

Board of Governors, Tomas Bata University in Zlín
Minutes of 33rd Board Meeting
Held in Zlín on 29 April 2015

Present:

Ing. Eva Bartoňová, Mrs. Sonja Bata, Dr.h.c., PaedDr. Alena Gajdůšková, Ing. Libor Láznička, Ph.D.,
PhDr. Irena Ondrová

Excused: Libor Lukáš, Ing. Michaela Šojdrová, Prof. Ing. Jaromír Veber, CSc., doc. 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

The following agenda was proposed for the 33rd meeting of the TBU Board of Governors (hereinafter referred to as "BG"):

Agenda:

1. Opening
2. Check on the execution of resolutions adopted at the last meeting
3. Discussion on the TBU Annual Activity Report 2014
4. Discussion on the implementation of the TBU Institutional Plan for 2014
5. Opinion of the Board as to the financial investment in the TBU Nursery School
6. Discussion on the TBU Annual Economic Report 2014
7. Information on the TBU Budget 2015
8. Miscellaneous
9. Termination

Agenda Item 1 – Opening

The meeting was opened by Ing. Libor Láznička, Ph.D., Chairperson of the Board. He welcomed all members present and read a letter from Ing. Šojdrová, Member of the European Parliament, who could not attend the meeting. Ing. Šojdrová congratulated the University on the opening of the CPS and informed about an internship programme she was preparing, and about her intention to offer this programme particularly to PhD students. She praised the organizers of the conference on pre-school pedagogy held at the Faculty of Humanities, where she participated as a speaker. The proposed agenda of the 33rd Board meeting was approved by all members of the Board of Governors without alterations. PaedDr. Alena Gajdůšková, Deputy Chairperson of the Board, was asked to verify the minutes of the 33rd meeting and agreed to do so.

Agenda Item 2 - Check on the execution of resolutions adopted at the last meeting

After checking the resolutions adopted at the 32nd Board meeting, the Board stated that the resolutions adopted at the previous meeting did not require any subsequent activities.

Agenda Item 3 - Discussion on the TBU Annual Activity Report 2014

Prof. Sáha informed the Board members about the current state of TBU and about basic problems the University had to face. One of them is a considerable decline in the demographic curve in the Czech

Republic, i.e. the lowering number of persons born in the relevant years who could be prospective students at higher education institutions. TBU deals with this problem by increasing the number of doctoral programmes and the number of self-paying students in programmes taught in English. In 2014 TBU had 10,319 students, with 61 self-paying students among them. The interest in studies was different when comparing the TBU faculties: degree courses in arts attract the highest number of applicants for study. The total number of applications for study received by TBU was 11,914. The total number of degree courses and programmes accredited at TBU was 176 and 101 respectively (38 Bachelor's, 33 Master's, 30 doctoral programmes). 26 degree courses were taught in English. Six faculties and other component parts of TBU had 908 employees last year. Attention was focused on an improvement of the quality of the personnel structure with the aim to ensure a sufficient number of employees holding the degree of Professor and Associate Professor. As regards the area of internationalization, TBU participated in 28 international programmes. Last year, TBU received a high number of awards. The Czech Brain Award conferred on Prof. Karel Kolomazník is among the biggest accomplishments to be named.

Discussion:

Mrs. Bata said that looking at the Czech economy we could see that it was going down. It is necessary to come up with a totally new way of thinking, to see what kind of education to provide in future. She emphasized the importance of close cooperation between TBU and industry and added that highly specialized universities had become very successful. Prof. Sába named the areas of excellence of the University: Polymer sciences, applied informatics, Creative Centre of the FMC.

Agenda Item 4 - Discussion on the implementation of the TBU Institutional Plan for 2014

Prof. Sába informed the Board members about the individual projects funded from the TBU Institutional Plan for 2014, aimed to support TBU activities. The following projects were allocated funding: Development of internationalization, improvement in language skills of employees, support of Ph.D. students in their final year of study and of postdoctoral employees, support of transfer activities, support of project activities, development of information and communication technologies, programme aimed to support marketing activities, development of student counselling with the emphasis on an increase in graduate employability, support of information resources and development of activities carried out by the Bata Information Centre, internal competition organized within the Institutional Plan. It was stated that, in spite of problems with the selection procedure related to IT equipment, all aims of the Institutional Plan had been fulfilled.

Resolution No. 1/33

The TBU Board of Governors has been informed about the assessment of the Institutional Plan of Tomas Bata University in Zlín for 2014 and states that all the aims assessed have been duly fulfilled in accordance with the instructions given by the provider.

Out of five TBU BG members present, five members voted for the Resolution No. 1/33.

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

TBU established the TBU Nursery School due to a low number of free places in nursery schools in the Zlín region. The TBU Nursery School was funded from a project. At present, 60 children, particularly of employees and students (above all PhD students) attend the TBU Nursery School. The TBU Management intends to provide financial support to the TBU Nursery School, as it is considered to be a major benefit for the staff. In 2015, the financial contribution amounts to no more than CZK 536 thousand. The TBU Academic Senate agreed to provide additional funding to compensate for the operating loss of the TBU Nursery School.

Discussion:

The Board members expressed their consent to the intention of the TBU Management to provide funding to the TBU Nursery School. This facility is – according to the Board members – very important for female students and staff and is in accordance with interests both of TBU and of the whole society. The issue of the TBU Nursery School not being financially self-sufficient was discussed; it is very probable that the TBU Nursery School will need additional funding from the University in the future.

Resolution No. 2/33

The TBU Board of Governors gives its prior written consent to the financial contribution to the TBU Nursery School registered as a legal entity (contribution to cover the a part of the running costs in 2015) amounting to no more than CZK 536,000 in compliance with § 15 Paragraph 1 Letter d) of the Higher Education Act.

Out of five TBU BG members present, five members voted for the Resolution No. 2/33.

Agenda Item 6 - Discussion on the TBU Annual Economic Report 2014

Dr. Černý informed the Board members about the outline of the Annual Economic Report 2014. Considerable changes in the structure of operating and capital contributions were discussed. Possible problems in the funding available in the upcoming years were emphasized, as no more resources might be provided from the Structural Funds and for the sustainability of projects.

Another matter discussed was the structure of salaries, both as regards the resources and the average salaries in the individual staff categories and in the individual organizational units.

Discussion:

The Board members showed interest in the reasons for the decrease in the figures related to Lifelong Learning courses offered at TBU. Prof. Sáha explained that the decrease had been caused by the FaME, which preferred to get involved in R&D projects. He added that, as soon as the required capacity was free, the Faculty would continue to participate in the provision of the mentioned courses.

It was stated that the University had made a big improvement in quality thanks to funding obtained from the Structural Funds. The Board members also asked whether TBU was planning to submit projects to newly announced Calls organized within the Structural Funds and how the University intended to compensate for the restricted funding to be expected in the future. In reaction Prof. Sáha said that the University would apply for funding from the announced programmes this year already.

Resolution No. 3/33

The TBU Board of Governors gave its consent to the TBU Annual Activity Report 2014 and the Annual Economic Report 2014.

Out of five TBU BG members present, five members voted for the Resolution No. 3/33.

Agenda Item 7 - Information on the TBU Budget 2015

New algorithms were presented, which were applied in the Budget Rules for 2015 for the internal allocation of contributions and subsidies received from the MEYS. Priorities of the internal funding of TBU in 2015 were emphasized. The expected income was included in the budget summary, and that in particular the programme and project funding as well as the revenues generated by the University.

Discussion:

The discussion was focused on non-funded students at TBU. Dr. Černý explained the TBU strategy – it is more convenient to admit a higher number of applicants as it is necessary to take into consideration those students who fail to complete their studies. The capacity of the educational process depends on the

composition of groups in the individual course units. A non-funded student does not necessarily generate additional expenses for TBU.

Resolution No. 4/33

The TBU Board of Governors gave its consent to the presented TBU Budget for 2015.

Out of five TBU BG members present, five members voted for the Resolution No. 4/33.

Agenda Item 8 - Miscellaneous

All questions were answered during the discussion on the relevant items of the agenda.

Agenda Item 9 - Termination

Ing. Láznička, Ph.D., Chairman of the Board, thanked all members for their attendance, terminated the meeting and invited all Board members to attend the official opening ceremony of the Centre of Polymer Systems.

Ing. Libor Láznička, Ph.D.
Chairperson of TBU BG

PaedDr. Alena Gajdůšková
Deputy Chairperson of TBU BG
Verifier of the Minutes

Zlín, on 29 April 2015
Minutes taken by: Mgr. Jana Brázdilová