

2020 Annual Report

Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem





**University
management**

Martin Balej – Rector

Alena Chvátalová – Vice-Rector for Studies, statutory representative

Pavel Doulík – Vice-Rector for External Relations

Martin Novák – Vice-Rector for Science

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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**

CPTO building



Opening words

Dear friends of UJEP,

The year 2020 was a testament to the resilience, adaptability, and dedication of our university community. Faced with unprecedented challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, our university swiftly adapted its teaching, research, and operational strategies to ensure continuity in academic excellence. Our faculties transitioned to online learning, maintaining the high quality of education and student engagement despite restrictions. Research activities persisted, with innovative projects securing significant national and international funding. The university's commitment to its students and staff was further demonstrated through the establishment of the UJEP Counselling Centre, offering psychological, career, and special education support. Despite the obstacles, our students and academic staff continued to excel, as reflected in international collaborations, student mobility programs, and prestigious awards recognizing their achievements.

Beyond academia, UJEP reaffirmed its role as a key partner in regional development and societal well-being. The university actively contributed to combating the pandemic, including the production of protective equipment and support for healthcare initiatives in the Ústí Region. Sustainability remained a strategic focus, with new projects aligning with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in education, climate action, and social responsibility. As we reflect on this extraordinary year, we acknowledge the unwavering dedication of our academic community, partners, and supporters, whose contributions have strengthened our institution's position as a leading centre of knowledge, innovation, and societal impact.

Author

Martin Balej – Rector of UJEP

Start of construction of the Faculty of Health Sciences

→



Year 2020 in figures

7 966 students

	Bachelor's	Master's	Ph.D.
M	2 082	432	163
F	3 649	954	116

International students

236	International students
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Full-time study programmes

	Number
Bachelor's	78
Long Master's	2
Master's	60
Ph.D.	26

Foreign language study programmes

5	Full-time programmes	3	Part-time programmes
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Graduates

1316	Graduates	25 / 75	M/F ratio
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Lifelong learning programmes

203	Lifelong learning programmes
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Academic staff (normalised numbers)

	Number
M	418
F	261
Sum	679

Students and staff in international mobility programmes

220	Student mobilities	69	Staff mobilities
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Budget balance sheet

	Contributions and subsidies	Own revenue
2016	563	163
2017	627	169
2018	765	231
2019	839	283
2020	817	203

Research & development funding

125 mil. CZK

European Union funding

246 mil. CZK

Construction of an amphitheatre



Annual Report of Jan Evangelista Purkyně University

Key activities & achievements

Study

The entrance examinations, their course and the way of admission were seriously affected by the COVID-19 pandemics. Two faculties abolished the entrance examinations (FSE, FF), one faculty did not hold entrance examinations from the beginning (FŽP). As a result, entrance examinations were part of the admission procedure only at five faculties (FSI, FUD, FZS, PF, PŘF). The admission examinations were mainly provided from own resources in the form of subject tests, supplemented by a talent admission examination at three faculties (in selected study programmes) (FUD, PF, PŘF) or in the form of an oral motivational interview (FUD, PF, PŘF) or a letter in the form of a structured portfolio (FUD, PF, PŘF). Candidates were admitted to some study programmes on the basis of a ranking determined by the average of their matriculation marks or marks in selected subjects, or by their results in the state final examination (FSI, FZS, FŽP, PF). One faculty (PF) used an external supplier, SCIO. The entrance exam consisted of a General Aptitude Test.

Due to the pandemic situation, many activities have been reduced in 2020. Faculties have shifted their activities to social networks, focusing on online communication and presentation.

As of 31 December 2020, UJEP had a total of 275 study programmes accredited or approved on the basis of institutional accreditation, including 8 study programmes in a foreign language. As a double degree study programme, the follow-up Master's programme in Philology with the field of study German Philology in the Czech-German Intercultural Context and the follow-up Master's programme Intercultural German Studies in the Czech-German Context are accredited at the Faculty of Arts and implemented in cooperation with the University of Bayreuth (Germany) on the basis of an inter-university agreement.

In 2020, UJEP had a qualification framework in place that met the requirements of the Ministry of Education for accreditation of study programmes according to the current amendment to the Decree and Government Regulation on Standards for Accreditation. The learning outcomes methodology described all bachelor, master and post-master study programmes at the faculties, with the exception of some programmes accredited only for the completion of existing students. In total, there were 189 study programmes.

Contact with alumni takes place at the university level through the Association of Alumni and Friends of UJEP in Ústí nad Labem (which was intensively developed for the second year in 2020) and through various alumni networks operating at individual faculties or departments. The main goal of the associations is to stay in contact with the alumni of the university, to keep them in touch by offering them participation in various cultural, sporting or scientific events within the university, and on the other

hand to use their professional and social potential in their further development. Due to the pandemic of the covid-19 disease, a joint alumni meeting could not take place in 2020. In 2020, the professional social network LinkedIn and the UJEP website <https://klubabsolventu.cz/> were used in a new systematic way. Successful alumni were used as the faces of the publication #myjsmeujep.

A specific contact platform is the scientific societies whose branches operate at some of the University's departments, and some graduates are thus associated with the University (the Union of Czech Mathematicians and Physicists, the Czech Geographical Society, the Czech Association of Educational Research, etc.).

Support to students

As of 1 January 2020, the Counselling Centre of UJEP was established as an independent university unit providing counselling for applicants and students with specific needs, career counselling, psychological counselling and special education counselling, and serving applicants for studies, students in all forms and levels of study, as well as academic staff and other UJEP employees. For the needs of the Centre, a building on the UJEP Campus was renovated, where all its specialised counselling rooms are located.

UJEP has been working with students with specific needs for a long time and at the same time it takes care of further development of technical and technological facilities for access of applicants for studies and students with specific needs.

Identification of students with specific needs is mostly done during the admission procedure when filling in the application form, in which applicants can ask for their specific educational needs to be taken into account. Applicants who do so are immediately contacted by the staff of the UJEP Counselling Centre, who then offer them specific support during the admission procedure and the study itself. Students with sensory disadvantages (visual, hearing) are provided with standardised service measures, both by professional service providers (Silent World, Tyflocentrum, etc.) and by fellow students (PF). The use of this support is entirely voluntary.

Gifted students were supported in 2020 through student grants, which were implemented under the supervision of the UJEP Grant Board. These grant projects are solved by academic staff together with students of master and doctoral programmes. The system in place promotes a motivating environment for Masters and PhD students' projects, which may move on to national or international grant agencies.

Socially disadvantaged students are identified through the Counselling Centre of UJEP or in proceedings for the award of an exceptional scholarship due to a difficult social situation or in proceedings for the waiver or reduction of fees associated with studies, in which the difficult social situation is taken into account.

In order to support the studies of students – parents, UJEP applies measures in accordance with the Higher Education Act, such as extending deadlines for fulfilling study obligations, charging fees for extended study periods, providing the possibility of individual consultations or applying other individual approaches.

Night of Scientists



International community

UJEP actively supports student participation in international mobility programs through its website, social media, information panels, and university events, where mobility graduates share their experiences. Each faculty has a designated mobility coordinator, and an electronic application helps students explore study abroad opportunities at partner universities, selected based on geographical diversity and study field compatibility to facilitate credit recognition. The process of recognizing foreign study results follows the Rector's Directive on International Mobility. Since 2019, UJEP has offered intensive English, German, and Spanish courses for outgoing students, as well as a course on resilience and crisis communication to aid cultural adaptation. Some faculties also provide incentive scholarships to support student mobility.

UJEP also encourages international mobility for academic and non-academic staff, providing information through its website, faculty emails, and dedicated events. Alumni of staff mobility programs share their experiences at faculty and departmental meetings, and the university offers English language courses for staff. A mobility application for employees is under development. Staff mobility is funded through state and institutional budgets to support joint study programs, international partnerships, participation in study fairs, and artistic and sports representation. It is recognized in performance evaluations, career planning, and, in some cases, financial rewards.

The Erasmus Student Network (ESN) in Ústí nad Labem plays a key role in integrating foreign students and staff, assisting them with logistics and organizing cultural, sporting, and social events that encourage interaction between international and domestic students. UJEP also provides Czech language courses, including two-week intensive pre-semester programs and semester-long options. Since 2018/2019, the Ústí nad Labem City Council has hosted welcome meetings for foreign students, introducing them to local integration services. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these meetings were limited to students arriving in the summer semester of 2019/2020.

International students and faculty are fully integrated into UJEP's academic community, with the same rights and responsibilities as domestic members. Faculties actively involve foreign academics in teaching, research, and decision-making while respecting cultural diversity and fostering collaboration. In addition to academic participation, international faculty and students engage in joint publications, social activities, and professional events. Some faculties hold departmental meetings and seminars in foreign languages to further facilitate their integration.



Rector's Awards

Research, development, and arts

The 19th annual presentation of the Rector's Awards to academic staff and students for outstanding activities and achievements in a given calendar year was affected by the coronavirus pandemic as well as other activities across society. Thus, the official awarding of the best staff and students for 2020 did not take place during the traditional ceremony and had to be postponed.

Award	Name
Rector's Award for Excellence in Engineering and Natural Sciences	Libor Beneš
Rector's Award for Excellence and Excellence in Engineering and Natural Sciences for an employee under 35 years of age	Jakub Ederer
Rector's Award for Excellence in the Humanities and Social Sciences	Patrik Christian Cmorej
Rector's Award for excellence in the humanities and social sciences for an employee under 35 years of age	Jan Macháč
Rector's Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement	Jan Fišer
The Rector's Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement for an Employee Under 35 years	Zdeněk Svejkský
Rector's Award for Applied Research	Sylvie Kříženecká
Rector's Award for the Book of the Year in the field of technical, natural science and economics	Jaroslava Svobodová
Rector's Award for the Book of the Year in the Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts	Michaela Hrubá
Rector's Award for Students for Outstanding Achievements in Creative Activities (1st place)	Lukáš Sláma
Rector's Award for the best sports results (1st place)	Kristýna Horská

Faculty of Social and Economic Studies

The faculty aligns student thesis topics with practical needs, involving industry experts in their management and consultation.

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

The faculty emphasizes the integration of research, education, and industry collaboration. Academic staff and students engage in innovative projects, which inform teaching and regional partnerships. The faculty operates the Science and Technology Park, collaborates with the CAS and international universities, and publishes two professional journals. In 2020, it completed several scientific projects and equipped new laboratories, including two large-scale CEMMTECH projects.

Faculty of Art and Design

Focusing on fine arts, design, and visual communication, the faculty supports artistic and curatorial practice alongside theoretical research. The COVID-19 pandemic restricted exhibitions, but collaboration continued with institutions such as the House of Art Ústí nad Labem and Emil Filla Gallery. Faculty members serve as role models in national design shows, and FUD's editorial program remains integral to creative and educational activities.

Faculty of Health Studies

In 2020, the faculty published two monographs and four scripts to enhance study materials. Students use specialized laboratories for biomechanical movement analysis and cardiovascular and respiratory system monitoring. The faculty collaborates with hospitals, nursing homes, and emergency services and actively participates in the FZS Student Grant Competition.

Faculty of Environment

The faculty closely integrates research with education, ensuring findings are incorporated into modernized study materials and teaching presentations. Newly accredited degree programs commenced in 2020, and student grant competitions and departmental seminars further strengthen the research-education link.

Faculty of Arts

The faculty fosters creative and educational activities with strong institutional support. It operates an internal system for research funding and encourages grant applications. In 2020, faculty members published nine books and co-published four professional journals. Four Internal Grant Agency projects were successfully completed in the Department of History and the Department of Political Science and Philosophy.

Faculty of Education

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted research timelines in 2020, delaying school-based studies. The faculty remains committed to integrating academic research into educational practice, focusing on pedagogy, kinanthropology, and science education to drive innovations in teaching strategies.

Faculty of Science

The faculty conducts basic, applied, and experimental research in collaboration with industry, linking creative and educational activities. The pandemic limited student involvement in experimental fields and delayed the relocation of laboratories to the Centre for Science and Engineering. Key initiatives include the UJEP Student Grant Competition and U21 – QGrant projects.

Faculty of Social and Economic Studies

The faculty collaborates with companies and institutions through long-term contracts requiring students to undergo professional practice, particularly in social work and regional development. Key partners include regional authorities and social service institutions. Additional agreements with companies such as Spolchemie Ústí n. L., Mondi Štětí, and ČSOB allow students to engage in internships, thematic excursions, and thesis collaborations tailored to industry needs.

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering

With a strong focus on materials research, new technologies, and production methods, the faculty leverages the Science and Technology Park to validate research results. In 2020, it implemented projects for industrial enterprises, participated in innovation vouchers, and registered ten domestic and four foreign patents, along with two utility models. The faculty collaborates with over 170 companies, primarily in the Ústí nad Labem region.

Faculty of Art and Design

The faculty partners with Czech and international galleries and museums, as well as manufacturing companies, to promote knowledge transfer and innovation. Internships enhance student competencies, and the Ceramics Centre facilitates collaboration between academia and industry, including Český porcelán, a. s. The faculty also holds a utility model for an anti-bedding aid by Věra Kunhartová.

Faculty of Health Studies

The faculty successfully completed the “Expanding the Competencies of General Nurses and Radiology Technicians” project for the EUC Medical Group and launched a digital nursing care research initiative with MSD and C4NC. It maintains strong cooperation with Regional Health, a. s., Masaryk Hospital, and other healthcare providers, jointly solving multiple projects in 2020.

Faculty of Environment

The faculty engages in joint research projects supported by TA CR and OP PIK and conducts contract research for companies, including Spolchemia, a. s. It continues its partnership with the Institute of Health in Ústí nad Labem on the CADORAN research centre and plays a leading role in the University Centre for Technology Transfer.

Faculty of Arts

The faculty collaborates with public and private entities through commissions led by the Centre for Documentation and Digitization of Cultural Heritage. Its Centres for Civic Education and Promotion of German Language Teaching facilitate educational innovations, while cooperation with primary and secondary schools strengthens regional engagement.

Faculty of Science

The faculty specializes in nanomaterials, computational modelling of materials, environmental risk analysis, and Big Data processing. It collaborates with academic institutions and industry partners domestically and internationally and is a member of the Czech Nanotechnology Industry Association and the Czech Membrane Platform.

Highlights

UJEP hosts The International Academic Association on Planning, Law, and Property Rights (PLPR) conference

A new book by political scientists from the Faculty of Arts on political parties was published

Czech Technology Agency supports two UJEP projects on sustainable mobility

Faculty of Science establishes Centre for Support of Science Education

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Faculty of Science develops protective shields for medical staff

Campus contracts another new building for engineering majors – CEMMTECH

Groundbreaking ceremony for Faculty of Health Studies at Masaryk Regional Health Hospital

The UJEP's Faculty of Arts together with Činoherní studio Ústí nad Labem published an anthology of contemporary German drama

Social and environmental responsibility

Social security, care and gender

Since 2017, UJEP has been implementing the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers as part of its Human Resource Strategy for Research (HRS4R). In 2019, the University received the prestigious HR Excellence in Research Award (HR Award). In 2020, UJEP's flagship strategic document in the HRS4R area was the UJEP Action Plan 2019/2020, which included the preparation of a new UJEP Selection Procedure Code and a methodology aimed at implementing the principles of the Charter and the Code into recruitment procedures. Both documents were being prepared for release in 2021.

In 2020, UJEP followed the Rector's Order No.2/2019 Employee Work Rules, which prohibits any discrimination and stipulates that the employer is obliged to ensure equal treatment of all employees. Gender equality is enshrined in the employment and career regulations. The University supports the reconciliation of family and professional life by, for example, allowing part-time work, working from home or adjusting working hours.

UJEP's regional role

Within the framework of the adopted UJEP development strategy for 2010–2020, the University continued to build a network of actively cooperating companies, companies and institutions in the region. This network is gradually and long-term created on the basis of individual specific projects with the participation of research, educational and artistic practice. The cooperation between UJEP and the Regional Office of the Ústí nad Labem Region continued. The aim of the framework agreement on regional cooperation between the UJEP and the Ústí nad Labem Region is to create conditions for the development of the University as an important educational institution and to develop the knowledge, scientific, cultural and sports potential of the Ústí nad Labem Region, thus making the Ústí nad Labem Region an attractive place to study, work and live. Representatives of the UJEP were actively involved in the councils and conferences of the Regional Office of the Ústí nad Labem Region, as well as in the activities of the Innovation Centre of the Ústí nad Labem Region. In the context of the epidemic of the covid-19 disease, UJEP became a centre for the production of protective equipment, which it distributed within the Ústí Region, and offered its capacities for the testing and vaccination centre in the Ústí Region.

University commitment to SDGs

The university is committed to contribute to the sustainability in all its domains defined by the UN and has been specifically addressing 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): The COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the energy market posed new challenges for implementing mitigation measures in the university's energy consumption. In response, the university has begun preparing a project for the Just Transition Fund, which aims to establish an ESG manager position.

Social Impact (SDGs 1, 4, 5, and 8): The university's efforts in human resources policy were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, necessitating new measures to ensure equal access to education and research for both students and staff, with particular attention to the specific needs of caregivers. The university has also been actively engaged in the region, supporting educational initiatives and providing strategic guidance to help communities adapt to pandemic-related restrictions.

Governance (SDG 17): The university continued to strengthen partnerships for sustainable development, with a particular focus on crisis situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic. It has also started preparing a project for the Just Transition Fund, in which it is expected to play a key role as the only university based in the region.

**Conference of
The International
Academic
Association on
Planning, Law
and Property
Rights**



Infrastructure and finance

The management of the UJEP is regularly evaluated at all management levels of the UJEP, including the Academic Senate and the Board of Trustees. The quality of financial management is significantly supported by the centralisation of all financial operations both structurally and within the University's IT tools.

In 2020, UJEP achieved a positive economic result of 2 462 thousand CZK. The UJEP proposed to transfer this profit to the working capital fund and the capital asset re-production fund.

It will continue to be necessary to make every effort to reduce operating costs in 2021 and efficient use of the University's facilities in accordance with the relevant chapter of the UJEP Strategic Plan 2021+ and the UJEP Strategic Plan Implementation Plan for 2021.

Investment development was directed towards the construction of new or expansion of existing capacities for educational and creative activities, especially for the faculties of mechanical engineering (a new building with laboratories and offices CEMMTECH) and health studies (a new faculty building in the are of regional hospital – Masarykova nemocnice), as well as the reconstruction of existing buildings of the University and the modernisation of its instrumentation and other material equipment related to teaching and creative activities.

Publisher

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Prepared by: Alena Chvátalová, Andrea Čebišová and Jana Kasaničová

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2021

#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.

