

Board of Governors, Tomas Bata University in Zlín
Minutes of 38th Board Meeting
Held in Zlín on 27 October 2017

Present:

Ing. Eva Bartoňová, Ing. Libor Láznička, Ph.D., Libor Lukáš, Prof. Eva Jiříčná, Prof. Ing. Jaromír Veber, CSc., doc. Jiří Volf, CSc.

Excused: Sonja Bata, PaedDr. Alena Gajdůšková, Ing. Michaela Šojdrová

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

Prof. Ing. Petr Sába, CSc.	Rector
RNDr. Alexander Černý	Bursar

The following agenda was proposed for the 38th meeting of the TBU Board of Governors (hereinafter referred to as "BG"):

Agenda:

1. Opening
2. Report on the execution of resolutions adopted at the last meeting
3. Rector's report on the state of the University
4. Discussion on the Implementation Plan of the Strategic Plan for Educational, R&D and Creative Activities of TBU for 2018
5. Medium-term outlook for the TBU Budget for the period 2018 - 2019
6. Future Funding to Be Provided to TBU from Projects Funded by the EU (Operational Programme Research, Development and Education, Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovations for Competitiveness)
7. Miscellaneous
8. Closing

Agenda Item 1 – Opening

The meeting was opened by Ing. Libor Láznička, Ph.D., Chairperson of the Board. He welcomed all members present. The agenda proposed for the 38th Board meeting was unanimously approved by all Board members. Mr. Libor Lukáš, Deputy Chairperson of the Board, was asked to verify the minutes of the 38th meeting and agreed to do so.

Agenda Item 2 - Report on the execution of resolutions adopted at the previous meeting

The relevant information was included in the presentation given by Prof. Sába.

Agenda Item 3 - Rector's report on the state of the University

In his presentation, Prof. Sába provided the Board members with up-to-date information on the development of the University. The current number of students studying at TBU is 9,510, among them 1,000 international students. An increase in the number of self-paying international students has been achieved. The number of PhD students is 459 (the goal is 1,000 PhD students). The total number of employees is 947, the trend of an increase in the number of researchers continues. For the second time already, TBU was included in the Times Higher Education Ranking and listed among the top thousand of the best universities in the world, which is a confirmation of the fact that the University has taken the right direction. Prof. Sába also mentioned the establishment of the Internal Evaluation Board, expected

to produce an improvement in the quality of degree programmes, and presented the project entitled “Commercialization at TBU”, which is aimed at contributing to the transformation of TBU into an entrepreneurial university.

Agenda Item 4 - Discussion on the Implementation Plan of the Strategic Plan for Educational, R&D and Creative Activities of TBU for 2018

Prof. Sába informed the Board members about the tasks set by TBU within the Implementation Plan of the Strategic Plan of Educational, R&D and Creative Activities of TBU for 2018. In compliance with the amended version of the Higher Education Act, the entire education segment has to undergo a major transformation. TBU will prepare applications for institutional accreditation in specializations pursued at a high level at TBU in the long term (courses in economics, technology, informatics and arts). The document had already been discussed at meetings of the Rector’s Advisory Council, TBU Scientific Board, and approved by the Academic Senate.

Discussion:

The Board members

- appreciated the fact that TBU had introduced a new degree programme in Software Engineering and in Intelligent Systems with Robots at the FAI.
- asked about the method to be used for the assessment of the outputs. Some of the tasks are rather generally formulated. A detailed description of the tasks is included in other materials.
- asked for a more detailed description of the procedure of institutional accreditation. Prof. Sába explained that higher education institutions will be enabled to decide about the degree programmes they will offer during a period of 10 years. After this period has elapsed, the Accreditation Bureau shall assess the success rate.

Voting on Resolution No. 1/38

The TBU Board of Governors gave its consent to the Implementation Plan of the Strategic Plan of Educational, R&D and Creative Activities of TBU for 2018 in the version approved by the TBU Academic Senate on 24 October 2017.

Out of six TBU BG members present, six members voted for the Resolution No. 1/38.

Agenda Item 5 - Medium-term outlook for the TBU Budget for the period 2018 - 2019

Dr. Černý informed the Board members about the document entitled Income and Costs Expected in the Period from 2017 to 2019. The preparation of this document is required by the amended version of the Higher Education Act.

Agenda Item 6 - Future Funding to Be Provided to TBU from Projects Funded by the EU (Operational Programme Research, Development and Education, Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovations for Competitiveness)

Recently, TBU has obtained funding for projects from the Operational Programme “Research, Development and Education” amounting to a total of CZK 550 million. The MEYS allocated funding to all project applications submitted by TBU to the so-called “Quadruple Call”. The funding provided by the projects will be used to build new laboratories of the FT, to modernize laboratories at the FAI and lecture halls at the FaME; a new educational gallery of the FMC, the development of doctoral programmes will be supported. Furthermore, resources allocated to the Strategic Project of TBU will be

used to support the creation of new degree programmes and modifications to existing degree programmes; internationalization of TBU will be strengthened.

TBU also submitted a project application to the “Excellent Research” Call with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of the CEBIA - Tech Research Centre as well as to the “Pre-Application Research” Call with the aim of generating new, unique knowledge in the CPS, and that in specializations focusing on healthy footwear, biomaterials and biocomposites. The total expected benefit for our University is approximately CZK 268 million.

7 project applications submitted to the Operational Programme “Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness” and amounting to a total of CZK 18 million were approved. The projects to be funded are aimed at developing business activities and cooperation with industry. Another 3 project applications amounting to a total of 11 million were submitted.

Ing. Libor Láznička, Ph.D., Chairperson of the Board, left the meeting. Libor Lukáš, Deputy Chairperson of the Board, took the chair.

Discussion:

The Board members

- appreciated the fact that TBU is able to take advantage of all opportunities available in order to obtain funding for future activities of the University. The current development of the University is excellent. The planning for TBU is done in the long term and puts emphasis on quality.
- discussed about the projects being an obligation for the future as they require sustainability. Problems may occur even long after the implementation stage of the projects has terminated.

Voting on Resolution No. 2/38

The TBU Board of Governors takes cognizance of the report on the future of the University, with funding to be provided through projects funded by the EU (Operational Programme “Research, Development and Education”, Operational Programme “Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness”), and appreciates the success rate of the University in the preparation of the project applications submitted for approval.

Out of five TBU BG members present, five members voted for the Resolution No. 2/38.

Agenda Item 7 - Miscellaneous

Prof. Sáha informed the Board members about the request sent to the University by the Zlín Regional Authority, and asking the University to sell its ownership share of 50 per cent in the Technology Innovation Centre (TIC) to the Zlín Regional Authority. The possibility of a sale of the share was discussed by the TBU Academic Senate, that asked Mr. Jiří Čunek, Governor of the Zlín Region, to clarify the intentions of the Zlín Regional Authority.

Libor Lukáš, Deputy Chairperson of the Board, objected that a sale of TBU’s share in the TIC would mean that the University had given up on the goal originally set when establishing the Centre, i.e. cooperation in the field of innovations and in the support of spin-off companies. It is recommendable to continue joint innovation activities. The University has been working very well; he would recommend to adapt the orientation of TBU to the current requirements.

The Board members asked about:

- the official opening date of the TBU Educational Complex

Due to complications arising in the surroundings of the construction site, the MEYS extended the date of the completion by 1 month. At present, the construction of the building has almost been completed; however, TBU still has to deal with many problems. Classes are planned to be started in the new building at the beginning of the summer semester.

- The Board members asked whether a “children's university” is organized at TBU.

Yes, an annual event entitled “Junior University” has been organized by the Faculty of Humanities and held several times already.

Prof. Sáha informed the Board members:

- about the result of negotiations with the Municipal Authority of Zlín on the topic of possible financial support to be provided to the TBU Nursery School. The Municipal Authority of Zlín cannot grant subsidies to a private nursery school, however, they can arrange for an expansion of the parking area, a repair of the playground, etc.
- about his telephone conversation with Mrs. Sonja Bata, who showed great interest in the activities of the University.
- about the fact that the University supported the idea of establishing a bilingual Czech-English school in Zlín. The University has rented rooms in the U10 building which can be used by the school after the FHS leaves the U10 and moves to its new building. The school may be beneficial for international students and staff of TBU.

Libor Lukáš, Deputy Chairperson of the Board, pointed out to the Board members that the Board members had received materials containing an extract from the amended version of the Higher Education Act (Act No. 111/1998 Coll., issued on 22 April 1998, on Higher Education Institutions, Part Two, Public Higher Education Institutions and Component Parts Thereof, § 14 and 15 Board of Governors of a Public Higher Education Institution) and the new TBU Statute.

Agenda Item 8 - Closing

Libor Lukáš, Deputy Chairperson of the Board, thanked all members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

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

Libor Lukáš
Deputy Chairperson of TBU BG
Verifier of the Minutes

Zlín, on 30 October 2017
Minutes taken by: Mgr. Jana Brázdilová