

2019 Annual Report

Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem





**University
management**

Martin Balej – Rector

Alena Chvátalová – Vice-Rector for Studies, statutory representative

Zdeněk Radvanovský – Vice-Rector for External Relations (till 17 March 2019)

Pavel Doulík – Vice-Rector for External Relations (since 17 March 2019)

Martin Novák – Vice-Rector for Science

Jaroslav Zuckerstein – Vice-Rector for Development and Quality

Leoš Nergl – Bursar

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Annual Report of Jan Evangelista Purkyně University

Introduction

Introducing UJEP

Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem (UJEP) is a public university established in 1991 and continuing the tradition of higher education in the Northwest Czechia. The university bears the name of the world-famous scientist Jan Evangelista Purkyně (1787–1869), and further develops his legacy. At present, the university has eight faculties covering a wide range of fields of research, creative activity and education.

Our 2030 vision is defined by the Strategic Plan of UJEP: Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem comprises a diverse community of students and employees, a strong, constructive and respected institution, creating stable international ties, with clearly defined excellent interdisciplinary scientific research and artistic directions.

Our mission is to fulfil the role of the central scientific, research, artistic, and educational institution of the Ústí Region and the role of an important actor and partner for other entities in socio-economic relations at the regional, national, and international levels. In achieving its strategic development goals, we honour our social mission – to be an active carrier and promoter of education, and of moral and social values.

Our values are:

- **Freedom of research, creativity, and expression**
- **Integrity and credibility**
- **Inclusivity and social relevance**
- **Sustainability and social responsibility**

Gaudeamus fair in Prague



Opening words

Dear friends of UJEP,

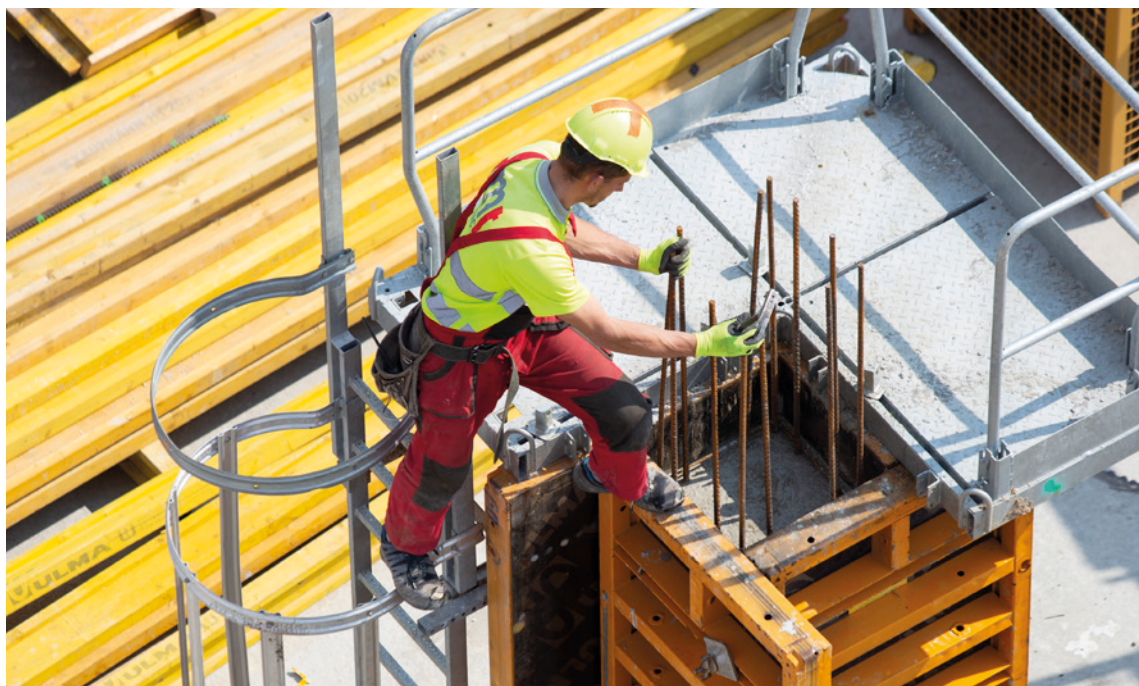
The year 2019 was a period of significant achievements for UJEP. We strengthened our academic and research standing, expanded international cooperation, and deepened our commitment to innovation and sustainability. A key milestone was receiving the HR Excellence in Research Award from the European Commission, recognizing our dedication to a high-quality research environment. We also launched the first national Czech Envi Thesis competition, supporting student research in environmental studies, and expanded our global partnerships, now connecting with nearly 300 universities worldwide. Our academic community excelled in research and education. Two historians from the Faculty of Philosophy received a prestigious award, while the publication *Macroregions of the World: New Regional Geography* earned the prize for the Best Academic Textbook. UJEP also strengthened its regional engagement, advancing collaborations with businesses and institutions to create new opportunities for students. As we move forward, we remain committed to academic excellence, research innovation, and strong community partnerships.

Author

Martin Balej – Rector of UJEP

Construction
of the Centre
for Natural
Sciences and
Technologies

→



Year 2019 in figures

7 394 students

	Bachelor's	Master's	Ph.D.
M	1 743	437	138
F	3 465	985	108

International students

205

International students

Full-time study programmes

	Number
Bachelor's	41
Long Master's	2
Master's	37
Ph.D.	17

Foreign language study programmes

16

Full-time
programmes

10

Part-time
programmes

Graduates

1384

Graduates

27/73

M/F ratio

Lifelong learning programmes

241

Lifelong learning
programmes

Academic staff (normalised numbers)

	Number
M	440
F	254
Sum	694

Students and staff in international mobility programmes

355

Student mobilities

362

Staff mobilities

Budget balance sheet

	Contributions and subsidies	Own revenue
2015	631	166
2016	563	163
2017	627	169
2018	765	231
2019	839	283

Research & development funding

115 mil. CZK

European Union funding

412 mil. CZK

Open Days



Annual Report of Jan Evangelista Purkyně University

Key activities & achievements

Study

The entrance examinations were part of the admission process at seven faculties of the university (FSE, FSI, FUD, FZS, FF, PF, PŘF). They were primarily conducted using the university's own resources in the form of subject-specific tests. At three faculties (FUD, PF, PŘF), these tests were supplemented by a practical (talent-based) entrance examination in selected study programs. Additionally, some faculties (FUD, FF, PF, PŘF, FSE) included an oral motivation interview or a structured portfolio submission as part of the admissions process. For subject-specific tests, applicants who applied to multiple study programs with identical entrance examinations were required to take the test only once, and the results were considered for all relevant applications. One faculty (FSE) engaged an external provider, SCIO, for the admission process, utilizing the General Study Prerequisites Test as the entrance examination.

As of December 31, 2019, UJEP had a total of 159 study programs accredited or approved based on institutional accreditation, including 26 study programs offered in a foreign language. The double-degree study program implemented was the follow-up Master's program in Philology, with a specialization in German Philology in the Czech-German Intercultural Context, accredited at the Faculty of Arts and carried out in cooperation with the University of Bayreuth, Germany, based on an inter-university agreement. In 2019, UJEP had an established qualification framework across the entire institution. This ensured compliance with the requirements set by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MŠMT) for the accreditation of study programs in accordance with the current amendment to the decree on accreditation application content. Furthermore, following the enactment of the amendment to the Higher Education Act, the university also met the requirements arising from the government regulation on accreditation standards in higher education. The methodology of learning outcomes was already applied to all bachelor's, master's, and followup master's study programs conducted at the faculties, with the exception of certain programs accredited solely for the purpose of allowing current students to complete their studies. In total, 125 study programs were described in this manner.

Contact with alumni is maintained at the university level through the UJEP Alumni and Friends Association in Ústí nad Labem, as well as through various alumni networks operating within individual faculties or departments. The primary goal of these associations is to stay connected with university alumni, engage them by offering participation in various cultural, sporting, and scientific events within the university community, and, at the same time, leverage their professional and social potential for further development. On October 12, 2019, the first-ever UJEP alumni meeting took place, attended by approximately 100 alumni. A specific contact platform is represented by scientific societies, whose branches operate at some university departments, thereby bringing together alumni with shared academic interests (e.g., the Union of Czech Mathematicians and Physicists, the Czech Geographical Society).

In accordance with the UJEP Long-Term Plan for 2016–2020, multiple university departments provided advisory services:

- The UJEP Study Department, in the areas of study and the admission process,
- The UJEP University Support Center for Students with Special Needs, in the areas of study and admissions for individuals with special needs,
- The UJEP Department of Lifelong Learning, in the area of lifelong education,
- The UJEP External Relations Department, in the areas of career counseling and international mobility (study stays and internships),
- The Faculty of Education Psychological Counseling Center, in the area of psychological counseling.

UJEP has a long-standing commitment to supporting students with special needs. In 2015, it established the University Support Center for Students with Special Needs and simultaneously adopted Rector's Directive No. 1/2015, Methodology for Support and Equalizing Conditions for Applicants and Students with Special Needs at UJEP. The university continues to focus on further development of technical and technological facilities to improve accessibility for applicants and students with special needs, particularly by constructing barrier-free access to university buildings.

Students with sensory impairments (visual and auditory) receive standardized support measures in accordance with the adopted methodology. These services are provided both by professional service providers (e.g., Tichý svět, Tyflocentrum) and by fellow students (Faculty of Education).

Socially disadvantaged students are supported in their studies through social scholarships. Additionally, financial hardship is taken into account when assessing appeals against the dean's decision regarding fees for extended study periods.

Gifted students were supported in 2019 through student grants implemented under the supervision of the UJEP Grant Council. Further support for exceptionally talented students was provided through the awarding of the Rector's Awards and Dean's Awards, granting of special scholarships, student involvement in research projects, participation in international internships, and organization of student scientific conferences, competitions, and similar activities.

To support student-parents, UJEP applies measures in accordance with the Higher Education Act. These include extending deadlines for fulfilling academic obligations, allowing study interruptions at any time during the recognized parental period, waiving fees for extended study duration, and offering individual consultations and personalized academic accommodations.

International community

UJEP promotes student participation in international mobility programs through its website in the International Cooperation section. Information on mobility opportunities is also shared via social media, informational panels, motivational videos, publications, and events at both university and faculty levels, where mobility alumni share their experiences from study stays or internships abroad. Each faculty provides students with a mobility coordinator to consult on specific aspects of international mobility. To support student mobility, an electronic application was developed to offer an overview of partner universities where students can undertake international study. Partner universities are selected not only for geographical diversity but primarily for academic compatibility to maximize the recognition of study results upon students' return.

In 2019, UJEP introduced intensive language courses in English, German, and Spanish for students selected for study stays and internships abroad, aiming to enhance their language proficiency. Additionally, a resilience and crisis communication course was offered to facilitate social and cultural integration during mobility. Some faculties provide motivational scholarships to increase student participation in mobility programs and ease financial constraints. Elements of internationalization are gradually being integrated into curricula at various faculties.

UJEP similarly promotes the participation of academic and non-academic staff in international mobility programs via its website in the International Cooperation section. University-wide and faculty-level events supporting international mobility also involve staff members. Mobility alumni share their experiences through faculty and departmental meetings or other events. The university offers English language courses for staff to enhance their language skills. In 2019, UJEP expanded its electronic mobility application to include opportunities for academic and administrative staff. Staff mobility is recognized in annual performance evaluations, career planning, and, in some cases, through financial rewards.

The promotion of student and staff mobility, along with other internationalization initiatives, is an integral part of the UJEP Strategic Plan for 2016–2020 and the UJEP Strategy for 2010–2020. In 2019, UJEP adopted Strategic Measures for Strengthening Internationalization (2020–2023), aimed at enhancing the university's international profile in education and research. The Erasmus+ program remains the most widely used mobility scheme at UJEP, with participation since 1999. The university currently utilizes all types of mobility under the program, including student study stays, internships, teaching stays for academic staff, and staff training. Since 2015, UJEP has been leading its fourth international credit mobility project. Through Erasmus+, UJEP collaborates with nearly 300 partner universities in over 30 countries. Additionally,

the university maintains cooperation agreements with 41 foreign universities in 15 countries and participates in other international education and research programs, such as Aktion Czech Republic – Austria, CEEPUS, and the Fulbright Program.

Rector's Sports Day



UJEP's dragon boats team





Rector's Awards

Research, development, and arts

The Rector's Awards are a tool to support excellent staff and students of UJEP. The Rector's Prizes are awarded annually in December of each year on the occasion of the birthday of Jan Evangelista Purkyně in several categories.

Award	Name
Rector's Award for Excellence in Engineering and Natural Sciences	Jan Daniel Bláha
Rector's Award for Excellence and Excellence in Engineering and Natural Sciences for an employee under 35 years of age	Iryna Hren
Rector's Award for Excellence in the Humanities and Social Sciences	Václav Drška
Rector's Award for excellence in the humanities and social sciences for an employee under 35 years of age	Michal Vostrý
Rector's Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement	Miloš Michálek
The Rector's Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement for an Employee Under 35 years	Adéla Machová
Rector's Award for Applied Research	Kamil Podroužek
Rector's Award for Applied Research for an Employee Under 35	Táňa Šimková
Rector's Award for a Book of the Year	Jiří Anděl, Jan Daniel Bláha
Rector's Award for Students for Exceptional Achievements in Creative Activities in the Field of Social, Humanitarian, and Artistic Sciences	Filip Krampla
Rector's Award for Best Sports Performance (1st Place)	Pavel Kraus

At all UJEP faculties, creative and educational activities are naturally interconnected, with students and doctoral candidates engaged in various research and development projects. UJEP responds to industry needs by offering final thesis topics aligned with practical applications. Students present their research and artistic work at scientific conferences and events both within the university and at national and international levels. Teaching staff continuously incorporate research findings into lectures, seminars, and practical courses.

Faculty of Social and Economic Studies

The faculty aligns student thesis topics with industry needs, involving external professionals in supervision and consultations.

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

Research and development activities are closely linked to education, with academic staff leading all projects. Students often collaborate with companies on innovation and development projects. The faculty maintains scientific partnerships with Czech and international institutions and publishes two academic journals.

Faculty of Art and Design

The faculty fosters artistic and theoretical research in fine arts, design, and visual communication. Collaborations with institutions such as the Emil Filla Gallery enable participation in exhibitions and projects. Faculty members, recognized at national competitions, serve as role models for students. The faculty also supports thesis exhibitions, editorial activities, and competitions.

Faculty of Health Studies

In 2019, the faculty published two monographs and eight textbooks to enhance academic resources. Students gain hands-on experience with biomechanical analysis equipment and cardiovascular and respiratory monitoring tools in dedicated laboratories, which also support thesis research.

Faculty of Environment

Research findings are systematically integrated into teaching through updated study materials. Students actively engage with research staff, facilitating knowledge transfer. The faculty modernized its study programs and teaching materials ahead of accreditation renewal.

Faculty of Arts

The faculty manages an internal system supporting research projects and encourages applications for external grants. In 2019, faculty members published twelve books and co-published four academic journals.

Faculty of Education

The faculty ensures that research outcomes are reflected in both practice and teaching. It organizes professional and scientific seminars to improve publication quality and final theses. Research areas include pedagogy, psychology, special education, artistic education, and kinanthropology, contributing to innovative teaching strategies.

Faculty of Science

The faculty conducts both fundamental and applied research, often in collaboration with industry. It participates in national and international research projects, particularly in material development. Research outcomes are integrated into advanced courses, generating new topics for student theses and enabling student involvement in scientific projects.

Faculty of Social and Economic Studies

The faculty integrates industry professionals into the teaching of specialized subjects and practical courses, including the supervision of final theses. Collaboration with companies and institutions takes two forms: long-term contractual partnerships requiring students to complete professional internships, particularly in social work and regional development, and agreements with companies such as Spolchemie, Mondi Štětí, ČSOB, and Allianz, where internships depend on student initiative. These partnerships also facilitate company presentations, guest lectures, thesis topic proposals, and thematic excursions.

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

The faculty has an extensive system of contract research for industrial partners, providing expertise in advanced technologies, materials development, manufacturing optimization, and new measurement methods. The faculty leverages its Science and Technology Park and academic staff capacities to enable students to verify theoretical knowledge in real industrial settings. In 2019, the faculty completed multiple projects for industrial partners and contributed to innovation vouchers. The faculty also engages in patent applications, with eight domestic and three international patents granted, along with additional pending applications and utility models.

Faculty of Art and Design

FUD collaborates with Czech and international exhibition institutions to present student work, including semester projects, theses, and dissertations. It also maintains partnerships with manufacturing firms, such as Český porcelán, a.s., as part of its practical and research-oriented projects. Long-term collaborations with companies like Preciosa and Moser enhance students' competencies and introduce innovations in design and production. The faculty also participates in architectural projects, cultural initiatives, and partnerships with organizations such as the Lidice Memorial, Veřejný sál Hraničář, and the Emil Filla Gallery.

Faculty of Health Studies

The faculty's primary partner is Krajská zdravotní, a.s., Masaryk Hospital in Ústí nad Labem, where over 60 physicians and nearly 100 mentors contribute to student training. Students also complete professional practice in other healthcare and social service institutions, including spas, senior homes, and psychiatric hospitals. In 2019, the faculty launched a major research project on expanding the competencies of general nurses and radiology technicians in outpatient care in collaboration with EUC, the largest provider of outpatient medical services in the Czech Republic.

Faculty of Environment

The faculty engages in joint research projects supported by the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic (TA ČR) and the Operational Program Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness (OP PIK), along with direct contract research for companies. In 2019, the faculty continued collaborating with the Health Institute in Ústí nad Labem on the CADORAN research center. It also played a key role in the university's technology transfer initiatives and contributed to the Trans3Net consortium, focused on cross-border knowledge transfer between the Czech Republic, Germany, and Poland.

Faculty of Arts

The faculty's key partner is the Center for Documentation and Digitization of Cultural Heritage, providing services such as 3D scanning, architectural-historical surveys, and photogrammetric measurements. In 2019, the center conducted historical documentation projects for the National Heritage Institute and local governments, including a digital visualization of the Zahrádky Castle cellars. The faculty also promotes German language education and intercultural understanding through teacher training workshops and cultural exchange programs. The Department of Political Science and Philosophy engages with civil society through the Center for Civic Education (COV.UL).

Faculty of Science

The faculty collaborated with NanoMedical, s.r.o. on the Functionalization of Nanofiber Structures project and played a key role in innovation and assistance vouchers in the Ústí Region. It successfully completed the Trans3Net project under the Central Europe program, which established an international innovation transfer network. The faculty also works closely with Saxon universities on research initiatives and has formed partnerships with companies such as PARDAM and InoCure, focusing on nanofiber materials and electrospinning technologies.

Highlights

We organized the first annual nationwide Czech Envi Thesis competition for the best bachelor's or master's thesis in the field of environmental studies.

UJEP successfully met the stringent requirements of the European Commission and was awarded the prestigious "HR Excellence in Research Award."

Two authors from the Department of History, Faculty of Philosophy, UJEP, received a prestigious award from the Club of Non-Fiction Authors.

The book “Macroregions of the World: New Regional Geography” was published and subsequently awarded the Charles University Prize for the Best Academic Textbook.

UJEP has established the Center for Biological and Environmental Sciences.

An international conference on urban greenery hosted by UJEP attracted representatives from municipalities and experts from the field.

**Days of science
and art**



Social and environmental responsibility

Social security, care and gender

UJEP adheres to the Employee Work Regulations, which prohibit any form of discrimination and require the employer to ensure equal treatment for all employees. The Career Regulations of UJEP further reflect the commitment to balancing family and professional life by specifying conditions for adjusting the working arrangements of academic staff, particularly to support employed parents with children. The university promotes gender equality by offering part-time employment options, flexible working hours, remote work opportunities, and support for childcare for both employees and students. To address cases of inappropriate, offensive, or harassing behavior, including sexual and gender-based harassment, UJEP adopted an Ethical Code in 2018. The Ethics Committee assesses cases that violate the principles outlined in the code. Employees and students can submit complaints or concerns to the committee. Additionally, employees facing issues related to sexual or gender-based harassment can seek support from their direct supervisor, while students may also approach the vice-dean, department head, or another academic staff member.

UJEP's regional role

As part of the UJEP Strategy for 2010–2020, the university continued to develop a network of actively collaborating companies, businesses, and institutions within the region. This network is gradually and systematically built through specific projects that integrate research, education, and artistic practice.

Based on the Declaration of Cooperation for Creating Better Prospects for the Ústí Region, signed by representatives of UJEP, the Ústí Region, and Severočeské doly, a.s., the university continued its efforts in 2019 to encourage more businesses in the Ústí Region to engage in the long-term support of education and regional development. UJEP also maintained its collaboration with the Regional Authority of the Ústí Region. The Framework Agreement on Regional Cooperation between the university and the region aims to strengthen UJEP as a key educational institution, enhance the region's intellectual, scientific, cultural, and sports potential, and contribute to making the Ústí Region an attractive place for study, work, and life.

University commitment to SDGs

The university strives to contribute to the sustainability in all its domains defined by the UN, and has been specifically addressing the the following Sustainable Development Goals: 1 – No poverty, 4 – Quality education, 5 – Gender equality, 8 – Decent work and economic growth, 11 – Sustainable cities and communities, 13 – Climate action, and 17 – Partnerships for the goals. The main progress in 2023 can be aggregated in the following three domains.

Environmental Impact (SDGs 11, 13 and 17): university faculties and departments have worked together to enhance environmental quality of the campus, with lectures, workshops, and in situ interventions. This effort has been accelerated by the integration of the Faculty of Environment and Faculty of Science into the campus area from their former premises.

Social Impact (SDGs 1, 4, 5, and 8): the university launched regulations relating to ethical best practice and to minimize any form of discrimination. These steps are key for the pathway to equality plans and integration of non-discrimination principles to all of the university's agenda.

Governance (SDG 17): the university has mobilised its expert capacities in ESG and contributed to the discussions and design of the plan for regional transitions, a key strategic document outlining the visions for the upcoming Just Transition Fund and its implementation in the Ústí region.

**Student
Festival**
→



Infrastructure and finance

The Annual Financial Report serves as a standard tool for enhancing the management practices of public higher education institutions and ensuring the efficiency, effectiveness, and purposefulness in the use of state budget funds, in accordance with the Budgetary Rules and related legislation.

The financial management of UJEP is regularly evaluated at all governance levels, including the Academic Senate and the Board of Trustees. The centralization of financial operations, both structurally and through IT tools, significantly strengthens the quality of financial management.

In 2019, UJEP achieved a positive financial result of CZK 10,672 thousand. The university proposes allocating these funds to the Operational Fund and the Investment Asset Reproduction Fund.

In 2020, efforts will continue to focus on reducing operating costs and optimizing the use of university facilities, in line with the Strategic Plan of UJEP 2016–2020.

Investment development was directed towards the expansion of educational and research capacities, particularly for the Faculty of Science, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, and Faculty of Health Studies. Additionally, funds were allocated for renovation projects and modernization of university facilities, including the upgrade of equipment and infrastructure related to teaching and research activities.

Publisher

Annual Report on the Activities of J. E. Purkyně University
in Ústí nad Labem for the Year 2019

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#myjsmeujep

Jan Evangelista Purkyně University
in Ústí nad Labem

We have been educating, inspiring
and transforming the Ústí nad
Labem region since 1991. We are
able to do this thanks to the people
who work at the University.

