

The Main Results of the Amendment to the Internal Quality Evaluation Report on Educational, Creative and Related Activities of the University of Defence in Brno for 2020

The Amendment to the Internal Quality Evaluation Report on Educational, Creative and Related Activities of the University of Defence in Brno for 2020 was discussed by the Scientific Council of the University of Defence in Brno on 11 October 2021 and approved by the Academic Senate of the University of Defence in Brno on 24 November 2021.

In 2020, the University of Defence in Brno (hereinafter referred to as "UoD") evaluated the quality of educational activities, creative activities and related activities. In 2020, the following study programmes (fields of study) were evaluated: bachelor's study programmes Security and Defence, Technology for Defence and Security, Paramedic and Medical Rescue. Technology for Defence and Security programme was evaluated among the follow-up master's degree programmes.

Within the master's (military) study programmes: the field of study Management and Employment of the Armed Forces, the professional study programme Management and Employment of Armed Forces, the field of study Military Technologies, the professional study programme Military Technologies - Mechanical, the professional study programme Military Technologies - Electrical, the study programme Cyber Security, the study programme (field of study) Military General Medicine, new study programmes Military Healthcare for the Branch of Dentistry, Military Healthcare for the Branch of Pharmacy and lifelong learning programmes implemented at the Centre for Security and Military Strategic Studies. Among the doctoral study programmes, these were evaluated: Protection of Troops and Population, Military Logistics, State Defence Theory, Military Technologies, Epidemiology, Medical Microbiology, Infectious Biology and Toxicology.

As part of the internal evaluation of the quality of creative activity, this activity was evaluated at all faculties of the UoD and at the NBC Defence Institute. The evaluation of the so-called related activities included the evaluation of the management and administration of the University, the fulfilment of its third role, the provision of marketing activities, the provision of external relations and the implementation of the so-called support activities.

The evaluation results are included in partial evaluation reports on study programmes, partial evaluation reports on lifelong learning programmes, interim reports on educational activities of the faculties, the Centre for Security and Military Strategic Studies, interim reports on creative activities of faculties or institutes and interim reports on the evaluation of related activities.

The main results of the Amendment to the Internal Quality Evaluation Report on Educational, Creative and Related Activities of the University of Defence in Brno for 2020:

a) Educational Activities

In 2020, the Student Evaluation of the Quality of Course Teaching was carried out. The application allows students to provide feedback to academic staff (programme guarantors, course guarantors and lecturers). The system of student evaluation of the quality of course teaching also includes a system of work with the results, which are discussed in the relevant Study Programme Council and subsequent measures are submitted to the Dean of the Faculty through the study programme guarantor. At the same time, students are informed about the progress of the measures.

Similarly to the previous evaluation period, measures related to the so-called adaptation period during the entire first year were applied to reduce the drop-out rate of first-year military students. As part of the adaptation period, some lessons in selected subjects continued to be dedicated to additional preparation of students at the faculties, including lessons for language and physical training of students. Professional departments provided support to students including psychological, pedagogical, legal, study and career counselling. The Counselling Services and Veterans Care Group also played a significant role in supporting students.

In connection with the low level of internationalisation of students, the problem of insufficient financial resources to meet the needs arising from mobility longer than 90 days persists among military students.

However, the measures taken at the end of 2020 were already marked by the emerging measures to mitigate the spread of Covid-19. The activities of mentors and other academic staff have gradually been transferred to virtual conferences and telephone consultations.

b) Creative Activities

In 2020, the Faculty of Military Leadership and the Faculty of Military Technology saw an increase in the number of applications submitted for special-purpose support projects, which were, however, not supported due to their quality and a decrease in the funding received.

The increase in quality results of students of doctoral study programmes in 2020 at the Faculty of Military Leadership and the Faculty of Military Technology was the result of a newly adopted measure reflected in the newly conceived applications for accreditation of doctoral study programmes, which includes minimum requirements for students aimed primarily at results published in scientific journals J_{imp} , J_{sc} . As part of the changed approach, the standard study period has been extended to four years. It seems desirable to continue with efforts to secure the conditions for full-time study of military students at the UoD.

The number of doctoral students involved in research teams at both the Faculty of Military Technology and the Faculty of Military Leadership has increased.

In November 2020, a pilot evaluation of academic staff was carried out using a software tool (IS HAP) enabling the evaluation of each academic staff member's performance in creative and teaching activities. The evaluation also takes into account the academic worker's involvement in academic functions at the University and performance in a managerial position. The evaluation was carried out at all faculties, institutes and centres of the UoD. The evaluation has now been extended to include the evaluation of the director.

c) Related Activities

The UoD has defined its vision, mission and development goals in its strategic documents. There is a functional management system in place, a system of internal regulations and other management documents that are interrelated. The system has rules for the implementation of study programmes, for creation, approval and modification of a study programme or areas of study, as well as policies for the appointment and removal of study programme guarantors. The activities of the UoD are planned, implemented, regularly monitored and evaluated. All activities are aimed at fulfilling the objectives set out in the strategic documents.

The implementation of support activities is focused mainly on the provision or management of personnel, financial and information resources, movable and immovable property, the University's electronic information system and information services, publishing activities, counselling services, catering and accommodation services.

Counselling services were provided at the UoD by the Counselling Centre, which, as of 1 January 2020, is comprised of the Counselling Services and Veterans Care Group of the Rector's Office and designated academic staff and other professionals from among the University's employees. They included psychological, pedagogical, socio-legal, study and career counselling. Counselling in the above-mentioned areas of interest were provided mainly to UoD students and other interested UoD employees. The focus of the counselling activities was mainly on clarifying issues related to study opportunities at all faculties of the UoD, clarifying the conditions of the admission procedure and issues related to the personnel process of candidates entering the service of a professional soldier, especially the medical examination in military hospitals. Furthermore, the benefits of studying, the course of military service and studies, the issues of fulfilling military obligations, the security of student life at the UoD and other issues of a personal and family nature were explained.

Pursuant to Section 77b(3) of Act No. 111/1998 Coll., on Higher Education and on Amendments and Supplements to Other Acts (Act on Higher Education), the University makes available reports on internal quality evaluation of educational, creative and related activities and supplements to these reports to the bodies and members of the bodies of the UoD and its units, the National Accreditation Bureau and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.