



THE POLITEHNICA UNIVERSITY OF TIMIȘOARA

INSTITUTIONAL SELF – ASSESSMENT REPORT

**TIMIȘOARA
MAY 2021**

REPORT
regarding
**THE INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY, EDUCATIONAL EFFICIENCY
AND ACADEMIC QUALITY**
of
THE POLITEHNICA UNIVERSITY OF TIMIȘOARA

TIMIȘOARA
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The internal assessment report (institutional self-assessment) of the Politehnica University of Timisoara was endorsed by the Decision of the Management Board in its session held on **03.06.2021** ([Annex_A_1k](#)).

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This internal assessment report of the Politehnica University of Timisoara (UPT) refers to the period between the academic year 2015/2016 and the current academic year. The latest assessment by the ARACIS regarding the UPT was performed at the end of the academic year 2014/2015. At the beginning of the second semester of the academic year 2019/2020, the UPT entered a new legislative term, as per Law 1/2011, National Education Law.

1. GENERAL PRESENTATION OF THE POLITEHNICA UNIVERSITY OF TIMISOARA

1.1. A brief history and some defining aspects regarding UPT

Higher education has a 100 years' tradition in Timisoara city, starting with the signing, by King Ferdinand, on 11 November 1920, of the Decree establishing the Polytechnic School, the current Politehnica University of Timisoara.

The Politehnica University of Timisoara is a university of advanced research and education, being established as a higher education institution with tradition and recognition at national and international level. Its mission, although it has undergone changes during its first century due to the circumstances prevailing at certain times, has always meant generating research and innovation, higher vocational training and a decisive contribution to modern development at local, regional or national level. The current mission, with its 4 pillars, reflects a concern both for today and for the future of society.

In order to underline the important role that the Politehnica University of Timisoara played and continues to play in the development of the city, the Local Council of Timisoara decided to declare 2020 - The Year of the Politehnica in Timisoara. The explanatory memorandum on the appropriateness of the project ruling on the approval of the declaration of 2020 – The Year of the Politehnica in Timisoara reads: „Our city is entitled to mark the contribution that the Politehnica University has made to the development of Romanian higher technical education in the last 100 years, and the events held in 2020 – meetings with twinned towns and universities, performances, scientific innovation fairs, etc. – are elements that are an important asset in terms of valuing Timisoara's image as one of the most prolific academic and research centres in Romania, a key component in the context of the upcoming European Capital of Culture in 2023”.

For an entire century, The Politehnica University of Timisoara has been a real benchmark of academic excellence by the number of graduates over the years, by the development or support offered to scientific research. The University has created professionals for the society, leaders for Timisoara, for Romania or for companies all over the world. The Politehnica has contributed decisively to the modern development of Timisoara and the region. The Politehnica brand also means sports, music, art, as well as involvement in the life of the community.

The Polytechnic University is a founding Member of the Romanian Alliance of Technical Universities – ARUT, the initiator, the soul and first president of ARUT being the former Rector of the UPT, namely Univ. Prof.Dr.Eng. Viorel-Aurel Serban. The ARUT meeting held on 11 November 2020 marked the centenary of the Politehnica University of Timisoara, which was also a good opportunity to know the new management teams resulting from the academic elections held at the beginning of the year, as the five universities of the city were represented by their Rectors, Vice-rectors, Presidents of the Senate and managing directors.

1.2. General objectives of the UPT

Through the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan, the UPT aims to place the objectives of the academic community at the centre of the university's administrative concerns, to immediately increase the degree of digitization of the entire university, to exchange information effectively in all fields of the university,

based on modern software applications and data structures, to decentralize decision at certain levels and to create decision-making connections, to increase transparency in the development of financial policies, to improve communication between various university structures, to encourage open, non-conflicting relations and, last but not least, to increase the sense of belonging to a strong organization.

The general objectives of the UPT are centred on 10 strategic axes defined in the UPT Strategic Plan for the period 2021 – 2024:

Axis 1: Education. Students

Education – the main objectives and supporting activities thereof are as follows:

- the adaptation of existing study programs and the development of new programs of bachelor and Master studies, in accordance with labour market requirements
- the digitalisation of the educational process, by using the concepts of Digital and Open Education, as well as by granting digital certificates; the adaptation of the school management program and its integration into applications that would allow the teaching staff to enter notes directly, and the students to view their assessments in real time;
- the expansion of the MOOC UniCampus platform for the consolidation of the university's position as a promoter of virtual platforms among Romanian universities and of the free access to knowledge
- the further development of the ID/IFR (distance learning / part time education) systems, as well as of other post-graduate programs, in line with the requirements of the economic environment of the region;
- the development of psycho-pedagogical competences of teachers by organizing specific modules;
- the motivated involvement of teachers in student tutoring activities;
- the obtainment, at institutional level, of software licenses for the main programs used in teaching; the provision of the teaching premises with multimedia equipment (laptop, video projector, sound system) suitable for hybrid education;
- the development of procedures / regulations / instructions / guides at university and faculties level for the implementation, correlation and simplification of the application of educational norms; the use of audits for quality control, identification of parameters and response improvement;
- the increase in the flexibility of the board of fields and specializations and a better dynamics of their activity in order to adapt study programs to the labour market;
- automation of processes that assist teaching activities for the generation of curricula, the management of discipline sheets, the evaluation of the teaching process, the creation of timetables, etc.;
- the continuous adaptation to the norms of academic ethics and deontology by training teachers and students in this regard, respectively by increasing the number of checks of similarity of scientific works and theses developed at the completion of studies;
- the alignment of the UPT's study programs with the national and European University Association (EUA) standards for the full integration into the European area of higher education as well as the following and the implementation of trends at ENQA and EQAR level regarding the quality of the education system;

Students – main objectives and supporting activities:

- Development of tutoring activities dedicated to first years undergraduate students, also by involving students from later years in such tutoring activities, and doctoral students in tutoring activities

dedicated to master and undergraduate students. Moreover, the management wishes to encourage and support student organizations for organizing activities aimed at familiarizing first year students with the academic life;

- the promotion of the digitization of the educational process by using the concepts of Open Education and Open Science; the provision of an integrated system of access to educational resources developed within the university, as well as to open educational resources (RED – OER) available internationally for all university students;
- The development of a mechanism for the early identification of students at risk of drop-out, of the causes that led to such situation, and for the monitoring of their academic evolution; the development of psychological counselling, personal and vocational development activities, with the aim of reducing students' drop-out rate;
- the assistance of students in identifying opportunities for internship and practice, by organizing events that should bring students into contact with representatives of the economic environment (career days, etc.) as well as the involvement of students in research activities carried out by teachers; a continuous effort to motivate students to further their studies through doctoral training;
- The organization, in collaboration with student organizations, of competitions dedicated to students; the recognition of the participation in such events and the awarding of the best results;
- the encouragement of students to undertake study or practice mobility between partner universities of the Romanian Association of Technical Universities (ARUT) or international partner universities through the Erasmus+ or the non-EU Erasmus+ programs;
- the support given to student leagues, the encouragement to initiate new activities; the civic empowerment of students by encouraging their participation in voluntary actions;
- The continuation of the strategy of awarding special scholarships offered by the university, from its own revenues, for special results in education, research, prizes, etc.;
- An increasing involvement of students in decisions related to the accommodation facilities; free access for students to the UPT sports facilities; the implementation of a system of selective collection and sorting of waste produced in student dormitories;

Axis 2: University marketing and Alumni. Here are the objectives and the supporting activities thereof:

- The creation of a web page dedicated to the process of informing candidates about the admission and the completing of admission steps; the promotion and revitalization of the mobile application StudentUPT; the continuation of the process of development of the Enroll application dedicated to admission;
- the carrying out of promotional events regarding the educational offer of the UPT and the organization within the institution of actions dedicated to pupils; development of a strategy of continuous online communication with pupils so that they should be kept updated with events of interest organized within the University; the involvement of the staff engaged in the admission process in educational marketing actions;
- the organization of an annual event such as "Gala of UPT Promoters", dedicated to the high schools that train future university students; the awarding of such "partnership", through the formation of a "Club of UPT promoters", along with institutional benefits;
- the development of a communication strategy at ARUT level by carrying out events held by technical universities within the alliance with economic partners, highlighting the advantages and benefits of technical education graduates as well as the high need of such graduates on the labour market;

- Related to UPT graduates, the main objective is to build a strong Alumni community, supported by the following measures:
 - the development of a centralized database, with the graduates of our university, structured on years and specializations, which should allow online communication;
 - the organization of events dedicated to the alumni community as well as the valorisation of the anniversary meetings of graduates;
 - the building of a solid Alumni Community, capable of helping the university in all its fields or activities.

Axis 3: Scientific research, innovation and technology transfer

Here are the main objectives and their supporting activities:

- The creation of partnerships with the economic environment in order to identify common research themes and financing instruments, as well as to apply for such funding;
- the encouragement of researchers to enhance scientific networking, "Networking for a better future", with prestigious communities of researchers in their home country and abroad, to be implemented at least in the form of joint project proposals, jointly developed research, etc.;
- the improvement of the internal evaluation of research, and the implementation of mechanisms that should stimulate researchers, with international visibility, as well as the linking of research topics to the priority areas of the future Horizon Europe program; the identification of some areas of excellence in research in the UPT, and the stimulation of the respective research teams so as to take over the role of regional leaders;
- the continuation of the granting of awards to the best young researchers as part of a gala of excellence in research; the continuation of the financial support for PhD students and assistants for the participation in international WoS indexed conferences, as well as the awards granted for articles; the continuation of funding of the ARUT grant competitions, aimed at young researchers;
- the analysis of doctoral theses and identification of those with the potential to be turned into spin-offs, as well as a larger involvement of the Research Council in generating research development strategies as well as in monitoring the results thereof in our university;
- The identification of market needs for certain measurement/certification equipment or laboratories; investments in multidisciplinary laboratories, with the involvement of teaching staff and students from several departments and faculties, starting from the main topics of interest to society and aiming at the aggregation of powerful research teams on these topics in the future;
- The internationalization of research through participation in international projects; the invitation of prestigious researchers from abroad; the awarding of Honorary Professor and Doctor Honoris Causa titles to international personalities; the attraction of valuable foreign researchers or Romanian researchers from the diaspora with the aim of implementing certain research projects, as well as of co-tutoring doctoral theses;
- the creation of a centre of innovation and technological transfer within the university;
- the participation in educational rankings, the analysis of the results and the identification of weaknesses in order to obtain higher classifications;
- the promotion of the digitization and openness of the scientific research process by using the concepts of Open Publishing and Open Science;
- the expansion of the "industrial" doctorate, as we define it internally, by attracting valuable doctoral candidates from the Timisoara companies, on their topics, by continuing and expanding our dialog

with such companies; the attraction of additional monthly scholarships for PhD students, offered by the university's partner companies;

- the attraction of funds in order to finance post-doctoral programs that might keep within the university those doctoral students who are interested in continuing their research activity.

Axis 4: Human resources and community involvement. Here are the objectives and their supporting activities:

- the provision of voluntary personal or organizational leadership courses for younger members of faculties and/or departments within the Politehnica, which courses should help the human resource get prepared to take over and carry on a solid university development;
- the provision of courses for the acquisition or improvement of digital skills, with voluntary participation, for all members of the academic community of the UPT, so as to ensure the conditions for the correct and efficient use of digital education tools;
- An analysis of the current situation of each department of the UPT, with the forecast of employment needs linked to the evolution of the number of students in relation to the school population for the same periods and to the development potential, closely related to the labour market regarding the respective areas; together with department managers, assistance given for the professional development of the teaching staff of the UPT;
- Adapting the staff structure to current needs, at the level of the university and the ones of its various entities; the establishment of institutional policies regarding the mobility of auxiliary teaching staff between university offices, services or departments, in accordance with the needs identified at the UPT level, but also with their own personal career development plans;
- support for the development of the social responsibility strategy at university level, as well as active involvement in concrete actions such as the creation of a centre for the development of social entrepreneurship in Timisoara.

Axis 5: Financial resources. Here are the objectives and their supporting activities:

- the procurement of an SAP or a similar software system for the management of the financial resources of the university and its purchases, as well as its correlation with other existing software applications for the integration of all financial resources, and the production of real-time reports to help make certain management decisions;
- the provision of a computer tool through which the department managers can shape the budget according to different parameters. The relevant vice-rector will assist the directors of departments in making decisions together with the Department Council regarding the financial resources used for the development of their department;
- there will be consultations, on a yearly basis, with department directors and deans regarding the university's major investments as well as the financial policies of the entities they manage;
- analysis of all indicators that help provide additional financing of universities under the CNFIS framework, and the improvement, where possible, of those indicators that do not have satisfactory values for the UPT;
- the attraction of sponsorship for the projects of the university or the projects of the UPT faculties, while constantly monitoring their evolution; the attraction of new partners from the socio-economic environment.

Axis 6: Infrastructure, administration and supporting services:

- Making available to building managers a computer tool for reporting to the Administration regarding problems that may appear at each building belonging to the UPT;
- completion of projects that are in various stages of development at present, as well as starting repairs in non-rehabilitated buildings;
- the establishment of a plan related to the development of the university's infrastructure over a 10-year cycle, with the pursuit of strategic objectives and the attraction of European funds; the designation of a Committee made up of colleagues from the university faculties involved in training specialists for the various development works on the UPT premises, for establishing cost references and specifications for such works;
- the analysis of the work-load of staff within the various departments in the Rectorate, and a balancing of tasks where possible; the introduction of clear performance targets to certain services within the UPT.

Axis 7: Internationalization:

- analysis and identification of attractive fields of study for students from abroad, in order to support the development of the English language curricula, for both undergraduate and Master programs; increase in the number of programs and modules of courses taught in English; translation into English of information and institutional documents of interest to international students;
- improving the skills of teaching staff in English; increase in the offer of further training through skills training and testing/certification through the Department of Communication and Languages – InterLingua Centre;
- Development and annual updating of a catalogue of courses that should facilitate the identification of subjects recommended for incoming students to the UPT. Development of complex English-language e-learning materials, including those of the "Massive Open Online Courses" type, aimed at open access to education through flexible lifelong learning.
- support for the development and implementation of joint or double degree programs and the increase in the number of such inter-institutional agreements;
- inviting, (on an yearly or half yearly basis) foreign teaching staff with international recognition, as visiting professors, in order to support the programs of studies of the Politehnica University of Timisoara; attracting experts from foreign companies for lectures, trainings and/or workshops dedicated to adapting the offer and the content of study programs to the new technologies implemented in industry;
- encouraging the university's own teaching staff to apply for the positions of visiting professors within prestigious higher education institutions abroad, as well as active participation in networks and associations of universities in order to support the promotion of study programs, including international academic organizations such as EUA, AUF, CEEPUS or DAAD;
- encouraging participation in Erasmus+, Erasmus+ non-EU and non-Erasmus mobility programs, for both students and teachers, by recognizing the importance of mobility and ensuring a transparent selection process;
- Support of summer schools that should contribute to the promotion of the educational offer of the UPT in order to increase the degree of internationalization;
- Creation of a management system of the internationalization process in order to monitor the evolution of the indicators assumed through the policy of internationalization and in order to increase

efficiency; developing the digitization process through the implementation of the European Student Card Initiative (ESCI) and the Erasmus without Paper initiative (EWP);

- developing the mobility of studies and practice abroad for students of the Politehnica University of Timisoara, so that, at the time of graduation, 5% of them would have participated in international mobility;
- increasing international mobility for teachers, so that at least 10% of the teachers of the Politehnica University of Timisoara would participate in teaching mobility.

Axis 8: Image and communication:

- coordination of the activities of disseminating information to the various categories of external and internal public; adapting the messages according to the community we want to increase, in particular, for each platform; the development of a new strategy for communicating with the external environment, in order to enhance communication through social media and TeleU;
- The development of the internal calendar of important events in the community.
- The development, in collaboration with university student organizations, of a specific agenda, with student events; the proposal of a fixed format for opening the academic year, which would allow the organization of some events for new comers; the creation, within every faculty, of an event such as “Faculty’s days”, which would help to improve the communication both between colleagues and with our students.
- facilitating and disseminating research results by publishing research reports, posters, brochures, newsletters, reviews, press releases, electronic and online methods, in order to increase the visibility of the UPT in international rankings;
- consolidation of a visible international identity, through the development of a new website that would allow the Department of International Relations to make information and promotion efforts more effective;
- supporting the actions organized by the Politehnica Foundation, both by promoting its events within the UPT and by ensuring its visibility at local and regional levels; promotion and support of the performance sports teams of the Politehnica;
- consolidation of the Romanian Alliance of Technical Universities – ARUT, by organizing regular meetings and disseminating the results of discussions, as well as by continuous communication;
- ensuring the visibility of activities undertaken by the Alliance of Universities of Timisoara (ATU);

Axis 9: Informatization and digitization. Here are the objectives and their supporting activities:

- digitizing university documents and using an electronic registry for their transfer between different entities; training of administrative staff in the use of the various software tools to be made available;
- creation of a portal that includes several software services for both students and teachers or auxiliary teaching staff.
- interconnection with the other universities in ARUT on the information component, taking over some of their applications and adapting them to our university, as well as offering the applications developed by our university for use by other partner universities.
- elaboration of a unified, integrated strategy for the digitization of the university and the inclusion of the UPT in international applications that measure the degree of digitization;

Axis 10: Entrepreneurship and relation with the socio-economic environment. Regional engagement:

- Expansion of the Advisory Committee by introducing two structures, made up of business persons or famous people proposed by each faculty. An event dedicated to the extended Advisory Committee will be produced annually, in order to showcase the results of the university and the engagement of the business community in cooperation with the UPT;
- The involvement of some members of the Advisory Committee in carrying out meetings of the university management with the local authorities in the counties that constitute the Western Development Region, in order to identify the educational and research needs in these areas;
- development of a section dedicated to the PhD School in the framework of an annual event dedicated to the Advisory Committee and to the socio-economic environment, in which the results obtained in the previous year are to be highlighted, new directions or research topics are to be presented within the PhD School, as well as the status of the “industrial” doctorate, etc.;
- creation of a database containing information about all the partner companies of the UPT, drawing up a map of the main companies in the region and their fields of activity, identifying the main services that can be provided by the university for the development thereof, also through the linking of post-graduate courses to such requirements;
- setting up, following an analysis, micro-production centres or bases, providing logistical support, as well as stimulating the auxiliary staff to increase the value of such centres; the involvement of partner companies interested in the development of such centres;
- the participation of the university in partnerships with local or regional authorities in order to attract funds from the national budget or European funds, so as to develop sustainable projects of Community interest;
- attracting firms/companies to finance modular programs, with subsequent extension towards financing applied research;
- consolidation of the activity of SAS (Students’ Entrepreneurship Societies); the continued promotion of SAS among students, the organization of competitions of ideas that should support the strategy of developing start-ups and other programs and collaborations, through the partnerships created with the business environment, especially in the IT&C area, but not only;
- continuing to organize information or mentoring sessions for students, business ideas competitions or agreements with business incubators;
- Development of educational and research projects that would capitalize on the practical experience of the representatives of the business environment.

http://www.upt.ro/img/files/hs/2020/17.12.2020/HS_266_17.12.20_APROBARE-PLAN-STRATEGIC-UPT-2021-2024.pdf

1.3. RECTOR’S STATEMENT WITH REGARD TO THE POLICY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE CONCERNING THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS IN THE POLITEHNICA UNIVERSITY OF TIMISOARA

The Politehnica University of Timisoara is a university of advanced education and research, whose main aim is the training of specialists capable of joining the labour market. In the context of the

21st century, UPT graduates need to accumulate not only technical skills and skills, but also social skills and competences, i.e. organizational skills and competences, over the years of their studies.

In the spirit of the mission, principles and values promoted in the UPT Charter, the Politehnica University of Timisoara has as its main objective the consolidation and improvement of the results obtained, acting consistently so as to achieve and renew its capacity as a university in advanced research and education, that is to be said among the country's top universities.

These objectives are to be achieved through actions designed so as to develop policies for the improvement and the assurance of quality, along several axes:

*Management
of resources*

- encouraging the involvement of all university staff in understanding and improving the process of vocational training and education of students by developing the methodical and psycho-pedagogical competences of teachers through the organization of specific modules and the motivated involvement of teachers in the activities of tutoring students;
- increasing the flexibility of the boards of fields and specializations and increasing their activity in order to adapt study programs to the labour market;
- ensuring continued adaptation to the rules of academic ethics and deontology, by training teachers and students.

*Management
of knowledge*

- pursuing the digitization of the education system and adapting the facilities dedicated to teaching activities as well as the development of the distance education system;
- performing the automation of processes that assist teaching activities and school management programs;
- ensuring the alignment of the UPT study programs with the national and European University Association (EUA) standards and their integration into the European area of higher education;
- consolidation of the powers and responsibilities of quality committees and use of audits to analyse and optimize processes;
- action to consolidate the university position as a promoter of virtual platforms among Romanian universities;
- Pursuing open access to knowledge and the involvement of the university in society.

Students

- considering students as main partners and their involvement in decision-making, regarding the quality of educational services and their adequacy to the labour market requirements, as well as those related to personal development;
- developing tutoring activities aimed at first year undergraduate students, so that their adaptation and integration to academic life should be carried out as quickly and easily as possible;
- supporting student organizations in carrying out activities aimed at familiarizing first year students with the academic world;
- supporting students in identifying practice opportunities, by organizing events that bring students into contact with representatives of the economic environment (career days, etc.).

Scientific research

- creation of research partnerships with the economic environment in order to identify common research themes, sources of funding and to jointly apply for funding;
- developing new research directions that can bring competitive advantages to the university as a basis for increasing the performance of the education process;
- stimulating researchers to enhance scientific networking with prestigious communities of researchers at home and abroad that would translate into joint project proposals or research works;
- identifying areas of research of excellence in the UPT and stimulating the respective research teams to take over the role of regional leaders;
- encouraging the development of new post-graduate programs (continuous training and professional development, further training, life-long education), in line with the requirements of the economic environment in the region;
- The internationalization of research through participation in international projects, the invitation of prestigious researchers from abroad, the granting of Honorary Professor and Doctor Honoris Causa titles to international personalities, attracting valuable researchers from abroad or Romanian researchers from the diaspora, in order to implement research projects in the UPT, as well as organizing prestigious scientific events in collaboration with universities from abroad;
- Investing in multidisciplinary laboratories, involving teachers and students from several departments/faculties, starting from the main topics of interest to society and aiming at aggregating strong research teams.

Partners of the University

- constantly meeting the requirements of our partners, students and employers, and adapting existing curricula by developing new programs of bachelor and Master studies, in line with labour market requirements at national and international level;
- serious and demanding training of graduates, so that they should be able to use scientific and technical knowledge, to cope with the competition on the labour market;

1.4. Structure of the Quality Assurance System in UPT

The design of the organizational structure necessary in order to implement the quality function in the university is based on the following principles resulting from the customization of known principles and rules in the field of quality management for the academic environment:

- The leadership with regard to the Quality Management System (SMC) is the task of the manager of the respective level (the Rector for the University, the Dean for the Faculty, the Director for the Department, etc.)

Expected results:

- The real integration of quality principles into the management act as the success of the SMC introduction program is conditional on the adequacy of the management attitude towards such principles, on the importance that managers attach to the quality and the resources they decide to allocate.
- Strengthening of the current decision-making system, through the integration of SMC.

- Establishment of method-related relations instead of hierarchical ones, between individuals and working groups with attributions related to various levels of SMC.
- As an attribute of institutional culture, SMC promotes institutional responsibility and authority, by defining, explicitly delegating and by verifying specific achievements.

Expected results:

- Awareness and strengthening of personal responsibility;
- Deepening responsibility and increasing the level of involvement of managers and staff at all levels;
- Increasing the willingness to change, for all members of the university's staff.
- The SCM requires that university programs be coordinated by people who know very well the specificities of university activities and have adequate quality skills.

Expected results:

- The elimination of possible failures caused by empirics and lack of professionalism in the introduction of SMC. Failure may cause major difficulties in resuming the program by weakening and lowering the confidence of all domestic stakeholders.
- Taking responsibility with regard to the relevant training of all individuals with direct tasks related to the design, implementation, continuation and improvement of SMC.
- In the university, at all levels, management is based on identifying and defining processes as well as on establishing responsibilities for them (process officers) and taking decisions based on facts.
- As a reference, SMC uses Law 1/2011 and its additions, the ARACIS standards and the EUA quality guidelines. The simplified organization chart of the Politehnica University in Timisoara highlights the positions of working groups and of the people with responsibilities in the Quality Management System (SMC) at various levels.
- University
 - A1. At university level, the SMC is led by the Rector, who sets out quality strategy, policy, objectives and priorities together with the CEAC, seeks their knowledge and implementation throughout the institution, allocates and verifies the proper use of SMC resources.
 - A2. Vice-rectors (ProR) and the General Administrative Director (Dir. General admin.), lead and are responsible for the design, implementation, continuation and improvement of the SMC in the sectors for which they are responsible. They allocate and pursue the use of related resources in these sectors.
 - A3. The Committee for Quality Assessment and Assurance in the UPT (CEAC) is a collective working group of the university composed of representatives of the teaching staff, of students and employees. CEAC implements the Senate's Decision regarding quality assurance and prepares the annual report on quality assurance, identifies, analyses and proposes solutions and decisions that concern the SMC. The CEAC is chaired by the Rector and the operational management is delegated to a coordinator, representative of the Rector.
 - A4. The Directorate-General for Quality Assurance (DGAC) is a functional structure supporting the University SMC directly subordinated to the Rector. The DGAC includes the minimum human resources required to design, implement and support the SMC. It shall be composed of:
 - The Director of Quality Assurance is the representative of the Rector for the SMC. He / she heads the Directorate-General for Quality Assurance (DGAC) with

responsibility and authority for the design, implementation, continuation and improvement of the SMC at the university level;

- Quality Management specialists who assist the administrative faculties and services in the design, implementation and continuation of the SMC, in the preparation and maintenance of documents, in the use of specific SMC tools;
 - Computer specialists who design and maintain the IT system support for the SMC throughout the university;
 - Officers with secretarial duties and duties related to the monitoring of SMC specific documents;
 - Officers with duties related to the preparation and development of academic and research activities, from the perspective of the SMC.
- A5. The internal auditor body (CAI) shall constitute a group of persons from functional departments and services, with appropriate training and participation in quality assessment/internal audit activities as part of their duties.

➤ B. Faculties

- B1. The SMC at the faculty level is led by the Dean, who applies and adapts the university's strategy, policy, objectives and priorities in the field of quality in the faculty, aiming at implementing both the general aspects and the specific aspects of the faculty.
- B2. The Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee at faculty level (CEAC-F) is a working body that has a similar role to that played by CEAC – UPT at university level. The Commission is made up of the Dean (as President), the members of the Faculty Council and a student representative - appointed by student organizations. The Dean may delegate the operational management of CEAC at faculty level to a coordinator appointed from among the members of the commission.

➤ C. Departments

- C1. At department level, the Department Director (Dir. Dep) has the authority and responsibility for the quality of all processes carried out within it (education, research, and organization).
- C2. The Department-level Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee (CEAC-D) shall be composed of the Director of Department as President, three representatives of the teaching staff and, optionally, a representative of the students or doctoral candidates in the department. The department director may delegate the operational management of CEAC-D to a coordinator appointed from among the three members. CEAC-D aims at department level to achieve the general and specific quality objectives, both in teaching and research, including staff training, planning and conducting internal assessments/audits and individual assessments.

➤ D. Administration

- D1. At the administration level, the responsibility and authority in terms of SMC belong to the Director-General of Administration (Dir. Gen. Admin.).
- D2. Dir. Gen. Admin. May appoint a representative for his/her duties related to SMC.
- D3. At services level, the responsibility and authority in terms of SMC belong to the Heads of Services.

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

2. LEGAL STATUS, STRUCTURE, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE UPT

2.1. Legal framework for the organization and operation of the Politehnica University of Timisoara

The Politehnica University of Timisoara, address 2 Piata Victoriei, 300006 Timisoara, is a state funded higher education institution, established in 1920 through Decree – Law no. 2521/10.06.1920 and 4822/11.11.1920, under the name of „Polytechnic School of Timisoara”. All along its uninterrupted existence and operation, the university changed its name a few times, and the current name of the university, hereinafter referred to by the acronym UPT, has been adopted in accordance with Government Decision no. 493/17.07.2013.

UPT – an institution of higher education and scientific research, of national interest, which is an organic part of the national education system in Romania and contributes through the activities carried out to the achievement of the overall education strategy, elaborated in accordance with the Constitution and legislation in force - is part of the traditions of Romanian university education and contributes to the scientific, professional and civic training of young people and their integration into social and economic life, to the ongoing education of higher education graduates, as well as to the production of science and technology.

As a state-owned higher education institution, UPT is a legal person and has university autonomy in the spirit and letter of the National Education Law and its own University Charter. In its relations with society, the university is identified by: name, seal, logo and flag, established by the Senate ruling, and is presented in public image on the Internet via www.upt.ro.

The teaching activity within the Politehnica University of Timisoara (*Annex_B_1a-01*) is organised in the Bologna framework, through the programs of BACHELOR, MASTER and DOCTORATE. Interested in meeting labour market requirements as well as the need for lifelong training and development, driven by the complex challenges of modern society, the Politehnica University of Timisoara organizes POSTGRADUATE programs, the main objective of which is to update / develop / improve numerous university qualifications.

The Politehnica University of Timisoara received from ARACIS, following the assessment of the institution (http://upt.ro/Upt-Timisoara_acreditare-institutionala_156_ro.html) carried out in 2015, the "high degree of trust" qualification, *Annex_A_1j*, (ARACIS Report no. 5376/23.07.2015), and, following the university classification exercise carried out in 2011, the UPT received a position among the Romanian universities of advanced research and education (according to Education Minister's Ruling no. 5262/05.09.2011). The EUA's Report from December 2012 (*Annex_A_1e*) describes the UPT as „a well-performing university with a particular reputation in the surrounding society”, which "is engaged in continuous optimization and is therefore well positioned to meet current and future challenges" and which "has fully demonstrated its ability to overcome difficulties".

2.2. General information about the UPT premises

The current name of the university, The Politehnica University of Timisoara, is in accordance with the Official Gazette no. 447/22.07.2013 and Government Ruling no. 493/17.07.2013. The University has its headquarters at 2 Piata Victoriei, 300006 Timisoara, County of Timis.

The current name of the university is Universitatea Politehnica Timisoara, endorsed by the Government Ruling no. 493/17.07.2013 (*Annex_A_1b*). Along its uninterrupted existence and

operation, the university bore several names: Școala Politehnică din Timișoara (1920-1948), Institutul Politehnic Timișoara (1948-1970), Institutul Politehnic “Traian Vuia” din Timișoara (1970-1991), Universitatea Tehnică din Timișoara (1991-1995), Universitatea „Politehnica” din Timișoara (1996-2013).

UPT, a university of advanced research and education, is today one of the Romanian schools with a tradition, recognized at national and international level, both through the activity of the teaching staff generations and through the exceptional activity of prestigious academicians. UPT is part of the traditions of Romanian university education and contributes to the scientific, professional and civic training of young people and their integration into the economic and social life, to the permanent education of higher education graduates, as well as to the production of science and technology.

In the spirit of tradition, the mission of the Politehnica University of Timisoara is to meet the competence requirements of the societal environment by providing higher professional training, undergraduate and and post-graduate levels. The mission, which carries fundamental values, also reflects the concern for the future of society, by mapping the way in which society is developing at local, regional, national and international level.

In full accordance with the mission undertaken and with the desire to assert itself at international level, the Politehnica University of Timisoara is developing fruitful cooperation relations with many universities from Europe, the USA, Asia, South America and Canada, UPT into more than 190 collaborative agreements concluded within European Union programs or directly.

2.3. The UPT Charter and regulations herein

The UPT Charter contains the principles that state the Politehnica University of Timisoara as an institution and regulate its structure, functions, organization and functioning. UPT is a state higher education institution with legal personality, of public interest, of a non-profit nature, part of the national higher education system, accredited with the highest qualification.

The Charter respects the Romanian Constitution and the legislation in force and is in accordance with Magna Charta Universitatum. The UPT University Charter is drafted in line with the national policies as well as with the policies functioning within the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). The current version is the result of the amendment, in accordance with the procedure in force, by the vote of the UPT Senate on 15.05.2014, of the original Charter adopted in 21.07.2011.

Following the adoption of this Charter, the UPT Senate shall draw up and adopt the regulations annexed to the Charter governing the organization and functioning of the university and its components.

The training of UPT students is described by a set of regulations on the organization, conduct and completion of studies, for all categories of students of the bachelor and master study programs (*Annex_A_1f*, *Annex_B_1e*). Regulations and methodologies are public on the university's website, being developed in accordance with the legal regulations in force http://upt.ro/Informatii_regulamente-upt_207_ro.html .

2.4. Mission and objectives of the UPT

The mission undertaken by the University is stated in the UPT Charter, as follows:

- a. To create and to transfer toward the society useful knowledge in the form of advanced reserach, development and innovation, and to disseminate the results thereof by means of publications and / or implementation;
- b. To provide higher vocational training, at university level - where appropriate: In the Bologna paradigm, in all three cycles of the latter - undergraduate, master, doctorate, or specially regulated-, as well as in the post-graduate level and in the concept of lifelong learning, for the

purposes of personal development and professional integration of the individual and of meeting the competitive needs of the societal environment;

- c. To contribute to the setting of directions in the development of the society, locally, regionally, nationally and internationally;
- d. To cultivate, promote and defend the fundamental values crystallized during the evolution of mankind: freedom of thought, expression and action, justice, truth, equity, honesty, fairness, dignity, honour.

The mission covers both the transfer of knowledge to society through scientific research, higher vocational training, university and post-graduate level, involvement in the development of society, at local, regional, national and international level, and the promotion and defence of the fundamental values of humanity and of knowledge-based society. Each faculty of the UPT has its own mission, stated in its own strategic plans and integrated into the general mission of the university.

The university's mission is accomplished by defining and following objectives set out in strategic plans, drawn up at university and faculty level, consistent with the mission and implemented through operational plans.

The strategic plan focuses primarily on the period 2021-2024 (*Annex_A_1c*), however, some of its objectives will last longer and will need support from the entire Community, the Administration Board, the Senate, the Faculties, Departments and administrative services of the university to achieve the expected results.

The strategic plan of the UPT consists in a series of operational initiatives, categorized into ten strategic axes:

- Axis 1: Education. Students
- Axis 2: University marketing and Alumni
- Axis 3: Scientific research, innovation and technology transfer
- Axis 4: Human resources. Community involvement
- Axis 5: Financial resources
- Axis 6: Infrastructure, administration and support services
- Axis 7: Internationalization
- Axis 8: Image and communication
- Axis 9: Informatization and digitization
- Axis 10: Entrepreneurship and the relation with the regional social and economic environment.

Regional engagement

Each axis comprises a number of objectives that have been outlined in Chapter 1 – General Presentation of the Politehnica University of Timisoara, sub-chapter 1.2. General objectives of the UPT.

2.5. Academic integrity

The UPT has a Code of University Ethics and Deontology approved by the Senate (*Annex_A_1f-01*) which sets out general principles leading to the defence of the values of academic freedom, academic autonomy and ethical integrity. The application of the University Code of Ethics and the analysis of violations of the principles and values defended by it are monitored by the Ethics Commission. The Ethics Commission is organized according to the Regulation on the operation of the University Ethics Commission (*Annex_A_1f-02*)

The Ethics Commission reports, throughout the reporting period, are public and can be found on the university website at: http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_rapoarte_335_ro.html . According to these reports, the ethics commission promotes and ensures a climate of prevention, mediation, fairness, trust, respect and cooperation between members of the academic community, based on ethical standards

and professional conduct that have represented and are defining elements in all university activities. These reports set out the situations in which ethical rules were breached, setting out how concrete cases were handled (proceedings, sanctions, degree of involvement of the Ethics Commission). At the faculties level, aspects of university ethics are dealt with at the level of the Faculty Council, and, within departments, at the level of the Department Council.

For example, in 2020, there were no breaches of ethics rules in terms of academic activities, neither by teachers nor students. Switching to online education has been a particular challenge for both students and teachers, but no attempts to fraud exams or misconduct have been reported that have affected the conduct of online courses and assessments under transparent, equal and principled conditions. Also, the verifications with the help of the iThenticate and Turnitin services of the bachelor, Master and doctoral theses supported in the UPT did not uncover deviations from the university ethics by plagiarism, self-plagiarism, or by using bibliographical sources without quoting them. This demonstrates appropriate involvement and responsibility of all persons involved in this area.

By adopting and following the Code of Ethics, the academic Community of the UPT aims to preserve and strengthen the modern academic image of a good reputation in the educational environment and is a tool for shaping the academic community in a spirit of ethical principles and values, helping to establish an academic climate based on cooperation and fair competition.

2.6. Public liability and responsibility

Verification of the performance of the tasks undertaken through the operational plans in the different fields of university activity shall be done annually on the basis of reports drawn up at the level of the Administration Council, the Faculty Council and the Department Council. The reports shall be discussed and approved by the UPT management structures (Senate, Council of Administration, Faculty Council, Department Council).

The UPT also regularly audits the activities of all basic processes (research, teaching and management) and support processes (e.g. administrative). The procedures are public and can be found at: http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_proceduri-ale-sistemului-de-management-al-calitatii_15_ro.html.

The university has annual internal audit programs for both the education process and associated activities (starting with the year 2016 they are included in the CEAC report) and for managerial and administrative activities. The audits aim at establishing the conformity of the different activities with the Regulations in force and are carried out on the basis of the audit proceedings (http://www.upt.ro/pdf/PG_Audit_Intern_01.pdf) under the coordination of the CEAC. The audits are carried out with the participation of teams of auditors appointed by the rector, and of the DGAC. The audit teams include members of the academic community selected from the body of auditors (http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_documente-legate-de-structura-organizatorica_17_ro.html) including students, and external members. The audit reports shall be submitted to the Council of Administration where they are to be discussed and shall be accompanied by action plans.

All study programs shall be accredited by ARACIS and evaluated at regular intervals. The UPT shall respect the academic freedom of teaching and research staff as well as the rights and freedoms of students in accordance with the UPT Charter and the specific Regulations. All decisions and rulings of the UPT Senate and the Council of Administration are visible on the UPT website at (http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_hotarari-ale-senatului-si-ale-biroului-senatului_927_ro.html, http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_hotarari-ale-consiliului-de-administratie-_1003_ro.html)

3. GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE STRUCTURE OF THE UPT - MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

3.1. The management system

The management structures and management functions of the UPT are detailed in *Annex_A_2a*. The UPT complies with the legal regulations for the election/appointment of structures – the Council of Administration, the Faculty Council and the Senate -, of the management positions of departments (directors of departments), faculties (Dean, Vice-dean) and at institutional level, with information on elections/competitions being posted on the university website - http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_alegeri-si-concursuri_578_ro.html

Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the National Education Law in force at the time of the issuing of the current Charter, Law 1 / 2011. They shall be set up or established by legislature. A legislature has a term of four years. There exists and applies the Internal Organization and Functioning Regulation (*Annex_A_1f-18*) which complies with the legislation in force.

The governing structures in the UPT are:

- the Senate, the Council of Administration, the Council for Doctoral Studies and the Council of the Doctoral School, at University level;
- the Faculty Council and the Doctoral Division Council, at faculty level;
- the Department Council, at department level.

The leading positions in the UPT, according to Law no. 1 / 2011, are:

- Rector, Vice-rector, General Administrative Director, Director of the Council for Doctoral Studies, Director of the Doctoral School, at university level;
- Dean, Vice-dean, at faculty level;
- Department Director, at department level.

The position of Director of the Council for Doctoral studies is assimilated to the position of the Vice-rector. The leading positions established by law are added to by the position of coordination with the title "Director of Doctoral Division", at the level of the doctoral division, which is an unremunerated position.

The Senate comprises 68 members, 51 of whom (i.e.: 75%) are teachers and researchers and 17 (i.e.: 25%) are students.

The 51 positions of members of the Senate for teachers and researchers are distributed among departments in proportion to their size, given by the sum of their employed teachers and researchers, and are set by universal, direct and secret vote of all employed teachers and researchers.

The 17 positions of members of the Senate for students are distributed as one for each faculty and proportionally to the number of students and are set by the universal, direct and secret vote of all students.

The Council of Administration consists of the Rector, the Vicerectors, the Deans, the General Administrative Director and a representative of the students appointed through the competition organized by the legally established student organizations of the university, from among the students of the university.

The Faculty Council includes teachers and researchers as much as 75%, and 25% students, depending on the size of the faculty given by the number of students; the Dean, the Vicedean / Vicedeans and the Department Directors are members of law.

The Department Council consists of the Director of the Department and 8 members. The Director of the Department and the members of the Council of the Department shall be elected by universal, direct and secret vote of all teachers and researchers employed by the Department.

The university's structures and management positions are detailed in the UPT Charter.

The university uses Internet and Intranet – Avizier and Secretariat electronic applications have been implemented (<http://avizier.upt.ro/> and <https://secretariat.upt.ro/>), involving members of the academic community, including students, administrative staff, as well as other beneficiaries and partners of the university, thus responding to public interests.

The UPT organizational chart (*Annex_A_1d*) shall be provided with its own staff which correspond, in terms of professional qualification, to the requirements for filling the positions provided in the personnel chart (http://www.upt.ro/img/files/organigrama/Organigrama_UPT-DGA_2020.pdf).

The UPT library (*Annex_A_5b*) is provided with staff with higher education, including library economics or philology.

3.2. Strategic management

Through the strategy undertaken, the UPT aims to fulfil its mission, to respect the values and principles set out in the Charter, and to achieve its objectives.

Throughout the reporting period, the management of the UPT was based on rigorously drawn up 4 years' strategic plans (2008-2012, 2012-2016, 2016-2020), according to which annual operational plans were drawn up. The annual update of the UPT strategy has been carried out through the operational plans, taking into account the evolution of higher education and the national economic context. The faculties also have strategic plans and operational plans linked to university plans. The Council of Administration is supported in its activity by consultative commissions, the Senate works with 11 specialized commissions, and the Faculty Councils also use specialized commissions and boards of the fields / specializations.

On entering the th third decade of its new century, the Politehnica University of Timisoara proposes a strategic plan for 2021-2024 (*Annex_A_1c-01*) which underpins the development of the institution for the next 4 years and which comes with a paradigm shift related to what organizational culture means, the objective being assumed by the entire academic community. The fulfilment of the university's operational plans shall be regularly reviewed, in accordance with the Regulations referred to in *Anexa A-2b*. The management system, within the Council of Administration, and annually the University Senate assess, on the basis of the „Rector's Report on the State of the UPT” (*Annex_1i*). The proceedings are similar at faculty level. The UPT Strategic Plan is developed on 10 priority axes, each developed around strategic objectives. The objectives set out in the strategic plan shall be achieved by involving the economic and social partners.

The university strategy is taken up at the level of all the UPT faculties through their strategic plans that translate into annual operational plans covering the scheduled activities and the deadlines for achieving the strategic objectives.

Documents are public on the University's website at:

- http://upt.ro/Informatii_planuri-strategice_59_ro.html
- http://upt.ro/Informatii_planuri-operationale_60_ro.html

3.3. Efficiency of the management

Within the UPT, the Council of Administration coordinates the administrative sector through the Directorate-General for Administration (DGA) which ensures the smooth deployment of all supporting

processes necessary for the basic educational and research processes. The administration is organized and operated rigorously (in terms of number and qualifications of staff) in accordance with the legal regulations in force, so as to provide the services needed by the academic community. The human resource in the administrative sector is selected on the basis of a contest and has well-established job descriptions.

The DGA structure is described in *Annex A_1d*, while the organizational chart of the UPT is made public at http://www.upt.ro/img/files/organigrama/Organigrama_UPT-DGA_2020.pdf.

The entire administrative activity is covered by formal proceedings at the level of directorates (Financial and Accounting, Human Resources, Technical, etc.) *Anexa A-2b – section A*, shows a selection from the over 145 proceedings used in the DGA.

The administrative activity (financial activities, allocation of budget, decision-making system, management and control systems, etc.) is subject to regular internal audits by the Directorate for Internal Public Audit, as well as by the CEAC through the annual quality audit plans, all in agreement with the HG-1086/2013.

Appropriate IT applications shall be used in all sections of the Directorate-General for Administration (*Anexa A-2b – section B*), compatible at European level. The degree of informatization of the administration is regularly subject to modernization activities/processes in order to keep it permanently at the level of international best practice. A computer system for managing internal documents (Electronic registry) has recently been implemented in the UPT, which facilitates and simplifies the transfer of documents between UPT compartments.

4. MATERIAL RESOURCES

4.1. Spaces for education, research and other activities

The UPT has material resources suitable for research, education and administrative processes, as well as for the health care of students and teachers. Educational and research facilities correspond qualitatively and in terms of size and volume, equipment and technical conditions, to the safety principles and to the hygiene and health standards in force. The administration is carried out by the UPT Directorate-General for Administration.

For the record of spaces managed by entities within the UPT as well as their main equipment, the ESGD application (created by the UPT), is used. The application, described in the *Annex A_4a* provides all data related to the spaces managed by an entity, by building and location. It also provides information about the premises managed by each entity as a whole, the area belonging to each building, the total area belonging to the university, library spaces, rented spaces to others and from others, as well as the number and area of course halls and rooms, laboratories and workshops. Currently, the University administers own spaces on 66,663 sqm (59,741 sqm in Timisoara and 6,922 sqm in Hunedoara) for didactic purposes (courses, seminars, laboratories, as well as workshop activities), 76,676 sqm for dormitories (74,038 sqm in 16 dormitories in Timisoara, and 2,636 sqm in one dormitory in Hunedoara), 13,395 sqm for student restaurants (12,516 sqm in three restaurants in Timisoara and 879 sqm in one restaurant in Hunedoara), and 75,980 sqm for sports centres (75,383 sqm in Timisoara and 597 sqm in Hunedoara).

A good proportion of the teaching areas are equipped with modern teaching equipment. The number of seats in the course, seminar and laboratory rooms is correlated with the schedule of activities as well as to the size of the study groups (series, groups, sub-groups, etc.) in accordance with the specific ARACIS standards by domain.

Laboratories, not only computer laboratories, benefit from modern facilities with computers connected to the network and the Internet, and specific facilities for each field of activity. *Annex_B_3h* (01-25) sets out, for all 25 departments, the state of facilities in teaching and research laboratories.

Strengthening the material resources and the rigorous management of the university's patrimony, including the facilities dedicated to the development of quality education, has been one of the priorities of the top management of the UPT. During the reporting period, the UPT has set out and achieved several objectives for the development of its material resources and, where appropriate, modernization targets for existing spaces based on realistic investment plans in relation to expected revenues. The state of the investment targets for the period 2015 to 2020 is detailed in *Annex_A_4b*.

In the UPT, a Wi-Fi network, consisting of 200 access points together with the necessary servers, has been operating ever since the academic year 2014/2015, a network that can also provide support for video streaming. The Wi-Fi network covers UPT faculties and hostels, both indoors and outdoors, with access granted to university staff and students, and authentication based on user name and password.

The UPT library, established in 1921, includes a central entity and a subsidiary at the Engineering Faculty in Hunedoara. The new library building, opened in November 2014, was conceived as an educational, social and cultural centre. It contains all the facilities of a modern structure, adapted to the specific documentation needs of the users of the beginning of the 3rd millennium, flexible spaces, easily adaptable to the constantly changing needs.

The fund of publications (about 797,449 units), made up of printed and online books, printed and online journals, doctoral theses, standards, inventions etc. is available in warehouses with compactable shelves and in rooms with free access to shelf (about 128,782 units). The Library also provides access to specialized databases of journals and full text books online.

The activity of the library is computerized, with the FIH subsidiary library also working online on the central server. The electronic catalogue includes all books purchased by the library since 1981 and books requested by readers, meaning more than 205,436 copies (approx. 103,817 titles) printed and online and can be consulted from the 156 virtual machines in the library as well as on the Internet. The library building provides the following areas for study:

- 24/7 open study room with RFID controlled access, with 100 seats: 249 sqm
- 5 rooms for student group study, capacity 48 seats: 96 sqm
- a capacity of 650 study places, in closed, open or flexible areas
- IT space with a capacity of 186 seats: 1168 sqm
- free access space on first floor: 986 sqm
- free access space on second floor: 1140 sqm
- free access space on third floor: 1063 sqm
- multifunctional hall with videoconference system, 100 seats: 106 sqm

The University has its own publishing house, which is CNCS accredited. The Politehnica Publishing House mainly focuses on scientific, technical and teaching materials, in order to support the academic processes within the University, thus promoting the image of the University in the same time. Thus, in recent years, the Politehnica Publishing House issued new titles as follows: 81 in 2014, 73 in 2015, 78 in 2016, 60 in 2017, 32 in 2018, 43 in 2019, and 34 in 2020, as far as the month of October. To these add the doctoral theses supported in the university and published in 16 series: 105 in 2012, 75 in 2013, 95 in 2014, 75 in 2015, 29 in 2016, 31 in 2017, 15 in 2018, 19 in 2019 și 2 until October 2020. There also 11 series of the Scientific Bulletin of the Politehnica University of Timisoara, as well as the proceedings of conferences and symposia organized at the university. Occasionally, under the logo of the Politehnica Publishing House, there appear books of cultural nature, as well as with an educational purpose, for the promotion of institutional memory.

The Politehnica University of Timisoara has sports centres (facilities for students) in Timisoara covering an area of 75,980 sqm: the sports base no.1, with football fields and athletics tracks, changing rooms, storerooms; sports base no.2, with football, tennis, handball, basketball, volleyball fields, two swimming pools (one of which covered), the gym and the multifunctional hall; sports base no.3, with sports field and changing rooms; the Polyvalent Hall (under construction) with 2500 seats, and in Hunedoara, at the Engineering Faculty, one 597 sqm Sports Hall.

For students and teaching staff, the UPT has in Timisoara a number of 16 dormitories (74,038 sqm), with about 5500 places, and 3 students restaurants (12,516 sqm), and, in Hunedoara, one dormitory (2,636 sqm) and one student restaurant (879 sqm). Health care is provided through the Student Polyclinic, located in the campus.

4.2. Equipment of the material base

The teaching rooms are well equipped, some of them with technical equipment for learning, teaching and communication which facilitates the teaching staff's work and the receptivity of each student (video projector, computer, projection screen, etc.).

Teaching laboratories as well as research laboratories are equipped with laboratory equipment and research equipment at the level of recent years, thus offering students, master students and PhD students the possibility of experimenting and practical training in their particular field. Such rooms are equipped with modern equipment with computers connected to the network and to the Internet, or specific features (tools machines, measurement apparatus, various test stands and test equipment (for monotonous static testing, monotonous / cyclic quasi-static testing and pseudo-dynamic tests) for: materials (metals, composites), building elements and structures (wood, steel profiles, concrete, reinforced concrete, composites with reinforced concrete and rigid reinforcement), jacks, hydraulic cylinders, actuators - for simulating fatigue stress and seismic stress, oscilloscopes, video projectors, analytical equipment, spectrometers, Electrophoresis equipment, electric equipment, MPLC chromatograph, balances, communications network equipment, automated driving equipment, generators, optical microscopes, etc.). [Annex_B_3h](#) contains information about the teaching and research laboratories provided to all university departments, the list of laboratory work and the subjects of the study programs they serve.

The UPT has software appropriate to the subjects in the curricula, with licenses for use, the list of which is detailed in the laboratory sheet ([Annex_B_3h](#))

Following the implementation of the HURO/1101/074/1.2.1, Joint cross-border Internet Communication System of the University of Debrecen and the Politehnica University of Timisoara, under the Hungarian-Romanian Cross-border Cooperation Program, a Wi-Fi network was created and put into use, consisting of 200 access points with the necessary servers as well as support for wireless network use. The Wi-Fi network covers UPT faculties and hostels, both inside and outside.

Access to the wireless network is allowed to university staff as well as students, and authentication is based on user_name and password. As a user_name, the UPT prename.ume@upt.ro email address is used and the password used to access the email account will be used. Equipment running one of the following operating systems can be used: Windows (except Windows XP), Linux, MacOS, iOS, Android, Windows Phone. The network created implements the Eduroam service by providing access, through the above account and password, to all networks of national and international institutions that have implemented the Eduroam service.

Students' access to university computers and the internet via the fixed data network is allowed unconditionally at all university locations, depending on the specific nature of their work, in the classroom, laboratories or the Library.

The library provides users with access to the documentation resources and services necessary for the education and research process, using specific modern means, for the purpose of professional training and development of their personality (*Annex_A_5a*). The staff employed in the UPT library has completed higher education, including in library economy or philology (*Annex_A-5b*).

The UPT library has access to international databases of books and journals, the available titles being detailed in *Annex_A_5c* (scientific databases, e-books, series that entered in 2021 with ISSN, periodicals, etc.).

The UPT provides students with the appropriate courses and other resources developed by UPT's own teaching staff, in sufficient numbers, in electronic or printed form (e.g. guides/practical work guides) needed for the education process.

4.3. Appropriate financial resources for teaching and learning, appropriate support services easily accessible for students

The Politehnica University of Timisoara financially operates under the coordination of the Ministry of Education under the Law on Education and other normative acts regulating the activities of education and scientific research.

Achieving the objectives of the university as set out in the strategic plan and the operational plans requires a sustainable budget based on an objective assessment of the sources of funding identified within the university and taking into account external financial resources, national and international.

The financing of the university is provided both from budgetary appropriations received from the Ministry of Education and from own revenues, according to the annual revenue and expenditure budget. For the reported period, the revenue and expenditure budget is shown in the Annexes (*Annex_B_4a*, *Annex_B_4b*).

The amounts received from the Ministry of Education shall be allocated on the basis of the institutional and complementary contract and shall comprise:

- Basic funding through grants of studies calculated on the basis of the average cost per equivalent student per field, per study cycle and per teaching language;
- Complementary funding to be carried out by means of: grants for accommodation and meals; funds allocated on the basis of priorities and specific rules for facilities and other capital investment and repair expenses, as well as funds allocated on a competitive basis for scientific research;
- Additional funding to stimulate excellence of higher education institutions and study programs.

The University annually draws up a realistic budget of revenue and expenditure so as to have the necessary conditions and financial resources to achieve the strategic objectives and to ensure continuity in the fulfilment of the mission undertaken. The budget planning takes into account factors such as the diversity of the student population, the types of education, objectives of student-centred education and training, learning resources, student grants and the provision of specific services, etc.

The entire academic community, including students, is informed of the existence and allocation of resources and how the budget is composed, all such information being of public interest.

Updated information on the financial situation of the UPT is considered "information of public interest" and is publicly available on the university website at the section http://upt.ro/Informatii_informatii-de-interes-public_202_ro.html

- budget
- budget execution - statement of payments

- balance of income and expenditure for each student hostel/student complex
- balance sheets
- asset-based income statement

Tuition fees for UPT students are calculated according to the regulation on the establishment, collection and reimbursement of tuition fees for undergraduate and master's studies at UPT, based on the average tuition costs per academic year. Fees are presented to students by posting on the university website, all details regarding the amount of fees, payment deadlines and refund conditions being an integral part of the student's study contract with UPT.

4.4. Scholarship system and other types of material support for students

The UPT applies the Regulations for the award of scholarships and social support (*Annex_B_1i-01*).

The University offers programs for the stimulation of performance (Studentii premiați în competiții naționale și internaționale, Studentii de „zece pe linie” ai Universității Politehnica Timișoara), as well as recovery programs for struggling students.

Moreover, exceptional students benefit from awards given by companies closely collaborating with the university.

For students facing learning difficulties, the UPT Learning Centre for Students has been established ever since the academic year 2019/2020: http://www.upt.ro/Informatii-utile_centru-de-invatare-pentru-studenti_311_ro.htm/

Faculties set up consultation classes, and the information thereabout are made public for students on each faculty's website.

Students are kept informed with regard to the opportunities for financial support offered by the university and to the methods of payment of the tuition fees as per their study agreements. The information is offered directly (by tutors and year coordinators), on request (the faculty registries) or by means of the faculty website.

The University applies the Regulations for the awarding, the collecting and the reimbursement of tuition fees for undergraduate and graduate programs in the UPT, approved by Senate Ruling (*Annex_B_1e-01*)

4.5. Administration staff for support services dedicated to students

The university's administrative staff is qualified for student support activities and has opportunities to develop their skills. The structure of the administrative staff is detailed in the organizational chart of the Directorate-General for Administration (*Annex_A_1d*)

The University's Human Resources Department (DRU) prepares an annual training plan for the personnel employed, as an instrument for the continuous improvement of the quality of the staff activities (*Annex_C_1r-01*).

The recruitment and development of staff are fair and transparent, with information on recruitment competitions for teaching and research staff being made in accordance with national law, auxiliary and contractual (non-teaching) staff posted on the university website

The recruitment and development processes of staff are fair and transparent and carried out in accordance with the national law. Information on recruitment competitions for teaching and research staff, auxiliary and contractual (non-teaching) staff is posted on the university website

http://upt.ro/Informatii_concursuri_366_ro.html

http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_anunturi-privind-organizarea-concursului-pentru_487_ro.html

The hours when the administrative staff are working with students is displayed prominently and adapted to the needs of different types of students.

5. TEACHING STAFF

5.1. Requirements for filling teaching positions through competition

The teaching staff of the UPT represent the most valuable wealth of the university. The top management of the university has continuously acted to ensure an internal climate conducive to its active and efficient presence, based on mutual respect, good understanding and cooperation between members of the academic community, regardless of their hierarchical position and the level of training corresponding to the positions occupied. UPT is constantly concerned about securing and increasing staff income, mainly by supporting young teachers and high-performing teachers through financial support for participation in prestigious scientific events and rewards for publication of works in ISI listed journals.

The recruitment process for teaching staff is fair and transparent, without discrimination of gender or of other nature, and is carried out on the basis of the methodology for organizing open teaching competitions in the UPT approved by Senate Decision HS 152/13.12.2018, in accordance with the necessary and binding minimum standards for the provision of higher education and professional research and development professional degrees. The staff carrying out teaching activities in the assessed institution meets the legal requirements for filling the teaching positions. The calendar for organizing and conducting competitions to fill the educational positions is set out in **HBS nr.01_15.04.2021** and is publicly announced by posting on the university website.

The number and structure of all teaching positions in the UPT on 01.10.2020 is shown in the table below. (Annex_A-3b-01)

No.	Total of teaching staff				Professors				Assoc.prof.			
	Total	Occupied	Occupied CMDD	Open	Total	Occupied	Occupied CMDD	Open	Total	Occupied	Occupied CMDD	Open
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Total UPT	1015	575	34	406	95	90	0	5	185	147	0	38
% from the Total		56,65	3,35	40	9,35	8,87	0	0,5	18,22	14,48	0	3,74
% from the total of occupied positions						15,65				25,57		
% from the total of open positions								1,23				9,36

No.	Lecturers				Assistant prof.				Doctoral tutors – fixed-term contract CMDD	Dr.	TS <40 years old
	Total	Occupied with tenured staff	Occupied CMDD	Open	Total	Occupied with tenured staff	Occupied CMDD	Open			
0	13	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23
Total UPT	418	289	0	129	317	49	34	234	53	585	160
% from total posts	41,18	28,47	0	12,70	31,23	4,83	3,35	23,05		96,05	26,27
% from total occupied with tenured staff		50,26				8,52					
% from total open posts				31,77				57,64			

TS = teaching staff

As regards staff advances in the teaching hierarchy, the UPT has a balanced policy, taking into account the immediate needs of the institution, but also in the near and long term. The approach, accompanied by the intransigent application of the criterion of proven value, has created opportunities for a large number of teachers to access high positions through competition.

The evolution of the teaching staff, by teaching grade, during the reporting period is shown in the following table (*Annex_A_3b*):

Academic year	University teaching grade				Total
	Professor	Assoc.prof.	Lecturers	Assist.prof.	
0	1	2	3	4	5
2015-2016	107	123	262	110	602
2016-2017	95	122	279	61	557
2017-2018	99	128	286	53	566
2018-2019	100	133	300	66	599
2019-2020	102	134	306	60	602
2020-2021	90	147	289	49	575

The teaching staff employed in higher education covers a maximum of three standard teaching times in one academic year, irrespective of the higher education institution in which they are active. (*Annex_A_3f*)

5.2. Filling of teaching positions

The University approves and implements the Methodology for approving retention of tenure after reaching retirement age from the academic year 2021-2022 (Senate Ruling no. 269/17.12.2020) http://www.upt.ro/img/files/hs/2020/17.12.2020/HS_269_17.12.20_Aprobare-Metod-ment-calit-titular-dupa-65-ani.pdf. Tenured teaching staff in higher education, retired at the age limit or for other reasons, and who continue their current activity or work as associate teaching staff, cover a maximum of one teaching period in that educational institution.

The number and age distribution of occupied teaching positions at the UPT on 01.10.2020 were as shown in *Annex_A_3a*:

No.	TS > 65 y.old		60<TS<65 y.old		55<TS<60 y.old		50<TS<55 y.old		45<TS<50 y.old		40<TS<45 y.old		TS<40 y.old		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
TOTAL UPT	8	1,31	70	11,49	70	11,49	84	13,80	104	17,08	113	18,56	160	26,27	609	100

Translator's note: TS = teaching staff

The summary situation of teaching positions on 01.10.2020 broken down by faculties/departments is shown in *Annex_A_3e*.

Associate teaching staff who have a basic teaching post in another higher education institution are required to make known, by written declaration, to the head of the institution where they have their basic teaching post and to the institution where they are associated, the number of hours worked by association and to obtain the agreement of the University Senate of the institution where they have their basic teaching post. The affidavits of the teaching staff can be found in [Annex_A_3f](#).

During the reported period, the number of teaching associates evolved as shown in the table below: ([Annex_A-3d](#)):

Academic year	University professor	Associate professor	University lecturer	Assisting professor	Total
2015/2016	27	13	30	115	185
2016/2017	32	23	32	105	192
2017/2018	29	22	34	127	212
2018/2019	22	20	38	109	189
2019/2020	22	27	35	177	261
2020/2021	34	20	27	190	271

5.3. Qualification of teaching staff

The subject teachers have initial training and competence in the subjects taught, fulfilling the necessary conditions for quality teaching. The university's teaching staff have a bachelor's degree in the field of the subjects taught, have obtained a doctorate or are leading doctorates in the field of the subjects taught and have a significant number of valuable publications on subjects specific to the subjects taught.

The information is structured in tabular form, according to departmental function statements, and reveals the competence and qualifications of teachers ([Annex_A_3h-01](#), [Annex_A_3h-02](#), [Annex_A_3h-03](#)).

During the reporting period, a number of teachers defended habilitation theses by subject area, as shown in the table below ([Annex_B_3d-02](#)):

Number of habilitation theses defended in the UPT in 2016-2021:

No.	Doctoral field (cf. HG 403/2021)	Number of habilitation theses defended					
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1	Architecture	-	-	-	1	-	-
2	Computers and information technology	2	2	-	1	-	-
3	Chemistry	-	1	-	-	-	-
4	Materials engineering	2	-	-	1	-	-
5	Systems engineering	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	Chemical engineering	1	4	2	-	-	-
7	Civil engineering and installations	4	1	-	1	-	-
8	Electric engineering	1	-	-	1	-	-

No.	Doctoral field (cf. HG 403/2021)	Number of habilitation theses defended					
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
9	Electronic engineering, telecommunications and information technologies	1	1	-	-	1	-
10	Power engineering	1	-	-	1	-	-
11	Industrial engineering	-	-	-	-	-	1
12	Mechanical engineering	1	6	-	1	-	1
13	Engineering and management	-	-	-	1	-	2
TOTAL		13	15	2	8	1	4

Persons occupying the position of assistant have certified pedagogical training or are attending pedagogical training courses. Psycho-pedagogical training courses are organised by the Department for the Training of Teaching Staff (DPPD) and are included as optional subjects in the curricula of all UPT study programmes.

Through the subject sheets, teachers prove that they have developed courses, materials and other works necessary for a quality teaching process, and cover the issues of the subject. Subject sheets for all study programmes are published on the faculty websites and made available to students at the beginning of the academic year.

Teachers carry out counselling activities according to a well-defined timetable, these are public on the websites of the faculties or departments.

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFICIENCY

6. ADMISSION AND PROGRESS OF STUDENTS

6.1. Principles of the admission policy for study programs offered by the institution

The UPT applies a transparent student recruitment and admission policy based on information through the UPT website and faculty websites and a wide range of university marketing actions.

Admission is organized and conducted according to distinct methodologies and regulations for the three cycles in the Bologna system (bachelor, master and doctorate). The admission system also includes programs for distance learning or for part-time learning.

The admission of students to all program types is regulated in the UPT through methodologies and regulations public on the UPT website, developed in accordance with the legislation in force ([Annex_B_1f-01](#), [Annex_B_1f-02](#), [Annex_B_1f-03](#)).

Admission to the bachelor program in the UPT is organized by bachelor domains. A bachelor domain shall comprise one or more specializations. Admission to the master program is based on a contest, following a procedure established by the faculties, which ends with a synthetic assessment. The enrolling for the 2021-2022 academic year admission contest shall be organized online using the dedicated Enroll application (<https://admitere.upt.ro/>)

Methodologies and regulations state that admission to the bachelor programs is based solely on the academic competence of the applicant, on the basis of the baccalaureate diploma or equivalent degree and does not apply any discriminatory criteria. The particular competition stages and their corresponding subjects, as well as the related bibliography shall be made public on the university website at least 6 months before the contest, and the bibliography can be obtained, also in printed form, from the Politehnica Publishing House in Timisoara and the premises of the faculties.

During the reported period, the correlation of the education process to the needs of society, under the Bologna higher education paradigm a constant concern. It has been expressed in terms of the offer of specializations at the university, detailed in curricula designed so as to provide university qualifications at the bachelor and master level and to provide researcher training, as well as in terms of the number of students allowed at admission level, for each cycle.

The number of students allowed at admission level per Bologna cycle, all over the UPT, in the reported period, is given in the table below ([Annex_B_1b-01](#)):

Academic year	bachelor	master	doctoral	total
2015/2016	9145	2981	87+5 RD*	12218
2016/2017	9616	2927	85+0 RD	12628
2017/2018	9329	2893	90+0 RD	12319
2018/2019	9483	2901	107+3 RD	12494
2019/2020	9346	2957	96+1 RD	12400
2020/2021	9471	2949	85+1 RD	12506

* RD – acronym for Romanians from the Diaspora

The evolution of the number of students registered in all university studies programs, for the reporting period, with figures broken down by faculty, by study program and by year of study can be found in [Annex_B_1m](#).

The evolution of the number of students registered in the UPT on October 01 of the academic years of the reported period is shown in the table below, the situation being in line with the one presented in the Rector's Report, and the ANS statistics that includes students from 6 years of study (*Annex_B_1b-01*):

Academic year	2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021
bachelor	9071	9164	9330	9441	9231	9455
master	2832	2791	2822	2898	2869	2974
doctoral	480	496	460	508	513	540
Total	12383	12451	12612	12847	12613	12969

The evolution of the number of students registered in the first year during the reported period, broken down by faculties, is shown in the tables below (*Annex_B_1b-01*):

First year - Bachelor:

Faculty	Total number of students registered in the first year - bachelor					
	2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021
Architecture and City Planning	134	122	135	143	148	145
Automation and Computing	738	757	746	761	770	740
Industrial Chemistry and Environmental Engineering	142	111	103	116	82	77
Civil Engineering	278	197	175	202	252	336
Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technologies	459	400	374	395	375	388
Electrical and Power Engineering	211	195	198	173	178	154
Engineering in Hunedoara	193	176	195	189	164	158
Management in Production and Transportation	222	204	208	196	210	198
Mechanical Engineering	573	493	533	465	476	510
Communication Sciences	167	162	164	183	199	182
TOTAL	3117	2817	2831	2823	2854	2888

First year - Master:

Faculty	Total number of students registered in the first year – master					
	2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021
Architecture and City Planning	29	70	53	65	44	43
Automation and Computing	245	269	268	272	284	352
Industrial Chemistry and Environmental Engineering	45	69	100	82	69	60
Civil Engineering	266	218	217	230	221	215
Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technologies	148	160	175	183	210	198
Electrical and Power Engineering	73	83	95	96	89	101
Engineering in Hunedoara	147	118	120	129	134	123
Management in Production and Transportation	120	103	106	96	110	131

Faculty	Total number of students registered in the first year – master					
	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
Mechanical Engineering	440	444	444	443	446	391
Communication Sciences	37	50	47	52	51	67
TOTAL	1550	1584	1625	1648	1658	1681

As regards the number of students enrolled with tuition fees in Master and bachelor programs, its evolution over the latest 5 academic years (as reported on 01 October) is illustrated in the table below (*Annex_B_1b-01*):

Faculty	2016/ 2017		2017/ 2018		2018/ 2019		2019/ 2020		2020/ 2021	
	bachelor	master	bachelor	master	bachelor	master	bachelor	master	bachelor	master
Architecture and City Planning	91	20	76	33	61	41	60	43	57	18
Automation and Computing	529	39	609	17	645	27	602	32	613	68
Industrial Chemistry and Environmental Engineering	12	3	15	2	5	6	4	2	6	6
Civil Engineering	176	38	145	42	126	51	113	50	159	51
Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technologies	328	5	268	13	286	8	269	32	233	20
Electrical and Power Engineering	72	8	67	14	59	16	65	15	48	8
Engineering in Hunedoara	29	2	25	2	29	4	27	4	29	7
Management in Production and Transportation	58	7	49	12	42	9	36	13	51	27
Mechanical Engineering	269	51	289	54	272	61	249	49	313	44
Communication Sciences	111	1	135	8	153	2	162	6	140	6
TOTAL	1675	174	1678	197	1678	225	1587	246	1649	255

The study programs active in the UPT are shown in *Annex_B_1a-01*, while the evolution of the number of study programs developed in the UPT during the reported period is shown in *Annex_B_1a-02*.

The implementation and operation of all study programs are coordinated by the Education Process, Student Affairs and Quality Assurance Department, the UPT Senate, through the Education Process Committee, and monitored by the Directorate-General for Quality Assurance (DGAC). The initiation of study programs, the preparation of curricula and of specifications for syllabuses are, according to the operational procedure, "The initiation, monitoring and regular evaluation of study programs in UPT - code UP-PO-B-0-05", entrusted to the boards of domains and specializations – work groups made up of representatives of the variously specialized teachers, various age groups and educational degrees, representatives of employees and students.

Through direct interaction with the local companies, the UPT follows their degree of interest in the educational offer, and the views of companies on the teaching process in the UPT. A questionnaire applied online in the period 05.05.2021-15.05.2021 was used as a research tool for the collection of

information and the opinions collected were recorded in *Annex_B_1d*. The annex also comprises views on the level of training of UPT's graduates, as well as the common interests subjects.

The UPT also carries out distance learning programs (ID) and short-time learning programs (IFR), apart from full time studies. Teaching in ID and IFR forms takes place on the university's own e-learning platform developed by the ID/IFR and e-Learning Centre under the name of Campus Virtual UPT (*Annex_B_1c-01*).

The evolution of the number of students registered / number of graduates at IFR and ID study programs through the reported period is shown in the table below (*Annex_B_1b-01*):

Academic year	Registered in part time study programs (IFR)	Graduates from part time programs (IFR)	Registered in distance learning programs (ID)	Graduates from distance learning programs (ID)
2015/2016	81	-	252	42
2016/2017	127	-	363	56
2017/2018	165	22	436	50
2018/2019	164	31	521	76
2019/2020	161	24	524	83
2020/2021	169	-	522	-

6.2. Admission practices

The university applies a transparent policy on the recruitment and admission of students, regulated by regulations and methodologies, publicly announced at least six months before its application. UPT conducts several types of academic marketing actions associated with admission, and promotes real and accurate information, indicating verification and confirmation possibilities (*Annex_B_1*):

- actions carried out in high schools by faculties and/or departments,
- through annual caravans organized in high schools by the Centre for the Counselling and Career Guidance of Students (CCOC)
- by means of education fairs organized in capital cities of the various counties by the Centre for the Counselling and Career Guidance of Students (CCOC)
- by actions dedicated to high school pupils during the "A different kind of week" programs
- through the action "The Politehnica of Timisoara, a step toward your future"
- through free training of pupils in mathematics,
- through an exercise book developed and available on the university website.

This year, the presentation of the educational offer of Politehnica University of Timisoara moved to the virtual environment. Thus, UPT is organizing for the first time the EduExpo virtual educational fair through which 10 faculties, 29 undergraduate fields and 53 specializations present their educational offer to all people (students, parents, teachers, etc.) eager to find out information about the university's study programs, but also the numerous opportunities that a UPT student enjoys.

The UPT Rector's building was virtually reconstructed as part of the most innovative educational fair ever organized by a Romanian university "EduExpoUPT". Information about the educational offer of the faculties of the Politehnica University of Timisoara is available by accessing the link <https://eduexpo.upt.ro/>, practically eliminating the distance barrier between the university environment and the student who must have all the information when making the most important decision for their future. Each faculty has its own offer, and students have the opportunity to get in touch with teachers,

with specialists willing to guide them. This gives them access to a portal for online application for admission - <https://eduexpo.upt.ro/>.

Admission is based solely on the applicant's academic skills and no discriminatory criteria are applied. Admission to a cycle of university studies is only on the basis of the diploma from the previous cycle of studies, according to the law, taking into account the hierarchical order of graduation averages. Admission to the UPT is carried out by competitive examination using its own methodologies developed on the basis of legal provisions and current orders of the Ministry of Education, the institution assuming the qualitative increase of internal admission policies.

At the bachelor's level, the competition is based on the average obtained at the baccalaureate and/or on tests of knowledge/skills for candidates who have graduated from high school with a baccalaureate diploma or equivalent. The final results of the competition are expressed as a weighted average, called the admission average. Candidates are admitted in descending order of their admission averages. There are also criteria for selecting several candidates from the last place. The results of the admission exam are posted on the same day and at the same time for all UPT faculties, including on the faculties' websites (*Annex_B_1f-01*).

Admission to the master's degree is based on a competitive examination, following a single methodology per university and based on procedures established by the faculties. It ends with a summary mark. One component of the grade is the mark in a test or interview and another is the undergraduate average. The final results of the competition are expressed as a weighted average, called the admission average. The announcement of results and the handling of appeals is similar to the undergraduate cycle (*Annex_B_1f-02*). The students admitted to the Master's programme were mostly graduates of UPT undergraduate programmes.

The UPT organizes the admission competition to doctoral studies according to its own regulations. Candidates can apply for admission to the competition if they are graduates of master's degree programmes organised under the Bologna system or graduates of long-term university studies in the case of pre-Bologna programmes (*Annex_B_1f-03*).

6.3. Transfer of students from and to other universities

The University guarantees, through its own regulations and methodologies, the academic mobility of students and the right to have their transferable credits acquired under the law recognized at other accredited/temporarily authorized higher education institutions in the country or abroad. Mobility may be internal or international, respectively permanent or temporary, for all forms of education. The use of the ECTS transferable credit system facilitates the transfer of students to and from other universities.

Each study programme run in the UPT is presented in the form of a standard package which includes the general and specific objectives of the programme; the curriculum with the weights of the subjects expressed by ECTS credits and with the subjects sequentially ordered during the schooling period, the subject sheets included in the curriculum, the expected outcomes of the teaching process, expressed in the form of cognitive, technical or professional and affective-value competences which are achieved by a subject, the flexible learning pathways, where appropriate; the examination and assessment procedure for each subject, taking into account the planned results; the organisation and content of the final examination, as a summative examination certifying the assimilation of the cognitive and professional skills corresponding to the university qualification. The study programmes include, where appropriate, subjects leading to the acquisition of transversal competences. The study programme includes well-structured internship or placement opportunities where appropriate.

The implementation of study programmes is done at university level through cooperation between faculties and by facilitating student mobility within the university through transfer and accumulation of study credits. The structure of the study programmes is flexible and allows each student

to choose his/her own learning path according to his/her skills and interests ([Annex_B_1k](#)). The share of teaching activity hours corresponding to the optional subjects in the total hours accumulated at the end of the undergraduate study programme by a student complies with the specific standards.

Through the international agreements to which it is a signatory, UPT facilitates conditions for student, teaching and administrative staff mobility at partner universities or for practical activities of students in foreign companies. The University is a partner in complex, inter-university agreements relating to multiple academic, research and exchange activities with partners on 6 continents, in particular agreements in the field of education. The majority of international cooperation agreements and agreements for student, teaching staff and auxiliary staff mobility are Erasmus agreements, which are detailed in the following annexes: ([Annex_A_6c-01](#), [Annex_A_6c-02](#), [Annex_A_6c-03](#), [Annex_A_6c-04](#), [Annex_A_6c-05](#), [Annex_A_6c-06](#), [Annex_A_6c-07](#)).

6.4. Student progress

The Regulations for the organization and conduct of the educational process of the Bachelor's degree course at the Politehnica University of Timisoara defines the framework, principles and rules underlying the organization and conduct of the educational process at the university, having as legal support the specific legislation in force and the UPT Charter and can be consulted in [Annex_A_1f-05](#). The Regulation provides the framework for the interruption and resumption of studies.

The education process at the Politehnica University of Timisoara is based on the system of transferable study credits (ECTS), with a number of credits associated with each subject. The use of the transferable credit system facilitates the fulfilment of the educational and professional needs of any student to complete, interrupt and resume study programmes, as well as the mobility of students within the European Area.

The structure of the study programmes respects and takes into account the diversity of students and their needs, is flexible and allows each student to choose his/her own learning path, according to his/her skills and interests, without affecting the objectives of the study programme and the competences expected at the end of the learning process. Students can also choose their path through optional subjects, present in each specialisation in the proportions characteristic of the respective field.

7. OUTCOMES OF LEARNING

7.1. Completion of studies

The UPT degree programmes are based on the correspondence between learning and research outcomes. This is ensured by means of order forms sent by the faculties to the departments, taking into account the teaching and research skills of the teaching staff in the UPT departments. The programmes are presented through syllabi, subject sheets, timetables including consultations, practice documents and other documents. The subject sheet and the laboratory sheet contain data about the programme and the subject, the total estimated time, prerequisites and conditions (where applicable), specific competences acquired, subject objectives, contents (including bibliography), correlation of subject contents with the expectations of the economic environment, and assessment.

The curricula are fully public on the university and faculty website (http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_programe-de-studii-de-licenta-2020-2021_1579_ro.html). Curricula specify the weights of subjects expressed in ECTS study credits and contain the subjects sequentially ordered during the school year. Timetables are made known to students by posting on the faculties' websites ([Annex_B_1n](#)). The completion and graduation of study programmes is possible within the

defined standard study period, which is certified by the high number of students who complete their studies within the standard period.

The table below shows the percentage of graduates of the undergraduate degree programs classes of 2019 and 2020 who passed the final exam (*Annex_B_1b-01*). It can be seen that this percentage exceeds 80% at the level of all faculties in the university, being over 92% at the UPT level.

Faculty	No. of bachelor students who completed the program 2019	No. of bachelor st. who completed the program and passed the final examination 2019	% degree of graduation	No. of bachelor students who completed the program 2020	No. of bachelor st. who completed the program and passed the final examination 2020	% degree of graduation
0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Architecture and City Planning	81	69	85.19	75	56	74.67
Automation and Computing	488	439	89.96	500	453	90.60
Industrial Chemistry and Environmental Engineering	96	92	95.83	75	75	100.00
Civil Engineering	135	123	91.11	127	121	95.28
Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technologies	277	270	97.47	249	240	96.39
Electrical and Power Engineering	112	111	99.11	119	114	95.80
Engineering in Hunedoara	122	117	95.90	107	105	98.13
Management in Production and Transportation	158	151	95.57	113	107	94.69
Mechanical Engineering	298	271	90.94	252	248	98.41
Communication Sciences	119	101	84.87	118	104	88.14
TOTAL	1886	1744	92.47	1735	1623	93.54

The contribution of the subjects to the achievement of the competences appears in the subject sheet. The mission and objectives of the study programmes can be found on the faculty websites in the presentation pages of the study programmes.

All undergraduate curricula contain independent optional subjects or packages of optional subjects that allow students to choose their own learning path according to their individual skills and interests, so that at least 30% of the total cumulative credits at the end of the degree programme come from freely chosen subjects.

The completion of studies at UPT certifies the acquisition of professional and transversal skills corresponding to the university qualification related to the study program, being regulated by the study completion regulation published on the university website (*Annex_B_1g*). The yearbooks with information on the undergraduate/dissertation works elaborated and defended within the UPT are published on the university website at http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_cataloagele-cu-lucrarile-de-licenta-elaborate-in-anul-2014_574_ro.html

The results obtained by students during their university studies and leading to a university qualification are certified by the Diploma Supplement, which is issued free of charge to all graduates and contains the legal information specified by the regulations in force.

The procedures for awarding diplomas and graduation certificates are in accordance with the conditions established by law, in compliance with Order of the Minister of Education and research no. 4156/ 27 April 2020 - Framework Regulation on the regime of study documents and university documents in the higher education system. The information concerning the study documents, their

issuance and the way they are handed out is public and presented on the university website at: http://upt.ro/Informatii_acte-de-studii_316_ro.html

7.2. Learning capitalization through employability

UPT is concerned with the development of its students' competences and practical skills and with the insertion of graduates into the labour market by offering career opportunities both to students during their studies and to graduates upon completion. Consultation and collaboration with representatives of civil society and the economic environment is essential and the Steering Committee made up of representatives of large companies operating in the area and representatives of civil society provides substantial support in this regard.

UPT organizes biannually the event "Career Days", an action with tradition in the university with real benefits for students who benefit from the following types of activities:

- presentations of companies in the field,
- presentations of successful careers and people,
- visits to companies in the field,
- participation in workshops, seminars and training,
- participation in engineering and other technical competitions,
- visiting laboratories equipped by companies,
- obtaining internship offers,
- obtaining research projects,
- obtaining internships for the preparation of graduation works,
- obtaining summer, part-time or full time jobs.

In order to monitor the insertion of the graduates in the labour market, on the occasion of handing out their degree certificates, our graduates are asked to fill in a "Questionnaire on employment of UPT graduates" (*Annex_C_1e-05*), through which UPT: (a) updates its contacts in the alumni database, (b) gathers information whether graduates have a job, whether they are working in the field, and how they found a job, (c) gathers information about the extent to which the knowledge passed on to the students is used in their current job, and what other knowledge they would have needed, (d) gathers information about the interest of the graduate in continuing their studies. The action is coordinated by the Student Career Counselling and Guidance Centre, which then repeats the process at various intervals by telephone contact.

Information on the employability rate of UPT graduates is recorded in comprehensive databases, produced in cooperation with the Territorial Labour Inspectorate, broken down by fields, faculties and study programmes. A summary picture across the university as a whole, at the level of the 2017 and 2019 graduating class is given in the tables below:

In *Annex_B_1o-01* and *Annex_B_1o-02* there are shown extracts regarding the degree of employability of our graduates, broken down by faculty and study cycles, for the years 2017 – 2019, as well as for the university as a whole.

UNIVERSITATEA POLITEHNICA TIMIȘOARA

Angajabilitatea absolvenților ciclului de licență - 2017

Facultate/ domeniu / specializare	Studenti	Angajați ACTIVI	% Angajabilitate
AUTOMATICĂ ȘI CALCULATOARE	413	346	84%
MECANICĂ	270	224	83%
ELECTRONICĂ, TELECOMUNICAȚII ȘI TEHNOLOGII INFORMAȚIONALE	251	220	88%
CONSTRUCȚII	162	127	78%
MANAGEMENT ÎN PRODUCȚIE ȘI TRANSPORTURI	125	100	80%
ELECTROTEHNICĂ ȘI ELECTROENERGETICĂ	116	95	82%
INGINERIE DIN HUNEDOARA	113	74	65%
ȘTIINȚE ALE COMUNICĂRII	104	71	68%
CHIMIE INDUSTRIALĂ ȘI INGINERIA MEDIULUI	86	62	72%
ARHITECTURĂ ȘI URBANISM	76	47	62%
Total	1716	1366	80%

Angajabilitatea absolvenților ciclului de master - 2017

Facultate/ domeniu / specializare	Studenti	Angajați ACTIVI	% Angajabilitate
MECANICĂ	280	244	87%
CONSTRUCȚII	145	111	77%
AUTOMATICĂ ȘI CALCULATOARE	120	108	90%
INGINERIE DIN HUNEDOARA	124	92	74%
ELECTRONICĂ, TELECOMUNICAȚII ȘI TEHNOLOGII INFORMAȚIONALE	80	77	96%
MANAGEMENT ÎN PRODUCȚIE ȘI TRANSPORTURI	65	56	86%
ELECTROTEHNICĂ ȘI ELECTROENERGETICĂ	45	41	91%
CHIMIE INDUSTRIALĂ ȘI INGINERIA MEDIULUI	32	26	81%
ȘTIINȚE ALE COMUNICĂRII	26	19	73%
ARHITECTURĂ ȘI URBANISM	10	6	60%
Total	927	780	84%

Angajabilitatea absolvenților ciclului de licență - 2019

Facultate	Absolvenți	Angajați	% Angajabilitate
ARHITECTURĂ ȘI URBANISM	75	45	65%
AUTOMATICĂ ȘI CALCULATOARE	494	374	82%
CHIMIE INDUSTRIALĂ ȘI INGINERIA MEDIULUI	74	40	66%
CONSTRUCȚII	128	95	82%
ELECTRONICĂ, TELECOMUNICAȚII ȘI TEHNOLOGII INFORMAȚIONALE	250	189	81%
ELECTROTEHNICĂ ȘI ELECTROENERGETICĂ	120	76	72%
INGINERIE DIN HUNEDOARA	106	73	74%
MANAGEMENT ÎN PRODUCȚIE ȘI TRANSPORTURI	105	68	75%
MECANICĂ	254	162	72%
ȘTIINȚE ALE COMUNICĂRII	113	59	64%
Total	1719	1181	76%

Angajabilitatea absolvenților ciclului de master - 2019

Facultate / domeniu	Absolvenți	Angajați	% Angajabilitate
ARHITECTURĂ ȘI URBANISM	31	20	84%
AUTOMATICĂ ȘI CALCULATOARE	114	103	97%
CHIMIE INDUSTRIALĂ ȘI INGINERIA MEDIULUI	45	36	89%
CONSTRUCȚII	128	110	89%
ELECTRONICĂ, TELECOMUNICAȚII ȘI TEHNOLOGII INFORMAȚIONALE	104	95	92%
ELECTROTEHNICĂ ȘI ELECTROENERGETICĂ	53	45	96%
INGINERIE DIN HUNEDOARA	89	68	81%
MANAGEMENT ÎN PRODUCȚIE ȘI TRANSPORTURI	60	47	83%
MECANICĂ	273	226	88%
ȘTIINȚE ALE COMUNICĂRII	33	23	85%
Total	930	773	89%

7.3. Qualification use through continuing academic training

The UPT offers studies at all three university cycles, i.e. bachelor, master and doctorate. The faculties encourage graduates of undergraduate studies to continue their professional development through master's studies and then on to doctoral studies. The conditions for admission to master's degree studies in UPT are detailed in the master's admission methodology ([Annex_B_1f-02](#)), and the UPT's offer of study programmes is presented for each academic year, ([Annex_B_1a-01](#)).

The use of the qualification by continuing university studies for the latest two classes are highlighted in the table below ([Annex_B_1b-01](#)):

Faculty	No. of bachelor graduates 2019	% bachelor graduates admitted to master in UPT 2019	No. of bachelor graduates 2020	% bachelor graduates admitted to master in UPT 2020
0	1	2	3	4
Architecture and City Planning	81	30.86	75	28
Automation and Computing	488	45.5	500	50.5
Industrial Chemistry and Environmental Engineering	96	67	75	76
Civil Engineering	135	74.81	127	77.16
Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technologies	277	44.4	249	57.83
Electrical and Power Engineering	112	68.75	119	73.94
Engineering in Hunedoara	122	79.5	107	71
Management in Production and Transportation	158	30.37	113	43.36
Mechanical Engineering	298	82.88	252	66.66
Communication Sciences	119	29.41	118	33.89
TOTAL UPT	1886	55.11	1735	57.26

From the above table it can be seen that a large proportion of the graduates of the last two graduating classes of the UPT undergraduate programmes, more than 55%, are admitted to the Master's studies offered by the university, the Master's cycle being a natural continuation of the personal development path of each graduate.

A significant percentage of Master's graduates go on to study at the third cycle of doctoral studies. The evolution of the number of newly enrolled doctoral students in each academic year during the reporting period is shown in the table below (*Annex_B_2a*):

No.	Doctoral domain (cf. HG 403/2021)	Number of doctoral students enrolled on October 1st of the academic year					
		2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021
1	Architecture	2	2	1	2	1	2
2	Computers and information technology	9	7	12	13	9	8
3	Chemistry	1	0	0	3	0	1
4	Materials engineering	5	6	6	11	7	9
5	Systems engineering	6	4	6	7	6	5
6	Chemical engineering	4	9	3	7	7	10
7	Civil engineering and installations	23	16	19	24	24	17
8	Electric engineering	4	5	4	1	4	4
9	Electronic engineering, telecommunications and information technologies	9	6	8	4	10	9
10	Power engineering	8	6	4	4	7	3
11	Industrial engineering	8	8	6	8	8	6
12	Mechanical engineering	12	14	21	26	20	15
13	Engineering and management	12	13	7	8	10	13
TOTAL UPT		103	96	97	118	113	102

7.4. Level of student satisfaction with the professional and personal development provided by the university

At UPT, ensuring a good level of student satisfaction in relation to their professional and personal development is a fundamental objective. This level is seen both in relation to the quality of the training provided by the study programmes, a quality that must meet the current demands of the labour market at European Union level, and in relation to the support services offered by the university.

Several means are used to monitor and evaluate student satisfaction: audits, meetings of the university and faculty management with students, questionnaires to evaluate study programmes, the quality of teaching staff, interaction with administrative staff, etc.

UPT participated in the U-Multirank ranking every year of the period 2016-2020 as an institution and in 2016 and 2018 also by fields of study (publication of results in 2017 and 2019). Within the field evaluations, UPT students participated in surveys on the quality of training, provision of material base and student services, etc. The analysis of student satisfaction conducted by U-Multirank addressed issues such as:

- General experience related to the teaching-learning process;
- Organisation of the programme, contact with academics;
- Opportunities for internships abroad;

- Facilities related to library, IT, study rooms;
- Research orientation of teaching-learning;
- Inclusion in the programme of internships and work placements in companies, etc.

The results of the MultiRank 2019-2020 surveys on engineering fields, detailed in [Annex_B_1r-01](#) (over 1500 participants in each of the 2 years), showed that the level of satisfaction of UPT students is in most of the chapters analysed at the average value and above it in relation to the results of the ranking participating institutions.

In parallel, in 2019 the audit entitled: "Evaluation of student satisfaction with social-administrative services provided by UPT" was completed. The objective was to assess the extent to which UPT's social-administrative services meet student expectations, ARACIS standards and European-level requirements:

- At faculty level, the situation of the teaching and research spaces, their endowment with adequate equipment, the qualification of the administrative staff and the working hours with students, the level of students' satisfaction with the educational process and the available infrastructure as well as the support offered by UPT for career guidance were analysed.
- At the UPT level, the standards were assessed in terms of availability of learning resources (UPT Library) and provision of social services (dormitories – student restaurants).

Analyses at faculty and university level led to the overall conclusion that the level of implementation of the ARACIS standards meets the qualification "fully and functionally implemented". In most of the entities analysed (faculties, central services of the UPT) the need for improvement was identified, and recommendations and proposals for corrective actions were forwarded to the UPT management structures. The result of the audit on student satisfaction with the social-administrative services provided by the UPT is presented in [Annex_B_1r-02](#).

7.5. Learner-centredness through the design of teaching-learning methods

Through its Charter, UPT has embraced the concept of a student-centred university and the concept of student-centred learning. The principles underlying the regulations that define the status and activity of students within the university community - non-discrimination, the right to student-specific assistance and services, representation and participation in decision-making, free access to information, meritocracy and competition, the right to extracurricular activities, freedom with regard to building one's own career, etc., - are part of the student-centredness of learning methods. An overview of what student-centred learning means in UPT is summarised in the report "Student-centred learning - Report" posted publicly on the UPT website ([Annex_B_11-01](#)). The valorisation of the university qualification obtained, one of the main milestones marking the reform of European higher education, known as the Bologna Process, is presented and summarises the consequences of such an approach, in terms of benchmarks, directing the work of teachers, students and the university as a whole to focus on the needs of students and to ensure quality education centred on the acquisition of relevant competences for post-graduate work.

Student-centered instruction is achieved by involving students in the organization of the learning process, the correct combination of theory and practice, the stimulation of active and creative study, the provision of support throughout the teaching process, fairness and exigency in the evaluation of acquired knowledge, etc. UPT allows student mobility, the transfer of students from and to other universities being provided by the UPT Code of Students' Rights and Obligations, posted on the UPT website ([Annex_B_1e-08](#)). The University has procedures and methodologies for the recognition of studies and the grade equivalence grid compliant with national legislation (OMECTS 3223/2012), detailed in ([Annex_C_1n-04](#)).

Students are informed, both through direct contact with deans, tutors, year coordinators or teaching staff and through public documents on the UPT website and those of the faculties about the content of the study programmes, the subject sheets and their content: the competences to which the subject contributes, teaching methods, laboratory works, projects and internships and examination methods. Interaction with students is carried out using in multiple ways the facilities of information technologies, from direct communication with teachers to the use of the Virtual Campus and the pace of teaching activities is dictated by the pace and learning style of students. Teachers have consultation hours outside teaching hours and the consultation timetable is made public on the department or faculty website. Practice programmes are carried out in an integrated manner, usually merged after the second or third year of the degree, the majority of practice modules being in the form of internships. In some faculties, a significant number of students are integrated into research activities, including undergraduate students. Also, several diploma theses develop themes related to specific activities of the companies in which their student authors have interned.

An important contribution to the guidance and counselling of students throughout the years of study is made by the CCOC: supporting and advising students in their integration into the university environment, choosing the most appropriate professional, cultural, sports and social options, affirming their individual skills and value are other expressions of the student-centredness of the activities related to university training and its valorisation in the labour market. Special attention is paid to students with special needs through specialized psychological and educational counselling.

In UPT the students' internship / practice activity is coordinated by the Internship Coordination Office (ROFOCP), being regulated by the organization and implementation regulation (*Annex_B_1q-01*), in accordance with the general framework for the organization of internships for undergraduate and graduate programs. The list of companies with which UPT has concluded agreements, protocols and internship agreements is permanently updated and published on the website: http://www.upt.ro/img/files/practica/2020/Companii_practica_2020_2021.pdf. According to the internship regulations, internships can be equivalent to periods of student employment.

The annexes *Annex_B_1q-02* and *Annex_B_1q-03* show the agreement model and the protocol model regarding the internship / practice module. More than 80% of UPT students do internships in industry, in companies with which the university has signed cooperation agreements.

Students also have the opportunity to carry out practical work in the university's laboratories, being integrated in various ways into research activities:

- employment in research projects;
- carrying out studies and publishing scientific papers jointly with scientific coordinators;
- preparing final papers based on research studies.

Within the UPT these actions are considered beneficial and stimulate further studies at master and doctoral level, starting from a scientific basis. In 2020, 32 students were employed on contract research projects.

The University has partnership contracts with similar institutions in the country or abroad for the development of joint or double degree programmes. In the period 2015-2021 UPT, was partner with prestigious universities in 19 joint degree agreements. The situation is detailed in *Annex_B_1I-02*.

In 2012-2018, UPT was a partner in an international Erasmus Mundus Master consortium with 4 other European universities, offering to graduates multiple degrees - <https://www.ct.upt.ro/suscoc/index.htm>.

7.6. Career guidance for students

In the university there are and are applied the rules on tutoring and advising students in UPT outside teaching activities: http://upt.ro/img/files/hs/2013/HS-UPT_Nr_26_25-04-2013.pdf

The teaching staff have a consultation timetable available to students, which is published on the website of the teachers' department. With regard to current activities, students are guided by year coordinators, and by tutors.

First year students are guided in series by tutors, who interact with both students and with year coordinators. The list of deans and vice-deans by faculty in the 2020-2024 term and their email addresses are shown in (*Annex_B_1p* and *Annex_B_1p-01*).

For the career guidance of students at university level, a structure called the Student Career Counselling and Guidance Centre (CCOC) has been set up, represented at faculty level by counselling offices, through which students, as well as graduates and students, can benefit from the following services:

- Introduction sessions and community building sessions
- Communication improvement sessions
- Self-knowledge sessions
- Development of personal action plan on education and future career
- Sessions focusing on learning management
- Teamwork
- How do I search for career opportunities?
- How to be competitive?
- Preparing for the job interview
- Job interview simulation
- Individual psychological counselling
- Support in managing stress and anxiety
- Other personal development sessions

To make it easier to get through the pandemic period, CCOC has offered Counselling Services - Personal Development Modules. Details of CCOC's actions can be found in *Annex_B_1h*.

Starting with the academic year 2019-2020, the "Student Learning Centre" for students with learning difficulties is operating at UPT. (http://www.upt.ro/Informatii-utile_centru-de-invatare-pentru-studenti_311_ro.html)

8. SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITY

8.1. Research planning

Politehnica University of Timisoara considers scientific research as a priority mission, which confers its personality and academic distinction, therefore achieving and maintaining excellence in scientific research is a permanent goal. The organisation of research activity is based on the Regulation on the organisation, functioning and funding of research at Politehnica University of Timisoara. *Annex_A_1f-13*.

The medium-term research strategy 2021-2024, approved by the UPT Senate, is detailed in the UPT strategic plan (*Annex_A_1c-01*) and includes both the research plans of the research centres, faculties and departments, and the ways of exploiting scientific research. The main objective in the field

of scientific research, innovation and technology transfer is to increase the research funds attracted to the university, diversify the ways of funding research activities, offer complex services to private partners. The following lines of action will be considered to achieve these objectives:

Developing partnerships with industry in order to identify common research themes, identifying funding instruments and applying for funding;

- Developing a new UPT research strategy;
- Stimulating researchers to intensify scientific networking called "Networking for a Better Future" with prestigious research communities in the country and abroad, resulting at least in joint project proposals, jointly developed research papers, etc.;
- Improving internal evaluation of research, implementing mechanisms to stimulate researchers with international visibility;
- Identifying areas of research excellence (mainly but not exclusively interdisciplinary) in UPT and stimulating the respective research teams to take on the role of regional leaders; continuing to award prizes to the best young researchers (Masters, PhD students, teachers) in a gala of excellence in research;
- Linking the research themes to the priority areas of the future Horizon Europe programme;
- Continuing financial support for PhD students and assistants to participate in international WoS indexed conferences and rewarding articles/paying the publication fee for articles published in WoS indexed journals;
- Continuation of the funding of ARUT grant competitions, one aimed at young researchers, following the model of the previous ones, and, as a novelty, organisation of a new competition for research projects on multidisciplinary themes, with the participation of mixed teams of researchers from ARUT member universities and other universities in Timisoara (ATU-Timisoara University Alliance);
- Analysis of doctoral theses and identification of those with potential to be transformed into spin-offs, offering financial mechanisms for their development with regular monitoring, with the final objective of selling them for the benefit of the university, for the development of other similar entities;
- Establishing reference rates for labour and costs in research projects with third parties;
- Developing an internal mechanism for settling expenses between research centres for research activities;
- Making an inventory of equipment and software applications or licences dedicated to research, quantifying their maintenance or licence extension costs, certification, where appropriate and where a market need is identified, of employees or equipment;
- Establishing market needs for certain equipment or measurement/certification laboratories for which costs and time can be reduced by investing in an equipment/laboratory in the Politehnica and purchasing them by the university, with a clear estimate of the payback and possible private involvement;
- Greater involvement of the Research Council in generating research development strategies and monitoring their results in our university;
- Internationalization of research by participating in international projects, inviting prestigious researchers from abroad, conferring the titles of Honorary Professor and Doctor Honoris Causa to international personalities, attracting valuable researchers from abroad or Romanian researchers from the diaspora to implement research projects in UPT and organizing prestigious scientific events in collaboration with foreign universities;
- Attracting postdoctoral researchers to advanced research, postgraduate training and continuous development projects;

- Stimulating academics and researchers to attract research funding;
- Investing in multidisciplinary laboratories, involving teachers and students from several departments/faculties, starting from the main topics of interest to society and aiming at aggregating strong research teams on these topics in the future. Investment will be made in particular in laboratories that will be open to collaborations with other groups from different departments of the university;
- Creation of an innovation and technology transfer centre within the Politehnica;
- Participating in educational rankings, analysing the results obtained and identifying weaknesses in order to obtain higher rankings;
- Promoting digitisation and openness of the scientific research process by using the concepts of Open Publishing and Open Science;
- Increasing the visibility of research, technology transfer and innovation activities by publishing information about outstanding achievements, inventions, patents, spin-offs on specialised websites, at invention fairs, thematic seminars, participation in researchers' night.

The research objectives of the research centres, doctoral schools, faculties and departments are discussed and approved by the university's collectives or councils and are set out in annual plans ([Annex_A_1c-02](#)).

The annual research plans include the research themes by area, the research topics or projects, the resources allocated corresponding to the objectives, the deadlines and the result indicators (ways of exploiting the research results).

The presentation of UPT research centres and institutes, their activities and research topics are publicly available at: https://www.upt.ro/Upt-Timisoara_centre-si-institute-de-cercetare-_153_ro.html. The research topics of the research centres and institutes of the UPT fall within the scientific areas of the bachelor's, masters and/or doctoral fields and meet the needs and requirements of the economic and social environment.

The Politehnica University of Timisoara has 25 research centres and a Research Institute. Each research centre is affiliated to a UPT teaching department. The Research Institute for Renewable Energies (ICER) is the materialization of an ambitious project of the Politehnica University of Timișoara, financed by the Sectorial Operational Programme "Increasing Economic Competitiveness" (POS CCE), Priority Axis 2 / Field 2.2. with the project implementation period: 01.03.2009-31.01.2014 and a total investment value of 66.892.357 lei. Further information on research directions, implemented projects and the ICER research team can be found on the website <https://www.icer.ro/>.

The PhD program at the Politehnica University of Timisoara is organized and carried out in accordance with Law 1/2011 on National Education and the Institutional Regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at UPT ([Annex_A_1f-21](#)).

The table below lists the doctoral fields and the number of doctoral supervisors within IOSUD – UPT on 20.04.2021. ([Annex_B_2c-01](#))

No.	Doctoral fields (according to HG 403/2021)	No. of doctoral supervisors (on 20.04.2021)
0	1	2
1	Architecture	4
2	Computers and information technology	19
3	Chemistry	4
4	Materials engineering	9
5	Systems engineering	8
6	Chemical engineering	14

No.	Doctoral fields (according to HG 403/2021)	No. of doctoral supervisors (on 20.04.2021)
0	1	2
7	Civil engineering and installations	26
8	Electric engineering	8
9	Electronic engineering, telecommunications and information technologies	15
10	Power engineering	6
11	Industrial engineering	5
12	Mechanical engineering	20
13	Engineering and management	7

The evolution of the number of doctoral students in UPT by doctoral fields and by academic year during the reporting period is detailed in the table below (*Annex_B_2a*):

No.	Doctoral fields (acc. HG 403/2021)	No. of doctoral students registered at the beginning (October 1st) of each academic year					
		2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021
1	Architecture	28	26	13	12	10	8
2	Computers and information technology	53	56	48	51	50	48
3	Chemistry	7	8	4	5	4	4
4	Materials engineering	24	34	30	37	34	40
5	Systems engineering	32	21	22	26	29	29
6	Chemical engineering	22	32	24	27	32	38
7	Civil engineering and installations	95	105	94	102	106	105
8	Electric engineering	23	13	16	16	18	20
9	Electronic engineering, telecommunications and information technologies	42	31	33	31	34	38
10	Power engineering	21	29	30	30	29	28
11	Industrial engineering	15	20	25	32	34	37
12	Mechanical engineering	82	67	71	89	90	100
13	Engineering and management	36	54	50	50	43	45
TOTAL		480	496	460	508	513	540

The number of PhD theses defended in the university during the reporting period 2016-2020 is shown in the table below (*Annex_B_2b*):

No.	Doctoral fields (names acc. to OMEN 4843/2006 and updated by HG 403/2021)	Number of doctoral theses defended in:				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1	Architecture	3	6	-	2	3
2	Computers and information technology	5	4	3	2	3
3	Chemistry	-	1	-	1	-
4	Materials engineering	-	4	5	6	-
5	Systems engineering	2	1	1	1	3
6	Chemical engineering	1	2	-	2	2
7	Civil engineering and installations	2 / 2	- / 5	- / 6	1 / 1	1 / 3

No.	Doctoral fields (names acc. to OMEN 4843/2006 and updated by HG 403/2021)	Number of doctoral theses defended in:				
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
8	Electric engineering	2	1	-	-	1
9	Electronic engineering, telecommunications and information technologies	2 / -	-	-	- / 4	1 / -
10	Power engineering	-	-	1	1	-
11	Industrial engineering	4	2	1	1	1
12	Mechanical engineering	4	6	5	1	1
13	Engineering and management	4	2	3	3	3
TOTAL		31	34	25	26	22

The summary table of doctoral fields and the number of doctoral supervisors in the UPT Doctoral School on 24.04.2021 is shown below (*Annex_B_2c-01*):

No.	Doctoral fields (acc.to HG 403/2021)	No.of doctoral supervisors (on 20.04.2021)
0	1	2
1	Architecture	4
2	Computers and information technology	19
3	Chemistry	4
4	Materials engineering	9
5	Systems engineering	8
6	Chemical engineering	14
7	Civil engineering and installations	26
8	Electric engineering	8
9	Electronic engineering, telecommunications and information technologies	15
10	Power engineering	6
11	Industrial engineering	5
12	Mechanical engineering	20
13	Engineering and management	7

8.2. Research conduct and results

Scientific research in the UPT is conducted in accordance with the rules of professional ethics and research ethics, respecting the provisions of the Ethics Regulations. (*Annex_A_1f-01, Annex_A_1f-02*). Any deviation from the rules of professional ethics and research ethics, including plagiarism, is pursued with intransigence.

Since the academic year 2017/2018, UPT has subscribed to perform similarity checks using specialized software from TURNITIN LLC through the iThenticate service. Diploma, dissertation, PhD and scientific papers from all UPT faculties are verified. Similarity checks are mandatory for PhD theses.

From 2019/2020, in addition to iThenticate, the Turnitin service dedicated exclusively to degree completion works (bachelor, dissertation), is also being used.

The University has a separate record of research funding, research projects and research results. It has active structures and mechanisms for quality assessment in scientific research, it prepares annual reports evaluating research activity, as well as departmental scientific committees for the analysis of research results, committees of reviewers, etc. On the UPT website dedicated to research activity are posted Annual Research Reports (complete for 2019 at

<http://www.research.upt.ro/assets/files/Anuar2019.pdf>, as well as archive of documents related to previous years). Also on the research website, the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 (<http://www.research.upt.ro/page36.html#next>), Horizon Europe 2021-2027 is illustrated.

A strong research-centred academic climate and culture is in place at UPT, as evidenced by the number of active research laboratories (*Annex B_3c; Annex B_3h*), by the number of research projects entered in competitions and those accepted for funding (nationally and internationally), the number of projects funded by economic agents, scientific events organised by the institution (national and international congresses/conferences, student symposia) (*Annex B_3k*), the number of scientific publications produced at the institution and accepted in international databases and/or by prestigious national and international publishers (*Annex B_3i*) knowledge transfer and technology transfer, etc. During the reporting period, UPT has been coordinator or partner in a multitude of research projects of various types, financed by public funds or international projects, the list being detailed in the annexes listed below: (*Annex B_3e-01, Annex B_3e-02, Annex B_3f-02*).

Research is exploited through: publications for teaching purposes, scientific publications, knowledge transfer and technology transfer, courses and specialist consultancy, participation in national and international scientific fairs and exhibitions, patents, etc. (*Anexa B_3m, Annex B_3j*).

8.3. Exploitation of research results

The participation of the UPT research staff in various national and international research projects demonstrates that the research actions carried out within UPT are relevant at national and international level. Research results are evaluated by: the number of scientific articles published in journals/magazines indexed in recognised international databases; book chapters and books published by recognised publishing houses; patents; awards obtained at various national and international events. The information is grouped in the following annexes: *Annex B_3i, Annex B_3j, Anexa B_3m*.

The higher education institution regularly organises scientific events (scientific sessions, symposia, conferences, round tables, exhibitions, etc.) that enhance the prestige of UPT within the academic research community.

A detailed situation on the exploitation of research results carried out in UPT during the reporting period is presented in the annexes: *Annex B_3i, Annex B_3j, Annex B_3k, Anexa B_3m*.

The tables below show a centralization of the data presented in the listed annexes:

International scientific events organized by UPT					
Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
TOTAL	11	9	15	11	11

Patents and utility models obtained in 2016 – 2020

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	Year (n-4)	Year (n-3)	Year (n-2)	Year (n-1)	Year n
National patents/utility models	4	2	5	5	10
National patents obtained	2	2	2	5	10
National utility models obtained	2	0	3	0	0
International patents	0	0	0	0	2

List of ISI articles published in the reporting period 2016-2020

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	Year (n-4)	Year (n-3)	Year (n-2)	Year (n-1)	Year n
ISI articles	216	213	189	202	238

List of UPT proceedings published in the reporting period 2016-2020

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	Year (n-4)	Year (n-3)	Year (n-2)	Year (n-1)	Year n
Proceedings Papers	437	313	327	339	115

Participation at fairs and exhibitions_2016_2020 – awards won

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Awards won	14	20	9	26	39

9. THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITY OF THE ORGANISATION

9.1. Revenue and expenditure budget

Achieving the university's objectives contained in the strategic plan and operational plans involves ensuring a sustainable budget based on an objective assessment in relation to the sources of funding identified within the university as well as taking into account sources attracted from outside the university, nationally and internationally.

The UPT has an income and expenditure budget (*Annex_B_4b*), tax code (4269282) and accounts in lei and in foreign currency with the Treasury and commercial banks. The financial planning of activities is done by establishing the budget allocation, taking into account the institutional contract, the complementary contract and the university's own income.

Annex_B_4a shows the achieved revenue and the expenditure incurred by UPT from 2015 to 2020. The achieved revenue of the university is shown in the table below, by funding source:

No.	Indicator	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	Surplus balance from previous years	12,604,240	10,126,725	15,166,066	23,791,361	40,428,318	61,214,625
	INCOME, from which	179,207,829	160,010,369	179,432,970	210,387,739	256,515,875	284,325,514
1.	Own income, from which:	154,739,675	133,403,561	142,961,878	170,534,779	213,715,184	239,611,100
1.1	Amounts received from MEN (Ministry of National Education) – Institutional funding	81,518,254	88,951,710	99,806,436	128,757,983	167,954,075	185,365,041
1.2	Income from taxes and educational activities	8,216,013	8,384,140	8,940,337	9,444,168	9,554,406	10,077,327
1.3	Income from services rendered	10,860,053	3,917,680	6,044,630	6,957,051	7,611,472	5,966,025
1.4	Income from dormitories and student restaurants	9,850,915	10,403,445	10,622,339	10,273,015	10,749,824	6,125,625
1.5	Income from the exploitation of own products	307,865	256,904	235,964	1,775	0	0
1.6	Income from research activities	10,616,802	12,536,250	11,477,715	7,342,148	9,323,537	9,992,916
1.7	Other income from services rendered	0	0	0	0	341,659	0
1.8	Donations and sponsorships	375,770	334,221	147,137	156,275	131,853	119,826
1.9	Budget subventions for institutions funded from own income	0	0	284,942	746,614	507,165	0
1.10	Projects funded from non-refundable European funding	32,994,003	8,619,211	5,402,378	6,855,750	7,541,193	21,964,340
2.	Budget allocations, for:	24,468,154	26,492,669	36,188,259	39,453,585	41,989,654	42,228,783
2.2	Subventions for dormitories and student restaurants	7,412,987	7,829,319	8,754,174	9,564,794	10,232,664	10,789,845
2.3	Equipment and other investments	1,725,000	2,600,000	2,800,000	2,747,000	4,900,000	2,500,000
2.4	Scholarships	8,020,893	9,704,950	22,668,085	25,540,791	25,458,990	26,259,938
2.5	Urban transport for students	934,274	958,400	962,000	1,001,000	898,000	879,000
2.6	Achievement of investment objectives	6,375,000	5,400,000	1,004,000	600,000	500,000	1,800,000
3.	Projects funded by the SEE Mechanism and Norwegian – Source D	0	114,139	282,833	399,375	811,037	2,485,631

The expenditure incurred by the University in the reporting period is shown in the table below:

No.	Indicator	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	EXPENDITURE, from which,	180,937,017	154,782,227	170,777,751	193,348,766	236,120,434	231,961,185
1.	Expenditure for basic activity	100,507,170	101,615,337	110,636,735	130,763,786	163,871,364	161,552,581
1.1	Expenditure from institutional funding	81,518,254	88,951,710	98,449,692	118,156,325	149,250,508	153,278,211
1.2	Expenditure from own income	18,988,916	12,663,627	12,187,043	12,607,461	14,620,856	8,274,370
2.	Expenditure from research activity	11,284,368	12,868,030	12,232,868	8,221,127	9,531,343	9,772,506
3.	Expenditure from other activities	0	0	0	0	341,659	0
4.	Expenditure from the ROSE Project	0	0	151,616	355,774	731,119	609,041
5.	Expenditure on projects funded from FEN	34,899,423	5,802,958	3,750,601	3,935,002	7,782,313	12,950,246
6.	Expenditure from budget allocations, from which:	24,000,638	24,456,397	34,747,856	38,705,964	41,595,517	38,652,689
6.2	Expenditure from subventions on dormitories and student restaurants	7,444,863	7,829,319	8,641,038	9,564,794	10,232,664	10,511,748
6.3	Expenditure on equipment and other investments	1,529,829	2,181,286	2,638,025	2,710,163	4,898,332	2,363,502
6.4	Expenditure on scholarships	7,786,809	9,679,034	22,167,562	25,244,306	25,450,301	25,033,127
6.5	Expenditure on urban student transportation	864,137	936,391	835,677	995,706	892,066	386,563
6.6	Expenditure on investment objectives	6,375,000	3,830,367	465,554	190,995	122,154	357,749
7.	Expenditure on student dormitories and restaurants from own income	10,120,047	9,920,221	8,995,053	11,335,888	11,587,432	6,500,130
8.	Projects funded by the SEE Mechanism and Norwegian – Source D	125,371	119,284	263,022	31,225	679,687	1,923,992

Expenditure on salaries represents on average 54% of total income, which ensures the financial sustainability of the university and is shown in the table below:

No.	Indicator	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE, from which:	180,937,017	154,782,227	170,777,751	193,348,766	236,120,434	231,961,185
	Expenditure on staff salaries	83,067,078	99,323,753	101,356,054	116,270,468	139,347,484	144,094,294
2.	TOTAL INCOME, from which:	179,207,829	160,010,369	179,232,970	210,387,739	256,515,875	284,325,514
	% Expenditure on staff salaries	46.35	62.07	56.55	55.26	54.32	50.68

The situation of research income and expenditure is shown below:

No.	Indicator	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1.	TOTAL INCOME, from which:	179,207,829	160,010,369	179,432,970	210,387,739	256,515,875	284,325,514
	Income from research	10,616,802	12,536,250	11,477,715	7,342,148	9,323,537	9,992,916
	% Income from research	5.92	7.83	6.40	3.49	3.63	3.51
2.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE, from which:	180,937,017	154,782,227	170,777,751	193,348,766	236,120,434	231,961,185
	Expenditure on research	11,284,368	12,868,030	12,232,868	8,221,127	9,531,343	9,772,506
	% Expenditure on research	6.24	8.31	7.16	4.25	4.04	4.21
3.	Difference income / expenditure related to research	-1,729,188	5,228,142	8,655,219	17,038,973	20,395,441	52,364,329

Politehnica University of Timisoara consistently continues to apply the principle of decentralized financial management; *Annex_B_4c* shows the own revenue and expenditure broken down by faculties, departments and rectorate - central administration.

A provisional income and expenditure budget is drawn up annually and then, following the signing of the institutional and complementary contract with the Ministry of Education, the institution's income and expenditure budget for that year is drawn up and approved by the university senate. At the end of the year, the final income and expenditure budget is drawn up after renegotiation of the institutional and complementary contract with the Ministry of Education.

9.2. Accounting

The UPT has its own accounts, draws up its own balance sheet (*Annex_B_4e*), trial balance (*Annex_B_4f*), budget execution account and its own management report showing that the expenses incurred are in accordance with the legislation in force, with the revenue received and their destination, as well as with the non-profit nature of the institution. The accounting department systematically and chronologically records in the accounts all documents relating to asset transactions, revenue and budget expenditure. The accounting activity is computerised (the platforms and software used within the Financial Accounting Department are listed in *Annex_A_2b*) and permanently transparent, and the

information on the financial situation of the UPT is public and can be viewed on the university website at http://upt.ro/Informatii_informatii-de-interes-public_202_ro.html.

Tuition fees are approved annually by the Council of Administration of the Politehnica University of Timisoara by bachelor, master and doctorate fields and are calculated in accordance with the average tuition costs per academic year in the state-funded public education system. They represent income in the budget of the institution and are used according to legal provisions. The UPT's income from tuition fees amounts to: 8,216,013 lei - year 2015, 8,384,140 lei - year 2016, 8,940,337 lei - year 2017, 9,444,168 lei - year 2018, 9,554,406 lei - year 2019 and 10,077, 327 lei - year 2020, and are detailed in *Annex_B_4d*. The amount of fees is posted on the university website at http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_taxe_141_ro.html.

The activities carried out at UPT concerning the assurance, management and efficient use of financial resources are the responsibility of the Financial Accounting Directorate. The directorate is headed by a director, a graduate economist. The staff employed in the financial-accounting departments, detailed in *Annex_B_4i*, is appropriate to the posts occupied, with specialised economic education and training in financial-accounting activities.

9.3. Audit and public accountability

Internal audit is an independent and objective activity that provides an organisation with assurance on the compliance of its operations, makes recommendations to improve its operations and participates in making its activities more efficient.

Internal audit helps the University to achieve its objectives by evaluating, through a systematic and methodical approach, its risk management, control and governance processes and making recommendations to enhance their effectiveness.

The Directorate of Internal Public Audit operates in UPT as a separate structure reporting directly to the Rector of UPT.

The activity of the Internal Public Audit Directorate is carried out in accordance with the legal provisions in force, as stated in the Internal Public Audit Charter (*Annex_B_4g*), which presents the mission, competence and responsibilities of the internal audit in UPT.

The annual report of the Directorate of Internal Public Audit is endorsed by the competent bodies (MEN, Court of Auditors), a summary of the document being presented publicly in the annual report of the rector on the state of the university (*Annex_B_4h*) which can be consulted on the faculty website at the following address https://www.upt.ro/Informatii_rapoarte_335_ro.html.

The Internal Public Audit Directorate of the Politehnica University of Timisoara audits at least once every 3 years, but not limited to this time, the following:

- financial activities or activities with financial implications carried out by the public entity from the time of commitment until the use of the funds by the final beneficiaries, including funds from external financing;
- payments made under budgetary and legal commitments, including from Community funds;
- the management of assets, as well as the sale, pledge, concession or lease of goods in the private domain of the State or of administrative-territorial units;
- the concession or lease of goods in the public domain of the State or of administrative-territorial units;
- the constitution of public revenue, i.e. the authorisation and establishment of debt securities and the facilities granted for their collection, the allocation of budget appropriations, the accounting system and its reliability;

- decision-making systems, management and control systems and the risks associated with such systems, information systems.

Taking into account the indispensable role of financial resources in the achievement of the proposed objectives, the university management is permanently concerned with the application of all legal normative acts regulating the university's finances as well as with the elaboration of internal procedures that ensure on the one hand the quick and easy collection of own revenues and on the other hand the use of financial resources with maximum efficiency. The extent to which this has been achieved is illustrated -probably most eloquently- by the fact that in none of the annual audit missions undertaken in the university did the Court of Auditors identify more than minor non-conformities that have been corrected.

Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

10. STRATEGIES, PROCEEDINGS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE STRUCTURES IN UPT

10.1. Organization of the internal system of quality assurance

The quality Management System developed in the UPT promotes an internal quality culture that encompasses all activities and processes at the university (education, research, services for society). The UPT makes its quality policy known through the UPT website, <http://www.upt.ro> and http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_asigurarea-calitatii-in-upt_12_ro.html respectively.

The Politehnica University of Timisoara actively promotes, at all levels, a culture of quality, as well as mutual respect in the student-teacher relationship. At university level, the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee (CEAC-UPT) is established, as well as quality committees at the level of each faculty, department or entity of the UPT. CEAC operates under the direct coordination of the Rector according to the operating regulations of CEAC approved by the Senate ([Annex_C_1b](#)). CEAC-UPT, in addition to the Rector of the university as president, also includes members of the teaching staff, and one representative of employers, of the trade union and of students. The list of the committees members is presented in the annexes ([Annex_C_1c-01](#), [Annex_C_1c-02](#), [Annex_C_1c-03](#)).

CEAC-UPT, through its composition and functions, ensures the implementation of the strategies of the Politehnica University of Timisoara in the field of the quality of education. The whole process in the field of quality is done with the extended participation by students.

Quality evaluation and assurance by CEAC-UPT is conducted institutionally through the Directorate-General for Quality Assurance (DGAC), the administrative structure directly subordinated to the Vicerector responsible for the education process, student issues and quality assurance (PIPSAC). DGAC operates on the basis of its own regulations ([Annex_C_1a](#)), develops proceedings, conducts monitoring and evaluation actions, is responsible for the interface of the UPT with the outside, by managing different pages of the UPT website.

The CEAC and the DGAC cooperate in audit and internal evaluation activities of the self-assessment reports of the various study programs in a coordinated manner, through complementary and applied actions to implement and develop a quality culture.

Both the work of the CEAC and of the DGAC ensure the quality policy of the UPT, made public by the Rector's Statement on the quality assurance policy at Politehnica University of Timisoara ([Annex_C_1j](#)) as well as by associate documents regarding the education quality posted on the university websites ([Annex_C_1k-01](#), [Annex_C_1k-02](#), [Annex_C_1k-03](#), [Annex_C_1k-04](#)).

The implementation of policies shall be done through the means set out in the University Charter. In addition to the methodologies and regulations adopted by the Senate and the Board of Directors and the Rector's Decisions, proceedings shall be used as implementing instruments. The proceedings, working instructions and regulations in the UPT cover all areas of activity.

In this context, UPT applies the operational proceedings code UPT-PO-M-0-01 "Methodology for the development of proceedings in UPT" ([Annex_C_1k-05](#)). Several proceedings are public.

Quality management system proceedings (system proceedings) are defined and implemented at the university: the Document Control proceedings, The Non-conformities Control Proceedings, Corrective and Preventive Actions proceedings, The Records Control proceedings and the proceedings for handling unclassified documents in the UPT (http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_proceduri-ale-sistemului-de-management-al-calitatii_15_ro.html).

The verification of the fulfillment of the proceedings provisions, of regulations and certain provisions of the operational plans shall be carried out on the basis of the internal quality audit proceedings, the proceedings for preparing and carrying out audits, and of the annual audit programs. The results of the audits shall be discussed in CEAC and presented to the Board of Directors and, where appropriate, to the faculties' councils.

The organizational structure of the quality management system in the UPT, the members of the CEAC, the members of the quality committees of faculties and departments, and the body of internal auditors are publicly stated on the UPT website at:

http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_documente-legate-de-structura-organizatorica_17_ro.html.

The institution has appropriate proceedings for dealing with student complaints and complaints about the quality of the educational processes. The results of the partial or final assessments, written or oral, shall be communicated to students as a compulsory measure at least in the following manner (*Annex_C_1n-02*):

- by display on the notice given during the examination, when the teacher or a teaching assistant shall state the time and place of the communication;
- by e-mail, sent by the teacher or a teaching assistant to a group leader or a year coordinator, who, in their turn, shall send such communication to the common e-mail address of the group or the year;

UPT students are rightfully entitled to challenge their given grades in exams / colloquia / project presentations (*Annex_C_1n-03*). Moreover, students have the right to challenge the grade given by their thesis coordinator (point.7, art.44, paragraph.33 from *Annex_A_1f-05*).

The challenge of a student's grade implies that teachers must review the work before the student and thus prove that the awarded grade was correctly established, and, respectively, in case of error, to correct it. The decision to settle the dispute is to be made by a commission which does not include the teachers who initially assessed the paper, in the presence of the student challenging (art.10, paragraph.14 from *Annex_B_1e-08*).

10.2. Policies and strategies regarding quality assurance

The quality assurance policies and strategies are stated in the strategic plans of the UPT and of its faculties (*Annex_A_1c*, http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_planuri-strategice_59_ro.html), as well as in the Rector's Statement of Quality Assurance in the Educational Process (*Annex_C_1j*). These policies and strategies are correlated with the national law as well as with the ENQA and EUA directives.

The UPT Strategic Plan specifies the strategic objectives associated with the ten axes and the specific activities through which they can be achieved, the evaluation criteria and indicators adopted and the forecast financial resources. The UPT emphasizes continuity in its policies and for the policy of ensuring the quality of teaching.

The UPT rector presents every year an activity-based review report on the state of the university. In the „quality” section, the review of the implementation of the quality policy program is carried out, the state of progress toward the achievement of the quality assurance policy objectives of the UPT

Rector's annual report is presented in *Annex_A_1i*. Information is presented on the website of the university. Reviews are public on the website, at http://upt.ro/Upt-Timisoara_documente_201_ro.html in the reviews/reports section http://upt.ro/Informatii_rapoarte_335_ro.html .

10.3. Regulation regarding the initiation, approval, monitoring and regular assessment of academic programs

In UPT there are in use the following: Proceedings for the initiation, approval, implementation, monitoring and regular assessment of study programs, code UPT- PO- B-0-05 ([Annex_C_11-01_PO](#)), as well as the Operational Proceedings for Self assessment and internal assessment of study programs in UPT, code UPT- PO- B-0-06 (undergraduate), code UPT- PO- B-0-07 (Master) ([Annex_C_1m-01](#), [Annex_C_1m-02](#)).

These proceedings, alongside the Regulations for the organization and operation of the educational process in the undergraduate programs and the Regulations for the organization and operation of the educational process in Master programs ([Annex_A_1f-05](#) and [Annex_A_1_f-08](#)), contain elements that allow for the monitoring and regular assessment of the quality of teaching.

These proceedings and regulations shall apply to faculties. The initiation, approval and implementation of new study programs shall be subject to the specific proceedings.

The UPT set up the boards, permanent executive committees specialized in the process of initiation, internal evaluation, monitoring and updating of the undergraduate and master studies ([Annex_C_11-02](#)). The names of the members of the Boards are made public on the university's website ([Annex_C_11-03](#) and [Annex_C_11-04](#)).

The Field Board and the Specialization Board are working in accordance with the mission and quality assurance policy of education in the UPT and play an important role in the process of monitoring and curriculum evaluation of the university bachelor and master programs.

The field of activity of the curriculum review boards refers to: curricula, subject sheets, self-assessments, assessments by students, qualitative quantification and specific quality indicators, advice for national and international accreditation, etc.

The application of proceedings is primarily aimed at ensuring the necessary system of skills for a graduate, regardless of the specialization, ensuring that the curriculum structure of the UPT is compatible with those of European universities of high prestige, as an important element for the recognition of UPT diplomas in EU countries.

Monitoring study programs is a continuous activity that takes place through various methods: analysis of learning outcomes, questionnaires answered by students on teacher performance, internal quality auditing work. The regular evaluation of study programs, within or outside the institutional evaluation, shall be carried out on the basis of self-assessment reports established in accordance with the abovementioned specific proceedings. Several persons and structures of the university are involved in the regular monitoring and evaluation of the quality of the teaching act: The Rector, the Senate, the Management Board, the Vice-rector for the education process and student issues, the CEAC, the DGAC, the Deans, the Faculty Councils, the board of the field or specialization, the quality officer at the faculty level, as well as representatives of the economic environment - the Steering Committee and the members of the boards of fields or specializations coming from the economic environment. The University General Secretariat and the University Legal Office are involved in various information gathering and evaluation activities.

Study programs are evaluated both at the internal evaluations preceding external evaluations and annually at the time of the Rector's presentation of the state of the university report, and at the time of the Deans' state of the faculty reports.

The review of the structure of the UPT study programs and curricula also has as input the results of the benchmarking processes in relation to other universities in the country and abroad carried out by the Committee for quality assessment and assurance at the faculty level.

10.4. Correlation between certifications and qualifications

The qualifications of the UPT and for which the UPT award diplomas correspond to those of the RNCIS. The registration of qualifications in the RNCIS can recognize and link all the learning outcomes acquired in the UPT to the occupations of the labour market and ensure consistency of the qualifications and titles awarded. The Working Instruction Code: UP-I0-B-0-08 ([Annex_C_1s](#)) has been developed for the preparation of the qualification validation documentation and registration in RNCIS. The registration of qualifications in the NICR is a necessary condition for the authorization/accreditation of curricula offered by legally qualified higher education institutions in order to demonstrate the link between occupations and requirements of the socio-economic environment and the qualifications obtained, and helps to ensure the transparency of higher education in relation to the labour market, as regards the knowledge of learning outcomes, as well as the comparison of qualifications obtained from the completion of different curricula provided by higher education institutions.

The correspondence between diplomas and qualifications results from the participation of subjects to the making of competences and from the syllabuses. Competences are presented in all curricula and are posted on the UPT website as well as in the syllabuses. The focus in the UPT is on the clarity and updating of subject programs and on the content of the applied activities. The competences of the study programs provided by the UPT are reflected in the Diploma Supplement.

Field and specialization boards regularly review study programs with a view to their improvement on a comparative basis with similar curricula at other universities in the country and abroad, adapting to new occupations that are possible at national and European level. The economic environment is also involved in this. Building closer relations between business and academia is beneficial because:

- It encourages the transfer and exchange of knowledge
- It creates long term partnerships and opportunities
- It stimulates innovation the entrepreneurship and creativity.

Closer cooperation between universities and businesses can also help graduates acquire the skills required in the labour market, but also to develop themselves personally.

The bibliography shown in the syllabuses reflects the concerns of the teachers in ensuring that the content of the teaching process be compatible with that of other universities, in order to ensure an appropriate updating of the information presented, and in the accessibility of bibliographical sources.

The high qualification of UPT graduates, irrespective of the program of study attended, is evidenced by the high level of qualification conferred by official recognition of the value of learning outcomes.

11. LEARNING RESOURCES, PROCEEDINGS FOR LEARNING ACTIVITIES ASSESSMENT AND THE ASSESSMENT OF TEACHING STAFF

11.1. Availability of learning resources

The working principle of the Library is modern, centred on the user and their documentation needs. The UPT provides learning resources in the library for each study program in classic or electronic format and free of charge. The UPT library has, in addition to electronic access, subscriptions to the main specialized journals in the country and abroad for each study program. The UPT provides resources for the proper functioning of the library. Each student has access to the library's resources, adequate conditions of access to learning resources are provided to students with special needs. In electronic format, access is provided from all computers connected to the UPT network.

For the determination of learning resources, the bibliographic list shall be used for each subject established by the staff of the subject concerned. The syllabus shows bibliography for both the course and the applied activities. The bibliographical list includes materials with the subject staff as authors and refers to works relevant to the subject, existing in the UPT Library. All teachers have the opportunity to request the Library to acquire bibliographic support for their subjects. Thus, bibliographical requirements for all subjects in the study programs offered by the UPT are covered.

The new building of the UPT Library was put into use in autumn 2014. It is among the most modern in Europe through its architecture, organization and technologies. The working principle of the Library is modern, centred on the user and their documentation needs. (*Annex_A_5a*)

Services offered by the UPT Library are presented in detail on the institution's own website <https://library.upt.ro/>. Learning resources are accessible to students with special needs and the UPT Library is tailored to such needs.

The ID/IFR and e-Learning Centre (CeL) developed the UPT Virtual Campus, an online educational environment for academic support for all UPT faculties and for distance learning: www.cv.upt.ro. The Virtual Campus is a communication interface between administration, teachers and students and a basis for the seamless interaction between teachers and students.

The CeL Platform has been constantly modified and improved and this educational environment is now the Virtual Campus of the UPT – CVUPT – (*Annex_B_1c-01*), a Moodle-based system (www.moodle.org), an open-source platform, comprising:

- Academic Management (LMS Learning Management System): students management interface, teachers, exams, results, information about courses
- Academic learning support (CMS course management system): Online courses, online or electronic laboratory materials, podcasts
- Communication and Web tools 2.0: Forum, blog, wiki, messaging, SMS, etc.

The CeL Platform is consistently used by the teaching staff to transmit teaching materials and useful information to students online as well as to collect homework.

11.2. Student services

The institution has social, cultural and sporting services for students, such as: accommodation (approx. 5,500 places) for more than 50% of UPT students, sports centres, and a Career Advice and Guidance Centre (CCOC).

The UPT has a material basis suitable for research, education and administrative processes, as well as for the health care of students and teachers. Educational and research facilities correspond qualitatively in terms of size and volume, equipment and technical condition, to the safety principles and to the hygiene and health standards in force.

The Politehnica University of Timisoara has sports centres (facilities granted to students) within the city limits covering an area of 75,980 sqm (Sports Centre 1: football fields and athletics, changing rooms, storing areas; Sports centre 2: fields for football, tennis, handball, basketball, volleyball, two swimming pools (one of which covered), the gym and the multifunctional gym; Sports Centre 3: football field and changing rooms); The Polyvalent Hall (under construction), comprising a sports hall with 2500 seats). In Hunedoara, at the UPT's Engineering Faculty, there is a sports hall with an area of 597 square meters.

For students and teachers, the UPT has 16 hostels (74,038 sqm) in Timisoara, with about 5500 places of accommodation, and 3 student restaurants (12,516 sqm), and in Hunedoara, a student hostel (2,636 sqm) and a student restaurant (879 sqm). Health care is provided by the student's polyclinic located in the university campus.

The UPT has incentive programs for students with remarkable results, like prizes for students awarded in national and international competitions, or the Maximum Grade Students prize. UPT also has remedial programs for students with learning difficulties, through tutoring or psychological support provided by specialized CCOC staff. At the level of the faculties, consultation schedules are set up, and the information is made available to the students on the website of each faculty.

The University has structures and proceedings in order to facilitate student mobility such as: international relations office, commissions for the recognition of qualifications, credits and competences, etc. These structures integrate officers of International relations, Deans and representatives of the UPT faculties, teachers directly involved in the process of recognizing credits and competences for in-coming and out-going students. (*Anexa A_6c*)

11.3. Regulations for the assessment and the grading of students

The university has a Regulation on the examination and grading of students, which is rigorously and consistently applied. The examination and grading of students are regulated in the UPT by the following documents:

- *Regulations on the organisation and conduct of undergraduate programs ([Annex_A_1f-05](#))*
- *Regulations on the examination and grading of students in the UPT ([Annex_C_1n-01](#))*
- *Specific regulations (Administrative Council Ruling) on the communication to students of the partial or final examinations results ([Annex_C_1n-02](#))*
- *Specific regulations on the students' right to challenge grades obtained in examinations / colloquia / project presentations ([Annex_C_1n-03](#))*
- *The grade equivalence grid for foreign students recommended by the Ministry of Education by Ministerial Order no. 3223/8.02.2012 ([Annex_C_1n-04](#))*

The arrangements for examination, assessment of acquired knowledge, as well as skills and abilities acquired in the UPT shall comprise four types of assessment in which the subject holder participates and at least one additional assessor: i) the examination; ii) distributed assessment; iii) colloquium; iv) project presentation. In many cases, representatives of various companies, external to the UPT, also participate in the presentation of graduation theses.

The way in which the examination arrangements are carried out is described in the Regulation on the organization and operation of the university bachelor/master studies. It includes the formula for calculating the final grade according to the 2 components: the grade to the assessment test and the grade for ongoing activity. The Regulation also sets out how to repeat an evaluation test as well as to recover the laboratory/workshop/project meetings. For each subject, the syllabus contains in section 10: the types of activity, assessment criteria, assessment methods and quota in the final grade. Moreover, the minimum standard of performance is prescribed, i.e. the amount of minimum knowledge required to graduate the subject and the manner of its assessment.

The completion of the studies is done by bachelor/diploma examination, for the bachelor level, and by means of a dissertation presentation, for the master level. Their Regulation, including the way of setting up commissions, the display of the results and the way of appeal is included in the Regulation on the organization and operation of the bachelor/diploma/dissertation examinations in the Politehnica University of Timisoara (*[Annex_B_1g](#)*).

Each subject from the curriculum is so designed that it contains both teaching and practical work and individual study and examination activities.

In the UPT, the examination and evaluation proceedings, the requirements of the subject, as well as its content are announced to students both at the beginning of each course and through the syllabus posted on the faculty website. The examination arrangements are adapted to the specific

nature of each study program and to the specific characteristics of the subjects. Item 10 of the syllabus is dedicated to the assessment of knowledge delivered at the course and in application activities. The syllabus sets out the assessment criteria, the assessment methods, the weight in the final grade of the various components as well as the minimum performance standard. The subject minutes also explicitly contain the weight of the application activities in the final grade.

The following aspects are to also be considered with regard to the types of assessment mentioned in the previous indicator: (i) project presentation may be part of the ongoing assessment of a subject completed, or may be a subject itself, (ii) A Colloquium is a practical examination and only a practical subject has this form of assessment.) (iii) The grade obtained in a distributed evaluation is calculated as a weighted average between at least two works reflecting the knowledge, skills and abilities acquired and the ongoing assessment grade. (iv) The exam grade is obtained as a weighted average between the grade of the assessment test and the ongoing activity grade. All assessment types can be had 3 times during an academic year. In addition, there is also a provision for an additional mechanism, the possibility for a student to request, under certain conditions, an evaluation before a committee and not before the subject holder.

The choice of a form of assessment of a subject, be it exam or distributed evaluation is made by the field or specialisation Board, approved by the Board of Faculty, and takes into account the importance of the subject. In addition, there is the restriction, specified in the Regulation on the organization and operation of university studies, that a maximum of 4 subjects should be completed by means of an exam during one semester.

The manner in which the assessment is conducted, that is in the written, oral or written and oral form, is determined by the subject holder, with the approval of the Board and the approval of the Faculty Council. The Regulation on the organization and operation of university studies stipulate that "each semester, starting with the first semester of specialization, provision shall be made for at least one oral or written and oral exam". The evaluation combines parts of diagnostic and formative evaluation with a summary assessment that requires students to take an overview of individual subjects. Creative learning is stimulated through homework and projects, and in the years III and IV also through other independent works.

11.4. Design of teaching and learning assessment; assessment by subject and by study programs

The UPT applies a clear policy in terms of student evaluation, the accumulation and transfer of credits, so that it is fair, equitable, understood by students and in accordance with the pedagogical approach of each subject. The UPT considers that the professional assessment of the student, based on fair and equitable examination and evaluation practices, is a major objective for his or her future career and development as a member of society. To this end, each faculty will develop its own requirements and evaluation criteria ([Annex_C_1k-02](#)).

The examination and evaluation processes are centred on learning outcomes, the requirements of the subject and its content, announced to students in advance and detail at the beginning of each course and through the syllabus posted on the faculty website. After the assessment, students are provided with information – feedback, i.e. they can, if necessary, receive advice for the further learning process. The evaluation stimulates students for creative learning, through the development of independent work based on the knowledge they have learned.

Within the university, there applies the regulation regarding the examination and the grading of students in UPT ([Annex_C_1n-01](#)). The Regulations, as well as other Senate Decisions and methodologies related to the field of students examination, are public on the university website:

- The manner of communicating to students the results obtained in the partial or final examinations (HBES no.16/06.07.2009) - ([Annex_C_1n-02](#));
- HBES no.11/01.02.2005 regarding the right of students to appeal the grades obtained in their exams / colloquia / project work presentations ([Annex_C_1n-03](#)).

The university has implemented the methodology for granting credits for the recognition of students' voluntary activities, which are rewarded by ECTS credits, additional to those obtained from bachelor or master studies, which are included in the graduate's diploma supplement. ([Annex_C_1n-05](#)).

11.5. Correlation between the number of students and the number of teachers

The organization chart on the teaching and research structure at the level of the UPT is designed in such a way that the ratio between the number of teaching jobs and the number of students is at an optimal level for all curricula and in accordance with the requirements of the specific ARACIS standards.

The aspect of the ratio between the number of teachers and students is analysed annually by the Board of Administration and the Senate of the UPT, along with the approval of the organization chart. The ratio is not the same for all specializations in the UPT. In its establishment, account is taken of: the legal provisions, the provisions of the specific standards of ARACIS, the financing possibilities. The university also considers that the affluence of admission candidates to different qualifications is not uniform and that there are qualifications that, although less in demand, are absolutely necessary for national and European development.

The status of the number of teaching positions in UPT is detailed in Chapter 5 and in [Annex_A_3e](#). At the beginning of the academic year 2020-2021, the status is as follows:

No.	Faculty	Number of students	Number of tenured teaching staff *	Ratio
0	1	2	3	4
1	Automation and Computing	3189	75+7	38.89
2	Industrial Chemistry and Environmental Engineering	426	40+4	9.68
3	Civil Engineering	1308	83+8	14.37
4	Architecture and City Planning	745	28+3	24.03
5	Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technology	1684	63+6	24.41
6	Electrical and Power Engineering	749	27+3	24.97
7	Management in Production and Transportation	873	26+2	31.18
8	Mechanical Engineering	2249	111+11	18.43
9	Communication Sciences	568	23+2	22.72
10	Engineering in Hunedoara	750	48+5	14.15

*proportionally including teaching staff from independent departments

The synthetic state of teaching positions at October 1st 2020 per university department is to be found in [Annex_A_3e](#).

Number of positions in all university organizational charts: 1,015, of which 575 (56.65%) are filled by employed teachers, 34 (3.35%) with fixed-term teachers and 406 (40%) teaching positions are vacant.

With reference to the total number of students on 01.10.2020, that is 12,429 students (bachelor and master studies), the ratios are: $12,429/1,015=12,25$, $12,429/(575+34)=20,41$. The ratio values are within the limits of the values referenced by the specific ARACIS standards for specializations in engineering sciences.

Of the 1,015 positions, 280 (95+185) or 27.58% (9, 35%+18, 23%) are university professors and associate professors and 237 (90+147) out of the 575 are professors and associate professors, i.e. 41.21% (15.65+25.56%).

The ratio between the number of students and the number of teaching staff is shown in the table below:

Academic year	N1 = Number of students (bachelor + master)	N2 = Number of teaching staff	N1/N2
2015/2016	11,903	602	19.77
2016/2017	11,955	557	21.46
2017/2018	12,152	608	19.99
2018/2019	12,339	599	20.60
2019/2020	12,100	602	20.10
2020/2021	12,429	575	21.62

The ratio of the total number of students (of the entire bachelor and master program, registered in full time, part time and distance learning) to the total number of teachers (with individual employment contracts of indefinite or fixed duration, i.e. holders + associates), at the level of all the academic undergraduate programs of engineering sciences, is within the maximum of 25/1, which means that the indicator is fulfilled.

11.6. Peer assessment

Peer assessment is being performed in all the university departments. In UPT there applies the *Proceedings for peer assessment of teaching staff, code: UPT- PO- B-0-10 (Annex_C_1d)*, and the actual assessment meets its requirements.

The peer assessment process is a component of the quality assurance system. It has as main objectives the continuous improvement of the teaching activity, the increase of the institutional integration of the teaching staff and the provision of a climate of high academic education. Peer assessment is complementary to the assessment of teachers by students and to self-assessment and is used in the annual assessment of the Director of Department.

Peer assessment takes place at least once every 4 years for each teacher (ordinary evaluation). Peer assessment may also be made in the case of requests for a merit grade (extraordinary assessment) or in other cases motivated by the department director and approved by the department board.

The task of coordinating peer assessments comes to the CEAC-D in the departments of the teachers assessed. Peer assessment is based on three components:

- *Teaching assessment*
- *Research assessment*
- Participation in institutional activities

Peer assessment is carried out by evaluation panels composed of a coordinator and a number of members established by the Department Board, with a total of at least 3 persons. Each panel is to be proposed by the department director for validation in the board.

The evaluations will be carried out by the coordinator and the members of the panel by filling in the evaluation form (*Annex_C_1g*). The coordinator shall also have the role of centralizing the data and carrying out the evaluation report. The activities and documents of the commission shall be confidential, access to the content of the documents being limited to the members of the evaluation panel. Exception

to this regime is the evaluation report, which shall be registered with CEAC-D and sent to the department director in printed form and by e-mail. The evaluated teachers will be able to consult their own assessment report by request to the Department Director.

The results obtained in the peer assessment shall be mandatorily used by department directors in the annual evaluations, in order to strengthen the professional development of those evaluated and to improve activities in the UPT.

11.7. Assessment of teaching staff by students

The operational proceedings for the assessment of teachers by students is implemented at the university ([Annex_C_1e](#)). The aim of assessing the teaching activities and the performance of teachers by students is to continuously improve the teaching process, including in terms of communication between students and teachers, in the context of student-centred education. The results of the students' assessment of the activities and performance of teachers provide important and useful information for each teacher as well as for the top management in the UPT.

Students' assessment of teachers' performance is mandatory, with evaluation results being public information and summarized by half-yearly reports.

In the UPT, students' evaluation of their teachers' activities is carried out by means of questionnaires filled-in online on the electronic platform <http://eeprod.upt.ro/eval/>, with each student receiving their own access and filling-in directions. Alternatively, printed questionnaires may be used, by means of specific forms. Annexes with UPT questionnaires: [Annex_C_1e-01](#), [Annex_C_1e-02](#), [Annex_C_1e-03](#)).

Annex 3 Proceedings regarding the assessment of teaching staff by students shows an online questionnaire model used on the assessment platform <http://eeprod.upt.ro/eval/> ([Annex_C_1f](#)).

The list of subjects to be assessed shall be proposed, at the beginning of each semester, in such a way as to assess subjects from all university curricula. A minimum of 50% of the subjects of a study program will be assessed, so that each teacher can be assessed annually. Each subject shall be assessed at least twice between two external evaluations made by ARACIS for each study program.

The results of the evaluations are immediate, so that the performance of teachers in different subjects can be assessed. The results are to be sent to the UPT Rector, the Deans, the Department Directors and the subject holders. On the basis of the results submitted, decision-makers (Deans, Department Directors) in agreement with the subject holders propose measures to improve the teaching performance. Measures to improve the teaching performance are posted on the university's website.

11.8. Assessment by managers of the organizational structures of the higher education institution

In the UPT, the teaching staff is self-assessed on the basis of a self-assessment form ([Annex_C_1g](#)) and is evaluated annually by the department director on the basis of the self-assessment report, the list of developed teaching/scientific work, the minutes of the peer assessment meetings and the reporting forms of the results of the assessment of the subject and the teacher by students.

The centralized results are sent to the university management. The questionnaires are kept in the departments' records.

The filling of a vacant teaching position in the UPT is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Methodology for organizing open competitions for vacant teaching positions ([Annex_C_1o](#)) approved by Senate Decision No. 152/13.12.2018. Also, UPT-based teachers can benefit from merit grades. Merit grades are awarded to teaching staff through competition, according to

the Methodology of organizing and conducting the contest for awarding grades of merit to the teaching staff of the Politehnica University of Timisoara ([Annex_C_1p-01](#)). The methodology provides the self-assessment grid for the candidate's activity to obtain the merit grade and the procedure to complete the grid. The grid includes evaluation criteria that consider the relevance and importance for the UPT of teachers' academic, scientific, and institutional activities, in relation to the objectives undertaken by the university and to the institutional evaluation criteria.

In order to increase visibility and the degree of capitalization of the results of scientific research, the Administration Board has launched the program „Enhancing the quality of advanced scientific research in UPT”, under which grants funded by the University are to be awarded ([Annex_C_1p-02](#), [Annex_C_1p-03](#), [Annex_C_1p-04](#)).

In order to increase the internationalization, the UPT finances from its own resources SAMOB-type support grants worth 2500 lei to teachers who carry out activities with foreign students, beneficiaries of study or practice grants carried out in the UPT ([Annex_C_1p-05](#))

11.9. Requirements for the good performance of teaching staff

The UPT creates an appropriate framework for the professional development of all academic staff for the teaching and research work in which they are involved. The material base for the university's teaching activity, through classrooms and laboratories in sufficient numbers, with an area suitable for the number of students, current equipment and facilities, creates conditions for high-quality education in all the curricula it conducts.

The Politehnica University of Timisoara has the capacity to carry out considerable scientific research activity and is concerned about strengthening the research potential in terms of human resource and material resources. As a recognition, in line with the MECTS order No. 5262/ 05.09.2011, the UPT has been classified in the category of advanced research and education universities. A research institute (ICER) and 28 research centres operate in UPT, where teachers can carry out research processes. Some of these research centres have been developed together with industrial partners.

Teaching and research staff are employed following competitions organized in accordance with the *Framework methodology regarding competitions for filling open teaching and research positions in higher education*. The information is published on the UPT website under the „Competitions” section http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_alegeri-si-concursuri_366_ro.html.

Under the UPT, the Department for the Training of Teaching Staff (<http://dppd.upt.ro/>) is operating, a structural functional unit that manages programs of studies aimed at training students and graduates in the field of teaching and specialized methodics. The staff engaged in teaching as an assistant professor shall have absorbed the psychological-pedagogical training program in order to certify competences for the teaching profession.

Academic staff is engaged in forms of professional development: training, courses, workshops, seminars, specific conferences, summer schools. The University Department of Human Resources (DRU) annually prepares a training plan for the employed staff, described in the work instruction **UPT-II0-MB-0-29** ([Annex_C_1r](#)). The training plan shall be considered as an instrument for the continuous improvement of the quality of personnel ([Anexa_C_1r-01](#)).

11.10. Databases and information

The Politehnica University of Timisoara has an Intranet network, an electronic access point and the Secretariat system through which electronic communication is carried out with all the entities and structures of the university. The UPT has developed a database of university graduates on the

continuation of their studies and employment. The management of the professional results obtained by students and of school education as a whole (study contracts, financial obligations of students, etc.) is fully computerized through the GISC application.

In order to make communication between students and teachers more effective, including with the management structures, each student is given an email address.

As regards scientific research work, the COGITO database was developed which allows the collection of scientific research data in the UPT.

The ID/IFR and e-Learning Centre developed Moodle-based software for monitoring and communication in ID (distance learning) and IFR (part time studies) study programs.

The collection, processing and analysis of data and information relevant to institutional quality assessment and assurance shall be process-based, as follows:

- School management is carried out using the GISC integrated information system. The system allows for the management of study contracts, the record of the results of the assessment of knowledge and the record of the financial obligations of all students, the publishing of various reports, the systematization of the data needed to complete the diploma supplement. University students can consult their own school situation online.
- The recording of the evaluation results is a permanent process in all faculties of the UPT. The status of the recordings is known at any time, based on the grade catalogue. Deans' offices and the UPT Rector's office can continuously monitor the results of the teaching process and through this the quality of the curricula.
- Students can keep track of their progress at all times via the <https://student.upt.ro> app. The application allows them to access the contract they have with UPT, to select the exams they can take and to track their grades. Recently, new functionalities have been introduced that are useful for students in their relationship with the deans of the faculties and the extension of the online payment module, so that they can pay several types of fees online.
- The University and all its faculties provide current and correct quantitative and/or qualitative information and data on qualifications, curricula, diplomas, teaching and research staff, facilities offered to students and any issues of interest to the public in general and to students in particular. The information is posted on the UPT website, on the faculties and departments' websites and is continuously updated.
- In 2021, the online platform for the management of syllabuses was developed. The management of the faculty's syllabuses will be carried out by each Chief Secretary.
- Moreover, the first electronic registry module has also been implemented at university level. All documents recorded in classic format at the UPT Registry (at the Rectorate) will be entered into the Job Router electronic platform.
- Students have access to a student guide, updated annually, with all relevant information about their academic course, extracurricular activities and support services available, their rights and the opportunities offered by the university. The sections of the students' guide are posted on the faculties' websites, with students being able to learn about all aspects of interest during the student's life.
- Students are at the heart of the education process, but at the same time they are the beneficiaries of the educational act, their needs and satisfaction is an important tool in improving the activities of the university. This is confirmed by the involvement of students in all aspects of academic life, including decision-making at all levels (permanent consultations that the faculties and the Administration Board have with the students, as well as views expressed by students in different forums: the Senate, the Administration Board, the CEAC, the faculties councils, the quality committees, the committees of the hostels). In the future, students from later years will be involved in tutoring activities for first-year bachelor students.
- The UPT follows the informatization methods of partner universities in ARUT (the Romanian Alliance of Technical universities), in view to similar developments;

- DGAC constantly follows the issuing of quality assurance legislation by the European University Association, so as to align the quality assurance, education and research framework with European requirements. Benchmarking is constantly being carried out within the quality assurance framework of European universities, with a view to identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the UPT and continuously improving the quality of its activities. The connections of faculties with similar faculties in the country and abroad are made in different ways: institutional contacts, participation in working boards in academic fora, personal contacts between teachers and/or researchers, participation in student contest committees or doctoral committees, conference organizations, announcements posted on university or faculties sites, including links to external institutions.

The university has a database, which is constantly updated, where all the titles of bachelor's, dissertation and doctoral theses from the last five years are recorded, with the name of the graduate and the scientific supervisor. The yearbooks are published on the UPT website at:

http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_cataloagele-cu-lucrarile-de-licenta-elaborate-in-anul-2014_574_ro.html
http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_cataloagele-cu-disertatiile-elaborate-in-anul-2014_575_ro.html .

11.11. Offer of public information

The University and all its faculties provide current and correct quantitative and/or qualitative information and data on qualifications, curricula, diplomas, teaching and research staff, facilities offered to students and any issues of interest to the public in general and to students in particular. The information is posted on the UPT website, on the faculties and departments' websites and is continuously updated. The Diploma Supplement is offered free of charge to graduates and contains the legal information specified by the regulations in force.

Students have access to a student guide, updated annually, with all relevant information about their academic course, extracurricular activities and support services available, their rights and the opportunities offered by the university. The sections of the students' guide are posted on the faculties' websites, with students being able to learn about all aspects of interest during the life of a UPT student.

<https://ac.upt.ro/ghidul-studentului/>
<http://www.chim.upt.ro/attachments/article/298/ghidul-studentului-chim-compressed.pdf>

Students are directed to address university staff at the faculty and the Rectorate, in order to solve administrative problems, as well as for career guidance and counselling. The information is posted online under the section „General information for students”:

http://upt.ro/Informatii_informatii-generale_315_ro.html

Students have access to updated information about the documents of study on the university website, at http://upt.ro/Informatii_acte-de-studii_316_ro.html, as well as in the Rectorate building, at the Office of Study Documents.

Graduates receive free of charge the Diploma Supplement containing all the information required by the regulations in force.

All the information available with regard to the teaching process, the job-filling competitions, the financial activity, the Senate decisions, the strategic plans, the quality assurance and others is maintained by the Directorate-General for Quality Assurance and is comparable in quantity and quality to that provided by higher education institutions in the European higher Education Area.

11.12. Coordinated implementation of proceedings and activities related to assessment activities and the assurance of quality

The Quality Assessment and Assurance Commission (CEAC) of the UPT operates on the basis of the „Regulations for the operation of the Quality Assessment and Assurance Commission in the UPT (Annex_C_1b) and coordinates in the university a comprehensive organizational structure represented in faculties and departments. The CEAC carries out annual audits on the basis of a program drawn up in accordance with the quality assurance policy in the UPT and the UPT Strategic Plan, submits to the Senate an annual activity report integrated into the Rector's annual report and which is public, and approves the proceedings developed by the Directorate-General for Quality Assurance. The Commission is continuously proposing measures so as to improve the quality of education and to adopt best practices in the field.

The Commission acts on the basis of the regulations regarding the organizing and carrying out of the teaching process in the different Bologna cycles, which also include activities related to the assessment of the quality of education. CEAC's main documents are public and are posted on the UPT website in the "Quality Assurance" section http://upt.ro/Informatii_asigurarea-calitatii-in-upt_12_ro.html

The CEAC and the DGAC are concerned about good quality practices and provide extensive information to the members of the academic community.

11.13. External quality assurance

The higher education institution complies with the legal provisions relating to the external evaluation on a cyclical basis, at the level of study program, master's field, doctoral field and institution level.

Anexa B_1a-01 shows the situation of all undergraduate and master programs carried out in UPT during the academic year 2020 – 2021.

Because of the current pandemic situation, the deadlines for the start of the assessment proceedings have been extended, with the university to complete all necessary formalities by the end of the 2021 academic year.

The evaluation of the UPT's Doctoral School is carried out at the same time as the institutional evaluation of the university, and the process is ongoing.

Following the institutional assessments carried out in 2009 and 2015, the Politehnica University of Timisoara received the "high degree of trust" rating. In 2012, the university was assessed by the Association of European Universities in the framework of the project "Performance in research, performance in teaching activity - quality, diversity and innovation in Romanian universities".

STATUS OF THE FULFILMENT BY UPT OF THE ARACIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWING THE INSTITUTIONAL EVALUATION OF JULY 2015

No.	Recommendation from ARACIS / Status of implementation
1.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> Urgently resolve the issue of appointing the President of the University Senate;</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> On 15.02.2016, Univ.Prof.Dr.Radu Adrian VasIU was elected President of the UPT Senate and ensured the presidency of the Senate in the 2016-2020 term, while Univ.Prof.Dr. Carmen Grecea was the Senate Secretary. On 20.01.2020, Univ.Prof.Dr. Radu Adrian VasIU was re-elected President of the UPT Senate for the 2020-2024 term. Information on the elections held during this period can be found on the website: http://www.upt.ro/Informatii_alegeri-si-concursuri_578_ro.html</p>
2.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> The conduct of the external financial audit by a prestigious, nationally and/or internationally recognized auditing firm, and that the results of the financial audit be debated by the University Senate and made public;</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> Two external audits were carried out at the Politehnica University of Timisoara by representatives of the Timis Chamber of Auditors, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the first action was carried out between 27.03.2017 and 23.05.2017, on the topic "Control of the collection and use of own revenues of higher education institutions, other than those from institutional and complementary contracts concluded with the relevant ministry" for the year 2016, concluded with the Audit Report no. 6783/23.05.2017; - the second external audit action was carried out from 19.04.2021 to 21.05.2021, on "Verifications on issues related to the management of the university's assets for the year 2020", finalized with Audit Report No. 8388/19.05.2021.
3.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended to intensify the monitoring efforts of the university's tenured teaching staff who do not hold the scientific title of doctor, given the imminent deadline by which they have to defend their doctoral theses. At the time of the visit, there are 62 teachers employed at UPT who do not hold the title of doctor in the field of their posts. This situation may become a real problem for the departments of Architecture (48% of the teaching staff do not have a PhD), Physical Education and Sport (45.45% of the teaching staff);</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> The number of tenured teaching staff who did not hold the scientific title of doctor has gradually decreased each year, so that in the academic year 2020-2021 there are no teachers without a doctorate. In the academic year 2020-2021 there are 575 tenured teaching staff at UPT, all of them holding the scientific title of doctor. Also, 34 teaching staff are employed on fixed-term contracts, 10 of whom hold a PhD. In the departments of Architecture (19 vacancies out of 69 positions) and Physical Education and Sport (3 vacancies out of 11 positions), all tenured teachers hold a PhD.</p>

No.	Recommendation from ARACIS / Status of implementation
4.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended to the university management that the employment of external collaborators who provide teaching activities on an hourly basis should be limited to specialists who have a PhD in the field of the subject they teach;</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> The employment of UPT external collaborators is made in accordance with Law 1/2011 with subsequent additions and modifications. Among the external collaborators hired by UPT on 1.10.2020 on an hourly basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 70 teachers are tenured in higher education (Annex_A_3h-02), being mainly teachers retired at the age limit; - 34 non-tenured higher education teachers who hold a doctorate (Annex_A_3h-03); - 176 non-tenured higher education teaching staff who do not hold a doctorate.
5.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> It is recommended to streamline the tutoring system as a key factor in achieving a student-centred learning environment, with a clear definition of tutoring activities in job descriptions and their possible remuneration;</p> <p><u>Status of implementation</u> At the UPT faculty level, the teaching staff involved in the counselling activity carry out a tutoring activity for bachelor and master students, advising students in the choice of specialization and educational path or the achievement of the practice, also taking into account the information provided by the counsellors of the CCOC counselling centre, following the administration and analysis of specific assessment tools, as resulting from the individual vocational counselling reports. Within the faculties, the CCOC is represented by student advising offices. Students can seek counselling from the Teaching Staff who are part of this structure, both in terms of teaching, social and career development. Career guidance through tutors is included as a UPT obligation in the study contract. Year tutors are established by decision of the Faculty Council Bureau and the list of year tutors is available on the faculty website.</p>
6.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> Adaptation of existing study programmes in order to increase the ability of graduates to communicate in languages of international circulation. As far as possible, consideration could be given to diversifying study programmes in foreign languages;</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> All UPT degree programmes include language subjects in at least four semesters, of which at least two semesters are compulsory. The analysis and identification of study areas attractive to students from abroad, in order to support the development of English language study programmes, both for bachelor and master, is one of the important points of the UPT strategic plan for 2020-2024. In this regard, the aim is that in the near future each faculty will authorise at least one study programme in English. In the last 2 years, three master study programmes in English have been integrated into the teaching process at the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Machine Learning - Automotive Embedded Software - Cloud Computing

No.	Recommendation from ARACIS / Status of implementation
7.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> The establishment of a fund for the rewarding of high-performing teachers, those involved in quality assurance and administrative staff with outstanding results in their work. Allocate a higher percentage of own income to scholarships for students, other than from the state budget;</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> Since 2016, UPT has been awarding prizes to the best young researchers in the framework of research excellence galas. UPT also rewards the publication of articles published in Web of Science indexed journals through grants and provides financial support to PhD students and assistants for participation in WoS indexed international conferences.</p> <p>Since 2020, UPT has been offering support grants for teachers working with incoming foreign students who are beneficiaries of scholarships for study or internships carried out at UPT.</p> <p>Recently, UPT has implemented a procedure for awarding the persons who draw up the Self-Evaluation Reports and documentation for the periodic evaluation of study programmes and master fields - support grant for teachers who draw up the Self-Evaluation Reports.</p> <p>Administrative staff with outstanding performance is rewarded with a percentage salary increase from the own income of the university for a specified period of time.</p> <p>The amount spent on scholarships from the university's own income awarded to students and PhD students in the period 2016-2021 increased from 203378 lei in 2016 to 1355626 lei in 2021. In the same period, scholarships awarded from other funding sources increased from 16719 lei in 2016 to 290400 lei in 2021 (Annex_B_1i-02).</p>
8.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> Even if UPT shows a constant concern to attract students in research teams, at their request, it is recommended that, on average, the number of students engaged in carrying out research projects should be comparable to the number of teaching staff earning income from research activity in the university;</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> The policy of integrating students into project research teams is an important point in the University's development strategy and is encouraged by the UPT management. Such actions are considered beneficial and stimulate further studies at Master and PhD level, starting from a scientific basis. In 2020, 32 UPT students were employed on contract research projects.</p>

No.	Recommendation from ARACIS / Status of implementation																																																																																																																																				
9.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> Intensify efforts to obtain the habilitation to supervise PhDs for as many teachers as possible who have a sustained activity in scientific research, technological development and innovation. Take the necessary legal steps to conduct PhDs in their own doctoral school and not in other universities. Further develop the network of international partnerships in doctoral programmes, including joint degrees and co-supervised doctoral research;</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> During the reporting period, a total of 43 habilitation theses were defended in all doctoral fields managed by the Doctoral School of the Politehnica University of Timisoara. The habilitated PhD supervisors work in the UPT Doctoral School. During the reporting period, UPT PhD students carried out 693 internships for the preparation of PhD theses abroad and participated in international conferences. In the same period 5 doctoral theses were carried out under joint supervision with prestigious institutions in Europe and another 8 doctoral theses under interdisciplinary joint supervision with institutions in Romania.</p> <p>Number of habilitation theses defended in the university in the period 2016-2021:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="261 931 1422 1637"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">No.</th> <th rowspan="2">Doctoral field (cf. HG 403/2021)</th> <th colspan="6">Number of habilitation theses defended</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>Architecture</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Computers and information technology</td><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Chemistry</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>Materials engineering</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>Systems engineering</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Chemical engineering</td><td>1</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>Civil engineering and installations</td><td>4</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>Electric engineering</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>Electronic engineering, telecommunications and information technologies</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>Power engineering</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>Industrial engineering</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>Mechanical engineering</td><td>1</td><td>6</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>Engineering and management</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">TOTAL</td> <td>13</td> <td>15</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> <td>1</td> <td>4</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							No.	Doctoral field (cf. HG 403/2021)	Number of habilitation theses defended						2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	1	Architecture	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	Computers and information technology	2	2	-	1	-	-	3	Chemistry	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	Materials engineering	2	-	-	1	-	-	5	Systems engineering	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	Chemical engineering	1	4	2	-	-	-	7	Civil engineering and installations	4	1	-	1	-	-	8	Electric engineering	1	-	-	1	-	-	9	Electronic engineering, telecommunications and information technologies	1	1	-	-	1	-	10	Power engineering	1	-	-	1	-	-	11	Industrial engineering	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	Mechanical engineering	1	6	-	1	-	1	13	Engineering and management	-	-	-	1	-	2	TOTAL		13	15	2	8	1	4
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10.	<p><u>Recommendation:</u> The results obtained in the scientific research activity reveal some discrepancies between UPT faculties. Motivation is needed for faculties with more modest results, or to involve faculty in larger, inter-disciplinary research teams.</p> <p><u>Status of implementation:</u> The research results, described in Chapter 8 of this Report, demonstrate that the entire UPT academic community contributes to the research. Thus, during the reporting period, doctoral theses were defended and there are PhD supervisors for all 13 doctoral fields accredited at UPT. Some of the research projects carried out at UPT are interdisciplinary, integrating research teams with staff belonging to different UPT departments. Also, UPT's impact publications (articles in journals and conference proceedings) come from academic staff from all internal UPT departments.</p>																																																																																																																																				

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1 page Title
1 page The report drafting team
2 pages Contents
5 pages List of annexes
70 pages for the Institutional Self – Assessment report

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