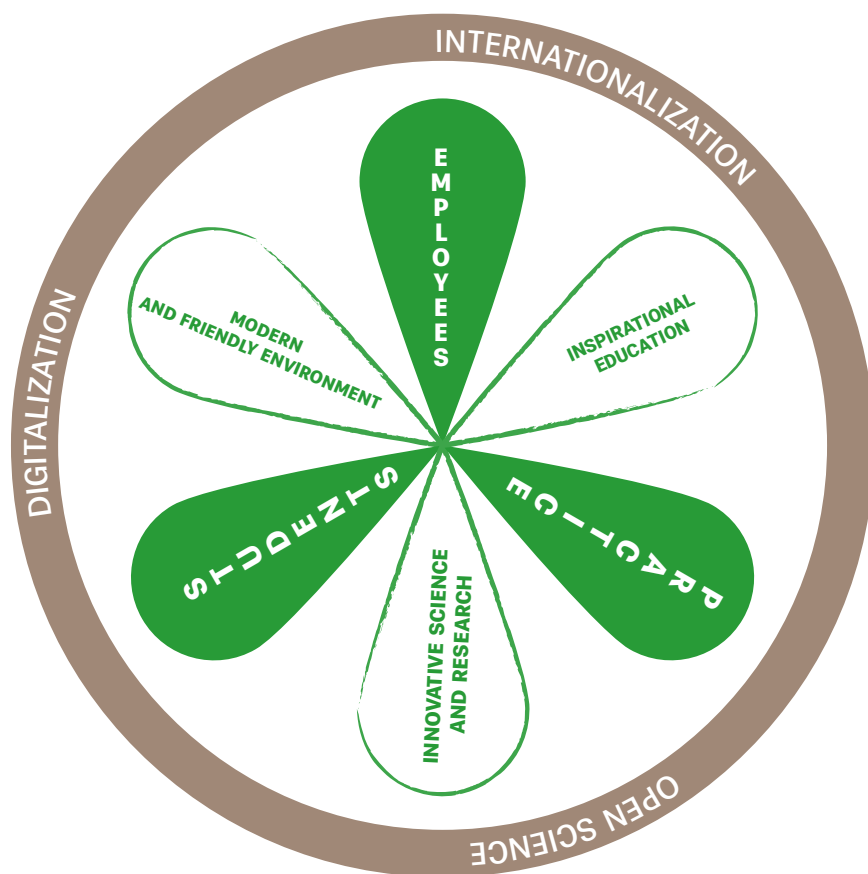


2022 – Annual Implementation Plan of the Strategic Plan for educational, creative and other activities

of the Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences

Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague

(FFWS Strategic Plan 2021+, FFWS SP 2021+)



Discussed by the Scientific Board of the Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, CZU in Prague on 2 March 2022.

Approved by the Academic Senate of the Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, CZU in Prague on 3 March 2022.

Approved by the Dean's Board of the Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences, CZU in Prague on 9 March 2022.



Faculty of Forestry
and Wood Sciences

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Introduction

For the Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences (FFWS), 2022 is a year during which we must overcome all the expected obstacles that come due to the Covid-19 pandemic and, simultaneously, we must take full advantage of all the benefits that it has brought us.

In the field of internationalization, we firmly believe that we will be able to fully start all the planned activities in my term of office. I am thinking in particular of the significant support and encourage student and staff mobility, the strengthening of cooperation in the preparation and implementation of international projects, and innovation in pedagogical activities with an emphasis on internationalization. The aim is also to organize regular summer schools for foreign students at FFWS.

The educational area itself is undergoing continuous modernization in order to increase the quality of teaching and of the students themselves. This year we plan to significantly increase the number of subjects taught in English and include them among optional subjects.

The field of science and research, or the preparation of quality publications (D1, Q1, and Q2) and the creation of excellent outputs for practice, becomes more important with the application of the new M17+ methodology. From this point of view, 2022 must follow the trend of recent years, i.e. there must be an obvious increase in these parameters in order to obtain more funds from the University budget for Faculty development. The management steps in this area will stimulate the creative and scientific activities of all academic staff at the Faculty.

In the area of cooperation with practice, we will strive for closer cooperation, especially via seminars and courses for representatives of practice who will want to apply our knowledge in practical operation.

From the point of view of technical safety, it will be necessary to endure less favourable workplace conditions related to the reconstruction and extension of the new building throughout 2022. However, in the middle of the year, we will be able to use the newly built part and the reconstructed north wing. In contrast, the south wing will be completely reconstructed in the second part of the year. I believe that this discomfort will be compensated by modern equipment in all FFWS buildings in the coming years.

prof. Ing. Róbert Marušák, PhD.
dean

Quality strategic Faculty management

Internationalized FFWS

- Carry out an analysis of the possibilities of creating a new study programme (SP) in English (focused on forestry). Then start steps to prepare this SP.
- Run at least two summer schools (one abroad for our students and one at FFWS for foreign students).
- Significantly increase the number of months (by 25% compared to 2021) for which FFWS students will go abroad (using the Faculty resources, Erasmus+, and others).
- Participate in the preparation of the Erasmus+ credit mobility project in order to implement mobility with workplaces outside the EU.
- Increase the range of subjects taught in English in order to be a more attractive Faculty for incoming Erasmus+ students.
- For each study programme, select suitable universities and offer students specific universities, including subjects that will then be recognized as part of their studies.
- Create a manual for registering students for internships abroad, including the identification of companies that would be suitable for student internships abroad.
- Carry out an analysis of priority countries for cooperation with FFWS (in the field of S&R, student recruitment, and student/staff trips).

Open Science at FFWS

- In the form of a new call, systematically support the publication of outputs in „Open Access“ mode.
- Actively approach the preparation of a university-wide project focused on open data and data management financed from the OP JAK.
- Provide counselling on „Open Access“ for employees and PhD students. As part of these activities, identify a responsible person at the Faculty who will also coordinate the activities related to „Open Access“.
- Carry out a more advanced analysis of the current state and opportunities for FFWS within the possibilities of processing research data in the form of data or text mining. Simultaneously, expand the current data platform with additional datasets and prepare examples of their use.
- Continue the process of analysis in the field of data management at the Faculty level.

Digitized FFWS

- Ensure the transfer of all regulations, information, and forms to the new Faculty intranet.
- Ensure conditions for the transfer of internal Faculty forms to web applications with a link to the electronic circulation of documents. In 2022, analysis (workflow modelling) and pilot verification of forms in the field of PhD studies will be carried out.
- In co-operation with the CZU Rector's Office, continue to digitize the study agenda (e.g. in matters of submitting applications for Erasmus+ study stays, submitting applications, etc.).
- Use the resources of the National Recovery Plan (NRP) to support digitization (in coordination with the CZU Rectorate).

1. Inspirational education

1.1 Promising candidates

- a) Promote studies at FFWS at secondary schools and organize open days.
- b) Organize workshop for secondary school students.
- c) Organize a local, regional, and national round of the YPEF competition and promote studies at FFWS there.
- d) Establish closer relationship with secondary forestry schools (e.g., in the form of a Faculty event).
- e) Prepare a promotional video for applicants also presenting „extracurricular“ activities.
- f) In cooperation with the guarantors of study programmes, initiate active communication with those who apply for study (e.g. in the form of a welcome email).

1.2 Students with inner motivation

- a) Organize at least two lectures/workshops for students aimed at increasing motivation to study.
- b) Organize an intensive course in mathematics and chemistry for first-year students.
- c) Increase the awareness of first-year students about both school and extracurricular activities at CZU (e.g., intensify the distribution of the New Student Guide, especially the English version).
- d) Organize a workshop for students focusing on the process of finding a final thesis supervisor and effective communication with him/her.
- e) Update the list of English subjects, add new ones, and actively offer them as an option to students in Czech study programmes.
- f) Organize at least one block course of a foreign professor, which students will be able to choose as an optional subject and which will be recognized as part of their studies.
- g) Process and set up the implementation of a system of mutual communication between the guarantors of bachelor's and master's degree programmes and between other key persons involved in improving the quality of study in the study programmes.
- h) Reorganize combined study (introduce the first teaching week before the start of full-time students).
- i) Create a manual for the organization of large-scale practicals at the School Forest Enterprise in Kostelec nad Černými lesy.
- j) Support at least three events of FFWS student associations.

1.3 FFWS graduates in practice

- k) Create graphic visuals with FFWS graduates and promote their employment.
- l) Involve graduates in student lectures.

1.4 FFWS – partner respected by practice

- a) Hold at least two meetings of the Board for cooperation with practice (Rada pro spolupráci s praxí) by the end of the year.
- b) Continue organizing professional topic days at FFWS (Forestry Day, Wood Science Day, etc.).
- c) Prepare at least one Newsletter for practice, which will be an appendix to the Lesnická práce journal, and present other FFWS application outputs there.
- d) Actively participate in professional events within the Czech Presidency of the EU.
- e) Actively present the results of science and research of the Faculty in order to establish cooperation with potential FFWS partners from the field of forestry and wood science.
- f) Actively continue to run lifelong learning courses.
- g) In cooperation with an external partner, prepare and launch a new MBA programme in forest management in order to support the increase of managerial and professional knowledge of people working in forestry and related fields.

1.5 FFWS as a part of public awareness in forestry and wood science

- a) Issue at least five press releases on forestry and wood science topics.
- b) Publish at least five professional or popular science articles in periodicals.
- c) Support employees in media outputs in the form of financial remuneration.
- d) Create comprehensive printed FFWS material promoting Faculty activities to the general public.
- e) Organize (or actively participate in) discussions for the professional and lay public – such as multidisciplinary discussions on selected topics (Forest and Art; Forest, Wood and Health, etc.), and screening of a professional documentary with a follow-up discussion.
- f) Organize events for the lay and professional public as part of the upcoming anniversary of the publication of the Theresian Forest Regulations.

2. Innovative science and research

2.1 Support professional scientific outputs by FFWS employees

- a) Involve FFWS scientific teams in a significant way in the preparation of a research project within the OP JAK.
- b) Focus on promotion and possibilities of involvement in the ERC grant support system.
- c) Participate in the preparation of at least four international research projects.
- d) Submit at least three applications for the grant of an international patent application (indicators of OP RDE projects).
- e) Significantly increase financial support for articles published in TOP scientific journals.
- f) Create a call to support the emergence of new outputs that will be of extraordinary benefit to society or practice.
- g) Continue to motivate FFWS staff and PhD students to promote scientific outputs to practice and the public.
- h) Create a new call to support the commercialization of FFWS outputs.
- i) Create a call to support cooperation with external institutions at FFWS in 2022.
- j) To support digitization, ensure the submission of applications for the above calls in electronic form only.
- k) Announce the Dean's Awards for the best publication outputs in 2021.
- l) Continue to support FFWS excellent teams whose activities lead to excellent scientific outputs and outputs beneficial to society and practice.
- m) Continue to create good conditions for recruiting prospective employees to scientific positions who have a high publishing potential.
- n) Provide counselling services in the creation of outputs that can be applied in the category of Social Relevance or Contribution to Cognition within the M17+ Methodology (Module 1), both in the phase of their planning, implementation, creation, transfer to practice and society, as well as their own justification in so-called Collection of Quality Outputs. Prepare a methodological instruction for 2022 as part of these activities.
- o) Create a simple tool for quick display of the AIS scientific journal and its inclusion in the quantile in individual FORDs according to AIS.
- p) Clearly present and apply rules and recommendations in maintaining good research practice at FFWS (Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, Ethical Issues).

- q) Increase activity within marketing support in the promotion of the studied scientific areas at FFWS, significant outputs, and their citations.

2.2 Quality PhD studies

- a) At the beginning of the year, organize a meeting of the chairmen of the Departmental Boards, i.e. the guarantors of study programmes, and address important issues of PhD studies across all study programmes.
- b) Increase support for the promotion of PhD programmes and individual topics of dissertations.
- c) Use the e-mail address studyphd@fld.czu.cz as an information channel with applicants.
- d) Pay above-standard scholarships to active and talented students for extraordinary PhD student work (while fulfilling study obligations continuously).
- e) Announce new calls for PhD students to work on their own projects from the Internal Grant Agency and thus motivate them to independent creative activities.
- f) Announce new calls to support PhD students' (i) long-term internships, (ii) conferences, and (iii) courses, seminars, and workshops.
- g) Support the PhD-Kamos Programme, which is intended for new foreign PhD students, or use the methodological material „New Student Guide“ (CZU material).
- h) Start teaching the new subject for PhD students „Information Resources and Tools for Research“.
- i) As much as possible, innovate the subject „Defence of Literature Research“ for first-year students.
- j) Thoroughly check student activities using the WorkIS application.
- k) Prepare methodological material for new Faculty supervisors, which will briefly summarize important dates in the academic year, supervisor responsibilities, his/her necessary competencies, and references to important documents related to PhD studies. If necessary, these matters will be consulted with the new supervisor by the Vice-Dean for S&R.

3. Modern and friendly environment

3.1 FFWS as a progressive employer – employees with inner motivation

- a) Provide funds for incentive components of employee wages.
- b) Continue with projects of socialization and meetings of employees in an informal environment (at the School Forest Enterprise, Family Day, etc.).
- c) Provide funds to support employee trips abroad.
- d) Organize at least one meeting of teachers with the Dean or Vice-dean for Education in order to pass on current requirements for teaching, news in the education system, planned changes, etc.
- e) Organize training courses (at least two) for teachers with a focus and development of distance learning methods, innovation in teaching, operation of technical equipment at FFWS, etc.
- f) Support the improvement of language skills of FFWS employees.
- g) Continue to publish the internal FFWS Newsletter, raising the awareness of employees and PhD students.

3.2 Quality technical equipment at FFWS

- a) Continue the reconstruction and completion of the old FFWS building.
- b) Allocate investment and non-investment funds from central sources for repairs, maintenance, and technical improvement of equipment.
- c) Renew contractual arrangements for leasing vehicles used for FFWS research and educational activities.

3.3 FFWS as a good manager

- a) Carry out a fundamental revision of the methodology for dividing the budget into departments. The methodology must reflect the change in S&R funding and current university funding.
- b) Continue to create reserves for continuous development of the Faculty and to cover the co-financing of large investment and scientific projects.
- c) Provide funding related to the support of excellent publishing activities in connection with the M17+ Methodology.

3.4 Sustainable and socially responsible FFWS

- a) Limit non-recyclable waste at FFWS events.
- b) Create promotional materials from sustainable and ecological materials with a focus on wooden products.
- c) Continue linking FFWS activities with the support of companies and organizations helping handicapped people and organizations helping animals.

