

**FACULTY: EXCELLENT, INTERCONNECTED, INTERNATIONAL...**

The 1st Medical Faculty of Charles University is a very successful institution. It is the largest medical faculty in the Czech Republic. It has the potential to develop universally and the potential to face new challenges in all areas of its activities. In my program, I would like to focus on key points in teaching, research and organization of the faculty, the fulfilment of which would enable the faculty to become an even more successful institution, also on the international level. **I consider the Dean's elections and my participation in them as an opportunity to discuss the operation of the Faculty, its possibilities, problems and, above all, its future.**

My goal is the Faculty with openness and communicativeness; with broad international and multidisciplinary cooperation; with high prestige; with modern teaching; with good theoretical foundations based on understanding and context; as well as with clearly defined practical outcomes in knowledge and skills of graduates; with cutting-edge science based on promoting excellence and young teams. My goal is the Faculty that cooperates closely with university hospitals – without them these goals could not be achieved – as well as with other institutions. The Faculty friendly to students and staff, a place where it is and will be a pleasure to study and work.

**Teaching** is a basic and irreplaceable function of the Faculty for the education of physicians and other health care experts; it is a responsible activity requiring full devotion. It is necessary to clearly **define** the requirements for graduates, to support the context, the ability to analyse problems, to acquire basic **practical** skills and procedures. In the **theoretical** study it is important to lead students to the understanding of essential processes, the scientific nature of medicine but not as an accumulation of data, but as a basis for further study and lifelong learning, because new knowledge in medicine is increasing at a rapid pace. Further, it is important to focus on cooperation with **clinical** departments, strengthen the teaching of **case reports**. In order to make teaching more effective, it is necessary to further support the development of other teaching **methods**, in particular computer aided learning or e-learning. This is also related to the development of **library** services and the creation of **teaching materials** of high quality and simplifying their accessibility. Clinical formation must be **practically** oriented, theoretical knowledge should be transferred in electronic forms, while mainly practice-oriented things should be presented during the hospital teaching. The Faculty's **curriculum** should emphasize these practical activities, manage the principles of basic patient care and deal with key life-threatening situations. It is important to develop cooperation with other hospitals with the possibility of expanding the **clinical base** of teaching at a clearly defined quality. The use of **simulation** techniques should be significantly increased, and their development should be encouraged by the Faculty to develop skills in basic examination or therapeutic methods. In each course, the **required** knowledge and skills, including a logbook, should be clearly specified. Specific targeted **elective** subjects, as well as other **extracurricular** opportunities should be available for motivated students to get deeper knowledge. The students interested in science can participate in research during their studies. In order to get feedback, it is necessary to have regular discussions with students, but especially important is to create a robust online anonymous **evaluation** system that is sufficiently specific, targeted and immediate, while reflecting long-term trends. A permanent task is to develop the **admission** procedure, including for foreign students, and evaluate its results. It is important to exert pressure to improve Student Information System; and replace unsatisfactory functionality eventually with our own system (e.g. **schedule**). It is important to cultivate the study regulations of the Faculty and influence the University regulations.

The presence of students in studying in **English is great opportunity for the whole Faculty**. It is necessary to complete full alignment with teaching of the Czech students, also in terms of the availability of materials, websites, etc. Linking the teaching of both groups – **coeducation**

– in some subjects or their forms will allow to learn better type of **cooperation**, improve bilateral **language** skills and contribute naturally to the **international** character of the Faculty. It is important to clearly define conditions of internships abroad that develop skills and knowledge and it is important to support them both for foreign and Czech students. It is important to support both Erasmus+ and IFMSA programs. It is also desirable to involve **foreign teachers** (visiting professors) for teaching even of undergraduate students and increase the motivation of gifted students to learn the latest trends and insights. It should be increased the number of academics who travel abroad in order to gain both scientific and pedagogical experience.

The Faculty has a long tradition in teaching of non-medical **health care professionals**. The Faculty plays an important role in maintaining the standards of qualification of these specialists, who often study at other types of schools. The Faculty should support its traditional non-medical disciplines, and should support their further degrees, including scientific activities and subsequent doctoral studies.

The Faculty must strive for **high-quality teachers** and **scientists**, appreciate their activities, support them and enable them to develop and further educate. Teachers should be educated also in didactic skills; they should be enabled to do high-quality research or clinical work in addition to their pedagogical work; the perception of teaching must be viewed as a **prestigious** activity. It is important to support **sabbatical** leaves and generally to support their **career** growth as well as create favourable working conditions and a workplace environment.

It is important to cooperate intensively with the **students**, it is necessary to create high-quality facilities for them, to support their Associations and the activities they organize, including small initiatives. The activity of **tutors** is important, and the **psychological** care needs to be strengthened. Demanding studies at the Faculty must be accompanied by the creation of an overall friendly environment with study and **relaxation** areas, and with the possibility of sports activities. It is important to provide adequate support for foreign students in **administrative** matters (visas) and improve their involvement in the life of the Faculty and the Czech society in general. It is important to develop cooperation with **alumni**, including foreign ones who can be viewed as ambassadors of our Faculty. It is important to be active in specialized education.

The Faculty is an important **scientific** institution. In science, it is necessary to develop collaboration, both within and outside the faculty. It is necessary to make effective use of instrumental and methodological equipment and to create teams across institutes and disciplines. It is necessary to use the physical and mental proximity of hospitals to perform **translational** research. It is necessary to promote **excellent** science, as well as scientific cooperation and the involvement of **young** scientists. It is important to reflect these goals also in the distribution of institutional funds, it is necessary to strive for the increase of institutional funds and to prepare for possible new forms of funding within University programs. It is important to stimulate and support talented scientists already in undergraduate and postgraduate studies, further develop a successful Student Science Conference and to internationalize it. It is important to encourage the acquisition of experience abroad. It is important to try to translate the results into practice, support patents, and spin-off companies. **Interdisciplinary** cooperation is essential even with non-medical institutions and the private sector. It is necessary to further develop the large scientific centres of the Faculty (Biocev, CAPI, Centre of Tumor Ecology, National Centre of Genomics), to prepare carefully the Albertov Campus both scientifically and organisationally. It is necessary to constantly strive for resources for scientific activities, obtain grants (and appreciate the success by returning part of the indirect costs), respond to relevant calls from the Operational Programs and obtain resources from the application of knowledge into practice.

**Doctoral studies** are directly connected with scientific activities. It is the Faculty's high interest to **internationalize** it, to have a higher number of high-quality foreign students and supervisors. It is important to support joint programs (**cotutelle**) as well as **MD/PhD** programs for doctors who combine scientific and clinical specialization. It is important to stimulate cooperation between **theoretical** and **clinical** departments within the Faculty with the possibility to carry out research at both workplaces.

Cooperation with **university hospitals** is essential for both basic functions of the Faculty, teaching and science. Further development of teaching and science at the Faculty is closely linked to clinical departments. We must strive for balanced intensive cooperation, we must discuss fundamental issues together, stimulate and reward clinical teachers, collaborate in clinical teaching with the use of simulations. We have to work together in research, facilitate joint administration, develop joint grant applications, seminars and promote human contacts.

It is important to continue to modernize **departments** for teaching, research and improve their general equipment. Support the departments personally and economically, ensure their development and adequate investment support.

In order to fulfill the tasks of the Faculty, it is important to develop its **infrastructure**, economics and external impact. In the field of the **economy**, efforts should be made to maintain and seek to increase **revenues**. It is important to ensure adequate allocation of funds at the University level, prepare projects to apply for funding from the Operational Programs of EU Structural Funds, draw the attention of state authorities and the public to the importance of medical education and biomedical research and negotiate further support. It is important to seek funds for the application of scientific results, contract research, international teaching and cooperation with the private sector. It is important to maintain the paid study in English. Within the **investment** area, it is important to complete the modernization of the Faculty buildings and continue to develop modern teaching and scientific equipment and the overall environment of the Faculty for students and staff. On the **expenditure** side, it is important to improve the effectiveness of agendas, the utilization of equipment, purchase costs, etc. It is important to strive for energy savings, including reducing their losses, improve the **ecology** of the Faculty.

The faculty **management** must be represented by all its essential components. The mechanisms that enable effective decision-making must operate together with the use of the views of all involved parties. A stratification of the importance of the discussed matters must be in place. It must be adequately discussed key decisions affecting the Faculty for many years to come. It is necessary to develop the operation of the **Dean's office** and its departments. In addition to the routine operation, it is important to focus on providing their essential support in key issues related to the development of teaching and science (foreign grants and cooperation, major projects, legal support, etc.). It is necessary to contribute to strengthening of these functions/departments at the personnel and material levels.

The cooperation of the Faculty with other faculties of the University and outside of Charles University is important in the area of teaching and science. Moreover, joint initiative is crucial in promoting the legitimate interests of universities and scientific institutions (esp. Academy of Sciences) at political and public level (like the successful actions of Association of the Deans of Medical Faculties). Interdisciplinary cooperation needs to be increasingly open and more contacts needs to be established outside primary biomedical institutions. It is important to use institutionally supported **international** cooperation (eg EU4+), but also support own initiatives that usually bring the most tangible results.

**It is important to promote** the Faculty, its students and teachers, pedagogical activities and scientific results. It is important to develop a **third role** (of faculties, universities), that means to be a socially active institution whose qualified opinions and assistance

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Program Synopsis

in a number of areas (promotion of a healthy lifestyle, relevant information on biomedical issues, solidarity) will be appreciated.

Each program consists of steps, ideas, measures, but none of this can be accomplished without cooperation and discussion at all levels. And then something else is needed ... - it is not measurable, it cannot be ordered or simply arranged. A faculty that looks forward and strives to be better, more attractive and stronger, the faculty must also be...

.... **ENTHUSIASTIC!**