

Board of Governors, Tomas Bata University in Zlín

Minutes of 30th Board Meeting Held in Zlín on 30 September 2013

Present:

Mrs. Sonja Bata, PaedDr. Alena Gajdušková, Ing. Libor Láznička, Ph.D., Mr. Libor Lukáš, PhDr. Irena Ondrová, Ing. Michaela Šojdrová

Excused: Ing. Eva Bartoňová. Ing. Josef Kubíček, Doc. Ing. Jiří Volf, CSc.,

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

Prof. Ing. Petr Sába, CSc.	Rector
Ing. Alena Macháčková, CSc.	Chairperson of the Academic Senate of TBU
Prof. PhDr. Ivo Barteček, CSc.	Dean of the Faculty of Logistics and Crisis Management
Doc. Ing. Anežka Lengálová, Ph.D.	Dean of the Faculty of Humanities
Ing. Přemysl Pálka, Ph.D.	Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Management and Economics

The following agenda was proposed for the 30th meeting of the TBU Board of Governors (hereinafter referred to as “BG”):

1. Opening
2. Report on the execution of resolutions
3. Discussion on the Update of the Strategic Plan for Education, Science, Research, Development, Innovation, Art and Other Creative Activities at TBU for 2014
4. Opinion of the Board as to legal actions by which TBU plans to establish real burdens
5. Opinion of the Board as to the financial investment in the TBU Nursery School
6. Opinion of the Board as to legal actions by which TBU intends to purchase real estate
7. Information provided by representatives of TBU faculties about the development of faculties - Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Logistics and Crisis Management, Faculty of Management and Economics
8. Miscellaneous
9. Termination

Agenda Item 1) Opening

The meeting was opened by Ing. Michaela Šojdrová, Chairperson of the BG. She welcomed all members present and said that the Board constituted a quorum. The proposed agenda of the 30th Board meeting was approved without any comments. Mr. Libor Lukáš, Deputy Chairperson of the BG, was asked to verify the minutes of the 30th meeting.

Agenda Item 2) Report on the execution of resolutions

Ing. Michaela Šojdrová said the resolutions adopted at the last meeting did not require any subsequent activities.

Agenda Item 3) Discussion on the Update of the Strategic Plan for Education, Science, Research, Development, Innovation, Art and Other Creative Activities at TBU for 2014

The Update of the Strategic Plan for 2014 forms part of the TBU Strategic Plan for 2011-2015.

Prof. Sába explained the priorities of the Update of the Strategic Plan for 2014, which are the following:

- Quality and relevance

At present, during a decrease in the demographic curve, the University concentrates on an improvement in the quality of all its activities. TBU is interested in admitting talented students, wants to encourage their development and support them so that they can stay in the Zlín region after they graduate. The recently established Job Centre provides career counselling and assistance with job seeking to graduates.

Innovations in degree programmes are also supposed to increase the graduate employability. All faculties have carried out a revision of their degree programmes; the responsibility of heads of departments and of guarantors of degree programmes for the graduate employability is growing. The aim is to prepare graduates not only for the Czech labour market, but for the global market. TBU carries out the internal and external evaluation of its activities in accordance with the methodology used by the QS Rankings and U-Multirank.

- Openness

TBU offers postdoctoral programmes for students from all over the world, develops its international activities, prepares more joint-degree programmes in cooperation with universities abroad. Furthermore, Prof. Sába mentioned the deficiencies in the field of intellectual property protection and a low level of participation in prestigious European projects due to the relevant administrative activities being very demanding. The University supports the establishment of start-up companies (the related conditions will be fulfilled after the completion of selected strategic investment projects) and the cooperation between faculties and business and industry. An important sphere of activities of TBU are also Lifelong Learning and the University of the Third Age. The TBU Nursery School has attracted a great interest from TBU employees and students. The Nursery School is filled to capacity (48 places).

- Effectiveness and funding

In spring 2014, TBU will complete the construction of the Laboratory Centre of the Faculty of Technology. The Centre of Polymer Systems is currently under construction. TBU would like to start the construction of the TBU Educational Complex intended for the Faculty for Humanities next year. The following projects are currently in implementation: Centre of Advanced Polymer and Composite Materials and 5 projects submitted to the Operational Programme “R&D for Innovations”, Priority Axes 2, 3, 4.

Discussion:

The Board members said that the aims of the Strategic Plan are set in a very ambitious manner, which is correct.

A discussion followed regarding the inclusion of the planned accreditation of a follow-up Master's programme in Process Engineering, degree course in Risk Engineering (to be carried out at the Faculty of Logistics and Crisis Management) in the Update of the Strategic Plan. In the past, this Faculty had to deal with big problems. Earlier, the Faculty was planning to focus on an improvement in the quality of Bachelor's programmes. Prof. Barteček, Dean of FLCM, said that the Faculty was heading towards stabilization; 3 new Associate Professors joined the team. The programme mentioned in the Strategic Plan is only in preparation. The Faculty would like to submit this one application for the accreditation of a follow-up Master's programme. The Board of Governors recommends adding the word “preparation” to the accreditation mentioned in the Update of the Strategic Plan. The specializations – courses offered at FLCM are on the increase internationally. The Faculty should cooperate with an institution which has achieved a high level in this very specialization.

Mrs. Sonja Bata: She appreciated that Prof. Sába stressed that what really counts is quality. In her opinion, the quality of the University is not good enough yet. It is not correct that faculties accept students without entrance examinations because then many of the students do not graduate. International students choose universities according to the universities' standing which they can find on the Internet and they choose universities which are centers of excellence. It is not possible to be a center of excellence in everything; it is necessary to pick the faculties which can achieve world-class excellence and to concentrate on priorities which are the University's strengths and which can be developed and put TBU on the global map.

In relation to the preparation of accreditations at FLCM, Ing. Michaela Šojdřová suggested to organize a meeting of the Board members at FLCM with the aim to get information about the real situation at the Faculty. This proposal received support from all present Board members.

Ing. Šojdrová: The terms “Bata School of Work” and “Bata-inspired ideology” have been mentioned in the Strategic Plan. These expressions are well-known in Zlín. They should be formulated in such a manner which will make them comprehensible in accordance with the research approach adopted by the University.

Mr. Lukáš: The Strategic Plan has been prepared from a global point of view. The fulfilment of the aims will be difficult. Mr. Lukáš recommends adding an action plan to the Strategic Plan.

Resolution No. 1/30:

The TBU Board of Governors gave its consent to the Update of the Strategic Plan for Education, Science, Research, Development, Art and Other Creative Activities of Tomas Bata University in Zlín for 2014.

Out of six Board members present, six members voted for the Resolution No. 1/30.

Ing. Alena Macháčková, CSc., Chairperson of the Academic Senate of TBU, had to leave the meeting due to classes.

Agenda Item 4) Opinion of the Board of Governors as to legal actions by which TBU plans to establish real burdens

Prof. Sába explained the reasons why TBU is obliged to accept a real burden – a sewer system located on the land on which the construction of the Laboratory Centre of the Faculty of Technology takes place. The Academic Senate of TBU must give its opinion on this matter before the Board of Governors does. If the Academic Senate approves the real burden, the Board members will be asked to cast an electronic vote.

Agenda Item 5) Opinion of the Board of Governors as to the financial investment in the TBU Nursery School

Prof. Sába explained the reasons why the Board of Governors was asked to give its prior written consent to the financial investment in the TBU Nursery School registered as a legal entity. The financial investment amounts to CZK 270,000.

Resolution No. 2/30

The TBU Board of Governors gives its prior written consent to the financial investment in the TBU Nursery School registered as a legal entity amounting to CZK 270,000 in compliance with § 15 Paragraph 1 Letter d) of the Higher Education Act.

Out of six Board members present, six members voted for the Resolution No. 2/30.

PhDr. Irena Ondrová apologized for having to leave the meeting.

Agenda Item 6) Opinion of the Board of Governors as to legal actions by which TBU intends to purchase real estate

Resolution No. 3/30

The Board of Governors of TBU in Zlín discussed the intention to purchase long-term immovable property – lots of land with a total area of 2,627 m² situated in the cadastral area of Příluky in Zlín. The Board recommends the implementation of this plan, as it is in agreement with the long-term strategy of TBU.

Out of five Board members present, five members voted for the Resolution No. 3/30.

Agenda Item 7) Information provided by representatives of TBU faculties about the development of faculties - Faculty of Humanities, Faculty of Logistics and Crisis Management, Faculty of Management and Economics

Doc. Lengálová, Dean of FHS, Prof. Barteček, Dean of FLCM, and Dr. Pálka, Vice-Dean of FaME, gave presentations on their faculties, followed by a discussion.

FHS:

- Employability of graduates from the Czech-Polish Master's programme in Teaching in Elementary Schools – Teaching in Primary Schools
- Pedagogy is the specialization in which the Faculty has ambitions to achieve excellence.
- Importance of selecting more progressive specializations in pedagogy which would follow the current needs and trends

FLCM:

- Knowledge of universities abroad which have a similar specialization
- Lifelong Learning in spheres which are of benefit for the region
- Cooperation with FHS and with other faculties in specializations which have similar contents (e.g. rescuer)
- Necessity to look for specializations in education required by law for particular professions

FaME:

- Graduate employability
- Difficulties in the acceptance of Bachelor's graduates by Czech companies
- FaME cooperates with the Czech School Inspectorate on the project entitled "Analysis of Current Systems for Monitoring and Evaluation of Quality and Efficiency in Education".

Agenda Item 8) Miscellaneous

Mr. Lukáš reminded the Board members about the recently opened Bata Institute and about the possibility of cooperation with the Institute.

Mrs. Sonja Bata presented a medal which will be issued to mark the 100th anniversary of birth of Thomas Bata Jr. and invited the Board members to attend the upcoming lecture to be held within the lecture series on Responsible Capitalism in Prague on 4 March 2014. The event is being organized by the Bata Shoe Foundation in cooperation with TBU. The main speaker will be Mr. Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, the Chairman of the Nestlé Group. PaedDr. Alena Gajdůšková, 1st Vice-President of the Senate of the CR and a member of the TBU Board of Governors, will participate in the organization of the event. She will enable the use of Senate promises for festive meetings following the lecture.

Ing. Šojdrová appreciated the active approach of the Faculty of Management and Economics to cooperation with practice, namely the Department of Regional Development, Public Sector Administration and Law. Students are sent by this Department to participate in internships at the Czech School Inspectorate workplaces.

Agenda Item 9) Termination

Ing. Šojdrová appreciated the presentations given by the representatives of TBU faculties. She asked the representatives of the faculties to inform the Board members about important events held at the TBU faculties which could be of interest to the Board members. Ing. Šojdrová thanked all members for their attendance and terminated the meeting.

Libor Lukáš
Deputy Chairperson of TBU BG

Ing. Michaela Šojdrová
Chairperson of TBU BG

Zlín, on 30 September 2013
Minutes taken by: Mgr. Jana Brázdilová