB Statutes, the vision and long-term strategy of the development of the University.

The vision of the University of South Bohemia, formulated in the USB Strategic Plan for 2016–2020, is to be the following by 2020:

- a university that is of benefit to the city as well as the region
- a sought-after, friendly university that is among the best in the Czech Republic
- a university able to compete at both the European and global levels

Values of the University of South Bohemia include being:

- Professional – The University of South Bohemia relies on highly qualified and competent staff in all areas of its activity.
- International – The University of South Bohemia builds on international cooperation on a global scale, particularly with emphasis on the European region Danube–Vltava.
- Open – It is open to accepting and sharing new ideas and approaches as well as to establishing new partnerships.
- Ambitious – The University of South Bohemia is a perceptive institution, and its objectives are ambitious in all areas of its activity.

- Integrating – The University of South Bohemia connects internal as well as external partners and it is a free environment where their ideas can be expressed and accomplished.

The principal objective of the University of South Bohemia as a research organisation is to independently perform basic research, industrial research, or experimental development, and publicly disseminate the results of these activities in the form of instruction, publications, or knowledge transfers. The education and related scientific and research, development, and innovation, artistic or other creative activity (hereinafter as the 'creative activity') is developed in economic, social, healthcare, theological, technical, artistic, and agricultural fields as well as in fields of humanities, education, and science at the University of South Bohemia according to international standards. Apart from the educational and creative activity, the University of South Bohemia also performs ancillary activity as defined in Section 20 of the Higher Education Act in such a way that this activity aids the University of South Bohemia in fulfilling its mission.

Five strategic topics were defined in the USB Strategic Plan for 2016–2020: education, research, internationalisation, openness, and management. Individual topics are detailed by specific objectives and instruments aiding their completion. The USB Strategic Plan for 2016–2020 is supported by supplementary strategies, projects, and plans for individual strategic topics that determine the actual implementation of the USB Strategic Plan in the period concerned. The full text of the USB Strategic Plan for 2016–2020 and annual implementation plans of the USB Strategic Plan are available on the website of the University of South Bohemia¹⁵. Since the USB Strategic Plan for 2016–2020 is ending, the entire year was marked by an intense discussion over the formulation of new visions and objectives of USB and their grounding in a new strategic document.

The USB Strategic Plan 2021–2030 (hereinafter as the 'SP USB 2021+') is the result that stems from binding principles of the Strategic Plan of the Ministry for the Area of Higher Education Institutions for the period from 2021 and its annexe Strategy of Internationalisation of Higher Education for the period from 2021 formulating objectives and measures for bolstering the international dimension of the activity of higher education institutions. The long-term task of these binding principles of the Strategic Plan of the Ministry for the Area of Higher Education institutions from 2021 is the establishment of conditions allowing all higher education institutions, i.e. including USB, to provide high-quality education to those studying in the full-time, part-time, or distance form of studies, as well as through courses of lifelong learning available to the general public as well as to execute research, development, artistic and other creative and professional activities, the outputs of which will support the social, economic, and cultural development of the country. Last but not least, the aim is the creation of conditions allowing higher education institutions to be active actors in society that are open to cooperation, discussion and the sharing of findings.

The SP USB 2021+ will be divided into five priority areas of Education, Research, Internationalisation, Openness, Management for the purpose of fulfilling its previously set objectives, visions and missions, and it will seamlessly connect to objectives of the USB Strategic Plan for 2016–2020. One cross-section area was also set in addition to these five priority areas – Social responsibility, which is contained in all chapters below since social responsibility is considered an immensely important attribute of all activity executed at USB. Under SP USB 2021+, priority areas are elaborated to the level of sub-objectives and specific instruments for their achievement, including the connection to superior strategic documents (programmes), responsibilities, expected sources of funding of activities, and monitored parameters. SP USB 2021+ is perceived as the essential tool of the University management, therefore, intensive cooperation between the USB management and management of USB faculties, USB Academic Senate, and the USB Board of Trustees was taking place already during the preparation of the strategic document.

1.6 Changes in the area of internal regulations

Only one change was executed in the area of internal regulations of USB in 2020. The change introduced an amendment of the Election Regulations of the USB Academic Senate. This amendment that was approved on 21 January 2020 formally completed the discussion concerning the reduction of the period during which by-elections for the USB Academic Senate must take place before the end of its term. Pursuant to the amended version of the Election Regulations of the USB Academic Senate, by-elections do not take place in the case that the seat in the USB Academic Senate becomes vacant during the last

¹⁵ <https://www.jcu.cz/en/university/documents/long-term-strategic-plan-of-the-usb>

three months of the Senate's term (originally it was six months). The amended Election Regulations of the USB Academic Senate was registered with MEYS on 15 October 2020 under ref. No MSMT-39612/2020-1.

Changes to selected faculty regulations – specifically the Student Disciplinary Code of the USB Faculty of Education (approved on 21 January 2020), Statutes of the USB Faculty of Education (approved on 24 November 2020), and the Code of Lifelong Learning of the USB Faculty of Education (approved on 24 November 2020) – were also approved by the USB Academic Senate in 2020.

In 2020, the USB Academic Senate also approved (specifically on 24 April 2020) the draft of the amended version of the Rules of Procedure of the USB Ethics Committee (issued on 19 May 2020 through the Rector's Ordinance R 433) submitted by the USB Rector. The position of an ombudsman was established by the draft. The Ombudsman is an independent person, the activity of which provides all staff members of the University confidential aid in solving work conflicts, disputes, and complaints with the aim of ensuring just and equal treatment at the University and improving the total quality of the work environment.

1.7 Providing information pursuant to Section 18 of Act No 106/1999, on Free Access to Information in 2020

Only requests in compliance with requirements defined by the Act are included in the registry of requests concerning providing information pursuant to Act No 106/1999, on Free Access to Information (IFAI). In 2020, the University of South Bohemia received 5 such requests in total.

Providing information pursuant to Section 18 of Act No 106/1999, in 2020 – summary

Item Section 18 of Act No 106/1999		Quantity
a)	Information requests filed	5
	Decisions refusing a request issued	1
b)	Appeals against a decision filed	0
c)	Judicial reviews of decisions concerning an appeal based on a legal action	0
	Total expenses expended by the USB in connection with judicial proceedings concerning rights and obligations under the law	0
	– expenses on the institution's own employees	0
	– expenses on legal representation	0
d)	Exclusive licences granted	0
e)	complaints concerning the procedure when addressing the information request filed	0

Providing information pursuant to Section 18 of Act No 106/1999, in 2020 – overview of information requests delivered and the manner in which these requests were handled

Requests (brief summary of requests and the manner in which they were handled) – chronological order

An information request concerning accommodation and catering services for members of the USB academic community and the funding of these services. The requested information was provided to the claimant within the statutory deadline.

An information request concerning the delivery of documents to student data boxes. The requested information was provided to the claimant within the statutory deadline.

A request for a statement from USB on the manner of management of the raising of Carpathian lynx in a specific zoo and options of further breeding of particular individuals of this animal species. USB rejected this request in its entirety since the obligation to provide information under the provision of Section 2(4) of the Act on Free Access to Information does not apply to queries concerning opinions, future decisions, and the creation of new information. Under the provision, USB is not required to form opinions or take positions on specific affairs and subsequently inform claimants about such opinions and positions.

An information request concerning a hypothetical employment at USB for a person with particular education and experience and the concerning potential salary. The requested information was provided to the claimant within the statutory deadline.

This request followed a previous request (request 3) in substance. This time the claimant requested information on the relation of USB to the supporting position concerning the management of raising Carpathian lynx and whether this position is a position of USB. The required information was provided to the claimant within the statutory deadline.

Information that the University of South Bohemia makes public in compliance with IFAI is displayed on the official notice board of the University of South Bohemia.

2 Degree programmes, organisation of studies, and educational activity

2.1 Accredited degree programmes described by the methodology of the learning results and newly described programmes in 2020

The methodology of learning outputs in accordance with the National reference framework of tertiary education defines a new manner of describing knowledge, skills and other qualifications (so-called descriptors), which students must demonstrate in order to be awarded the corresponding diploma. This methodology has already been reflected in the accreditation requirements for several years. In connection with the amendment of the Higher Education Act effective since 1 September 2016, almost 130 degree programmes have been already accredited in 2020 according to the new accreditation standards. The issues of learning outputs are taken into account in these standards, inter alia, it is explicitly stated in the Rector's ordinance issuing Standards for the accreditation and execution of degree programmes of USB.

An overview of all accredited degree programmes of USB, including programmes newly accredited under the programme as well as institutional accreditation, is available on the website of USB¹⁶.

2.2 Cooperation with the sphere of application on the preparation and execution of degree programmes

The engagement of companies, non-profit organisations, offices of state administration and self-government, institutions of basic and applied research, and other entities of the sphere of application in the preparation of degree programmes is institutionally secured by the cooperation of guarantors of degree programmes with the sphere of application and by appointing representatives of employers and graduates to the boards of degree programmes. The important moment of connecting the sphere of application with the execution of degree programmes is providing practical training of students and, last but not least, also including experts from the sphere of application directly in instruction. Boards of degree programmes of individual faculties bear responsibility for the assessment of the engagement of the sphere of application in the preparation of degree programmes. It is primarily the board of the corresponding degree programme that assesses the engagement of entities from the sphere of application in the execution of degree programmes. Secondly, it is also the board of degree programmes of the faculty. In the case of professionally-oriented degree programmes, the criterium of cooperation with the sphere of application is one of the standards that is assessed by the USB Internal Evaluation Board in processes of accreditation, re-accreditation, and periodic evaluation of executed degree programmes. Guaranteeing departments and institutes or independent practical training offices systematically attend to securing the practical training of students and cooperation with the sphere of application in this area according to field specifics of individual faculties. The inclusion of experts from the sphere of application is assessed primarily through regular surveys of student evaluation of instruction.

For example, at the **USB Faculty of Arts**, the cooperation with the sphere of application is primarily manifested in the instruction of specific disciplines in some fields (archival studies, heritage conservation, museum management, library science, gallery operations, translating) including practical training of students in companies and institutions even abroad (e.g. students of area studies undertake work internships in Austria or Germany). The faculty is represented in the ELIA Exchange programme (platforms for student internships of the global association of translation agencies), which was utilised chiefly by students of Romance fields. Creative translation activity of students is employed in cooperation with some publishing houses (e.g. Dybbuk), during the semantic translation of dramatic models or with language agencies (Sophia, language services s.r.o.). The cooperation includes even Czech authorities abroad and other professional organisations, e.g. Czech Embassy in London, embassies of Mexico and Peru in Prague, Czech School Without Borders, Alliance Française de Bohême du Sud, Associazione Amici dell'Italia, Instituto Cervantes.

¹⁶ <https://www.jcu.cz/uchazec-o-studium/co-u-nas-studovat>

At the **USB Faculty of Education**, the interaction with cooperating teachers and headmasters under the OP RDE 'Innovation of the preparation of teachers for the practice' is an important activity, particularly during the preparation of the new model of practical training in teacher training degree programmes. Concurrently, the cooperation of introducing and accompanying teachers during innovations of the reflection and evaluation parts of the practical training of students – future teachers – was important.

At the **USB Faculty of Science**, the sphere of application substantially participates particularly in instruction in fields with direct connection to the application sphere: Applied Informatics, Mechatronics, Measuring and Computer Technology, and Medical Biology. Representatives of the sphere of application participated in the theoretical instruction (on University premises) as well as in the practical instruction (on the premises of businesses and companies). In the vast majority of cases, graduation theses of students in these fields were founded upon cooperation with the sphere of application. Also, the cooperation with secondary school teachers in preparing and providing practical training for students of teacher training for secondary schools was intensive.

Representatives of the sphere of application also partake in the execution of degree programmes of the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** by engaging in the activity of state final examination committees. The management of the faculty also utilised the direct link between representatives of the sphere of application and studies, or their graduates, when meeting in associations (e.g. Rybářské sdružení ČR [Czech Fishing Association], Česká společnost vodohospodářská [Czech Water Management Society]) or at professional seminars and workshops. Representatives of the sphere of application are members of the committee for talented students and regularly contribute to the scholarship fund from which the scholarship for the best students is awarded.

The proof of the trend of the profiling of degree programmes and the differentiation of the needs and specifics of the preparation and execution of degree programmes according to the focus was, among other things, the increasing of the scope of the practical training of students of professionally focused degree programmes. For example, in the bachelor's degree programme Free Time Education, in which future carers and other non-pedagogical professions are prepared at the **USB Faculty of Theology**, an expansion of the mandatory practical training to 5 semesters of studies (instead of the former 4 semesters) has occurred in accordance with the newly formulated standards. Concurrently during the first semester, students undertake excursions to individual facilities at which they subsequently select the focus of their practical training. The contact of students with the sphere of application is, therefore, secured continuously in all semesters of studies. The degree programme Social and Charity Work, the students of which undertake professional practical training and also two out of four professional seminars, is another example of a similar trend. Due to that, they are prepared particularly for the performance of the profession of a social worker in hospice care, social work with seniors, with the family or in the area of social exclusion. Experts from the sphere of application participate in the instruction of professional seminars. The experts are invited into instruction on individual topics, and these experts also participate in the instruction of theoretical courses by individual contributions. The objective is to create the closest possible contact between students and experts from the sphere of application and concurrently to ensure that students encounter practical experience. The evaluation of the joint cooperation of the faculty and clinical places of work takes place in the context of joint seminars with places of work organised by the practical training office. In the area of theological studies, the re-accreditation of the degree programme that was built in cooperation with the diocese in such a way that it allows or facilitates the education that the diocese needs – specifically the education of permanent deacons and catechists – was a significant feat. This further education takes place under lifelong learning programmes, nevertheless, it is on the basis of courses that are a part of the bachelor's degree programme. Thus, the engagement of the sphere of application in the preparation of the degree programme allowed a more significant connection of studies with activities of further education.

The USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences has contractual cooperation with the most important providers of health and social services in the South Bohemian Region as well as in the broader region and with bodies of public authorities and branches of the integrated rescue system. The experts that are participating in the instruction activity of the faculty as industry experts in the form of direct instruction as well as thesis advisors or consultants or as members of boards of examiners during the state final examinations come chiefly from these places of work. The clinical places of work at which students undertake practical training become natural employers of graduates.

At the **USB Faculty of Agriculture**, it is especially the engagement of experts from agricultural or processing businesses but also industrial facilities, companies and providers of services in specialised

lectures, excursions, the execution of graduation theses of students, activity in examination committees and boards of degree programmes. Therefore, experts from the sphere of application not only directly participate in the execution of degree programmes but also obtain and provide feedback concerning the level of students and graduates. In the context of memberships of boards of degree programmes, they have the option to work towards their optimisation.

2.3 Other educational activities

In addition to the execution of bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programmes (or following these degree programmes), the activity of the University in the society is becoming ever more important, i.e. in the role of an educator, implementor of public education activities or activities popularising scientific findings. The important fact is the gradually increasing self-conception of the University as an entity that strives to increase its social relevance. In this respect, programmes of lifelong learning (LLL) are primarily important – professionally- or leisurely-oriented programmes, programmes targeted at children (Children's University), secondary school pupils (Junior University), young adults or seniors (University of the Third Age). The University can flexibly offer its educational services to the general public through LLL programmes. These programmes are simultaneously an important instrument of feedback through which the University can check the demand for educational services and obtain important suggestions from the perspective of the evaluation of the quality of the facilities and education provided.

Extraordinary activities with an international dimension are in the segment of educational activities more immediately following the executed degree programmes in the form of activities of a more complex nature (e.g. summer schools, workshops, seminars, courses, conferences) or one-off activities (e.g. internships, visits and lectures of important foreign experts, discussions, and book readings by authors, excursions, etc.).

The completion of some activities of the project OP RDE 'USB Development – ESF', inter alia the trial verification of the course of pedagogical competencies, in the area of education and support for the personal development of USB employees occurred in 2020. One of the significantly developed activities (in 2017–2020) was the support for the development of competencies for distance (online) education. The establishment of the new position of technical and methodological support for the area of education (particularly for the area of the development of online education) was supported from the resources of the USB Institutional Plan 2019–2020 as well.

Taking these steps has shown to have been astute in the recent past since it was due to these steps as well that USB was better prepared for the stress tests that the year 2020 brought, and we can say that USB passed these tests with honour. The development of pedagogical competencies of USB employees and securing technical and methodological support for instruction is continuously expected even in upcoming years.

2.3.1 Lifelong learning

All eight faculties of the University of South Bohemia, **USB British Centre**, **USB Goethe Centre**, and also the **USB Academic Library** engage in lifelong learning. The intensity of the engagement of individual constituent parts varies and it derives from their professional focus and size. The Lifelong Learning Department of the USB Rectorate provides methodological management, administrative and coordination support to individual constituent parts of the University. The department also organises educational activities for employees of the University of South Bohemia.

From the perspective of the systemic development of this segment in 2020, particularly the completion of activities of the USB Institutional Plan 2019–2020 – inter alia the support for positions of faculty LLL coordinators occurred – may be considered significant. This way, USB continued in building a network of collaborators who aid in the systemic development of the area of LLL at USB by sharing their experience and examples of good practices. Also, the finding of appropriate premises for the USB Goethe Centrum in the centre of České Budějovice and moving activities of the centre into the new premises was also an important step.

With respect to the large number of these educational activities, only selected examples are mentioned below:

The objective of the Children's University project at the **USB Faculty of Economics** was to present the higher education environment, what science is good for, but also to show them that they can study at a university one day and get education in a broad spectrum of fields. In the context of the programme, they encountered interesting topics from the area of financial literacy: creating reserves in the budget of a household, education when selecting the subsequent occupation, interest related to loans, considering what we actually need in life. The University of the Third Age 'How to succeed in the labour market as seniors' has been on offer since 2020. The scope of instruction is 4 semesters, and the studies include the following areas: social policies, social and legal protection of seniors, information and communication technologies, economy and management of non-governmental non-profit organisations. In both cases, it was necessary to move from the in-person instruction into online forms due to extraordinary measures. Out of less complex activities, the IT course for seniors, for example, may be mentioned. During the course, seniors had the opportunity to acquire skills concerning handling computers, notebooks, tablets, and smartphones and they received instructions on using the internet – email communication and, last but not least, they could connect with consultants from among instructors as well as faculty students in the context of online instruction.

In 2020, the course entitled 'Czechs and Germans in the heart of Europe: history, language, culture' took place at the **USB Faculty of Arts**, the course of which was substantially affected by the Covid-19 pandemic (the course was suspended after four classes completed in the SS 2020; the course switched to the distance mode in the WS 2020 after one completed class). 19 participants completed the course even in the distance form. Out of professional courses, e.g. the FEES course entitled 'Modern archaeology and history' was executed. Nevertheless, a number of courses prepared, or events started, by the faculty were not executed or completed due to restrictions. Starting courses in the in-person form and continuing and completing them in the distance form (online using MS Teams) was customary, particularly in the winter semester. For example, the following combined courses (39 participants in total) took place this way: Sigillography; Heraldry and genealogy; Journeys of scholarship in the Czech lands from the Middle Ages to the beginning of the 20th century; Politics and society of the Czech Republic and a German-speaking country; History of English literature II; Sounds, symbols and values: introduction to classical music; Laboratory seminar; History of prehistoric times; Introduction to classical archaeology; Introduction to archaeology I; Czech literature of the second half of the 20th century I; History of England I; Commercial law; Basics of general linguistics; Ancient, early Christian and Byzantine art; European and Czech art of the Middle Ages (1000–1500); Essential course of art history I; Essential terms of aesthetics I.

In 2020, the **USB Faculty of Education** organised a course entitled 'From English to German and back' (18 participants), 'Children's University – liquid nitrogen and thermography' (20 participants), and the faculty also secured a workshop for the Children's Group Kvítek entitled 'What hides under human skin' (20 participants). The 'Day in laboratories at DAPT for PSch and KG Bernartice', workshop 'Elixir into schools' in Tábor also took place. The faculty also organised day camps entitled 'Following fine art artists', 'Robo-camp', and 'Summer day camp of the FED USB'.

Despite restrictions connected with the Covid-19 pandemic, the **USB Faculty of Science** managed to organise many of its traditional LLL activities in 2020 as well. In the context of the week-long event for secondary school students entitled 'A week with contemporary biology', a group of selected secondary school students had the opportunity to try the work in a laboratory or in the field. Lectures of experts on current topics were also part of the event. The faculty also organised the regular one-day 'Botanic excursions' for students as well as the public. Over the summer holidays, the already 6th year of the 'Day camp with the Faculty of Science' took place, and the two-week long 'Natural science summer camp' took place again after a year-long break. The 'Natural science club for PSch children' also regularly takes place at the faculty every Monday. Furthermore, regular weekend events, the objective of which is continuous education of secondary school educators under accredited programmes of further education (FEES), took place as well as the introduction of the newest results in the field of science: Botanic weekend, Ornito-entomological weekend, and lecture weekend entitled 'Back to classrooms' at which teachers acquainted themselves with modern findings from the world of biology in relation to instruction at secondary schools.

In spite of the difficult conditions, the International summer school, two sessions of the Children's University, two sessions of English camps, and the Summer school for KG educators took place at the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters**.

Exactly 100 courses of lifelong learning were organised at the **USB Faculty of Theology** in 2020. The courses were attended by 1 859 participants while more than half of them were attendees of the University of the Third Age (U3A). Yet, the U3A courses were impacted by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic because the majority of courses could not take place in the set scope and instruction was suspended. In addition to U3A, standardly accredited courses focused on obtaining qualifications or professional development were taking place. The overwhelming majority of these courses took place in the distance form. The faculty closely cooperates with the bishopric in České Budějovice on educating the clergy, deacons, acolytes as well as catechists. (Kurz pro akolyty [Course for acolytes], Kurz pro katechety [Course for catechists], K10). The long-term cooperation with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ostrava-Opava on the education of catechists and teachers of religion. Since spring 2020, the faculty has also been offering first courses under the label 'Online university'. 6 courses were offered, and 107 participants applied. Applicants could select courses particularly from the area of philosophy and religious studies; a course of Latin is also on offer.

The following LLL courses were executed at the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences**: Prevence úrazů a násilí v dětském věku [Injury and violence prevention in childhood] (22 classes, 12 participants), Chytrá prevence aneb Zacvičte si doma i v kanceláři [Smart prevention – exercise at home and in the office] (2 classes, 10 participants), Praktický nácvik zjišťování potřeb a názorů dětí – základy [Practical training of uncovering the needs and opinions of children – basics] (8 classes, 8 participants), Základy krizové intervence [Essentials of crisis intervention] (50 classes, 8 participants), Předporodní kurz [Prenatal course] (20 classes, 10 participants), Základy první pomoci [Essentials of first aid] (10 classes, 6 participants), and Trénování paměti [Training the memory] (24 classes, 5 participants). The following courses took place for employees: Příprava projektu [Project preparation] (2+3 classes, 8+8 participants), Práce s databázemi *OBD* [Using *OBD* databases], Scopus a WoS [Scopus and WoS] (3 classes, 11 participants), Analýza kvalitativních dat v programu Atlas.ti – základy [Analysis of qualitative data in the programme Atlas.ti – basics] (6 classes, 10 participants). Courses under U3A programmes were also successfully executed: Šumava známá a neznámá [Šumava familiar and unfamiliar], Kvalita života [Quality of life], and Ze života našich předků [From lives of our ancestors]. The course Angličtina pro lékaře a zdravotníky [English for doctors and medical staff] (24 classes, 10 participants) was also executed. For example, the Jarní příměstský tábor Dětské univerzity [Spring day camp of the Children's University] (50 classes, 16 participants), Dětská univerzita – 1. ročník [Children's University – Year 1] (20 classes, 18 participants), and Dětská univerzita – navazující studium [Children's University – consecutive studies] (20 classes, 12 participants) took place for the youngest.

Examinations of the professional qualification for the position of 'Staff of the brewhouse of a brewery' (code: 29-059-H) took place at the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** on 1–3 July 2020. On 7 September 2020, the certificates of the professional qualification in the field 'Staff of the brewhouse of a brewery' were ceremonially awarded. The certificate, in conjunction with the achieved year-long experience, allows holders to obtain the trade licence certificate in the area 'Brewer, maltster'. The faculty thus aids in the current significant development of micro-breweries. The Department of Genetics and Agricultural Biotechnologies organised the Letní škola molekulární biologie a biotechnologie [Summer school of molecular biology and biotechnology] on 24–28 August 2020. The objective of the summer schools was to introduce secondary school students and students of the second level of eight-year grammar schools with the newest techniques in molecular biology and their use in agricultural biotechnologies.

2.3.2 Other

The Covid-19 pandemic was the factor that was significantly restricting the area of 'other educational activities' in 2020. Due to the pandemic, not only the restriction of the execution of lifelong learning courses but primarily also the reduction or cancellation of activities related to mobilities of educators as well as attendees of educational events occurred. For example, all other educational activities for students as well as the professional public that the **USB Faculty of Arts** had been planning to organise were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic, be it lecture series and individual lectures of invited experts from the Czech Republic as well as abroad, workshops or summer schools.

In spite of that, the **USB Faculty of Education** organised several workshops in 2020. For instance, Čeština a němčina v tandemu: sice on-line, přesto spolu [Czech and German in tandem: online but still together], Termokamery do škol – NTC ZČU [Thermographic cameras into schools – NTRC UWB], or the language workshop of students of the Universität Wien and the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice.

Apart from the above-mentioned activities under LLL programmes, employees of the **USB Faculty of Science** took part in many events for the public. These were particularly field outings organised in cooperation with the Association for Preservation of the Environment Calla. Excursions were focused on plants, birds, or mushrooms, and the attendance in individual events ordinarily exceeded 50 participants. Faculty experts also gave lectures at secondary schools and also led several secondary school students in the context of competition secondary school science projects (SSch SREA).

At the start of 2020, the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** managed to organise a conference for the second level of Základní škola a Gymnázium ve Vodňanech and Základní škola Bavorov. The public enlightenment educational event on the topic of Oceán plastů [Ocean of plastics] and Krajina v tísní [Landscape under pressure] at the MEVPIS FFPW USB was visited by 350 pupils of 12–15 years of age. In September the educational event on the topic Ekosystém říční nivy [Ecosystem of the floodplain] for secondary school students and the public in Tábor under the event Tábořské setkávání [Tabor gatherings] took place. The faculty also took part in the Rybí slavnosti v Panské v Českých Budějovicích [Fish festival in Panská in České Budějovice] with its programme offering learning about aquatic animals.

Several lectures took place at the **USB Faculty of Theology** in person or in the online form (Sedm smrtelných hříchů klerikalismu [Seven deadly sins of clericalism], Čtyři vznešené pravdy buddhismu [Four noble truths of Buddhism], Between anthropology and metaphysics. The Heritage of Pedro de Ledesma, Penance and confession in Pedro de Ledesma) and two talks (Diskuzní fórum o stavu a budoucnosti náboženského vzdělávání v ČR [Discussion forum on the state and future of religious education in the Czech Republic], Eutanazie – lidskost, nebo barbarství? [Eutanasia – humanity or barbarity]). Among public enlightenment or educational activities of educators are also appearances in the media, e.g. dr. Bauman on the topic of Filozofie pro děti [Philosophy for children] (Czech Radio – Wave), dr. Samcová together with MUDr. Dušek, chief of the Neonatology unit of Nemocnice České Budějovice [Hospital České Budějovice] (Studio 6). Following degree programmes being executed in the area of social and charity work, e.g. Jaromír Matějek (Etické aspekty paliativní péče [Ethical aspects of palliative care]), Dagmar Pelcová (Sociální práce v hospicové péči [Social work in hospice care]), Barbora Vráblová (Právo a paliativní péče [Law and palliative care]), Veronika Plachá (Psychologie v paliativní péči [Psychology in palliative care]), Zuzana Pousková (Svépomocné skupiny v souvislosti se smrtí blízkého [Self-help groups in connection with the death of a loved one]), Jiří Pavlík (Sociální práce se skupinou v kontextu stacionáře pro lidi s mentálním postižením [Social work with a group in the context of a care centre for people with mental impairment]), and Květoslava Vrbová (Anonymní alkoholici [Alcoholics anonymous]) offered their findings and experience to students and others.

Extraordinary education activities that were executed by the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** are also worth mentioning, for example, the participation in the nationwide event Festival vědy [Festival of science]. Four students of the field Paramedic created a video in which they intelligibly and illustratively show the essentials of first aid so that no one is afraid of taking an action when it is needed. They entitled the video První pomoc? To dáš! [First aid? You can do it!]. The faculty also prepared a special course for students of Biskupské gymnázium at the base in Nová Pec where the grammar school students were spending a week at a cycling and adaptation course. They were attended to by students and graduates of fields Paramedic and Nurse. The counselling centre on the occasion of the National breastfeeding week at the hospital in České Budějovice was organised by educators from the faculty as well. The event included counselling, presentation of lactation aids, information about the breast milk bank, and women could also try the correct technique of breastfeeding using a model of a newborn. The regional Centre for Public Health Promotion of the National Institute of Public Health organised the Health Day on the Přemysl Otakar II square in České Budějovice in cooperation with the faculty. This time, the Centre for Prevention of Lifestyle Diseases of the faculty focused on oncological prevention (self-examination of the breast and testicles), dental hygiene, and measuring body fat – including nutrition counselling that highlighted chiefly the amount of sugar in food and beverages. Since everything had to take place in the online environment, the faculty recorded three new videos for the nationwide Researchers' Night: a guided tour of the Simulation centre for health-oriented fields, a physiotherapy session focused on lower limbs, and a lecture on a healthy diet.

The following can be cited out of professional lectures or workshops executed at the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** in 2020: a motivation lecture on the topic of numerical simulations in ANSYS (TechSoft Engineering), a series of seminars entitled 'Molecular markers in plant breeding and ecology', 'Využití mikroorganismů v masném průmyslu' [Use of microorganism in the meat industry], 'Využití fermentačních procesů při zpracování zemědělských produktů' [Use of fermentation processes when processing

agricultural products]. Furthermore, three lectures by faculty graduates about canis therapy, onion peels as a source of biologically active substances for the food industry and farm raising fallow deers.

3 Students

3.1 Measures aiming at reducing the drop-out rate

Individual faculties of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice are implementing a number of measures aiming at the number of drop-outs. The common denominator of these measures is the individual approach of educators to students and their needs without lowering the expected standard of the education output. Particularly the following measures are the measures that have long been adopted to reduce the number of study failures:

- informing applicants about study plans of degree fields and programmes on the website
- selecting applicants with the necessary level of entry knowledge and learning skills using admission tests or interviews
- introductory training camps of students before the start of the academic year (adaptation/preparatory courses during which students have the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the faculty and its operation as well as the management of the faculty, degree programme guarantor, other students, study affairs, conditions of instruction of foreign languages or the offer of extracurricular activities)
- catch-up seminars at the beginning as well as in the course of studies (e.g. review courses of secondary school mathematics, mathematical seminars supplementing and expanding the knowledge of university mathematics, programming seminars, preparatory courses in human biology and genetics as well as philosophy, ethics, sociology, law, economics, psychology, social and health issues, chemistry, and physics)
- entrance English language tests to identify and compare the entrance level of language skills including the offer of language course in the context of lifelong learning for students who do not meet the requirements of these entrance tests; dividing students into study groups according to the level of their knowledge when the consequent foreign language instruction is concerned
- emphasis on the didactic aspect of instruction and the comprehension of the contents of education as well as the individual approach of educators to attendees with study issues
- functioning system of education counsellors for students of individual study fields and groups, pedagogical, psychological, and pastoral-psychological counselling, services of the Support Centre for Students with Special Needs, services of the University Psychological Counselling Centre
- consultations within a set time, outside consultation hours upon an appointment
- increasing the accessibility of instruction materials, using LMS tools (particularly Moodle) and other support means making self-studying easier and more effective
- providing proper information in due time concerning the requirements for successfully passing courses in syllabi of courses available via IS STAG, emphasis on the functionality and the information value of syllabi, increasing exam transparency (timely publication of the evaluation criteria, model examples of credit and exam tests etc.)
- systematic application of the support for studying parents (the composition of an individual study plan of the parent)
- providing the option of composing an individual study plan or a modification of the schedule of studies
- adapting the schedule of the first semester of studies in which it is necessary to obtain 20 credits pursuant to the Study and Examination Regulations of USB (providing more time for handling study obligations), longer exam period for students in the part-time form of studies
- optimisation and revision of study plans of degree programmes from the perspective of the continuity of learning outcomes and requirements imposed on students in consequent courses, taking into account the requirements of preparing the graduation thesis in study plans of last semesters of studies, taking into account the difficulty of courses by spreading the curriculum into more than one semester or increasing the number of hours allocated for instruction

- utilising the feedback from students using the Student evaluation of instruction (SEI), participation of student representatives in boards of degree programmes or other measures (e.g. system of student spokespeople and managing teachers of years of study, student field board)
- motivating students to an active approach to studies and good study results in the form of scholarship programmes, supporting students in socially or otherwise difficult situations (scholarships, counselling)

Due to having to take into account the extraordinary situation related to the sudden onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and related restrictions in 2020, the USB Rector's ordinance on extraordinary measures in the area of studies in the SS 2019/2020 was issued to prevent unsuccessful termination of studies due to the extraordinary study difficulties. In connection with the transfer to distance forms of instruction, robust digitisation of study materials took place so that they are available to all students online; the option of individual consultation via MS Teams was introduced. In order to increase the study success rate, educators provided consultations – mostly in the online form – to students. For example, 'mock exams' in the form of online colloquia ahead of the exam taking place in the form of an online interview proved to be effective. Students could acquaint themselves with the form of online examination and they were not as distracted by worries about the new conditions of the exam during the exam.

In addition to the above-mentioned systemic measures, other activities are worth mentioning, e.g. the **USB Faculty of Education** cooperates with the student association Otevřeno, z. s. The execution of tutoring of first years by their older colleagues or the innovation of the First-year's guide as an aid to first-year students in finding their way through studies at the faculty arose out of joint sessions. Concurrently, the faculty prepared and launched the first module of the digital environment for the administration, reflection, evaluation, and archiving of students' practical training – Practical training portal.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** newly prepared short information videos on various topics (e.g. Logging into IS Stag and University services, General information about IS STG, Enrolling for credit and exam dates, Electronic enrollment in IS STAG, Essential duties of students, faculty website, USB Library, USB Dormitories & Refectories) that will help students in finding their way through USB and the faculty.

At the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences**, the system of student spokespeople and leading educators of class years that allowed providing continuous help to students with addressing their potential problems in time in the bud showed itself to be effective and it showed itself to be effective as a way of minimising drop-outs. Nevertheless, with respect to the Covid-19 pandemic, restrictions of some traditionally executed activities occurred, e.g. preparatory courses for prospective students were not executed.

Given the fact that a part of the summer semester took place in the distance form, the Department of Applied Chemistry of the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** prepared practical seminars for students in higher years of their studies over the course of summer holidays. Online seminars were substantially bolstered above the framework of study plans for first-year students in the instruction of courses focused on chemistry in the winter semester of 2020.

3.2 Final decisions concerning the statement of invalidity of the state examination

No final decision concerning the statement of invalidity of the state examination or its part or the defence of a dissertation pursuant to Section 47(c), 47(f), and 47(g) of Act No 111/1998 – or decisions concerning appointments to the position of an associate professor pursuant to Section 74(a), 74(d), and 74(e) of Act No 111/1998 – took effect in 2020.

3.3 Measures aimed at limiting extensions of studies

The maximum duration of studies and options of extending studies are clearly specified in the Study and Examination Regulations of USB. The support for the successful completion of studies, albeit within a longer period than is the standard duration of studies, is the priority in the context of these options,

particularly with respect to particularities of students in the part-time form of studies studying while working etc. It must be emphasised that the University of South Bohemia does not withdraw its requirements concerning students to the detriment of statistics of 'timely completion of studies' in order to protect the good reputation of the University and maintain the quality of graduates as well as to ensure the society-wide mission of a higher education institution with respect to required skills and knowledge of graduates

For the sake of limiting unnecessary extensions of studies, students are notified about the fee obligation in the case of longer studies in accordance with the Higher Education Act. Furthermore, the individual approach to students is applied primarily – the option of consultations with educators of individual courses is as a rule not limited only to consultation hours. In the case of a specific life situation of the student, the institute of interrupting studies is also utilised. Where possible, the extension of deadlines for meeting study obligations is also allowed in substantiated cases if the strict observance of the schedule would mean an unnecessary extension of studies by another year. Student affairs officers also ensure the quality of the management of the course of studies by their personal approach, particularly in terms of observing the Study and Examination Regulations of USB. The amount or disbursement of some scholarships is also bound to compliance with the standard duration of studies. The support of studies by good quality study support materials also is also of not negligible importance as well as setting study requirements that are clear and predictable in the long-term that allow students to plan the course of their studies better. The emphasis is put on transparent and clear informing about requirements of studies and internal regulations and norms concerning studies are made accessible to students in the form of other commentaries and methodological aids at some faculties (e.g. First-year's guide, etc.)

The recognised period of parenthood or the support for studying parents by more helpful deadlines on meeting requirements of studies in accordance with the law and the workload of students of the part-time form of studies are often the reason for extending studies. Particularly in relation to students of the part-time form of studies, the University of South Bohemia is being helpful by providing good quality study support materials, helpful regulation of announcing exam dates, communicative approach on the part of the student affairs departments in order to prevent unnecessary formal complications that might cause an extension of studies as a result. From the opposite perspective, continuous checking of study results and terminating studies for not meeting requirements arising from degree programmes pursuant to the Study and Examination Regulations of USB may also be understood as a measure for limiting unnecessary extensions of studies.

Additional adjustments to schedules, e.g. practical instruction in laboratories took place during summer holidays as well, were among the extraordinary measures adopted in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In the WS, a part of instruction took place in September already, i.e. before the start of the usual period of instruction since it could be expected that new autumn restrictions will once again make the execution of in-person practical instruction impossible. This way, it was ensured that students will undergo the needed practical seminars without which the achievement of the graduate profile could not be guaranteed, and studies also did not have to be extended by another year at the same time.

3.4 Scholarship programmes of the University

The following scholarships, bursaries and grants are also disbursed at the University of South Bohemia apart from standard scholarships, bursaries and grants pursuant to the Higher Education Act (merit scholarship for outstanding study results pursuant to Section 91(2)(a) of the Act; premium scholarship for outstanding research, development and innovation, artistic or other creative results pursuant to Section 91(2)(b) of the Act; scholarship for research, development and innovation activities of students pursuant to Section 91(2)(c) of the Act, social bursary pursuant to Section 91(3) of the Act, accommodation bursary pursuant to Section 91(2)(e) of the Act, bursary in support of studies abroad pursuant to Section 91 (4)(a) of the Act, bursary in support of studies in the Czech Republic pursuant to Section 91 (4)(b) of the Act, basic scholarship for students in doctoral degree programmes pursuant to Section 91(4)(c) of the Act):

- premium scholarship in the form of a public recognition referred to as the Rector's Award (given for outstanding results to students of master's degree programmes who defended their graduation thesis with the assessment 'excellent' and concurrently received an overall assessment of their studies as 'graduated with honours' and also achieved the weighted study average for the entire duration of their studies of 1.20 at the highest), the Dean's Award (according to rules set

by a dean's ordinance) or another award according to a decision of a dean or rules set by a dean's ordinance (some faculties, for example, execute scholarship programmes in support of talented students, particularly, then, programmes connected with the engagement of students in scientific activities beyond their standard obligations);

- extraordinary scholarship (typically in relation to an extraordinary activity of students, representation of the University or a faculty in public, participating in organising events organised by the University etc., support for international mobilities beyond ordinary scholarship programmes such as Erasmus+ etc.);
- bursary for students with specific needs for the purpose of equalising learning opportunities;
- grant in support of the development of cooperation with the sphere of application.

Students are also informed about other options of scholarship programmes (bursaries and scholarships in support of international mobilities, to specific destinations on the basis of intergovernmental agreements, DAAD, KAAD, Aktion, Fulbright, Baden-Württemberg-Stipendium, scholarships of the Bavarian-Czech Academic Agency, scholarships announced by individual higher education institutions etc.). The following were among other scholarship programmes specific to faculties in 2020:

The **USB Faculty of Economics** awards a one-off scholarship as the Dean's Award to students with the total student average of up to 1.5.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** disbursed scholarships in connection with the engagement of students in the research project entitled 'Czech Literature in the World and the Foreign Literature in Czechia in 1989–2020' (NAKI).

The Dean's Award of the **USB Faculty of Education** was awarded to six individuals for extraordinarily well-prepared graduation theses. Concurrently, the activity of students in societies is supported by scholarships pursuant to Dean's ordinances.

The Extraordinary scholarship for talented applicants is awarded at the **USB Faculty of Science**. The scholarship consists of a financial contribution provided directly to the student and also a contribution for costs related to the work on the graduation theses that students access through the department at which they are preparing their theses. The Dean's Award awarded for excellent research results obtained when preparing a graduation thesis or dissertation is a special scholarship.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** makes use of a broad range of incentive extraordinary scholarships. This way (except for the above-mentioned usual scholarships), the faculty awards the extraordinary scholarship for students with good study aptitude (CZK 5 000 – 10 000) according to SSch results, the one-off extraordinary scholarship for Bc. students (CZK 8 000) who obtain at least 20 credits from obligatory and elective courses during the first semester of their studies, the extraordinary scholarship for talented students for results in the preceding academic year and for other activities of students related to the activity of the faculty. In accordance with that, it was possible to get a scholarship in the amount of CZK 7 000 – 14 000 per month (for the period of October–May). The premium scholarship – the Dean's Award – is disbursed at once to students in the standard period of studies who complete their studies with the total weighted study average of 1.40 or lower, complete the final state examination with the total assessment 'excellent', and defend their diploma thesis with the assessment 'excellent'. The premium scholarship for a diploma thesis including excellent research, development, innovation, or other creative results contributing to deepening knowledge is disbursed in the amount of CZK 1 000 for the defended diploma thesis that received the grade 'excellent' and concerning which the majority of the present members of the state examination committee (SEC) agree that it contains excellent research, development, innovation, or other creative results contributing to the deepening of knowledge. The scholarship is disbursed in the amount of CZK 3 000 for a defended diploma thesis that received the grade 'excellent' concerning which the majority of the present members of the SEC agree that it contains excellent research, development, innovation, or other creative results contributing to the deepening of knowledge.

In 2020, as in preceding years, the system of assigning work obligations to DDP students and their evaluation was implemented at the **USB Faculty of Theology**. The supervisor prepares the content of the student's activity in conjunction with the head of the department and the DDP student. The student will abide by the content for the period of one semester. Completing the study plan as well as other research, administrative, and teaching obligations are part of the activity. Performing the activity of the DDP

student is then evaluated by a committee, the members of which are members of the corresponding DDP field board after every semester. The scholarship for the following semester is awarded to the student on the basis of this evaluation. The system also takes into account the so-called recognised period of parenthood and the individual study plan of a parent. Studying parents are, therefore, provided targeted support so that the period of early parenthood does not become an obstacle to their career advancement. The system is designed motivationally so that students can obtain significantly higher financial remuneration than the basic scholarship for a student in a doctoral degree programme.

The Dean's Award of the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** is awarded for excellent results to students in bachelor's or master's degree programmes whose total assessment of studies is 'graduated with honours' and also achieved the weighted study average of up to 1.50 over the entire length of their studies.

3.5 Counselling and advisory services

Individual faculties of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice offer applicants and students information, counselling and advisory services related to studies and the option of employment of graduates of degree programmes in practice. The primary advisory place of every faculty in the area of student affairs is the student affairs department at which specific student affairs officers are assigned to students in order to achieve the maximum level of personal and individual approach. At most faculties, positions of pedagogic advisors are also established for individual degree programmes, or this advisory function is performed by the guarantor of the given degree programme or the head of the department. The University-wide **Support Centre for Students with Special Needs** operates at the University of South Bohemia (for more details see chapter 3.6).

The following services are among other advisory and counselling services provided to students across the University:

The **Career Centre** (substantially being developed since 2020 under activities of the project OP RDE 'USB Development – ESF II') provides counselling and advisory services to students in the area of awareness of study opportunities, preparation for interviews, support for the development of competencies for higher employability in the labour market, etc. The area of services for applicants and employers is being developed, particularly in the area of awareness of study opportunities, degree programme profiles and their graduate profiles.

The **Student and Agrobusiness Centre** administered by students of the USB Faculty of Agriculture themselves may also serve as a counselling centre to students of a number of fields. The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** provides aid to applicants from abroad with managing administrative requirements of **recognising foreign higher education and qualifications** in the Czech Republic (checking the completed application, finding the appropriate recognition body as per the completed degree programme). **Foreign students** are assisted even with organising or extending their stay in the Czech Republic. Activities oriented towards the support for foreign students are also exerted by the International Relations Department of the USB Rectorate and related student groups (buddy system).

The **University Psychological Counselling Centre** provides psychological counselling services and help to students as well as their family members. Since 2020, counselling services have been further developed under activities of the project OPRDE 'USB Development – ESF II' and they are focused on solving the following difficulties and situations: support for personal growth (learning about oneself, discovering one's strengths, etc.), development of interpersonal relationships (family, partner, and other relationships), counselling in the area of raising children, managing mental difficulties (depression, anxiety, psychosomatic and chronic health difficulties, addictive substances and addictions), help with adapting to HEI studies and the environment or during the adaptation when starting teaching in practice (for USB students and for new teachers – USB graduates with fewer than 3 years of experience), counselling in the area of managing study problems, pre-examination states and stage fright, efficient learning, managing procrastination, counselling and therapy in the area of speech impediments.

The **USB Faculty of Theology** offers services of the **Pastoral-psychological Counselling Centre** to all students across USB in the form of one-off counselling as well as more long-term personal or spiritual guidance. Selected educators, as well as external experts, engage in counselling.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** provides counselling services in the **Centre for Prevention of Lifestyle Diseases**, in the **Physiotherapy Centre** and in the **Centre for Seniors**. The Centre for

Prevention of Lifestyle Diseases also offers services of the Lactation Counselling Centre and the Rheumatology Counselling Centre. The Physiotherapy Centre is a registered non-state healthcare facility providing services in the area of physiotherapy and rehabilitation medicine not only to employees and students at the University of South Bohemia but also to the general public. Services related to the support of a healthy lifestyle as well as the prevention of diseases of the modern age are provided. The offer of services provided contains services funded from public health insurance as well as services that this insurance does not cover. The offer of standard outpatient care such as a complex kinesiological examination, individual physiotherapy, manual therapy, ergonomics, kinesiology taping or thermotherapy is supplemented with a combined device for physical therapy (laser, ultrasound, electrotherapy, combined therapy) and also with instrumentation for movement analysis. People with musculoskeletal disorders of various etiologies, persons after injuries, operations as well as with interest in the prevention of the occurrence of these issues may contact the Physiotherapy Centre. The Centre also offers the services of a nutrition consultant and a personal trainer for fitness training. The Centre has devices such as the Bodystat, a whole range of aids for fitness exercises and measuring triglycerides or the lactate from capillary blood at its disposal. Therefore, connecting services of a health counselling centre, nutrition consultant and a consultant for fitness training offer effective counselling for a lifestyle change of clients. Particularly seniors show great interest in measuring blood pressure, cholesterol in body fat, but the numbers of middle-aged and younger people are rising with the rising public awareness. Parents with children are also an important target group. The Centre for Seniors is also focusing on counselling, it organises popular courses of memory training and lectures. It cooperates closely with the Parkinson Society Club and executes a volunteering programme in the Hospital in České Budějovice, a. s.

The Department of Sports Studies of the **USB Faculty of Education** offers students the opportunity to make use of the **Laboratory of Functional Stress Diagnostics**, in areas of body composition analysis and specialised stress tests in order to optimise the training load and set performance limits.

3.6 Students with special needs

USB operates the **Support Centre for Students with Special Needs** (hereinafter as the 'Support Centre') to secure support and counselling services and to coordinate other activities. Its activity is executed in compliance with the methodological instruction contained in Annex No 3 of Rules for the Provision of Contribution and Subsidies to Public Higher Education Institutions of MEYS. The Support Centre provides a full portfolio of services defined by the methodological instruction and, in addition, it also has sufficient spatial, material, and technical facilities available.

Apart from the support indicated in the methodological instruction, the Support Centre offers students with special needs further measures for equalising opportunities to study at higher education institutions such as social counselling, assistance with arranging suitable accommodation, etc. In accordance with Study and Examination Regulations, students, whose health condition requires it, have the right to have an individual study schedule set. The USB Scholarship and Bursary Regulations determine the scholarship for students with special needs intended for the compensation of increased expenses related to studies, the award of which the Support Centre may initiate.

The support is provided free of charge to students of all faculties studying in bachelor's, master's or doctoral studies in the full-time or part-time forms.

As of 31 December 2020, 107 students with special needs were registered in the Support Centre of which:

- 6 visually-impaired students,
- 8 hearing-impaired students,
- 14 physically-disabled students,
- 42 students with specific learning disorders,
- 6 students with autistic spectrum disorders,
- 36 students with other difficulties.

5 out of the above-mentioned students have multiple disabilities.

The Support Centre arranges services and other support measures on the professional level through specialised staff with the exception of content notes that are partially arranged in cooperation with

students. Four staff members were employed in the Support Centre on a full-time basis, two staff members on a part-time basis in 2020.

In the interest of increasing the quality of services provided and expanding the offer of support measures, the staff members continuously educate themselves and take part especially in events organised by the Asociace poskytovatelů služeb studentům se specifickými potřebami na VŠ [Association of Providers of Services to Students with Special Needs at HEIs] of which USB is a member and the Asociace vysokoškolských poradců [Association of Higher Education Counsellors]. The activity of the Support Centre is funded particularly from the MEYS grant for financing the increased expenses of studies of students with special needs and partially from the resources of the University.

In 2020, the Support Centre engaged in the execution of strategic projects 'USB Development – ESF II' and 'USB Development – ERDF II', the objective of which, inter alia, is to increase the efficiency of the system of providing services, expand their portfolio, and improve the quality of the needed material and instrumentation equipment of the Support Centre in the area of support for students with special needs.

The utilisation of all support services and measures is voluntary on the part of applicants as well as students and it is only conditioned by registration in the Support Centre in compliance with the methodological instruction of MEYS. USB endeavours to inform prospective students about the options of studies with special needs already, particularly via information materials, the website or in the context of open days. Applicants can consult the suitability of the selected degree programme/field and study requirements with staff members of the Support Centre even before submitting their applications for admission. They have the opportunity to formally declare their special needs when submitting the electronic application for admission. Students may show interest in the support at any time during their studies, the fact of which they are informed about on the websites of the University as well as individual faculties, via educators, student affairs officers and particularly also via the information email that is annually sent to all students of USB in bulk.

3.7 Extraordinarily talented students and prospective students

Individual faculties of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice award talented students with merit-based scholarships, scholarships for excellent research, development, and innovation results contributing to the deepening of knowledge in the studied field or for an excellent graduation thesis (dean's awards, Rector's Award). For example, the total of 90 students of bachelor's and consecutive master's study fields received the merit-based scholarship for excellent study results in the academic year 2019/2020 (in the total amount of CZK 484 000) at the **USB Faculty of Arts**. 13 students with excellent study results were awarded the Rector's Award (in the total amount of CZK 130 000). Extraordinarily talented applicants can request that the extraordinary scholarship for talented applicants be granted after enrolling at the **USB Faculty of Science** as described above.

Faculties also support engaging extraordinarily talented students in the instruction of students of lower years or lower levels of studies (e.g. when organising adaptation courses, etc.), in addressing faculty research projects. Faculties also support the participation of students in faculty as well as national rounds of the Student research and expert activity (SREA) and other nationwide student competition shows where they are also allowed to publish their competition works. In 2020, for example, the 8th year of SREA took place at the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Studies**, which allowed talented students to engage in the scientific and research activity of individual institutes of the faculty. In the preparation of SREA projects, students closely cooperated with their supervisors from among members of the academic staff of the faculty who led them methodologically and with whom they continuously consulted the obtained results. The oral round of SREA was organised by the Science and Research Department. Successful students were financially remunerated.

Faculties incentivise students of master's and doctoral degree programmes to engage in grant projects under the USB Grant Agency as well as internal grant agencies of individual faculties. For example, five students engaged in projects of GA USB through the work on their graduation theses at the Department of Applied Chemistry of the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** in 2020 and eight students participated in the following projects in connection to the EduForum (CZ.02.3.68/0.0/0.0/16_011/0000659): Educational computer game, its creation and use for practice of laboratory equipment terminology; Educational computer game, its creation and use for practice of environmental chemistry schoolwork; Educational computer game, its creation and use for practice of chemistry of natural compounds schoolwork; Educational computer game, its creation and use for practice of chemistry of metal schoolwork.

Among other things worthy of note are the faculty competitions of graduation theses in which good quality graduation theses that won in the faculty round are submitted to nationwide competitions (e.g. Diplomka na stojáka [Stand-up Thesis], or the competition organised by the Nakladatelství Academia [Academia Publishing House]).

The common method of working with talented students at the University of South Bohemia is their engagement in ongoing research projects and in research teams (e.g. semester projects under which students are also temporarily included in activities of research laboratories, positions of student research assistants, etc.). For example, the Department of Agroecosystems of the Faculty of Agriculture cooperated with fifteen students on the H2020 project NextFood. The students participated in data collection and evaluation of the need for competencies and knowledge in the context of the agricultural and food sector. Students also provided feedback on innovative elements of instruction in the context of the case study of the project. Five students participated in the project NAZV QK1910046 and seven students in GA JU 059/2019/Z. Two students of doctoral studies intensively cooperated with the company Eco Trading CB, spol. s r.o., in the context of working on their dissertations.

Students may obtain credits for this activity under elective courses. Extraordinarily talented students are also provided with the opportunity to execute foreign study stays at partner European as well as non-European facilities, take part in domestic as well as foreign conferences or undergo professional internships in companies and institutions. These students also actively engage in various competitions and events of professional, artistic as well as sports orientation. Students also take part in student conferences at the faculty and they are sent to represent the faculty at similar events at other higher education institutions.

The University of South Bohemia also endeavours to actively seek talented students and pupils at higher professional, secondary as well as primary schools and to engage them in various professional and popularisation events with the aim of supporting these students in their interest in the selected field and also to motivate them to subsequent studies at the University of South Bohemia. These activities that are executed at various degrees of intensity at all faculties of the University of South Bohemia include excursions, preparatory courses, lectures, seminars, practical seminars, special competitions, summer schools, programmes of the Junior University, artistic or sports competitions etc. Leisure programmes of the Children's University (instruction series, clubs, day camps, summer camps etc., see chapter 2.3) also have the potential to attract the interest of talented pupils in the study of sciences.

3.8 Socio-economically disadvantaged students

Students at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice that are socio-economically disadvantaged are supported in the form of social and accommodation scholarships and bursaries if they meet the stipulated criteria and apply for these scholarships and bursaries. They are instructed to do so already at the beginning of their studies. Then, after providing adequate evidence, the situation of these students is taken into account during potential requests for exemption from a fee imposed for extending studies or of lowering the fee in question. Participation in excursions, work internships and financially demanding courses that are associated with expenses on transportation, accommodation etc., is supported in the form of extraordinary scholarships of a compensatory nature. When organising studies, the emphasis is also placed on the timely preparation of the schedule of instruction that allows students to harmonise study obligations the potential need of securing extra income during studies in time and with consideration. Services provided to students with special needs (social counselling, scholarship for students with special needs intended for the compensation of increased expenses associated with studies, see chapters 3.4 and 3.6) include the social aspect.

3.9 Support for studying parents

The University of South Bohemia supports parents among its students in compliance with the Higher Education Act and the Rector's ordinance on the requirements of parent studies and the registration of the recognised period of parenthood. Students, in connection with care for a child, utilise particularly the right to the composition of an individual schedule of studies or an individual study plan of a parent that may be used for planning and also extending deadlines for fulfilling study obligations while maintaining set requirements of studies. Similarly, as with respect to other students, who find themselves in a specific life situation that hinders studies or increases its organisational requirements, the University of South

Bohemia applies the principle of maximum helpfulness and individual approach while maintaining the requirements of studies. Possible modifications of a personal study plan are also a used measure including the option of a transfer of the student from a full-time form of studies to a part-time form in the cases of degree programmes accredited in this form of studies. Faculties are also trying to meet the needs of studying parents from the organisational and spatial perspective (e.g. reserving a room that provides facilities for children of students and those who accompany them).

4 Graduates

4.1 Cooperation and maintaining contact with graduates

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice cooperates with graduates through the platform of the Alumni Club that registers almost 2 000 members. These former students are also members of the alumni clubs of their faculties. USB communicates via social media networks and regular newsletters in the context of the above-mentioned platforms. In addition to the above-mentioned communication channels, the alumni web portal is regularly updated. The tender documents for the uniform web presentation of USB – in which the Alumni Club will be integrated as well – were prepared in 2020. Apart from the above-mentioned activities, the University of South Bohemia organised nine lectures with USB graduates in total. Unfortunately, other planned lectures with graduates had to be rescheduled to 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** maintains contact with its graduates through the USB Alumni Club. Selected graduates are also engaged in boards of study fields/programmes of the faculty. Given the short history of the USB Faculty of Arts, this activity is only continuously being developed – for example, newly also in the form of lectures of selected graduates who found success in their fields in some interesting way.

The **USB Faculty of Education** has its own wide network of faculty schools and clinical facilities at its disposal through which it obtains feedback from the management of these institutions or former students who hold positions in the aforementioned schools/facilities. Further cooperation between the faculty and graduates takes place primarily in the context of LLL – Further education of pedagogic staff. The faculty approaches its graduates who are well-known in the public space or education practice. Their greetings and messages (video as well as written) are gradually placed on the website of the faculty.

In 2020 the **USB Faculty of Science** launched a series of lectures with graduates, the point of which is to introduce the employability of graduates and the journey of secondary school students to careers as experts in their fields to students of the faculty and prospective students as well. The lectures took place online due to the measures, nevertheless, live discussions are expected in the future to which not only faculty students but also secondary school students will be invited.

Within the scope of activities of the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** and cooperation with the manufacturing and operation sphere, individual academic and research staff members come into contact and jointly address problems under Operational Programmes (particularly OP Fisheries) and research projects (e.g. NAZV as well as European framework programmes).

Members of the alumni club, which the faculty established several years ago, have the option to:

- attend selected events organised by the faculty,
- establish connections with colleagues with whom they lost touch,
- establish professional cooperation with faculty facilities in the scientific, research, or educational area,
- obtain various discounts for events organised by the faculty or to use accommodation and training premises of the faculty at a discount,
- be directly informed about LLL courses or other educational and professional events organised by the faculty or taking place on the premises of the faculty,
- request minor advice from faculty experts.

Graduates of the faculty are also invited to lectures for students and get-togethers. They participate in events of the Open Day type. Many graduates, particularly graduates of doctoral studies, receive the chance to undertake post-doctoral internships at the faculty; some stay at the faculty permanently afterwards. Graduates of bachelor's and master's programmes may obtain a year-long practical experience through work at the faculty in the form of the regularly announced position of an operation assistant. Graduates are also invited to informal events, e.g. the event of introducing new students into the fishermen guild, FROVfest [FFPW Festival], FROVples [FFPW Ball], etc.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** is implementing and expanding the gallery of successful graduates on the faculty website, which should, among other things, serve as inspiration and motivation for graduates to continue to develop within their fields. Students of the faculty are informed about the option of entering the Alumni Club after successfully passing the state final examinations and at graduations through letters, emails, websites, and social media networks. A number of graduates of the faculty enter employment at clinical facilities of the faculty by which they remain in touch with educators as well as students who come to these facilities in the context of the practical training. The Alumni Club operating at the faculty offers graduates of the faculty a number of benefits, e.g. while using the services of the Centre for Prevention of Lifestyle Diseases, the Centre of Physiotherapy, or during LLL courses. Furthermore, the faculty organises an annual gathering of mentors of the clinical praxis of nursing and midwifery and instructors of clinical facilities in the area of education of social work. There are faculty graduates among mentors and instructors of clinical facilities who provide regular feedback concerning the needs of the sphere of application and the employability of graduates.

The **USB Faculty of Agriculture** has been cooperating with the Club of Alumni and Friends of the Faculty of Agriculture for more than 20 years. It is a traditional independent club, the membership base of which supports the activity of the faculty. A gathering of faculty graduates takes place on USB campus every year and at least 500 attendees always take part (cancelled due to the pandemic in 2020). The management of the faculty is in direct contact with the management of the club and joint meetings take place at least twice a year. These meetings are a form of feedback and inspiration at the same time.

4.2 Employment and employability of graduates

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice projects the results of periodic surveys aimed at the employment rate of graduates into the revision of current degree programmes and the accreditation of new degree programmes. Data for monitoring the employment rate are obtained from surveys among graduates as well as data provided by the Labour Office of the Czech Republic. Concurrently, USB executes regular surveys among employers for the purpose of permanently improving feedback mechanisms. Bonds between USB, its graduates, and current as well as potential employers allow obtaining qualified information related to the educational process so that a relevant innovation of degree programmes and their inter-field linking in accordance with the needs of the labour market occur.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** updates information concerning the employment rate of graduates of individual fields (in the form of communication with graduates of the faculty but also by monitoring all relevant surveys and data that MEYS, or other professional institutions that can provide erudite data, publish). In the course of studies, students in selected fields take part in practical training in the Czech Republic as well as in foreign professional internships and practical training by which their employability on the job market is subsequently increased. Even the concept of newly accredited degree programmes in which first students enrolled in the academic year 2020/2021 substantially took into account the employability in practice.

The employability rate of graduates of the **USB Faculty of Education** is one of the basic indicators of the external but also internal evaluation of the faculty. It is exactly on those grounds that the relative success of graduates in the market is carefully and annually monitored by the Student Affairs Department of the faculty in the context of the regular phone survey among graduates of teaching fields. In the view of the fact that the USB Faculty of Education inherently has a very extensive data basis of school facilities, where it performs questionnaire surveys in the context of LLL in regular intervals, at its disposal, it, therefore, has current information on the available demand for graduates of fields in demand. Individual schools and school facilities also approach not only the management of the faculty and individual departments but also the Student Affairs Department with requests for graduates through their representatives. Information about job positions on offer is presented to students in person, via email, and they are also posted on the faculty notice boards. In order to increase clarity and improve communication, the faculty makes use of an internet portal that makes contacts among future graduates and employers easier.

In 2020, the **USB Faculty of Science** performed an analysis of the employability of successful graduates of doctoral programmes. The results showed that the overwhelming majority of graduates are employed in scientific fields. The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice and the Czech Academy of Sciences are the most common employers. The faculty is planning to perform the same analysis for graduates of master's and bachelor's studies in the upcoming year.

Information concerning the employment rate of graduates of the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** is ascertained through the number of graduates registered at the Labour Office of the Czech Republic. Occasional questionnaire surveys are performed as well, but the response rate from graduates is not usually excessively high. For the sake of a positive influence on employability, the faculty allows one graduate to obtain a year-long practical experience on the operational premises of the faculty. This experience may be important when seeking more permanent employment. In the context of the development of the faculty or the CENAKVA Centre, there is also the option of employment of some graduates directly as employees of the faculty. The USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters also offers the publication of their profiles for potential employers to students in the process of completing their studies or graduates. Concurrently, relevant offers of employment obtained from partners or found on various websites and portals are also made public on the website intended for graduates.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** communicates with potential employers of its graduates in situations when employers approach the faculty with requests of publishing offers of employment positions for graduates. The offer is made public by the faculty on the notice board and the employer is asked for feedback in connection with this matter concerning whether any of the graduates of the faculty applied for the position offered and potentially whether they will be accepted. Survey slips are distributed to all students of health-oriented fields at the state final examinations in which students anonymously respond whether they intend to enter employment within the professional field that they studied.

The management of the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** primarily utilises the communication with the Club of Alumni and Friends of the USB Faculty of Agriculture for feedback. Furthermore, the faculty utilises fact-finding surveys within USB. The direct communication of students with the Student Affairs Department of the USB Faculty of Agriculture is no less important feedback.

4.3 Cooperation with future employers of graduates

The University of South Bohemia regularly utilises a range of opportunities for cooperation with future employers of its graduates beginning with contacts based on professional field cooperation to 'job fairs'. Future employers (e.g. facilities of the Czech Academy of Sciences, professional organisations, producers, kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, language schools and translation agencies, healthcare facilities, institutions working with youth, providers of social services, nature conservation organisations, archives, museum institutions, heritage institutes, libraries, galleries, media, institutions of state administration and local administrations, publishing houses and other institutions and facilities) are engaged in the creation and execution of degree programmes including the execution of mandatory professional or operation practical training of students. They participate in assigning topics of bachelor's, master's as well as doctoral theses and also in supervising and reading these theses, the preparation of which they often allow directly at their places of work or within their own operations. They also participate in state final examinations as experts from praxis and provide feedback usable when increasing the quality of individual degree programmes. Additionally, they also directly participate in the innovation of a number of degree programmes and engage in various student professional competitions and projects and cooperate when organising excursions, talks, seminars, workshops and special lectures in the number of which they also actively perform as lecturers. Last but not least, employers are members of individual boards of degree programmes.

Networks of cooperating institutions and clinical facilities are expanded by faculties of the University of South Bohemia annually by adding new partners. The offer of educational programmes for students and teachers of primary and secondary schools as well the offer of other activities executed particularly in the context of lifelong learning, due to which mutual transfer of information and valuable feedback occurs, are expanded in a similar fashion. Individual faculties of the University of South Bohemia also cooperate with a number of potential employers of their graduates in the context of jointly researched scientific projects and projects of contractual research.

Offers of vacant employment positions but also shorter-term internships, trainee programmes or part-time jobs suitable for students and graduates of individual faculties of the University of South Bohemia are often also advertised via departments, individual instructors or former graduates of faculties in question. The profile of the University of South Bohemia on the professional network LinkedIn is used as an instrument of professional communication. In 2020, work began on the project OP RDE 'USB

Development – ESF II' part of which is an activity focused on the development of the Career Centre, the mission of which – among other things – is to bolster cooperation with potential employers.

Individual faculties of the University of South Bohemia also utilise their own instruments or execute their own activities focused on cooperation with future employers of their graduates.

New accreditation of the degree programme Tourism occurred at the **USB Faculty of Economics** in 2020. The programme is the result of cooperation with Jihočeská centrála cestovního ruchu [South Bohemian Central Office of Tourism], the membership of USB in the Destination management Českobudějovicko-Hlubocko, and cooperation with other entities in tourism at which this degree programme will receive support in the future in the form of student internships, joint education of experts, and the preparation of graduation theses.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** cooperates with Aleš South Bohemian Gallery, all museums of South Bohemia, the National Heritage Institute, the Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague, a number of state and non-state archives in the entire republic (particularly with the National Archives of the Czech Republic in Prague), Alliance Française Bohême du Sud and the Instituto Cervantes. It offers internships and contacts in publishing houses and companies. It also has an agreement of cooperation with the translation agency Sophia. In the area of the education system, the faculty cooperates with the network of secondary schools in the South Bohemian Region.

In the context of cooperation of the **USB Faculty of Education** with employers in 2020, e.g. working meetings of the faculty management and representatives of the organising authorities and headmasters of schools of cities České Budějovice and Tábor. Furthermore, the faculty is trying to engage teachers with many years of experience in its own projects. The year 2020 was the final year of the IPUP project (Inovace přípravy učitelů pro praxi [Innovation of the preparation of teachers for praxis], OP RDE). A whole range of meetings and workshops with headmasters as well as teachers of cooperating schools took place at the faculty in the context of this project. Discussions were conducted particularly with respect to increasing the quality of the practical preparation of students – future teachers – and their employability in the regional education system. A number of students voluntarily attend after-school clubs at children's and youth facilities or participate in subject competitions and school competitions. Through these activities, future graduates establish important formal as well as informal contacts, which aid them in finding suitable employment.

Intensive cooperation between non-biology fields (mechatronics, applied informatics, informatics, physics) and companies in the South Bohemian Region (e.g. Bosch, Engel, etc.) takes place at the **USB Faculty of Science**. Students often undertake their practical training at these companies and the companies also employ them after they graduate.

The cooperation of the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** with potential employers of graduates takes place on several levels. The first is organising operation and professional practical training during which students can get into direct contact with future potential employers and to demonstrate their knowledge and skills. The second is inviting industry representatives to state final examinations. On the website of the faculty, under the section entitled 'For graduates', potential employers have the option to publish their offers of employment positions or browse profiles of students in the course of completing their studies or graduates seeking employment.

Towards the end of 2020, the **USB Faculty of Theology** had 42 concluded cooperation agreements with organisations (clinical facilities). The profiles of these organisations fit the employability of graduates from which students often receive offers of employment as well on the basis of their successfully undergoing their practical training, which eases their entry to the labour market. In addition to clinical facilities, student practical training also takes place at a number of other professional facilities. Therefore, students get to know a wide range of organisations at which they can find employment. The organisations themselves often contact the faculty with offers of jobs for graduates. In 2020 a number of students engage in aid for these very organisations with the objective to aid them in addressing difficult situations caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The faculty actively engaged in cooperation with the USB Faculty of Education in the JUPSYCOR research (Psychologické souvislosti výskytu koronaviru v ČR [Psychological Context of the Coronavirus Outbreak in the Czech Republic]). The Faculty of Theology offered space on its website and social media network where current jobs in institutions or organisations which currently need urgent help are published. Doc. Jindřich Šrajer, Dr. theol., member of the Pastoral-psychological Counselling Centre of the USB Faculty of Theology, actively engaged in Krizová telefonická

pomoc [Crisis telephone help] to people in cooperation with Diecézní charita České Budějovice [Diocesan Charity České Budějovice].

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** annually organises meetings with representatives of clinical facilities with which the faculty has cooperation agreements. Students have the opportunity to acquaint themselves with their potential employers during practical training; Important experts from praxis are also active at the faculty in the educational capacity. The faculty also organises the Den zdravotnických oborů (formerly Den sester) [Day of healthcare fields (formerly Day of Nurses)] at which hospitals of the South Bohemian Region have the opportunity to present themselves. The direct contact with the management of hospitals, familiarisation with the trends and work as well as non-work activities that hospitals offer employees all arouse great interest among the students of the faculty. The faculty also coorganises an important expert congress Budějovice kazuistické focused on sharing and discussing practical experiences with the Hospital České Budějovice, a.s., which is the most important employer of graduates.

The **USB Faculty of Agriculture** has concluded 21 agreements on executing practical training directly at businesses where students can acquaint themselves with the environment in specific operations. Furthermore, the faculty makes use of external lecturers from praxis who are the direct connection for the transfer of current information between the praxis and instruction. This cooperation is showing itself as key for the career development of students.

5 Interest in studies

5.1 Admission examinations

There is no common model of admission examinations for all applicants that is applied within the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. Admission procedures are diversified and secured in ways that are the most suitable for the specific level of studies (bachelor's, consecutive master's, doctoral), the nature of the degree programme, and the interest in studies in the given programme. All faculties of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice cover admission procedures from their own resources.

In 2020, services of external entities were used by the **USB Faculty of Education** for the degree programme 'Psychology' (tests of the company Scio were used).

Admission examinations or admission procedures for bachelor's studies take into account, e.g. results of secondary school studies and *maturita* results, results of National comparative exams secured by the Scio company, results of leisure and field competitions (e.g. subject competitions, international competitions, SSch SREA, etc.), results of written tests or oral exams, language exams, practical or talent exams, or results of admission interviews.

Applicants are admitted without admission examinations into some degree programmes if they meet the set criteria, i.e. on the basis of results of secondary school studies. More faculties than in the previous years made use of this option in 2020 in connection with addressing the extraordinary situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. In the case that students are admitted to studies without admission examinations, they prove their current skills and qualities particularly in the course of the first semester of studies for which a requirement is set in accordance with the Study and Examination Code of USB that students must pass obligatory courses of the first semester to proceed into the next semester, i.e. to continue their studies.

The admission procedures for the consecutive master's studies are regularly related to the evaluation of results of bachelor's studies, or a combination of written tests and admission interviews. Admission examinations for doctoral studies are of the nature of interviews and the previous results of applicants as well as the intent of their research dissertation projects and their language proficiency are evaluated.

5.2 Cooperation with secondary schools in the area of promotion of USB

All faculties of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice have built a network of partners in the area of secondary schools over the years of their existence. In addition to promoting studies among grammar school students, individual faculties promote their degree programmes at other schools in accordance with their orientation as well. The title of a faculty school is often bestowed on selected secondary schools, which serves to maintain the long-term connection with these entities. Outside the targeted events executed in person, USB informs about degree programmes in the media as well as the online space. The latter channels were often the only means of informing about study opportunities at USB due to the pandemic situation in the Czech Republic. In this context, it is fitting to mention the *chcistudovat.cz* portal through which USB wishes to support the general interest of secondary school students in higher education and subsequently studies at USB.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** regularly informs secondary schools in the region about the study options at the faculty in the form of personal visits of members of the management, staff members as well as students of individual institutes. This form of promotion was supported by a number of in-person as well as online activities in 2020, e.g. the meeting of representatives of the Institute of Romance Studies with pupils at the Biskupské Gymnázium in České Budějovice during which secondary school students were introduced to work in a translation laboratory and degree programmes focused on French and Spanish. Similarly, the Institute of Czech-German Area Studies and German Studies introduced the newly accredited teaching bachelor's and consecutive master's degree programmes German language and literature for education at secondary schools in cooperation with education counsellors of secondary schools. However, the start of work on the three-year OP RDE project Innovation of teacher training studies for secondary schools

at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice in cooperation with the USB Faculty of Education and secondary schools in the region was probably the most important activity in this area. The principal objective of the project is to systemically increase the quality of the pre-graduation preparation of future teachers. The support for the ability to reflect on one's own competencies, understanding of principles of linking theory and practice, increasing incentives for the performance of the teaching profession, differentiation in instruction, work with the heterogeneity of the school classroom, increasing the intensity of the transfer of modern technologies into instruction, systematic support for students in the form of mentoring, and alternative instruction modules were among the key topics. Activities are founded upon interconnecting the preparation in the area of field didactics, pedagogic and psychological foundations, and the reflected praxis, on networking cooperating schools and their teachers with faculties and making use of international experience.

Given the Covid-19 pandemic, the prepared popularisation lectures at the **USB Faculty of Education** for secondary schools in the region were postponed to 2021. The signing of cooperation of the faculty and Střední průmyslová škola automobilní a technická v Českých Budějovicích and the subsequent television shot were an important act in the promotion of the preparation of teachers of 'Technology education' at the faculty.

The majority of LLL activities at the **USB Faculty of Science** are aimed at secondary school students and teachers. The faculty has had a good experience with lectures of its experts directly at secondary schools. 82 of these lectures took place in 2020 and the interest in these lectures is increasing on the part of other schools.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** informs prospective students about the study options in several ways. With respect to the Covid-19 pandemic, these activities were very limited in 2020. The cooperation was only indirect and consisted in sending leaflets outlining study options at the faculty to selected secondary schools. The programme for bestowing the title of a 'faculty school' to secondary schools which request it and meet set criteria was also prepared. No secondary school took advantage of this option.

The **USB Faculty of Theology** continued in organising lectures for secondary schools in 2020. The faculty organises the project 'Workshopy pro střední školy' [Workshops for secondary schools] under the IP 2019–2020 project. Given the coronavirus situation, the faculty succeeded in organising two workshops in the offline form and other workshops are taking place and are planned in the online form.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** approached secondary school students and introduced them to the options of studies in the degree programmes offered by the faculty. The faculty utilised its website and print media for this purpose, e.g. the faculty informed about all degree programmes offered in the form of advertising in Atlas školství or in the special insert of the magazine 5plus2 (published by MF Dnes), which focuses on education (Kam pos střední škole?) and is distributed to all secondary schools in southern Bohemia. Furthermore, the faculty approached students in the form of leaflets and other print materials, such as the promotion brochure *Učíme lidi pomáhat*. Other traditionally executed in-person forms of promotion were substantially limited due to the pandemic, however, the promotion taking place on social media networks was all the more intensively. The traditional Open Day took place in January 2020. Prospective students, mostly from among secondary school students, took advantage of the opportunity to see the buildings of the faculty including the equipment (e.g. specialised classrooms, laboratories, the Centre of Physiotherapy), acquaint themselves with the offer of all degree programmes, demonstrations of practical instruction and learning aids. Support programmes in the form of demonstrations by paramedics and the fire brigade equipment including protective suits and accessories were prepared in the vestibule of the building Vltava. Social fields introduced demonstrations of activities in the context of activities for seniors in the vestibule.

The **USB Faculty of Agriculture** could not cooperate with secondary schools in the area of promotion due to the deteriorated epidemiological situation. The management of the faculty held talks with more than 15 secondary schools and after these discussions, the faculty arrived at the conclusion that no closer cooperation is possible in the present situation. In-person meetings with students were out of the question and that is why all communication and promotion among prospective students took place and is taking place online on the faculty website and social media networks to this day.

6 Employees

6.1 Career regulations for academic staff, incentive instruments for employee remuneration

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice does not have Career Regulations applicable to all faculties which is primarily due to the notable diversity of faculties. Career growth, career growth conditions and requirements and the corresponding system of remuneration are part of career regulations or other regulations of individual faculties. These regulations stipulate individual academic positions and requirements imposed on these positions. Interfaculty differences in these requirements are given by the different orientations of individual faculties and the extent of their scientific and other creative activity. All USB faculties have introduced and have been applying functional incentive instruments for employee remuneration depending on their achieved results, particularly in the area of scientific and research and pedagogic activity. Incentive instruments for employee remuneration take into account achieved results on activities such as obtaining grant projects, supervising student theses, popularisation activity, organisational activity related to science and research and the development of studies or achieving a relevant academic title. The system of academic staff performance evaluation (ASPE), which has been established at all faculties since 2018 and serves as the primary instrument of evaluating the performance and career growth of academic staff at individual faculties, works with the above-mentioned information. Results of student evaluation of instruction are taken into consideration at some USB faculties when remunerating academic staff members. Career regulations or other regulations of individual USB faculties take into account the need to balance the professional and private life of academic staff members, including professional breaks due to maternity leave and regard for the health or family situation of academic staff (among other things including the extension of deadlines potentially set for various situations). The issue of an uneven scientific performance of individual academic staff members is addressed individually.

6.2 Development of the teaching skills of academic staff

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice pays attention to the development of the teaching skills of academic staff. In 2020, the work on the project entitled 'USB Development – ESF' (OP RDE) was completed. Its important part was also the crucial activity focused on the development of teaching competencies. Kurz pedagogických kompetencí [Course of teaching competencies], which consists of instruction modules and blocks that are flexibly selectable and combinable in such a way that it is possible to adapt its structure to individual needs of participants as much as possible (e.g. modules Teaching Skills in English, Tvorba a správa e-learningových kurzů [Preparation and administration of e-learning courses], etc.) was created. Every participant undertakes the modules and blocks that correspond to his/her educational needs with respect to shortcomings identified in the area of their own teaching proficiency and with respect to the applicability of obtained practical knowledge and skills in their own instruction including taking into account the time constraints and similar by the manner of selection of organisational forms of instruction (e.g. a combination of an in-person workshop and online learning). The organisational guarantor of the course is the Lifelong Learning Department of the USB Rectorate, and the Vice-Rector whose purview includes the area of lifelong learning at the University of South Bohemia is responsible for the content and quality aspects of the educational activities.

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice strives to achieve a systematic anchoring and the creation of a stable offer of educational activities for educators in the lifelong learning system of USB employees that is able to flexibly react to the current demand. Improving language proficiency, including skills related to instruction in a foreign language (also see chapter 2.3), is supported by the Lifelong Learning Department of the USB Rectorate in the form of an offer of courses for employees. The participation of academic staff in pedagogically themed seminars or workshops is supported by faculties.

Continuous training or training for new educators is executed with respect to the options of using the didactic technology that the University is gradually purchasing or continuously upgrading (e.g. workshops on work with the interactive blackboard at several levels of proficiency are offered in this manner). Particularly activities helping educators use instruments supporting distance learning (LMS Moodle, MS Teams) are important in relation to that. An independent position of technological and methodological

support at the USB Centre of Information Technologies was established for this purpose in 2019. The support directed in this direction was further intensified in 2020, particularly as a reaction to the situation produced by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Providing feedback to educators is an integral part of the support for the development of teaching skills whether in the form of systematically executed and evaluated student evaluation of instruction or in the form of colleagues sitting in on each others' classes or sharing multiple educators in the instruction of a single course. The sharing of experience and skills among colleagues and fulfilling the idea of a 'learning organisation' are supported. Participation in courses is organised on the principle of voluntariness in relation to the need of the specific academic staff member felt, but it is also reflected in development interviews of heads of departments with educators, particularly in relation to results of regular surveys of the student evaluation of instruction.

6.3 Gender equality, support for employees–parents

As of 2020, the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice does not have its own gender equality plan prepared. Nevertheless, it is one of the instruments that it is planning to implement in accordance with national strategies and recommendations from the International Evaluation Panel evaluation with respect to the future. Gender equality and the support for employees is directly addressed in career regulations at some constituent parts of USB. USB has long been paying attention to the topic of support for parenthood among its employees. Emphasis is put on flexibility and a friendly work environment that will keep or attract high-quality employees. The human resources policy of USB approaches pregnant women and mothers/fathers of young children with maximum friendliness. The option of working part-time, under an agreement to perform work, working from home (the new Rector's Ordinance R 421 from 17 March 2020 on the performance of work by employees of USB outside the workplace of the Employer – Homeworking, which replaced the Rector's Ordinance R 186 from 16 August 2011), day camps, children's Christmas parties, children's day, etc., are specific examples. Contact with employees is maintained during parental leave and the company email is usually left to the employee as well, which facilitates the transfer of information concerning current affairs. Apart from that, USB is fully aware of the investment in education and development of employees who would leave, i.e. newly arising costs of searching, selecting, and training newly arriving employees. Great attention is paid to the strategy of human resource management at USB and the proof of that is the work on the project under the OP RDE 'USB Development – R&D Capacities' that is mostly focused on human resources and their development, including the special target-oriented towards gender equality.

In accordance with its Long-term Plan 2016–2020, USB declared its adherence to the principles embedded in the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers in December 2017. The target was obtaining the prestigious HR Award certificate that is awarded by the European Commission to research institutions that implement the HRS4R strategy (The Human Resources Strategy for Researchers). The main benefit of the implementation of HRS4R is to ensure that the relationship between the University of South Bohemia in the position of the employer and its employees in positions of research staff contributes to successful work when creating, transferring, sharing, and disseminating knowledge and technological development and to the development of the career of research staff. The work on obtaining the HR Award certificate was done under the OP RDE project entitled 'USB Development – R&D Capacities'. The University of South Bohemia has been a holder of the HR Award since 2019.

In 2020, the implementation of steps expected by the Action Plan focused on four basic areas: ethical and professional aspects, recruitment and selection of employees, work conditions and education and training. An internal evaluation and the preparation of the updated Action Plan will take place in 2021. The Steering Committee, the chair of which is the USB Rector and which also consists of members of the USB management and managing professional staff, is supervising the completion of individual phases.

6.4 Measures against sexual and gender-based harassment

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice issued Rector's Ordinance R 434 stipulating the procedure in cases of sexual harassment in a workplace on 19 May 2020, which replaced Rector's Ordinance R 374 issued on 21 February 2018. The topics related to sexual and gender harassment including the creation of new positions at USB supporting active options of self-defence (the position

of an ombudsperson, etc.) are being addressed at USB among other things under the project OP RDE entitled 'USB Development – R&D Capacities'.

In this context, the classification of the position of an ombudsman as a member of the USB Ethics Committee was decided and the Appendix No 1 to the Rector's Decision No R 253 on the establishment of the Ethics Committee of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, which stipulates that the person in the position of the USB ombudsman is also a member of the USB Ethics Committee., was issued on 19 May 2020. doc. MUDR. Jiří Šimek, CSc., from the USB Faculty of Health of Social Sciences was elected ombudsman of USB at the session of the USB Ethics Committee on 27 May 2020.

7 Internationalisation

7.1 Support for the participation of students in mobility programmes abroad

The University of South Bohemia cooperates with nearly 400 universities in more than 70 countries around the world and it supports the participation of students in international mobility programmes on a long-term basis. USB students utilise the opportunities of participating in international mobility programmes particularly under the Erasmus+ project (the educational programme of the EU for 2014–2020) and the project of the Institutional Plan 2019–2020 entitled 'International Mobilities of Students' under which they obtain financial support for stays abroad for a period longer than one month as so-called freemovers. The mobility of students is supported by scholarships from faculty scholarship funds and scholarships for specific destinations on the basis of inter-governmental agreements (Fulbrightova Commission, CEEPUS, DAAD, KAAD, Aktion, Baden-Württemberg-Stipendium, scholarships of the Bavarian–Czech Academic Agency). Student stays abroad are also supported by funding from the individual as well as team projects of the USB Grant Agency.

The Internal Call of the International Relations Department of the USB Rectorate (IRO) in support of international cooperation at USB was announced in 2020. International mobilities (at least 30 days long) of students from all faculties to countries outside the EU and shorter mobilities (fewer than 30 days, e.g. summer schools abroad) to European as well as overseas countries could be financially supported by the Call. In addition to available programmes of financial support, USB faculties offer the option of financing international mobilities from the resources of the scholarship fund particularly in the case of freemovers and mobilities that cannot be financed from available financial support programmes. The option of international stays and internships is offered to students from the second year in bachelor's studies and students of the master's level of studies. Stays abroad are a mandatory part of individual study plans for students of doctoral degree programmes.

The execution of international mobilities of USB students was strongly affected by the situation related to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. A number of planned mobilities could not take place or were prematurely terminated (spring 2020) in 2020. Under institutional support, the project '**Adaptace a podpora zahraničních studentů a zaměstnanců JU**' [Adaptation and support for international students and employees of USB] was worked on in 2020. The Emergency call telephone line (24/7 regime) was introduced in the context of the work on the project and it was actively used by USB students in connection with the pandemic situation.

International cooperation at USB faculties takes place particularly with similarly oriented university and academic facilities so that students participating in international mobility programmes have the opportunity to select the maximum number of courses relevant to their study planes. Obtained credits for courses undertaken abroad are recognised upon their return (based on the Transcript of Records and the compatibility with courses of accredited degree programmes). USB students are informed about the options of credit valuation of the mobility in advance through university and faculty internet websites, meetings with IRO officers and international departments of individual faculties as well as through email messages. In 2020, USB was engaged in the execution of the project OP RDE 'USB Development – ESFT', the part of which is the activity Systemic development of internationalisation at USB, which addresses the development of services of IOR and the administrative support for coordinators of international mobilities. Under this project, the position of the so-called Go abroad officer was established at IOR. The Go abroad officer provides comprehensive support for USB students who wish to depart on a study stay to a partner university abroad. Guides for University students that provide the needed information on mobilities, individual programmes of financial support including the option of including the stay or internship into degree programmes and recognising received credits and courses undertaken abroad (Guide for students wishing to depart on a study stay abroad) were published in print in 2020 (published digitally in the previous year and updated in 2020).

USB faculties organise regular information meetings for those interested from among students at which they present the options of stays abroad and provide those interested even with the opportunity to meet with graduates of the programme. If students successfully pass the selection procedure for the study stay (or the practical internship) abroad and they are nominated for the stay, they prepare their

own specific study plan out of the offer of courses of the foreign institution in the context of the preparation of the whole stay.

Two courses were organised (in the distance form in 2020) in support of stays abroad: one course is intended for international students studying at USB and one for departing USB students. These courses executed at the USB Faculty of Education were focused on incentivising mobilities and intercultural communication.

In order to provide sufficient support and ensure the awareness of students in the area of the manner of recognising completed courses and received credits, students of some faculties compile a so-called Agreement concerning the recognition of courses completed at a foreign university before the departure with sending institutes or departments. This agreement clearly specifies in what manner will the enrolled foreign course be recognised upon returning in the case of successful completion (i.e. whether it will be recognised as A obligatory, B obligatorily elective, C elective). Students have all of their completed courses recognised according to the previously approved manner of recognition. Students can change this agreement in the course of the study trip following the same rules and deadlines that govern making changes in the document entitled Learning Agreement and that the Erasmus + programme sets. Deans' ordinances concerning study trips of students determine rules for the recognition of courses completed at a foreign higher education institution at corresponding faculties of USB.

USB also offers students departures under the joint and double degree regime (10 degree programmes) – at the foreign institution, students complete study plan that is precisely set in advance under this type of studies. The study plan is fully introduced to students and it is also fully recognised upon their return. Students are informed about the manner of the recognition again before their departure by guarantors of this type of studies at the sending institute or department. USB engaged in the project of the Centralised development programme 'Development and quality assurance of degree programmes of the joint degree type being executed in cooperation with foreign higher education institutions' under which principles and standards concerning the execution of SP JD at USB and the evaluation of their quality in 2020.

Students are members of research teams of faculties and departments and even there the support of their development in relation to the possible participation in activities abroad is notable.

Even the **USB Faculty of Arts** could not execute two planned mobilities under the Freemover programme to Argentina, the purpose of which was supposed to be the collection of data for graduation theses and consultations with foreign experts, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, owing to resources of the USB Institutional Plan, an intern from Université de Montréal arrived at the faculty from Canada to take part in lecturer activity and the preparation of foreign-language materials for instruction particularly in double degree programmes executed in cooperation with French universities (however, the length of her mobility had to be shortened from two student-months to one due to the influence of the pandemic). Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, four student mobilities in double degree programmes with the Spanish Universidad de Salamanca and the French Université de Bretagne Sud were successfully completed as well as four student mobilities to Portugal under the programme of Strategic Partnerships Erasmus+ KA203 Systèmes juridiques et droit des entreprises dan l'UE: traduire et interpréter dans la diversité.

In comparison with the previous year, no significant changes occurred at the **USB Faculty of Science**. The faculty was trying to motivate for stays under the Erasmus+ programme at the end of 2019 by a meeting with students who had undertaken a stay in some country earlier. An increase in the number of students as well as employees departing abroad was expected, but the final number was negatively affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, students continue to receive all possible support at the faculty. They may contact the international relations officer concerning the administration connected with their stay. Students are also supported even with aid of employees of the Language Department at the faculty.

Students of the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** annually make use of the Erasmus+ programme in order to undertake internships – exclusively practically oriented internships (POI) were executed in 2020 and students of the faculty did not gain any ECTS credits under this mobility programme. Doctoral degree programme students are required to undertake a 3-month internship abroad according to the study code. Compliance with this requirement is financially secured by using the Erasmus+ programme, IP USB, GA USB, and other central resources of the faculty. The Vice-Dean's Ordinance No 01/201 regulates the awarding of scholarships in support of stays abroad of students of the faculty in doctoral degree programmes 2019–2020. The ordinance primarily stipulates the maximum

amounts taking into account the economic conditions in the target countries and it sets a framework of conditions for the support for mobilities from the budgets of individual research laboratories. The obligation to undergo an internship abroad was dramatically affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions during 2020. PhD students who had not met this obligation petitioned the Dean of the faculty in writing to suspend this obligation. Upon examining the requests, the Dean granted all requests. The pandemic restrictions did not allow for the resources of the internal call in support of international mobilities provided by IRO to be utilised and the use of the resources was postponed to 2021. The faculty continued the successful execution of the programme of credit mobilities (Ka107) focused on the support for exchange stays of students and academics with the Research Institute for Aquaculture Number 1 in Vietnam. At the beginning of the year, suitable candidates executed the mobility under this project according to the addressed topic of the sub-objective of the project. The faculty submitted project applications to the programme of credit mobilities (Vietnam, Russia, Mongolia, Indonesia), the projects were assessed positively but can be executed only as ZERO grants. This option was not taken advantage of in 2020. The incentive system for submitting and potentially working on international (particularly European) projects also including the purpose of support for international mobility programmes was utilised at the faculty. Under this system, even students in doctoral degree programmes of the faculty are rewarded for submitting projects securing this type of activities. The faculty is also engaged in the execution of various types of projects of Operational Programmes (particularly OP RDE 'USB Development – International mobilities', innovation of doctoral students, etc.) in which the execution of mobilities is commonplace. Apart from the abovementioned, mobilities of students were supported under the USB Institutional Plan 2019–2020, or in the form of an extraordinary scholarship. Students are members of research teams of the faculty and even there the support for their development in relation to possible participation in activities abroad is notable (short-term research internships, presentations at scientific conferences, participation in seminars, etc.) The faculty supported the month-long summer work internship of 6 secondary school students Höhere Lehranstalt für Umwelt und Wirtschaft Yspertal (Austria) in laboratories of the faculty.

The **USB Faculty of Theology** organises information meetings and offers individual consultations (in-person or via email) concerning the options of engagement in exchange programmes abroad. The programmes concerned are primarily the following: Erasmus+, IP, scholarships from the internal call of IRO, scholarships from the faculty scholarship fund. The faculty further informs about scholarships based on inter-governmental agreements for specific destinations: CEEPUS freemover scholarships, DAAD, KAAD, Aktion, Fulbright, Baden-Württemberg-Stipendium, scholarships of the Bavarian-Czech Academic Agency, scholarships announced by individual higher education institutions etc.). Information is published on the website, faculty notice boards and Facebook, and also on Instagram since 2018. Despite the negative influence of the Covid-19 pandemic on the options for study stays, 2 month-long mobilities under IP and several Erasmus+ study stays were successfully organised. The faculty is currently addressing the options individually so that the interest of the student is taken into account as well as the content of his/her study plan at the faculty. The faculty recognises all credits obtained from courses undertaken abroad. The Vice-Dean for Education and Studies decides on the basis of the content of the given courses whether the courses will be recognised as selective obtained abroad or as our courses A, B, C provided that the contents of syllabi correspond. In the case of participation in work internships abroad, the internship is recognised under courses of practical training as A, B, or C. The faculty strongly emphasises that students' studies are not extended by the participation in an international mobility, e.g. based on the Dean's Ordinance on study stays abroad of students of the USB Faculty of Theology (236/2015 from 20 July 2015), the faculty allows students to sit exams in such a manner that the registration document A – overview of passed examinations – is submitted by April/October of the given year at the latest.

All students of the **USB Faculty of Health and Sciences** are informed about options of international mobilities in the form of bulk emails, internet websites of the faculty and by educators during instruction. Concurrently, students may obtain information about internships and study stays abroad through presentations organised by students who have already gone on a stay abroad within their studies at the faculty. Professional practical training is recognised in proportion to the fulfilled field content abroad. Students are informed about the options of credit valuation of the mobility before departing for the stay abroad. The selection procedures were organised online in 2020 due to the circumstances so that students were able to take advantage of the stay abroad even despite the complicated pandemic situation in the world.

A revision of agreements under the Erasmus+ programme occurred at the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** in 2020. Students and staff members had the option of departing to 16 contractual facilities of the faculty and other 8 facilities under agreements with other USB faculties under Erasmus+. The offer of semester study stays is advertised to students in the context of selection procedures for the Erasmus+ programme. If students choose a structure of courses that correspond to courses studied at the faculty content-wise, then the courses in question are recognised. Communication with representatives of Bahir Dar University (Ethiopia) concerning the admission of their staff members to doctoral studies at the faculty continued intensively. Unfortunately, the cooperation that was looking promising was negatively impacted by the pandemic and the internal political situation in Ethiopia. Owing to the support under the extraordinary call of USB in support of internationalisation, the bolstering of cooperation with Agriculture and Forestry University (Hue, Vietnam) occurred. The faculty is currently a member of two networks under the CEEPUS programme 'Engineering as Communication Language in Europe' and 'Agriculture and Environment in the 21st Century – @groen'. In the context of both networks, it is possible to travel to more than 10 countries of central and eastern Europe. IP projects and resources of the extraordinary call of USB in support of internationalisation are also utilised for mobilities of particularly doctoral degree students in addition to Erasmus+ and CEEPUS programmes. In the context of support for international mobilities of faculty students, students are sent for practical training abroad under the degree programme Multifunctional Agriculture. A course entitled 'practical training abroad' was integrated into the study plans of some newly prepared degree programmes (which are in the accreditation procedure). Students will be able to depart for a stay abroad and gain work experience with scholarship support from the faculty (e.g. Agroecology, Agricultural machinery and technology).

7.2 Support for mobilities abroad of academic and non-academic staff

Internationalisation cooperation and mobility programmes are among the priority and strategic areas of development of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. USB supports international mobilities of academic as well as non-academic staff with all available instruments. Mobilities are perceived as a necessary step towards ensuring the deepening of qualification and professional knowledge of supported persons with relation to a specific and measurable transfer of know-how to faculty facilities including networking with facilities abroad with a long-term cooperation in mind or establishing and deepening cooperation with specific experts. A wide network of partner universities is offered to academic as well as non-academic staff for cooperation and the execution of an international mobility. The International Relations Department of the Rectorate of USB and international relations departments of individual faculties provide support when establishing new cooperations.

International mobilities of academic and non-academic staff members are taking place at USB particularly under the Erasmus+ KA103 programme (academic staff – instruction and combined mobilities STA, academic and non-academic staff – training and shadowing STT). USB is also an executor of the project International credit mobility Erasmus+ KA 107 with programme countries under supported projects from the Call 2018, 2019, and 2020. Employee mobilities executed outside the programme countries Erasmus+ (educational stay of USB employees at a foreign university outside EU in the length of at least 5 days with instruction of the scope of at least 4 hours in a 5-day work week) were supported under the 'internal call of the International Relations Department: support for international cooperation' in 2020.

The execution of employee mobilities was strongly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020, and the majority of originally planned mobilities were not executed with regard to safety and in connection with the anti-pandemic measures introduced in the Czech Republic and target countries.

The Guide for employees who wish to depart on an educational stay or training abroad was updated in 2020. Under the USB Institutional Plan, the project 'Adaptation and support for international students and employees of USB' was addressed in 2020. The objective of the project was the creation of a plan and determining the manner of addressing extraordinary situations related to stays of students and employees of USB abroad and psychological counselling for students and employees of USB abroad. The introduction of the Emergency call line (under 24/7 regime) showed itself as very beneficial in 2020 in relation to the pandemic situation.

International mobilities of academic and non-academic staff at the **USB Faculty of Arts** take place particularly under the Erasmus KA103 programme (educational, combined, and training mobilities). In

2020, the faculty was an executor of the extended three-year project International credit mobilities Erasmus+ KA107 with Argentina, and a three-year project with Peru was newly supported in the 2020 call. The last manner of support for employee mobilities from the Erasmus+ programme is the addressed project Strategic Partnership KA203 Systèmes juridiques et droit des entreprises dan l'UE: traduire et interpréter dans la diversité (two mobilities to Portugal took place under this project), and newly also a project of the same type entitled TEFE – Teachers of English for Future Europe. However, the mobility under all the above-mentioned programmes was affected by the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. For the same reason, planned two-way mobilities of academic staff under the project 'Development, support and innovation of double degree programmes of the USB Institutional Plan', the University-wide CDP 18+ 'Development and assurance of the quality of the degree programmes of the joint degree type executed in cooperation with foreign higher education institutions', or departures and arrivals prepared under the Internal call of USB with Argentinian universities could not take place. The faculty engaged in the work on the project OP RDE 'USB Development – International mobilities II' under which four mobilities in cooperation with universities in Great Britain and Italy were being prepared, but these also had to be postponed or entirely cancelled. Some journeys of academic staff were successfully organised under individual or team projects of GA USB and the Czech Science Foundation, LCDRO resources, or other faculty resources.

The **USB Faculty of Education** prepared departures of academic staff, students as well as teachers from cooperating schools to partner facilities in EU countries under the project OP RDE ISUS (Innovation of teacher training studies for secondary schools at the University of South Bohemia). Unfortunately, the departures did not take place due to the pandemic situation.

The **USB Faculty of Science** supports mobilities of academic as well as non-academic staff. Academic staff members utilise the Erasmus+ programme for consolidating bonds with foreign institutions or training (mostly employees of the Language Department of the faculty). In 2020, support for arriving guest academic staff under the 'Internal call of IRO: support for international mobilities' was expected. Unfortunately, even these activities were limited by the Covid-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, it is expected that these mobilities will be successfully organised in 2021. Success was recorded under KA 107 inter-credit mobilities. The faculty received support for all submitted projects and arrangements for the needed agreements and preparations for first mobilities started already towards the end of 2020. The management of the faculty supports mobilities for non-academic staff who are interested in language courses abroad under the Erasmus+ programme. Seven non-academic staff members applied in 2020.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** supports international mobilities academic as well as non-academic staff members by all available instruments. Mobilities for non-academic staff are organised particularly in the form of specifically linked resources intended for specific activities according to the specific 'project', e.g. Centralised development programmes, OP RDE 'USB Development – R&D Capacities' (activity related to the external as well as internal evaluation of the faculty), Development of research-oriented degree programmes of the USB FFPW, Development of the technology transfer office at USB, USB Institutional Plan 2019–2020, etc. Other quite often utilised instruments on the part of the non-academic staff are the centrally coordinated activities of the type of Erasmus+, credit mobilities, etc. The faculty supported year-long post-doctoral stays abroad of 4 young employees of the faculty (graduates of the PhD studies) and one half-year post-doctoral stay in the context of the execution of the project OP RDE 'USB Development – International mobilities'. The situation is similar for academic staff as for non-academic staff. Additionally, the deepening of cooperation in the form of mobilities in relation to the CENAKVA centre, its institutional support (LCDRO), and the status of a large research infrastructure on the road map of the Czech Republic, where this networking in the form of external sharing of infrastructures is expected and required, are expected and supported. Another logical support from the management of the faculty is the execution of mobilities necessary for fulfilling the purposely funded or other projects that the faculty is addressing. In the context of fulfilling the strategic plan of the development of the internationalisation of the faculty and the research centre, the faculty earmarked the amount of CZK 400 000 under management by the Vice-Dean for International Relations in the 2020 budget. The amount was intended for international activities connected with the preparation of research projects and connecting to the European research space. The granted allocation intended for the funding of short-term internships, participation in coordination and kick-off meetings, etc., of academic as well as non-academic staff of the faculty was not utilised in 2020 due to restrictions in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The **USB Faculty of Theology** supports its academic staff in participation in international mobilities, particularly under Erasmus+ programmes, scholarship offers based on inter-governmental agreements, from its own faculty/University resources, or even resources of projects of various grant agencies addressed. A number of mobilities of departing as well as arriving staff have also been executed under the Erasmus+ project of strategic partnership 'Spirituality and social ethics in social work' since 2019. Under the Erasmus+ programme, non-academic staff also executed shadowing mobilities. Unfortunately, the majority of planned mobilities, some of which were executed only in the online space, could not be executed in 2020 due to the negative influence of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** endeavours to utilise the available sources of funding for international mobilities of employees as much as possible. Among the most important sources of funding is the Erasmus+ programme in the context of programme countries of the EU and projects of the credit mobility Erasmus+ focused on cooperation with countries beyond the EU are submitted every year. The faculty supports the establishment of new cooperation founded upon newly established contacts to the maximum extent, and, concurrently, the faculty strives to develop cooperation with long-term foreign partners. Employees of the faculty are incentivised for international mobilities through bulk emails and through information meetings within institutes and units. In the case of academic staff, international mobilities have been included in the ASPE system since 2019- Five projects of the credit mobility of Erasmus+ focused on cooperation with universities in Canada, Israel, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Nepal were successfully submitted in 2020. These three-year projects are for the most part focused on teacher exchanges.

With respect to the situation connected with the Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible for the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** to execute the planned arrivals of interns from Brazil under the UniGo programme. An academic staff member from BOKU in Vienna was a guest at the faculty from September to October 2020 (integrated into the academic community of the faculty through the admitting department). His internship was prematurely terminated due to the worsening of the pandemic situation. Other arrivals could not be executed.

7.3 Support for the integration of foreign members of the USB academic community

International students who came to the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice in 2020 could make use of the support from the University international student club Erasmus Student Network USB Budweis, which organises help with administrative tasks for students, cultural and social programme (trips; excursions; visits to theatres, cinemas, etc.), and it primarily implements a mentoring system through so-called buddies (i.e. USB students who are assigned to an international student arriving at the University). Given the Covid-19 pandemic, the activity of ESN USB Budweis was transferred into distance forms of support and activities. The student organisation AIESEC is also active at USB. The organisation communicates with domestic as well as foreign students.

Under the activity Systemic development of internationalisation at USB that is a part of the OP RDE project 'USB Development – ESF', a position of a so-called Welcome officer was established at the International Relations Department of USB. The officer who (I) provides support for arriving students and employees of USB, particularly in the form of providing information about studies, accommodation and counselling in the area of accommodation agenda pursuant to the Act on the residence of foreigners on the territory of the Czech Republic, the health insurance, etc., for the purpose of the speediest and best adaptation to the environment of USB and the ordinary life in the Czech Republic; (II) the officer cooperates with the bodies of the Foreign Police and the Department of Asylum and Migration Policy of MI of the Czech Republic, MFA of the Czech Republic and MEYS of the Czech Republic in the area of accommodation agendas and government scholarship programmes for foreigners; (III) the officer communicates and cooperates with partner organisations abroad; (IV) the officer organises activities supporting the integration of foreigners in the environment of USB; (V) the officer ensures the operation of the EURAXESS contact centre designated for research staff from abroad; (VI) the officer addresses emergency situations related to the stays of foreigners at USB.

The project 'Adaptation and support for foreign students and staff of USB' was addressed under the Institutional Plan of USB in 2020. The objective of the project was to create a plan and set the manner of solving extraordinary situations related to the stay of foreign employees at USB and psychological

counselling for foreign students and employees at USB (in collaboration with the Psychological Counselling Centre at FED USB). Concurrently, the Emergency Call line was established. The line could be used by foreign staff, particularly in connection with addressing the situation arising from the Covid-19 pandemic and corresponding measures in the Czech Republic as well as at USB. The week before the start of every semester, the so-called Orientation Week takes place at USB. During the Orientation Week, a number of activities take place that allow arriving international students to acquaint themselves with life at the University, in the city, their study duties, and important information and contacts. The Orientation Week took place in the distance form and in the form of online meetings, training, and activities before the start of the summer semester. International students are in touch with the staff of IRO and the staff of international relations departments at individual faculties.

International students of a doctoral degree programme and scientific staff (post-doctoral students) are integrated entirely naturally by engagement into the body of departments and institutes through jointly addressed scientific and research projects which are addressed at individual constituent parts of USB.

In 2020, the **USB Faculty of Economics** obtained the accreditation of the doctoral degree programme Economics and Management in which Professor James S. Rikoon (University of Missouri), and Professor Karl Bruckmeier (University of Porto) collaborate on instruction and supervising dissertation theses.

An intern from among students of the faculty has been helping with the integration of international students into the study environment of the faculty as well as life in the Czech Republic at the International Relations Department of the **USB Faculty of Arts** since 2020.

Foreign members of the academic community are members of individual research groups, departments, and institutes at the **USB Faculty of Science** – their integration in the life of the faculty takes place particularly through employees of these institutes. Given the good language proficiency of the academic community of the faculty, this aspect of academic life does not cause any issues. Foreign staff also offer regular and irregular courses for students of cross-border fields as well as students in Czech programmes for whom it is a welcome opportunity to try instruction in a foreign language. Furthermore, the faculty planned international gatherings of employees of the faculty and BC CAS that began in 2018 already, but, unfortunately, given the situation connected with the Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible to continue these in-person gatherings. The faculty and BC CAS share information related to the arrival of new international staff (welcome guide, information on the website, and mutual aid in more complicated situations concerning stays).

The USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters ensures the integration of foreign members of the academic community by its open approach to these colleagues. A foreign member of the academic community is always a member of a smaller international employee community including initial mentoring of colleagues who have been active at the faculty for some time. Every foreign member of the academic community is initially provided with conditions for a simpler integration in the professional community as well as ordinary life. At the beginning of the career, a human resources officer provides assistance with handling accommodation, visiting the doctor, creating a bank account, familiarising with the environment within the infrastructure of the place of performance of work or the campus, etc. The faculty offers a course of the Czech language for international students and staff. An international student club for international students has been established for international students, which may request funding or other support for its activities through the management of the faculty. Representatives of the faculty international club established relations with the University student club on the assumption of closer cooperation in the future. The faculty organises a wide range of work as well as leisure activities that are automatically offered to international members of the academic community as well and provide another opportunity for efficient and fast integration in the community. Foreign colleagues are typically accommodated within the capacity of the faculty at a great rate, therefore there is also the opportunity for daily contact with colleagues from among the employees of the faculty. In 2020, the project of expansion of accommodation capacities for arriving foreign staff funded from the institution's own resources and the USB Fund of strategic priorities was completed. Three completely furnished apartment units including other facilities (garage, parking lot, garden) were built under the project. The faculty actively reacts to incentives from the University and informs among its employees about these opportunities for integration. Apart from the abovementioned, the faculty utilises a number of outputs arising under the execution of various projects, e.g. Welcome guide for international staff USB (output of the project OP RDE 'USB Development – ESF'). Moreover, the faculty actively participates, for example,

as an executor in the creation of outputs of the project OP RDE 'USB Development – R&D Capacities' – Adaptation process (buddy system, mentoring, career and professional growth opportunity, etc.), etc.

Dr. Emanuele Lacca, a graduate of universities in Salamanca and Cagliari, has long been active at the **USB Faculty of Theology**. In addition to research activity, he engages in the instruction of students in bachelor's and consecutive master's degree programmes as well in which he gives lectures in courses concerning social ethics. Concurrently, for several years already, the faculty has been collaborating with foreign staff members who are engaged in the instruction at the faculty as well as participate, for example, in GA USB projects.

David Mutemwa from Zambia began studying in the doctoral degree programme Charity Work (from WS 2019/2020). He participated in the preparation of the Erasmus+ project of international credit mobility with Zambia (The University of Barotseland), which was partially supported for the period 2020–2023 for the funding of outgoing mobilities of students of the faculty in the bachelor's or master's cycle of studies. The integration of international students who are active at the faculty under various mobility programmes (Erasmus+, scholarships under the faculty scholarship fund) is occurring. These students engage in student life at the faculty as well as the whole USB. In the academic year 2019/2020, for example, they took part in the event Welcoming Freshmen. They also have the opportunity to establish valuable friendships with students of the faculty within courses taught for Czech and international students and also to experience the friendly approach of the academic staff of the faculty. Among other things, the satisfaction of international students manifests itself in the fact that new students from the same partner universities repeatedly arrive every year.

Foreign academic staff of the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** who are registered in the EGJE system are integrated into the academic community to the same extent as Czech academic staff. They are members of the academic community, take part in ceremonies, selection procedures, and have the same rights and duties as USB employees. Those who are not registered in the EGJE system – short-term short work stays with pre-determined objectives in most cases – are integrated into the academic life of the University according to the needs and potential of the given mobility.

Doctoral degree students at the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** from abroad and guest academic and scientific staff are engaged through the community of the department where they are active. International students (Erasmus+, CEEPUS, etc.) are engaged through ESN USB Budweis. To ease the integration of international students into the academic community of the faculty, relevant documents concerning studies are translated into the English language.

7.4 Other important activities bolstering the internationalisation of activities of USB

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice considers the internationalisation of educational and scientific activity as one of the core strategic objectives. USB has been organising the International Week (IW) in November for 7 years already which is attended by representatives of foreign partner universities. In 2020, the International Week at USB did not take place due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In February 2020, an incentive stay for students from Chelyabinsk took place. In autumn, USB joined the call to support Belarusian students. Three students were financially supported in relation to the MEYS call as well.

The Covid-19 pandemic negatively affected the organisation of events in support of internalisation at USB that IRO organises for students and employees of USB. Activities such as (I) Welcome Back for USB students who undertook an Erasmus stay in the previous year, (II) International Days for international students at USB, (III) Goodbye event – pre-departure meeting which is intended for students departing for a study stay or internship abroad could not take place in 2020.

Faculties of the University of South Bohemia utilise the Erasmus+ programme, IP RDE 'USB Development – International Mobilities I–II' for the internationalisation of their educational and research activity; individual faculties are engaged in international projects and consortiums.

The Memorandum of Cooperation between the Rector of the **University of South Bohemia** in České Budějovice, prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr., and the President of the National Taipei University of

Technology, Taiwan, Dr. Sea-Fue Wang, was ceremonially signed on 8 September 2020. The Agreement on a student exchange was also signed at this extraordinary time. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the ceremony took place in the form of an online transmission in which the Vice-Rector for International Relations, doc. PaedDr. Radka Závodská, Ph.D., took part representing the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice as well. Both universities understand this event as an important step towards further development of mutual collaboration, e.g. in the area of joint degree programmes of the double degree type.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** is the executor of two projects of Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships (KA203) that establish two different consortiums of universities together with members from the following countries: Portugal (Porto), France (Lorient), Spain (Vigo, Pamplona), Latvia (Ventspils), Romania (Bucharest), Slovakia (Prešov, Bratislava), Poland (Kraków), Germany (Passau), Great Britain (Birmingham). Furthermore, the faculty participated in the work on the project OP RDE 'USB Development – International Mobilities II' and the University-wide CDP 18+ 'Development and assurance of the quality of degree programmes of the joint degree type executed in cooperation with foreign higher education institutions'. The faculty closely cooperates with the Embassy of Peru in the Czech Republic of which the secretary newly appointed in 2020 visited the faculty in 2020 to support the emerging cooperation with the Peruvian university in Trujillo. The engagement in projects of cross-border Bavarian–Czech cooperation, e.g. Museum Uploaded – Digital technologies for cross-border interactive cooperation of museums, and newly also the project 'International double degree programme for German Studies at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice and the University of Passau, is also important.

The **USB Faculty of Education** organised a language workshop 'Čeština a němčina v tandemu: sice on-line, přesto spolu' [Czech and German in tandem: online but together], a language workshop of students of the University of Vienna and the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, in 2020 and coorganised the international student conference Cross-cultural-Conference Ludwigsburg/České Budějovice that focused on topics of different views of migration, the Covid-19 disease and its various social aspects (the education system, EU response), populism, activism as well as the disinterest of young people in politics, consumer literacy, etc.

The **USB Faculty of Science** significantly utilised the Erasmus+ programme for internationalisation. It has a sufficient number of bilateral agreements with partners around the entire Europe under the programme call KA 103 and it also cooperates on the international credit mobility KA 107 (non-European countries). Under this call of the year 2020, the faculty obtained 5 projects concerning the following countries: Senegal, Cameroon, Taiwan, Kosovo, and Papua New Guinea. Departures of administrative staff for language courses are supported from the resources of the Erasmus+ programme. Overall, a better connection and cooperation with IRO occurred, which allows for more information concerning other types of scholarships and summer school to get to students and academic staff. The faculty also accepts students from other scholarship programmes (CEEPUS, MEYS scholarship). The update of the website in English for arriving as well as departing students and departing academic/non-academic staff under the Erasmus+ programme was an important step.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** is a part of the consortium of the project AQUAEXCEL 3.0, the objective of which is to support the sustainable growth of branches of aquaculture in Europe. The consortium of the AQUAEXCEL project consists of paramount European universities or research institutes and the project AQUAEXCEL2020 has determined as its objective to offer services and support the execution of research in the area of aquaculture corresponding to a global standard. The principle of these infrastructure European projects is mutual sharing of infrastructures on the basis of which a system of access, data sharing, and article publishing was prepared. The faculty and its infrastructure achieved the status of a special-purpose-funded large research infrastructure of the Czech Republic (Roadmap of large research infrastructures of the Czech Republic) in the area of the environment. Large research infrastructures have the duty to share their critical capacities with external entities outside USB as well, particularly from abroad. Due to this contractually given duty and the established cooperation with another research infrastructure CzechGlobe, the faculty is included in a large number of international consortia and participates in the preparation of many European projects. Randomly, the following thematically close infrastructures connecting the European research space may be named – Danubius – RI, CZECOS, eLTER, etc. Apart from these activities, the faculty is also a part of international consortia under projects addressed under OP Interreg (Austria, Saxony) or H2020 (e.g. MSCA-IF-2019). The faculty is a part of networks – AQUA-T-NET – European thematic network in the field of aquaculture, fisheries and aquatic resources management, EAS (European Aquaculture Society), W. S.

C. S. (World Sturgeon Conservation Society). The policy of the centre for in-person access to the infrastructure was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and seminars, a coordination meeting, and requested lectures of foreign experts in the area of Aquaculture and Protection of Waters were organised in the online form in 2020. The established cooperation with the international organisation Food and Agriculture Organization (OSN) focused on developing countries and their support in securing sufficient levels of food and potable water took place virtually; planned activities (organising an international workshop, expert activity) were postponed for 2021.

The **USB Faculty of Theology** worked on project No 2018-1-CZ01-KA203-048104 under the programme Erasmus+ key activity 2: strategic partnerships entitled 'Spirituality and social ethics in social work' in 2019 and 2020. Doc. Michal Opatrný from the Department of Ethics, Psychology and Social Work was the main executor of the project; Dr Emanuele Lacca from the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies was another collaborator on the team. The project was executed by a consortium of universities and expert facilities in Spain (Universidad Católica San Antonio de Murcia), Germany (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg i.Br.), Hungary (Gál Ferenc Főiskola Szeged), and Ireland (Clare Youth Service, Ennis). The objective of the project was the innovation of educational contents of consecutive and doctoral degree programmes in social work. Social work faces the task of supporting refugees as well as other arriving foreigners from third countries for whom spirituality and religiosity are a substantial part of their lives in the integration into European society. Issues of spirituality and religiosity are also closely related to ethical issues in social work because a social worker works with the value systems of the client, society, social work as well as their own value system and must make complicated decisions that require a high level of ethical competency. The project has its own web presentation at its disposal as well: spiritualsocialwork.com.

Memberships in international professional organisations are indisputably among the activities with a multiplication effect that bolster the internationalisation of the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences**. The faculty is a member of the following international professional organisations.

- European Association of Schools of Social Work
- SocNet98 – European Network of Universities/Schools of Social Work
- Childwatch International
- Udine-C Network: Understanding Development Issues in Nurse Educator Careers
- ETNA: European Transcultural Nursing Association
- EViPRG European Violence in Psychiatry Research (EViPRG)
- International Association for Human Caring (IAHC)
- MELODI (Multidisciplinary European Low Dose Initiative) – a network of institutions pursuing research for radiation protection
- SHARE (Social Sciences and Humanities in Ionising Radiation Research) – a network of institutions pursuing research of social, psychological, ethical aspects of radiation protection

In 2019, the faculty engaged in the international project BENEFITS under the Erasmus+ programme – KA2 – Strategic Partnerships and the meeting of the working group took place in České Budějovice in February 2020. The objective of this project was the preparation of curricula focused on multi-cultural nursing for master's and postgraduate degree fields. This project entitled 'Better and Effective Nursing Education for Improving Transcultural Nursing Skills' under the acronym 'BENEFITS' is coordinated by the Turkish university Hasan Kalyoncu University. Apart from the faculty, University of Debrecen, University of Primorska, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, and other universities are partners of the project.

The **USB Faculty of Agriculture** makes use of contacts obtained through work on international projects, e.g. H2020, NextFood, Erasmus+, SoFarEDU, and also contacts facilitated by IRO. The faculty is engaged in several University-wide projects in support of internationalisation, credit mobilities under the Erasmus+ programme. Continuous communication takes place with international partners so that it is possible to begin executing mobilities immediately after the pandemic situation improves.

8 Research, development, artistic, and other creative activity

8.1 Measures adopted for the purpose of bolstering the connection of creative activity with the educational activity

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice proudly subscribes to the strong tradition of science and research, and it is attempting to universally transfer this asset to its students as well. First of all, that happens through topics of graduation theses (bachelor's, master's, doctoral), which often reflect the current research topics or artistic activities of the corresponding supervisors and, therefore, even individual faculties. Selective seminars, the attendance of students at international scientific conferences or internships, participation of students in research projects of faculty facilities or the active engagement of students in organisational and evaluation teams of various competitions organised within USB are among other ways of facilitating the connection of creative and educational activity. The connection of creative and educational activity happens also on the level of academic staff by the increase in their qualification, their own creative activity and by including results of these activities in courses that they teach. At some faculties, bachelor's and master's students are incentivised to engage in the work of research teams beyond working on qualification theses also by the fact that a substantial activity of students of this kind is one of the main criteria in the evaluation of applications for the award of the extraordinary scholarship for talented students. Concerning master's and doctoral programmes, the creative activity of students is supported through the Grant Agency of USB (GA USB) or internal grant agencies of some faculties. Students worked on 69 projects of GA USB in total in 2020 for which CZK 34 955 832 were disbursed.

In 2020, the institute of appointing extraordinary professors was established and preparations for the establishment of the School of Doctoral Studies began in order to bolster creative and educational activity.

8.2 Student engagement in creative activity

Students of bachelor's and master's programmes engage in the creative activity of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice chiefly through topics of their graduation theses and they often directly become members of scientific teams in connection with that. Students of master's programmes have the option of competing within the internal Grant Agency of USB or internal grant agencies at several faculties with their scientific projects. Students also actively participate in student scientific conferences, workshops, selective seminars or summers schools, and SREA competitions or other competitions. Students participating in the work of scientific teams often publish their results. In the same way, students participate in the preparation of didactic materials at some faculties. The lecturing activity of students under the Children's or Junior University or day camps is also important. Students also actively participate in artistic creative activity, including the attendance of exhibitions, concerts, artistic competitions or the execution of a number of cultural-social events.

Since 2020, the **USB Faculty of Economics** has been offering help with estimating the potential exchange rate loss concerning a receivable or a liability in a foreign currency to exporters, entrepreneurs or commercial entities. The unique application E-start served this purpose. Entrepreneurs may use it directly on the portal [BusinessInfo.cz/](https://businessinfo.cz/). The application is intended for commercial entities of the small and medium size, often also start-ups, which need to know how much money they may approximately lose by concluding a trade in a foreign currency. Students of the DDP Management and Business Economy and co-author Martina Krásnická participated in the creation and development of the application under a project of TA CR.

Outputs of the pre-graduation studies (diploma and bachelor's theses) are aimed towards the relation to research activities of the staff of the **USB Faculty of Arts**. Promising students of consecutive master's fields were engaged in the work of team projects GA USB (at the Institute of History, Institute of Archival Studies and Auxiliary Sciences of History, Institute of Romance Studies, Institute of Czech Studies, and Institute of Archaeology). In the area of archaeology, the use of specialised analyses was performed, e.g.

in instruction in the field at the location of Karlův hrádek u Purkarce where there is a field station serving for student practical training among other things. Students actively participated in student conferences and competitions: students of the master's programme Czech-German Area Studies took the first three places in a competition in writing essays in German that was organised by the editorial office of the magazine of the German minority in Bohemia LandesEcho; students of teacher training for SSch were successful in a didactic competition Schola In Schola/universitate concerning the best innovatively approached instruction block on the topic of Interactive instruction and testing online, or students of the consecutive master's programme in Archival Studies successfully represented in another year of the nationwide student scientific conference – History 2020. In individual cases, students enter the results of their artistic creative activity, particularly results related to the translation of belles-lettres into RUV.

The **USB Faculty of Education** continued in the work on 7 team projects of GA USB in which master's and doctoral students are engaged as members of research teams. The connection of creative activity with the educational activity was the core of the project of the application project PRIM at the Department of Informatics of the faculty under which, as well as under other research activities at the faculties, coherent textbook sets were created for the regional education system. Their preparation and analyses were utilised in the instruction of teacher training programmes. Furthermore, the faculty executed the research project PAndemie – eine empirische Untersuchung zu Effekten digitaler Lehrformate bei Lehramtsstudierenden in Bayern und Tschechien (BTHA-AP-2020-DIG-12) – together with Uni Passau, July – October 2020 (4 researchers + 540 respondents at Uni Passau + 137 respondents at the USB Faculty of Education).

Graduation theses at the **USB Faculty of Science** are of the research nature in the absolute majority of cases; supervisors are encouraged to offer research-oriented graduation theses.

The connection of creative and educational activity on the level of bachelor's and master's studies at the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** is secured by the fact that educators of the faculty are virtually without exception (with the exception of the instruction of English) active scientists. Most of them, therefore, teach the course related to their research orientation. Scientific findings are, therefore, projected directly into instruction. The offer of topics of final graduation theses that arise out of the needs of projects addressed at the faculty is another way of connection. Students of doctoral studies work directly in research laboratories where they engage in other research activities of the laboratory (or collaborating laboratories) in addition to working on the topic of the dissertation thesis. Students of bachelor's and consecutive master's studies are incentivised to engage in the work of research laboratories beyond the work on the graduation theses including that a substantial activity of the student at a facility of the faculty is one of the main criteria when evaluating applications for the so-called extraordinary scholarship for talented students. The faculty is also trying to maximise the use of grant programmes intended for the connection of educational and creative activity, which de facto encourages students to engage in this activity. The connection of creative and educational activity is given by the fact that 70% of the budget of the faculty consists of funding intended for research and creative activity. A course (activity) entitled 'Semestral project' was introduced into study plans of bachelor's and master's degree programmes during which students address particular tasks by engaging in the research activities of the laboratories of the faculty beyond the scope of the graduation theses for which they obtain credits upon successful completion.

Students of the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** participated in the execution of team projects of GA USB, e.g. Selected aspects of management of social work and the Use of measuring instruments in nursing that allow the engagement of students of consecutive master's studies in addition to the engagement of doctoral students. The engagement of students in the context of popularisation of science at the faculty took place in the form of lecturing activity of students under the Children's and Junior University, day camps, and at the Centre for Prevention of Lifestyle Diseases. Students of bachelor's and master's programmes have the opportunity to apply for the position of a 'Student assistant' at individual institutes where they are engaged in research activities of the institute. The faculty annually organises SREA for students of bachelor's as well as master's studies during which students engage in research activity in the area of their graduation theses under the supervision of their supervisors.

Students of the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** in bachelor's and consecutive master's degree programmes engage in creative activity particularly by the execution of their graduation theses. Topics of graduation theses almost always correlate to the principal activity of the supervising faculty and in many cases, they

are directly a part of addressed research projects, which establishes a very close connection between students, faculty research and often even the enterprises that are engaged in the projects addressed as users of the results. Students are engaged in work in laboratories in the form of a contract on the position of a technical staff member. Students in consecutive master's degree programmes are engaged in activities under addressed team projects of GA USB in which doctoral students participate as well. Results achieved by the work on student projects are published in scholarly journals together with supervisors. The connection of creative activity and educational activity is paid attention to in the context of the process of preparation and approval of applications for accreditation of degree programmes. Moreover, it is evaluated in the context of ongoing habilitation procedures of academic staff.

8.3 Special-purpose funding for research, development, and innovations

In 2020, the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice obtained special-purpose funding for science and research in the total amount of CZK 359.1m, of which CZK 345.1m was operational funding and CZK 14m was capital funding. CZK 307.6m was expended directly at USB in 2020 out of the total funding for research and development. USB also provided CZK 52.9m to project partners.

8.4 Support for students of doctoral degree programmes and staff in post-doctoral positions

The programme of University postdoctoral positions has long been in operation at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. The only condition for a candidature is the arrival from a position external to USB. Four positions were allotted in 2020 for the first time. At least one position is allotted in fields of social sciences and humanities, and three at the most are allotted in fields of natural sciences and agriculture. Committees consisting of members of the USB Scientific Board were selecting the candidates and their arrival is scheduled for 2021. Postdoctoral positions were offered and are offered also by some faculties out of operational programmes, scientific projects or LCDRO. Students of doctoral degree programmes may participate, and also do participate in great numbers, in a competition of the Grant Agency of USB. In so-called individual projects, they are in a team with their supervisor. These projects serve particularly for achieving that students learn to manage their projects and their supervisor is simultaneously a mentor in that. Doctoral students at a number of faculties are rewarded through premium or extraordinary scholarships for successful support for GA USB projects as well as first-time articles, patents or other substantial results. It is the standard at research-oriented faculties that students in doctoral studies participate in some scientific projects led by experienced scientists from which they are partially supported and under which they may often travel abroad for an internship and through which they can also continue to learn scientific work. Faculties generally support international mobilities of their doctoral students; such a mobility is even a condition for successful completion of doctoral studies at some faculties. The scholarship of students in doctoral degree programmes derives from his/her activity during studies and his/her results. Students of doctoral studies have the option of enrolling in a number of courses developing the so-called soft skills (presentation, communication, writing professional texts, intellectual property protection, etc.). Students are incentivised to obtain their own projects and manage tutorials in bachelor's and sometimes also master's programmes. Some faculties award the Dean's Award to their best doctoral students. Faculties allow the interruption of studies due to parenthood, long-term illness or take into account the total recognised period of parenthood. USB offers places in the University children's group. There is also a career centre that operates at USB and provides comprehensive career counselling including in-person consultations, advice with creating CVs, motivation letters or LinkedIn profiles, and including the selection of the right profession not only to students. In addition, preparations for the establishment of the so-called School of Doctoral Studies began in cooperation with the Czech Academy of Sciences in 2020 and the effort to further increase the quality of programmes of doctoral studies at USB.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** had two team projects in support of doctoral studies under GA USB at its disposal in 2020: project 126/2019/H The use of computational instruments in discourse analysis, main executor: prof. PaedDr. Vladimír Papoušek, CSc.; and project 130/2019/H Theoretical and methodological aspects of the development of doctoral degree programmes in historical sciences, main executor: prof. PhDr. Václav Bůžek, CSc. Furthermore, five student individual projects were supported under GA USB. Doctoral

students are continuously engaged even in the activity of all three faculty scientific centres: 'Habsburkové v dějinách českých zemí raného novověku' [Habsburgs in the history of Czech lands in the early modern period], 'Centrum pro výzkum novější české literatury a metodologie literární historie' [Centre for research of newer Czech literature and methodology of literary history], and 'Teorie, metody a modely v současném jazykovědném výzkumu' [Theories, methods and models in contemporary linguistic research]. Rules of the internal Grant Agency of the faculty allow students of doctoral and master's studies to apply for funding for publishing monographs, particularly dissertation theses. Under the ongoing project OP RDE addressed jointly with the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen and the Institute of Archaeology CAS Prague, the work on the modernisation of research-oriented doctoral degree programmes that are the foundation of the modern doctoral school of archaeology continued. Mgr. Lukáš Holata, Ph.D. (supported on the basis of a decision of the USB Scientific Board from resources for LCDRO under a University-wide competition) began his activity in a postdoctoral position for the area of archaeology at the faculty at the start of 2020. The faculty traditionally organises summer schools the main objective of which is the active engagement of students in practical activities thematically related to studies and the introduction of new trends in individual fields while domestic as well as foreign experts take part. The faculty supports students of doctoral degree programmes and staff in postdoctoral positions even in the social regard. Doctoral students may receive a one-off scholarship of up to CZK 20 000 for the above-standard presentation of results of their work (participation in an international conference, publishing, instruction) upon a proposal of the chair of the field board in addition to the regular scholarship.

Given the fact that a vast majority of postdoctoral positions at the **USB Faculty of Science** is occupied by staff from abroad, an office for the support of foreign staff and students was introduced at the faculty. The office focuses on aiding with preparations before the journey to the Czech Republic as well as helping upon arrival. The office aids doctoral degree students as well, which is a category in which the number of applicants from abroad has been increasing. Apart from University postdoctoral positions, the faculty also introduced support for faculty positions as well.

Students of DDPs were supported by income beyond grants for scholarships from MEYS at the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters**. Doctoral students of the faculty received regular premium scholarships for participation in work on projects of GA USB including individual projects as well as for the two best first-time articles published in journals indexed at Web of Science. They also fully entered in other incentive instruments including the one-off reward for achieved outputs and the Dean's Award. DDPs students must also spend a prescribed period of time at an institution abroad in connection with their studies. Unfortunately, this period was negatively affected by the pandemic situation in a number of cases in 2020. Various sources of funding in an adequate amount exist for these purposes. Graduates of doctoral studies could apply for short postdoctoral positions (1 year) with the option of an extension, which are annually offered according to the requirements of research laboratories and research projects CENAKVA with respect to the current availability of funding. Seven new postdoctoral positions were allotted in 2020. In 2020, one postdoctoral member was supported on the basis of resources of an extraordinary LCDRO of the Rectorate including the start in 2019 already. Two postdoctoral members departed abroad under the project 'USB Development – International Mobilities II' and three more will follow in 2021. Postdoctoral staff had the infrastructure of the faculty at their disposal for their research activity as well as the option of accommodation in Vodňany in faculty accommodation capacities. International staff members were also assisted in handling their stays and visas in the Czech Republic. Postdoctoral staff members are incentivised to depart for internships at institutions abroad for a period of at least 6 months. As such, they have the option of returning to the faculty and the best also the chance of obtaining work positions for an indefinite period of time. Project support for their applications that is available to external persons considering starting at the faculty is a given.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** prepares support seminars aimed at increasing knowledge in the area of the methodology of research and the use of professional databases, helping with submitting projects, engaging in scientific projects addressed at the faculty. Young research staff members are supported in international mobilities with the objective of obtaining international experience in research.

The management of the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** is aware of the significance of the creative potential and performance of DDP students and young academic or scientific staff. That is why the faculty endeavours to be supportive of these categories of staff. DDP students have the option of suspending their studies, the spread of the completion of study duties may be adjusted under an individual study plan upon agreement with the supervisor and guarantor (the chair of the field board) of the

corresponding DDP. Young scientific staff may utilise flexitime, work from home, and other benefits. It is always an agreement with the head of the department and the management of the faculty. The management of the faculty strives to increase the interest of young staff in submitting proposals for grant projects, incentives for undergoing habilitation procedures and further career development. DDP students have the option of submitting their proposals for individual research projects and engaging in work on team projects under the GA USB competition. In 2020, a system of rewards (for academic staff as well as students) for executed results of the type of a scholarly article with an impact factor of the Q1 and Q2 categories, patents, and other substantial results in the area of science and research was introduced.

8.5 Cooperation with the sphere of application in the creation and transfer of innovations and their commercialisation

The Technology Transfer Office of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice (TTO USB) is a University-wide facility, the operation of which consists of the transfer of technologies between USB and the sphere of application in collaboration with individual faculties. The office serves all faculties under the mission of aiding to bridge the gap between scientific laboratories and the commercial sphere. The office is a contact point for firms that are interested in cooperation with USB, helps with establishing cooperation between firms and scientific teams of individual faculties. The office has long been administrating the project Gama of TA CR under which it offers competitions for the so-called proof-of-concept particular projects serving for verifying the possibilities for the commercialisation of research at USB. The cooperation with commercial entities at USB takes place through the sale of licences and patents but also under scientific projects of TA CR or under contractual cooperation. The transfer of findings does not mean only the transfer of technological inventions and innovations but also the transfer of knowledge. USB faculties, therefore, organise and coordinate various activities supporting the transfer of good practices, cooperate with the state sphere, public authorities, museums, and libraries, and medical facilities, or organise lectures for the public. A number of applied results achieved at USB succeeded at innovation competitions.

The **USB Technology Transfer Office** actively strives to ensure that research and development results originating within its purview do not remain unutilised. They cooperate on the development of new software or a line of cosmetic products with industry partners. One of the specific examples of a successful transfer is the cooperation with the company dataPartner with which the University cooperates on the development of software bioWES, which serves for the administration and management of experimental data and metadata. It is utilisable, inter alia, in a laboratory as well as research projects. The **University of South Bohemia** also established successful cooperation with the company GLOBAL TS, a.s. They jointly submitted the project 'Výzkum a vývoj směsí kuliček na bázi alginátu a technických řešení pro jejich hodnocení' to the 3rd public competition TA CR TREND, sub-programme 'Technologičtí lídři' [Leaders in Technology]. The objective of the project is comprehensive research and development of wholly innovative mixtures of alginate-based beads, which will be filled with a mix of various types of alginates of different reactivity. Additionally, the **University of South Bohemia** also sold its patent 'Způsob řízení chovných podmínek uvnitř stáje' [Management of raising conditions inside stables]. The patent was bought by the company Agrosoft Tábor, s.r.o. Under the already concluded licencing contract with CESKYKAVIAR.cz, s.r.o., which produces cosmetics with an extract from authentic sturgeon caviar, the products that are being jointly developed were successfully included in the offer of the network of pharmacies Dr. Max. For example, the first dry nano mask in the world can be found among the products of the brand. This licence is one of the most successful ones that the **University of South Bohemia** has concluded.

From 30 November to 1 December 2020, a workshop 'Online cross-visit to South Bohemia, Czech Republic' took place at the **USB Faculty of Economics** in the context of the project POWER4BIO. The objective of the workshop was to introduce the situation in bioeconomics in the Czech Republic and the South Bohemian Region, its political or economic support and also examples of good practices not only in the south of Bohemia. This workshop was not intended only for an expert group but for all participants in the project POWER4BIO (i.e., all 10 regions) and also for representatives of institutions dealing with bioeconomics; it took place in the English language. In connection with this project, the already 5th bioeconomic course took place at the faculty in late November and early December 2020.

Facilities of the **USB Faculty of Arts** cooperate with institutions in the South Bohemian Region particularly in the area of current trends of conservation of historical artefacts and historical preservation: the course Historical Preservation is secured by the staff of the National Heritage Institute, local branch in České Budějovice. The staff of the State Regional Archives in Třeboň and the State District Archive in České Budějovice participate in instruction in the bachelor's and consecutive master's degree field Archival Studies. Particularly museums are among the closely cooperating institutions, particularly the Hussite Museum in Tábor, Museum of West Bohemia, and Jihočeské muzeum v Českých Budějovicích (archaeologists provide expert services concerning prospecting, analyses, sample conservation on a contractual basis). In the context of instruction of the field of Czech Studies, the faculty cooperates, for example, with the Research Library of South Bohemia and main media facilities in the region (editorial offices of regional dailies, Český rozhlas České Budějovice, regional televisions) with which even the Institute of Art and Culture Studies, which also closely cooperates with the Aleš South Bohemian Gallery at Hluboká nad Vltavou on the preparation of lecture series intended for students as well as to broader professional public as well as on organising exhibitions. The Institute of English Studies cooperates with publishers where results of students from translation seminars find use. Doc. PhDr. Ladislav Nagy, Ph.D., who received the literary award Magnesia Litera 2020 for the translation book of the year, recorded success in the area of translation. The Institute of Romance Studies facilitates students contact with domestic as well as foreign professional entities, which the institute also invites into instruction: Le Centre Tchèque de Paris, attorney and translation agencies as well as freelance translators. Representatives of the management of secondary schools are active members of boards of degree programmes focusing on teacher training. In the effort to expand faculty findings outside the academic sphere, staff of the faculty more often apply for projects in support of applied research and experimental development. The work on the project with the Moravian Library in Brno under the programme NAKI II for mapping translation literature or the project to create the model of gulags in virtual reality (jointly with the registered association *Gulag.cz* and the USB Faculty of Education) from the programme TA ČR ÉTA continued in 2020.

The cooperation of the **USB Faculty of Science** with the commercial sphere on the educational as well scientific levels continues to take place. Several grants of TA CR were addressed; several patents and utility patterns in areas of nanostructured surface layers, remote control of analogue electronic devices or systems of monitoring of breathing of mammals were granted; discussions concerning their commercialisation were taking place. In the area of tumour immunotherapy, discussions with firms concerning the funding of pre-clinical and clinical tests and the manufacturing of the therapeutic being developed were taking place.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** addressed cooperation on the creation and transfer of innovations and their commercialisation in 2020 particularly through contractual research orders, licencing of already achieved results, and using applied projects under which representatives of the sphere of application were included as partners (projects NAVZ, OP Fishery, TA CR, etc.). The objective of these activities was particularly the development of innovations, technologies, methodologies, prototypes, utility patterns, etc., and their use directly at the partner organisation (or the contracting entity of the order) from the sphere of application. The vertical transfer of information into practice was also secured using the faculty's own outputs of R&D (publications, books, methodologies, technologies, etc.), by organising professional conferences and seminars for experts from the application sphere. The enhancing of cooperation with enterprises of fisheries through the sharing of good practices with relation to targeted research and innovations in instruction continued to occur in 2020. Contractual research is always agreed upon for the purpose of addressing specific and current issues in practice. The faculty orients itself towards orders of contractual research with higher added value, i.e. long-term orders with socio-economic benefits for the faculty. The interest in services provided by the faculty was supported by its newly obtained status of an official large research infrastructure places on the Roadmap of the Czech Republic as well. Selected domestic and foreign orders valued at over CZK 0.5m for the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, Povodní Labe, a.s., Rybářství Nové Hradky, s. r. o., etc., may be mentioned among specific orders of contractual research. Several patents that aspire to help improve or control the quality of surface waters have originated at the faculty in recent years. The solution to the monitoring of water quality using crayfish that is being developed by the team of prof. Pavel Kozáka and Dr. Petr Císař, which was discussed on the show ČT Gejzír, has been known in the media. The patent for 'Zařízení k čištění odpadních vod' [Wastewater treatment equipment] captured the interest of the expert jury in the competition Transfera Technology Day 2020 towards the end of 2020. 31 projects, of which 4 originated at the faculty, were registered in the competition that

was prepared jointly with the CZECHINVEST agency. The expert jury consisting of various experts and investors selected eleven new technologies for the limited final round that took place on 7 December 2020. Ing. Ján Regenda, Ph.D., was one of the successful finalists.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** is working on the TA CR project 'Model péče o seniory v pobytových zařízeních v konceptu tříúrovňového bydlení' [Model of care for seniors in long-term stay facilities under a concept of three-level living] – application guarantors of the project of cities of Třeboň and Tábor participated in the work on the project, the organisation of the international online conference and will be implementing the outputs of the project in practice when providing social services. Cooperation is also occurring under the TA CR project 'Standardizace testu Woodcock-Johnson IV pro populaci romských dětí' [Standardisation of the Woodcock-Johnson IV test for the population of Roma children]. The application guarantor Národní pedagogický institut ČR is participating in the project and will subsequently secure its utilisation in practice. The TA CR project 'Podpora neformálních pečovatelů v Jihočeském kraji prostřednictvím audiovizuálních prostředků včetně virtuální reality' [Support for informal caregivers in the South Bohemian Region through audiovisual means including virtual reality] – application guarantors ARPIDA České Budějovice, LEDAX in České Budějovice, Domácí hospic sv. Markéty ve Strakonících, Autis Centrum in České Budějovice, South Bohemian Region – social affairs section of the Regional Authority in České Budějovice – providers of social services in the South Bohemian Region are participating in the creation of a support programme for informal carers and they will subsequently be using this programme for their clients jointly with virtual reality. The creation of a self-help group for informal carers 'Pečujeme o své blízké' [We care for our loved ones] is also a part of the project. The project of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic 'Bezpečnost podávání léků sestrou na vybraných lůžkových odděleních nemocnic' [Safety of the administration of medication by nurses in selected hospital wards] – research in hospitals in the South Bohemian Region concerning the safety of medication administration by nurses is taking place under the project. The obtained findings and recommendations will be used to increase the safety of patients in these as well as other hospitals. Outputs of the project of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic 'Analýza faktorů ovlivňujících riziko pádů-možnosti zapojení sester a farmaceutů do minimalizace tohoto rizika' [Analysis of factors affecting the risk of falls – options of engaging nurses and pharmacists in the minimisation of the risk] – certified course, information brochures and leaflets will be utilised to increase the awareness of nurses as well as patients in hospitals concerning the prevention of falls of patients. Cooperation with selected primary and secondary schools in the South Bohemia Region, the inclusion of their pupils and students in popularisation activities of the faculty such as the Junior University and popularisation seminars, is taking place at the faculty as well as the implementation of the educational programme concerning issues of reproductive health under the grant programme of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic. The faculty took part in the preparation of the project application 'Komunitní plánování sociálních služeb v rurálních regionech České republiky' [Community planning of social services in the rural regions of the Czech Republic] for TA CR ÉTA in collaboration with the Místní akční skupina Pomalší, o.p.s. The faculty is performing the implementation of lecturing services for the State Health Department.

The scientific and research activity at the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** is mostly of the application nature. To a great extent, projects in which cooperating enterprises are engaged from the start are addressed. These enterprises typically later become the main users of the created results. These are not only farms and agricultural enterprises but also processing and industrial enterprises, companies, and firms from the area of services. State and public administration organisations and scientific and research institutions are important partners as well. The cooperation with the company Black Garlic Czech, s. r. o., (pursues the production of the so-called black garlic in cooperation with the faculty), or the cooperation with the firm Vital Czech s. r. o., which focuses on the preparation and commercialisation of flour made from onion peels as a functional ingredient for the production of baked goods may be highlighted among the many shown activities and transfers of results into practice in 2020. Among other things, research activities focused on the development of modern agricultural technologies with the firm Agrosoft Tábor, s.r.o., the research of the increase of the value of cakes of oil plants for new food products with the firm HempProduction, the development of promising genotypes of oats with a low coeliac reactivity and high nutritive value with the company Pro-Bio, or cooperation with the Temelín Nuclear Power Station focused on the monitoring of the impacts of the operation of the power station on the agricultural activity and the environment continued in 2020.

8.6 Support for horizontal (inter-sector) mobilities of students and academic staff, development of competencies for innovation entrepreneurship

USB faculties linked to the sphere of application support inter-sector mobility of students in the form of professional internships and practical training with partners from the sphere of application. Furthermore, they allow students and employees to participate in large, often multi-field, projects and other activities. Students of all levels of studies are allowed to participate in orders of contractual research with expected outputs of various natures. This activity is also related to education as experts from the sphere of application are engaged in ordinary instruction.

The competition of enterprising students entitled Invest Day, which is annually organised by the **USB Faculty of Economics** had its winners even in 2020. Three projects from the faculty and one project from the Faculty of Economics of the University of West Bohemia made it to the final round. The faculty started a new internship programme entitled RPA (Robotic Process Automation) jointly with the South Bohemian Science and Technology Park (JVTP) under the project Jihočeský Digi Hub. Under the internship programme, every participant receives a comprehensive overview concerning the manners and options of automation of processes using RPA 'software robotics'. This internship programme focuses on all students who have basic proficiency in the English language, analytic thinking, interest, and motivation for the development of innovative solutions in the area of robotisation, automation. The internship programme ends with an award of the international certificate of the given RPA platform. After receiving the certificate, participants of the internship programme will have the opportunity to work on real projects including financial remuneration for small- and medium-sized enterprises in the region and gain practical experience that way, which they can subsequently put to use when seeking employment.

Neither the pedagogic nor the research orientation of the **USB Faculty of Arts** are very compatible with the development of competencies for innovation. The faculty supports inter-sector mobility of students primarily through professional internships and practical training with some partners from the sphere of application (from the Czech Republic and abroad).

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** supports inter-sector mobility of students (Bc., NMgr.) particularly in the form of professional practical training with partners from the sphere of application. Managing staff of laboratories regularly announce internal calls including opportunities for the engagement of students of bachelor's and consecutive master's degree studies in the current research topics addressed by the corresponding laboratory. DDP students and academic staff are employees of the faculty and, therefore, their inter-sector cooperation is given by the very nature of the orientation of the faculty already – targeted R&D work oriented towards applications with international reach. Education aiming at the development of competencies is given by the content of instruction with an emphasis on its innovation and currency in the case of bachelor's and consecutive master's students. In the case of employees, this support is a necessity, and the faculty annually expends a large number of resources from its own resources as well as resources of projects that are being addressed. The faculty allows its students and employees to participate in large, often multi-field, projects and other cross-section activities (CENAKVA, large research infrastructure, AQUAEXCEL, etc.). Moreover, students of all levels of studies are allowed to take part in orders of contractual research with expected outputs of various nature. This activity is related to education as experts from the sphere of application with adequate expertise and experience are engaged in ordinary instruction. Employees of the faculties executed internships in institutions with an inter-sector overlap in the context of mobilities abroad funded from the programme of Credit mobilities. Under the internship exchange programme executed that took place between the faculty and the Research Institute for Aquaculture Number 1 in Vietnam, three proposals for projects of applied research with commercial enterprises submitted for evaluation into the calls of the international cooperation programme TA CR were prepared.

For example, the academic staff of the **USB Faculty of Agriculture** took part in the project 'Partnerství znalostního transferu' [Knowledge transfer partnerships] (project CZ.01.1.02/0.0/0.0/15_013/0004520 – Innovation of processes when developing new technical solutions for raising cattle) in the context of inter-sector cooperation. An academic staff member was active in a firm where he was transferring know-how and simultaneously obtaining valuable experience that the staff member may utilise in further research as well as pedagogic activity. The faculty also intensively pays attention to inter-sector

cooperation with regard to the project activity as an absolute majority of research projects is addressed in cooperation an enterprise. The following examples may be given:

- TA ČR TREND FW01010391 Development of a system for uninterrupted identification and ethological observation of animals at cattle farms using methods of artificial intelligence
- MPO TRIO FV40316 Development of a complex of a modular system of robotic milking under a concurrent assessment of parameters of the farming applying methods of artificial intelligence
- NAZV QK1910174 Improving the quality of milk and its economic indicators using an automated system of monitoring selected parameters in real time
- MPO TRIO FV30234 Research and development of a laser print on glass surfaces of a small and up to a large format for the needs of the contemporary construction industry

Inter-sector cooperation is supported under ancillary economic activity of the Faculty of Agriculture, e.g. the faculty cooperated with agricultural enterprises, CEI, regional authorities, and other state administration bodies under the contract for work funded by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic in the amount of CZK 1.2m. The content of the work was particularly expert support for the activity of these entities in the context of their activities and the sharing of experience with the implementation of BREF in the conditions of farms in the Czech Republic. The cooperation with Herbavita CZ, s. r. o., is another example of cooperation.

Selection of conferences and other professional events (co)organised by USB faculties in 2020

USB Faculty of Economics

Inproforum

Traditional conference of the USB Faculty of Economics that focused on the exchange of information and discussion of the professional public of the scientific results from the areas of innovation, enterprises, regions, and management. The topic of this year's 14th year was 'Business Cycles – more than Economic Phenomena'.

SVOČ 2020 [SREA 2020]

A student competition that students of bachelor's, consecutive master's as well as doctoral studies can partake in. The objective of the competition was to support the scientific, professional as well as presentation skills of students.

USB Faculty of Arts

The faculty did not (co)organise any conferences due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

USB Faculty of Education

Disportare 2020

A conference dealing with the pedagogy of sports and sports training, health aspects of physical education and sports and sciences of humanities in sports. The conference was organised in person.

Cross-cultural-conference Ludwigsburg/České Budějovice

Various views of migration, the Covid-19 pandemic and its various aspects (the education system, EU reaction), populism, activism as well as the disinterest of young people in politics, consumer literacy were provided at this conference. The conference was organised virtually.

Další vzdělávání pro učitele informatiky [Further education for informatics teachers]

The virtually organised conference brought new trends, methods, and approaches in the instruction of informatics.

Konference STEM vzdělávání [STEM education conference]

The conference was thematically focused on interdisciplinary approaches to the instruction of natural science courses. It was organised in a hybrid form.

Učitel pro Futuro [Teacher Pro Futuro]

Faculty conference serving as a basic platform for inter-field meetings. The conference took place on 21 February 2020 and 100 attendees took part.

USB Faculty of Science

The faculty did not (co)organise any conferences due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

XVII. Česká rybářská a ichthyologická conference [XVII Czech fishery and ichthyology conference]

From 4 and 5 November 2020, the 17th year of the traditional fishery and ichthyology conference took place. The conference took place untraditionally online. The purpose of the conference was to transfer current information among colleagues interested in fish and the aquatic environment. The programme of the conference was adjusted to two days of lectures and frequent pauses in the programme instead of the original three days. Another two days were devoted to testing the connection with participants. The execution of lectures as well as the poster section took place through the Microsoft Teams programme.

*Selection of conferences and other professional events (co)organised by USB faculties in 2020***USB Faculty of Theology****Bůh a změna? [God and change?]**

A conference coorganised with the Společnost pro křesťansky orientovanou filozofii v ČR a SR. This time the topic connects the dimension of theology as well as philosophy: God and change. The topic was approached from the perspective of traditional, medieval, authors (Thomas Aquinas) as well as modern authors (Jonas, Spaemann) as well as the view of Arab philosophy and theology (Averroes) that got a word in, and a systematic view was not lacking either. Discussions concerning the presented contributions took place and questions were posed even by attendees who were attending virtually.

Česká a slovenská islamologie 2020: současná témata a budoucí výzvy [Czech and Slovak islamology 2020: current topics and future challenges]

From 12 to 13 November 2020, the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies of the Faculty of Theology of USB organised the already 4th year of the professional conference including international attendance. With regard to the pandemic situation, organisers were forced to move the event online on the platform ZOOM. Academics and other experts from Prague, Pilsen, Olomouc, Pardubice, Hradec Králové, České Budějovice, Košice, and Bratislava attended the virtual meeting. The number of presenters increased again in comparison with previous years and their composition also partially changed.

Kaplan mezi světy [A chaplain in between worlds]

On 30 September 2020, the postponed conference 'Kaplan mezi světy' [A chaplain in between worlds] took place at the USB Faculty of Theology. People who practically engage in chaplain work in the areas of health care, penitentiary system, army, education system and diaconia and charity met with academics who are devoted to reflection on the given issues from the perspective of various fields (sociology, psychology, theology). The discussion opened a number of topics that deserve further contemplation. For example, the conception of categorial pastoration, organisational anchoring of spiritual service or the conception of a chaplain as a 'bridge' between different worlds.

9th Czech Philosophy of Sport Conference

The already 9th year of the Czech conference on the philosophy of sport (Czech Philosophy of Sport Conference) took place over the ZOOM platform under the auspices of the USB Faculty of Theology from 22 to 23 October 2020. It was the first time that this platform was moved to České Budějovice – previous hosting cities were chiefly Prague (FTVS UK) and Olomouc (FTK UP). The conference was, as is traditional, in the English language and attracted not only Czech experts on the selected issues but also guests from abroad.

The conference is among prestigious events within the field of philosophy of sport – in addition to the international conference on the philosophy of sport (International Philosophy of Sport Conference) and the British/European conference on the philosophy of sport (British/European Philosophy of Sport Conference), it represents an important opportunity for the meeting of researchers in the given area. The field of philosophy of sport itself falls primarily within the 60s and 70s of the 20th century, but its roots are much older. For instance, ancient Greek philosophers addressed issues of sport in relation to the question of leading a successful life and other topics already.

Faculty of Health and Social Sciences**21. Česká konference klinické farmakologie [21st Czech conference of clinical pharmacology]**

The conference brought interesting information concerning clinical pharmacology while particularly the pharmacologically active substances in natural resources, drug monitoring, therapeutic drug monitoring or varia were important topics.

VII. ročník Kongresu Budějovice kazuistické [VII year of the Congress casuistic Budweis]

The congress 'Budějovice kazuistické' [Casuistic Budweis] is a meeting of physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals who presented the most interesting informative and instructive things that have occurred in their workplaces recently. This year took place online due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Attendees presented casuistics and spoke of various problems they were addressing with patients by which they opened a professional discussion in a form of a chat where those interested could write their questions, remarks as well as comments. The event was, as is already traditional, divided into a physician and nurse part.

Moderní trendy v péči o seniory – Výzvy pro 21. století [Modern trends in elderly care – Challenges for the 21st century]

New trends and examples of good practices in elderly care in residential facilities with regard to the engagement of multi-disciplinary teams in the Czech Republic and other states in Europe were introduced.

Setkání týmu mezinárodního projektu BENEFITS [Meeting of the team of the international project BENEFITS]

In the context of the meeting, representatives of the project Better & Effective Nursing Education for Improving Transcultural Nursing Skills (BENEFITS), where the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences is the only representative from the Czech Republic, met and discussed. The project joins six European faculties – experts from Turkey, Belgium, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Hungary, and Spain are represented. Their common objective is to prepare new syllabi for the instruction of transcultural nursing on the basis of results of analyses of existing curricula and cultural competencies of students.

Život s autismem [Life with autism]

Introduction of the situation of families of children suffering from PAS in the Czech Republic to the public, examples of good practices and the situation related to the isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic.

USB Faculty of Agriculture

The faculty did not (co)organise any conferences due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

USB Technology Transfer Office**HED 2020**

The international conference took place virtually and it was focused on knowledge management; professional scientific section of technology transfer was part of it.

Selection of conferences and other professional events (co)organised by USB faculties in 2020

From Science into Practice: Sharing Czech, Dutch and d German Experience in Healthcare and Life Sciences

International conference focused on technology transfer took place in a virtual environment.

Transfera technology Day

The conference focused on the transfer of technologies. It took place in a virtual environment.

9 Quality assurance and evaluation of executed activities

9.1 Important developments and facts concerning quality assurance and evaluation of executed activities that occurred in 2020

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice intensively pursued the accreditation process through the USB Internal Evaluation Board in 2020. Despite the worsened epidemiological situation due to the Covid-19 pandemic, eight regular sessions of the Internal Evaluation Board (mostly online) and one vote by letter were successfully organised in the course of 2020. Almost 120 accreditation proposals (draft plans applications for accreditation of degree programmes as well as full accreditation applications) and 6 proposals for changes in guarantors of degree programmes, or fields that are ending, were discussed in the course of the year. Apart from that, the USB Internal Evaluation Board pursued regular evaluation of the quality of the educational activity, the creative activity and the quality of lifelong learning and related activities.

The year 2020 was devoted to reflection upon the current and the preparation of the new system of quality evaluation of degree programmes and the quality of individual constituent parts of USB, including the evaluation of the quality of units providing the so-called related activities. The gradual development of new and the innovation of current technological instruments for mining data from relevant systems and databases necessary for obtaining and assessing feedback from various target groups and the quantitative and qualitative evaluation of selected activities (e.g. STAG, SEI, ASPE, PEOS, etc.) was connected with that as well. The common denominator of the above-mentioned activities introduced in 2019 already within the initiative 'IEB USB – Reflection upon two-year experience' is the gradual adjustment of the system of ensuring and evaluating the quality of USB in such a way that it is the least bureaucratic as possible and the most meaningful as regards the aspect of content; with an emphasis on the maximum possible digitalisation of the whole system.

The USB Internal Evaluation Board also paid attention to the control activity in the context of which it pursued the so-called other changes in degree programmes in the academic year 2019/2020 that were reported by individual USB faculties in accordance with Section 25(2) of the Rules of quality assurance and quality evaluation of USB. Furthermore, the board assessed the presented control reports of selected degree programmes of the USB Faculty of Theology and commented on the presented control report of the USB Faculty of Arts concerning the priorities of development in the area of education of Philology. The above-mentioned report that was prepared in connection with the commitments of USB formulated in the discussions concerning the application of the University for the grant of an institutional accreditation was added to reports from USB Faculties of Economics, Arts, Science, Theology, Health and Social Sciences, and Agriculture that had been submitted in accordance with the approved timetable in 2019 already.

USB devoted great effort to the implementation of objectives stipulated by the Action Plan **HR Award** in 2020. The HR Award award that is granted by the European Commission to research institutions implementing the HRS4R (The Human Resources Strategy for Researchers) strategy, was successfully obtained by the University of South Bohemia in the middle of 2019.

Moreover, the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice devoted attention to the international comparison of the position of the University (international rankings of Universities) and the discussion concerning the options of utilising these rankings within University systems of assuring and evaluating quality. It can be considered an extraordinary success that USB has been successful in asserting itself within rankings of the so-called Big Three (rankings ARWU – Academic Ranking of World Universities; QS World University Rankings; THE – Times Higher Education World University Rankings) in regional and field rankings as well as in global rankings in some cases (ARWU, THE). USB also newly started advancing in the ranking **MosIUR (Three University Missions Moscow International University Ranking)** that was first published only in 2017 and the creation of which was initiated by the Russian Union of Rectors.

An **international evaluation under the Methodology 17+** was executed at USB in 2020, particularly under modules M3 (Social relevance – evaluation on the level of faculties), M4 (Viability – evaluation on the level of the whole University), and M5 (Strategy and conception – evaluation on the level of the whole

University). In 2020 USB received the results of the national evaluation under modules M1 (Quality of selected results) and M2 (Research performance). This evaluation that chronologically preceded the international evaluation was executed by the The Research, Development and Innovation Council (R&D&I Council) of the Government of the Czech Republic. Under this evaluation, USB, as the only university established after 1989, received the highest possible evaluation – i.e. excellent – from R&D&I. Only three other institutions were evaluated with the same grade among multi-field higher education institutions, but these institutions are traditional ‘brick-and-mortar’ universities. Based on the evaluation under the Methodology 2017+ (Modules M1 and M2), R&D&I divided research organisations into four groups according to the quality of their selected results of research and development within the national scope. The council then placed USB among the best domestic research higher education institutions in the group of multi-field higher education institutions in the segment of higher education institutions based on the current results. *‘Owing to the very good or excellent level of strong fields in natural sciences and the very good level of humanity fields, USB may still be given the highest evaluation category,’* stated R&D&I in its statement of grounds. R&D&I positively evaluated, apart from natural scientific fields that are in some cases on the ‘excellent’ level from the perspective of international comparison, and agricultural fields, for example, even the healthcare fields under the field evaluation. *‘Healthcare fields (particularly 3.1. Basic Medicine and 3.3. Health Sciences) are “very good” or “excellent” at the University of South Bohemia in comparison with the national as well as the international standard. Overall, the University of South Bohemia is still among the highest evaluated higher education institutions in national comparison,’* stated the council. At USB, the structure of which lack a medical faculty, these are chiefly the results of the USB Faculty of Science and the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences. Even social scientific fields and fields of humanities saw an R&D&I evaluation. *‘USB is showing a generally very good level in fields of humanities; it reports results in most fields in a balanced qualitative structure. The representation of good results is on a high level,’* assessed the council.

USB received the results of the **international evaluation under the MICHE project** in 2020. More information on the international evaluation under the Methodology 17+ (modules M3–M5) and the evaluation under the MICHE project is provided by chapter 10.3 and particularly by the **Addendum to the Report on internal quality evaluation of educational, creative and related activities for 2020**.

In 2020, attention was also paid to the sources of funding and the financial health of the University (see more in the Financial Management Report of USB 2020), projects of the Institutional Plan 2019–2020, the work on centralised development projects and the assessment of indicators of the Strategic Plan of USB (meeting individual objectives for 2019). At the same time, USB is also aware of the fact that in addition to instruction and creative activity, its mission also includes the third role of a university, contacts with employers and graduates, which is why USB paid adequate attention to these areas in 2020 as well.

Further rounds of subject surveys **SEI (Student evaluation of instruction)** took place in 2020 as well as the transfer of the whole SEI system into the information system stag (module ‘Instruction evaluation’) under which the winter semester of the academic year 2020/2021 was evaluated University-wide. Great attention was also paid to the **ASPE system (Academic staff performance evaluation)**, particularly in the reflection on experience with the present operation of this system at USB (the ASPE system has been introduced at all eight faculties of USB), and the **PEOS system (Performance evaluation of other staff)**. In 2020 the preparation of the project **USB School of Doctoral Studies and the Czech Academy of Sciences** began. The plan of the School of Doctoral Studies is the coordination and evaluation of doctoral studies at USB with the aim of increasing the quality of scientific preparation and the creative activity of students of all accredited doctoral degree programmes.

Significant effort was devoted to the development of a university control system, infrastructure facilities for the execution of educational, creative and related activities as well as services that USB offers to students, employees and other relevant target groups in the area of library-information services, accommodation and catering services, services in the area of information and communication technologies and a number of other services provided by corresponding University-wide facilities and special-purpose facilities (see chapters 9.1.1–9.1.9 for more information).

More information on important developments and facts concerning quality assurance and evaluation of executed activities in 2020 is provided by the Addendum to the **Report on internal quality evaluation of educational, creative and related activities for 2020** on the University-wide level; the following text

presents more information concerning quality assurance and evaluation of the quality of activities executed at individual faculties of the University of South Bohemia.

Performances of the academic staff of individual departments in the areas of pedagogic activity and science and research are annually monitored at the **USB Faculty of Economics**. Budgets of individual departments and resources for personal remuneration are set on the basis of achieved results. The faculty has been using the ASPE system for the evaluation of academic staff since 2017. The faculty accredited the professional Bachelor's degree programme Tourism under institutional accreditation in 2020. Under programme accreditations of NAB, the following degree programmes were accredited: the academically oriented Consecutive master's degree programme Analysis in Economic and Financial Practice, the academically oriented Consecutive master's degree programme Applied Informatics (in collaboration with the USB Faculty of Science), the academically oriented Consecutive master's degree programme Economics and Management, the Doctoral degree programme Economics and Management in the Czech as well as the English language, and the academically oriented Consecutive degree programme Business Informatics. The faculty submitted control reports concerning the provision of study support materials to part-time studies in degree programmes Finance and Accounting and Economics and Management to NAB. Both submitted reports were accepted by NAB.

The quality evaluation process at the **USB Faculty of Arts** includes a wide range of activities among which are the evaluation of academic as well as non-academic staff by superior staff, student evaluation of instruction and internal feedback mechanisms implemented through regular semestral sessions of boards of degree programmes. The basis of the evaluation of staff is – just as at other faculties of USB – an all-embracing database of Academic staff performance evaluation (ASPE). The faculty has been evaluating the performance of academic staff through the database since 2015. The process and criteria of this evaluation have been precisely specified in the Ordinance on the evaluation of academic as well as non-academic staff and the procedure concerning the award of the personal premium (Dean's Ordinance No 4/2019) since 2019. The number of direct instruction duties and the organisational engagement in the work at the faculty in the last year and results of scientific and research activity in the last 5 years (number of obtained R&D grants and funding and publishing activity evaluated under the current methodology of the R&D Council of the Government) are the basic criteria of evaluation of academic staff. Regular (semestral) anonymous student evaluation of instruction, which is newly utilising the information system STAG, is an important part of the evaluation of the instruction part; its results are discussed by the Dean with representatives of students as well as individual facilities of the faculty. Directors of institutes are responsible for remedying ascertained deficiencies. In the winter semester 2020/2021, a record number of students of the faculty (more than one third) took part in the student evaluation of instruction and the overall results were very positive. The total satisfaction with instruction across facilities oscillates between the values of 0.82–1.53 on a scale from -2 to +2. The quality evaluation also takes place in the context of regular semestral meetings of boards of degree programmes at which guarantors of degree programmes receive feedback from students, educators, as well as experts from the sphere of application. Guarantors advance the ascertained deficiencies and proposals to the relevant directors of institutes. Since the academic year 2019/2020, the faculty has been systematically preparing accreditation forms of new degree programmes electronically directly in the STAG system, which ensures greater consistency and quality of information of the entire remit concerning degree programmes starting with the process of preparation of the accreditation document to the moment of the actual execution of studies.

Ensuring the quality of all processes is given permanent attention on the part of the management of the **USB Faculty of Education**. The objective of the evaluation of academic staff is to capture all activities that academic staff perform at the faculty and that are concurrently beneficial to the faculty. With that purpose in mind, the faculty has implemented the information system of performance evaluation of academic staff (ASPE) since 2015. Results under the ASPE system became an important basis for individual consultations of individual facilities with their employees that focused on the evaluation of the completion of tasks and the planning of activities for the next period. At the same time, the results serve as the basis for the management of the faculty when evaluating individual facilities. Another part of the system of ensuring and evaluating quality is the student evaluation of instruction, which takes place twice a year. Results of the evaluation serve students in the following years as information on the evaluation of the course and as feedback for educators as well as the heads of departments and the management of the faculty.

The **USB Faculty of Science** has created a system of evaluation of the quality of the educational and creative activity. In the area of education, it is particularly the student evaluation of lectures that is required from all students, including international students, then also the evaluation of quality by superiors, the comprehensive evaluation of degree programmes by guarantors and degree programme boards. In the creative area, it is particularly the evaluation of research activity stemming from internal rules as well as modules M1 (Quality of selected results), M2 (Research performance), and M3 (Social relevance) under the Methodology 17+. The evaluation also includes grant activities and grant success rate.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** prepared addenda to self-evaluation reports of all fields for 2019, i.e. Bachelor's fields 'Fisheries' and 'Protection of Waters', the Consecutive master's field 'Fishery and Protection of Waters' and the doctoral field 'Fishery' by the end of the academic year 2019/2020. The USB Internal Evaluation Board did not raise any serious objections concerning these addenda to self-evaluation reports of fields during the executed evaluation. Explanations of minor objections concerning addenda for the previous period (2018/2019) were accepted on the part of the USB Internal Evaluation Board. In the academic year 2019/2020, the Degree Programme Board of the Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters led by the coordinator of quality met to discuss the full accreditation document of the programme accreditation of the Doctoral programme 'Fishery' in its full-time and part-time form that is being submitted. NAB approved the full accreditation document of the programme accreditation of the Doctoral programme 'Fishery' on 24 September 2020. Accreditations were granted for 10 years. The Degree Programme Board also stated that no personnel changes concerning guarantors of courses or other substantial changes concerning the meeting of requirements on relevant programmes/programmes occurred in the evaluated period in any of the accredited degree fields/programmes with respect to the previous year. On 14 May 2020, a revision of the information in the Register of associate professors, professors, and extraordinary professors (REDOP) concerning the academic staff of the faculty was performed. Apart from the above-mentioned activities arising from legislation, the faculty also executed other evaluation processes aiming at the quality of executed activities, e.g. internal evaluation of employees, student evaluation of instruction, evaluation of academic staff, evaluation of other staff, etc. In the context of work meetings of coordinators of quality led by the USB Vice-Rector for Internal Evaluation, the faculty commented, for example, on proposals of a potential adjustment to the period for which publishing outputs of individual academic staff are calculated under IS ASPE, or on the preparation of the School of Doctoral Studies with CAS, etc.

The evaluation of the quality of scientific work at the **USB Faculty of Theology** has long been taking place twice a year in connection with the submission of results of scientific work in the preceding year (February) and the assessment of the five-year activity in the area of science and research (April) with respect to the funding resources for science and research being obtained from the state budget. The evaluation of the quality of activities of individual educators under the units of departments and offices was performed in 2020 also on the basis of information from the University electronic system Academic staff performance evaluation (ASPE). The student evaluation of instruction taking place twice a year was an important information source for the evaluation of the quality of the pedagogic work as well. The faculty expects an increase in the percentage of respondents engaging in the evaluation from the University-wide transfer of SEI into the IS STAG as well as clearer and more structured responses, which should bolster the feedback on the part of students of the faculty. A number of accreditation processes with which a thorough check, revision and assurance of the quality of pedagogic work and related activities were taking place at the faculty in 2020. Given the fact that if degree programmes are not under an accreditation process, they were accredited very recently, the check of these programmes and related matters particularly a subject for upcoming years following the set University timetable.

Most activities of the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** concerning the assurance and evaluation of quality was executed, similarly as in previous years, as a result of the amendment to the Higher Education Act issued in 2016. The year 2020 was devoted to meeting the previously set rules arising from new statutory and regulatory acts and the Rules of Quality Assurance and Internal Evaluation System of Educational, Creative and Related Activities of USB. For instance, it was the preparation of accreditation materials in the form of draft plans as well as full accreditation applications. The faculty submitted a proposal for a Consecutive master's degree programme Organisation and Management in Healthcare to the USB Internal Evaluation Board, which the USB Internal Evaluation Board approved on 3 March 2020. The proposal was subsequently submitted to NAB for assessment. Improvements in the quality of individual degree programmes/fields executed at the faculty occurred in 2020 even owing to

the inclusion of findings and information that guarantors of degree programmes/fields received in the context of the so-called coordination meetings of boards of degree programmes/fields at which guarantors receive feedback from students, educators as well as experts from the sphere of application engaging in the theoretical as well as the practical part of instruction. In parallel with the University system of evaluation of academic staff (ASPE), the faculty operates its own system of evaluation that serves as a basis for the determination of the amount of the personal premium for the period of one year. The faculty also performs student evaluation of instruction after the end of each semester.

The **USB Faculty of Agriculture** traditionally utilises the instrument of quality evaluation Model excellence EFQM for the overall evaluation of all faculty processes. In the given area, the faculty has received several awards in the past. Furthermore, the faculty is engaged in all University-wide activities and processes within the system of ensuring and evaluating quality, particularly in the accreditation process of obtaining new degree programmes on the bachelor's, consecutive master's as well as doctoral level of studies. The pedagogical and creative activity of academic staff of the faculty was evaluated in 2020 on the basis of information registered in the University-wide electronic system Academic staff performance evaluation (ASPE). Information contained in ASPE is an important instrument serving not only the management of the faculty but also heads of departments in assessing and comparing the performance of individual employees in their workplace. The Student evaluation of instruction in the context of which the quality of pedagogic activity of specific educators is evaluated is also an important source of information in the area of education. In 2020, guarantors of degree programmes of the faculty prepared addenda to self-evaluation reports of degree fields that were subsequently submitted to the USB Internal Evaluation Board for approval. Objections raised by the USB Internal Evaluation Board concerning these addenda will be discussed at meetings of boards of degree programmes and dealt with in the context of the preparation of addenda for the following year.

9.1.1 Control system

The internal control system of the University of South Bohemia is delineated by the Rector's Ordinance R 66 issued on 30 October 2006, on the implementation of the internal and control system and by the Bursar's Ordinance K 33 issued on 4 October 2010, which governs the circulation of documents. The ordinance of the Rector on the implementation of the internal control system regulates the control system at USB and clearly determines the duties of responsible employees needed to ensure the correct, economical, effective, and purposeful use of public resources. Deans of faculties or directors of individual constituent parts of USB are responsible to the Rector for the economical and effective use of financial resources and the assets of USB.

The managing control is performed by managing employees within the scope of their management or employees authorised to do so by them in accordance with their powers and liabilities.

The performance of the preliminary managing control pursuant to Act No 320/2001, on Financial Control in Public Administration, at constituent parts is secured by responsible employees authorised by deans of faculties or directors of constituent parts. The position of the principal of an operation is always entrusted to the head of the unit or the executor of the projects. The position of the budget administrator is mostly performed by secretaries or financial managers of the constituent parts. The preliminary control in the position of the chief accountant is performed by accountants responsible for entering the specific accounting cases into the accounts.

The Internal Audit Department of the USB Rectorate, which fulfils its function in accordance with the Act on Financial Control and the USB Internal Audit Statute, is a part of the internal control. The Internal Audit Department of the USB Rectorate is occupied by one internal auditor and focuses primarily on continuous monitoring and verifying the system of financial control as well as ascertaining the real state and its comparison with the desired state. The activity of the unit takes place in accordance with the Act on Financial Control and the year-long plan concerning activity and in accordance with the medium-term plan of activity approved by the Rector of USB.

Two extensive personnel internal audits were executed at USB in 2020. The subject of internal audits was primarily the inspection of work contracts, job descriptions, wage assessments, including the correct rate assignment of selected employees. Primarily the observance of the Labour Code, Act on Financial Control in Public Administration, and relevant internal as well as external regulations was inspected through the executed internal audits.

On the basis of presented reports of external audits and inspections, it was ascertained that 29 external inspections and three external audits were performed within the entire University in 2020. All three audits focused on the verification of legality and correctness of expenses reported to the delegated Commission (EU) 480/2014.

External inspections focused primarily on the check of management of public resources and the verification of accordance with legal regulations of the Czech Republic, the EU, rules of OP RDE, conditions of the Grant Award Decision, the check of the entire execution of the project, compliance with duties in the area of employee remuneration, in the area of employment, agreements on work performed outside employment and the fulfilment of duties in the area of equal treatment. One of the inspections focused on the verification of the manner of archiving, meeting monitoring indicators, and the check of publicity assurance. Last but not least, one inspection and approval of the final accounts rendered of a public collection were performed.

USB performed internal financial inspections focused on accounting records and the control system of drawing funds for the USB Fund of strategic priorities, resources provided under the Institutional programme, centralised development programmes and, last but not least, also the resources provided by different providers, e.g. Ministry of Health, as well. Conclusions of these inspections including recommendations were handed to the responsible persons.

The control environment of USB is supported on all levels by the introduced system of regular meetings in the context of which continuous checks of compliance with adopted measures takes place. Suspicions of potential corruption or proven cases of corruption were not found. Insufficiencies ascertained by the performed audits and public inspections were in most cases not of such a nature that would substantially affect the performance of financial management and the activity of USB.

9.1.2 Infrastructure and other important projects

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice permanently makes effort to increase the quality of the infrastructure facilities for the execution of educational, creative and related activities. A complete overview of the planned activities of USB in this area is provided by the USB Investment programme 2016–2020. In accordance with this programme, the updated version of which is an annexe to the Implementation Plan of the Strategic Plan of USB 2020, USB executed a number of infrastructure projects in 2020.

The work on two infrastructure projects was completed in the course of 2020. Specifically, it was the project '**Simulation Centre for Health-oriented fields of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (SCHF)**' and the project '**USB Development – ERDF**'. The objective of the project 'Simulation Centre for Health-oriented fields of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (SCHF)' was to build a new building of a pavilion for simulation practical instruction and make construction modifications to a part of the current University building (U Výstaviště 26, lot No 1088/1 in the cadastral area České Budějovice 2) for the practical instruction of non-medical healthcare degree programmes of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (Nurse, Midwife, Paramedic, etc.), which take into account the needs of the labour market and the social demand including the purchase of related instrumentation and technological and material equipment. In the course of 2020, the infrastructure was put into operation and the building was ceremonially opened.

The second completed project is the project '**USB Development – ERDF**', the content of which was primarily the increase of the quality or supplementation of educational infrastructure at USB through modernisation of coherent blocks of classrooms at selected faculties that improved the conditions for the implementation modern methods of instruction, and the modernisation of the software and hardware equipment. The objective was also to support interactive e-learning technologies for distance learning. Five faculties in total were engaged in the project, specifically the USB Faculty of Economics, the USB Faculty of Education, the USB Faculty of Arts, the USB Faculty of Agriculture, and the USB Faculty of Theology. In 2020 the last classrooms at the USB Faculty of Theology were successfully modernised.

These two strategically important projects, the execution of which was completed in 2020, belong in the group of complementary projects 'SCHF', 'USB Development – ERDF' and 'USB Development – ESF' while the project '**USB Development – ESF**' aims at increasing the quality of strategic management, establishment of a transparent and clearly delineated system of ensuring and evaluating quality, improving pedagogic competencies of the academic personnel, bolstering the internalisation of the

environment, increasing the quality and profile of educational activities, increasing their relevance for the labour market including the support for entrepreneurship and other desired skills of students, increasing the number of courses taught in a foreign language, introducing a system of monitoring of the needs of the labour market, and the examination of the ability of adaptation of graduates in the labour market including bolstering ties with graduates.

Another important executed project is the project '**USB Development – R&D Capacities**'. The project aims at the development of capacities, knowledge, and management, research, and other skills of staff of the University in the area of strategic management or R&D. Its main objective is the setting of strategic management in accordance with the conditions for obtaining and maintaining the HR Award. Other objectives are activities focused on the setting and development of the internal evaluation and the popularisation of R&D. Since July 2019, the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice has been a proud holder of the HR Award (HR Excellence in Research). In 2020, the University was going through the so-called implementation phase during which it was meeting objectives stipulated in the approved Action Plan. In the course of 2020, a number of the set objectives were met. One of which was, for example, the establishment of the position of USB ombudsman. It is an independent person that provides all employees of the University with confidential help in solving work conflicts, disputes, and complaints by his/her activity. The Action Plan the complete overview of all already met objectives is available on the USB website under the Science and Research section¹⁷.

Two projects focusing on mobilities of USB staff were completed in 2020. These were projects '**USB Development – International Mobilities**' and '**USB Development – International Mobilities – MSCA-IF**'. Both projects were focused on the bolstering of international cooperation and the development of human resources in the area of research at USB through the execution of international mobilities of research staff. In 2020, the start of the third project focused on mobilities, i.e. '**USB Development – International Mobilities II**', occurred. The project is aimed at bolstering international cooperation and the development of human resources in research. The main objective of the project is the support of the professional growth of research, technical, and administrative staff and the development of USB as a research organisation through the execution of 24 mobilities of research staff and 11 internships of technical and administrative staff.

The execution of another two complementary projects was taking place in 2020. Specifically, these projects are '**USB Development – ESF II**' and '**USB Development – ERDF II**'.

The project '**USB Development – ESF II**' focuses on two areas. The first is the improvement of accessibility of counselling and assistance services for USB students. Specifically, these are services focused on the support for the education of students with special needs and, furthermore, services in the area of career counselling where the USB Career Centre was established, as well as services of the University Psychological Counselling Centre of the USB Faculty of Education, the transformation of which is occurring under the project. The second area are new trends in instruction at the USB Faculty of Science focused on the modernisation of methods of instruction and the manner of organisation of instruction. The key innovative element being introduced into instruction is a modular instruction system and research-oriented instruction. The above-mentioned concept includes the weakening of frontal instruction and increases the emphasis on gaining practical knowledge and the creative work of students. The work on the project started in January 2020 and will continue until December 2022.

The project '**USB Development – ERDF II**' secures infrastructural support to selected complementary activities in addition to the project '**USB Development – ESF II**'. The subject of the project is the increase of the quality of the educational infrastructure with an emphasis on the removal of barriers to access to studies at USB. The University plans to achieve that first by the implementation of construction modifications of buildings serving for education and the purchase of technical equipment serving mostly students with special needs. Moreover, USB plans to achieve that by the modernisation of the premises of the University Psychological Counselling centre of the USB Faculty of Education and, last but not least, by the modernisation of instrumentation, the objective of which is to support new trends in instruction at the USB Faculty of Sciences. The execution of the 1st phase of construction work at the USB Faculties of Arts, Education, Health and Social Sciences occurred in 2020 as well as the purchase of all planned equipment for the Support Centre for Students with Special Needs. Also, the modernisation of the University Psychological Counselling Centre of the USB Faculty of Education was successfully completed.

¹⁷ <https://www.jcu.cz/en/science-and-research/hr-award-hrs4r>

Last but not least, purchases of instrumentation that will support new trends in education at the USB Faculty of Science were also taking place in 2020. The execution of the 2nd phase of construction work that will take place at the USB Faculties of Economics and Education and the purchase of the remaining equipment for the USB Faculty of Science are planned for 2021. The execution of the project will be ongoing until February 2022.

The last project from the group of University-wide strategic projects is the project '**USB Development – R&D Capacities II**' that is being prepared. The execution of the project is planned for the period from January 2021 to December 2022. The project aims at the development of needs in the area of strategic development of R&D including the setting of internal evaluation, international cooperation in R&D, and the internalisation of USB, inter-sector cooperation, and in the area of technology transfer. The project builds on and expands the already executed synergic project '**USB Development – R&D Capacities**' (see more information about this project above). Intensive work on activities that led to the orderly start of the execution of this project were taking place in 2020.

Two new modern multi-media classrooms were opened at the **USB Faculty of Arts** in 2020. Innovative methods particularly for literary science and linguistics, art history, archival studies and archaeology were implemented in the first classroom (S11) through instrumentation. Among the instrumentation of the classroom S 11 are particularly the book scanner, 3D scanner, stereo microscope and an industrial microscope. The main features of the second classroom S12 are two interpretation booths (each booth for two students) and 4 conference systems allowing the sending of a simulated monologue of a delegate to the interpretation booths. 30 notebooks, which are charged in a charging station, are available to students in both classrooms. Both classrooms also represent independent computer laboratories that have been missing from the faculty until now.

The USB Faculty of Science is one of the 14 partners constituting '**ELIXIR-CZ: Czech National Infrastructure for Biological Data**'.¹⁸ The faculty is substantially taking part in the execution of the project '**LIFE for MIREs: Transboundary restoration of mires for biodiversity**'¹⁹ funded by the European programme LIFE. In 2020, the Laboratory of Proteomics of the USB Faculty of Science was newly equipped with a unique mass spectrometer tims-TOF (produced by Bruker Daltonics), which supplemented the existing equipment. Tims-TOF is among the mass spectrometers with a high resolution but utilises technologies that differ from other similar instruments. The implementation of the new technology based on ion mobility, so-called PASEF, leads to the high sensitivity of the instrument. That allows the identification of seldom abundant peptides. The Laboratory of Proteomics can, therefore, offer a broad portfolio of analyses to higher education institutions, institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences, hospitals and other scientific and research organisations as well as private companies. These analyses include, for example, the quantification of proteins, the analysis of post-translational modifications, biotyping, the study of proteins using native mass spectrometry using ion mobility, or the analysis using the method of hydrogen-deuterium exchange linked with mass spectrometry. The grand opening of the demo laboratory took place on 9 January 2020. Experts from the company Bruker Daltonics presented the new instrument to the professional public from the Czech Republic and surrounding states on this occasion. PhDr. Pavel Doleček, Ph.D., the Deputy of the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic, accepted the invitation to the event as well as other important guests.

The USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters addresses a large number of capital as well as non-capital projects under various sections – providers. The current overview of projects being addressed is permanently available on the website of the faculty under '**Projects at the faculty**'²⁰. Among the important projects that may be mentioned are the '**LM2018099 Large research infrastructure: CENAKVA – South Bohemian Research Center of Aquaculture and Biodiversity of Hydrocenoses**', the project '**652831 AQUAEXCEL 2020 – Aquaculture infrastructures for excellence in European fish research (2015–2020)**', the newly acquired project '**871108 AQUAEXCEL3.0 AQUAculture infrastructures for EXCELlence in European fish research 3.0 (2020–2025)**', and also projects '**CZ.02.1.01/0.0/0.0/16_025/0007370 – Reproductive and genetic procedures for preserving fish biodiversity and aquaculture (2018–2022)**' and '**CZ.02.1.01./0.0/0.0/16_019/0000869 PROFISH – Sustainable production of healthy fish in various aquaculture systems (2019–2023)**' and the newly

¹⁸ www.elixir-czech.cz

¹⁹ <https://life.npsumava.cz/en/>

²⁰ <http://web.frov.jcu.cz/en/science-and-research/projekty-na-fakulte>

acquired project of the Czech Science Foundation EXPRO with work starting in 2020 entitled '**20-04676X Holistic exposure and effect potential assessment of complex chemical mixtures in the aquatic environment (2020–2024)**'. The project OP RDE '**CZ.02.1.01/0.0/0.0/16_017/0002614, Research Infrastructure for the Educational Purposes at the FFPW USB (2017–2022)**'²¹ particularly can also be included among infrastructure projects addressed at the faculty. This project is purposely aimed at providing modern infrastructure for the instruction linked to research and innovations, therefore, for the needs of research-oriented degree programmes (DDPs). Of course, other projects addressed at the faculty also include capital expenditures, nevertheless, these are on a smaller scale and cannot be classified as infrastructure expenditures. The faculty enriched its motor pool with two electric automobiles of the brand Škoda Citigoe iV. This way the faculty is trying to accommodate the trend of lowering CO₂ emissions through environmentally friendly ways of transportation. This was the first purchase of electric cars within the entire USB. The electric cars will serve employees of the faculty for journeys to instruction at facilities of the faculty and shorter journeys in the city and the region while one car will be available in České Budějovice and the second in Vodňany. Charging stations have been installed at both facilities. The purchase of the cars Škoda Citigoe iV was co-financed by the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic based on a decision by the Minister of the Environment of the Czech Republic.

The USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences intensively pursued the completion of the project detailed above entitled '**Simulation Centre for Health-oriented Fields of FHSS USB (SLNO)**' in 2020. Furthermore, work on the preparation of design documents for an extension of the faculty building Vltava IV were started in 2020. The completion of design documents is planned for 2021. Out of other investments executed at the faculty in 2020, for example, the improvement of the quality of the security of the access system at the faculty (extension of the system of mechatronic locks including the control software), full air-conditioning of the lecture hall 'A' in the main building of the faculty on Boreckého 27 street, or the purchase of two multifunction copiers may be mentioned. With the support of resources from the Fund of strategic priorities, the faculty substantially invested in the improvement of its facilities for instruction in 2020. The most important investment of this kind was the new special classroom for radiology that was opened and equipped. Two 3D models were purchased in order to innovate the instruction of anatomy and pathology of students of health-oriented fields and students of the study field Health and Social Worker. A haematology analyzer and the ELISA reader instrument including the PC were purchased to meet the needs of the development of study fields Health Technician and Nutritional Therapy. An EKG holter was purchased for the development of the Centre for Lifestyle Diseases in relation to increasing the quality of the practical training of students. The USB FHSS Physiotherapy Centre, which received 7 physiotherapy tables and one wide table for exercising following the reflex locomotion method, was innovated. A new classroom in which there will be a new pulley system for specialised bodyweight exercises and other instruments such as a dynamometer or a balance board for stabilisation exercises.

The **USB Faculty of Agriculture** worked on one IP project in 2020, i.e. '**Completion of the renovation of the pig farm phase 2**' and furthermore, two projects supported from the USB Fund of strategic priorities. The first was a one-year project entitled '**Implementation of activities in support of meeting the accreditation standards at FAG USB**', the objective of which was the optimisation and bolstering of the structure of employees in such a way that the position of the faculty in accreditation processes of degree programmes is bolstered in the long term. The second project entitled '**Support for applied research and cooperation with the sphere of application in the area of Agriculture 4.0**' allowed the establishment of a laboratory for the area of Agriculture 4.0, i.e. particularly its furnishing with a high-quality equipment under commercial licences and powerful computer equipment. The laboratory will allow the execution of new activities and it will be utilised by students as well as academic staff in the context of educational as well as a creative activity.

9.1.3 Library-information services

There are two libraries that operate at the University of South Bohemia – the Academic Library of USB²² and the independent Library of Josef Petr Ondok²³ at the USB Faculty of Theology. Table 12.2. provides summary information on both of these libraries.

²¹ http://www.frov.jcu.cz/files/projekty_na_fakulte/0002614.pdf

²² <http://www.lib.jcu.cz/>

²³ <https://www.tf.jcu.cz/en/faculty/josef-petr-ondok-s-library>

The **USB Academic Library** (AL USB) is a University-wide facility equipped in a modern fashion, the part of which are detached facilities (a branch at the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters, study rooms and depository libraries). In 2020, in addition to completing tasks related to the core mission of the library, the Academic Library of USB also addressed a number of other specialised assignments.

In the area of providing electronic information sources (hereinafter as 'EIS'), the continuing cooperation with the National Library of Technology in the centralised submission of orders was essential. The subject of this cooperation was the acquisition of multi-field and field resources under the CzechElib consortium. Under this consortium, access to resources Academic Search Complete, ATLA religion database with ATLA serials, BioOne Complete (formerly BioOne 1 and BioOne 2), Classiques Garnier Numéroque, JSTOR Arts and Sciences I – IV, Ovid Emcare with Ovid Nursing Full Text+, Oxford Journals Online STM, Literature Online, Patria Plus, ProQuest Central, ScienceDirect, SpringerLink Journals a Wiley Online Library Journals was secured for 2020. Access to reference databases that are important particularly for scientific work and the evaluation of its results continued. It was services Web of Science and Scopus. It is again consortium access including a 70% grant. The library continued in the access to the analytical tool INCites that is intended for creating bibliometric analyses based on data from the Web of Science database.

Users of the USB Academic Library could also utilise non-consortium field sources and other tools for EIS. The access to Czech as well as foreign books on the platform ProQuest Ebook Central was arranged for them as well as the legal database ASPI, the electronic library of journals EZB, the metasearch engine Ebsco Discovery Service or the reference management software CitacePro.

The library organised educational events in support of effective use of databases and related instruments for their users, i.e. students and scientific-pedagogical staff of USB. The majority of consultation, research, and educational activity was moved to the online environment in 2020 while consultations and research were not limited in any way. More than 40 longer consultations were provided and a number of consultations of a shorter extent. In spite of the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, the library was successful in organising the majority of planned events. The remaining events were substituted by e-learning courses that are an important part of the instruction activity of the library.

As regards the core activity of the USB Academic Library, i.e. loaning books, the library stock was expanded by 3 766 new units. Therefore, the library stock now comprises 370 014 units.

9.1.4 Accommodation and catering services

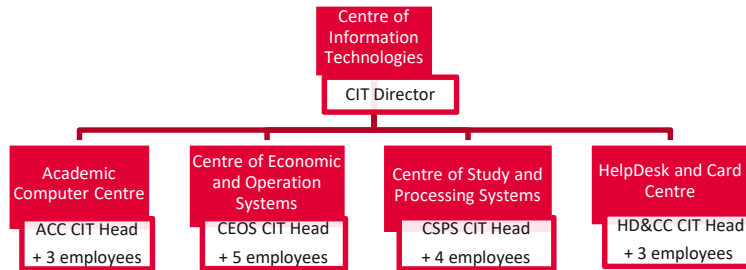
Several construction modifications in **Dormitories and Refectories of the University of South Bohemia** were executed in the course of 2020. Specifically, personal lifts were replaced and the exchanger at the K5 dormitory was renovated. Preparation work and the renovation itself were started at Dormitory K4. Mattresses, blankets, and pillows were entirely replaced at dormitories K1, K2, K3.

Lighting was replaced in the main hall of the Refectory of the University of South Bohemia and a new automobile for the transport of food was purchased.

9.1.5 Information and communication technologies

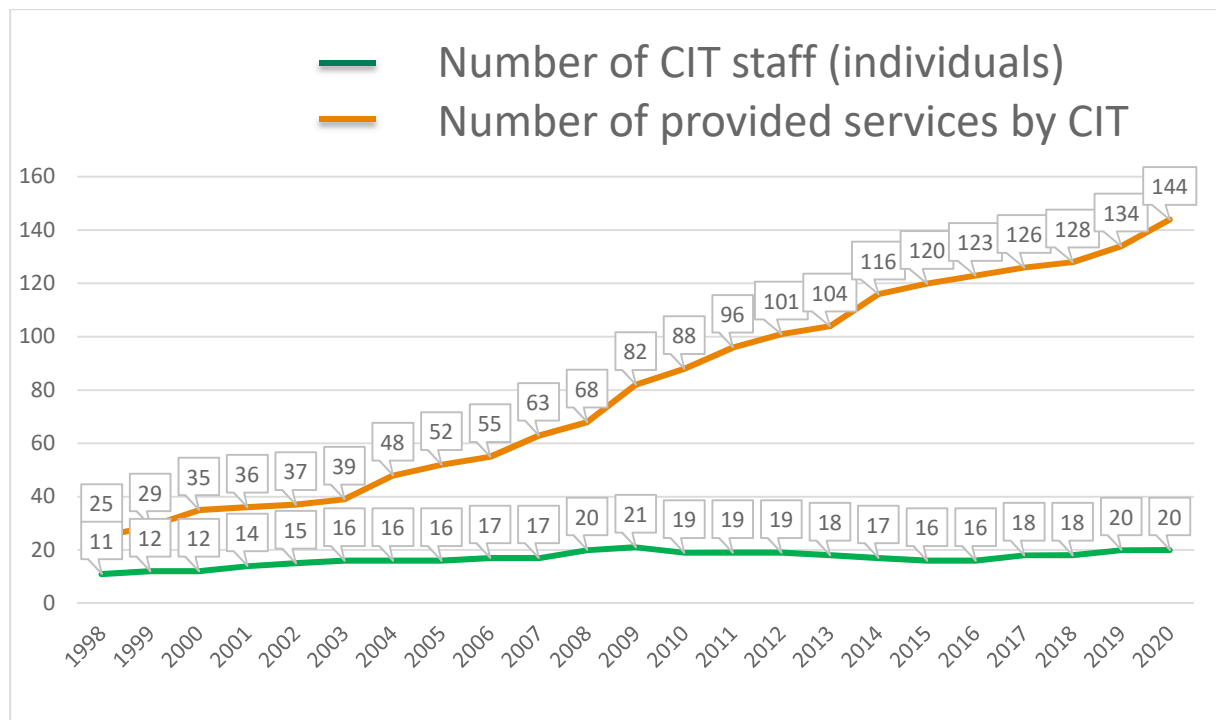
The **USB Centre of Information Technologies (CIT)**²⁴ is a University-wide facility that secures the administration and the development of centralised information systems and the information infrastructure at USB.

20 persons in total were working at CIT towards the end of 2020. A reorganisation occurred in the course of 2020. The following scheme shows the structure of CIT and the staffing of individual units at the end of 2020.



CIT USB structure and staffing of individual units.

Services provided by the CIT affect all key areas at the University of South Bohemia. The increase in the number of services provided did not stop even in 2020 as the following graph shows.

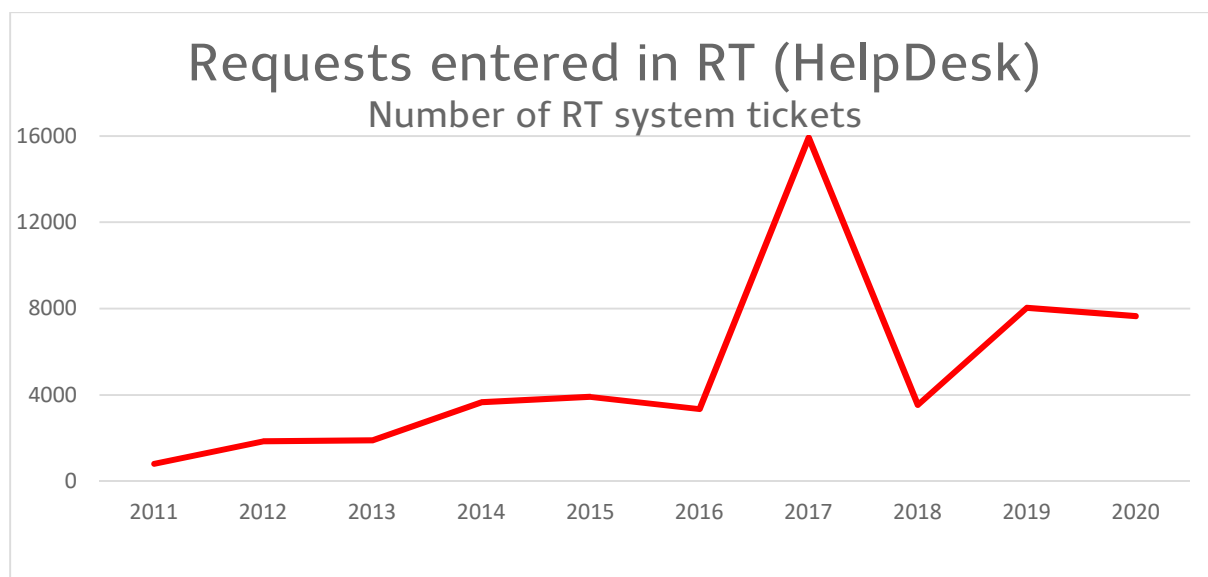


Development of services provided and the number of CIT staff in 1998–2020

The increase in the number of provided services, their expansion and continuous increase in their volume has been leading to increasing the workload of CIT staff. The same number of CIT staff is providing more services while they also must address a comparable number of requests entered in the RT system (system

²⁴ <https://www.jcu.cz/en/university/other-constituent-parts/centre-of-information-technologies>

for reporting requests and issues) even though not all requests and issues addressed at CIT are registered in the system.



Development of the number of requests entered in RT (Help Desk) in 2011–2020. The higher number of tickets in 2017 was caused by a greater number of spam tickets, which also had to be processed.

The following 9 projects were addressed at CIT in 2020:

- MILOTA, J. et al – Development of information technologies and IS JU. IP project 2019–2020 JU No 112-IP19-20 18/REK-Milota-Rozvoj IT a IS JU, 2019-2020
- MILOTA, J. et al – Verification of the performance and reliability of the distributed storage system Ceph in the environment of geographically separated locations of the e-infrastructure CESNET. Project FR CESNET No 630R1/2018
- MILOTA, J. et al – Creation and implementation of a client of the service validator.cesnet.cz/. Project FR CESNET No 653/2019
- HOLÝ, R. et al – Sustainable development of EIS in a network of higher education institutions. Centralised development programme PHEIs for 2020, No 307-CRP20 C6/REK
- BRANDEJS, M. et al – Mutual cooperation of HEIs on the digitisation of processes and the technical development of administrative and student affairs remits. Centralised development programme of PHEIs for 2020, No 307-CRP20 C9/REK
- ŠLEHOFFEROVÁ, T. et al – Variability of the student drop-out rate – factors, prevention, impacts. Centralised development programme of PHEIs for 2020, No 307-CRP20 C33/REK
- MILOTA, J. Open Access USB repository. Project FSP 2020, No FSP20 10/REK. – Milota – executor (CZK 77 000)
- KOUTNÝ, J. Technological upgrade and change of the technology of the academic digital telephone network of USB. Project FSP 2020, No FSP20 11/REK
- MAREK, J. Establishment of a virtualization cluster Proxmox. Project FSP 2020, No FSP20 12/REK

The total value of funding obtained from the above-mentioned project reached CZK 14.505 (millions).

Particularly from the funds of the USB Institutional Plan, the following activities were executed in the areas of network and information infrastructure in 2020:

- new virtualisation cluster Proxmox was made operational at REC USB
- new server Oracle for IS/STAG made operational by DB
- new data server VMware was made operational at REC USB
- new server for backing up the central remits of REC USB was purchased
- new data storage at FEC USB was made operational
- the optic cable FEC–Dean’s Office–Refractory–K1, K2, K3 was made operational
- two 10Gb switches for the virtualization cluster of REC USB purchased
- eight 1Gb switches at D&R USB dormitories replaced

- one 10Gb switch purchased to connect servers and the disk array at FTH USB
- the wireless network in AL USB, FAG USB buildings (80 access points) was upgraded and bolstered
- 8 cameras at D&R USB upgraded
- the camera system of REC USB, FFPW USB and MEVPIS upgraded

The following significant changes occurred in the area of information systems at USB in 2020:

- new functionalities added to IS USB according to current requirements (LLL, CP, AD)
- new functionalities and standards for the interface of invoicing modules (support for the processing of ISDOC transferred by ISDS to the stack of liabilities, support for electronic invoicing following the EU/CR standard, connection to WS interface VIES*EU taxable entities, solution for credit notes in the interface of the economic system and commercial modules, new iFIS interface for delivering credit notes to amounts receivable including the implementation into LLE) implemented in iFIS
- support for the processing of extended obligations in the VAT area introduced in iFIS (settlement of overpaid deposits, searching/displaying all related documents simultaneously with the first document, connection of asset records and VAT to support the settlement of the VAT deduction, clearer arrangement of materials for declaring VAT and related changes in the VAT records, verification of increases in the area of VAT by an auditor)
- new interfaces of the system of data boxes were implemented in SPSL and the ePodatelna module was made operational
- new approval processes (OOD) for costs/profits transfers were implemented
- the new electronic commercial centre (e-shop) was made operational and its integration into economic modules was made operational
- the internal payment system at USB was supplemented by the option of credit card payments online
- the Flywire service that allows payments from foreign banks to the USB account in CZK was implemented
- digitisation of asset disposal was implemented
- electronic approvals of funding in the component electronic approval of contracts were made operational
- data storage was built at USB, its connection to the study, economic, and personnel system was set, key users were given access to management sets through the PowerBI instrument
- D-space server for publishing the results of publication activity was made operational and its connection to the system for recording the OBD activity and IS/STAG was set
- system for electronic records of projects at USB was made operational
- MATLAB server to provide access to SW MATLAB to USB users was made operational
- the mobile application StuduJU for the iOS operating system was made operational
- USB was connected to the HSM storage of certificates Remsig operated by the CESNET association and to the verification of the validity of electronic documents validator.cesnet.cz/
- IS STAG was connected to EWP (project Erasmus Without Paper – implementation of the connection is further ongoing in 2021) on a trial basis and that also upgraded the module Mobility, which newly contains records of contracts and the selection procedure process
- the way documents from records management are displayed for students and applicants was improved
- the connection of IS STAG to MS Teams occurred, it is now possible to create teams/classrooms in MS Teams through IS STAG
- the notification module to which even the StuduJU mobile application is already connected was launched
- access to IS STAG was given to external staff and the process of logging in the eApplication was changed
- the option of records of online instruction and announcing online exams and other modifications necessary due to legislation changes (period of interrupted studies, etc.) were added to IS STAG

From the perspective of standardisation, the following was achieved in 2020 among other things:

- extension of electronic approval processes (see above)
- consolidation of email services by an installation of a University-wide email server and massive use of email services of Office 365
- unification of e-learning servers at USB (central Moodle server is used by 7 of 8 USB faculties)
- extension of IS components using the uniform (SSO) authentication (to 27 components)

The start of the operation of the single USB e-shop surely is a positive step from the perspective of cutting costs.²⁵

The screenshot shows the e-shop interface for the University of South Bohemia. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the university logo, name, and search bar. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'Knihy a periodika' and 'Propagační předměty'. The main content area displays a grid of four book items, each with a cover image, title, price, and a 'Přidat do košíku' button. The items are:

Book Title	Price (Kč)	Status
Výukový plakát FROV JU "JESETEŘI"	120 Kč	Skladem
Výukový plakát FROV JU "RYBY"	120 Kč	Skladem
Adverbios de foco en la perspectiva contrastiva	250 Kč	Skladem
Konstantin: Cesta k moci	400 Kč	Skladem

USB E-shop

9.1.6 USB British Centre

The activity of the **USB British Centre**²⁶ (BC USB) in 2020 was greatly affected by the coronavirus crisis. Despite all obstacles and great restrictions on events due to government regulations, the USB British Centre has kept its clientele. The economic result of the USB British Centre in 2020 was positive and the centre did not experience financial difficulties.

The main objective of the USB British Centre is to support the development and instruction of the English language as well as language literacy in the South Bohemian Region. Apart from lectures, methodological seminars, literary evenings, exhibitions, and clubs organised in English and free of charge for all attendees, the centre may also boast a unique library containing a collection of English literature. 17 000 titles of classic and contemporary fiction, textbooks, movies, audio recordings, magazines and other materials in English are available to all visitors and this collection is annually expanded by hundreds of other titles. New English materials in the value of over CZK 41 000 were purchased in 2020.

The USB British Centre is a regional organiser of internationally recognised Cambridge language exams of all language levels. 623 candidates undertook the international exams in 2020. Owing to the established partnership of the British Council and the University of South Bohemia, students as well as employees of the University of South Bohemia may utilise a number of discount bonuses. Further options to study and work in the Czech Republic and in the work open to those who successfully pass the exams.

²⁵ <https://eshop.jcu.cz>

²⁶ http://www.britskecentrum.cz/index_en.php

Owing to the close cooperation with the British Council and the University of Cambridge, the USB British Centre allows those interested and suffering from a handicap, e.g. blindness, stammering, deafness, etc. to undertake the exams in České Budějovice. The USB British Centre, as the only centre in the south of Bohemia, has obtained the accreditation for the international IELTS (International English Language Testing System) that are in high demand in the world and also serve as proof of the English language proficiency for applicants for visas for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

In 2020, two seminars and lectures in the English language were organised in the USB British Centre that were attended by 62 people. Professor Martin Hilský, English translator and Shakespearologue, for example, was among the important visitors who visited the USB British Centre in 2020 and organised a lecture here. The USB British Centre closely cooperates with Czech and foreign lecturers from the USB Faculties of Science, Education, and Arts as well whose interesting lectures in the USB British Centre had to be postponed to 2021.

The total of 19 semester-long preparatory courses of English focused on the international exams PET, FCE, CAE, and CPE – levels B1 to C2 – were filled in 2020 (111 participants). The capacity of the centre in language courses is fully filled every year.

MEYS has approved an extension of the USB British Centre's accreditation for the execution of the educational programme 'Let's improve our English, level B2' until 2022. This MEYS accredited course is intended for non-certified teachers from the entire South Bohemian Region and the managing staff of schools.

The testing of language skills that was expanded by online testing is an integral part of the activity of the USB British Centre. The expansion allowed students as well as handicapped people or people from more remote locations in the South Bohemian Region to ascertain their English level. 386 people were tested in total in 2020 out of which 206 were students and employees of the University of South Bohemia.

Apart from higher education students, the centre focuses on secondary school students as well. The centre was visited by 71 secondary school students from three secondary schools during regularly organised excursions. Other planned excursions had to be cancelled due to decrees of the Government. Over the course of the excursion, students obtain information not only on the activity of the USB British Centre but also the opportunities to study at USB.

The USB British Centre closely cooperates with primary, secondary, language schools in České Budějovice and the South Bohemian Region as well as with faculties of the University of South Bohemia. This cooperation will continue to be further bolstered.

The USB British Centre was significantly supported by the statutory city of České Budějovice, the South Bohemian Region and the British Council Praha in 2020.

9.1.7 USB Goethe Center

The USB Goethe Centre²⁷ (GC USB) has been active in České Budějovice with the support of the Goethe Institute and USB since 2005. The statute of the USB Goethe Centre as an independent University-wide facility was approved by the USB Academic Senate on 11 June 2013. Since the very establishment of the USB Goethe Centre, its goal has been unchanging – the promotion of the German language and the presentation of the culture of German-speaking countries in the south of Bohemia. This goal is met by the organisation and execution of various cultural and educational events. By its offer, the USB Goethe Centre appeals to all age and professional categories and supports their interest in the German language as well as the culture and new stimuli.

In 2020, the activity of the USB Goethe Centre was supported by an extraordinary grant from the South Bohemian Region and by the project from the USB Fund of strategic priorities focusing on the improvement and modernisation of the facilities and premises for the instruction of the centre. Upon the approval of the above-mentioned project, the USB Goethe Centre could start moving into new and most importantly more suitable premises from the perspective of hygiene in the back section of the Přemysl Otakar II square and the connecting Hroznova street in České Budějovice over the course of the holiday months of July and August 2020. Offices, classrooms, and conference rooms were gradually built and

²⁷ <https://www.goethecentrum.cz/de/homepage/>

furnished in the new premises on the 3rd above-ground storey. Furthermore, a thematic study room with German-language fiction of the library was opened. The library as a whole was concurrently completely moved to the ground floor of commercial and, most importantly, barrier-free premises in the inner block of Hroznová street that had been rented in previous years already. The USB Goethe Centre now newly occupies the total surface area up to 250 m² and thus it meets all demands on modern instruction and the contemporary standard by its furnishing and technical equipment.

Language-educational and cultural and educational activities in relation to the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria, and Switzerland are among the main activities of the USB Goethe Centre. The centre evermore and ever-intensively continues to establish contacts to individual entities and multipliers of public-legal institutions, manufacturing enterprises, and educational facilities in the regions of Lower Bavaria and Upper Austria. Given the epidemiological (coronavirus) situation in the Czech Republic in 2020, all communication and cooperation were taking place rather on the level of web platforms and online tools. In-person meetings and the instruction of the German language were also impacted by the situation, chiefly in the spring months. However, the USB Goethe Centre was gradually able to address even this restrictive factor.

One of the greatest pillars supporting the USB Goethe Centre is language work. The work consists of two basic areas – organising international language exams Goethe-Zertifikat and language courses leading to the exams, including standard courses as well as preparatory courses for the exams or otherwise themed and specialised courses.

The centre is a licenced exam centre of Goethe Institute headquartered in Munich. The internationally recognised exams Goethe-Zertifikat for the language levels A2, B1, B2, and C1 as per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages have been taking place here regularly three times per year since 2010. The total of 112 exams took place and were checked at the USB Goethe Centre in 2020. Another 106 so-called mock exams were undertaken at the USB Goethe Centre. These pre-tests are organised three times per year – always ahead of the date of the actual exams. The international globally recognised exams Goethe-Zertifikat usually take place at the USB Goethe Centre in February, May, and at the beginning of November. Given the coronavirus epidemic, the USB Goethe Centre was forced to postpone the announced dates gradually to June and later to December. The Goethe-Zertifikat exams took place in small groups and following strict hygienic rules in compliance with the current measures. Staff members of the USB Goethe Centre have been professionally trained to evaluate the written as well as the oral part of the exams. Therefore, all corrections, evaluations, and the administrative work related to the organisation of the exams and the printing of certificates takes place directly in České Budějovice. The total of 4 certified and trained evaluators cooperate externally with the USB Goethe Centre. Attendees of the standard courses of the USB Goethe Centre or the preparatory courses for the Goethe-Zertifikat exams are additionally provided with discounted internal exam prices.

The České Budějovice University licenced centre also offers a test primarily oriented towards commercial and employment German. This so-called GOETHE TEST PRO is intended primarily for those who wish to have their own language proficiency realistically evaluated so that they may obtain incentives for their further education as well as for individual enterprises and employers who can purposely and easily check the language proficiency of their employees and applicants for employment, which requires a particular level of proficiency in commercial German, through this very test. The test is an excellent tool for evaluating the results of further education and for creating a reliable basis for measures in the area of further education and career growth in the area of commercial German. GOETHE-TEST PRO is undertaken through a computer and very quickly and reliably determines the language skills of employees in the area of comprehension of read or heard text.

Standard courses of German as well as specialised courses, i.e. conversational, subject field or preparatory, the nature of which leads directly to successfully passing the Goethe-Zertifikat exams, are in the offer of the centre for the public. All courses are led by experienced tutors of German who are regularly trained by methodology specialists of the Goethe Institute based in Prague.

The conception of instruction in language courses follows the standards of Goethe Institute while great emphasis is put on situational instruction and spoken German. To ensure a uniform level of knowledge of attendees in individual courses, an entry assessment test and an interview in German, which checks the language skills of all future attendees right before the entry in the course itself and allows the assignment of attendees to the most suitable course, has been made a condition of enrolment. The instruction itself is founded upon modern methods with an emphasis on being able to communicate in

daily life situations and on intensive communication while all courses of the USB Goethe Centre gradually lead towards the successful passing of the internationally recognised Goethe-Zertifikat exams.

The total of 15 standard courses at levels A0 – B1, 6 courses at the B2 level, and 2 courses at the highest language level C1 focused primarily on conversation skills in the German language took place in 2020. Further 10 specialised courses in total include courses for children or grammar seminars for USB students as well as finance-themed courses or preparatory courses for the Goethe-Zertifikat exams. 147 attendees were enrolled in the total of 34 standard and special courses of the German language in the USB Goethe Centre in 2020.

Courses of the centre are always organised in accordance with the academic year of USB and correspond to the duration of the spring or winter semester with the difference that if instruction happens to be scheduled for a public holiday or holidays, these classes are replaced. Therefore, the course can be extended beyond the length of the given semester. The centre was exposed to completely new conditions in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. After the start of courses in both semesters, the centre switched to online instruction using the web platform Microsoft Teams. Owing to a speedy decision, support on the part of USB and the positive approach by tutors as well as attendees, the majority of courses were completed in the planned period, i.e. by the end of June 2020, or January 2021. Courses of the winter semester were started in the in-person form in the new premises already. With respect to the issued decrees of the Government, the centre subsequently smoothly switched to online instruction.

Over the course of summer holidays, other extraordinary courses of German were announced and organised, chiefly the preparatory courses for the Goethe-Zertifikat exams and courses of German for children in which the missed or insufficiently discussed materials of the second level of primary schools and lower levels of grammar schools were 'caught up on' in a playful and experience-based form. The total of 12 tutors taught in courses of German of the centre in 2020. In addition to Czech teachers of German, there are also native speakers on the team of the USB Goethe Centre who studied German as a foreign language or who continuously educate themselves in the field.

Employees of the USB Goethe Centre are regularly trained in the methodological and didactic area of instruction of German as a foreign language. Furthermore, they take part in annual testing of evaluation proficiency during the so-called certification of licenced evaluators of the Goethe-Zertifikat exams. This ensures the objective nature of the evaluation of the internationally recognised German-language exams at a global level. The training sessions take place in the Goethe Institute in Prague or directly in Munich, or via online training using Moodle platforms. At the same time, the USB Goethe Centre regularly monitors new publications of individual publishing houses, cooperates with paramount publishers of language textbooks and didactic materials, such as Klett, Langenscheidt or Hueber Verlag. The centre facilitates the dissemination of all news and findings among teachers of German at primary, secondary, and language schools in the form of seminars, workshops, and presentations.

Due to pandemic measures, only one in-person seminar for teachers of German was successfully organised in cooperation with Hueber Verlag in 2020. It was the seminar entitled 'Brettspiele im Deutschunterricht'. Other workshops and seminars took place online. To ensure the issue-free continuation of instruction in courses of the USB Goethe Centre and also to introduce interactive textbooks, the centre organised two webinars with themes concerning primarily the use of the offer of online tools in instruction and the work with specific interactive textbooks at primary and secondary schools in South Bohemia.

In the context of events taking place on the European Day of Languages, the USB Goethe Centre in cooperation with the Information Centre Europe Direct and the Eurocentre České Budějovice offered a series of workshops focusing on German phonetics and correct pronunciation to engaged schools. The series of workshops still took place in person. However, since the majority of educational activity gradually switched to digital formats, the centre was continually offering alternative forms of mediating the current affairs in German areas primarily through online quizzes, invitations to debate shows or theatre and concert performances. In total, the USB Goethe Centre organised 18 educational events for pupils, students, German language teachers and the general public that took place. 226 persons in total took part in these events.

Cultural-educational projects supported by funds of the Goethe Institute in Prague also build on the above-mentioned educational activity of the USB Goethe Centre. In 2020, the USB Goethe Centre could

offer primary and secondary schools in the south of Bohemia two educational events from the start owing to the resources. One was a competition in reading aloud in German and then also the popular 'Galli-Festival' in which many school groups regularly take part with interest and which is organised not only in České Budějovice but also in other cities of the South Bohemia Region or the Plzeň Region.

The competition in reading aloud in German Entitled 'Jihočeský knihomol/ Bücherwurm Südböhmen' [South Bohemian Bookworm] sets an objective for itself to introduce German-language literature to pupils and generally to bring them back to reading and also to offer them an opportunity to show off a little and present themselves to an audience. For this is the very competition in which not only those whose command of German at school is excellent and who receive As for their performances in grammar but also those who may not be the very best – in terms of grades – but who are not afraid to show what is truly in them are those who stand a chance. The ability to mediate the read text to their audience, the recitation, and the interpretation of the text are evaluated in the competition. Unlike in grammar, the correct pronunciation is desirable, which – as is known – prevents spoken German from being understood much more than errors in 'suffixes or articles'. The USB Goethe Centre cooperates on this project with the German Library in Olomouc and the Goethe-Zentrum in Pardubice. It may be said that the reach of this competition is nation-wide. The year 2020 forced all those participating to think about the current format of the competition and to organise it a little differently. The evaluation of individual contestants took place online. Thus, individual contestants had to record their performances and create a short video. The video was then internally evaluated by an expert panel. Erudite experts specialising in German from the Faculties of Education and Arts of USB as well as experts on recitation and voicework, e.g. representatives of the regional television or radio reporters from Rozhlas České Budějovice are traditionally members of the panel of the competition. It was no different even in 2020. The work that was read aloud was the book entitled 'Fritzi war dabei: Eine Wendewundergeschichte' written by Hanna Schott. Its plot is related to the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall which was the theme of the previous year. It was this year that the Czech translation was published and so the book wonderfully corresponded to the current developments in Germany. Winners and their schools received the book in its original as well as in the Czech translation as well as other souvenirs as a symbol of gratitude or as the main prize for their personal libraries.

Despite the limited travel options and closed schools, the USB Goethe Centre organised a series of workshops and preventative-educational theatre performances in 2020. In cooperation with the Munich theatre troupe Galli-Theater, two topics were offered to primary and secondary schools. Namely, it was the dependence of children on PCs and today's ability or inability to maintain social contact of individuals. These topics were offered by the UBS Goethe Centre under the titles 'Voll vernetzt' and 'Vom andren Stern'. There was a huge interest in the shared film performances. Worksheets for each topic were prepared and so pupils could undertake a little non-traditional instruction of German. The total of 10 workshops and online meetings that were attended by the total of 571 engaged pupils and their educators were organised in 2020 in the context of the cultural and educational activities of the USB Goethe Centre.

The USB Goethe Centre has a library that included 3 800 titles towards the end of 2020 available to all those interested from among the public. The stock is regularly added to and updated by the newest German literature, particularly the titles that were shortlisted among the annual selection of candidates for the German Book Prize. Textbooks of the German language intended for all target groups as well as professional publications, didactic materials for particular types of exams, German-language fiction, readers for language levels A1–B1 and a number of CDs and DVDs are also included in the offer of the library. The print media constitute the total of 3 093 titles out of the total offer of individual titles. There are 707 audiovisual and digital materials available in total. The offer of the library is published on the internet portal through which book loans may also be extended or requested titles may be reserved online from the comforts of one's own home.

All those interested are also provided with services of information and expert counselling in the area of the methodology of instruction and during the preparation for language exams in addition to library services. The library of the USB Goethe Centre registered 132 active readers in total towards the end of 2020 while the number of individual visits during 2020 amounted to 718. The number corresponds to the total number of 1 499 book loans per year. In comparison with previous years, a considerable decrease was recorded in this area. It could be said that the library was completely closed from March 2020, or its opening hours were very limited. In crisis months the activity of the library was performed through a pick-up window, or under the condition of a limited number of persons entering, in connection

with the coronavirus pandemic. Most queries related to the option of book loans, the library stock or counselling concerning exams took place in the distance form. Readers also utilised the options of the automated online extension from the comforts of their homes that the centre's system allows.

News related to current developments in German-speaking areas and the global situation was mediated to all engaged readers on the website, Facebook, and Instagram of the USB Goethe Centre. The centre additionally informs those interested in developments at the USB Goethe Centre directly by regularly sending a newsletter; there are nearly 1 500 registered subscribers. Therefore, the USB Goethe Centre appeals to all readers and course attendees of the USB Goethe Centre as well as teachers of German or headmasters of cooperating schools, the media, and students and employees of USB by its offer and programme. The option to subscribe to the newsletter is accessible to anyone interested on the website of the USB Goethe Centre.²⁸ Additionally, the majority of activities of the centre has also been presented on the website of Lifelong learning of USB since 2020. Those interested may register for these activities directly through the central registration system. Courses, discussions, cultural-education meetings, or webinars and workshops for schools take place on the online platform Microsoft Teams. It is owing to this platform that the centre could continue – it could be said without a significant disruption – in its educational activity even during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The project of further education of German teachers and support for the instruction of German at primary schools entitled 'Language proficiency centre for German and Czech' was successfully completed in 2020. This project was approved at the beginning of 2017 under the support of the Cross-border Cooperation Programme Czech Republic – Bavaria Free State (Objective ETC 2014-2020). The main partner of this extraordinary cross-border project on the Bavarian side was EUREGIO Bayerischer Wald – Böhmerwald – e.V. Within the purview of the USB Goethe Centre were individual activities of the project such as support for the instruction of German at Czech schools, the cooperation of cities and municipalities and also the cooperation and establishment of contacts among experts in the area of German education, or Czech as the foreign language on the Czech side.

Over time, the Zentrum für Sprachkompetenz Deutsch – Tschechisch [German-Czech Proficiency Centre] has established itself as a stable educational and communication platform. Its main effort aimed at better communication and mutual understanding of people living in the Bavarian-Czech border areas. That was the reason for which a large educational event during which children in the given regions were learning the language of the neighbouring country was launched. It was Czech in East Bavaria and German in the south of Bohemia. In the period 2017–2020, intensive language instruction was taking place at 148 schools and kindergartens in Bohemia and in Germany. Out of the total number, 80 institutions were Czech and 68 German. 78 excursions, or meetings, were jointly organised at which new friendships were made not only among the children but primarily also the teachers and headmasters of schools or even mayors of individual municipalities agreed-upon joint cooperation. The objective of the project was not to only increase the interest in German, or Czech, but to increase the interest in the neighbouring country as such and its culture and the lives of its inhabitants. Exchange programmes also led to the support for new as well as current international partnerships between individual kindergartens and schools. The total of 1 281 children and pupils learning German took part in the project.

The initiation and development of contacts among experts and educators of the German-Czech language education even outside the region of the scope of the project were integral parts of the project in addition to the creation of a functional instruction conception for younger school children. Such interconnection served for a mutual exchange of information and experience in the area of language education. Under the project, 3 new publications for the instruction of Czech at Bavarian schools and kindergartens – a collection of rules and instructions 'Hezky dětský česky', a small German-Czech travel dictionary and most importantly the textbook 'Čeština – Tschechisch für Realschulen und Gymnasien' – emerged in close cooperation with the Koordinační centrum pro německo-českou výměnu mládeže Tandem Regensburg/Plzeň [Coordination Centre for German-Czech Exchange of Youth Tandem Regensburg/Plzeň]. The above-mentioned publications are freely available for download on the website of the Jazykové kompetenční centrum pro němčinu a češtinu.²⁹ These textbooks were first presented to the public as finished outputs of the project on 28 January 2020 when the final evaluation meeting of the project of Jazykové kompetenční centrum pro němčinu a češtinu took place in the event hall of Kulturpavillon Bäreal in the Bavarian Grafenau. All agents active within this unique project including

²⁸ <https://www.goethecentrum.cz/de/homepage/>

²⁹ <https://www.jazykovakompetence.cz/de/>

representatives of all educational and administrative institutions that had the project within their purview were invited to the event. After opening remarks, among others, of Sebastian Gruber, representative of the administrative district Freyung-Grafenau, or Max Nierdermeier, mayor of the city of Grafenau, a short introduction of children from the kindergarten Caritas from Freyung in Czech took place. After them spoke the whole project team and introduced the results of the project to attendees. A presentation of teaching materials for the instruction of Czech that were created in close cooperation with the Koordinační centrum pro německo-českou výměnu mládeže Tandem Regensburg/Plzeň followed.

In the course of 2020, targeted cooperation and joint projects with the Österreichische Konsulat in Budweis represented by Mag. Christoph Oliver Jerneym and Gabriele Lenger, manager of the Austrian National Tourist Board Österreich Werbung, were planned.

The USB Goethe Centre recorded a slight increase in the case of language exams in comparison with 2019. The increase manifests more significantly as months pass when headmasters of schools issued decisions on the substitution of the high school leaving diploma by the international exam Goethe-Zertifikat at the B1 level per CEFR with respect to the online instruction of German at secondary schools that showed itself to be incomparable across the regions of the Czech Republic and unfortunately also insufficient at some schools.

GOETHE-ZERTIFIKAT exams

	2020	2019
Exams in total	112	99
Number of evaluators	4	5
Number of successful exams	102	93

In the case of language courses, the numbers were lower in comparison with 2019. All instruction was transferred to the online platform MS Teams. It became evident that this form of instruction does not correspond to the needs and does not suit all attendees many of whom registered for courses hoping that there will be a switch to in-person instruction again. Likewise, the in-person capacity of 8 persons in one course has shown itself to be not suitable for the instruction of a foreign language. Those who refused to continue in a started in-person course online were refunded their course fees. To maintain the quality of instruction at the set original price and a certain comfort, the number of persons in one course was lowered to 4. Therefore, courses are more flexible and adaptable to the needs of participants in comparison with previous years. When it comes to requirements on time and premises, the quality of instruction is nevertheless often contingent upon the internet connection of participants and tutors as well as the creativity and computer skills of tutors and primarily the willingness to learn new things in the context of work with interactive textbooks.

Language courses

	2020	2019
Number of instruction units sold	876	922
Courses in total	34	32
Attendees in total	147	172
Number of tutors	12	12

In 2020 the USB Goethe Centrum completely removed movie showings and organising concerts or theatre performances and events that are linked with a longer stay and concentration at a computer. No exhibition connected with a vernissage was organised in 2020. The year 2020 was generally very unstable for planning similar activities with respect to Government anti-epidemic measures being issued. This 'period of calm' in culture was used by the centre to move to new premises and for a renovation and modifications to current premises. The German library of the USB Goethe Centre was expanded and newly furnished. A practical study room was built for the needs of students of fields of German studies. With respect to the planned educational programmes accredited by MEYS, a fully-fledged classroom technically equipped in the corresponding manner of the surface area of 58 m² was prepared on the 3rd above-ground storey of the USB Goethe Centre.

Cooperation in education, e.g. educational seminars for teachers, etc.

	2020	2019
Number of events that took place	18	34
Attendees in total	226	729

Cultural-educational activities, e.g. presentations, showings, theatres, or excursions

	2020	2019
Number of events that took place	10	22
Attendees in total	571	2 027

The library and information services

	2020	2019
Media in total	3 800	3 704
Of which print media	3 093	2 997
Audio and video in total	707	707

Number of media intended for loans

	2020	2019
Number of loans	1 499	3 017
Number of visits	718	1 015
Readers in total	143	288

9.1.8 USB Preschool facility – Children’s Group Kvítek

The USB Preschool facility³⁰ consists of two children’s groups with the total capacity of 30 children of which the capacity of one group is 20 children and the second 10 children. In the course of 2020, the total of 43 children frequented the USB Preschool facility. Of that number, 4 children started their compulsory school attendance and two children transferred to a state kindergarten. 7 children frequented the facility during summer holidays. The workload of the USB Preschool facility over the summer holidays was significantly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Some public kindergartens remained in operation over the summer holidays and thus employees were not taking advantage of the offer of the USB Preschool facility at such a rate as in previous years. 7 children were accepted for the school year 2020/2021. The majority of accepted children are siblings of children who are already frequenting the USB Preschool facility. Newly arriving children were accepted based on the current criteria for accepting children. These criteria were set in such a way that they best allow employees to harmonise their work and family lives. The USB Preschool facility is intended for USB employees.

The USB Preschool facility offers the service of childcare from 1 year of age until the period of the start of the mandatory school attendance. The operation of the facility is ensured year-long on every working day from 7:00 to 17:00.

Childcare takes place according to a prepared guidance plan and the education of children takes place according to the prepared Plan of guidance and care entitled ‘A magical year with Kvítek’, which is in accordance with Act No 247/2014, on Providing Childcare in a Children’s Group. The plan of guidance and care was created pursuant to the Framework educational programme for preschool education while respecting the individuality of children and special needs related to the age of the child. The Plan of pedagogical support was prepared for children in the final year before the start of their school attendance.

Psychological and hygienic conditions in the USB Preschool facility are fully satisfactory and respect the individual needs of children. The conditions were very significantly affected by the pandemic situation in 2020 as the interruption of the operation of the facility had a negative impact on the children’s ability to acquire competencies in all areas and particularly in the social area. Planned activities could not take

³⁰ <https://www.jcu.cz/en/university/other-constituent-parts/preschool-facilities-kvitek-children-s-group>

place to their full extent and only premises of the facility and the garden had to be utilised to a greater extent.

The USB Preschool facility is equipped in a modern and high-quality manner with education aids as well as other equipment. Nevertheless, it will be necessary to upgrade some operational equipment (primarily the appliances) in the future due to the limited life of the equipment. The construction of a new perimeter wall around the garden of the facility was executed in 2020. Catering for 2020 was provided in two ways – children’s own catering and catering provided by the USB Refectory. Catering is a relatively costly item for the parents; the total amount for a full-day catering at the facility currently equals CZK 91. The USB Preschool facility continued its cooperation with the Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters as the faculty provides a fish menu for the children once a week. Owing to the above-mentioned cooperation, the majority of children have become accustomed to eating fish products. That can be considered a very positive impact on obtaining competencies in the area of a healthy lifestyle.

The operation of the facility for the period September 2018 – August 2020 was funded by projects ESF OPE – Priority axis 1.2. The USB Children’s Group 1 (reg. No CZ.03.1.51/0.0/0.0/17_073/0008736) was supported by the amount of CZK 3 768 000. The USB Children’s Group 2 (reg. No CZ.03.1.51/0.0/0.0/17_073/0008882) was supported in the above-mentioned period by the amount of CZK 1 884 000. Further funding was secured for the period from September 2020 to February 2022. For this period, further support under the grant programme OPE was secured in the amount of CZK 3 299 000 (project reg. No CZ.03.1.51/0.0/0.0/19_101/0016648) and in the amount of CZK 1 657 000 (project reg. No CZ.03.1.51/0.0/0.0/19_101/0016970) The project period of ESF funds for the funding of the operation of children groups’ facilities ends in 2022. Therefore, it will be necessary to address further funding of the operation of the USB preschool facility.

A deficit in the total amount of CZK 167 000 arose in the budget of the USB Preschool facility in 2020 primarily due to high personnel costs to ensure the operation of the facility according to the specific rules of the provided support. The reason for the increase in costs is primarily the necessity of ensuring the physical presence of substitutes (over the period of an illness, nursing a family member, sick leave, holidays, participation in the Erasmus programme, participation in further learning of the persons providing care, etc.). The personnel of the USB Preschool facility is defined by legislation and specific conditions for the recipients under which it is stipulated that there must be

- 1 person providing care in attendance for 6 children
- 2 persons providing care in attendance for 7–12 children
- 3 persons providing care in attendance separately in each children’s group for 13–24 children

If these conditions are not met, financial sanctions by MA OPE may be imposed. The Labour Inspection Office is authorised to inspection activities.

All employees of the USB Preschool facility are fully qualified to perform their work positions pursuant to Act 247/2014, on Providing Childcare in a Children’s Group. Equally, the substitutes working under ACJ and APW are all fully qualified according to Act No 247/2014. Employees actively participate in the programme of Further education of pedagogical staff according to their own needs and interest. Nevertheless, the USB Preschool facility is struggling with a rather significant rate of changes in the persons providing care.

The cooperation with the parents is on a very good level. A partnership relationship founded upon mutual respect has been successfully established with them. Parents have the opportunity to regularly evaluate the operation of the facilities through a questionnaire survey and bring attention to a potential for improvement or deficiencies that need to be addressed from their perspective. Meetings with parents, individual as well as group meetings, also continue to take place.

The USB Preschool facility became a centre of professional training for students of the USB Faculties of Education and Health and Sciences in 2020. Only students of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences have utilised this option so far.

The USB Preschool facility offered hobby clubs for children aged 3–7 that frequent the facility in 2020 as well. For the most part, the clubs are led by employees of the facility. Due to a change in employees, leading hobby clubs using the NTC Learning method could not be continued.

The USB Preschool facility was offering the following clubs in 2020:

- 'Kuchařiči' (club focused on healthy eating, essentials of table manners)
- 'Logáček' (club of logopedic prevention)
- 'Ajťáci' (work with media technologies)
- 'Zvědátoři' (club focused on experiments and research)
- 'Šikovné ručičky' (development of creativity and fine motor skills)
- 'Zpíváme a tancujeme' (music-exercise activities)
- 'Sportovky pro kluky a holky' (essentials of athletics)
- 'Kroužek Angličtinky' with a native speaker,
- 'Flétnička s písničkou' (essentials of flute-playing)

All of the above-mentioned hobby clubs were organised free of charge with the exception of 'Kroužek Angličtinky', which partially required a fee. The 'Muzikoterapie' club, which is funded from the budget of the facility, was also taking place regularly on every first Friday of the month. A skating course of 10 lessons and a ski course in cooperation with Skischool Lipno were also organised. The costs of the organisation of these activities were fully covered by parents. Furthermore, a cooperation with the Canis Therapy Training Association Hafik, z.s., was also established. The content of the cooperation is regular volunteering cooperation in the form of 'Canistherapy for children'. Unfortunately, the activity could not take place due to the pandemic situation and its postponement was necessary. The project 'Svět nekončí za vrátky, cvičíme se zvířátky' prepared by Česká obec sokolská – odbor všestrannosti, which was also organised under the auspices of MEYs, was taking place free of charge. The goal of the USB Preschool facility is to provide children with a varied offer of activities so that they may choose an activity according to their own interests.

Overview of events organised by the Pre-school facility of USB in 2020

January
3/1/2020 Music therapy
8/1/2020 Children on skates – course start
16/1/2020 Excursion – Temelín Nuclear Power Plant
24/1/2020 Ornithological exhibition of FSC – ringing, birds in a net, the release
February
6/2/2020 Canistherapy
7/2/2020 Music therapy
25/2/2020 Slavic carnival
March
6/3/2020 Music therapy
11–13/3/2020 Ski course
End of the Children on skates course
16/3/2020 FACILITY CLOSED
April
FACILITY CLOSED
May
UNTIL 10/5 2020 FACILITY CLOSED
June
5/6/2020 Music therapy
15–17/6/2020 Kindergarten in nature – MEVPIS Vodňany
23/6/2020 Day trip – Malthouse Písek
25/6/2020 Goodbye to preschoolers
July
3/7/2020 Music therapy
20–24/7/2020 'Putování za zvířátky' day camp
September
11/9/2020 Music therapy
21/9/2020 Birthday party

Overview of events organised by the Pre-school facility of USB in 2020

October

9/10/2020 Music therapy

22/10/2020 Halloween

29 October – 1 November 2020 FACILITY CLOSED – QUARANTINE

November

11/11/2020 Project 'Svatý Martin'

23/11/2020 Start of practical training of FHSS USB students

December

3/12/2020 St. Nicholas day

11-21/12/2020 FACILITY CLOSED – QUARANTINE

9.1.9 USB Publishing House

The year 2020 was the first year in which the **USB Publishing House** functioned over the whole year as a proper constituent part of the spectrum of University-wide facilities established by the Rectorate. All administrative, personnel, and financial remits were stabilised and mechanisms for the selection of printing companies, graphic design, and book distribution were solved as well as the job descriptions and responsibilities of individual staff members.

The USB Publishing House completed its web presentation that even includes the option of the use of the University e-shop. USB presented its production at the book festival Tabook in Tábor in September 2020 (other book fairs in Prague and Pilsen, the visits to which were planned, were cancelled due to reasons related to the epidemic). Apart from the production of printed books, the Publishing House built a segment of published ebooks as well that are distributed in the form of sale through the Kosmas network or (older or entirely professional titles typically in foreign languages) freely offered for download on the website of the Publishing House. A concept of a new series in the form of ebooks without a printed edition was created. This series will be designated for publishing relevant graduation theses with a broader popularisation reach and professional contribution or for narrowly specialised publications, the printed version of which would find only a very limited group of buyers.

The stabilisation of the UBS Publishing House has allowed that it offers students of University degree programmes for whom it is relevant to complete their study obligation of professional training.

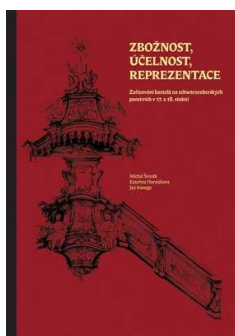
The activity of the USB Publishing House continued to be managed by the editorial board that receives a detailed report concerning the publishing activity as well as financial streams of the operation. From the economic perspective, the USB Publishing House has been secured and stabilised.

Printed books published (incl. reprints) in 2020



Jan Lepš – Petr Šmilauer: Biostatistika (4th reprint)

Biostatistika [Biostatistics] is a modern textbook of statistics that introduces statistical tools key for readers from biological fields and fields close to biology. Authors first introduce the problems that the given statistical method addresses and then they introduce the principle of the method as well as its necessary prerequisites. A substantial part of the book consists of practical examples. Authors show their solutions, method of processing and the form of results using two statistical programs 'Statistica' and 'R' that are commonly used in the Czech Republic. Authors also add information to the practical examples on how the statistical results may be presented in English-language professional publications and how to describe the statistical methods used in these publications as well.



Michal Šroněk – Kateřina Horníčková – Jan Ivanega: Zbožnost, účelnost, reprezentace: Zařizování kostelů na schwarzenberských panstvích v 17. a 18. století [Piety, expediency, representation: furnishing churches throughout Schwarzenberg dominions in 17th and 18th centuries]

The book processes the uniquely preserved collection of visual and written archival materials from the period 1662–1788 concerning the purchase of the indoor furnishing of churches in Schwarzenberg (Eggenberg in the case of three items) dominions predominantly in the south (sporadically in central and north-west) Bohemia. In one case, the materials concern the church in Turrach located in Styria. Abundant sources allow to follow the methods in purchasing the individual items as well as larger collections of the church furniture in detail, uncover the mechanisms as well as the hierarchy of decision-making concerning patronage orders and document the complicated nature of the communication and the involvement of individuals. The exceptionally preserved collection contains designs of altars accompanied by extensive correspondence between artists and craftsmen, spiritual administrators of the parishes, officials of princes as well as the statements of the nobles themselves.

Printed books published (incl. reprints) in 2020

**Tomáš Machula: Tomáš a jeho sumy (published at the beginning of 2020) [Thomas and his summas]**

The book *Thomas and his summas* is conceived as an exposition of two works by Thomas Aquinas – *Summa Theologica* and *Summa Contra Gentiles*. The aim of the book is to present a text acceptable to readers that is not burdened by notes but supplemented by schematic or table formulations of Thomas's reflections, excursions clarifying some notions, people or events mentioned in the text. The aim is also to include as many excerpts as possible that lead the reader from reading about Thomas to reading Thomas. The accompanying visual materials are an important dimension of the book seems as if it relates the truth and good (which is what the summas are about) with beauty, which always accompanies them whether it does so visibly or covertly.

Tomáš Veber, Petr Bauman

Metodická pomůcka ke zpracování závěrečných prací

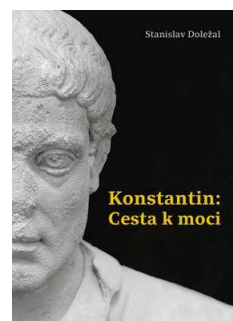
Doporučení k provedení plagiátorství a jiného neetického jednání při zpracování závěrečných prací

**Tomáš Veber – Petr Bauman: Metodická pomůcka ke zpracování závěrečných prací [Methodological aid for the preparation of graduation theses]**

The handbook is based on the *Methodological aid for the preparation of graduation theses* (authors T. Veber, P. Bauman) prepared for the needs of the USB Faculty of Theology while this methodological aid relied on, inter alia, the previous versions of the *Methodological aid for the preparation of graduation theses* and the *Methodological aid for bibliographical citations and in-text references* (authored by I. Čejková). The point of the handbook, as evident from the word itself, is to be 'at hand' for students of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice when writing professional texts. Even though it is written particularly with respect to bachelor's and diploma theses, it should also serve as a lead for authors of seminar papers if the teacher of the given course requires that they are written in a professional style.

**Petr A. Bílek – Martin Dvořák – Pavel Král (eds.) a kol.: Jak se dělá věda na Filozofické fakultě JU [The way science is done at the USB Faculty of Arts]**

In 2019 the USB Faculty of Arts of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice organised a series of 12 lectures for the public, the point of which was to introduce the scientific fields that the faculty is cultivating. This book subsequently arose out of the content of these lectures. The book not only facilitates expert findings and conventions of fields that are among humanities in a captivating way but it also introduces its core pillars and responds to questions about the purpose of these sciences and what studying them entails.

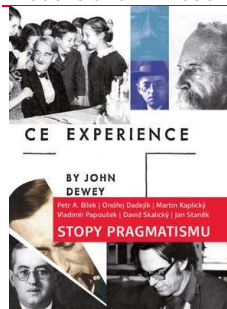
**Stanislav Doležal: Konstantin: Cesta k moci [Constantine: Path to power]**

Constantine: Path to power is a book about the political history of the Roman Empire of the period of Constantine but also the period of tetrarchy and the 3rd century in general. It follows Constantine's political career from the dramatic circumstances surrounding the moment when he became the emperor (306) until the massacre of his relatives that occurred shortly after his death (337). It also pays attention to Constantine's youth, his family, his role in the tetrarchy, and many other, often controversial, questions. The author sees Constantine as a talented and a very useful politician and general but also as a human who allowed that his personal turn to Christianity caused the start of revolutionary changes of the Roman Empire.

**Miroslava Aurová: Adverbios de foco en la perspectiva contrastiva (checo/español)**

A Spanish monograph focusing on the focus adverbs, their semantics and syntax in Czech and Spanish.

E-books and PDF books published 2020



Petr A. Bílek, Ondřej Dadejčík, Martin Kaplický, Vladimír Papoušek, David Skalický, Jan Staněk – Stopy pragmatismu (ebook – sold by Kosmas; printed edition 2016) [The trail of pragmatism]
 The collective monograph focuses on one of the most important philosophical currents of the 20th century – pragmatism. The book follows its reception in the Czech environment in the 20s and 30s in the works of various authors, such as Karel Čapek, Karel Vorovka, Emanuel Rádl, F. X. Šalda or Bedřich Václavěk. Authors turn to pragmatism as a school of thought that themed the questions of its time in an original way while trying to find parallels or alternative solutions used by the continental aesthetics to answer identical or similar questions.



Stanislav Suda: Experimentální dramatika (ebook – sold by Kosmas; printed edition 2017) [Experimental drama]
 The book *Experimental drama* took many years to write by a gradual recording of the story about viewing the phenomenon of dialogical actions in an experimental drama situation and outside it as well. It is an essay of an author about observing and reflecting on the stories of real people who encountered this phenomenon whether in the form of drama therapy, the personality preparation of pedagogues, or only as a leisure exploration of experimental drama.



Petr A. Bílek – Bohumil Jiroušek – Lukáš Novotný (eds.) a kol.: Československo 1918–1938/2018 (ebook – sold by Kosmas; printed edition 2018) [Czechoslovakia 1918–1938/2018]
 Texts contained in this book were written on the initiative Faculties of Arts of the University of České Budějovice and the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen in the context of commemorating the 100-year anniversary of the establishment of Czechoslovakia. However, the texts do not focus only on the birth of the new republic but also follow a number of facets of the first 20 years of Czechoslovakia from the perspective of the 21st century and primarily from the perspective of daily life, cultural policy, the education system and also open the question of ethnic relations in central Europe.



Miroslava Aurová: Srovnání aktuálního členění v češtině a španělštině: textově-lingvistický přístup (ebook – sold by Kosmas; printed edition 2017) [Comparison of current structuring in Czech and Spanish: text-linguistic approach]
 The monograph is pursuing a comparison of a Spanish and Czech word order while it introduces some concepts of Czech Hispanists who have pursued Spanish word order and it endeavours to find the causes of the barrier between the Czech and hispanophone linguistics. The paradigm that can be called contextual one is used as the theoretical framework since the context is becoming a key concept for the evaluation of word order. The monograph offers qualitative as well as quantitative analyses, the results of which reveal the differences, tendencies, and preferences of word-order solutions in both languages.



Fabio Ripamonti: Il suppletivismo verbale romanzo in diacronia (PDF book – available for a free download at nju.jcu.cz/; printed edition 2017)

E-books and PDF books published 2020

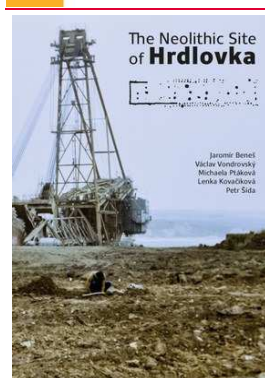
Ivana Oviszach: L'ARTE È DESTINO (PDF book – available for a free download at nju.jcu.cz/; printed edition 2015)



Ondřej Pešek: La « Rectorique de Ciceron » traduite par Jean d'Antioche (PDF book – available for a free download at nju.jcu.cz/; printed edition 2017)



Jaromír Beneš et al: The Neolithic Site of Hrdlovka (PDF book – available for a free download at nju.jcu.cz/; printed edition 2019)



10 National and international excellence

10.1 International and important national research, development, and creative activity, integration of research infrastructure in the international networks and engagement in professional or artistic networks

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice has been doing very well in the international as well as the national context. The 787 publications in the Web of Science database, including several in the most prestigious journals in their fields on one hand and recognised monographs and books on the other hand only prove the scientific and research potential of USB. The creative activity and its extent on the international and national levels differ in different subject fields of individual faculties of USB. USB became a partner of 2 projects Horizon 2020 (EU-PolarNet2, EvoGamePlus) in 2020. The CENAKVA centre at the Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters has been a large research infrastructure with open access to its infrastructure, knowledge, and expert facilities since 2019 by which it substantially aids in the development of science and research in the given areas. The orientation of research work of the majority of faculties has long been taking place in the international context of research. This fact is also reflected by a number of international projects, consortia, organisations and networks the USB is a member of and in the number of university facilities that USB cooperates with. Academic staff of all faculties are members of national as well as international professional associations and groups with respect to their subject fields.

The scientific orientation of institutes of the **USB Faculty of Arts** has long been taking place in the international context of research as evidenced by joint research projects, publication activity or the organisation of conferences with international participation. In addition to important national institutions, the faculty closely cooperates with a large number of foreign partners (literary-scientific research with the University of Opole or the Institute of Slovak Literature of the SAS in Bratislava; in the research of romance languages and literature, e.g. on the preparation of joint monographic volumes of journals with the staff of the Université Paris Descartes, Université Lorraine, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore or Universidad de Salamanca; joint publications prepared with the staff of the Karl-Eberhard-Universität Tübingen or L'École des hautes études en sciences sociales v Marseille emerge in historical fields; The Institute of Archival Studies and Auxilliary Sciences of History is an active member of the international organisation ICARus (International Centre for Archival Research). Intensive cooperation is taking place in the cross-border space, particularly when addressing joint Czech–Bavarian projects (a new project with the University in Passau on the preparation of joint double-degree studies of German Studies was launched). Within professional networks, the faculty is represented in Asociace děkanů Filozofických fakult ČR [Association of Deans of Faculties of Arts in the Czech Republic] and Rada vysokých škol [Board of Higher Education Institutions].

In 2020, the **USB Faculty of Science** was engaging in 3 international research consortia funded from Horizon 2020 (projects INTERACT 2, INTERACT 3, EU-PolarNet 2), one cross-border cooperation with Austria (project NABIAM), 5 cross-border cooperations with Bavaria (projects Museum Uploaded, BarkBeeDet, Květena Šumavy, MAID, SmartGrid), one Erasmus+ project, and one LIFE (LIFE for MIREs) project. The international cooperation of the faculty was also developing through 2 projects of the Czech Science Foundation and 6 projects of MEYS INTER-ACTION. The faculty was also engaged in activities of the research infrastructure ELIXIR-CZ (project LM2018131). The faculty was a part of the international consortium of 15 institutions that succeeded with the project EvoGamesPlus in a call MSCA ITN; the project will be executed in 2021–2024.

International and important national research, development, and creative activity of the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** as well as the centre of research CENAKVA that the faculty has in its structure as one of the few faculties in the Czech Republic is given by the extent of the internationally recognised cooperation and the publishing activity in the area of fisheries and protection of waters. CENAKVA centre has been a large research infrastructure with open access in its infrastructure, knowledge, and expert facility since 2019 by which it aids the development of science and research in the given areas to a substantial extent. The faculty is a part of a consortium of projects AQUAEXCEL2020 and the related navazujícího AQUAEXCEL3.0 that support the sustainable growth of branches of

aquaculture in Europe. The consortium is formed by 22 paramount European universities or research institutes that offer services and support the performance of research in the area of aquaculture on the global level. The faculty has its own solution for sharing experimental data and metadata bioWES that was developed under a project of TA CR and used and further developed under projects Aquaexcel and Aquaexcel2020 for sharing data with the public. The system is used by the faculty for transferring experimental data to cooperating partners because it meets the standards of a data-sharing instrument. The faculty as a large research infrastructure of the Czech Republic is directly connected to the European research space through the large research infrastructure Danubius – RI that unites foremost entities pursuing the areas of environmental sciences. The faculty is a member of EAS (European Aquaculture Society) and W. S. C. S. (World Sturgeon Conservation Society).

In 2020, the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** was a member of a number of international organisations and networks, e.g. the European Association of Schools of Social Work (EASSW), Childwatch International, European Transcultural Nursing Association (ETNA), Udine-C Network (Understanding Development Issues in Nurse Educator Careers), International Association for Human Caring (IAHC), European Violence in Psychiatry Research Group, European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE), Institut on Family and Neighborhood Life (Clemson University, USA), European Association of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM), Multidisciplinary European Low Dose Initiative (MELODI) or the European Radiation Research Society (ERRS). The following may be mentioned as memberships in national professional networks: Asociace vysokoškolských vzdělavatelů nelékařských zdravotnických profesí v České republice, Asociace vzdělavatelů v sociální práci, or the National Voluntary Association. Memberships in professional associations, organisations and groups with relation to the creative activity of the regional, national, or international significance are an important tool of communication between experts in areas in which the faculty executes its educational and creative activity. Individual academic staff members are members of national as well as international professional groups and associations with respect to their subject fields.

A gradual improvement of the publication activity of academic staff has been occurring at the **USB Faculty of Agriculture**. The growing number of publications in renowned international scientific journals is proof. In 2020, the staff of the faculty authored or co-authored 41 articles in journals of the Jimp type (categories Q1 and Q2). The academic staff of the faculty worked on 35 projects in total in 2020. Internationally, a project under the cross-border cooperation with Bavaria under the Interreg programme was addressed. Furthermore, the staff were engaged in projects CEEPUS, H2020, Erasmus+ and the project Inter Cost. One project was addressed under the programme of mobility of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic. At the national level, 3 projects of TA CR, 2 projects if the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, 10 projects of MA CR, and 2 projects of MIT CR were important. At the same time, a successful project of Czech–Chinese cooperation under the programme Delta 2 of TA CR with work starting in 2021 was submitted in 2020. The faculty actively engaged in discussions concerning the start of the project entitled 'USB Development – Capacities for R&D II' in key activities of Evaluation, Internationalisation, and Transfer in 2020. The personnel of individual positions of the expert and execution team for the period of the project 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2020 was defined.

10.2 National and international recognition

As in previous years, several students, graduates, employees, and other persons connected to the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice have received significant individual or group recognitions. Some University projects or associations that cooperate with USB very closely or in the activity in which USB participates were also recognised.

The continued interest in the cooperation with USB through international as well as international projects, studies and surveys, and the effort to utilise the expert knowledge of the employees of the University in the form of their participation in various expert panels and juries, national and international boards and other professional boards may also be considered an important recognition. The ranking of USB and its individual faculties in various domestic as well as international rankings, surveys and studies, the results of which the University regularly monitors under its benchmarking activities may also be considered as a not-so-minor recognition.

Awards awarded to students, graduates, employees, and other persons connected with USB in 2020

The head of the **Department of Regional Management of the USB Faculty of Economics, doc. Ing. Eva Cudlínová, CSc.**, was elected to the eight-member board of the **International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE)** for the third time in a row. It is a global organisation with a 30-year history that brings together scientists pursuing sustainability, particularly from the economic point of view, and approaches that are not common in mainstream economics. The only Czech and until recently also the only representative of central and eastern Europe was elected by ISEE members from all around the world.

The director of the **Institute of English Studies of the USB Faculty of Arts, doc. PhDr. Ladislav Nagy, Ph.D.**, received the **Magnesia Litera 2020** award in the category Translation. The novel *Patrick Melrose I* of the British writer Edward St Aubyn became the translation of the year 2020. The Magnesia Litera award was devised in 9 categories that attempt to encompass the entire domestic book production. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the grand announcement of the literary prizes was postponed from the original spring date to 31 August 2020. The brief introduction to the translation – among introductions to nominated books – says: *'The translation of Ladislav Nagy accurately renders all nuances of St Aubyn's novel. It manages to find the right words for various expressions of strange love as well as desperate hatred. It perfectly preserves the detached view as well as the dry irony of the story-telling: the text is just as strangely unbearable in its rendering as the story itself.'*

The Česká hlava – Cena skpiny ČEZ award, the Doctorandus award for the best work of a young scientist in the area of technical sciences in its 19th year was awarded to **RNDr. Jiří Kratochvíl, Ph.D.**, from the **Institute of Physics of the USB Faculty of Science**, for research in the area of nanomaterials for biomedical applications. Dr. Jiří Kratochvíl is active as an educator and scientist at the USB Faculty of Science where he also performed multidisciplinary research under cooperation of the Institute of Physics, Institute of Chemistry and the Institute of Medical Biology with the Department of Macromolecular Physics of the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University. In addition to the award, Dr. Kratochvíl received a number of awards at prestigious conferences for his research and he was selected as an excellent young scientist at a meeting with Nobel Prize laureates in Lindau. Programming is also one of his interests in addition to science. He can be proud of the award Mobilní aplikace roku in the category Games.

RNDr. Martin Volf, Ph.D., ecologist, from the Biology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences, who is also active (teaches) at the **USB Faculty of Science**, received the **Josef Hlávka Award** for his research of the relationship between plants and insects. Dr. Martin Volf initiated a brand new orientation of research focusing on chemical ecology at the Biology Centre of CAS. He has undertaken internships in Finland (University of Eastern Finland), USA (Smithsonian Institution a University of Minnesota), Japan (Tomakomai Experimental Forest) or at iDiv (German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research) in Leipzig. Upon his return, he was appointed as the head of the Laboratory of Evolutionary Ecology. Apart from his main topic, Dr. Volf is interested in environmental protection, took part, for example, in a study concerning the Carabus nitens in the Ore Mountains, which is going extinct. In 2020, 43 students from Czech universities and higher education institutions and 5 young scientists from the Czech Academy of Sciences received the Josef Hlávka Award. The award is intended for talented higher education students and extraordinary young researchers from the Czech Academy of Sciences under 33 years of age.

RNDr. Andrea Bednářová, Ph.D., RNDr. Jan Klečka, Ph.D., and Mgr. Tomáš Korytář, Ph.D., scientists of the Biology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences, received the **Otto Wichterle Award** on Tuesday 23 June 2020 in Villa Lanna in Prague. The award is intended for promising scientists under the age of 35 who are achieving top-class results in their fields. Dr. Andrea Bednářová and Dr. Jan Klečka are graduates of the doctoral degree studies at the **USB Faculty of Sciences**. Dr. Korytář is currently partially active at the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters**. In 2020, 22 young researchers from all around the republic received the Award. The award for young research staff bears the name of Professor Otto Wichterle (1913–1998) in its title in the memory of the excellent Czech chemist of a world stature who invented soft contact lenses and became the president of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences after November 1989.

Mgr. Václav Fiala, a graduate of the **USB Faculty of Science** (study fields Biology of ecosystems and Teacher training for secondary schools), who currently teaches chemistry, biology, and natural history at PSch Brigádníků in Prague, where he is also the leading teacher of the 2nd level, became the winner of the 2nd year of the **Global Teacher Prize (GTP) Czech Republic** in 2020. Mgr. Fiala uses research-oriented teaching in his instruction owing to which everyone can experience the joy of making discoveries. Therefore, he published his own publication (Researcher's journal) for pupils and teachers of chemistry that was recognised by the Český svaz chemického průmyslu in a competition 'Učme chemii atraktivně'. He participates in the preparation of interesting activities and the development of reading and digital literacy in natural sciences in the context of a cooperation with Národní pedagogický institut ČR. He shares his experience through active attendance of various conferences and by leading the centre of support for colleagues at PSch where he is active.

Prof. RNDr. Dalibor Štys from the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** became one of the two representatives of the Czech Republic in professional advisory groups established within the key 'Missions' of the new European programme in support of research, development, and innovations Horizon Europe, which should allocate up to 100 billion Euro in the upcoming budget period 2021–2027. Professor Dalibor Štys will be active on the **Board of the Mission for Healthy Oceans, Seas, Coastal and Inland Waters**. In addition to the Mission for Healthy Oceans, Seas, Coastal and Inland Waters, Missions for Cancer Assembly, Adaptation to Climate Change, Neutral and Smart Cities, Soil Health and Food are also being established.

Dr. Daniel D. Novotný from the **USB Faculty of Theology** was appointed as a member of the newly established ethics committee that will be focusing on the operation of automated and autonomous vehicles. The aim of this committee established by the Ministry of Transport of the Czech Republic is to assess the issues of ethics and related topics. The main areas that the committee will be focusing on are, for example, the interaction of humans and machines, issues of the behaviour or artificial intelligence in the case of accidents, accessibility and security of shared data, or the issue of responsibility for software used and the infrastructure in the conditions of the Czech Republic. Expert findings of the committee should also cover other types of transportation in addition to road transportation and should, therefore, be usable in a broader context.

Students **Francesca Kastner** and **Lea Klatzl** from the Höhere Lehranstalt für Umwelt und Wirtschaft Yspertal with which has the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** long been cooperating received the **Science Award of Lower Austria** for the work that they did on the project 'Histological changes in fish after psychoactive pollutants exposure' under

Awards awarded to students, graduates, employees, and other persons connected with USB in 2020

the guidance of Marie E. Sancho Santos and Christoph Steinbach at the **International Summer School 2019 of the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters**.

The online conference 'Sports: Theory vs. Praxis' took place from 20 to 21 November 2020. The conference took place under the auspices of the University of Coimbra, Faculty of Arts and Humanities. **Mgr. Lukáš Mareš**, a doctoral degree student at the USB Faculty of Theology, appeared at the conference with his contribution 'On the Playful Attitude in Sport' that he presented together with Dr. Emily Ryall (University of Gloucestershire). Mgr. Lukáš Mareš received the **Best Student Essay Award** for his contribution.

Other awards awarded in 2020

The Institute of English Studies of the USB Faculty of Arts succeeded with the project of so-called Strategic partnership entitled '**Teachers of English for Future Europe (TEFE): EU mobility and employability through the Internationalisation of Teaching Practice**' in the grant competition of the Erasmus+ programme. Therefore, over the years 2020 to 2023, the University of South Bohemia will be coordinating an international project joining 6 European universities (partners from Great Britain, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, and Spain) focusing on increasing employability and mobility of teachers of the English language.

359 persons active at Czech institutions are on the list of the 2% most cited scientists in their fields in 2019. 12 persons work at the **University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice** as well.

The Laboratory of Signal and Image Processing of the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters placed among the winners of the first round of '**OpenCV Spatial AI Competition**' sponsored by the largest world manufacturer of semiconductor circuits, Intel Corporation. Out of the 235 projects submitted worldwide, 31 teams were selected in the first phase that received the prototype OpenCV AI Kit with Depth (OAK-D) and access to Intel® DevCloud. It is a special device combining a 3D camera and a camera that can use image processing using neural networks directly on the chip without the need of transferring it to a computer.

The book *Illnesses and diseased states of fish* published at the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters received the prestigious **Josef Hlávka Award** for a publication in the category of sciences concerning the life sciences. The group of authors led by Miroslava Palíková consisted of foremost experts in the field across relevant institutions in the country, including several experts from the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** (Veronika Piačková, Eliška Zusková, Jitka Kolářová). The publication brings an overview of illnesses of freshwater and ornamental fish and examines the options for their prevention and treatment. The text is supplemented by unique visual materials including original pen-and-ink drawings that explain the morphology of some organs as well as the complexity of the development cycles of parasites in detail. The Josef Hlávka Award for scientific literature is traditionally ceremonially awarded at the Castle Lužany u Přeštic. This time the ceremony took place on Monday 21 September 2020 on the grounds of Hlávkovy domy in Prague. The awards have been awarded since 1992. Český literární fond and Nadání Josefa, Marie a Zdeňky Hlávkových cooperate on the organisation.

The award **Best Monograph in 2019** from the committee of Česká společnost kardiovaskulární chirurgie was awarded to the work by **MUDr. Vojtěch Kurfurst, Ph.D.**, who is a member of the **Institute of Physiotherapy and Selected Medical Disciplines of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences**. He is one of the authors responsible for the publication entitled *Kardiochirurgie v instruktivních kazuistikách*.

ČTYRÁK beer from the faculty **Research and Instruction Microbrewery of the USB Faculty of Agriculture** was awarded 1st place and the Gold Brewer's Seal at the 30th year of the competition Gold Brewer's Seal. In the competition 'Chutná hezky. Jihočesky', 'ČTYRÁK 12°' took the 2nd place in the category of microbreweries under 10 000hl a year. The recipe of the product was gradually fine-tuned by Vlastimil Nohejl, a student in the field of Product quality, under the expert supervision of Libor Smutek, chief brewer.

10.2.1 Benchmarking

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice regularly performs benchmarking to research organisations and similarly oriented higher education institutions in the Czech Republic as well as abroad. The object of benchmarking to higher education institutions in the Czech Republic are primarily data concerning the success rate of projects applying for support from grant agencies, comparison of publishing performances, data concerning the unemployment of graduates or public higher education institutions in particular and their employability on the labour market, and other results of the activity of universities evaluated externally. Some of these results are regularly monitored by specialised institutions or agencies and the obtained data are subsequently published in public media or in publicly accessible publications and studies (e.g. rankings of the success rate of universities/faculties per selected criteria, employability of graduates on the labour market, comparing performances in the area of research activity of comparable institutions, etc.). Regular discussions of associations of deans of selected faculties of Czech higher education institutions also contribute to the regular benchmarking of the basic qualitative indicators of faculties of the same or similar orientation not only within the Czech Republic but also in the international context.

Selected USB faculties have long been receiving a very good assessment in studies focusing on the comparison of subject field publication performance of faculties of research organisations in the Czech

Republic that are regularly prepared by the think-tank IDEA³¹ at CERGE-EI. The above-mentioned studies prove that selected USB facilities focus on journal outputs in the globally most important journals.

USB places very well in the annual surveys of the TÝDEN magazine that introduce higher education institutions and their faculties that place best (always 5 first places) in a mutual comparison based on set criteria: admission probability, instruction and research quality from the personnel perspective, RIV score that the university receives for professional articles, publications, grants, or other scientific activity. The ranking of the university in selected foreign rankings (CWUR, THE, and QS) is newly also monitored as another criterium as well as the evaluation of the National Accreditation Bureau for Higher Education. Results of the recent year of the survey are not yet available. Under the survey 'Best higher education institutions of 2020', the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** placed the best as it won the ranking for the fourth time (as the only faculty in the Czech Republic) in the category of Agricultural, forestry, and veterinary sciences. Scientific results as well as the excellent personnel and good reputation abroad speak in favour of the faculty. The **USB Faculty of Arts** and the **USB Faculty of Science** placed among the top 5 in their categories again and the **USB Faculty of Economics** has newly made it to the ranking as well. The USB Faculty of Arts took 2nd place in the category of Humanities, which is a one-place improvement in comparison with the previous year. The USB Faculty of Science remained in 4th place in the category of Natural Sciences as in the previous year. The USB Faculty of Economics placed 5th in the category of Economics.

The University of South Bohemia in Česká Budějovice regularly monitors rankings compiled on the basis of votes of students and graduates of higher education institutions. One of these rankings, in which faculties of USB place regularly place very well, are rankings compiled by Asociace studentů absolventů under the survey 'Fakulta roku'³² [Faculty of the Year]. It is a survey allowing students and recent graduates to evaluate how interesting courses are, the ability of educators to explain the subject matter in a captivating way, the preparation for practical application or future work, opportunities for engagement in student projects and the study mood, i.e. the quality of the higher education institution from the perspective of students and graduates, via online voting. A ranking is compiled out of the results of the voting, and it is structured in accordance with individual areas of studies and the type of the higher education institution (public, private). The last year of the survey 'Fakulta roku' took place in the academic year 2018/2019.

Apart from national rankings, USB also regularly monitors international rankings as well, including rankings that USB also places in as well as rankings in which the University is not yet represented. Specifically, USB monitors the following rankings:

- ARWU - Academic Ranking of World Universities
- QS World University Rankings
- THE – Times Higher Education World University Rankings
- CWTS Leiden Ranking
- NTU – National Taiwan University Ranking: Performance Ranking of Scientific Papers of World Universities
- URAP – University Ranking by Academic Performance
- U-Multirank
- SIR – SCImago Institutions Rankings
- CWUR – Center for World University Rankings
- U. S. News Best Global Universities
- MosIUR – Three University Missions Moscow International University Ranking
- Cross Ranking
- Webometrics Ranking of World Universities
- uniRank – University Ranking

For more information on USB's performance in selected international rankings, see the Addendum to the Report on Internal Quality Evaluation of Educational, Creative and Related Activities for 2020.

³¹ <https://idea-en.cerge-ei.cz/>

³² <http://fakultaroku.cz/>

Even though USB regularly monitors international rankings, it is also aware of the negative sides of some of the existing rankings (e.g. the focus of rankings primarily on the scientific performance or the reputation of the evaluated institution, determining the ranking based on the number of Nobel Prize laureates, the inaccuracy of entry data, inconsistency of the used methodology in time, annual expansion of the number of institutions included in the evaluation, etc.). From this perspective, USB also prudently approaches the work with these rankings and the interpretation of the results that they contain.

10.3 International evaluation of a higher education institution or its constituent part, including foreign accreditations

In 2020, an international evaluation following the Methodology 17+ (Methodology for Evaluating Research Organisations in the Segment of Higher Education Institutions) was executed at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice through the **International Evaluation Panel (IEP)** that had been formed for this purpose. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the IEP session was moved from June to November 2020 and the IEP session took place in November 2020 in a distance form in the end given the ongoing unfavourable epidemiological situation. Over the course of the three-day and very intensive session of IEP (10–12 November 2020), the members of the international panel virtually met with more than a hundred representatives of USB and other invited guests with whom they discussed topics contained in the 3 evaluated modules, i.e. module M3 (Social relevance – evaluation on the level of faculties) and M4 (Viability) and M4 (Strategy and conception) that were evaluated on the level of the entire University. In its subsequently prepared evaluation report, IEP assessed USB as ‘average to good’ overall while stating that the starting position of USB is very good and it has a great potential for further development. The evaluation ‘average HEI’ is understood by IEP as ‘average on the European scale’, meeting certain minimum standards for a respectable European HEI. From this perspective and with respect to the position of USB in Europe, IEP considers the resulting assessment as logical. IEP considers clearly subscribing to the need and development of the **social relevance of research** and **bolstering the USB internationalisation** to be the two greatest challenges for the University of South Bohemia. The management of USB as well as individual faculties embraced the results of the evaluation and considers the recommendations of IEP as relevant, and they are ready to jointly work on the implementation of these recommendations so that the University could be sufficiently proud of its results at the next evaluation in 2025. The recommendation contained in the IEP evaluation report was also reflected in the USB Strategic plan 2021–2030.

In 2020, USB received the Final Report and Recommendations of external experts on the internationalisation of USB on the basis of the evaluation that took place in 2019 already under the project **Monitoring Internationalization of Czech Higher Education (MICHE)**, which was organised by the Czech National Agency for International Education and Research (DZS) on behalf of MEYS. Experience and recommendations obtained in the context of this evaluation were reflected in the USB Internationalisation Plan that is a part of the USB Strategic Plan 2021–2030.

Detailed information on the above-mentioned international evaluation is available in the **Addendum to the Report on Internal Quality Evaluation of Educational, Creative and Related Activities for 2020**.

The international evaluation of the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** is provided by the International Board of the Faculty and the Centre (IBFC). IBFC consists of 7 important foreign figures. The International Board acts as an independent advisory and evaluation body. The output of the joint discussions are recommendations and statements formulated by IBFC. In recent years, IBFC meets in a two-year cycle. The last session took place on 15 October 2020. The formation of international boards is currently being prepared at other constituent parts of USB as well.

The classification of the centre **CENAKVA** of the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters among the large research infrastructures of the Czech Republic can be perceived as proof of national and international recognition. Starting in 2019, CENAKVA is a large research infrastructure with open access to its infrastructure, knowledge, and expert facilities. In the same year, CENAKVA also became a part of the pan-European research association DANUBIUS – RI, which is a part of the ESFRI roadmap and endeavours to obtain the ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium) status.

Since 2020, exams from 7 courses of graduates of the consecutive master’s field Accounting and Financial Business Management of the **USB Faculty of Economics** have been recognised under the system of professional education ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants):

- F1 - The Accountant in Business
- F2 - Management Accounting
- F3 - Financial Accounting
- F4 - Corporate and Business Law
- F5 - Performance Management
- F6 – Taxation
- F7 – Financial Management

To the faculty and particularly its students, this certification signifies an important recognition of the quality of education in the area of finance and accounting and proof of a connection of theoretical instruction with the needs of practical application. ACCA is recognised in 170 countries in the world and it currently has more than 500 000 members and students. The purpose of the ACCA qualification is to provide its graduates with accounting and financial knowledge and skills and also professional values that will allow them to become respected financial experts and build successful careers in any industry, counselling, public institutions or in the private sector. The ACCA qualification builds on global standards for the education of accountants set by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). Members of ACCA work in key positions in financial management, counselling, controlling, and audit at international as well as Czech companies.

The Rector of the **University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice** and the Rector of **Université de Paris** (France) signed an extension of an agreement concerning a double degree in the Consecutive master's programme **Théories et pratiques linguistiques**. Concurrently, both institutions updated study plans of programmes in connection with new accreditations. The Master's double diploma degree programme **Théories et pratiques linguistiques** has been operating since 2009 and it is executed by the **USB Faculty of Arts** and **Faculté des Sciences Humaines et Sociales** (Université de Paris). Students pursuing the double diploma programme study at the USB Faculty of Arts in the first year of the master's studies and at Université Paris Descartes (programme Sciences du langage – Signes, Discours et Société) in the second year. After completing both years and the defence of the diploma thesis under double supervision, graduates receive a diploma from each of the partner universities. Graduates of the programme find employment in all positions that require high communication skills in Czech, French and other foreign languages (commercial departments of companies, editorial offices in the media, marketing, public administration, diplomacy). They might work as translators, interpreters, or language experts.

11 Third role

11.1 Transfer of findings into practice and its results

The process of transfer of findings into practice, including the appropriate intellectual property protection and commercialisation, is secured from the administrative and expert perspective by the Technology Transfer Office (TTO USB) at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. This process and position of TTO USB are codified by the Rector's ordinance on handling intangible assets and the protection of confidential information at USB in České Budějovice that began undergoing an extensive revision reacting to the requirements of faculties to manage some of the processes on their own (not excluding the obligation to inform TTO USB). The identification of results with the commercial potential and the counselling activity towards academic staff with ideas concerning the commercialisation of their results is performed by trained staff subject to TTO USB, so-called technological scouts. TTO USB regularly publishes USB offers of cooperation and technologies available for licencing in international databases of innovative technologies. It also operates the website www.jctt.cz/ at which it offers its services and services of individual faculties from the sphere of application, popularises its activity and publishes the complete offer of results of research and development with commercial potential at USB. TTO USB is a member of the board of the national platform *Transfera.cz* and has built a very good reputation within the Czech Republic. In 2020, work on the Rector's ordinance on establishing spin-off businesses of USB and their operation began.

11.2 Activity in the region, cooperation with regional entities

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice is a stable educational and research organisation in South Bohemia and it is also one of the largest employers in České Budějovice as well as in the entire South Bohemian Region. It is, therefore, a part of a very extensive network of diverse relationships and their influences on society-wide developments. The University has a relatively broad spectrum of functioning partnerships, functioning communication platforms with the political representation at the national, regional, and municipal level at its disposal as well as a top-class network of partnerships with higher education, research and other institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad. At the national level, particularly the cooperation with a whole range of institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences including the Biology Centre CAS located in České Budějovice but also with a range of other institutes of CAS located in Prague and focusing on humanities and social sciences must be highlighted as well as the cooperation with many universities within the entire Czech Republic. These are various forms of cooperation – memberships of doctoral studies boards, memberships of scientific boards of faculties and universities (important, among other things, for the collection of examples of good practices in the preparation of degree programmes), memberships of boards of academic institutes, invited lectures at other universities and lectures of educators and researchers from other universities and other research institutions at USB, or lectures in relation to the practical application including those from among the important graduates of USB. The mutually beneficial cooperation with institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences is reflected in the invited lectures at individual faculties/departments/institutes; the cooperation with other higher education institutions and companies is also considerable.

Given the very diverse nature and focus of individual constituent parts of USB, partner organisations as well as forms of cooperation are very different (see below for specific examples of recent cooperation of individual constituent parts of universities). Individual USB faculties cooperate with their own range of organisations that differ in the type of their activity as well as the options for including students in the cooperation. In general, it is possible to divide the cooperation of USB with the regional sphere of application into several forms – engagement of experts from the sphere of application in degree programmes, addressing specific practical problems in semestral, bachelor's as well as diploma projects, professional internships of students in companies and other institutions, internships of students at primary and secondary schools, contractual execution of professional work of the service or research nature, providing professional consultations and consultancy, the execution of joint projects, organisation of professional lectures and seminars, providing training of representatives of the state administration and self-governments, activity in various working groups, professional associations and platforms forming the developments in the region, cooperation on the preparation of strategies and

plans of development of the region, or engagement in projects, strategies and studies focused on addressing environmental, social and society-wide problems including projects of a charity nature.

The **USB Faculty of Economics** has been participating in the project of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic entitled 'Implementation of policies of demographic ageing to the regional level' (socio-demographic analysis, collection and assessment of data-guided interviews with seniors, participation in roundtables, commenting on strategic documents) in cooperation with the Regional Authority of the South Bohemian Region. In 2020, the faculty evaluated the proposal of the 'Programme of development of the South Bohemian Region 2021–2027' on the basis of an order. Based on contractual cooperation with MAS, development strategies of selected municipalities, in the preparation of which students also take part under the supervision of the expert staff of the faculty (supervisors of relevant courses) are also prepared by the faculty. Faculty experts will be participating in the evaluation of the Conception of development of tourism in the South Bohemian Region 2021–2030 that is newly being prepared.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** has its irreplaceable place in the area of education in humanities in the city of České Budějovice as well as within the South Bohemian Region. It is the natural gradient education institution for graduates of secondary schools from the South Bohemian Region as well as other regions that are interested in obtaining education in the fields that it offers. The USB Faculty of Arts organises a series of popularisation lectures entitled 'The way science is done at the USB Faculty of Arts' for secondary school students and all supporters of science. The point of this lecture series is to introduce philological, historical, and art-cultural fields in a captivating way. Unlike the classic open days that the faculty regularly organises, the above-mentioned series of lectures focuses primarily on the introduction of specific fields as introduced by the foremost figures of the faculty that also participate in contemporary research in addition to instruction. Since the end of 2020, the faculty can proudly present its first popularisation book about humanities. The publication 'The way science is done at the USB Faculty of Arts', which arose out of a series of 12 popularisation lectures organised in the previous year, consists of 12 chapters written by foremost figures of the faculty who introduce their scientific interests and research topics that they are pursuing to secondary school students and the lay public in a captivating manner. All of that is done in an accessible language and in an attractive graphic form. The series of lectures as well as the publishing of the publication was supported by the project OP RDE 'USB Development – Capacities for R&D'. The faculty cooperates with self-governing, state, regional, educational, cultural, or media organisations in the region, particularly with archives, museums, galleries, theatres, and study centres. The faculty is developing extensive activities, e.g. in the area of cultural heritage preservation during archaeological surveys.

The active presence of the **USB Faculty of Education** in the public space has been demonstrated particularly in the cooperation with the Municipal Authority of the city of České Budějovice (see, e.g. the continuing cooperation between the Municipal Authority of the city of České Budějovice and the USB Faculty of Education on the implementation of the Strategic plan of the development of sport of the city of České Budějovice, cooperation on the methodology of defining school districts or monitoring the daily rhythms of the mobility of inhabitants in the context of transportation in the city). The faculty supports inter-regional cooperation with other universities, primarily due to planning and organisation of FET courses, particularly the preparation of standards for LLL courses – Supplementary pedagogical studies (SPS), in the context of the methodological preparation of MEYS with respect to the amendment of the Act on Pedagogical Staff and the expected changes in the school environment that the amendment will bring.

The **USB Faculty of Science** is active as an important educational institution in natural and computer sciences in the south of Bohemia with overlap to technical fields. It performs expert activity in fields of environmental protection and the development of the landscape for public administration and self-government bodies. Research at the faculty includes cooperation on the regional level. The research of immunotherapy of the cancer of the pancreas is taking place in cooperation with Hospital České Budějovice. The research cooperation with institutes of the Biology Centre CAS, e.g. on the research of tick-borne encephalitis, is traditional. The faculty cooperates with Technische Hochschule Deggendorf (Germany) and Šumava National Park on timely monitoring of locations afflicted by a bark beetle calamity. Cooperation with the Municipal Authority of the City of České Budějovice and the South Bohemian Region on the ornithological monitoring on the territory of the city of České Budějovice (the significance of glass surfaces in the deaths of birds, water availability, addressing the coexistence of people and a rookery of rooks) is also starting.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** cooperates with the local self-government, the South Bohemian Region as well as important organisations and institutions under the preparation and the subsequent execution of various projects, strategies, studies, etc. It actively engages even in the memberships in platforms and groups forming the developments in the region in areas of fisheries, protection of water and the environment. It is a cooperation with a professional overlap in promotion, improving the reputation of USB and its partners. Experts of the faculty are frequent guests of professional, discussion and popularisation shows and other events at which they comment on current issues related to environmental protection. Owing to the MEVPIS centre, the activities of the faculty expanded to include training and education programmes for the non-professional public and inhabitants of the city of Vodňany and the surrounding areas.

The **USB Faculty of Theology** is an important regional and university centre of Lifelong learning and the University of the Third Age. It actively engages in the discussion on current social and ethical questions or it participates in research projects with significant ethical overlap. The engagement of the faculty in the execution of the project of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs entitled 'Implementation of policies of demographic ageing to the regional level' or the cooperation on the research project of moral intuitions of potential users of autonomous vehicles may be specific examples. This project is overseen by the Czech Academy of Sciences and apart from the faculty, the Institute of State and Law CAS, the Institute of Philosophy CAS and the Faculty of Science of Charles University are also taking part in the project. The aim of the project is to ascertain the preferences of the potential buyers of autonomous vehicles and its output will be a comprehensive ethical analysis of the operation that the research team will offer to car manufacturers. It will be possible to immediately apply the analysis in the development of operating systems. The faculty cooperates with the Czech Technical University in Prague, Institut smyslové aktivizace and Asociace virtuální a rozšířené reality on the development of an application that would improve the lives of seniors by allowing them to stay in an environment in which they cannot move on their own at least for a while using virtual glasses. The application should help particularly people with reduced mobility. On the other hand, even in this case, experts are pursuing the search for answers to a number of unresolved ethical and moral questions that are connected with such a use of virtual reality.

In 2020, the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** continued in cooperation with the Municipal Authority of the South Bohemian Region on the project entitled 'Engagement of students and academic staff of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences in the education concerning health issues in the South Bohemian Region'. Under the project, courses of 'First aid' (for students of higher education institutions), 'Lifestyle diseases – the boogeyman of the modern times' (for the public) and 'Self examination of the breast and testicles as a prevention of the development of tumour diseases in this area' (for students and the public) were organised. Promotion and educational materials to individual courses were provided. Given the situation and governmental measures related to the Covid-19 pandemic, it was not possible to execute some of the set goals of the given project. The research project entitled 'Support for informal caretakers in the South Bohemian Region through audiovisual means including virtual reality' (TA CR ÉTA) was launched in 2020. The goal of the project in which a multidisciplinary team of the faculty is engaged is to provide support to informal caretakers through psycho-social counselling, consultancy in the area of medical services and using modern technologies (virtual reality environment). The virtual reality environment will be disseminated to end users through application guarantors (ARPIDA České Budějovice, LEDAX in České Budějovice, Domácí hospic sv. Markéty in Strakonice, Autis Center in České Budějovice, South Bohemian Region – Social Affairs Department of the Regional Authority in České Budějovice). In 2020, primarily commenting on the proposal for the collection of data (empirical instruments), contacting the target group, organising questionnaire surveys, commenting on the virtual reality proposal were executed under the project in question as well as consultancy and counselling activity. In 2020, the faculty continued in the work on the project entitled 'Model of care for the elderly in long-stay facilities following the concept of three-level living' (TA CR ÉTA), the application guarantors of which are the cities of Třeboň and Tábor. Specifically, the faculty participated in the organisation of the online conference 'Modern trends in elderly care – challenges in the 21st century', it cooperated on the preparation of the Summary Research Report (the main output of the project) and on the implementation of outputs of the project into practice (a contract concluded with the city of Tábor). The preparation of the project entitled 'Community planning of social services in rural regions of the Czech Republic' (TA CR ÉTA), the co-executor of which is the Local Action Group Pomalší, o.p.s., was started in 2020.

The **USB Faculty of Agriculture** takes into account the regional characteristics and specifics of the region directly in the creation of its strategic document '2030 Target State'. One of the key points of the document deals with regional issues. The faculty has long been cooperating with a number of entities in the region and at many levels – starting with the South Bohemia Science and Technology Park, Regional Chamber of Agriculture South Bohemia, a number of secondary schools in the region (faculty secondary school), to businesses (cooperation agreement with the national company Budvar), and regional agricultural cooperatives. The faculty has been the operator of an animal shelter, the founder of which is the City Authority of České Budějovice, for 15 years already. The faculty has been renting the agricultural grounds in Haklovy Dvory for 6 years. At the same time, the faculty is a manufacturer of regional products (e.g. the traditional Czech beer Čtyrák) and it is an active member of the South Bohemian food cluster. The faculty supports the activity of 'home-brewing' society and it has built a Museum of Brewing, which is located on the USB campus, in cooperation with a partner from Bavaria.

In addition to lifelong learning activities, the University of the Third Age, the Children's University, etc., popularisation lectures that do not require regular attendance, or activities on various anniversaries are also popular among the public. Lectures of the Science Café series (country-wide show through which the general public acquaints itself with scientific topics in an informal way in cafés and cinemas) are also popular. In České Budějovice, the series is attended by people in the culture club Horká vana. Lectures of the Philology club in the literary café Měsíc ve dne in České Budějovice are popular, particularly the Academic Half-hours, the tradition of which started in 2013. In the context of the lecture series, figures from the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice and the Biology Centre CAS introduce interesting topics and results of their research work to the public in a simple and captivating form. USB actively participated in the country-wide scientific-popularisation event **Researchers' Night** (27 November 2020) again in 2020. The central topic that permeated the entire programme was the topic 'Mankind and robots' (commemoration of the 130th anniversary of the birth of Karel Čapek and 100 years since the R. U. R. theatre play). Given the unfavourable epidemiological situation, the event took place online. A nearly 5-hour live broadcast was executed during which all faculties of USB presented in 21 reports in total. USB also took part in the **Festival vědy**, entertaining scientific-technical laboratory on the topic Innovation for the future, for the first time in its history with 11 expositions of 7 faculties. This event that started using the name VědaFest was newly taking place online. Over 3 months, viewers could access 71 expositions in total through their computers, mobile phones and tablets.

The academic staff of USB and also students in a number of cases (particular students of doctoral degree programmes) regularly take part in popularisation events organised by city museums, galleries, information centres, libraries, professional and civic association or hobby societies in the region and beyond at which they present not only the results of their own scientific work but also their home faculties. For example, these events include invited lectures on various expert and current social topics, discussions, workshops, exhibitions (particularly of their own photographs), screenings, excursions or walks with an expert commentary (e.g. natural scientific walks focusing on botany, entomology, zoology, or ornithology). They are often guests of various television or radio or internet shows and discussion platforms where they comment on current professional or social questions and issues. USB has organised a whole range of other thematically focused events related to areas of studies, science, and research, or internationalisation in the course of 2020. These events are described in greater detail in the corresponding chapters of this annual report. USB fulfils its third role very well in the area of lifelong learning and senior learning in the region to whom it offers a number of activities within the University of the Third Age (more on these activities in chapter 2.3).

As in previous years, USB also organised, organisationally co-participated or provided support and facilities for dozens of other events of various focus in 2020. Even though the unfavourable epidemiological situation due to the global Covid-19 pandemic affected a number of these events as some of the planned events were cancelled without being replaced, some were organised in a hybrid form or transferred to the online environment entirely. Students and employees of individual faculties of USB participated in a number of these events (often as authors). Employees and students also organisationally engaged in events of the charity nature, the proceeds of which were donated in support of civic associations or facilities caring for persons with mental, physical, or social handicaps, children's homes, reception centres as well as in support of talented children whose health handicap or social background does not prevent them from further developing their talents, or in support of civic associations caring for abandoned and handicapped animals. The stress of USB on Christian, ethical, and social values is also significant.

Employees and students of USB engaged in volunteering activities in connection with the Covid-19 pandemic (e.g. diagnostics of samples for the presence of the coronavirus at the USB Faculty of Science upon permission from the National Institute of Public Health, regular tutoring for pupils of primary and secondary schools all around the South Bohemian Region, and assistance with preparation for high school leaving examinations for students of grammar schools in České Budějovice, babysitting of primarily the children of employees of the emergency services, volunteering in hospitals and social services facilities, providing counselling services in the context of the temporary COVID Social Support Line at the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, etc.). USB Scientists actively engaged in research projects that concern questions related to the coronavirus pandemic (e.g. cooperation on the development of a biosensor for detecting the coronavirus, the discovery of the method for examining a live cell that could be used in the fight against the coronavirus – the new method ensures obtaining the information from cells only using a microscope and a computer, the execution of research focusing on the psychological context of the coronavirus occurrence in the Czech Republic, or the research of how the pandemic changed the access to food in domestic households).

Examples of exhibitions that took place in 2020 (sorted according to the starting dates of events)

Sun Young Kang/USA/, Natálie Pejchová Exhibition in the D9 gallery.

Only 3 exhibitions (**Mankind and Faith, Šumava's Touches of God, Volunteers**) were successfully organised by the USB Faculty of Theology due to anti-epidemic measures.

The grand vernissage of the exhibition of photographs entitled 'I am a nurse' took place in the IGY Centre in České Budějovice to which even the author of the collection of photos prof. Jindřich Štreit arrived. The travelling exhibition initiated by Spolek vysokoškolsky vzdělaných sester became the main Czech event in the context of the worldwide campaign Nursing Now striving to increase the prestige of the general nurse occupation (USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences)

Paintings of David Kadlec, student of the USB Faculty of Education, entitled '**Searching**' were available for viewing in the Small Gallery from 6 October – 6 November.

Examples of other activities in 2020 (sorted according to the starting dates of events)

Open Day

USB introduced itself to the public in the context of the traditional Open Day in January 2020. The event is attended primarily by prospective students who obtained detailed information on degree fields and programmes of individual faculties.

XXVII USB Ball

The XXVII USB Ball took place in February 2020. More than a thousand guests from among the academic community as well as the general public came to the traditional event.

European Parliament in Schools

This event was organised by the European Parliament Office in the Czech Republic in cooperation with the Eurocentre in České Budějovice and the information centre Europe Direct on Thursday 6 February 2020 on the premises of the USB Faculty of Education. Secondary school students from the South Bohemian Region had the opportunity to debate with European Parliament deputies Radka Maxová and Markéta Gregorová. The entire event was supplemented by a number of interactive workshops at which students could try dealing with fake news.

ArtDay

A 2-day art festival that took place in March 2020 organised by the USB Student Union.

Springtime academic half-hours

8 members of USB staff gave lectures in the context of springtime academic half-hours. Presentations dealing with viruses, infections, and epidemics were also represented among the topics of this lecture series. Unfortunately, a substantial portion of lectures had to be cancelled for epidemiological reasons.

Philology club gathering

The South Bohemian branch of Kruh moderních filologů organised a series of discussion evenings including lectures – Philology club.

USB Freshers'

The USB Freshers' took place in September 2020 and a record number of students took part in it.

FROVFEST

The 8th year of the student rock-multi-genre festival took place on 5 September 2020 in Vodňany.

Measure for measure

Professor Martin Hilský introduced the attendees to the work *Measure for measure* in which W. Shakespeare touches on fundamental themes of the human existence, morality, power, and corruption in the lecture at the USB British Centre.

ONLINE DISCUSSION: What dangers await humankind in the world of climate change?

This lecture subtitled – What will we breathe, drink and eat? touched on the topic of the climatic crises. The lecture alludes to the current environmental threats with which humanity must deal or which it needs to try to prevent. Representatives of universities and also the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute and other research organisations across the country engaged in discussions on 21 September. Professor Hana Šantrůčková, Dean of the USB Faculty of Science, took part in the discussion representing the University of South Bohemia.

Swing Trio Valon Christmas concert

The list of important University-wide events ends with the Christmas concert of the Swing Trio Valon that took place in December 2020. The online transmission of the live Christmas event for the Learned Society of the Czech Republic and the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice was broadcasted from the Miroslav Papáček Auditorium of the USB Faculty of Education and it was enjoyed by more than 1 000 viewers.

11.3 Supraregional activity

The University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice is among the foremost educational and research facilities not only in the South Bohemian Region but also in the Czech Republic and (central) Europe in a number of fields, which is shown by the results of studies, rankings, and comparisons that are regularly published in Czech as well as foreign periodicals, special editions of newspapers and magazines and online. The Addendum to the Report on internal quality evaluation of educational, creative and related activities for 2020 deals with the international standing of the University (university rankings) in detail. USB is among the TOP 10 research facilities in the Czech Republic in a number of scientific areas. In several areas, particularly in natural sciences, it bears comparison even with the world leaders. In the Czech Republic, USB has long been ranking among the best 5 to 7 universities and among the best universities established after November 1989. The often-utilised favourable circumstances for establishing and developing cross-border cooperation with partner universities and higher education institutions in Upper and Lower Austria, Vienna, Lower Bavaria, Upper Palatinate and within the European region Danube-Vltava – in which even cross-border partners show interest – emerge out of the geographical anchoring of USB in the south of Bohemia. In some cases, unique cross-border degree programmes including double or joint diplomas are already operating. Nevertheless, these programmes are being created even with other European universities.

The fact that USB faculties and individual faculty teams work on dozens of educational, scientific and other projects on which they closely cooperate with the expert community from around the world is also proof of the supraregional nature of USB. Outputs of these projects are often published in the most prestigious world journals. Faculties also publish their own professional journals or participate in their publication. Experts from individual faculties are members of national as well as international professional organisations, associations, editorial boards of scientific journals and professional networks. They organise or coorganise professional conferences, workshops and seminars focused on various professional as well as societal topics. At the same time, they engage in expert activity not only for the sphere of application but also for institutions of the public and state administration including ministries. They are often approached by the media with requests for expert consultancy and comments on current topics related to the field of their research. They are regularly invited to educational and popularisation radio and television shows as guests. All faculties are participating in international mobility programmes that are used by students as well as academic and other employees of USB. Throughout the year, faculties organise summer schools, special seminars and courses that even international students and staff take part in and they also join other events of the professional and popularisation nature. Specific cases of the recent supraregional cooperation of individual constituent parts of the University are outlined by the following text. More information is available in previous chapters of this annual report.

The **USB Faculty of Economics** cooperates on the joint supervision of graduation dissertation theses in doctoral studies with the University of Thessaly and Université de Bretagne-Sud as well as in the Consecutive master's trinational degree programme of the joint degree type Regional and European Project Management.

The supraregional nature of the **USB Faculty of Arts** shows itself in various areas of its activity. Apart from the interest of prospective students from other parts of the republic, it is also evidenced by its ranking in rankings of higher education institutions in which the faculty occupies the top places (e.g. the ranking of Týden magazine). The faculty presents itself within the region Danube-Vltava. Work on the project 'International double degree programme for German Studies at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice and University of Passau' was newly launched at the Institute of Czech-German Area Studies and German Studies of the faculty in the programme of Bavarian-Czech cross-border cooperation in 2020.

The ending project of the Institute of Applied Informatics of the **USB Faculty of Science** in cooperation with the Institute of Archival Studies and Auxiliary Sciences of History of the USB Faculty of Arts entitled 'Museum Uploaded – Digital technologies for cross-border interactive cooperation of museums' was supported by the same programme. The Centralised development project 18+ entitled 'Development and quality assurance of degree programmes of the joint degree type being executed in cooperation with foreign higher education institutions' on which the USB Faculty of Arts worked together with 18 other universities and their individual constituent parts is an example of good inter-institutional cooperation on the national scale.

The main task of the **USB Faculty of Education** is the preparation of teachers particularly for the South Bohemian Region, a so-called focus on regional needs of school facilities and places of work. The supraregional activity of the faculty itself is mostly oriented towards the neighbouring regions where it endeavours to cooperate with selected schools and ascertain the demand for future graduates of teacher training programmes. The supraregional significance of the faculty is clear even from the spatial differentiation of the interest of future students – students from all regions of Czechia study at the faculty. In the context of the supraregional activity, students and academic staff amply engage in international mobility programmes and projects, the faculty organises a number of special seminars, courses, summer schools and other events of professional and popularisation nature with an impact that substantially exceeds the South Bohemian Region. There are functioning international cooperations (also close cross-border cooperations) at the departments of the faculty, which are, in some cases, also supported by international projects. The project 'Administrative activity of primary schools' (TA CR Beta2), which is being executed in cooperation with MEYS, may be mentioned out of the supraregional projects currently being executed. The main objective of the project is to comprehensively map administrative activities of primary schools (i.e. a legal entity performing the activity of a primary school) over 1 school year from several perspectives. The faculty is engaged in a working group concerned with the amendment to the Act on Pedagogical Staff and the conception of Supplementary Pedagogical Studies (SPS).

The **USB Faculty of Science** is at the top of research in many ways by which it meets the definition of supraregional activity. That is characterised even by the significant amount of international cooperation on projects, presence in important professional organisations, participation in invited lectures and so on. For example, the seven-year project '**LIFE for MIREs**' that is being executed on the territory of Šumava National Park and the objective of which is to improve the state of more than 2 000 hectares of the previously drained territory is a specific example of projects executed in the recent period in the region which also substantially exceed the significance of the region. It is a large cross-border project addressed by 4 partners – Šumava National Park Administration, Bavarian Forest National Park, environmental protection organisations on the German side Bund Naturschutz in Bayern e. V., and the USB Faculty of Science. The whole title of the project is 'Cross-border revitalisation of mires in support of biodiversity and aquatic conditions in Šumava and in the Bavarian Forest'. Together with Šumava National Park Administration, Bavarian Forest National Park Administration, and Bavarian Natural History Collections (SNSB), the USB Faculty of Science executed extensive research of Šumava's flora. The project entitled 'Šumava's vegetation' put the long history of research of Šumava's flora to good use and introduced all Šumava plants to the general public through a web application. Data concerning the occurrences of individual kinds of plants were updated under the project. The project was supported by the Cross-border cooperation programme Czech Republic–Bavaria Free State Objective ETC 2014–2020 and the state budget of the Czech Republic. Experts from the faculty prepared methodological procedures for assessing the impacts of drought on forest ecosystems on a large spatial scale on the territory of the Czech Republic together with ecology experts of the Forestry and Game Management Research Institute. The procedures are intended primarily for the professional public in forestry and public administration staff. Experts from the faculty are developing a methodology for timely detection of trees infested by the European spruce bark beetle using unmanned aerial systems (drones) in cooperation with colleagues from the Technology Campus Freyung together with experts from the Czech as well as Bavarian national park administrations. Scientists from the Biology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences and the faculty are participating in a unique project of returning wild horses, bison and back-bred aurochs to Czech nature. The reservation of large ungulate animals in the former military area Milovice was established in 2015 on two pastures at Milovice and Benátky nad Jizerou. According to the environmentalists, the reservation is the first place in the world where all three species of original large European ungulates live together. Under the project 'PhotoStruk' (full project title is 'Analysis of historical photographs for a virtual reconstruction of the cultural heritage in the Czech–Bavarian border areas'), scientists from the faculty and the Deggendorf Institute of Technology jointly virtually describe the vanished locations of Šumava. Scientists reconstructed more than 300 vanished municipalities in the South Bohemian border areas from where inhabitants had been expelled including more than 3 000 constructions and buildings on a virtual map under this project.

Within the University of South Bohemia, the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** has its own privileged and unique position in the national as well as European context. It reflects the regional fishery character of the south of Bohemia very well. By its position including administrative facilities and scientific autonomy is fully responsible for its to a certain extent independent development. The faculty may also be understood as an interdisciplinary centre with a broad potential of orientation on science,

education, dissemination and application of knowledge. Faculty innovative instruments are optimally set because the faculty closely cooperates with the scientific community all around the world. The faculty is, therefore, able to react to meeting the current but also the future challenges and perspectives in the context of fisheries, aquaculture, management, and fresh-water protection. The interest of other entities in professional cooperation with the faculty is proof of the supraregional significance – memberships in boards, joint projects, outputs (publications), demand for services offered by the faculty, etc.

The Department of Education of **the USB Faculty of Theology** is represented in the working group of the National Institute for Education for the revision of framework educational programmes (RVP) in the area of social sciences. Members of the department are members of international associations (e.g. The International Council of Philosophical Inquiry with Children, Arbeitsgemeinschaft katholische Religionspädagogik/Katechetik, European Forum for Religious Education in Schoolsod, Institut für Franz-Kett-Pädagogik). In 2020 it was developing cooperation at the international level in the form of lecturing courses of philosophy for children (Slovakia) and courses of F. Ketta pedagogy (Hungary, Austria, and Romania). Academics of the faculty are members of the Czech section of the European Society for Catholic Theology. The staff of the Department of Ethics, Psychology and Charity Work, staff of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, and staff of the Department of Theological Disciplines of the faculty are members of the think-tank Working group for social issues of the Czech Bishops' Conference. Staff of the Department of Ethics, Psychology and Charity Work cooperated with MLSA CR on the preparation of a system of evaluation of above-standard quality when providing social services under its development projects. The faculty is a member of Asociace vzdělavatelů v sociální práci, Asociace vzdělavatelů v pedagogice volného času, and the Joint research group for studying post-medieval scholastics with the Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences with which it is executing the doctoral degree programme Philosophy. The faculty has also been a part of the so-called Kontaktgruppe, a working group consisting of representatives of the University and Faculties of Theology in České Budějovice, Linz, and Passau since the beginning of the 90s of the 20th century. An information meeting of the group takes place annually. The meeting includes a formal part devoted to the exchange of information, evaluation and preparation of a course of German in Passau, and an expert part on an expert topic, which is prepared by the hosting faculty.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** speaks to the South Bohemian Region through its activities, but it also has significance for the gradient areas of the Vysočina region and the Plzeň Region. The project entitled 'Standardisation of the Woodcock-Johnson IV test for the population of Roma children' (TA CR ÉTA) may be mentioned out of the supraregional projects that are currently being addressed. The objective of the project is to analyse the diagnostic options and create sub-norms of the Woodcock-Johnson IV intelligence test for the population of Roma children in the Czech Republic on a sample of 400 Roma pupils of the younger school age (7–8 and 10–11 years of age). At the same time, psychometric analysis of the test of this group will be prepared, differential analyses against the majority population on the level of items will be executed, and relationships in the performance in the intelligence test with other results of the scale assessing the social disadvantage and the test of school skills will be identified. In the course of the execution of the grant project, a methodological recommendation for the diagnostics of Roma children using the test will be prepared at the same time, which will help in improving the accuracy of the psychological diagnostics WJ IV of minority and disadvantaged groups of children together with other outputs. Cooperation with the National Pedagogical Institute of the Czech Republic (internal application guarantor) is taking place under the project – preparation of expert opinions in the context of the work on the project.

The **USB Faculty of Agriculture** cooperates with a number of research organisations (e.g. joint projects) participates in the expert activity primarily for the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, cooperates with businesses from all around the Czech Republic. For example, the professional support for agricultural businesses, regional authorities, CEI, and other entities concerned across the Czech Republic may be mentioned out of the supraregional activities that are currently being executed. Furthermore, there are consultations and advisory activities concerning issues to technical solutions and options for the implementation of the best available techniques (BAT), the performance and evaluation of measuring for the needs of the operator of the facility, etc. The above-mentioned activities are executed on the basis of a contract for work concluded with the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic (amounting to CZK 1.2m). The faculty also prepares some professional materials for discussions of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic at the European level. From the perspective of the 'supraregional – international' activity of the faculty, e.g. memberships in a number of organisations

(ENOAT, Agroecology Europe) or active contacts with universities within the EU and beyond (exchanges of educators and students) may be mentioned. The project of the faculty and the local branch of Agrární komora in the area of checking the functionality and the use of drones to identify game in vegetation for the purpose of their dislocation aiming at preventing a potential injury (death) was positively assessed on the part of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic. The work of Ing. Jakub Polenský from the Department of Landscape Management of the USB Faculty of Agriculture concerning the use of drones to protect young roe deers from haymaking and other activities in meadows and fields attracted much attention from the media. After the article presented in MF Dnes (or iDnes.cz), even CNN Prima NEWS reported on the topic in primetime news.

Projects from the area of technology transfer are also important proof of cross-border cooperation. The project 'Building a knowledge and technology transfer in the border areas of the South Bohemia Region and Lower Bavaria' may be a specific example. The project links technology transfer offices of the University of South Bohemia and the University of Passau. The project was given support by the Programme of cross-border cooperation Czech Republic–Bavaria Free State Objective ETC 2014–2020.

12 Activities in relation to the impacts of the pandemic caused by the SARS CoV-2 coronavirus

12.1 Educational activity

Individual measures in the area of education that were being adopted as a reaction to the development of Covid-19 are described in individual sections above. Here, it may be summarised that a relatively simple model of management of the following measures proved successful. The starting point was the operative functioning of the USB crisis team of which the management of USB was part (Rector, vice-rectors, and the Bursar). The framework of rules was given by ordinances of the Rector on which the methodological management of individual sections built, in the area of education within the purview of the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs. This methodological management functioned in close cooperation with vice-deans of sections at faculties. The ordinances, among other things, adjusted the timetable of the academic year (periods for undertaking examinations and obtaining course credits was extended to the end of September 2020), the summer semester 2020 was exempted from the inclusion of some obligations according to the SER USB (e.g. the obligation to obtain the minimum number of credits) as a period of disrupted studies. It emerged that the framework rules set by the Study and Examination Regulations of USB are functional even in extraordinary situations.

The support for educational activities under an extraordinary regime required the collaboration of multiple members of the USB management and corresponding constituent parts, particularly the **USB Centre of Information Technologies** that provides technical support for distance learning. Complementary platforms for distance learning LMS Moodle and MS Teams were used systemically and all in direct connection to the information system of the study remit (IS STAG). USB was prepared to execute instruction in accordance with extraordinary measures already at the start of the pandemic since it has been systemically and quite intensively pursuing the trend of bolstering elements of distance learning (particularly with respect to the support for part-time forms of studies and the support for new methods in instruction) since 2016. The needed equipment for online instruction and videoconferences was additionally purchased and installed at some faculties. Concurrently, training of academic staff was taking place; the online course entitled 'E-learning basics for educators' was often used on the portal elearning.jcu.cz/.

Among other things, the positive results of the student evaluation of instruction attest to the successful reaction of USB to the introduction of extraordinary measures in the summer semester 2019/2020. Independent surveys in cooperation with the Vice-Rector for Student Affairs and representatives of the student chamber of the USB Academic Senate took place.

Processing administrative matters in a distance form was bolstered, the introduction of some changes that had been in preparation before was accelerated (electronic signatures, rules on using faculty email addresses, communication through IS STAG, submitting electronic requests through IS STAG, etc.). An important aspect of handling the extraordinary situation was the mutual understanding among students, educators, and administrative staff. There was typically a willingness to find sensible solutions (even though only temporary or non-standard ones in some cases) to unforeseen situations.

Due to anti-epidemic measures, academic ceremonies (graduations and matriculations of students) were not taking place.

Apart from the educational activity oriented towards implementing the ongoing degree programmes, measures were adopted or activities of the educational nature directed towards the public or in the form of support for specific entities outside USB were addressed. The voluntary activity of USB students met with a very positive response from among the public.

Webinars for students and the public on the topic of support for entrepreneurs while mitigating the impacts of the anti-epidemic measures took place at the **USB Faculty of Economics** under the joint programme entitled 'Sustainability at the local level' with TA CR.

The **USB Faculty of Education** initiated support for students (Students help students) in cooperation with the student society Otevřeno. The evaluation of the distance learning executed at the faculty was an impulse for a discussion concerning updating the course 'Information technologies in education'. The evaluation was also a material for the Centre of Didactic Innovations. In connection with the abovementioned, the faculty is planning to open and furnish at least two classrooms in the same manner as classrooms at primary and secondary schools are furnished. In cooperation with faculty schools, it was possible to execute the continuous practical teaching training in the online environment, which means that faculty students took part in online instruction, e.g. using MS Teams at a primary or secondary school.

Given the setting of some faculty or field-specific requirements and the study regulations, the re-evaluation of these regulations and requirements had to occur in some cases. For example, undergoing internships abroad and the presentation of results at conferences abroad were the biggest problem with respect to the obligations of students in doctoral degree programmes at the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters**. Therefore, the Dean of the faculty had to resort to exempting students from these obligations. The faculty enacted measures so that the measures that had to be followed did not compromise the students' completion of studies within the standard length of studies.

In cases in which it became clear that the approach of educators to distance learning was not optimal, it incited a reaction at the faculty. This way, e.g. on the basis of experience with distance learning in the summer semester 2019/2020, an ordinance of the Vice-Dean for Education was adopted at the **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters**, which adjusted the scope of distance learning that must be executed in the so-called real-time (direct interaction with students) and not by only assigning independent work and homework.

It may be said that the extraordinary measures caused by the need to react to the Covid-19 pandemic made the lives of students poorer on one hand – particularly by depriving them of 'student life' experiences. It significantly complicated the execution of practical instruction and practical training. In some cases, the timetable of instruction had to be adjusted in such a way that instruction in the summer semester 2019/2020 continued into the summer holidays. For example, given the fact that practical contact instruction was taking place in health care fields and first-year students needed to be prepared for undertaking practical training at healthcare faculties in a relatively short period of time, the timetable of first years was adjusted at the **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** in such a way that the instruction could take place in compact blocks and students did not have to travel to the faculty every week and needlessly expose themselves to the infection by doing that.

On the other hand, it must be said that the bolstering of distance elements of instruction brought a number of positive effects, particularly the increase in the quality and availability of online study support materials and finding new ways and means of distance communication of students and educators in real-time. Apart from the previously used platform LMS Moodle, the use of MS Teams also became a new standard. Students in the part-time form of studies can profit from these benefits in the long term. In general, it may be stated that distance learning was better received in the part-time form of studies given the greater level of experience of the students as well as educators with the distance elements of instruction and better preparedness of students for independent work.

12.2 Research activity

The coronavirus pandemic had negative impacts on some staff-intensive scientific activities and on international mobilities even at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice due to which planned events featuring the attendance of foreign partners were postponed to 2021 (a number of them may be postponed to 2022). In the case of students, however, faculties were as forthcoming as possible and allowed a practically unlimited attendance in laboratories and work on graduation theses under the condition of strictly observing the anti-epidemic measures. On one hand, a number of the academic staff of USB engaged in research inspired by the pandemic of the social nature as well as that of natural sciences.

The **USB Faculty of Economics** executed international research entitled 'Our relationship with food in the time of the Covid-19 pandemic'. The research is a part of great international cooperation under the leadership of the Danish Technological Institute and the Copenhagen Business School. A questionnaire in 15 European languages was available in total. Research staff of the faculty, Institute of Geonics of the

Czech Academy of Sciences and Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem engaged in the project as well. The objective of the research was to find how the circumstances related to the coronavirus affected the behaviours and attitudes to food and obtaining food for individuals and households.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** endeavoured to create the best possible conditions allowing the postponement of planned activities that could not take place in 2020 due to anti-epidemic measures, particularly due to the planned attendance of foreign partners (international conferences, summer school for doctoral students or cross-border projects), including the administrative support (internal norms allowing the use of distance forms or requests of extensions of deadlines for work on some projects).

The **USB Faculty of Education** prepared a project in support of online studies (it was not accepted for funding in the end) under the Call of TA CR ÉTA 4 of a public competition (focused on mitigating the negative society-wide impacts and utilising new opportunities due to the crisis related to the Covid-19 pandemic). Data concerning the psychological aspects of experiencing the pandemic under the project JUPSYCOR are being gathered at the Department of Education and Psychology of the faculty.

The research activity of employees of the **USB Faculty of Science** was only restricted by measures of the strict lockdown type or homeworking recommendations. The faculty was as forthcoming towards students as possible and allowed a practically unlimited attendance in laboratories and work on graduation theses under the condition of strictly observing the anti-epidemic measures.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters** reacted operatively to the current situation and acted according to the current decrees of the Government, or beyond these decrees. The use of homeworking to the maximum extent possible was commonplace as well as direct personnel engagement only in key activities in the crisis moments of the pandemic (e.g. maintaining farms). The situation that arose had a negative impact on international mobilities (arrivals as well as departures, internships at laboratories, international sampling campaigns, etc.) and the execution of staff-intensive experiments. Attention was, therefore, focused more on publishing data that had been obtained earlier, increasing the preparation of outputs of the type of reviews and meta-analyses, and a partial move towards less staff-intensive but still interesting experiments. Attention was paid to the isolation of staff in space and time not only in facilities as well as within workgroups, especially during more staff-intensive activities. Modern tools of remote communication were used across the board, including the workshops and conferences that were organised (the dates of some were postponed). Despite the situation, returns of staff as well as arrivals of new international staff members (mostly doctoral students) were securely handled in the crisis moments of the epidemic throughout the year.

The cooperation of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences and primarily the cooperation of the USB Faculty of Sciences in taking samples for employees of the faculty, including their processing, must be highlighted not only in this respect. In relation to the occurrence of the disease due to the Covid-19 pandemic, only few cases were recorded in facilities and these cases were broadly spread over time, so no key activities were threatened.

12.3 Third role

It may be stated that the Covid-19 pandemic has displayed an enormous potential and a variety of manners in which the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice can show itself as a significant authority in the society of which it is a part and which it co-forms not only by educational and research activities but also by the fulfilment of its so-called 'third role'. On the basis of the examples outlined below, it may be added that it has been handling this role very well in 2020.

The **USB University Psychological Counselling Centre** indirectly participated in the activity of the crisis line of USB (training, supervision, and support of the staff of the line, and subsequent care for the callers if needed). Under the currently ongoing project 'USB Development – ESF', the centre obtained new premises for individual consultations and group activities. In the context of the current situation related to the Covid-19 pandemic, the centre managed to flexibly react to the changing conditions of the activity (offer of online consultations), and thus supported students as well as employees of USB in coming to terms with the strain that this era has brought (difficulties related to online learning, with stays in the original family environment, crisis interventions in the case of severe course of the disease or the death of close relatives). Even though the first wave of the epidemic in spring 2020 manifested itself in the

decline in the activity of the centre, during the second and third wave, this decline did not occur and the centre is fulfilling its mission to a full extent. It also supports international students and staff of USB, on whom the isolation is harder than on others, to a greater extent.

For example, the **USB Faculty of Economics** manufactured respirators using 3D printers in cooperation with the company Tredy Technology, s.r.o., from Planá nad Lužnicí. These respirators protect medical staff, personnel in homes for the elderly, food industry staff, and other persons at a higher risk of contact with the disease. Physicians and patients belonging to groups at risk were provided with the respirators sponsorially free of charge. The management of the faculty decided to provide its IT facilities for the engagement in the worldwide project entitled Folding@Home under which servers of members of the project were engaging in calculations and analyses of data with the aim of examining and finding potential medicines for the disease caused by the coronavirus. The faculty engaged in the newly created 'network of solidarity' with its excellent equipment and freed its capacities for such an important and difficult task. Not even the students of the faculty remained indifferent to the current situation and switched from their study duties to sewing machines for a while. They distributed the sewed face masks to other students and colleagues but a part of them was donated to oncological patients and a children's home in the Tábor region. A unique counselling centre was established at the faculty. Self-employed persons and small and medium businesses, which needed advice concerning the submission of applications for a subsidy to cover the economic losses arising from the situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, could contact expert staff via email. The faculty contributed to the award of the awards of Budějovický Korona Hrdina together with JCI South Bohemia. The award aimed at thanking the people who actively engaged in helping their neighbours but also to raise awareness of their activity and inspire other future heroes. The voting took place online on the website of Budějcká Drbna. The award was awarded in four categories, each under the auspices of an important organisation. The winner in the category of small and medium businesses that were given the awards by the Dean of the faculty was the company TKP Geo, s.r.o., which developed the application AMG COVID-19, which provides objective statistical information in the right context and the use of which is free.

The **USB Faculty of Arts** focused on didactic aid in the instruction of foreign languages. The closure of schools in September 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic more substantially affected particularly students in the final years of secondary schools whose preparation for the secondary school leaving certificate and admission exams had to be immediately transformed into the virtual environment with the aid of a range of various online tools by secondary school educators. However, direct contact with the spoken language can be substituted only with great difficulty in the instruction of foreign languages. That is why didacticians of the Institute of English Studies of the faculty decided to approach students of teacher training of the English language and literature for secondary school with a request for help. They organised a group of volunteers who actively participated in conducting online conversation classes in English and helped pupils of grammar schools in České Budějovice, where the future teachers from the faculty would normally go do their continuous pedagogical training, with the preparation of problematic topics. The cooperation of students of the faculty with students in their final years of secondary school was mutually beneficial and motivating.

The **USB Faculty of Science** joined the network of accredited testing locations of the Ministry of Health for PCR testing to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus in close cooperation with hospitals in the South Bohemian Region.

The **USB Faculty of Fisheries and the Protection of Waters** participated in the operation of the University line Emergency Call operating 24/7 that provides support mostly for international students and staff of USB. In the pandemic times, even some students in Czech degree programmes turned to the line with requests for help in solving crisis situations. The faculty itself was substantially helping with the returns of doctoral students from internships abroad in the summer semester 2019/2020 and arrivals of international students and staff to the faculty (assistance related to the execution of quarantines, or isolations, providing evidence of negative PCR tests, etc.).

The **USB Faculty of Theology** has been providing students with free pastoral and psychological counselling for several years already. The operation of the J. P. Ondok Library was also adapted by the establishment of a lending point and by extending loan deadlines. The faculty prepared a separate box on its faculty website that serves for publishing current work vacancies in institutions or organisations that need urgent help. The work is performed in the form of volunteering or agreements on completing a job. Several dozens of students participated in this form of help.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences** introduced a COVID social support line on 17 April 2020. People affected by the Covid-19 pandemic who needed advice on how to obtain social benefits could call the line. The line was operating on weekdays from 8:00 to 20:00. Students of the faculty in the Master's degree programme Management of Social Work in Organisations took turns answering the phone and emails. The response was significant; the line was operational from the middle of May and handled almost 400 calls and emails most frequently from self-employed persons. The most frequent questions concerned payments of the care benefit, claims to immediate aid – material need benefit. Entrepreneurs were asking about what they can apply for specifically; people also asked about the unemployment benefit, sickness benefit payments, etc. The spring wave of the pandemic met an immediate reaction from students who became involved as volunteers. The faculty prepares for occupations that were very needed right from the start: health care, social fields, crisis management, etc., so students found their way very quickly wherever they were needed; the faculty did not need to organise this voluntary help in any way. Apart from that, many students were sewing face masks or assisted in the sewing. There was a demand for shopping for the elderly, providing babysitting, distributing protective gear, etc.

The **USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences**, the **USB Faculty of Theology**, the **USB Faculty of Education** were addressing the demand for students who could help in hospitals and social care facilities, which, among other things, brought the need to adjust the timetables of studies of these students, or to adjust the timetables of instruction, practical training, etc. Students started working in groups according to their years of studies. They worked in Covid sampling locations, ICUs as well as all departments where the personnel required assistance. Primarily, the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences continuously reacted to the current situation and sent students upon requests from directors of smaller hospitals, e.g. in Český Krumlov, Jindřichův Hradec, Tábor, or Prachatice.

The activity and services of the **USB Academic Library** were substantially affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the measures adopted by the Government against the spreading of the disease. The library was entirely closed to visitors from 13 March to 17 April. The majority of employees of loan services were out of the workplace in this period. Some employees were allowed to work from home. Only the employees necessary for ensuring the most essential operation remained in the library. An information line was established for readers. The self-service machine for returning loans was operational over the entire period of the library closure. The books were subsequently placed in quarantine or disinfected using ozone. The OHS Department provided assistance in securing protective gear and disinfectants.

After the measures were eased the operation was partially restored, loan services staff worked in shifts. Wherever possible, employees from expert departments were transferred to a partial homeworking and utilised working from home in combination with switching with employees in offices. While the library was open, it was necessary to implement appropriate hygienic measures (wiping keyboards, disinfecting tables, maintaining distance between users, decreasing the number of users on library premises, increased cleaning and disinfection of the premises).

In the second half of April, the library launched the operation of the lending point, the operation of which was ensured by loan services employees in regular shifts. Readers could collect publications ordered in advance there. To make placing orders easier, an online order form was created. Over the period of restricted operations, staff of the library attended to phones, processed document orders, answered emails from users. The Department of Lending Services focused on the review and maintenance of the library stock, discarding documents, processing reservations, extensions, payments, and partially also printing and copying. All loans were automatically extended and the collection of fines for late returns was paused.

Over the year, other regimes of lending documents and access to the building (access under a restricted number of visitors, access only for the purpose of returning and receiving study materials, contactless lending) were alternating in addition to the lending point. All were following all hygienic measures. In the course of May, protective transparent plastic barriers were installed to lending desks and to the university textbook shop with the help of building maintenance staff. Expert departments, acquisitions and cataloguing continued in their usual activities whether in the form of working in offices or from home.

In the summer months, the library operated according to the usual holiday opening hours, i.e. from 8:00 to 14:00 daily. The branch of the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters and the study room in the building of the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences were also open. The library of the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters and the study room at the USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences continued performing the library activities that were allowed by the conditions.

Given the anti-epidemic measures, the operation of services was significantly restricted, but employees of the library adapted to the new conditions at great speed and transferred all that was possible to the online environment. The library obtained accesses to a number of online databases free of charge. Access to licenced as well as freely accessible online resources was provided for users of the library. The access to the study collection of professional sources Pablikado or to the collection of electronic books Bookport was secured for users of the library. The National Library of the Czech Republic (NL CR) also made its collections freely accessible. Owing to the negotiation of NL CR with collective administrators of copyrights, licencing agreements were successfully made that allowed for the complete opening of digital libraries including copyright-protected works. Access was made possible from March to May 2020 and another licencing agreement was concluded from November 2020 to February 2021. The licencing agreements covered all works protected by the copyright law including the most recent works. It was primarily students of higher education institutions and educators or research staff who had access to the digital content.

The library provided information about its services through social media networks, the website of the library, and bulk emails. The interest in information communicated through the library Facebook moderately increased. The number of followers of the page increased from 2 388 to 2 438 from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.

The **Department of Information Services and Support of Studies** secures electronic information resources, information education and the interlibrary loan service (ILS). It offered webinars to users and transferred the instruction to the online environment. The library provided online consultations and courses for students focused on working with information sources and the ethics of citing.

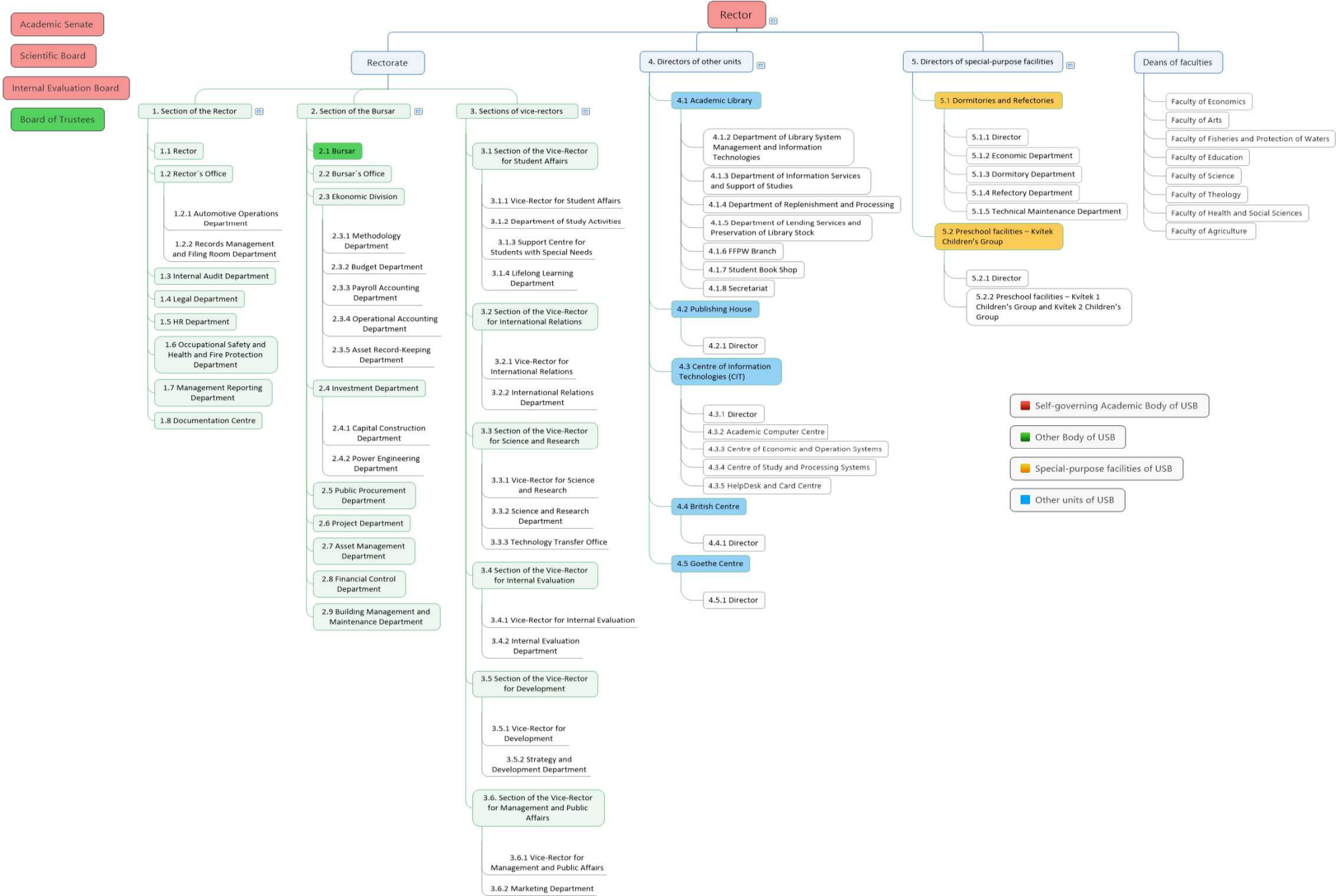
The **Department of Library System Management and Information Technologies** found itself under great strain. The office executed changes to the regime of loans in the library system Aleph, important updates to the website, and provided the necessary technical support to other offices when transferring services of the library to the online environment the whole time.

Several new laptops were purchased for staff working from home and web cameras and microphones were additionally purchased for online meetings. Library staff quickly learnt to work in the MS Teams environment and other platforms for online meetings. The in-person meetings of the management were moved to the AL Club to maintain the recommended safe distance and some took place in a hybrid form in the MS Teams environment.

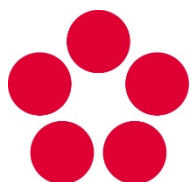
The closure of premises was utilised for executing some renovation work. Acoustic furniture for the back part of the premises for open selection was purchased. Bean bags were additionally purchased for the relaxation zones and new seating furniture was placed in the space under the stairs. The replacement of obsolete fixtures in the premises of the café took place. The floor on the entire ground floor of the library was sanded and waxed, the carpet on the staircase was replaced, and the ground floor of the building and a part of the premises not accessible to the public were painted.

The University textbook shop was processing email orders for University textbooks and sending the documents to buyers by mail throughout the period of restricted operations. The period of partial closure of the shop was used for the remodelling of premises and the preparation of materials for the USB e-shop that is newly being established.

Annexe 1 – Organisational structure of USB, USB Rectorate and constituent parts of USB that are not faculties



- Self-governing Academic Body of USB
- Other Body of USB
- Special-purpose facilities of USB
- Other units of USB



Jihočeská univerzita
v Českých Budějovicích
University of South Bohemia
in České Budějovice

Annual Activity Report 2020

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Tab. 2.1 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB in total

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Programmes and qualifications – general education	00									0
Education and training	01	25	4	3	1	19	2	2	2	58
Arts and humanities	02	26	6	2	1	19	4	15	15	88
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	7	2			3		2	2	16
Commerce, administration and law	04	5	5			5	3	1	1	20
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	13	3			11		29	27	83
Information and communication technologies	06	4	2			3				9
Technology, production and construction	07	5	2			2	1			10
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	8	7			6	4	7	7	39
Health and social care, welfare care	09	18	12			8	7	3	3	51
Services	10	2	1			2	1			6
Total		113	44	5	2	78	22	59	57	380

Note: ISCED-F – classification of education fields. FT – full-time form, PT/D – part-time/distance form. All degree programmes that had a valid accreditation as of 31 December 2020, are included in the table, i.e. ending degree programmes (including programmes, the accreditation of which was extended and programmes that are intended for a completion of studies) as well as degree programmes newly accredited under the valid institutional accreditation and also under the programme accreditation awarded by the NAB. The information is based on the Registry of Higher Education Institutions and Currently Executed Degree Programmes of MEYS, figures of the USB Internal Evaluation Board concerning degree programmes approved under the valid institutional accreditation and on the ruling of the NAB concerning the award of programme accreditation (only degree programmes the award of accreditation of which became legally effective as of 31 December 2020, at the latest are included in the table in this case). This note applies only to tables 2.1 and 2.1.1 to 2.1.8.

Tab. 2.1.1 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB Faculty of Economics

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	2	1			1				4
Commerce, administration and law	04	5	5			5	3	1	1	20
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	1	1							2
Information and communication technologies	06	2	2			2				6
Total		10	9	0	0	8	3	1	1	32

Tab. 2.1.2 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB Faculty of Arts

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	7				3				10
Arts and humanities	02	18				13		11	11	53
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	3				2				5
Total		28	0	0	0	18	0	11	11	68

Tab. 2.1.3 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB Faculty of Education

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	8	1	3	1	7	1	1	1	23
Arts and humanities	02	1								1
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	1						1	1	3
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	1								1
Health and social care, welfare care	09		1			1	1			3
Services	10	1				1				2
Total		12	2	3	1	9	2	2	2	33

Tab. 2.1.4 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB Faculty of Science

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	5				6		1	1	13
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	9				11		24	22	66
Information and communication technologies	06	2				1				3
Technology, production and construction	07	3	2							5
Total		19	2	0	0	18	0	25	23	87

Tab. 2.1.5 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	1	1					2	2	6
Technology, production and construction	07	1				1	1			3
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	1	1			1	1	3	3	10
Total		3	2	0	0	2	2	5	5	19

Tab. 2.1.6 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB Faculty of Theology

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	3	2			2	1			8
Arts and humanities	02	7	6	2	1	6	4	4	4	34
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	1	1					1	1	4
Health and social care, welfare care	09	1	1			2	2			6
Total		12	10	2	1	10	7	5	5	52

Tab. 2.1.7 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	1	1							2
Health and social care, welfare care	09	17	10			5	4	3	3	42
Services	10	1	1			1	1			4
Total		19	12	0	0	6	5	3	3	48

Tab. 2.1.8 Accredited degree programmes (quantities) – USB Faculty of Agriculture

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	1				1				2
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	1	1					3	3	8
Technology, production and construction	07	1				1				2
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	7	6			5	3	4	4	29
Total		10	7	0	0	7	3	7	7	41

Tab. 2.2 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB in total

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Programmes and qualifications – general education	00									0
Education and training	01					1				1
Arts and humanities	02							6	6	12
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03									0
Commerce, administration and law	04					3	1	1	1	6
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	2				6		16	15	39
Information and communication technologies	06	2								2
Technology, production and construction	07					1	1			2
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08					1		2	2	5
Health and social care, welfare care	09	3				1	1	1		6
Services	10									0
Total		7	0	0	0	13	3	26	24	73

Note: ISCED-F – classification of education fields. FT – full-time form, PT/D – part-time/distance form. All degree programmes that had a valid accreditation as of 31 December 2020 are included in the table, i.e. ending degree programmes (including programmes, the accreditation of which was extended and programmes that are intended for completion of studies) as well as degree programmes newly accredited under the valid institutional accreditation and also under the programme accreditation awarded by the NAB. The information is based on the Registry of Higher Education Institutions and Currently Executed Degree Programmes of MEYS, figures of the USB Internal Evaluation Board concerning degree programmes approved under the valid institutional accreditation and on the ruling of the NAB concerning the award of programme accreditation (only degree programmes the award of accreditation of which became legally effective as of 31 December 2020 at the latest are included in the table in this case). This note applies only to tables 2.2 and 2.2.1 to 2.2.7.

Tab. 2.2.1 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB Faculty of Economics

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Commerce, administration and law	04					3	1	1	1	6
Information and communication technologies	06	1								1
Total		1	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	7

Tab. 2.2.2 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB Faculty of Arts

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Arts and humanities	02							4	4	8
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	8

Tab. 2.2.3 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB Faculty of Education

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01					1				1
Total		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

Tab. 2.2.4 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB Faculty of Science

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	2				6		15	14	37
Information and communication technologies	06	1								1
Total		3	0	0	0	6	0	15	14	38

Tab. 2.2.5 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05							1	1	2
Technology, production and construction	07					1	1			2
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08							2	2	4
Total		0	0	0	0	1	1	3	3	8

Tab. 2.2.6 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB Faculty of Theology

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Arts and humanities	02							2	2	4
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	4

Tab. 2.2.7 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Health and social care, welfare care	09	3				1	1	1		6
Total		3	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	6

Tab. 2.2.8 Degree programmes in a foreign language (quantities) – USB Faculty of Agriculture

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08					1				1
Total		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

Tab. 2.3 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB in total

Study type	Bachelor's studies	Master's studies	Consecutive master's studies	Doctoral studies	Total
Number of degree programmes	3	0	7	0	10
Number of active studies in these programmes	180		45		225

Tab. 2.3.1 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Economics

Programme title 1	Regional and European Project Management
Partner organisations	Université Bretagne-Sud (UBS), France; Westsächsische Hochschule Zwickau (WHZ), Germany
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Joint degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Consecutive master's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	27

Tab. 2.3.2 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Arts (I)

Programme title 2	Langues étrangères appliquées – anglais et espagnol ou anglais et allemand, spécialité 'Commerce international' /Philology – French language for European and international trade; Spanish language for European and international trade
Partner organisations	Université Bretagne-Sud, France
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Double degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Bachelor's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	4

Tab. 2.3.3 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Arts (II)

Programme title 3	Sciences du langage: Linguistique et sémiologie générales/Philology – French language
Partner organisations	Université Paris-Descartes, France
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Double degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Consecutive master's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	0

Tab. 2.3.4 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Arts (III)

Programme title 4	Sciences du langage et Didactique des Langues: Lexique, Texte et Discours/Philology – French language
Partner organisations	Université de Lorraine, France
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Double degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Consecutive master's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	0

Tab. 2.3.5 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Arts (IV)

Programme title 5	Lingue, letteratura e cultura straniera – Scienze del linguaggio, terminologie e tipologie dei testi/Philology – Italian language
Partner organisations	Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC), Italy
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Double degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Consecutive master's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	0

Tab. 2.3.6 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Arts (V)

Programme title 6	Enseñanza de Español como Lengua Extranjera; Literatura Española e Hispanoamericana. Teoría de la Literatura y Literatura Comparada; Gestión del Patrimonio Textual y Humanidades Digitales/Philology – Spanish language
Partner organisations	Universidad de Salamanca, Spain
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Double degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Consecutive master's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	4

Tab. 2.3.7 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Science (I)

Programme title 7	Biochemistry/Biochemie – Biological Chemistry
Partner organisations	Johannes Kepler Universität Linz, Austria
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Double degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Bachelor's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	142

Tab. 2.3.8 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Science (II)

Programme title 8	Applied Informatics/Informatika – Bioinformatics
Partner organisations	Johannes Kepler Universität Linz, Austria
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Double degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Bachelor's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	34

Tab. 2.3.9 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Science (III)

Programme title 9	Biochemistry/Biochemie – Biological Chemistry
Partner organisations	Johannes Kepler Universität Linz, Austria
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple degree)	Double degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Consecutive master's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	11

Tab. 2.3.10 Joint/Double/Multiple degree programmes executed in conjunction with a foreign HEI – USB Faculty of Education

Programme title 10	European Master in Migration and Intercultural Relations (EMMIR)
Partner organisations	Univerzita Carla von Ossietzkyho, Oldenburg, Germany (coordinator); Ahfad University for Women, Omdurman, Sudan; Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Uganda; University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia; University of Stavanger, Norway; University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Associated organisations	
Programme category (Joint/Double/Multiple Degree)	Joint degree
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Consecutive master's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	3

Tab. 2.4 Accredited degree programmes jointly executed with another higher education institution or a public research institution based in the Czech Republic – USB in total

Study type	Bachelor's studies	Master's studies	Consecutive master's studies	Doctoral studies	Total
Number of degree programmes	1	0	0	5	6
Number of active studies in these programmes	9			24	33

Tab. 2.4.1 Accredited degree programmes jointly executed with another higher education institution or a public research institution based in the Czech Republic – USB Faculty of Education (I)

Degree programme title 1	Specialisation in Education – Information and communication technologies in education
Broadly defined ISCED-F field	01
Partner higher education institution*	University of Ostrava in Ostrava, Faculty of Education University of Hradec Králové, Faculty of Education University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Faculty of Education
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Doctoral
Number of active studies as of 31 December	5

Tab. 2.4.2 Accredited degree programmes jointly executed with another higher education institution or a public research institution based in the Czech Republic – USB Faculty of Education (II) and USB Faculty of Science (I)

Degree programme title 2	Specialisation in Education – Education in biology
Broadly defined ISCED-F field	01
Partner higher education institution*	Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Education
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Doctoral
Number of active studies as of 31 December	4

Tab. 2.4.3 Accredited degree programmes jointly executed with another higher education institution or a public research institution based in the Czech Republic – USB Faculty of Science (II)

Degree programme title 3	Mechatronics – Mechatronics study field
Broadly defined ISCED-F field	07
Partner higher education institution*	Czech Technical University in Prague
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Bachelor's
Number of active studies as of 31 December	9

Tab. 2.4.4 Accredited degree programmes jointly executed with another higher education institution or a public research institution based in the Czech Republic – USB Faculty of Theology (I)

Degree programme title 4	Philosophy – Philosophy study field
Broadly defined ISCED-F field	02
Partner higher education institution*	Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Doctoral
Number of active studies as of 31 December	15

Tab. 2.4.5 Accredited degree programmes jointly executed with another higher education institution or a public research institution based in the Czech Republic – USB Faculty of Fisheries and protection of Waters (I)

Degree programme title 5	Fisheries
Broadly defined ISCED-F field	08
Partner higher education institution*	Biology Centre CAS, České Budějovice
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Doctoral
Number of active studies as of 31 December	0

Tab. 2.4.6 Accredited degree programmes jointly executed with another higher education institution or a public research institution based in the Czech Republic – USB Faculty of Fisheries and protection of Waters (II)

Degree programme title 4	Fishery
Broadly defined ISCED-F field	08
Partner higher education institution*	Biology Centre CAS, České Budějovice
Programme type (bachelor's, consecutive master's, master's, doctoral)	Doctoral
Number of active studies as of 31 December	0

Tab. 2.5 Accredited degree programmes jointly executed with a higher professional institution

The University of South Bohemia had no accredited degree programmes executed jointly with a higher professional institution in 2020.

Tab. 2.6 Lifelong learning courses (LLL) at USB – number of courses

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Courses oriented towards the performance of an occupation			Leisure courses			U3A	Total
		up to 15 hours	from 16 to 100 hours	more than 100 hours	up to 15 hours	from 16 to 100 hours	more than 100 hours		
Programmes and qualifications – general education	00		3	13					16
Education and training	01	10	6	79	2	1			98
Arts and humanities	02	1	13	2	6	97		6	125
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03			9	16	21		45	91
Commerce, administration and law	04				1			1	2
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	3	3	1	50	16	1		74
Information and communication technologies	06				2			1	3
Technology, production and construction	07			3	3	1			7
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	2	1			3			6
Health and social care, welfare care	09	3	3		7	14		5	32
Services	10								0
Total		19	29	107	87	153	1	58	454

Tab. 2.7 Lifelong learning courses (LLL) at USB – number of attendees

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Courses oriented towards the performance of an occupation			Leisure courses			U3A	Total	Participants under Section 60 of the Higher Education Act ¹
		up to 15 hours	from 16 to 100 hours	more than 100 hours	up to 15 hours	from 16 to 100 hours	more than 100 hours			
Programmes and qualifications – general education	00		13	209					222	
Education and training	01	175	142	869	46	13			1245	1 177
Arts and humanities	02	8	77	19	4	419		99	626	
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03			82	278	166		1144	1670	
Commerce, administration and law	04				4			11	15	
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	28	64	6	1265	316			1679	64
Information and communication technologies	06				24				24	
Technology, production and construction	07			7	9				16	7
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	12	2			10			24	
Health and social care, welfare care	09	16	21		30	79		155	301	29
Services	10								0	
Total		239	319	1192	1660	1003	0	1409	5822	1277

1) Lifelong learning participants who were admitted to accredited degree programmes pursuant to Section 60 of the Higher Education Act.

Tab. 3.1 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB in total

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Programmes and qualifications – general education	00									0
Education and training	01	1064	340	249	7	285	48	8	5	2006
Arts and humanities	02	477	77	0	0	138	16	64	14	786
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	126	109			10		10	12	267
Commerce, administration and law	04	564	147			211	133	20	16	1091
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	538	10			144		246	38	976
Information and communication technologies	06	178	32			27				237
Technology, production and construction	07	37	11			94	13			155
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	468	165			170	85	84	26	998
Health and social care, welfare care	09	1204	461			130	169	10	34	2008
Services	10	155	22			87	107			371
Total		4811	1374	249	7	1296	571	442	145	8895
of which women in total		3234	1053	240	5	886	434	243	81	6176
of which foreigners in total		286	22	0	0	77	11	169	20	585

Note: ISCED-F – classification of education fields. FT – full-time form, PT/D – part-time/distance form. This note applies to tables 3.1 and 3.1.1 to 3.1.8.

Tab. 3.1.1 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB Faculty of Economics

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	19	6			2				27
Commerce, administration and law	04	564	147			211	133	20	16	1091
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	2	1							3
Information and communication technologies	06	81	32			12				125
Total		666	186			225	133	20	16	1246
of which women in total		408	119			164	105	15	9	820
of which foreigners in total		28	3			24	3	2	5	65

Tab. 3.1.2 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB Faculty of Arts

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	62				25				87
Arts and humanities	02	433				131		28	8	600
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	11				8				19
Total		506				164		28	8	706
of which women in total		370				128		16	3	517
of which foreigners in total		22				8		2	1	33

Tab. 3.1.3 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB Faculty of Education

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	955	330	249	7	237	12	8	5	1803
Arts and humanities	02	3								3
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	96	103					5	5	209
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	33								33
Health and social care, welfare care	09					28				28
Services	10	137				52				189
Total		1224	433	249	7	317	12	13	10	2265
of which women in total		785	371	240	5	226	6	6	6	1645
of which foreigners in total		10	5	0	0	3	0	0	0	18

Tab. 3.1.4 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB Faculty of Science

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	40				4				44
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	468				144		211	20	843
Information and communication technologies	06	97				15				112
Technology, production and construction	07	12	11							23
Total		617	11			163		211	20	1022
of which women in total		370	0			107		116	8	601
of which foreigners in total		183	1			21		116	10	331

Tab. 3.1.5 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	35	9					10	1	55
Technology, production and construction	07					23	8			31
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	47	14					29	6	96
Total		82	23			23	8	39	7	182
of which women in total		24	3			4	1	17	3	52
of which foreigners in total		6	2			0	1	29	1	39

Tab. 3.1.6 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB Faculty of Theology

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01					1	8			9
Arts and humanities	02	41	77	0	0	7	16	36	6	183
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03							5	7	12
Health and social care, welfare care	09	209	268			42	91			610
Total		250	345			50	115	41	13	814
of which women in total		206	275			40	99	23	9	652
of which foreigners in total		9	5			0	0	8	1	23

Tab. 3.1.7 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	7	10			18	28			63
Health and social care, welfare care	09	995	193			60	78	10	34	1370
Services	10	18	22			35	107			182
Total		1020	225			113	213	10	34	1615
of which women in total		855	185			98	163	8	28	1337
of which foreigners in total		13	3			2	7	2	1	28

Tab. 3.1.8 Students in accredited degree programmes (quantity of studies) – USB Faculty of Agriculture

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05							25	17	42
Technology, production and construction	07	25				71	5			101
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	421	151			170	85	55	20	902
Total		446	151			241	90	80	37	1045
of which women in total		216	100			119	60	42	15	552
of which foreigners in total		15	3			19	0	10	1	48

Tab. 3.2 Students – self-funded (quantity of studies) – USB in total

No self-funded students were studying at the University of South Bohemia as of 31 December 2020.

Tab. 3.3 Drop-out rate in the 1st year of studies (%)

Faculty	Bachelor's studies			Master's studies			Consecutive master's studies			Doctoral studies			Total
	FT	PT/D	Total	FT	PT/D	Total	FT	PT/D	Total	FT	PT/D	Total	
USB Faculty of Economics	33.1	50.6	37.9				10.4	31.6	20.4	28.6	25.0	27.3	33.4
USB Faculty of Arts	34.4		34.4				6.2		6.2	23.1	0.0	17.6	25.3
USB Faculty of Education	26.4	16.5	24.1	25.0	0.0	25.0	8.3	0.0	8.0	0.0	20.0	14.3	21.4
USB Faculty of Science	32.6	12.5	32.0				10.2		10.2	3.8	13.3	5.9	24.4
USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters	68.1	75.0	69.8				0.0	66.7	235	0.0	0.0	0.0	51.1
USB Faculty of Theology	31.2	30.5	30.8				12.5	21.1	18.9	25.0	0.0	14.3	26.8
USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences	34.2	50.0	37.6				19.0	31.7	27.5	0.0	33.3	30.0	35.0
USB Faculty of Agriculture	46.2	52.7	48.2				3.1	27.7	12.6	12.5	16.7	13.3	32.4
Total	33.8	39.8	35.3	25.0	0.0	25.0	8.5	28.9	16.5	9.6	16.3	11.6	29.5

Note: The drop-out rate is understood as the quotient of the number of studies started in a calendar year 'n' and the total of unsuccessful studies of this cohort in the calendar years 'n' and 'n+1'.

FT – full-time form, PT/D – part-time form/distance form.

Tab. 3.4 Student scholarships, bursaries and grants per purpose (number of natural persons)

Scholarship, bursary, grant purpose	Number of students	Average scholarship amount
for outstanding study results pursuant to Section 91(2)(a)	463	6 815
for outstanding scholarly, scientific, research, development, artistic or other creative results pursuant to Section 91(2)(b)	131	20 554
for research, development and innovation activities pursuant to a special regulation pursuant to Section 91(2)(c)	517	30 893
in the case of a student's difficult social conditions pursuant to Section 91(2)(d)	0	0
in the case of a student's difficult social conditions pursuant to Section 91(3)	11	23 891
in other cases, worthy of special consideration pursuant to Section 91(2)(e)	5 082	6 010
of which the accommodation bursary	4 481	4 499
in support of studies abroad pursuant to Section 91(4)(a)	42	22 508
in support of studies in the Czech Republic pursuant to Section 91(4)(b)	7	160 000
to students in doctoral degree programmes pursuant to Section 91(4)(c)	459	102 850
other scholarships	0	0
Total	6 712	15 182

Note: Average scholarship amount – The share of the total sum disbursed for the type of scholarship, bursary, grant in question per year and the total number of natural persons to whom the scholarship, bursary, grant was disbursed per year at least once. If the scholarship, bursary or grant was disbursed multiple times, the person is included in the total only once, but the total of amounts disbursed to this person enter the calculation.

Tab. 4.1 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB in total

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	F	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Programmes and qualifications – general education	00									0
Education and training	01	159	132	24	8	105	37	1		466
Arts and humanities	02	87	2	0	0	50		12		151
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	42	12						1	55
Commerce, administration and law	04	119	16			63	28	2	2	230
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	99	1			61		22	10	193
Information and communication technologies	06	31	2			14				47
Technology, production and construction	07	10	6			38	5			59
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	104	24			76	42	7	7	260
Health and social care, welfare care	09	267	84			45	46	2		444
Services	10	37	17			23	25			102
Total		955	296	24	8	475	183	46	20	2007
of which women in total		728	234	24	7	315	140	17	8	1473
of which foreigners in total		53	2	0	0	23	1	16	6	101

Note: ISCED-F – classification of education fields. FT – full-time form, PT/D – part-time/distance form. The table displays the numbers of successfully completed studies (not natural persons) in the period from 1 January – 31 December. This note applies to tables 4.1 and 4.1.1 to 4.1.8.

Tab. 4.1.1 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Economics

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	15	1							16
Commerce, administration and law	04	119	16			63	28	2	2	230
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	3	1							4
Information and communication technologies	06	1	2			4				7
Total		138	20			67	28	2	2	257
of which women in total		105	16			52	22	1	1	197
of which foreigners in total		2	0			10	0	0	0	12

Tab. 4.1.2 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Arts

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01					10				10
Arts and humanities	02	82				47		9		138
Total		82				57		9		148
of which women in total		69				41		3		113
of which foreigners in total		3				4		0		7

Tab. 4.1.3 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Education

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	142	96	24	8	81	3	1	0	355
Arts and humanities	02	2								2
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	27	11					0	1	39
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	9								9
Health and social care, welfare care	09					11	1			12
Services	10	26				11				37
Total		206	107	24	8	103	4	1	1	454
of which women in total		163	87	24	7	65	1	0	1	348
of which foreigners in total		3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3

Tab. 4.1.4 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Science

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01					1				1
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	80				61		21	9	171
Information and communication technologies	06	30				10				40
Technology, production and construction	07	10	6							16
Total		120	6			72	0	21	9	228
of which women in total		66	0			45		8	1	120
of which foreigners in total		40	0			4		11	2	57

Tab. 4.1.5 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	7								7
Technology, production and construction	07					11	3			14
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	5	1					6	6	18
Total		12	1			11	3	6	6	39
of which women in total		5	0			4	1	2	4	16
of which foreigners in total		0	0			0	0	5	4	9

Tab. 4.1.6 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Theology

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01					1	1			2
Arts and humanities	02	3	2			3		3		11
Health and social care, welfare care	09	53	48			16	26			143
Total		56	50			20	27	3	0	156
of which women in total		49	43			18	24	1		135
of which foreigners in total		0	0			1	0	0		1

Tab. 4.1.7 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields F	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Education and training	01	17	36			12	33			98
Health and social care, welfare care	09	214	36			18	19	2	0	289
Services	10	11	17			12	25			65
Total		242	89			42	77	2	0	452
of which women in total		214	74			40	63	1	0	392
of which foreigners in total		3	2			1	1	0	0	7

Tab. 4.1.8 Graduates of accredited degree programmes (number of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Agriculture

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total
		FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	FT	PT/D	
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05							1	1	2
Technology, production and construction	07					27	2			29
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	99	23			76	42	1	1	242
Total		99	23			103	44	2	2	273
of which women in total		57	14			50	29	1	1	152
of which foreigners in total		2	0			3	0	0	0	5

Tab. 5.1 Interest in studies – USB in total

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Programmes and qualifications – general education	00																
Education and training	01	1 546	1 835	1 037	564	185	185	126	81	188	197	170	119	4	4	2	2
Arts and humanities	02	585	645	513	321	0	0	0	0	82	100	77	55	16	17	15	11
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	420	426	98	69					11	12	10	10	3	3	3	3
Commerce, administration and law	04	712	807	524	359					256	304	191	142	16	16	15	12
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	526	599	504	231					134	164	100	65	86	90	69	58
Information and communication technologies	06	125	125	87	69					17	17	9	7				
Technology, production and construction	07									41	43	36	27				
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	505	578	561	354					170	177	177	129	26	26	26	22
Health and social care, welfare care	09	1 306	1 615	1 351	716					225	288	282	177	12	12	11	10
Services	10	226	248	114	79					140	150	146	113				
Total		5 108	6 878	4 789	2 762	185	185	126	81	1 236	1 452	1 198	844	163	168	141	118

Note: **ISCED-F** – classification of education fields. **Number of applicants** – the number of natural persons. **Number of applications** – the total of all applications received by USB. **Number of admissions** – the number of all approved applications (not the number of natural persons). **Number of enrolments** – the number of all enrolments (not the number of natural persons). A single person admitted/enrolled in more than one study enters the table as many times as the person has been admitted/enrolled. This note applies to tables 5.1 and 5.1.1 to 5.1.8.

Tab. 5.1.1 Interest in studies – USB Faculty of Economics

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	28	28	16	5					2	2	2	2				
Commerce, administration and law	04	712	807	524	359					256	304	191	142	16	16	15	12
Information and communication technologies	06	125	125	87	69					17	17	9	7				
Total		835	960	627	433					272	323	202	151	16	16	15	12

Tab. 5.1.2 Interest in studies – USB Faculty of Arts

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Education and training	01	139	151	115	62					18	18	10	9				
Arts and humanities	02	423	465	333	222					72	79	59	43	11	11	9	6
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	33	33	21	11					9	10	8	8				
Total		551	649	469	295					93	107	77	60	11	11	9	6

Tab. 5.1.3 Interest in studies – USB Faculty of Education

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Education and training	01	1 366	1 584	825	458	185	185	126	81	165	171	157	107	4	4	2	2
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03	360	365	61	53												
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	39	39	39	13												
Health and social care, welfare care	09									27	27	23	17				
Services	10	226	248	114	79					35	37	33	28				
Total		1 877	2 236	1 039	603	185	185	126	81	222	235	213	152	4	4	2	2

Tab. 5.1.4 Interest in studies – USB Faculty of Science

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Education and training	01	95	100	97	44					7	8	3	3				
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	427	488	422	186					134	164	100	65	67	70	58	48
Total		503	588	519	230					139	172	103	68	67	70	58	48

Tab. 5.1.5 Interest in studies – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05	71	72	43	32									14	15	6	6
Technology, production and construction	07									23	25	18	16				
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	57	59	42	36												
Total		122	131	85	68					23	25	18	16	14	15	6	6

Tab. 5.1.6 Interest in studies – USB Faculty of Theology

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Arts and humanities	02	173	180	180	99					20	21	18	12	5	6	6	5
Social sciences, journalism and information sciences	03													3	3	3	3
Health and social care, welfare care	09	305	324	324	194					75	75	73	60				
Total		465	504	504	293					92	96	91	72	8	9	9	8

Tab. 5.1.7 Interest in studies – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Health and social care, welfare care	09	1 026	1 291	1 027	522					137	186	186	100	12	12	11	10
Services	10									105	113	113	85				
Total		1 026	1 291	1 027	522					239	299	299	185	12	12	11	10

Tab. 5.1.8 Interest in studies – USB Faculty of Agriculture

Broadly defined ISCED-F fields	Code	Bachelor's studies				Master's studies				Consecutive master's studies				Doctoral studies			
		Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments	Number of applicants	Number of applications	Number of admissions	Number of enrolments
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	05													5	5	5	4
Technology, production and construction	07									18	18	18	11				
Agriculture, forestry, fishery and veterinary medicine	08	452	519	519	318					170	177	177	129	26	26	26	22
Total		452	519	519	318					186	195	195	140	31	31	31	26

Tab. 6.1 Academic, research and other employees of USB (average adjusted number)

USB constituent part	Academic staff								Research staff			Other employees	Employees in total
	Academic staff in total	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professors	Senior lecturers	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Adjunct professors	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff		
USB Faculty of Economics	65.010	2.758	14.467	42.310	0.000	5.475	0.000	0.000	0.000	4.315	0.000	28.920	98.245
of which women	28.816	1.775	5.817	18.424		2.800				2.148		22.990	53.954
USB Faculty of Arts	61.863	6.876	15.797	36.940	0.000	2.250	0.000	0.000	0.967	8.395	0.000	19.933	91.157
of which women	23.711	1.258	5.265	16.688		0.500			0.000	2.858		16.066	42.635
USB Faculty of Education	128.587	4.331	23.492	87.606	8.310	4.681	0.167	0.000	0.033	0.613	0.000	80.076	209.309
of which women	57.172	0.903	9.992	39.279	3.960	2.938	0.100		0.000	0.191		55.011	112.374
USB Faculty of Science	120.107	9.817	16.092	32.043	0.000	0.021	62.134	0.000	3.250	77.493	0.450	95.859	297.159
of which women	31.067	1.000	2.750	15.443		0.021	11.853		1.500	33.878	0.450	67.850	134.746
USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters	43.242	5.800	9.628	23.563	1.000	1.900	1.352	0.000	15.133	15.480	0.800	84.820	159.476
of which women	10.712	0.000	0.545	7.267	1.000	1.900	0.000		6.947	5.644	0.800	44.343	68.445
USB Faculty of Theology	37.859	3.978	10.098	22.343	0.790	0.650	0.000	0.000	1.353	3.732	0.000	24.015	66.958
of which women	9.976	0.000	1.000	8.686	0.290	0.000			0.270	1.062		21.080	32.388
USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences	95.007	6.317	16.998	68.939	2.724	0.029	0.000	0.000	0.734	5.481	0.071	48.897	150.190
of which women	59.847	1.567	9.575	46.015	2.662	0.029			0.376	4.131	0.071	35.714	100.139
USB Faculty of Agriculture	79.775	10.575	22.435	46.765	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	6.320	1.000	53.739	140.833
of which women	24.103	1.000	5.500	17.603						4.750	1.000	34.044	63.897
Other USB units	3.893	0.235	0.578	1.924	0.500	0.000	0.657	0.000	0.000	1.273	0.000	253.486	258.652
of which women	0.998	0.098	0.388	0.314	0.000		0.198			0.706		189.511	191.214
TOTAL	635.343	50.686	129.584	362.434	13.324	15.006	64.309	0.000	21.470	123.102	2.321	689.743	1 471.979
of which women	246.400	7.600	40.832	169.719	7.912	8.188	12.151		9.093	55.368	2.321	486.608	799.790

Note: **Average adjusted numbers** – a quotient of the total number of actually worked hours for the reference period from 1 January to 31 December by all staff in the monitored category (incl. APW, excluding APJ) and the total annual work time pool attributable to one employee working full-time. **R&D teaching staff** – scientific, research and development staff participating in educational activities. **Scientific staff** – a person who is not a member of academic staff pursuant to Section 70 of the Act No 111/1998, on Higher Education Institutions. **Postdoctoral students** – a member of staff of a higher education institution for up to five years after defending his/her Ph.D. academic degree or its equivalent. He/she works as a part of a research team of the institution in question on a specific task, typically under the management of experienced research staff, and publishes his/her results independently as well as in the context of a creative team. He/she is in fixed-term employment (in the duration of 1–3 years) for one period, three successive periods at the most. His/her salary is regulated by the rules of the payroll system of the institution in question while he/she may obtain bonuses under research grant projects in addition. **Other R&D staff** – technical and expert staff that do not participate in research but are vital for research activities (e.g. research facility operation). **Other employees** – all other employees who do not participate in education or research directly; these are particularly administrative, technical or other employees. The outlined definitions of individual categories of employees/staff applies to tables 6.1, 6.2. and 6.3.

Tab. 6.2 Age structure of academic and research staff and other staff of USB (number of natural persons)

Age	Academic staff														Research staff						Other employees		Total	of which women
	Academic staff in total		Professors		Associate professors		Assistant professors		Senior lecturers		Lecturers		R&D teaching staff		Adjunct professors		Post-doctoral students		R&D staff not included in other categories		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 29 years of age					13	5	4	2	1	1					5	3	30	16			135	90	188	117
30-39 years of age			9	2	116	54	11	5	5	2	15	2			20	7	105	50	2	2	189	110	472	234
40-49 years of age	9	0	61	14	207	104	5	4	5	3	36	7			4	1	56	17			188	142	571	292
50-59 years of age	21	2	37	16	84	36	5	5	6	4	7	1					12	6			184	146	356	216
60-69 years of age	38	5	30	9	47	20	2	2	1	1	13	2					4	2	1	1	79	54	215	96
over 70 years of age	17	3	23	8	11	4					1	0					3	2			7	7	62	24
Total	85	10	160	49	478	223	27	18	18	11	72	12	0	0	29	11	210	93	3	3	782	549	1864	979

Note: **Number of natural persons** – The total number of employees/staff regardless of the scope of employment but only within employment, persons working on the basis of APW and APJ are not included. Other types of contractual relations pursuant to the Civil Code that are of the nature of purchasing services are not included.

Tab. 6.3 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB in total

Employment scope	Academic staff										Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate professors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women				
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women						
up to 0.3	34	3	20	3	58	24	56	30	85	34	253	94		
0.31-0.5	13	3	23	4	49	20	34	24	44	24	163	75		
0.51-0.7	2	0	4	3	21	7	13	3	21	11	61	24		
0.71-1	36	4	113	39	293	115	71	41	92	38	605	237		
more than 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Total	85	10	160	49	421	166	174	98	242	107	1082	430		

Tab. 6.3.1 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB Faculty of Economics

Employment scope	Academic staff										Scientific staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate professors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women				
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women						
up to 0.3	5	2	3	0	8	5	1	0	2	1	19	8		
0.31-0.5	2	1	4	0	3	1	1	1			10	3		
0.51-0.7			2	2			2	0	1	1	5	3		
0.71-1	1	1	11	5	33	13	10	6	2	1	57	26		
more than 1											0	0		
Total	8	4	20	7	44	19	14	7	5	3	91	40		

Tab. 6.3.2 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB Faculty of Arts

Employment scope	Academic staff								Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate profesors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 0.3	2	1	1	0			3	1	1	1	7	3
0.31-0.5	2	1	2	0	6	3	1	1	4	1	15	6
0.51-0.7			1	0	7	3	1	0			9	3
0.71-1	6	0	14	6	21	8	7	5	1	0	49	19
more than 1											0	0
Total	10	2	18	6	34	14	12	7	6	2	80	31

Tab. 6.3.3 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB Faculty of Education

Employment scope	Academic staff								Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate profesors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 0.3	2	0	1	1	8	4	4	2			15	7
0.31-0.5	1	0	3	0	6	2	15	11			25	13
0.51-0.7					2	1	2	0			4	1
0.71-1	3	1	22	10	67	28	18	9			110	48
more than 1											0	0
Total	6	1	26	11	83	35	39	22	0	0	154	69

Tab. 6.3.4 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB Faculty of Science

Employment scope	Academic staff								Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate profesors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 0.3	19	0	7	0	19	6	6	1	64	21	115	28
0.31-0.5			1	1	8	1	1	1	34	19	44	22
0.51-0.7	1	0			3	0	2	0	19	10	25	10
0.71-1	5	0	16	4	69	17	11	6	51	20	152	47
more than 1											0	0
Total	25	0	24	5	99	24	20	8	168	70	336	107

Tab. 6.3.5 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Employment scope	Academic staff								Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate profesors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 0.3					1	0	1	1	8	4	10	5
0.31-0.5			1	0					4	3	5	3
0.51-0.7			1	1	2	0			1	0	4	1
0.71-1	6	0	9	0	23	7	4	4	30	12	72	23
more than 1											0	0
Total	6	0	11	1	26	7	5	5	43	19	91	32

Tab. 6.3.6 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB Faculty of Theology

Employment scope	Academic staff								Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate profesors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 0.3			1	0	2	1	1	1	2	2	6	4
0.31-0.5	1	0			13	8	2	1	1	0	17	9
0.51-0.7					1	0	1	1			2	1
0.71-1	4	0	9	1	13	3	3	1	2	0	31	5
more than 1											0	0
Total	5	0	10	1	29	12	7	4	5	2	56	19

Tab. 6.3.7 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Employment scope	Academic staff								Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate profesors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 0.3	2	0	4	2	20	8	35	21	6	4	67	35
0.31-0.5	4	1	7	3	11	4	12	9	1	1	35	18
0.51-0.7	1	0			5	3	5	2			11	5
0.71-1	3	1	12	7	29	23	13	10			57	41
more than 1											0	0
Total	10	2	23	12	65	38	65	42	7	5	170	99

Tab. 6.3.8 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – USB Faculty of Agriculture

Employment scope	Academic staff								Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate profesors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 0.3	4	0	3	0			4	3	1	1	12	4
0.31-0.5	3	0	5	0	2	1	2	0			12	1
0.51-0.7					1	0					1	0
0.71-1	8	1	20	6	38	16	5	0	6	5	77	28
more than 1											0	0
Total	15	1	28	6	41	17	11	3	7	6	102	33

Tab. 6.3.9 Number of academic and research staff per employment scope and the highest qualification achieved (number of natural persons per employment scope) – Other USB units

Employment scope	Academic staff								Research staff		Total	of which women
	Professors		Associate profesors		DrSc., CSc., Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.		Others		Total	Women		
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women				
up to 0.3							1	0	1	0	2	0
0.31-0.5											0	0
0.51-0.7											0	0
0.71-1											0	0
more than 1											0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0

Tab. 6.4 Managing staff (natural persons)

USB constituent part	Rector/Dean	Vice-Rector/Vice-Dean	Academic Senate	Scientific/Artistic/Academic Board	Bursar/Secretary	Board of Trustees	Directors of institutes, higher ed. agricultural or forestry estates	Heads of departments /institutes/ research facilities	Managing staff in total
USB – excluding faculties	1	6	40	46	1	12			106
of which women	0	1	12	11	1	0			25
USB Faculty of Economics	1	4	15	37	1			7	65
of which women	1	3	5	15	1			1	26
USB Faculty of Arts	1	4	11	35	1			8	60
of which women	0	0	6	6	1			2	15
USB Faculty of Education	1	5	14	32	1			19	72
of which women	1	3	3	11	1			10	29
USB Faculty of Science	1	7	12	21	1			15	57
of which women	1	2	5	2	1			2	13
USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters	1	4	10	22	1			23	61
of which women	0	0	1	1	1			3	6
USB Faculty of Theology	1	3	12	25	1			6	48
of which women	0	0	7	1	1			2	11
USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences	1	4	13	25	1			7	51
of which women	1	2	6	12	0			6	27
USB Faculty of Agriculture	1	4	15	24	1			8	53
of which women	0	1	2	4	0			0	7
Higher education institutes and agricultural or forestry estates							0	0	0
of which women							0	0	0
Other units in total							0	5	5
of which women							0	3	3
Faculties in total	8	35	102	221	8		0	98	472
of which women	4	11	35	52	6		0	29	137
USB in total	9	41	142	267	9	12	0	98	578
of which women	4	12	47	63	7	0	0	29	162

Note: The 'USB in total' might not reflect the actual number of natural persons (one person may hold more than one position within USB or a faculty), it is a simple total of the cells.

Tab. 6.5 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB in total

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	3.183	4.258	17.634	0.063	3.733	6.346	9.167	43.630	0.000	18.275
of which:										
Germany	1.092	2.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.350	0.000	2.238		0.144
Poland	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.939		0.743
Austria	0.000	0.000	0.688	0.000	0.000	0.079	0.000	0.000		0.000
Slovakia	1.800	1.258	5.166	0.063	0.000	3.917	0.000	4.677		3.811
other EU states	0.000	0.000	6.131	0.000	1.750	1.000	1.500	12.063		4.843
other non-EU states	0.292	1.000	4.650	0.000	0.983	1.000	7.667	22.714		8.734
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)	0.850	1.100	7.493	0.000	0.000	3.000	5.447	16.974		10.171

Note: **Average adjusted numbers** – a quotient of the total number of actually worked hours for the reference period from 1 January to 31 December by all staff in the category monitored (incl. APW, excluding APJ) and the total annual work time pool attributable to one employee working full-time. **R&D teaching staff** – scientific, research and development staff participating in educational activities. **Research staff** – a person who is not a member of academic staff pursuant to Section 70 of the Act No 111/1998, on Higher Education Institutions. **Postdoctoral student** – a member of staff of a higher education institution for up to five years after defending his/her Ph.D. academic degree or its equivalent. He/she works as a part of a research team of the institution in question on a specific task, typically under the management of experienced research staff, and publishes his/her results independently as well as in the context of a creative team. He/she is in fixed-term employment (in the duration of 1–3 years) for one period, three successive periods at the most. His/her salary is regulated by the rules of the payroll system of the institution in question while he/she may obtain bonuses under research grant projects in addition. **Other R&D staff** – technical and expert staff that do not participate in research but are vital for research activities (e.g. research facility operation). **Other employees** – all other employees who do not participate in education or research directly; these are particularly administrative, technical or other employees. The outlined definitions of individual categories of employees/staff apply to tables 6.5 and 6.5.1 to 6.5.9.

Tab. 6.5.1 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB Faculty of Economics

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	0.867	0.700	1.762	0.000	0.983	0.000	0.000	0.525	0.000	0.568
of which:										
Germany	0.092									
Poland										
Austria										
Slovakia	0.683	0.700	1.000					0.525		0.200
other EU states			0.762							
other non-EU states	0.092				0.983					0.368
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)	0.683	0.000	1.000		0.000			0.525		0.568

Tab. 6.5.2 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB Faculty of Arts

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	0.000	2.000	4.569	0.000	1.750	0.000	0.000	0.242	0.000	0.000
of which:										
Germany		2.000	1.000					0.042		
Poland										
Austria										
Slovakia										
other EU states			2.569		1.750			0.200		
other non-EU states			1.000							
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)		1.000	2.194		0.000			0.200		

Tab. 6.5.3 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB Faculty of Education

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	0.250	0.100	3.138	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.150
of which:										
Germany					1.000					
Poland										
Austria			0.688							
Slovakia	0.250	0.100	0.700							0.150
other EU states										1.000
other non-EU states			1.750							
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)	0.000	0.100	1.450		0.000					0.000

Tab. 6.5.4 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB Faculty of Science

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	0.200	0,000	3.291	0.000	0.000	6.055	1.500	28.228	0.000	4.392
of which:						0.350		1.196		0.144
Germany										
Poland								1.939		
Austria						0.079				
Slovakia			0.258			3.626		3.304		2.125
other EU states			2.800			1.000	0.500	8.899		1.510
other non-EU states	0.200		0.233			1.000	1.000	12.889		0.613
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)	0.000		1.983			2.809	0.500	10.558		2.842

Tab. 6.5.5 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	0.000	1.000	3.667	0.000	0.000	0.000	6.667	13.080	0.000	9.222
of which:								1.000		
Germany										
Poland										0.743
Austria										
Slovakia			2.000					0.500		1.000
other EU states								1.938		1.133
other non-EU states		1.000	1.667				6.667	9.641		6.346
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)		0.000	0.667				4.947	5.344		4.608

Tab. 6.5.6 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB Faculty of Theology

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	0.000	0.000	1.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.000	1.300	0.000	0.200
of which:										
Germany										
Poland										
Austria										
Slovakia			1.200					0.300		
other EU states							1.000	1.000		0.200
other non-EU states										
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)			0.200				0.000	0.300		0.000

Tab. 6.5.7 Academic and research staff with foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	1.667	0.458	0.000	0.063	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.000	0.003
of which:										
Germany	1.000									
Poland										
Austria										
Slovakia	0.667	0.458		0.063				0.048		0.003
other EU states										
other non-EU states										
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)	0.167	0.000		0.000				0.048		0.000

Tab. 6.5.8 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – USB Faculty of Agriculture

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.025	0.000	0.013
of which:										
Germany										
Poland										
Austria										
Slovakia	0.200									
other EU states								0.025		
other non-EU states										0.013
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)	0.000							0.000		0.000

Tab. 6.5.9 Academic and research staff with a foreign citizenship (average adjusted number) – Other USB units

Staff structure	Academic staff						Research staff			Other employees
	Professors	Associate professors	Assistant professor	Senior lecturer	Lecturers	R&D teaching staff	Post-doctoral students	R&D staff not included in other categories	Other R&D staff	
Total	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.000	0.000	0.291	0.000	0.183	0.000	2.728
of which:										
Germany										
Poland										
Austria										
Slovakia			0.008			0.291				0.333
other EU states										1.000
other non-EU states								0.183		1.395
Women out of the total number (regardless of citizenship)			0.000			0.191		0.000		2.153

Tab. 6.6 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB in total

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	2	2	2	52
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	7	6	3	47.6
of which women	0	0	3	

Note: The average age of the newly appointed is calculated from the total number of the newly appointed persons at USB. This note applies to tables 6.6 and 6.6.1 to 6.6.8.

Tab. 6.6.1 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB Faculty of Economics

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	

Tab. 6.6.2 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB Faculty of Arts

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	0	0	1	
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	0	0	1	
of which women	0	0	1	

Tab. 6.6.3 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB Faculty of Education

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	

Tab. 6.6.4 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB Faculty of Science

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	2	2	0	52
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	3	2	2	46.7
of which women	0	0	2	

Tab. 6.6.5 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	1	1	0	58
of which women	0	0	0	

Tab. 6.6.6 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB Faculty of Theology

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	0	0	1	
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	

Tab. 6.6.7 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	

Tab. 6.6.8 Newly appointed associate professors and professors (number) – USB Faculty of Agriculture

Structure of the newly appointed	Number			Average age of the newly appointed
	At USB		Permanent USB staff appointed at a different HEI	
	Total	of which permanent USB staff		
Professors appointed in 2020	0	0	0	
of which women	0	0	0	
Associate professors appointed in 2020	3	3	0	45
of which women	0	0	0	

Tab. 7.1 USB engagement in programmes of international cooperation (regardless of the source of funding)

	H2020/7th EC framework programme		Other	Total
	Total	of which Marie-Curie Actions		
Number of projects	10	3	37	47
Number of students dispatched	4	0	185	189
Number of students received	0	0	177	177
Number of academic and research staff dispatched	2	0	134	136
Number of academic and research staff received	1	1	30	31
Grants (CZK, thousands)	45 379	7 983	71 843	117 222

Note: In the case of departures as well as arrivals, only stays, the total length of which was more than 4 weeks (28 days), are indicated. In the case of departures as well as arrivals of academic and other staff, all stays are indicated regardless of their duration. In both cases, even stays that began in 2019 and ended in 2020 are included. The indicated amounts represent the total funding of projects, including MEYS co-funding.

Tab. 7.2 Mobilities of students, academic and other staff per country (regardless of the source of funding)

Country	Number of students dispatched			Number of students received		Number of academic staff dispatched	Number of academic staff received	Number of other staff dispatched	Number of other staff received	Country total
	Total	of which grad. internships	of which virtually	of which virtually	Total					
Argentine Republic	1	1								1
Republic of Austria	14	5			10	2		1		27
Kingdom of Belgium	3	1				2		0		5
Federative Republic of Brazil					14					14
Canada	1	0			1					2
People's Republic of China	1	1								1
Republic of Croatia						1		0		1
Czech Republic	1	1				1		1		3
Kingdom of Denmark	3	2								3
Republic of Ecuador						1		0		1
Republic of Estonia	2	2			4					6
Republic of Finland	9	6			3	1		0		13
French Republic	17	7			15	1		1		34
Federal Republic of Germany	33	20			9	12	6	4		64
Hellenic Republic	1	0			4	1		0		6
Hungary	1	0			7	1		0		9
Iceland						1		1		2
Republic of India	1	1								1
Islamic Republic of Iran					1					1
Ireland	2	1				1		0		3
State of Israel	1	1				1		0		2
Italian Republic	9	1			8	2		1		20
Japan					3					3
Republic of Kazakhstan					1					1
Republic of Korea	3	2			5					8
Republic of Latvia	2	2			4	1		0		7
Republic of Lithuania	2	0			1					3
Republic of Malta	2	0				0		4		6
United Mexican States					6					6
Netherlands	3	2			1	0		1		5
Kingdom of Norway	1	1				1		11		13
Independent State of Papua New Guinea	3	2			3	0		1		7
Republic of Poland	5	1			2	1	5	0		13

Country	Number of students dispatched			Number of students received		Number of academic staff dispatched	Number of academic staff received	Number of other staff dispatched	Number of other staff received	Country total
	Total	of which grad. internships	of which virtually	of which virtually	Total					
Portuguese Republic	11	1			9	4		0		24
Romania	2	0			1	2		0		5
Russian Federation	1	0								1
Republic of Serbia							1			1
Republic of Singapore						0		2		2
Slovak Republic	2	2			9	11	1	6		29
Socialist Republic of Vietnam						3		0		3
Republic of Slovenia	5	0			5					10
Kingdom of Spain	33	5			45	5		4		87
Kingdom of Sweden	1	1				0	2	1		4
Swiss Confederation	3	3				1		0		4
Kingdom of Thailand						1		0		1
Republic of Turkey	1	0			20					21
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	20	8				3	2	0		25
United States of America	2	2				3		0		5
Total	202	82	0	0	191	64	17	39	0	513

Note: In the case of departures as well as arrivals, only stays, the total length of which was at least 2 weeks (14 days), are indicated. In the case of departures as well as arrivals of academic and other staff, stays in the duration of at least 5 days are indicated. In both cases, stays that began in 2019 and ended in 2020 are included as well. Graduate internships are understood as practical training in a foreign company or organisation in the duration of 2–12 months that is commenced after successful completion of studies and completed within one year after graduating. The graduate internship is executed on the basis of a trilateral agreement between the student, higher education institution dispatching the student and the organisation/institution/company receiving the student.

Tab. 7.3 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB in total

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	7.4%	92.0	9.4%	3.0	9.7%	64.0	36.4%	24.0	9.1%	183.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)							33.3%	22.0	33.3%	22.0

Note: Shares of graduates are related to completed studies, not natural persons (one person could graduate from more than one study). Studies successfully completed in the period from 1 January to 31 December, are included. Notes displayed apply to tables 7.3 and 7.3.1 to 7.3.8.

Tab. 7.3.1 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Economics

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	1.9%	3.0			16.8%	16.0			7.4%	19.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)									0.0%	0.0

Tab. 7.3.2 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Arts

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	31.7%	26.0			14.0%	8.0	11.1%	1.0	25.6%	35.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)							11.1%	1.0	11.1%	1.0

Tab. 7.3.3 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Education

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	6.4%	20.0	9.4%	3.0	12.1%	13.0	50.0%	1.0	23.6%	37.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)							50.0%	1.0	50.0%	1.0

Tab. 7.3.4 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Science

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	4.8%	6.0			9.7%	7.0	43.3%	13.0	8.1%	26.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)							36.7%	11.0	36.7%	11.0

Tab. 7.3.5 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	7.7%	1.0			21.4%	3.0	50.0%	6.0	11.4%	10.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)							50.0%	6.0	50.0%	6.0

Tab. 7.3.6 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Theology

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	1.9%	2.0	0.0%	0.0	4.3%	2.0	66.7%	2.0	3.8%	6.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)							66.7%	2.0	66.7%	2.0

Tab. 7.3.7 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	10.0%	33.0			7.6%	9.0	0.0%	0.0	9.3%	42.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)							0.0%	0.0	0.0%	0.0

Tab. 7.3.8 Mobility of graduates (numbers and shares of completed studies) – USB Faculty of Agriculture

	Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Consecutive master's studies		Doctoral studies		Total	
	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No	Share	No
Share and number of graduates who departed for an international stay in the duration of 14 days at least during their studies	0.8%	1.0			4.1%	6.0	25.0%	1.0	2.9%	8.0
Share and number of graduates of doctoral studies whose duration of an international stay reached 1 month at least (i.e. 30 days)							25.0%	1.0	25.0%	1.0

Tab. 8.1 Conferences (co)organised by USB (number)

USB constituent part	Number of attendees over 60		International conferences	
	In person	Virtual	In person	Virtual
USB Faculty of Economics	0	2	0	1
USB Faculty of Arts	0	0	0	0
USB Faculty of Education	1	2	1	1
USB Faculty of Science	0	0	0	0
USB Faculty of Fishery and Water Protection	0	1	0	1
USB Faculty of Theology	0	0	0	1
USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences	0	3	0	1
USB Faculty of Agriculture	0	0	0	0
Other USB units	0	3	0	2
Total	1	11	1	7

Note: If there is a conference with more than 60 participants and it is also international at the same time, it is displayed in both columns. If the conference meets only one of the criteria, it is displayed in the relevant column. It is not included in the table if it did not meet either one of the criteria. An international conference is a conference attended by at least one foreign speaker and all contributions of which are localised at least into one of the following languages – English, French, German, or into a language typical for the field focus of the conference in question, e.g. fields of philology.

Tab. 8.2 Application sphere experts participating in instruction and in practical training in accredited degree programmes (number)

USB faculty	Persons employed by USB or its constituent part			Persons not employed by USB or its constituent part		
	Number of persons participating in instruction	Number of persons participating in supervising a thesis	Number of persons participating in practical training	Number of persons participating in instruction	Number of persons participating in supervising a thesis	Number of persons participating in practical training
USB Faculty of Economics	20	6	0	3	0	20
of which women	4	2	0	2	0	8
USB Faculty of Arts	29	3	3	0	2	0
of which women	7	0	0	0	0	0
USB Faculty of Education	110	40	253	0	0	0
of which women	52	18	204	0	0	0
USB Faculty of Science	30	3	0	6	2	0
of which women	7	0	0	0	0	0
USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters	7	1	0	0	0	28
of which women	1	0	0	0	0	0
USB Faculty of Theology	4	4	6	2	2	285
of which women	3	2	5	2	2	234
USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences	69	40	40	54	14	27
of which women	27	18	24	24	9	16
USB Faculty of Agriculture	21	4	6	13	7	141
of which women	6	1	5	6	5	29
Total	290	101	308	78	27	501
of which women	107	41	238	34	16	287

Note: Application sphere experts participating in instruction in at least one-third of the timetable of at least one course or are thesis advisors of a student are included in the table. If the staff in question is a permanent USB/faculty staff member, they have at least the same scope of employment outside USB/faculty as well.

Tab. 8.3 Degree programmes/fields that contain mandatory practical training for the period of at least 1 month

USB faculty	Number of degree programmes/fields	Number of active studies					
		Bachelor's studies		Master's studies		Cons. master's studies	
		Academic profile	Professional profile	Academic profile	Professional profile	Academic profile	Professional profile
USB Faculty of Economics	12	619	51			11	
USB Faculty of Arts	7	49				17	
USB Faculty of Education	78	1657		256		333	
USB Faculty of Science	2	23					
USB Faculty of Fisheries and Water Protection	7	82				23	
USB Faculty of Theology	7		620				201
USB Faculty of Health and Social Sciences	27		1248				326
USB Faculty of Agriculture	14	224	51			217	
Total	154	2654	1970	256	0	601	527

Note: Mandatory practical training is understood as practical training that is a part of the accreditation of the degree programme/field in question, while it may be a part of a course or an independent course itself. This is expert professional practical training. The duration of individual mandatory practical training could be shorter as well but had to amount to at least 1 month in total.

Tab. 8.4 Transfer of knowledge and results of research into practice

	In CR	Abroad	Number in Total	Income in total (CZK)
Number of new spin-off/start-up enterprises*			0	
Submitted patent applications	1	1	2	
Patents awarded**	3	0	3	
Registered utility models	1	0	1	
Licence agreements valid as of 31 December	19	1	20	
Newly concluded licence agreements	5	1	6	200 200
Contractual research***, consultancy and counselling***			72	8 643 660
Paid training courses for employees of industry entities***			43	204 479

Note: **Licence agreement** is defined as the provision of a right within an agreed-upon scope and on the agreed-upon territory for the acquisition or provision of license for one of the forms of intellectual or industrial property protection. Licence agreements are concluded in writing for patented inventions or registered utility models, industrial designs, the topography of semiconductor products, new plant varieties and animal breeds or trademarks. The licensor authorises the licensee to the exercise of intellectual and industrial property rights within the agreed-upon scope and on the agreed-upon territory. The licensee commits to providing certain fees (licence fees) or other assets. At the same time, the licensee is not threatened by a charge of any infringement on intellectual property or copyright from the licensor. **Contractual research** is commissioned research that is based on cooperation (interaction) specifically for research purposes of industry entities and the higher education institution executes the research for the industry entity according to its requirements and needs. Financial resources are provided to the institution by the entity for the research. The research typically includes more extensive projects, original research and a written report. The commissioned research is usually commissioned by a specific external organisation (for its need). It is not decisive whether the financial resources that the industry entity invests in such contractual research originates from public or private sources. The case when the higher education institution is a recipient of special-purpose support for applied research cannot be considered contractual research. **Paid training courses** enhancing the qualification of employees of industry entities (e.g. in-company training courses). The industry entity is understood to be a legal entity and its core activity is not research and development. It may be a business entity, public authority, non-profit organisations etc. (Always under the condition that the core activity is not a research activity). Income will be included from such training courses that are 'commissioned', i.e. on the basis of an agreement with the organisation in question, for its employees. It is not a determination of expenses of participants of training courses who are employed in the company that fits the above-mentioned definition. On the contrary, the courses concerned are courses that were created on the basis of an agreement with the selected company since this company wished to train its employees. **Consultancy and counselling** are founded upon the provision of expert advice, opinion or activity that depends on a high level of intellectual input resources of the higher education institution to the client. The higher education institution provides consultancy and counselling services in exchange for payment and in accordance with market conditions to industry entities. The main required output of the consultation is not a creation of new knowledge, but the understanding or comprehension of a particular situation.

Tab. 8.4.1 Transfer of knowledge and results of research into practice – summary information

	Total number	Total income (CZK)
Newly concluded licence agreements, contractual research, consultancy, counselling and paid training courses for employees of entities from the sphere of application	121	9 048 339
	Average income per order (CZK)	
	75 403	

Tab. 12.1 Accommodation and catering

Accommodation and catering	Quantity
Total bed capacity at dormitories of HEI	1 685
Number of beds in rented facilities	0
Number of accommodation applications/reservations as of 31/12/2020	2 181
Number of approved accommodation applications/reservations as of 31/12/2020	1 685
Number of bed-days in 2020	424 815
Total number of terminated contracts (pandemic)*	348
Total number of adjusted contracts (pandemic)**	1 809
Total number of contracts including an exemption (pandemic)***	474
Number of main meals served to students in 2020	89 058
Number of main meals served to employees of the higher education institution in 2020	45 837
Number of main meals served to other diners in 2020	147 649

Note: * Number of contracts that were terminated in the course of the year due to Government anti-epidemic measures concerning accommodation.

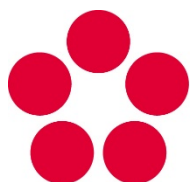
Note: ** Number of contracts that were adjusted in the course of the year due to Government anti-epidemic measures concerning accommodation. These adjustments need not be formal changes to contracts but also the changes to payments – typically reductions of accommodation prices in the event that the accommodation is left to the student even though it is not physically used.

Note: *** Number of contracts that remained valid due to an exemption from the accommodation prohibition arising from Government anti-epidemic measures concerning accommodation. For example, these were students required to perform work duties, volunteers, students who declared the higher education dormitory as their residence, etc.

Tab. 12.2 University libraries

University libraries	Quantity
Library stock increase per year	3 823
of which the increase of physical units	3 766
of which the increase of permanently purchases e-books	57
Library stock in total	370 505
of which the increase of physical units	37 0014
of which the increase of permanently purchases e-books	491
Quantity of subscribed periodicals:	
- physically	416
- electronically (estimate)	23
- in both forms	0

Note: Quantity of subscribed periodicals electronically (estimate) – only periodicals that the library itself is subscribed to (or receives as a donation, exchange) in the paper or electronic version; other periodicals that users of the library have access to under consortia to full-text sources are not included. Only periodicals both forms of which are paid separately are displayed in the number of periodicals in both forms (i.e. in the case that the library is subscribed to the print version and the electronic version is free as a bonus, only the print version is indicated, etc.). The table indicates summary figures for the USB Academic Library and the Josef Petr Ondok Library of the USB Faculty of Theology.



Jihočeská univerzita
v Českých Budějovicích
University of South Bohemia
in České Budějovice

Annual Activity Report 2020

Abbreviations and acronyms

Abbreviations and acronyms

Abbreviation/Acronym	Meaning
3D	Three-dimensional
AAR	Annual Activity Report
ACC	Academic Computer Centre
ACCA	Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
AFMR	Annual Financial Management Report
AIIESEC	Largest organisation in the world managed by students that contributes to the society by the development of young people and opportunities in the international environment
AL USB	Academic Library of the University of South Bohemia
AMG COVID-19	Application serving for providing information on the development of the coronavirus situation
APJ	Agreement to perform a job
APW	Agreement to perform work
AQUAEXCEL	AQUAculture infrastructures for EXCELlence in European fish research towards 2020
AQUA-T-NET	European thematic network in the field of aquaculture, fisheries and aquatic resources management
ARWU	Academic Ranking of World Universities
a. s.	Joint-stock company
ASD	Autism spectrum disorder
ASPE	Academic Staff Performance Evaluation
ASPI	Legal information system
ASPU	Armenian State Pedagogical University
AS USB	Academic Senate of the University of South Bohemia
AVU	Association of Visegrad Universities
AY	Academic year
BAT	Best available techniques
BC CAS	Biology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences
BC USB	British Centre of the University of South Bohemia
BENEFITS	Better and Effective Nursing Education for Improving Transcultural Nursing Skills
BO	Bursar's ordinance
BT USB	Board of Trustees of the University of South Bohemia
Building ID No	Building identification number
CAE	International language exam C1 Advanced
CAS	Czech Academy of Sciences
CB	České Budějovice
CC	Card Centre
CD	Cadastral district
CD	Compact disc
CDP	Centralised development project
CEEPUS	Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies
CEI	Czech Environmental Inspectorate
CENAKVA	South Bohemian Research Center of Aquaculture and Biodiversity of Hydrocenoses
CEPH	Data storage
CERGE-EI	Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education – Economics Institute
CG Kvítek	USB Preschool facility – Children's Group Kvítek
Chap.	Chapter
CIT USB	Centre of Information Technologies of the University of South Bohemia
CPE	International language exam C2
CPITS	Centre for Practical Instruction of Technological Specialisations

Abbreviation/Acronym	Meaning
CR	Czech Republic
CRC	Czech Rectors Conference
CSO	Czech Statistical Office
CT	Czech Television
CU	Children's University
CWTS	Centre for Science and Technology Studies
CWUR	Center for World University Rankings
CZECOS	Research infrastructure
ČEZ	ČEZ Group
D&R USB	Dormitories and Refectories of the University of South Bohemia
DAAD	Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
DANUBIUS	International Centre for Advanced Studies on River-Sea Systems
DAPT	Department of Applied Physics and Technics
DDP	Doctoral degree programme
DVD	Digital Versatile Disc
DZS	Czech National Agency for International Education and Research
EAS	European Aquaculture Society
EASSW	European Association of Schools of Social Work
ECTS	European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (European credit system)
EC USB	Ethics Committee of the University of South Bohemia
eds.	Editors
EFLM	European Association of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine
EFQM	European Foundation for Quality Management
e.g.	For example
EGJE	Elanor Global Java Edition payroll and HR system
EIS	Electronic information sources
ELIA Exchange	Platform for student internships of the global association of translation agencies
ENOAT	European Network of Organic Agriculture Teachers
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
ERRS	European Radiation Research Society
ESF	European Social Fund
ESFRI	European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures
ESHRE	European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology
ESN	Erasmus Student Network
Et al.	Group of authors
etc.	Et cetera
ETC	European Territorial Cooperation
ETNA	European Transcultural Nursing Association
esp.	Especially
EU	European Union
EUR	Euro currency code
e. V.	Eingetragener Verein (registered association)
EVIPRG	European Violence in Psychiatry Research
EZB	Elektronische Zeitschriftenbibliothek (Electronic journal library)
FAG USB	Faculty of Agriculture of the University of South Bohemia
FAR USB	Faculty of Arts of the University of South Bohemia
FCE	International language examination B2 First
FEC USB	Faculty of Economics of the University of South Bohemia
FED USB	Faculty of Education of the University of South Bohemia

Abbreviation/Acronym	Meaning
FEES	Further education of education staff
FEP	Framework Educational Programme
FFPW USB	Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters of the University of South Bohemia
FHSS USB	Faculty of Health and Social Sciences of the University of South Bohemia
FSC USB	Faculty of Science of the University of South Bohemia
FSP USB	Fund of strategic priorities of the University of South Bohemia
FT	Full-time studies
FTH USB	Faculty of Theology of the University of South Bohemia
GA CR	Czech Science Foundation
GA USB	Grant Agency of the University of South Bohemia
GAP	Market gap analysis
Gb	Gigabit
GC USB	Goethe Centre of the University of South Bohemia
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
H2020	Horizon 2020/Framework Programme for Research and Innovations of the EU valid for 2014–2020
HEI	Higher education institution
HPS	Higher professional school
HR	Human Resources
HR Award	HR Excellence in Research Award
HRS4R	The Human Resources Strategy for Researchers
HSS	Heat supply system
HV	High voltage
i.a.	Inter alia
IAO	Internal Audit Office
IAHC	International Association for Human Caring
IBFC	International Board of the USB Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters and the CENAKVA centre
ICARUS	International Centre for Archival Research
ICU	Intensive care unit
IDEA	Institute for Democracy & Economic Analysis
ID No	Identification number
IDM	Identity management
i.e.	Id est
IEB USB	Internal Evaluation Board of the University of South Bohemia
IEEAIC	International Environmental Educational, Advisory and Information Centre of Water Protection Vodňany
IELTS	International English Language Testing System (international standardised test of English language proficiency that evaluates the ability to study or learn in English)
IEP	International Evaluation Panel
IFAC	International Federation of Accountants
iFIS	Internal Financial Information System
InfZ	Act No 106/1999, on Free Access to Information
INTERREG	Interregional Cooperation Programme
IP	Institutional plan
IRO	International Relations Office of the USB Rectorate
IS	Information system
IS ASPE	Information system for academic staff performance evaluation
ISBN	International Standard Book Number (numeric code intended for clear identification of book editions)
ISC	Information systems centre

Abbreviation/Acronym	Meaning
IS CAS	Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences
ISIC	International Student Identity Card
IS PEOS	Information system for the performance evaluation of other staff
IS STAG	Study Remit Information System
IT	Information technology
ITTN	International Technology Transfer Network
IW	International Week
JSTOR	Journal Storage
KA	Key activity
KAAD	Katholischer Akademischer Ausländer-Dienst
KG	Kindergarten
LAG	Local action group
LAP	Local action plan
LCDRO	Long-term conceptual development of a research organisation
LIFE	L'Instrument Financier pour l'Environnement
LIFE for MIRES	Transboundary restoration of mires for biodiversity and landscape hydrology in Šumava and Bavarian forest
LLL	Lifelong learning
LMS	Learning Management System
LN	Lot No
LP	Leisure pedagogy
LPIS	Land Parcel Identification System – Public land registry
LV	Low voltage
M17+/Methodology 17+	Methodology of evaluating research organisations and an evaluation of the purpose-built support of research, development and innovation
MA CR	Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic
MELODI	Multidisciplinary European Low Dose Initiative
MEYS CR	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic
MF Dnes	Mladá fronta Dnes
MH CR	Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic
MICHE	Monitoring Internationalization of Czech Higher Education
MI CR	Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic
MIT CR	Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic
MLSA CR	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic
Moodle	Software package for creating educational systems and electronic courses on the internet
MS	Microsoft
MSCA-IF	Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships
NAAR	National Agency for Agriculture Research
NAB	National Accreditation Bureau
NAFSA	Association of International Educators
NAKI	Programme to support applied research and experimental development of national and cultural identity
NIPH	National Institute of Public Health
NL CR	National Library of the Czech Republic
NMgr.	Consecutive master's studies
n. p.	National company
NP	National park
NSP	National Sustainability Programme
NSPE	Non-academic Staff Performance Evaluation
NTC Learning	System of teaching children's brains using exercises aiming at increasing brain activity
NTU	National Taiwan University

Abbreviation/Acronym	Meaning
OBD	Personal Bibliographic Database
OÖ	Oberösterreich
OP	Operational Programme
OP E	Operational Programme Employment
OP RDE	Operational Programme Research, Development and Education
OP RDI	Operational Programme Research and Development for Innovation
OSVČ	Self-employed person
Pcs	Pieces
PEOS	Performance Evaluation of Other Staff
PET	Preliminary English Test, B1
PHEI	Public higher education institution
PH USB	Publishing House of the University of the South Bohemia
POC	Proof of concept – support for activities focused on the development of technology transfer
PRIM	Support of development of computational thinking
PROGFIN	Programme funding
PSch	Primary school
PT	Part-time studies
QS	Quacquarelli Symonds (a company preparing one of the rankings used for evaluating universities)
R&D	Research and development
REC USB	Rectorate of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
Reg.	Registration
REVISIO	Application designed for real estate management
RIV	Information Register of R&D Results
RO	Rector's ordinance/decision
RPA	Robotic process automation
RUV	Register of Art Output
SA	Sub-activity
SAV	Slovenská Akadémia Vied (Slovak Academy of Sciences)
SBCC	South Bohemian Chamber of Commerce
SBSTP	South Bohemian Science and Technology Park
SCSSN	Support Centre for Students with Special Needs
SEI	Student evaluation of instruction
SFE	State final examinations
SHARE	Social Sciences and Humanities in Ionising Radiation Research
SIMS	Union Information from Students' Registers
SIR	SCImago Institutions Rankings
SLNO	Simulation Centre for Medical Fields of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
SNSB	Bavarian Natural History Collections
SoFarEDU	Social Farming in Higher Education
SoWa	Soil and Water (research infrastructure title)
SP USB 2021+	Strategic Plan of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice 2021–2030
s. r. o.	Company with limited liability
SS	Summer semester
SSch	Secondary school
SSch SREA	Secondary school student scientific and expert activity
SSN	Students with special needs
SREA	Student scientific and expert activity
STA	Staff Mobility for Teaching

Abbreviation/Acronym	Meaning
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
STM	Structural Topic Model
st. p.	A building lot
SU	Student Union
SVVS	Association of University-educated Nurses
SW	Software
tab.	Table
TA CR	Technology Agency of the Czech Republic
TB	Unit of an amount of binary data – Terabyte
TD	Title deed
THE	The Times Higher Education World University Rankings
TTO USB	Technology Transfer Office of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
U3A	University of the Third Age
URAP	University Ranking by Academic Performance
USA	United States of America
USB	University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice
VERSO	Application environment
v. v. i.	Public research institution
WIAS	Wageningen Institute of Animal Sciences
WLS	WebLogic Server
WoS	Web of Science
WS	Winter semester
W. S. C. S.	World Sturgeon Conservation Society
z. s.	Registered voluntary organisation

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Vision

In 2020 the University of South Bohemia aspires to be:

- A university beneficial to the city and the region
- A sought/after and friendly university that belongs among the best in the Czech Republic
- A competitive university on the European as well as global scale

Values

Professional

International

Open

Ambitions

Integrating

