

Board of Governors, Tomas Bata University in Zlín
Minutes of 25th Board Session
Held in Zlín on 28th April 2011

Present:

Mrs. Sonja Bata, Ing. Eva Bartoňová, Ing. Josef Kubíček, Mr. Libor Lukáš, PhDr. Irena Ondrová, Ing. Michaela Šojdrová

Excused: PaedDr. Alena Gajdůšková, Ing. Eduard Janota, Doc. Ing. Jiří Volf, CSc.

Also present, on behalf of Tomas Bata University in Zlín (hereinafter referred to as TBU):

Prof. Ing. Petr Sáha, CSc.	Rector
RNDr. Alexander Černý	Bursar
Ing. Andrea Kadlčíková	Director of Marketing and Communications, Secretary to the TBU Board of Governors
Doc. Ing. Anežka Lengálová, Ph.D.	Dean of FHS
Prof. Ing. Josef Polášek, Ph.D.	Dean of FLCM

The following agenda was proposed for the 25th session of the TBU Board of Governors (hereinafter referred to as the BG):

1. Opening
2. Report on the execution of resolutions
3. Presentation of new Deans
4. Rector's report on the development of the University
5. Discussion on the TBU Annual Activity Report 2010 – Rector
6. Discussion on the TBU Annual Economic Report 2010 and on the TBU Budget for 2011 - Bursar
7. Miscellaneous
8. Termination

Agenda Item 1 - Opening

The session was opened by Ing. Šojdrová, Chairperson of the BG. She welcomed all those present, including the newly-elected Deans. She stated that, after the difficult times the University had been through in the past, the University's management was consolidated again and the BG had full confidence in the management. The proposed agenda was approved by all members of the Board of Governors. PhDr. Irena Ondrová, Deputy Chairperson of the BG, was asked to verify the minutes of the 25th session and she agreed to do so. The BG approved PhDr. Irena Ondrová as the verifier of the minutes by unanimous vote.

Agenda Item 2 - Report on the execution of resolutions

Upon checking the resolutions adopted at the previous session of the BG, it was found out that there were no unaccomplished tasks relating to the new management of the University.

Agenda Item 3 - Presentation of new Deans

Ing. Šojdřová, Chairperson of the BG, asked the newly-elected Deans to introduce themselves to the Board of Governors, to inform the members about the current situation at the Deans' home faculties and to outline their management strategies.

Assoc. Prof. Anežka Lengálová, Dean of FHS, who had previously been a member of the Faculty's management as a Vice-Dean and the Deputy Dean, said that the situation at her Faculty was stabilized, the Faculty had adequate staff and it had enough applicants for study. In the nearest future, the Dean is going to focus her efforts towards the development of the Faculty's research, which is its weakest point. In her opinion, the Faculty is now disadvantaged, as degree courses in humanities provided by the Faculty are not currently supported as much as degree courses in the field of technology.

Prof. Josef Polášek, Dean of FLCM, worked for Mendel University in Brno for 20 years. He said that he felt honoured to work for TBU. In his opinion, the situation at FLCM in Uherské Hradiště is complicated. However, he believes to be able handle the situation and he looks forward to working at the Faculty. The Faculty's focus offers good prospects, as crisis management is still a topical issue. The faculty must produce professionals in the fields of engineering and technology able to develop successful careers within the EU.

Ing. Šojdřová thanked both Deans and wished them strength and courage in their work.

Mrs. Bata welcomed both Deans as new members of the University's management. She pointed out that the quality of the courses offered at the faculties must be globally outstanding in order to attract students. In her opinion, their graduates should be the best in the world.

Mr. Lukáš also wished success to both Deans. What he was particularly interested in was Prof. Polášek's clear vision for the future of the Faculty based in Uherské Hradiště. In Mr. Lukáš's opinion, the Faculty's problems had been caused by the previous management of the Faculty and their unrealistic plans. He would like to be informed about future directions for the Faculty.

PhDr. Ondřová added that the Faculty in Uherské Hradiště had been destabilized by too ambitious projects and by unfair behaviour of its representatives. The Faculty now needs stable management as well as a firm hand. She wished both Deans all the best and promised the Board of Governors' support.

Mrs. Bata asked Prof. Polášek and the Rector about the University's intentions relating to the further directions for FLCM.

The Rector answered that decisions concerning FLCM were not to be taken by TBU alone, TBU was under the supervision of the Accreditation Committee, which had had objections not only to the Faculty based in Uherské Hradiště but also to its independent unit in Prostějov. The Faculty must create its own research potential to meet the requirements relating to HE units. TBU has several months to develop the relevant strategy, which will be then submitted to the Accreditation Committee for approval.

As some of the members announced that they would have to leave the BG session earlier for serious reasons, a change to the agenda was agreed. As a matter of priority, agenda items 5 and 6 were discussed, as they needed to be decided by vote.

Agenda Item 5 - Discussion on the TBU Annual Activity Report 2010 – Rector

The Rector presented the Annual Activity Report to the BG. It had been drawn up in accordance with the general outline issued by the MEYS. He pointed out that TBU's efforts, at the beginning of the University's existence, had been directed towards finding its place in the higher education market. Now the University has changed its direction from quantity towards quality. TBU holds a good position within internationalization (3rd place in the country). 3 large projects submitted by TBU were accepted for funding from the European funds. They will enable the University to extend significantly its research and development base.

Agenda Item 6 - Discussion on the TBU Annual Economic Report 2010 and on the TBU Budget for 2011 - Bursar

The Bursar RNDr. Černý presented the TBU Annual Economic Report to the Board of Governors. The TBU budget showed a small surplus. Apart from other things, the Bursar stated that the average staff income had decreased, in comparison with the previous year, by approx. CZK 1,000 per month. Student scholarships form a significant part of the expenses. The Halls of Residence and Refectory figures showed a budget deficit. The Economic Report is finished with the auditor's verdict confirming that the report truly and honestly reflects the accounting and financial management of TBU in 2010.

Ing. Bartoňová stated that a decrease in average incomes had recently become common in the CR and applied to all public servants. She recommended that the tables presented in the Economic Report should next time show more clearly how TBU participates in the funding of projects. She thanked Ing. Šojdrová, Chairperson of BG, for her support for TBU during the uneasy period in the past and she wished a successful year 2011.

All six members present approved by unanimous vote the 2010 TBU annual reports.

Resolution No. 1/25

The TBU Board of Governors gave its positive opinion regarding the TBU Annual Activity Report 2010 and the Annual Economic Report 2010.

The Bursar than presented in detail the TBU budget for 2011. He assured those present that TBU could afford to begin the implementation of several projects. Financial resources for these projects have been secured now or are intended to be invested into the construction. He provided details concerning the TBU's intention to purchase a property owned by the independent unit of the Prague-based Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design located in Zlín. He asked the BG for its support for further negotiations relating to this matter. TBU intends to use the building for the Faculty of Multimedia Communications and the Faculty of Humanities.

PhDr. Ondrová asked about the current condition of the building and whether it would be necessary to repair it.

The Bursar answered that the building was about 30 years old and it was in a very good structural condition. Now it will only be necessary to repair the floors and paint the walls. In the future, window replacement will be needed.

Ing. Bartoňová said that the MEYS was planning to launch a new financing scheme, the purpose of which would be to provide schools with financial resources for repairing old buildings.

The Board of Governors voted on the presented TBU Budget 2011. All the members approved the Budget by unanimous vote.

Resolution No. 2/25

The TBU Board of Governors gave its positive opinion regarding the presented TBU Budget for 2011.

All the BG members expressed their support for the TBU's intention to purchase the property now owned by the AAAD.

Resolution No. 3/25

The TBU Board of Governors expressed its support for the intention to purchase of immovable property (real estate) situated at the address tř. T. Bati, House No. 4342, Zlín and of the adjacent land - Land Lot No. 977/15, with a total area of 2,918 m². Both of them are still owned by the Academy of Arts, Architecture, and Design in Prague. At present, a new Expert Opinion is in preparation, and the relevant Purchase Contract is being drawn up. The maximum purchase price is expected not to exceed CZK 50 million.

Ing. Bartoňová left the session for serious reasons.

Mr Lukáš informed the Board of Governors about a new project being prepared by the Zlín Regional Authority. The project follows the project of the then Bata Study Institute and it will be aimed at providing general education courses. The facility will be situated next to the Faculty of Technology and its planned laboratory section. Thus, there will be an opportunity to develop cooperation.

Mr Lukáš left the session for serious reasons.

Agenda Item 4 - Rector's report on the development of the University

The Rector provided information on the changes in the TBU structure and on the launch of the TBU Nursery School. He said that TBU provided education within 82 degree programmes and 164 degree courses, and he mentioned newly-accredited degree courses. In the academic year 2010/2011, TBU has 13,536 students. In 2010, it had 3,719 graduates, out of whom 7.9% did not find employment after graduation. There were also 2,095 unsuccessful students. Currently, TBU has 902 staff, out of which 454 are academic staff, 413 are administrative staff and 35 are R&D staff. The mobility of students and academic staff was as follows: There were 298 outgoing students and 83 members of staff, and 108 incoming international students and 57 staff. TBU participates in a total of 26 international cooperation projects in the amount of CZK 17,705,000 and in 42 research projects in the amount of CZK 28,105,000. The Rector also mentioned the issue of increasing the quality of education at TBU and the evaluated indicators. He pointed out that the student structure at TBU is not well-balanced (only 4% of its students are PhD students) and mentioned problems with its independent units (the Accreditation Committee recommended that some of the independent units should be closed;

the percentage of international students and of international staff is low – 6% and 7% respectively). He indicated that research activities were the weakest point of TBU. However, TBU has a good position in the area of international cooperation in R&D (38.9%). After that he outlined the TBU strategy until 2015 in the areas of education, research and internationalization.

Agenda Item 7 - Miscellaneous

At first, a discussion about the TBU Nursery School was held within this item.

The BG members perceive the TBU Nursery School as a way to help those staff members who are parents and also as a place where the University's students can take their practical training courses.

Afterwards, a discussion took place, focusing on the large number of unsuccessful students and unemployed graduates.

Mrs. Bata said that the majority of students choose their universities depending on the teachers teaching at the universities. They want to be taught by certain individuals. If teachers at TBU were outstanding teachers and mentors who can motivate young people, the University would not produce so many students who fail and so many unemployed graduates.

Ing. Šojdrová stated that TBU had lost some time because of the previous management and that its development could have been faster. She recommended that TBU should find out the motivation of its applicants for study. Students apply to schools depending on how attractive their degree courses are. Another reason to apply to a school is the fact that the school has a good reputation.

The Rector said that the unfavourable number of unemployed graduates was not accurate both due to producing an excessive number of economics graduates throughout the CR and due to the fact that a number of students leave the country after graduation to gain experience abroad. These are included in the number of unemployed graduates.

PhDr. Ondrová asked about the situation at the TBU unit in Prostějov. She pointed out the fact that the previous Rector Hoza kept attacking the BG members and kept damaging the good reputation of TBU in newspapers. She asked whether Prof. Hoza was still employed with TBU.

The Rector answered that negotiations over the termination of Prof. Hoza's contract of employment with TBU continued. He clarified the situation in Prostějov and warned that the existence of the faculty in Uherské Hradiště was endangered. The faculty has had fewer applicants for study this year and neither its personnel structure nor its work ethics are good. Apart from this, the Accreditation Committee has recommended that the Faculty's degree programme in Economics should be suspended.

Ing. Šojdrová puts hope into the new Dean, who will have to be both diplomatic and uncompromising when running the Faculty. She considers him the guarantor of beneficial cooperation with the TBU management.

PhDr. Ondrová left the session for serious reasons.

Ing. Kubíček recommended that the TBU management should be more active in relation to the Faculty in Uherské Hradiště. He suggested that the Dean could, for example, be given greater powers or perhaps the Rector could have greater powers.

Mrs. Bata highlighted the seriousness of the problem as well as the necessity to get rid of it, even if it needs dramatic action. This should be priority No. 1 for TBU. Also, the Chairperson of the Academic Senate should be informed about the conclusions from the BG session.

In view of the fact that 3 members of the BG had left the session, the BG no longer had a quorum. However, it adopted the following conclusion, which should be approved, as suggested by the members present, by voting by letter:

The Board of Governors listened to and appreciated the Rector's Report on the State of the University. Taking into consideration the statement given by the Accreditation Committee, the Board of Governors recommends the University management to support the stabilization of the Faculty in Uherské Hradiště.

Agenda Item 8 - Termination

The Chairperson Šojdrová thanked those present for attending and terminated the session.

Date: 2 May 2011

Minutes taken by: Mgr. Jana Brázdilová

PhDr. Irena Ondrová
Deputy Chairperson of TBU BG

Ing. Michaela Šojdrová
Chairperson of TBU BG