

Faculty of Medicine

Annual Activity Report 1996

Dean:	Prof. MUDr. Josef Bilder, CSc.
Vice-deans:	Prof. MUDr. Petr Dítě, DrSc. Prof. MUDr. Jan Šmarda, DrSc. Prof. MUDr. Alexandra Šulcová, CSc. Assoc. Prof. MUDr. Jiří Toman, CSc.
Chairman of the Academic Senate:	Prof. MUDr. Augustin Svoboda, CSc.
Secretary:	RNDr. Petr Fiala

In the history of the Faculty of Medicine the year 1996 was a time of continuous development towards an internationally recognised medical school. The number of foreign students recruited from different European and non-European regions increased and the level of their starting and subsequent level increased as well. The good position of the Faculty of Medicine MU in this country is a reflection of its remarkable history.

The Faculty of Medicine co-ordinates its initiatives with other faculties in the CR and decisively advocates its views concerning important aspects of the life of medical faculties. By the year 2000 the number of students will have increased to 1600 -1800. Demographic and opportunistic variation can be affected by the control of the number of foreign students and by the development of studies for a bachelor's degree.

The year 1996 was the year of completion and construction of a University campus in Bohunice. The project primarily stems from the need to integrate theoretical and clinical medicine and secondly from the requirement for rational inter-faculty communication with natural science. But until the project is completed studies will continue in one of the main buildings of the Faculty in the centre in Komenského nám. which will have to be reconstructed.

In 1996 there were great developments and some of them were appreciated in a national context. Professor MUDr. J. Bilder, CSc. was awarded the Prize of the Minister of Education CR, Professor MUDr. J. Vácha, DrSc. was granted a Medal of the Ministry of Education CR for a publication. Professor MUDr. J. Šmarda, DrSc. received the Talent 95 Prize and Professor MUDr. Miloš Štejfá, DrSc. became "Knight of the Czech Medical Staff". Many other members of the Faculty became notable figures on a national and international scale.

At the end of the winter term 1996/97 the management team of the Faculty, under the leadership of the Dean Professor MUDr. J. Bilder, CSc. left its position within the management. This team decisively defended and strengthened the position, interests and goodwill of the Faculty during the troubled years of the rehabilitation of morals, following the changes of 1989, and enhanced the prestige of the Faculty's life as well as promoting the educational and scientific aims of the University.

The year 1996 was the year of stabilisation and further development of tuition work. The boundary between theoretical and clinical studies continued to be narrowed. A new subject Primary Care was launched. It enables medical students to enter surgeries and be in contact with patients at the very beginning of their studies.

The third-year to sixth-year undergraduates were offered 17 one-term to two-term optional courses in special clinical disciplines. This was the first element of variability incorporated into medical studies. The Faculty placed emphasis on discipline in teaching and studying. A system of inspection of classes was practised.

Foreign students (self-payers) studying medicine in English (general medicine, dentistry) became fourth-year students. In 1996 there were 42 students admitted for this type of study. On 31 December 1996 there were 145 paying students studying in English and 30 paying students studying in Czech.

On 31 December 1996 the Faculty had contracts with 8 foreign organisations which make studies at the Faculty of Medicine MU available to students from Greece, Cyprus, England, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and US. In 1996 some alterations were made in the Code of Study.

The Faculty of Medicine provided post-graduate studies to 115 doctors and 33 post-graduate students were admitted. In 1996 the first post-graduate students successfully defended their research results and 6 students received a CSc. degree. Three proceedings to confer a Professor's degree and 14 proceedings to confer a Associate Professor's degree took place and the process of proper degree conferring was finished.

The Faculty was successful in winning grants. In 1996 MU departments were undertaking 13 projects funded by the Grant Agency, 7 projects funded by the Fund of University Development, 48 grant projects sponsored by the Ministry of Medicine, 8 projects supported by RS and 1 project under the programme Support for Science at Universities.

In 1996 a total of 9 monographs were published and 144 original articles in Czech abstract journals and 86 studies in foreign journals, which reveal the volume of scientific and research activity. Top priority were projects in neurosciences. These are processes which are involved in so-called civilization diseases. Important are also cardiovascular, transplantation and oncological programmes.

It is gratifying to see the increasing number of undergraduate students showing an interest in science and research. Their increased interest is evident in the participation in Students' Research Conferences and the papers delivered. St. Ann's Hospital in Brno took an initiative to organise the second workshop of young doctors and this was the forum where also post-graduate students presented their results.

A total of 49 research workshops were organised by the Faculty, 33 of which were international.

The Faculty welcomed 36 official guests from abroad. The most prominent guests were Prof. Dr. Hans Armin Dieterich and Prof. Dr. Saborowski from Germany who are applying for a title of visiting professor. A workshop organised to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Prof. MUDr. Jan Bělehrádek, a former teacher of the Faculty, was attended by his close collaborator Prof. Pavel Jerie from Switzerland and his son Dr. Jan Bělehrádek from France.

On 19 April 1996 Professor MUDr. Augustin Svoboda, CSc., head of the Biological Institute of the Faculty of Medicine, was granted the honorary doctorate of Jozsef Attila University in Szeged.

The Faculty fulfilled commitments of international co-operation in research and tuition under 12 contracts made with 4 institutions in the US and in Europe. The Faculty promoted co-operation with the University of Regensburg which was visited by 4 teachers under the contract of fellowship. 332 teachers participated in research visits (290 in Europe, 42 overseas). 63 % of them were participation in conferences and 8 were fellowships. Other teachers travelled abroad to study under agreements of co-operation, to lecture and to take part in courses, etc.

Undergraduate students had the opportunity of professional training in foreign hospitals. The training of 12 students was conducted under agreements with Dijon and Kansas and 15 students were supported by an international organisation (IFMSA).