

2022 Annual Report

Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem





**University
management**

Martin Balej – Rector

Alena Chvátalová – Vice-Rector for Studies, statutory representative

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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**



Opening words

Dear friends of UJEP,

The year 2022 marked another milestone in the dynamic development of Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem. As a strong academic and research institution, we continued to foster an inspiring environment for students and scholars while further strengthening our position as a key educational and innovation hub in the Ústí Region. With nearly 8,000 students enrolled across our eight faculties, we successfully expanded our study programmes, particularly in international co-operation and interdisciplinary research. The launch of the UJEP mobile application and extended virtual tours reflect our commitment to digital transformation and enhanced student experience. Despite the lingering challenges of the post-pandemic period, we upheld our mission by organizing impactful events, including the University Festival and Night of Scientists, fostering an inclusive and vibrant academic community.

In research and innovation, our university achieved remarkable success, securing significant external funding for scientific projects, particularly in applied and interdisciplinary research. The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering completed the construction of its new facility, marking a strategic investment in technological advancements and industry collaboration. Our commitment to social responsibility was reflected in our support for Ukrainian and Belarusian students. These achievements reaffirm our vision as a modern, socially responsible institution dedicated to excellence in education, research, and community engagement.

Author

Martin Balej – Rector of UJEP



Year 2022 in figures

8 393 students

	Bachelor's	Master's	Ph.D.
M	2 173	450	142
F	3 497	961	130

International students

347	International students
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Full-time study programmes

	Number
Bachelor's	88
Long Master's	3
Master's	71
Ph.D.	29

Foreign language study programmes

6	Full-time programmes	3	Part-time programmes
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Graduates

1187	Graduates	27/73	M/F ratio
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Lifelong learning programmes

125	Lifelong learning programmes
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Academic staff (normalised numbers)

	Number
M	469
F	223
Sum	692

Students and staff in international mobility programmes

266	Student mobilities	261	Staff mobilities
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Budget balance sheet

	Contributions and subsidies	Own revenue
2018	765	231
2019	839	283
2020	817	203
2021	850	229
2022	896	303

Research & development funding

129 mil. CZK

European Union funding

262 mil. CZK

Campus amphitheatre



Annual Report of Jan Evangelista Purkyně University

Key activities & achievements

Study

In 2022, all UJEP faculties conducted entrance examinations mainly from their own resources, in the form of subject tests, talent examinations (FUD, PF), and oral motivational interviews (FUD, FF, FŽP, PF, PŘF), motivation letters (FSE) or structured portfolios (FUD, PF, PŘF), while some faculties also recruited candidates on the basis of the average of marks in the final exam or the state final exam (FSI, FZS, PF), and two faculties used the SCIO test (FSE, PF).

The year 2022 was still partially affected by the covid-19 pandemic, and therefore communication with secondary schools was a combination of online and offline environments (hybrid form). The UJEP did not participate in the Gaudeamus fair in 2022 due to the very low participation of universities, and therefore of applicants. The Open Day was also held at UJEP in a hybrid form. However, some of the university-wide events could have been held in person, e.g. the University Festival (it was a combination of two traditional events – the Science and Arts Day and the Student Maypole), as well as the Night of Scientists or Campus Celebrates. All events aimed to make the environment more familiar and attractive with regard to the focus of the content of the events.

The digitisation and virtualisation of tools for bidders was also supported. Extension of virtual tours and preparation of the university's mobile application UJEPapp for study applicants as well as for students and lecturers at UJEP. The university mobile app was launched at the beginning of the academic year 2022/2023.

UJEP also continued its regular cooperation with secondary schools in the Ústí nad Labem region.

As of 31 December 2022, UJEP had a total of 318 study programmes accredited or approved on the basis of institutional accreditation, of which 9 study programmes in a foreign language. As a double degree study programme, the follow-up Master's programme in Philology with the study field German Philology in the Czech-German Intercultural Context and the follow-up Master's programme Intercultural German Studies in the Czech-German Context were implemented. Both of these programmes are accredited by the Faculty of Arts and are implemented on the basis of an inter-university agreement with the University of Bayreuth.

The learning outcomes methodology was used to describe all bachelor's and master's degree programmes, with the exception of programmes accredited for completion only. In total, there were 226 study programmes, 5 of which were accredited in 2022. 4 other study programmes were described in this way at the proposal stage submitted to the NAU.

Alumni

Contact with alumni takes place at the university level through the Association of Alumni and Friends of UJEP in Ústí nad Labem (in 2022 it was still implemented, alumni are invited to events organized by the university) and through various alumni networks operating at individual faculties or departments. The main goal of the associations is to stay in contact with the university alumni, 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. In 2022, the professional social network LinkedIn and the UJEP website <https://klubabsolventu.cz/> were also used. Successful alumni were used as the faces of the publication #myjsmeujep and the website pribehuujep.cz.

In 2022, graduates from 2016–2021 were approached to participate in the Eurograduate 2022 research survey, which is being conducted by the Centre for Higher Education Studies under the auspices of the Ministry of Education.

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

In 2022, the UJEP provided comprehensive support to students through a sophisticated system of assistance within four specialized departments of the UJEP Counselling Centre: the University Support Centre for Students with Specific Needs, the Special Education Counselling Centre, the Psychological Counselling Centre and the Career Counselling Centre. This system included the identification of needs already at the time of application for studies, subsequent assistance of the UJEP Counselling Centre, support for students with sensory disadvantages in cooperation with professional organisations or provision of barrier-free access for disabled students. Socially disadvantaged students, including Ukrainian and Belarusian students, were provided with financial support in the form of scholarships.

UJEP also significantly supported gifted students through the Rector's Awards and student grants, while individual faculties implemented their own support programmes, including the Dean's Awards and the involvement of students in research projects. Special attention was paid to PhD students, who were given the opportunity to participate in international conferences and internships. Parent students were also supported, for whom the University introduced special measures, including extensions of deadlines for the fulfilment of study obligations.

International community

In 2022, the University actively supported internationalisation by promoting international mobility on the web, social networks and various information channels or events at university or faculty level. During these events, mobility alumni passed on their experiences from study abroad or practical internships to other students. In 2022, an event called Breakfast with Erasmus was held for this purpose.

Students have access to the staff of the External Relations Department of UJEP and to the International Mobility Coordinator at each faculty, with whom they can consult on other specific issues of international mobility. The foreign partner universities are selected not only in terms of geographical diversity, but mainly with regard to the similarity in the field of study, so that students can have the results of their studies abroad recognised as much as possible upon their return from their stay abroad.

UJEP organises various courses for students selected for study abroad and practical internships. These are intensive courses in English, German and Spanish in order to improve their language skills. In addition, a course on resilience building and crisis communication is organised for students to facilitate their social and cultural integration during their mobility abroad and to better prepare them for cultural differences and other pitfalls that a stay abroad brings. From 2022 onwards, UJEP will also organise a course for participants in mobility abroad to promote environmental and social sustainability of mobility and reduce the environmental/carbon footprint during mobility. For the graduates of the mobility abroad, a course on the psychological analysis of their mobility experience is offered from 2022 onwards in order to better integrate them back after their return.

Similarly to the case of students, UJEP promotes the participation of academic and non-academic staff in foreign mobility programmes on its website in the International Cooperation section. UJEP employees are also invited to events organised to promote foreign mobility at the university and faculty level. Alumni of staff mobility programmes present their experiences from foreign mobility to other academic and non-academic staff at various faculty and departmental meetings or other events. In 2022, the University offered English language courses to its staff in order to improve their language skills. As part of further support for international cooperation, in 2022, trips of UJEP employees were implemented for the purpose of preparing and implementing joint study programmes, establishing, fulfilling and deepening contractual cooperation, presenting UJEP at a foreign trade fair or as part of active artistic and sports representation of UJEP abroad. Employee mobility of academic staff is recognised in annual performance evaluations, as part of career plans, informally by the management of departments and faculties or in the form of financial rewards.

The integration of foreign students is supported by the UJEP primarily through the Erasmus Student Network Ústí nad Labem, a volunteer organisation whose main aim is to facilitate the orientation of foreign students, as well as staff, in an unfamiliar environment after their arrival and to help them to arrange all the agenda related to their stay in the Czech Republic and study or work at the UJEP.

Support for student and staff mobility and other activities strengthening internationalisation is part of the Strategic Plan of UJEP for the period from 2021. For 2022, the Strategic Measures for Strengthening Internationalisation for the period 2020–2023 has been updated to include activities aimed at strengthening the international dimension of the University in the field of studies and creative activities. The Erasmus+ programme is the most used instrument for the implementation of international mobility at UJEP. UJEP has been involved in this programme since 1999. Currently, it uses all types of mobility offered, i.e. study stays of students, practical internships of students and graduates, teaching stays of academic staff and staff training. In 2022, UJEP was approved for its sixth Erasmus+ international credit mobility project. UJEP was also involved in several Erasmus+ cooperative partnership projects in 2022. In order to further digitalize individual activities related to the organization of international mobility, UJEP was connected to the Erasmus Without Papers platform in 2022 in accordance with the European Commission's timetable.

In 2022, UJEP cooperated with more than 280 foreign universities from 28 countries and had additional bilateral agreements with 36 schools. The University is a member of international organisations including the European University Association and actively participates in international conferences and programmes in the field of education and research.

ESN UJEP





Research, development, and arts

Rector's Awards

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	Olga Šebestová Janoušková
Rector's Award for Excellence and Excellence in Engineering and Natural Sciences for an employee under 35 years of age	Diana Nebeská
Rector's Award for Excellence in the Humanities and Social Sciences	Hana Brůhová Foltýnová
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	Lada Semecká
The Rector's Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement for an Employee Under 35 years	Zdeněk Svejkský
Rector's Award for Applied Research	Pavel Janoš, Jakub Ederer
Rector's Award for the Book of the Year in the field of technical, natural science and economics	Jan Novotný
Rector's Award for the Book of the Year in the Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts	Kateřina Jančaříková on behalf of a broader team
Rector's Award for Outstanding Achievements in Creative Activity in the Field of Engineering, Science and Economics	Jakub Mareš
Rector's Award for Outstanding Achievements in Creative Activity in the Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts	Věra Vystrčilová
Rector's Award for the best sports results (1st place)	Kristýna Horská
Rector's Award for exemplary representation of the University on a national or international scale	Zdeněk Havel

The Faculty of Social and Economic Studies and the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering closely link educational and creative activities through their academic staff, who actively integrate research findings into teaching. This link is manifested in particular in the topics of final theses, cooperation with external experts and, in the case of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, also through the Science and Technology Park, cooperation with institutes of the CAS and the publication of professional journals.

The Faculty of Art and Design is dedicated to excellence in design, art and curatorial practice, with 2022 marking a significant reboot following covid restrictions. The faculty focused on projects related to the renovation of the Ústí nad Labem House of Art, the implementation of new curricula, and the development of a high-quality editorial program whose publications were presented at major art shows and distributed by specialized art bookstores.

The Faculty of Health Studies allows students to practice in specialized laboratories, cooperating with clinics and institutes of Masaryk Hospital in Ústí nad Labem and other medical institutions.

The Faculty of Environment integrates the latest research findings into teaching by upgrading study materials and involving researchers in lectures, including foreign experts teaching in English. The Faculty also develops cooperation with major research institutions (e.g. the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry of the CAS) in the preparation of theses. At the same time, it supports students' research activities through the Student Grant Competition.

At the Faculty of Arts, the connection between creative and educational activities was mainly realized through scientific research projects in various departments, such as German studies, history or political science, while students were also involved in internal grants.

The Faculty of Education has focused on research in the areas of school education, kinanthropology and science education, with the results of research investigations serving as a resource for innovations in educational strategies.

The Faculty of Science conducted basic, applied and experimental research in cooperation with industry, was involved in various types of projects (GA CR, TA CR, MŠMT) and linked creative and educational activities through teaching innovation, generating student thesis topics and involving students in research projects, especially through the Student Grant Competition.

Individual faculties have their own specific approach to cooperation with practice.

The Faculty of Social and Economic Studies collaborates with partner companies and institutions, especially in the field of social work and regional development, and supports research focused on the digital economy, exponential technologies and sustainable mobility.

The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering focuses on contract research with industrial enterprises, provides knowledge service in the field of new technologies, materials and production methods and participates in innovation vouchers and patents. For the year 2022, a total of 4 filed patents (2 domestic and 2 foreign) were registered at the faculty and another 3 domestic patents were successfully granted.

The Faculty of Art and Design cooperates with manufacturing companies in a less traditional way, focusing on student internships and knowledge transfer. This is not a classical form of applied research, but a more free, mutually beneficial and enriching cooperation.

The Faculty of Health Studies focuses on balneology research in collaboration with the Research Institute of Balneology, the development of assistive technologies and has strong links with the Regional Health and Society, where in 2022 it participated in a 3D motion analysis project.

The Faculty of Environment cooperates with the application sphere mainly in the form of joint research projects. It is a founding member of the WASTen (Waste to Energy) cluster focused on waste processing. In 2022, it completed the major projects CACTU (focused on “green chemicals”) and C4 (closed life cycle of clothing), while continuing the POL 2.0 project focused on plastics recycling and the CADORAN project in cooperation with the Institute of Health based in Ústí n. L.

The Faculty of Arts supports the cooperation of the Department of German Studies with the application sphere through professional internships in Czech–German companies, which are part of the study programmes “Intercultural German Studies” and “Intercultural German Studies in the Czech–German Context”.

The Faculty of Education carries out educational activities through the Centre for Lifelong Learning, including Czech language courses for foreigners and cooperation with the Transport Education Institute on the “Pedagogical Minimum” courses. The Department of Physical Education and Sport cooperates with sports clubs on sports performance testing.

The Faculty of Science has four research areas, including nanomaterials development, new materials research and machine learning applications. The faculty is a member of the Association of Nanotechnology Industry of the Czech Republic

and the Czech Membrane Platform. In 2022, it implemented three innovation vouchers for the development of the region.

Highlights

New building of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering with labs and teaching facilities was completed.

Faculty of Arts received four grants from Czech Science Foundation and Czech Ministry of Culture, strengthening its position in linguistics, and cultural heritage studies.

UJEP created a unique regional tourist route inspired by its research on industrial heritage.

Faculty of Social and Economic Studies and UJEP became members of the CIVITAS network, focusing on sustainable urban mobility.

New research-oriented study programme Applied ion technologies was launched in collaboration with Czech Academy of Sciences.

The Valdštejn Castle in Litvínov presented an exhibition of creative use of the industrial heritage, coordinated by FUD's Graphic Design atelier.

Rector's Awards



Social and environmental responsibility

Social security, care and gender

In the period January – March 2022, a gender audit was conducted at UJEP by the non-governmental, non-profit organization Gender Information Centre NORA, o. p. s. (GIC NORA). The audit was conducted in several phases, including both a content analysis of UJEP documents and a questionnaire survey conducted among university employees, supplemented by follow-up individual and group interviews. Based on the above-mentioned surveys, GIC NORA produced the final report of the UJEP gender audit, which was presented to the staff on 4 October 2022.

Following the audit, the main areas of the UJEP's Equal Opportunities Plan (GEP) were identified based on a university-wide discussion and will be promoted and developed over a three-year timeframe (2023–2025). The GIC NORA was consulted on the draft of the main areas and proposed a set of measures reflecting the results of the audit investigation.

The measures adopted serve to fulfil the main objectives of the University as adopted in the GEP. In particular, the intention is to reflect the principles of equal treatment in all relevant documents of the University and the Faculties, to update and expand the Code of Ethics, to ensure the independence of the Ethics Committee of the UJEP from the management structures of the University and the Faculties and, in general, to foster a culture within the internal environment of the University in which all employees have equal opportunities within their job positions as well as all students within their undergraduate studies.

UJEP's regional role

Within the framework of the adopted Strategic Plan UJEP 2021+, the University continued to build a network of actively cooperating companies, companies and institutions in the region. This network is gradually and over a long period of time created on the basis of individual specific projects with the participation of "practice" (research, education, art). The cooperation between the UJEP and the Regional Office of the Ústí nad Labem Region continued, although in 2022 it was much less intensive than in previous years. 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 UJEP as an important educational institution, to develop the knowledge, scientific, cultural and sporting potential of the Ústí nad Labem Region and thus to make the Ústí nad Labem Region an attractive place to study, work and live. Representatives of the UJEP were actively involved in councils and conferences operating at the Regional Office of the Ústí nad Labem Region.

In 2022, UJEP was also involved in the activities of the Innovation Centre of the Ústí nad Labem Region. The RUR (Region to University – University of the Region) project, which has a great transformation potential for the Ústí nad Labem Region, was intensively prepared within the framework of the Operational Programme Fair Transformation. In the context of the war conflict in Ukraine, the University carried out collections for refugees and offered them accommodation in university halls of residence.

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 university has been preparing a project to the Just Transition Fund, which aims to establish an ESG manager position. As a result of energetic crisis related to the Russian aggression in Ukraine, the university has developed new guideline for energy savings.

Social Impact (SDGs 1, 4, 5, and 8): the university continued its efforts in human resources policy and it has started the preparation of Gender Equality Plan, and commissioned a gender audit in collaboration with the non-governmental, non-profit organization Gender Information Centre NORA, o. p. s. (GIC NORA). UJEP It also continued to adopt measures improving human resources management related to HR Award.

Governance (SDG 17): the university continued to build partnership for sustainable development. It has been preparing a project to the Just Transition Fund. The faculties have been working on their individual projects, with environmental interventions in the campus (Green Campus) and university life.

Faculty of Art and Design



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 2022, UJEP achieved a positive economic result of CZK 16 025 thousand. CZK. The UJEP proposed to transfer this profit to the working capital fund and the capital asset reproduction fund. It will continue to be necessary in 2023 to make every effort to reduce operating costs and make 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 2023.

Investment development was directed towards the completion of new or expansion of existing capacities for educational and creative activities, especially for the faculties of mechanical engineering and health studies, 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.

In 2022, there will be an increase in tangible fixed assets, mainly in buildings, halls and structures, due to the completion of the building of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and its inclusion in the property, as well as due to the reconstruction of the Faculty of Education building. There was also an increase in movable property itself due to the inclusion of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering's equipment in the property. Construction work in progress consisted of the Faculty of Health Studies building.

Publisher

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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.

